

Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society

Biennial Convention: July 6 - 9, 2014
Philadelphia, PA

Chapter Challenge

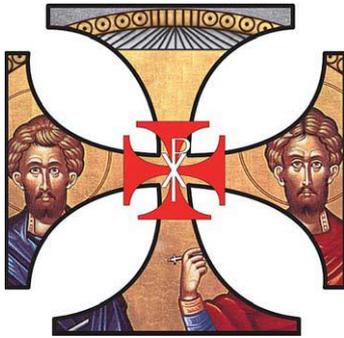
Metropolis: Detroit

Chapter Name: Dayton, Ohio Philoptochos Society, Soteria Chapter

Project Title: *American Heroes*

Project Summary: The goal of the American Heroes project is to raise awareness of the needs of our Veterans and active service men and women. We involved all our Greek Orthodox Annunciation parish organizations. We developed a strategy that included three key areas:

- Volunteering our time
- Fundraising
- Recognizing and thanking our American Heroes



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Volunteering Our Time at the Dayton VA Medical Center

YAL sponsored Bingo nights

Daughters of Penelope handmade blankets for the VA Hospice Unit

GAPA sponsored a clothing drive for veterans and service personnel in need

Fundraising: Over \$20,000 was raised for our local VA and area service men and women

Proceeds from two of our annual spring luncheons were used to purchase 2 wheelchair scales, patient education brochures for the Behavioral Health Unit and make a donation to the Hospice family meal fund

Proceeds from our Skyline Chili restaurant night were used to purchase 15 iPads and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder books

GOYA and the Greek School students raised funds with an art event to sponsor children of deployed military to attend Operation Military Kids summer camp

Philoptochos purchased a golf cart to transport Veterans to and from an onsite garden which is used to supply local food banks

Philoptochos' monthly Community Care Ministry devoted seven months to raising funds for local military organizations such as Blue Star Mothers and VA Social and Family Services

Recognizing and Thanking Our American Heroes

Catechism students and parish adults wrote letters of thanks and appreciation to deployed military men and women

Daughters of Penelope and Maids of Athena sponsored a Greek Night at the VA with dinner, live music and entertainment provided by our Greek dancers

Philoptochos sponsored a Veterans Day recognition event honoring our own American Heroes. The event, honored by the attendance of Metropolitan Nicholas, included special recognition for the honorees, a memorial service, a luncheon hosted by GAPA and a beautiful photo display