Greetings from the Metropolis of Atlanta! Happy New Year 2020!

On November 8th & 9th, the Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos Board met in Atlanta, Georgia for the first meeting of our new term. We welcomed new members, discussed issues in our Metropolis and reports were given on our different committees. Board members were encouraged to keep in contact with their Chapters. We have an active Facebook page and a wonderful website, where members can keep up with what is going on in our Metropolis.

Several women from our Metropolis attended the Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon in Chicago. Congratulations to the Metropolis of Chicago for their hard work!

The St. Barbara Philoptochos Chapter in Greenville, South Carolina celebrated their Nameday on December 4th. A luncheon was held after the Divine Liturgy. I attended with several Philoptochos ladies from Asheville, NC, Charlotte, NC & Spartanburg, SC.

On December 7th, I attended the Philoptochos 28th Annual Silver Tea Celebration of the Annunciation Church in Ft. Myers, Florida. Special gift presentations were presented to the STARability Foundation of Naples and also to the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Several women from surrounding Chapters also attended.

The members of our Philoptochos Chapters are continuing to work to fulfill the mission of Philoptochos. In January, Vasilopita celebrations were held to benefit St. Basil’s Academy. Some Chapters passed trays, held auctions or sponsored luncheons to collect money for the school.

I would like to thank Paulette Geanacopoulos, National Philoptochos Social Work Director, for her guidance & help with some cases in our Metropolis, especially with the case of Mya, the little girl who is suffering from a rare form of brain cancer. The family is very grateful for all the help that they have received. The social service committee members from our board are doing an amazing job assisting people. This is what Philoptochos is about!

On March 19th & 20th, our spring Metropolis Board meetings will be held in our Diakonia Center in Salem, South Carolina. The 14th Annual Spiritual Retreat will start on Friday, March 20th-22nd. The theme of the retreat is The Three Spiritual Disciplines: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. It will be presented by Frederica Matthewes-Green. We usually have about 70 women that attend.
The 6th Annual Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos Christ the Good Shepard Summer Camp will be held at the Diakonia Center on June 19th-21st. It is limited to 10 families. There is a 1:1 ratio of trained counselors for each special needs’ child.

Chapters are continuing to participate in “Feed the Hungry” & “Operation Classroom”. All Chapters were emailed the information about the Telephone Caregivers Support Group and Human Trafficking. They are asked to promote this info in their communities.

Membership is an area that we continue to work on. We are still working with Chapters for their ratifications, an ongoing process.

I would like to thank my Board members for their dedication and love for Philoptochos, together we can accomplish a lot!

The Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos Board is very thankful to His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios for his guidance & also to Father Michael Platanis, spiritual advisor to the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Politis
Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos President