MINUTES
Sunday, July 1, 2018

The 2018 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention was called to order by National Philoptochos President Maria Logus, Esq. at 4:30 P.M. on Sunday, July 1, 2018, at the Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts.

Opening Ceremonies
Greek and American National Anthems were performed by the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians.

The invocation was presented by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America.

Video Greetings by His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew were shown.

His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston offered a welcome from the Metropolis of Boston to the Convention delegates.

Greetings were offered by 2018 Convention Co-Chair, Elaine Zetes, Metropolis of Boston Philoptochos President.

Also present at the ceremonies were His Eminence Elder Metropolitan Apostolos, Geron of Dekoi and His Eminence Metropolitan Maximos of Selyvria, representing His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew, His Eminence Metropolitan of Alexios of Atlanta, His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit, His Eminence Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago, and His Grace Sevastianos of Zela, Spiritual Advisor to the Philoptochos.

National President’s Report
National President Maria Logus, Esq. offered her report. Highlights included donations made during 2016 through 2017 of $3.8 million, and $800,000 thus far in 2018; also highlighted were collections of $100,000 to hurricane victims and $250,000 from the Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon. President Logus then discussed the Feed the Hungry Program, Women’s Heart Health Initiative, the online education program on Bullying and the Social Services Cancer Support Group.

Following the National President’s report, His Eminence Elder Metropolitan Apostolos of Dekoi, Patriarchal representative, addressed the delegates and offered his blessings for all our good works.

Convention Co-chair Elaine Zetes introduced His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America and National President Maria Logus presented His Eminence with a gift of a jeweled cross and engopion from the Philoptochos to commemorate his 50 years in the priesthood and 18 years as the Archbishop of
America. His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios offered his heartfelt thanks to all the members of the Philoptochos and his prayers for the continuation of our philanthropic missions.

Convention Co-Chair, Barbara Pasalis, greeted the delegates and offered a synopsis of the programs and activities to be held during the Convention.

**Credentials Committee Report**
Cindy Demeris, Chair, presented the Credentials Committee report, as follows:
Registered Delegates: 374  
Delegates in Attendance: 281  
Observers registered: 8  
The report of the Credentials Committee was adopted.

**Convention Standing Rules**
On behalf of the Convention Committee, Elaine Zetes presented the 2018 Convention Standing Rules as printed in the binder on pages 22 and 23 and moved for their adoption. The motion was adopted.

**Convention Program**
On behalf of the Convention Committee, Barbara Pasalis presented the 2018 Convention Program as printed on pages 12 through 20 of the binder and moved for its adoption. The motion was adopted.

**Convention Appointments**
Maria Logus, Esq., National Philoptochos President, announced the following appointments:

Time Keepers: Margaret Yates, Athanasia Ward

Minutes Review: Despina Denne, Denise Cecchini, Georgia Charkalis, Sharon Konstantinidis

 Tellers: Efthalia Katos, Aspasia Melis, Anne Michals, Vicky Scaljon, Carol Stamas, Eleni Stamboulidis, Eleni Zaferes

**2016 Minutes**
Georgia Vlitas, 2016 Convention Secretary and National Board Assistant Treasurer, reported that the Review Committee adopted the minutes of the last session of the 2016 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention. Copies of the Convention minutes were posted on the Philoptochos website.

Elaine Zetes, Convention Co-Chair recessed the meeting at 6 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:30 by Elaine Zetes who proceeded to introduce our guest speaker Denise Garlick, House Chair, Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, Massachusetts State Representative, who spoke to us on the Opiod Crisis in Massachusetts as well as the rest of the United States.

The business portion of the meeting was concluded at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philippa Condakes July 1, 2018
Secretary

Joanne Kakoyannis July 1, 2018
Secretary
The 2018 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention was called to order by Presiding Officer Barbara Pasalis at 5:27 P.M. at the Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts.

The Opening Prayer and Spiritual Reflection were offered by His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela, based on First Corinthians 13: 1-8 on the importance of love as demonstrated by the life of Christ.

**Credentials Committee Report**
Cindy Demeris, Credentials Chair, presented the Credentials Committee report as follows:

- Registered Delegates: 359
- Delegates in Attendance: 350
- Delegates Scanned: 336

The credentials report was adopted.

**Minutes of Sunday, July 1, 2018**
The minutes of July 1, 2018 were presented by Convention Secretary Joanne Kakoyiannis who moved for their adoption.

Amendments to the minutes are as follows:

- Pg. 1 - correction of spelling to Elder Metropolitan Apostolos of Derkoi
- Pg. 1 - correction to title His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela
- Pg. 1 - spelling correction to engolpion
- Pg. 1 - priesthood should read episcopacy
- Pg. 2 - spelling correction opioid

Following the corrections as stated, the Minutes were adopted.

**Public Relations/Educational Initiatives Program**
Co-Chairs Barbara Pasalis and Valine Georgeson discussed “Philoptochos-ing” and the importance of spreading the good works of Philoptochos. They discussed various communication platforms and educational initiatives.

**Introduction of Development & Information Officer**
President Maria Logus introduced Amy Kalogeropoulos who was hired as the new National Philoptochos Development & Information Officer.
Amy addressed the delegates and expressed her appreciation and excitement about beginning this new position.

**Presentation of Education Initiatives:**
- Barbara Pasalis led a website tour of *Stop Bullying in Your Community*
- Thea Martin gave the presentation of *Be Safe, Be Smart - Using Technology Safely*

The Meeting recessed for a working dinner at 7:07 p.m. and reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

**2018 Chapter Challenges**
- Metropolis of Boston, St. George, Springfield, MA – “Phil-Up the House”
  The chapter detailed the work they do at Gray House Social Service Agency in S Springfield, MA.
- Direct Archdiocesan District, St. Paraskevi Philoptochos, Greenlawn, NY- “Making a Difference in the Lives of Veterans.”
  This chapter’s project supported the needs of veterans and their families by sponsoring a “Home Sweet Home” shower, a secret soldier Santa, and a summer concert.

**Treasurer’s Report** (see document attached)
Treasurer Martha Stefanidakis

The auditor from the firm Schall and Ashenfarb, LLC, joined the meeting via a Zoom videoconference and reported that there are no problems with our operational procedures, and that the organization is in a strong financial position.

The 2019-2020 Budget, as discussed on July 1, was presented. Treasurer Martha Stefanidakis moved for the adoption of the budget, and the 2019-2020 budget was adopted.

**2018 Grant Recipient: University of Miami School of Medicine, THRIVE Clinic for Human Trafficking Survivors**
JoNell Efantis-Potter, PhD., Program Director, THRIVE Clinic, Miami, FL
Evan Scurtis introduced Dr. Efantis-Potter, the director of THRIVE, which is a model of health care for human trafficking survivors. After her inspiring presentation, President Maria Logus presented THRIVE with a grant for $35,000.

**Providing Vulnerable Children with World Class Medical Care, 2012 Program Grant recipient: Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Children’s at Hughes-Spalding**
Ifigenia Mougianis, PhD Postdoctoral Fellow in Primary Care, Harvard Medical School, Cambridge Health Alliance, discussed the influence of grant funding on her career trajectory. Her receipt of a Philoptochos CMF grant while at CHOA led to her work at Harvard Medical School, working in a program to support a program to transition adolescent sickle cell patients to adult health care.

**2018 Chapter Challenges**
- Metropolis of Denver, St. George, Albuquerque, NM
  The chapter worked with St. Bonaventure Mission, at the Navajo Nation, to provide a better quality of life for this underserved and underprivileged population.
- Metropolis of Atlanta, St. Nicholas Cathedral, Tarpon Springs, FL
The chapter worked with the GRO Group, a group of mentally challenged adults, who grow plants and sell them to the greater community. The chapter raised enough funds to build a new 12’x24’ greenhouse to provide them with more green space to expand their efforts.

Credentials Committee Update
Cindy Demeris, Credentials Chair, presented the updated credentials:
Registered Delegates: 350
Delegates in Attendance: 349

The Chair presented the Delegate Update.

A Closing Prayer was offered by His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela, who also offered special prayers for National Philoptochos Director Helen Lavorata.

The 2018 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention was adjourned by Presiding Officer Barbara Pasalis at 9:53 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Driscoll Co-Secretary July 2, 2018

Valine Georgeson Co-Secretary July 2, 2018
The 2018 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention was called to order by Presiding Officer Elaine Zetes at 2:22 P.M. at the Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts.

The reading of the Philoptochos Prayer was given by His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela.

**Credentials Committee Report**
The Credentials Report will be deferred until Wednesday, July 4, 2018, due to the Keynote Speaker Address.

**Minutes of Monday, July 2, 2018**
The reading of the minutes of Monday, July 2, 2018, will be deferred until Wednesday, July 4, 2018, due to the Keynote Speaker Address.

**Keynote Speaker: A Presentation on Servant Leadership**
Tim Tassopoulos. President and COO, Chick-fil-A, Atlanta, GA

“Dare to Serve!,” an interactive address, was the theme of the presentation by Chick-fil-A President Tim Tassopoulos. The delegates were engaged to think about the qualities that define good leadership both in Philoptochos and in life: “How well you lead determines how well you serve.”

Presiding Officer Elaine Zetes delegates at 3:04 P.M. to attend their assigned Interactive Discussion Sessions.

- Social Services
- Open Forum with the Executive Officers of the Philoptochos National Board
- Engaging Members and Developing Leadership.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Driscoll  
Co-Secretary  
July 3, 2018

Valine Georgeson  
Co-Secretary  
July 3, 2018
The 2018 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention was called to order by Presiding Officer, Barbara Pasalis, at 11:10 A.M. on Wednesday, July 4, 2018 at the Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts.

The Opening Prayer was offered by His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela.

**Credentials Committee Report**

Committee Chair, Cindy Demeris, presented the Credentials Committee report, as follows:

Registered Delegates: 360
Delegates Checked-in at Registration: 355
Delegates in Attendance: 282

**Check Presentation**

National President, Maria Logus, Esq., presented donation checks to the following organizations and National Philoptochos ministries:

- **Recipient:** IOCC Fund for support of Podoconiosis  
  Amount: $40,000  
  Accepted By: Dean Triantafilou, Executive Director and CEO  
  Fund: IOCC Fund

- **Recipient:** Support A Mission Priest  
  Amount: $36,000  
  Accepted By: Father Martin Ritsi, Executive Director OCMC  
  Fund: SAMP

- **Recipient:** Orthodox Christian Mission Center for  
  “Vulnerable Youth Initiative” in Nairobi, Kenya  
  Amount: $32,100  
  Accepted By: Father Martin Ritsi, Executive Director OCMC  
  Fund: OCMC

- **Recipient:** Orthodox Christian Fellowship Summer Leadership Institute  
  Amount: $31,200  
  Accepted By: Jim Gianakis, Chairman of the Board  
  Fund: OCF
Recipient: Archdiocesan Presbyters Council/National Sisterhood of Presbyteres Benevolent Fund
Accepted By: Presbytera Pauline Pavlakos, President of the National Sisterhood of Presbyteres
Amount: $30,000
Fund: APC/NSP Benevolent Fund

Recipient: Retired Clergy and Widowed Presbyteres Benevolent Fund
Accepted By: Fr. Chrysostom
Amount: $10,000
Fund: Retired Clergy Fund

Recipient: Saint Photios Shrine
Accepted By: Evan Scurtis and Joanne Stavrakas
Amount: $20,000
Fund: St. Photios Shrine

Recipient: Saint Basil Academy (For tutoring services)
Accepted By: V. Rev. Fr. Constantine Moralis
Amount: $17,950
Fund: Zoe Cavalaris Fund

Recipient: Bone Marrow Foundation, New York
Accepted By: Jennifer Constantin
Amount: $5,000
Fund: 2017 CMF

Recipient: La Clinica Del Pueblo, Washington, DC for their Refugio Youth Program
Accepted by: Jennifer Constantin
Amount: $5,000
Fund: 2017 CMF

Recipient: Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Social Work Emergency Fund
Accepted by: Eleni Constantinides
Amount: $15,000
Fund: 2017 CMF

Recipient: Foundation for Morristown Medical Center - For Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Goryeb Children’s Hospital
Accepted by: Eleni Constantinides
Amount: $10,000
Fund: 2017 CMF

Recipient: Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation, Bel Air, MD “Hold Them Close Program”.
Accepted by: Eleni Constantinides
Amount: $12,500
Fund: 2017 CMF

Recipient: Gilchrist Kids Pediatric Hospice Program
Accepted by: Eleni Constantinides
Amount: $10,000
Fund: 2017 CMF

Recipient: Progeria Research Foundation
Accepted by: Meryl Fink, President and Executive Director
Amount: $10,418
Fund: 2017 CMF

Recipient: STEPS PTO, Parma, OH- for Educational Greenhouse
Accepted by: Crystal Thomas
Amount: $3,000
Fund: Autism Fund

Recipient: Greek American Rehabilitation and Care Center
Wheeling, IL, for a Nurse Call System  
Amount: $15,000  
Accepted by: Pam Argyris  
Fund: 75th Anniversary Founders Fund  
Recipient: Saint Elias the Prophet GOC in Dubuque, IA  
For window damage during severe weather Emergency  
Amount: $3,500  
Accepted by: Pam Argyris  
Fund: Emergency Fund  

In addition to the above donations, $35,000 was donated on Monday, July 2, 2018 to the THRIVE Clinic for Human Trafficking Survivors, Miami, FL from the General Medical Fund.

This brings the total donated at the Convention thus far to $341,668.

Minutes of Monday, July 2, 2018 and Tuesday, July 3, 2018
The minutes of Monday, July 2 and Tuesday, July 3, 2018, were presented by Convention Secretaries Marty Driscoll and Valine Georgeson, who moved their adoption. The minutes were adopted with corrections.

Resolutions Committee Report
Barbara Pasalis motioned that the Resolutions Committee report be presented on Thursday, July 5, 2018 due to time constraints in today’s agenda. The motion was adopted.

2018 Chapter Challenge – Metropolis of Detroit
St. Nicholas Philoptochos Chapter, Ann Arbor, MI, presented their Chapter Challenge.

The Chapter worked with the Creating Brighter Futures School to raise funds for playground equipment. They did this in honor of a 10-year old boy in their parish, named CJ, who has autism. They initiated a Women’s Expo Project, held various activities and received a donation from a parishioner in order to donate $38,909 towards the playground. Their goal is to continue their partnership with the school and plant trees and flowers once they break ground.

Barabara Pasalis informed the delegates that the Doxology Service was starting in the Clergy Laity room. She also reminded the delegates to return to the Philoptochos meeting room following the afternoon Interactive Discussion Sessions for the Celebration of America.

His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned 11:59 A.M.

Philippa Condakes  
Secretary  
July 4, 2018

Joanne Kakoyiannis  
Secretary  
July 4, 2018
The 2018 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention was called to order by Presiding Officer Elaine Zetes at 9:23 A.M. on Thursday, July 5, 2018, at the Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts.

The opening prayer was offered by His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela, who then introduced Rev. Father Nicholas Louh from Saint John the Divine Greek Orthodox Church of Jacksonville, Florida to offer the spiritual reflection of the day.

Elaine Zetes introduced guest speaker, Amy Sarma, MD, from the Corrigan Women’s Heart Health Program in Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Sarma spoke about the mortality of women from heart disease and how to help prevent cardiovascular disease in women.

**Credentials Committee Report**
Cindy Demeris, Credentials Chair, presented the Credentials Committee report as follows:
- Registered Delegates: 360
- Delegates in Attendance: 355
- Delegates Scanned: 301
- Observers: 9

Chair Elaine Zetes moved the adoption of the Credentials Report, and it was adopted.

**2018 Chapter Challenge Presentation:**
Metropolis of San Francisco, Saint John the Baptist Philoptochos, Las Vegas, Nevada
“Warmth for the Homeless”
Diana Jianas presented on behalf of Saint John the Baptist Philoptochos Chapter # 4037 of Las Vegas, Nevada. The goal of this Chapter Challenge program was to provide “extreme cold” sleeping bags to homeless adults and children.

**Educational Initiative:**
Carol Stamas, National Philoptochos Board Chair, provided a tour of the resources on the Women’s Health Initiative page on the Philoptochos website. She also introduced her committee. The committee is requesting reflections from members who are cancer survivors for the website. Ms. Stamas announced that the committee is beginning work on its next health initiative, cancer.

President Maria Logus, Esq., reminded the delegates that at the 2016 Convention, she declared her hope that Philoptochos would become an advocate for education. She thanked and commended all of the educational initiative committees for their hard work and the time they dedicated to develop the resources...
for their initiatives. She also asked the delegates to forward suggestions for additional initiatives they would like Philoptochos to develop.

**Minutes of Wednesday, July 4, 2018**
The Minutes of Tuesday, July 4, 2018, were presented by Convention Secretary, Philippa Condakes.

Elaine Zetes moved for the adoption of the minutes with the following corrections:
- Page 2. In every instance, the Fund 2018 CMF should be changed to 2017 CMF
- Page 2, next to last paragraph. The July 2 donation to the THRIVE Clinic was disbursed from the General Medical Fund, not the CMF 2018 Fund.
- Page 3, first paragraph. Correct the spelling of Valine Georgeson’s name.

The July 4, 2018 Minutes, as corrected, were adopted.

**Resolutions Committee Report**
The Resolutions Committee report was presented by Irene Steffas, Esq., Chair of the Resolutions Committee. Two resolutions were presented for discussion and approval. The resolutions are listed below in their entirety.

**Resolution #1:** Presented by the National Philoptochos Executive Board
Subject: A Resolution to Amend the National Philoptochos By-Laws to expand the modes for Board Meetings.

WHEREAS, the Directors of the Boards of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society of North America reside in different cities and states all over the country; and

WHEREAS, it is not always feasible for Board Directors to meet in person; and

WHEREAS, frequent and active participation of Board Directors is needed to operate the business of the Society; and

WHEREAS, determining a quorum may be observed by taking roll call and or through various software applications; and

RESOLVED, that any Board of Directors may participate in board meetings of their Parish Chapter, Metropolis, National and Executive National Board by means of a telephone, video or similar communication device, which allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other speak and such participation in the meeting shall be deemed present in person.

Respectfully submitted,

Executive Board
of National Board of Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society of North America

This Resolution, if passed, will amend the Society By-Laws at the following sections:

**ARTICLE III: NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
Chapter (Section) 5: Meetings Currently there are four (4) Paragraphs: 1. Frequency; 2. Notice & Agenda; 3. Special Meetings; and 4. Quorum. ADD PARAGRAPH 5:

2018 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention - July 5, 2018 Minutes
5. **Mode of Participation in Board Meetings**

Any one of the Board of Directors may participate in meetings of the National Board and the Executive National Board by means of a telephone, video or similar communication devices, which allow all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other and such participation in the meeting, shall be deemed present in person.

**ARTICLE IV: METROPOLIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chapter (Section) 4: Meetings *Currently* there are four (4) Paragraphs: 1. Frequency; 2. Notice & Agenda; 3. Special Meetings; and 4. Quorum. **ADD PARAGRAPH 5:**

5. **Mode of Participation in Board Meetings**

Any one of the Board Directors may participate in a meeting of the Metropolis Board by means of a telephone, video or similar communication devices, which allow all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other and such participation in the meeting shall be deemed present in person.

**ARTICLE V: PARISH BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 7: Meetings *Currently,* there are three (3) Paragraphs: 1. Membership Meetings; 2. Chapter Board Meetings; and 3. Chapter Executive Board Meetings. **Focusing on Paragraph 2. Chapter Board Meetings, which includes (a) Frequency; (b) Notice & Agenda; (c) Special Meetings; and (d) Quorum. ADD SECTION (E) TO PARAGRAPH 2:**

(e) **Mode of Participation in Board Meetings**

Any one of the Board Directors may participate in a meeting of the Parish Chapter Board by means of a telephone, video or similar communication devices, which allow all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other and such participation in the meeting shall be deemed present in person.

Irene Steffas moved for adoption of the Resolution. Discussion ensued. Anita Kartalopoulos made a motion to amend the Resolution to reflect – “Any member or members” in Article III, Article IV and Article V. Arlene Siavalis Kiehl, seconded the motion. The Motion to Amend the Resolution passed. The question was then called for the adoption of the Resolution, as amended. An amendment to the By-Laws requires an affirmative vote of greater than 2/3 of the delegates. The delegates stood and were counted. The Motion to Amend the By-Laws according to the Amended Resolution #1 passed.

**Resolution #2:** Presented by St. Catherine Philoptochos Chapter #4046 of the Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos

Subject: A Resolution to Amend the National Philoptochos By-Laws to remove the $5,000.00 limit on local Chapter Reserve Funds.

WHEREAS, Individual Philoptochos Chapters have obligations and needs for funds, and;

WHEREAS, Chapters have varying opportunities to raise funds, depending on their size and location, and;
WHEREAS, as the economy changes, establishing a dollar limit on Chapter reserve funds would not reflect the original value of that dollar, be it therefore;

RESOLVED, that there is no set dollar limit for Chapter Reserve Funds.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristina Mehas, President
Joanne Zarkades, Treasurer
Teresa Maschinsky, Assistant Treasurer
Janice Xydis
Mary Loubarton

This Resolution, if passed, will amend the Society By-Laws at the following section:

Article V: Parish Chapter, Section 9: Finances, Paragraph 3. Reserve Fund – Currently reads:

Each Chapter must maintain a reserve fund for emergency charitable needs, not to exceed five thousand dollars.

Proposed Amendment:

Each Chapter must maintain a reserve fund for emergency charitable needs. Delete: not to exceed five thousand dollars.

Irene Steffas moved for adoption of the Resolution. Discussion ensued. The question was then called for the adoption of the Resolution. An amendment to the By-Laws requires an affirmative vote of greater than 2/3 of the delegates. The delegates stood and were counted. The Motion to Amend the By-Laws according to Resolution #2 was defeated. The By-Laws will not be amended.

2018 Chapter Challenge Presentations:
Metropolis of Pittsburgh, St. Paul Philoptochos, North Royalton, Ohio.
“Ronald McDonald House Akron”
The Chapter sponsored 3 rooms at Ronald McDonald House Akron for one year with a donation of $15,000. In addition, they raised funds for the community meal at the North Royalton Community Meal and served 200 meals. They also served meals at a 2nd Ronald McDonald House in Ohio.

Metropolis of Chicago, Assumption Philoptochos, Town and Country, Missouri.
“Life’s Final Journey” to benefit Hospice House for Adults and Children, Evelyn’s House
The Chapter raised $20,111.00 with $10,000.00 being donated to the Hospice House and the balance of the funds used for additional items necessary to make everyone’s stay at the hospice more comfortable.

Metropolis of New Jersey, St. John the Theologian Cathedral Philoptochos, Tenafly, New Jersey.
“SPARK of Faith, Hope and Love, Helping the most vulnerable children of Greece and Cyprus”
Stella Baker, President of Philoptochos Chapter St. Philothea, gave the presentation. The Chapter helped 6 ARK locations for children throughout Greece and the CCF Group in Cyprus. Over $95,000.00 was raised in goods and funds for this project, including the purchase of 25 sheep.

2019 Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon:
The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos announced that the 2019 National Philoptochos Children’s Medical Fund Luncheon will be held in Chicago, Illinois on November 16, 2019 at the Chicago Marriott on Michigan Avenue. Hotel reservations can be made for $169.00 per evening.
The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:59 P.M.

The Meeting was called to order by Barbara Pasalis at 2:06 P.M.

**Superman: Don’t Forget to Show Love**

Barbara Pasalis introduced “Superman,” four-year-old Austin Perine, from Birmingham, Alabama, who asked his parents if he could use his allowance and forego all his presents to use the money to feed the hungry. He distributes chicken sandwiches to homeless people and tells them, “Don’t Forget to Show Love.” A video presentation was shown, and a Zoom video call was conducted with Austin and his father. Feed the Hungry Chair, Georgia Vlitas, then explained to Austin that Philoptochos has served over one million meals and asked him what he likes best about feeding the homeless. He replied, “When I see them smile.” Philoptochos then presented a check for $1,500.00 to Austin’s 501©3 Show Love Foundation.

**Educational Initiative:**

The *Alzheimer’s Disease* Initiative was presented by Katherine Siavelis and Peggy Vranas, Co-Chairs of the New Philanthropic Initiatives Committee. Ways to help both the patient and the patient’s family were discussed.

**Inclusion Ministries** was presented by Marilyn Jemas and Katherine Siavelis, National Philoptochos Board Members. The PowerPoint presentation, “Pick Up Your Cross and Follow Me” – A Ministry for Those with Special Needs and Their Families,” developed by Pres. Toni Mihalopoulos was shown. Every chapter should develop a program that is appropriate for their parish.

Information for all educational initiatives is on the National Philoptochos web site.

His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela, shared closing thoughts with the delegates. “This has been one of our best conventions,” he said. He thanked President Logus, the Convention Co-Chairs and the Host Committee for an exemplary conference.

President Maria Logus, Esq., then presented Barbara Pasalis and Elaine Zetes icons as an expression of thanks, love and appreciation for their work chairing the convention. President Logus, Esq., also thanked His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela for his guidance and support. Jeannie Ranglas, First Vice President, then presented President Maria Logus, Esq., with a gift from the Executive Board in appreciation for her work over the past two-year term.

**Philoptochos Center of Philanthropy Tradition of Love Tree:**

Anita Kartalopoulos, Center of Philanthropy Chair, gave a presentation on the “Tradition of Love Tree,” which will be similar to the Chapter Tree now hanging in the Center. Members can purchase leaves ‘in honor of’ or ‘in memory of’ a loved one: Platinum leaves, $5,000; Gold leaves, $2,500; and Bronze leaves $1,000.

**Chapter Awards:**

The 2016-2018 Chapter Awards were presented by Theone Dickos, Chair in an entertaining Academy Awards format. Theone announced that all chapters who fulfilled 100% of their Ministry Commitments will receive a certificate from their Metropolis President. All awards will be listed on the National Website.

**Best Outreach**
• 2nd Place, Metropolis of San Francisco, Chapter 4033, Saint Helen Chapter, Cardiff-By-The-Sea, CA
• 1st Place, Metropolis of Denver, Chapter 8018, Saint Catherine Chapter, Greenwood Village, CO

Best Inreach
• 2nd Place, Metropolis of New Jersey, Chapter 1084, Ladies Philoptochos Nausica, Elkin Park, PA
• 1st Place, Metropolis of Detroit, Chapter 7002, Evangelistria Chapter, Carmel, IN

Best Fundraiser
• 2nd Place, Metropolis of Atlanta, Chapter 5054, Elpis Chapter, New Orleans, LA
• 1st Place, Metropolis of Chicago, Chapter 2019, Saints Peter and Paul Philoptochos, Glenview, IL

Most Meaningful Chapter Program
• 2nd Place, Metropolis of New Jersey, Chapter 1018, Saint Demetrios Philoptochos, Baltimore, MD
• 1st Place, Metropolis of Chicago, Chapter 2019, St. Mary’s Philoptochos, Minneapolis, MN

Membership Awards
Chapters with 20 Members or Less:
• 2nd Place, Chapter 6009, Zooodochos Peghe, Martins Ferry, OH – plus 9 members
• 1st Place, Chapter 8057, St. John the Theologian, Webster, TX – plus 12 members

Chapters with 21 – 49 Members:
• 2nd Place, Chapter 8030, St. John the Baptist, Omaha, NE – plus 38 members
• 1st Place, Chapter 8056, St. Basil the Great, Houston, TX – plus 39 members

Chapters with 50 - 99 Members:
• 2nd Place, Chapter 5002, St. Demetrios, Daytona Beach, FL – plus 24 members
• 1st Place, Chapter 0087, Church of the Resurrection, Brookville, FL – plus 29 members

Chapters with 100 - 199 Members:
• 2nd Place, Chapter 3067, Annunciation, Cranston, RI – plus 51 members
• 1st Place Tie
  o Chapter 1092, St. Katherine, Falls Church, VA – plus 58 members
  o Chapter 0056, Holy Cross, Brooklyn, NY – plus 58 members

Chapters with 200 or more Members:
• 2nd Place, Chapter 1034, St. John the theologian, Tenafly, NJ – plus 48 members
• 1st Place, Chapter 1082, St. Luke, Broomall, PA – plus 67 members.

Feed the Hungry Program
Chair Georgia Vlitas showed a PowerPoint presentation and announced that Philoptochos met and surpassed its challenge by providing **1,343,734 meals**. She revealed that Chapter #6003, Annunciation Philoptochos of Akron, Ohio served the millionth meal and had served 263,000 meals. Diamon Marcum, president of the Akron chapter then told the delegates about Akron’s phenomenally successful feed the hungry program. Georgia Vlitas then announced the new challenge for 2018-2020:
• Provide over 1.5 million meals across the country
• Announce the chapter within each metropolis that provides the most meals
• Announce the chapter that serves the millionth meal

**2020 Chapter Challenge Appointments:**
President Logus announced that the following chapters have been selected to participate in the 2020 Chapter Challenge Projects and will present their projects at the 2020 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention:

1. **Metropolis of Atlanta**
   a. Chapter #5046, President- Thalia Fergione, St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Church, Charlotte, NC

2. **Metropolis of Boston**
   a. Chapter #3004, President- JoAnn Ballassi, St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church, New London, CT

3. **Direct Archdiocesan District**
   a. Chapter #0060, President- Vasiliki Dinas, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church, Flushing, NY

4. **Metropolis of Denver**
   a. Chapter #8033, Joanna Spahis, St. Barbara Philoptochos Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Dallas, TX

5. **Metropolis of Detroit**
   a. Chapter #7025, Kim LaForest, St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Sterling Heights, MI

6. **Metropolis of Chicago**
   a. Chapter #2019, Georgia Ryerson, St. Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, Glenview, IL

7. **Metropolis of New Jersey**
   a. Chapter #1023, Carol Pappas, St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church, Cherryhill, NJ

8. **Metropolis of Pittsburgh**
   a. Chapter #6003, President-Diamon Marcum, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Akron, OH

9. **Metropolis of San Francisco**
   a. Chapter #4012, President- Dara Phillips, Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Northridge, CA

**Unfinished Business**
No unfinished business.

**New Business**
Barbara Pasalis announced that the convention newsletter, THE VOICE, will be sent out in an electronic version. It will contain all of the convention highlights with inks to all of the speeches and presentations.

Please complete the post-convention survey to assist us in planning the next convention.

A heartfelt thank you was expressed to all convention chairs and sponsors. They will all be listed on the National Website.

**Credentials Committee Report**
Cindy Demeris, Credentials Chair, presented the Credentials Committee report as follows:

- Registered Delegates: 360
- Delegates in Attendance: 355
- Delegates Scanned: 267
- Observers: N/A
The credentials report was adopted as the final convention credentials report. President Maria Logus, Esq., asked every delegate to act as an ambassador for Philoptochos. Use the stump speech and the elevator speech that are available through the national office.

President Maria Logus, Esq., thanked everyone for coming.

Evangeline Scurtis, 2nd Vice President mentioned the many compliments she received from the Clergy and Laity for our having provided over 1 million meals in a two-year period.

Evangeline Scurtis also discussed Social Services and the importance of having a committee for social services decisions, proper documentation and a budgetary limit on individual support. Finally, please do not give out cash. Use gift cards or pay a bill directly to vendor.

Delegate Update
Elaine Zetes thanked all for coming and said that she hopes to see all at the banquet.

Closing Prayer
In the absence of His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela, the closing prayer was offered by Evangeline Scurtis.

There being no further business, Presiding Officer Elaine Zetes adjourned the meeting at 4:33 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

___________________________  ___________________________
Stella Piches, Secretary    Date

These Minutes were reviewed and amended as follows by the 2018 Convention Minutes Committee:

- Page 1, Credentials Committee Report:
  - Line 6 – Add “for” after “moved”
- Page 3, Paragraph 5. Mode of Participation in Board Meetings
  - Line 3 – Add comma after “other” and remove comma after “meeting”
- Page 3, ARTICLE IV: METROPOLIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Paragraph 5. Mode of Participation in Board Meetings
  - Line 3 – Add comma after “other”
- Page 3, ARTICLE V: PARISH BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section (e) Mode of Transportation in Board Meetings
  - Line 3 – Add comma after “other”
  - Line 6 – Change “Resolution” to “Resolution”
- Page 5, Chapter Awards:
  - Line 1 – Add comma after “chair”
- Page 6, Feed the Hungry Program:
  - Line 3 – Insert name of Akron chapter president: Diamon Marcum
  - Line 4 – Change “old” to “told”
  - Lines 4 and 5 – Change “feed the hungry” to “Feed the Hungry”
- Page 7, New Business:
  - Line 2 – Change “inks to all” to “links to all”
Approved as amended by the 2018 Convention Minutes Committee:

Despina Denne 8/18/18

Denise Cecchini 9/10/18

Sharon Konstantinidis 9/09/18

Georgia Charkalis 9/10/18