



## Light of Penelope Award

This year's Light of Penelope Award goes to Helen McGillivray from Delos #103 (Santa Barbara, CA). Sister Helen started in Erato #295 in Calgary, Alberta (D24). Soon she moved to Northern CA (D21) where she was a member of Eos #1 in San Francisco, followed by Urania #290 in San Mateo

before joining Delos #103. She has served in countless chapter & district positions, including DG.



Her willingness to step into any role, at any time, speaks to her humility and her deep love for our mission. Across every chapter, district, and decade, she has embodied the values of the Daughters of Penelope: service, sisterhood, and dedication to Hellenic ideals. Her legacy is one of quiet strength, reliability, and devotion—a true light within our organization. AXIA Sister Helen!



L to R: GGZ3 Helen Santire, Advisor to the DOP/MOA Sofie Batshoun, D Treasurer Georgia Lipane, D Secretary Cynthia Bekiaris, Lt Governor Nikki Kopan, & DG Michele Lotakis. AXIA Sisters!

## District Penelope of the Year

Since 1958, delegates at the District Convention select a recipient who is recognized as an outstanding Daughter of Penelope, who excels in contributions and services to the DOP throughout her many years of services, as well as her years of service to the Greek Community, to civic and charitable organizations, and has provided unselfish assistance to the DOP. This year's Penelope of the Year recipient is Michele Lotakis, a 13 year Daughter from Aegina #340 in Chandler, Arizona.

# DISTRICT BULLETIN

Issue 12, June 2026

## District Convention

Over the last two days, Sisters gathered in Tucson, Arizona for District Convention hosted by the AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope Phoebus 146 Chapters. We had 23 Delegates & 2 Observers under the guidance of our Grand Governor, Zone III, Helen Santire.

Saturday we concluded our business meeting & elected a new District Lodge. Our 2026 - 2027 District Lodge is as follows: DG Michele Lotakis, Lt. Governor Nikki Kopan, District Secretary Cynthia Bekairis, Treasurer Georgia Lipane, Marshal Despina Walter, & Advisor to DOP/MOA Sofie Batshoun. AXIA Ladies! See you at WRDC in June 2027.



2025 - 2026 District

El Camino Real

### Project

The Delegates of this year's convention voted that our 2026-2027 project would be Water by Women, in particularly providing for the Navajo Nations in AZ. 1,000 children die daily from dirty drinking water. Water by Women empower women to provide a lifetime supply of clean water for children, so they can survive and thrive.

### Scholarship Foundation

This year, the El Camino Real Scholarship Foundation gave out 9 Graduate Grants, 1 Technical, Trade, & Vocation Grant, and 21 Undergraduate Scholarships totaling \$122,000. Thank you to all the donors and congratulations to all the worthy applicants!