

**ORDER OF AHEPA
Citrus District**



**District Number Two
BEST CHAPTER AWARD APPLICATION**

YEAR of Application: 2020

I. CHAPTER INFORMATION

1. Name of Chapter: Boca Raton AHEPA Chapter

2. Chapter Number: 487

3. Chapter Chartered: February 18, 1980

4. Chapter City: Boca Raton, Florida

5. Present Membership: As of this date, the Chapter has ninety-three (93) annual and eight (8) Life members for a total of one hundred one (101) brothers in good standing.

6. Total Members Paid: Of the ninety-three (93) non-Life members, Eighty-three (83) have paid their 2018 dues which represents 89%. The Chapter has paid the District assessment for members who were on the Chapter roster as of December 31, 2019.

7. Individual Dues: \$100 with \$20 towards the scholarship fund

8. Life Members: Chapter does not collect dues from Life Members, however Five (5) of the Eight (8) LIFE members have contributed to the chapter to cover their District 2 per capita assessment, chapter expenses and contribute to our scholarship fund.

9. Members Initiated: 4 new members for 2019-2020

| FIRST NAME | LAST NAME | MEMBERSHIP NO. |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| TAD | JOHNSON | 898986 |
| BASILIOS "BILLY" | DARIOS | 898293 |
| ACHILLEAS | FILIPPOPOULOS | 898292 |
| THEMI | THEODOSOPOULOS | 899046 |

10. Re-instatements: 2

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11. Transfers: None

12. Treasury Balance: As of March 31, 2020, the chapter had a total bank account balance of \$100,757.86

13. Individual Accounts: The chapter has two bank accounts and ten (10) certificate of deposit accounts for scholarship funds. As of March 31, 2020, the account balances were as follows:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| \$ 12,266.52 | Checking Account |
| \$ 10,014.38 | Sustainment Account |
| \$ 22,280.90 | Total Operating Accounts |
| | |
| \$ 19,007.49 | Scholarship I |
| \$ 59,469.47 | Scholarship II |
| \$ 78,476.96 | Total Scholarship Accounts |
| | |
| \$100,757.86 | Total Operating & Scholarship Accounts |

14. AHEPA Home: We do not own our own AHEPA Home, however we do refer individuals in need of senior care to the AHEPA Houses in West Palm Beach, FL or North Miami, FL.

15 - 16. N/A

17. E-Mail Addresses: Chapter collects e-mail addresses for those brothers who have them. Of the one hundred four (101) current members, ninety-two (92) have e-mail addresses.

18. Registered Voters: Unknown

19. Award of 25-year pins: No

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20. Award of 50-year pins: Yes, we have awarded a pin to the life members as they reach 50-years active with AHEPA. Below is a list of our Life members along with their years of service to AHEPA.

| FIRST NAME | LAST NAME | YEARS |
|-------------|-------------|-------|
| MATTHEW | JENETOPULOS | 70.7 |
| ANDREW | ARBES | 66.1 |
| CHRIST | KAZALAS | 64.4 |
| PETER | DION | 61.3 |
| LOUIS | SINOPULOS | 58.5 |
| PETER | PROTOS | 55.4 |
| CONSTANTINE | ANTHONY | 51.2 |

II. CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

21. Meeting Location: The Chapter holds its meetings at the same time with our local Cassandra Chapter of the Daughters of Penelope in the Saint Mark Greek Orthodox Church Fellowship Hall located at 2100 NW 51st Street (Yamato Road), Boca Raton, FL 33431.

22. Number of Meetings: Ten (10) monthly meetings were held from September 2019 through June 2020. We are planning informal Fellowship Nights during July & August.

23. Special Meetings: We conduct bi-monthly Board of Governors meetings and hold individual committee meetings as often as needed. Attached is a complete list of our committees and committee members. Our chapter president is a “defacto” member of all the committees

- **AHEPA Sunday**, Chair Jerry Baldino
- **Cultural Committee**, Chair Anthony Nicolliades
- **Fellowship**, Chair John Voytilla
- **Membership**, Chair Andrew Cassas
- **Dinner & Speaker**, Co-Chairs Andy Cassas & Peter Karantonis

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- ***Saint Mark Events***, Chair George Douglas
- ***Scholarship***, Chair Charlie Zacharias
- ***Sunshine***, Chair Peter Karantonis
- ***Valentines Dinner/Dance***, Chair James Constantine
- ***Veteran's Day Celebration***, Chair Nick Drakos

24. Regular Chapter meeting per month: One (1). A meal and fellowship, along with interesting speakers are conducted together with the DOP prior to breaking off into our own separate meetings.

25. Other Chapter meeting during the month: The chapter held numerous other chapter fellowship events throughout the year.

26. Are meetings Ritualistic? Yes

27. Does the Chapter have a degree Team? No

28. Do officers have regular meetings in addition to Chapter meetings? Yes, we meet bi-monthly with the Board of Governors (BOG) to discuss how we can improve our Chapter and promote AHEPA within the community of both Saint Mark Greek Orthodox Church and the City of Boca Raton. These meetings have been successful in the implementation of new concepts and projects within the Chapter including getting more Parishioners involved chapter activities and events.

29. Does your Chapter have combined meetings with other branches of the AHEPA Family? Yes - the Chapter works closely with The Daughters of Penelope having some joint affairs prior to the start of the regular meeting, e.g., speakers.

30. Does the Chapter have a scholarship program? Yes - the Chapter will award Eight (8) Scholarships this year totaling \$8,750 as follows: 3 X \$1,500 Scholarships, 5 X \$1,000 Scholarships. This year we limited the applicants to graduating high school and enrolling full time to University of Florida, University of Central Florida, University of North Florida, Florida Atlantic University & New York University.

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31. Did your Chapter host any dinners? Yes – each year the Chapter, along with the DOP, host an annual Lenten dinner for the Saint Mark Greek Orthodox Church community in association with Lent. This year it was cancelled due to Covid-19.

32. Did your Chapter host any dances? Yes – this year the Chapter hosted a 40th Anniversary dinner dance to raise funds for our Hellenic, educational and philanthropic projects. This is the most successful affair in the community for the year. This year's event attracted over 170 people on Friday February 14, 2020 and raised over \$10,000.

33. Did your Chapter participate in the Greek Independence parade? No

III. COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

34. Blood Bank Drives? No

35. AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Program? No

36. Athletic Program? No

37. Church Projects Activities:

- Chapter donates money and provides hundreds of “in-kind” volunteer hours to the church each year.
- Eight (8) brothers serve on the church parish council, and 3 of which serve in the capacity of president, vice president and treasurer.
- The Chapter president serves as a special consultant to the Parish Council to advise them on matters related to structure and organization and helps them to set goals for all the ministries each year.
- One of the brothers in the Chapter heads the Stewardship ministry for the church.
- AHEPANS serve as ushers in the church every Sunday and some are teachers in our Sunday school and Greek School classes.
- The Chapter actively participates in the annual Saint Mark Greek Festival held in January of each year. This year our brothers had leadership roles in the Saganaki, Loukoumades and Gyro booths, Taverna, Kitchen, food line and ran the car raffle. The chapter was also in charge of the parking for the festival.

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- The Chapter organizes AHEPA Sunday to distribute scholarships to deserving students and provide breakfast for 250 – 300 parishioners.
- The Chapter supports the local Greek School by giving awards to the best students in each eight (8) classes. In addition, the Chapter sponsors an essay contest for the three oldest classes and awards prizes to the three students who wrote the best essays. The question was: *What is the AHEPA organization and how important is in the Greek - American society?* The awards are presented to the children during the Greek School end of year graduation ceremony.
- The Chapter hosted a New Member Fellowship Night with 20 brothers and a few prospective brothers in attendance.
- The Chapter coordinated a Tailgate for the FAU vs Old Dominion Game at FAU Stadium. Brother John Voytilla made his famous Sausage & Peppers and others bought a pot luck dish which worked out well again for the 3rd year.
- The Chapter took a lead role in *Family Promise* project for the church. The organization is a national organization which transitions families experiencing homelessness to sustainable independence and financial stability. Saint Mark was responsible for housing and feeding three (3) to four (4) families for seven (7) days.
- The Chapter conducts the annual Veterans Day ceremony in the church which draws a lot of attention and praise.
- There are brothers in the Chapter who are advisors in the church's youth programs – GOYA, JOY and Mommy and Me.
- Assisted with Saint Catherine's Thanksgiving Dinner cooking and meal delivery for the less fortunate.
- Attended the Saint Catherin Greek Orthodox Church in West Palm Beach Ephiphany Cross Dive and Luncheon on January 11, 2020.

38. Other: Chapter hosted and donated to the following local non – profits, Fishing for Families in Need and Therapy Dogs of South Florida. Greek Studies at the University of Florida also presented to our group and we look forward to assisting them in the future.

39. Other: AHEPA hosted a Toys for Tots collection to support US Marine Corp at our December Dinner with over 100 Toys & Gift Cards collected for under privileged children. During this event the chapter was entertained with a performance from the Saint Mark Syrtaki dance group, of which proceeds were donated to the dance group to help support their costumes and expenses.

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40. US House of Representative - No

41. US Senator - No

42. Hellenic Issues - No

43. Met with Elected Officials - Yes

44. Invite Elected Officials - No

45. Non-AHEPAN Publications: Yes – every other month the Chapter news is published in *The Message* which is sent to over 650 families within the Saint Mark Greek Orthodox Church parish community. In addition, the Chapter promotes AHEPA and The DOP throughout the Church through weekly e-mail messages and posts on the Church bulletin and web site calendar. The Chapter also has a Facebook page that is used to share meeting times, events and accomplishments of our chapter.

IV. DISTRICT PROGRAMS

46. District Scholarship Fund: The chapter has contributed \$250 to the scholarship fund for 4 years towards the establishment a LIFETIME Gold Membership.

47. District Operating Fund: No

48. District Letter Fund: No

49. Other District Support: None

50. Delegates to 2019 District Convention: Yes, we had Four (4) Brothers as Delegates Jerry Baldino, James Constantine, Gus Constantinou and Alan Macaulay in attendance at New Port Richey and Sven Springs Golf & Country Club.

51 -53. No

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V. NATIONAL PROGRAMS

54. AHEPA National Congressional Banquet: No

55- 56. Delegates to 2019 National Convention: No

57 - 64. No

VI. AHEPA FAMILY

This Chapter has a close relationship with Daughters of Penelope Cassandra Chapter 372 with Fifty-Nine (59) Members. Both Chapters are active in community affairs and together have gained the respect and recognition of the Saint Mark Greek Orthodox Church community.

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THIS REPORT COVERS ACTIVITIES OF OUR CHAPTER

CHAPTER NAME: Boca Raton AHEPA Chapter 487
CHAPTER NUMBER: 487
CITY: Boca Raton, Florida
For the period of July 1st to June 30th of the year 2019-2020

Complied and Submitted June 7, 2020

James Constantine

Steven Romain

CHAPTER PRESIDENT
James Constantine

CHAPTER SECRETARY
Steven Romain

