

National Philoptochos Society 2014-2016 Committee Report



National Ministry Commitments

Co-Chairs: Eleni Constantinides and Eleni Zaferes
Liaison: Arlene Siavelis Kehl
Members: Philippa Condakes Florence Stefanou
Pat Gogos Peggy Vranas
Maria Skiadas Athanasia Ward

We were very honored and fortunate to have been selected to serve the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society on this very significant committee. For the past two years, we strived to work diligently with the National Philoptochos Office, the Metropolis Presidents and their liaisons to track and review the total National commitments for the years 2014-2015 for all chapters throughout the Archdiocese. Stella Xikis, bookkeeper at the National Office, sent progress reports to us on a quarterly basis. In turn, we updated our spreadsheets and forwarded the information to all Metropolis presidents and their liaisons. We asked that they maintain contact with their chapters, learn their particular situations and help them realize the importance of fully participating in the program. Every donation, no matter the size, is needed and appreciated. It is equally important that all chapters, regardless of their size, understand that they are a vital component of a strong national organization and that only through their financial contributions to our ministry commitments can we meet our philanthropic goals.

Since this is a National Convention year, and we wish all our chapters to be recognized and rewarded for 100% participation in the program, reports were sent to us more frequently. They were promptly updated and distributed. We would like to remind everyone that checks sent to the National Philoptochos Office must have two signatures and be accompanied by the commitment coupons so that the staff can record the information accurately.

We also recommend that chapter presidents prepare a short write-up on each commitment, ask our clergy to speak of the philanthropic works done by Philoptochos in front of the congregation, and urge the parishioners to be generous and help us gather the funds needed to accomplish our Mission. It is very important that our parishioners know that their support and financial contributions are needed and very much appreciated.

Our Metropolis presidents and their liaisons should know that we are always accessible and available to answer any questions or concerns they may have.

We would like to thank Stella Xikis and our Director Helen Lavorata for their dedication and hard work and for always being available to answer our questions. We also thank fellow national board member and past committee chair Pam Argyris for her guidance and support and for graciously sharing her wisdom and experience with us.