

METROPOLIS OF DENVER

Philoptochos Monthly News Tips

October 1, 2008

Dear Philoptochos Chapter Presidents and Vice Presidents:

Please make copies and share our Monthly News Tips with your members at your next general meeting.

We encourage you to visit our wonderful Metropolis of Denver Website www.denver.goarch.org. There you will find important information about our Metropolis and Philoptochos. As reprinted from the web site: "The mission of the Philoptochos Society is to demonstrate God's love for all people and to practice the inspiring message of the parable of the Good Samaritan. It is to take the words of Christ when He says, for everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required (Luke 12:48), and to show concern and generosity to the less fortunate, the infirm, the hungry and the homeless of this world." His Eminence Metropolitan Isaiah

Here is a fun find for you! Would like to improve your Greek vocabulary? If so visit www.greektionary.com. Each day you will receive three words from different difficulty levels with their translations and pronunciations, example phrases and recorded audio files.

I look forward to hearing from you fabulous and busy Philoptochos ladies with your chapter's news and events. Please e-mail me your up dates by the 15th of each month.

With you in His service,
Valerie Ranahosseini
Metropolis of Denver Philoptochos Board Member
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METROPOLITAN MINUTE

The autumn months are the golden time of each year. They are filled with vibrant colors, cool breezes, and the ripened crops of the harvest. As we grow from young people, to adults, to our senior years, may these descriptions of nature also describe us as members of the Body of Christ, His Holy, Apostolic Church, maturing in our faith as Orthodox Christians and experiencing the beauty of God's creation.

His Eminence Metropolitan Isaiah

NATIONAL AND METROPOLIS COMMITMENTS FOR OCTOBER

National: Cancer Fund

Emergency Fund

Metropolis: Youth Endowment Fund

NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS UP DATE

Our first meeting will be held in Chicago on Nov. 6 & 7, 2008. Our new National Philoptochos president will be seated at this time.

Look for your letter from National concerning the purchase of IOCC health kits and clean up buckets for the victims of Hurricane Ike.

METROPOLIS UP DATE - PRESIDENT BARBARA LATSONAS

I am asking our chapters for 100% participation with these joint projects: Homeless Outreach and Prevention of Child Abuse. Please remember to send in your reports.

Many thanks ladies for your hard work and commitment to giving help the homeless of our Metropolis. Your reports were amazing!

The following fifteen Chapters are supporting Homeless Outreach:

COLORADO:

Boulder, Denver, Greenwood Village and Loveland

MISSOURI:

Kansas City

NEBRASKA:

Omaha, Greater Church of Omaha and St. John

OKLAHOMA:

Tulsa

TEXAS:

Corpus Christi, Dallas Holy Trinity, Houston Cathedral & San Antonio

UTAH:

Holladay and Price

WYOMING:

Casper

CHAPTER NEWS

Boulder, Colorado - Chapter President, Liz Troicky

The Sts. Peter & Paul Philoptochos has adopted the Boulder County Shelter for the homeless as its local outreach program for the Metropolis of Denver joint homeless project. A conversation with Greg Harms, Executive Director of the Shelter, revealed that there is an immediate need for blankets, towels and facecloths. The winter season for the shelter begins October 1st, and he anticipates that there will be a great increase in client needs because of the current economic climate. Most needed items will be coats, hats, scarves, gloves, especially for men. We will be collecting donations weekly of the above items and delivering them to the Shelter on a continuing basis now and throughout the winter. Charleen Pappas and Shanyn Elserougi are the chair people for this project.

Denver, Colorado - Chapter President Nikki Phillips

Our chapter chose Christ Body Ministry Outreach Center in Denver. Our chapter has committed to a quarterly feeding of 250 homeless citizens on our designated Saturday. The members of our chapter meet in our community center kitchen, prepare the meal, then transport to the center for the 12:30 p.m. meal. The prep time for the meal was about 4 hours to cook and assemble the items for transport. It was a rewarding experience, and we hope to include our GOYAns in this wonderful ministry.

Greenwood Village, Colorado - Chapter President Barbara Latsonas

Our chapter has delivered over 800 bags to Denver's homeless. In addition to filling the bags with personal care items, socks, hats, gloves, gift cards to fast food restaurants, our chapter has purchased 50 sleeping bags. We have requested that each family in our parish also purchase sleeping bags, blankets, coats and sweatshirts for our delivery this month. Bags will be delivered this month and again in the Spring. For our next delivery our GOYAns are making 300 sack lunches for the homeless. The lunches will consist of a PB &J sandwich, fruit, granola bar, cookies and bottled water. Our Hope & Joy group made small prayer cards to be placed in the bags.

Loveland, Colorado – Chapter President Michelle Mantas

On Friday, June 6, 2008, St. Spyridon's Friends of the Poor chapter hosted a successful Greek dinner at the Community Kitchen of Loveland. The event was not only a fundraising effort for the Community Kitchen, but also to educate the community on the incredible support the Community Kitchen provides for those in the area. Nearly 125 community members dined with us and learned how Loveland's only operating soup kitchen helps those in need. Our efforts raised \$4,726 in the one evening! The funds were used to support both the Community Kitchen and other projects of St. Spyridon's Friends of the Poor Chapter. It was an enlightening evening for all in attendance.

Kansas City, Missouri - Chapter President, Staci Elliott

Our chapter provides meals for 350 homeless and needy people one Friday evening per month, in the neighborhood of a small inner city Orthodox mission church, St Mary of Egypt. In addition to clothing drives, we host Christmas parties for members of this parish, homeless people and children in the neighborhood.

Greater Church of Omaha, Nebraska - President Helen Lazanas

Our chapter is supporting Francis Sienna House for the homeless. We will be working with their director who will let us know on a monthly basis what donations are needed.

St. John's, Omaha, Nebraska - Chapter President Zoe White

Our chapter held a church rummage sale and donated all of the items that did not sell to other organizations. The leftover children's clothing was distributed to our neighborhood at the block party for "Night Against Crime." Some other items were distributed through "Together Incorporated of Metropolitan Omaha," which distributes clothing and household items at no cost to those in needs. For the past year our members have been taking food, clothing and other miscellaneous items to "The Open Door Mission." They are in dire need of assistance because their funding was cut from the local budget last year.

Tulsa, Oklahoma - Chapter President, Athena Caplanis

Summer Kids Wish List - Our chapter is designating \$300 from our funds to buy educational toys for their summer program and/or items for the homeless. In addition each member either purchases an item on their own from their needs list or donates \$10 towards the purchase of other items. On Oct. 28, 2008 our chapter will prepare and serve a complete dinner at the Day Care Center for the Homeless.

Corpus Christi, Texas - Chapter President Olga Plomarity

Our chapter presented Mayor Henry Garrett a check for \$1,530 to fund one person's meals for the entire year under the "Meals on Wheels" program.

Dallas, Texas, Holy Trinity - Chapter President Dimitria Spilliotis

We support the Food Bank through North Dallas Shared Ministry. We provide food, money and volunteer help at the food bank throughout the year. The food bank services homeless and low-income individuals and families.

Houston, Texas, Cathedral - Chapter President Mary Poulos

Our chapter has two local ministries. Search (Service of the Emergency and Resource Center for the Homeless) and EAC (Emergency Aid Coalition). Our Chapter makes annual monetary donations, and in addition we sponsor food and clothing drives for these organizations

San Antonio, Texas - Chapter President Vita Mayo

I'm happy to report that our chapter will also do the "Bags for the Homeless" project.

Holladay, Utah - Chapter President Stephanie Chachas

We are donating socks, hats, gloves, and small hygiene items in plastic bags with handles to a donation center for the homeless in downtown SLC. The lady who has set up donation center also serves breakfast for the homeless under a viaduct each Sunday from 7 a.m. to noon. Our Philoptochos is presently gathering the needed items and will man the tables and help with breakfast on a Sunday the first part of November.

Price, Utah - Chapter President, Lisa Critchlow

Since we do not have a homeless shelter, we will donate money to our local Food Bank whose supplies are rapidly depleting due to our poor economy.

Casper, Wyoming - Chapter President Mitzi Bruno

Our chapter donates to the needy at Seton House and Pine River Indian Reservation. We also donate to the Central Wyoming Rescue Mission for the homeless.

**Metropolis of Denver Philoptochos
Saint Basil Academy Retreat
Friday, October 17, 2008
Garrison, New York**

The October Retreat is quickly approaching. It is a special time for us to visit and learn about our beloved Saint Basil Academy.

“We teach, We heal, We bring the light of Christ to young lives”

Reservations For The Retreat By October 1, 2008.

- Thursday, October 16:**
- **Plan to arrive at LaGuardia Airport, New York, between 1:30pm – 3:00pm.**
 - Advise us of your Airline and your time of arrival.
 - A general meeting place will be arranged at the airport.
 - Saint Basil will arrange transportation to the Academy.
 - We will enjoy a light dinner and have time for fellowship.
 - We will be staying in the Girls Dorms, (this is fun!) or if you prefer, near by Hotel rooms are available. (Information will be forthcoming).
 - Cost of the Retreat: \$100
- Friday, October 17:**
- Morning Church Service.
 - Retreat with Fr. Costas Sitaras.
 - Tour of the Academy and its beautiful grounds. Afternoon at Cold Spring, a wonderful, picturesque and historic New England Village, filled with Antique Shops and fun stores.
 - A No Host Dinner at a Cold Spring restaurant.
- Saturday, October 18:**
- Saint Basil Academy Fashion Show: 11:00am – 2:00pm.
 - Cost: \$35.
 - Fabulous raffle which includes:
 - **A 3 Day Greek Island & Turkey Cruise for Two.**
 - **A 7-Day Mediterranean Cruise for Two in a Suite.**
 - **Roundtrip Airline Ticket for One. New York to Greece.**
 - **\$1,000 Cash Prize.**
 - Depart for LaGuardia Airport and travel home.

Plan Your Departure No Earlier Than 5pm Saturday.

Please advise Elaine Cladis of your travel plans: time of arrival and the airline you are using.
Ecladis@comcast.net. Cell: 303.435.8584.