

JOHN G. THEVOS FIFTH DISTRICT NJ/DE

AHEPA Voice

American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association



AHEPA Family Celebrates 90th Anniversary in Las Vegas



Archbishop Demetrios addresses over 600 members of the AHEPA family at the 90th Grand Banquet in Las Vegas.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- Demi Thomas is sworn in as Grand Secretary of the Daughters of Penelope
- AHEPA Voice is #1 Again!
- Sons of Pericles Win District of the Year
- District and Chapter Scholarship Award Winners
- District 5 Awards Winners



Fall 2012

MARATHON ENTERPRISES

Tom Pappas



Message From Our District Governor

WILLIAM A. HARRISON

Dear AHEPA Family of District # 5.

I would like to thank you all for this great opportunity. This is my sixth year on the district lodge and I have learned every year about this wonderful brotherhood.

Since I was elected as your governor, I have met with New Jersey's Governor Christie. We spoke of local issues in my town of Bayonne, and about having a charter school in Northern New Jersey. I think this will be our year to be accepted and have a second charter school in our district with the AHEPA name on it. In this upcoming October, I have been invited by the Governors' office to speak about volunteerism in the community. There will be other leaders of organizations to join the

program. It looks like this will put the AHEPA more in the public eye.

Other programs the District Lodge will be working on is raising money for the students of St.. Basil's Academy for their Christmas presents. For the second year, we would like to send the students to see a Broadway play in NYC. Please, when the Lodge comes to visit your chapters, be generous in your donations for this project.

One other thing I would like to accomplish is to have 1,700 members in the AHEPA in our district by the end of my term. I know we can do this. I just ask for your help. If you have any friends, family members, or friends



from church that you feel that would help the AHEPA and it's goals, contact your chapters to bring them in.

Before closing, I would like to congratulate PDG Phil Vogis and PDG Ted Vittas on the great work on the AHEPA VOICE for being top publication in the AHEPA. Great work. Let's do for three years in a row.

Again, I thank you for making me your District Governor and I will do my best to make you proud.

Yours in Brotherhood Fraternally,
William A. Harrison DG



Message from the Daughters of Penelope District Governor

ELENI PARLAPANIDES

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

I hope you are having a wonderful summer.

First I would like to thank ALL my sisters who attended the 2012 5th District Convention in Asbury Park.

The hosting chapter Aulis #195 has done a superb job hosting the Convention in their brand new facility. What a beautiful site. Calorizikia!

I would also like to thank each and every one who elected me to be the 5th District

Governor of New Jersey/Delaware for the year 2012-2013.

I will try to visit all the chapters in the District along with my Lodge members (weather permitting) and share the information and ideas that will be available to us.

I am happy to say that they were 11 of us who attended the Supreme Convention in Las Vegas. We had a great time. It was good to see all the sisters and brothers from across the country, USA, Canada, Greece,

Australia and England.

I am looking forward to a great start, and to have a combined meeting with both Lodges.

We will communicate AND work together for the Good of the Order as one family so we can have a PRODUCTIVE year.

Yours in Theta Pi,
Eleni Parlapanides
5th District Governor

Save the Date

Saturday November 3rd, 2012 The 5th District Cancer Foundation Gala at the Pines Manor, NJ

AHEPAVoice

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AHEPA

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Marshal..... George Pappas
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Athletics Advisor... Nick C. Mariolis
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DOP

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Lt. Governor Marcella Calagias
Secretary Anna Zavros
Treasurer..... Karen Knicos
Marshal..... Katina Kehayes
Advisor Karen Marousis, PDG

District & National Websites

National

www.ahepa.org

AHEPA District 5

www.ahepadistrict5.org

Daughters of Penelope District

5thdistrictdaughtersofpenelope.webs.com

Sons of Pericles

www.sonsofpericles.com

Maids of Athena

www.maidsofathena.org

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Message from the Daughters of Penelope Grand Secretary

DEMI THOMAS

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

It is my honor and pleasure to have been elected at the recent national convention in Las Vegas, Nevada as Grand Secretary of the Daughters of Penelope. I would like to thank the AHEPA family of District 5 for all their support and encouragement throughout my tenure in the Daughters. Without your support I would not be able to accomplish my goals and continue my work in this wonderful organization.

The convention was a wonderful event, and our business meetings were productive and wide ranging. This year we had record breaking attendance. I hope this is the beginning of a revitalization of our organization. The AHEPA family is a vital element of our community, and it was heartening to see the collaboration among the delegates at the convention that came from all corners of the United States and Canada. Of course, the friendships that begin or are renewed at the convention and other gatherings of our organization are a wonderful, personal benefit.

This year's goal, of the Daughters of Penelope Grand President Joanne Saltas, is ACHIEVE. It is our mission and our purpose this year. We are challenging all Daughters to; ACHIEVE new heights, a stronger level of tolerance, respect, and patience. We need to ACHIEVE more in the way of programs, events, and fundraisers. We will do so by ACHIEVING strategies that will benefit our resources and increase our ability to give.

Yours in Theta Pi,
Demi Thomas

Congratulations to District #5 on being the best AHEPA District Newsletter in the AHEPA Domain. For the second year in a row, District #5 is the Number One. May you continue your wonderful success in Publications.

—John Grossomanides



Business Manager's Fall Issue Message

PHIL VOGIS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is my pleasure to report to the entire AHEPA Family that again this year, the AHEPA Voice magazine has received the FIRST AWARD from the National Publications Board at the Supreme Convention in Las Vegas, NV. It is a great honor for our magazine to receive this award for the second year in a row. I would like to THANK all the chapters for sharing their chapter news with the AHEPA Domain. We look forward to another great year, that District #5 NJ/DE can be proud on its accomplishments. I would like to thank Brother Ted Vittas, PDG Editor, and our publication board for their support in making our magazine a first class reading publication. Please continue to submit your chapter articles to the editor for inclusion in our future magazines. I would like to wish everyone a great AHEPA Year.

Fraternally,
Philip Vogis, PDG - Business Manager

Camden Chapter #69 Presentation of Scholarships – June 10, 2012

It is with great pleasure that once again; the Camden Chapter #69 presents our graduates with the Order of AHEPA Camden Chapter 69 scholarships.

The mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence.

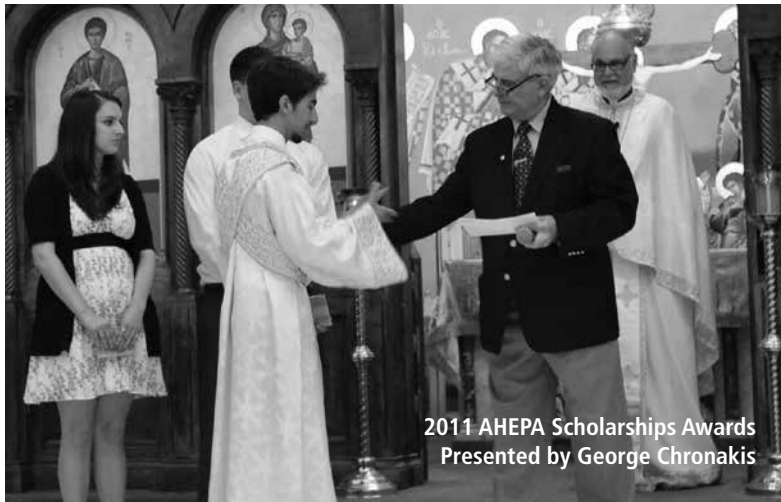
An important component of AHEPA's mission is to create an awareness of the principles of Hellenism to society. These principles include a commitment to humanity, freedom, and democracy. The preservation and promotion of these ideals is where AHEPA has, and always will be, deeply committed.

AHEPA's pledge to education has been well documented throughout its history. Over \$4 million is endowed at the local, district and national levels toward the use of scholarships and a half-million dollars is awarded annually. Our chapter's scholarship funds, received through endowments and the generosity of Mildred

C. Paera, The Dimitra & Jerry Vallianos, the Mary & Charles Chigounis and the Theodoris Family are wisely invested, and allowed our chapter to award scholarship grants totaling more than \$110,000.00 up to date.

This year marks our 81st birthday of our Chapter and the 90th birthday of our district. The scholarship committee has awarded the following recipients on the chapter level.

Dawn Artemis Armentoni - Drexel University, Steve Anagnostos – Rutgers University, Andrew Mantzas – Rowan University, Spyridon Mantzas – Rhode Island University, and Jessica Kostiou – Monmouth University.



AHEPA Monroe Chapter #75 45th Annual Graduates Reception

On June 3rd 2012, the AHEPA Monroe Chapter #75 held its 45th Annual Graduates Reception honoring the Graduating students of the St. George Greek Orthodox Church Communities. The reception was held, as it has been for the last few years, in collaboration with the Daughters of Penelope, Tethys Chapter #229 and the St. George of Piscataway GOYA in a spirit of fun, congeniality and proud celebration of the quality and accomplishments of our youth.

The highlight of the reception was, as every year, the announcement of the winners of the Scholarships that the Monroe Chapter #75 hands out to students with exceptional academic and community service credentials.

The scholarship program was initiated in March of 2003, when Brother John Pilitsis launched it with a generous donation in honor of the memory of our late brother Milton Marikakis. Brother Milton's lifelong commitment, dedication, passion and contributions to the advancement of the education of young Greek Americans was exemplary. Brother Pilitsis' trend setting example has since been emulated by others leading to the establishment and granting of four annual scholarships donated by: 1) Sister Kathryn Achaves, in memory of her late husband Brother Stephen Achaves, 2) Brother Christos Katsifis in memory of his wife Georgia, a beloved Greek School teacher, and 3) Brother John Mellos, who always generally supports youth and Church cause. With these funds, the Monroe Chapter #75 grants at least \$5,000 in scholarships annually.

The Milton Marikakis scholarship in the amount of \$2,500 was won by William Mavrode. The Georgia Katsifis Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 was won by Yiannis Frangos and the Stephen Achaves scholarship in the amount of \$500 was won by Miranda Sirimis.

It is with great pride that the Chapter recognizes all graduating seniors and rewards the top four for their exceptional records.

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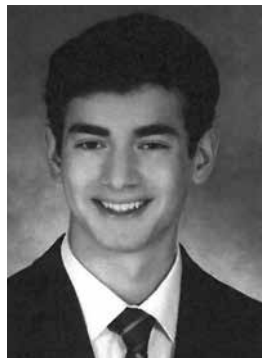


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John G. Thevos District No. 5 – Scholarship Program Year 2012

The Scholarship Committee of the 5th District scholarship Program is pleased to announce that this year, we were able to present awards totalling Six-Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$6,500) to worthy young people of our AHEPA Fifth District. Applications were sent to all chapters in our District to be distributed in their AHEPA communities. We received ten completed applications. Of this number, we were able to present six awards.

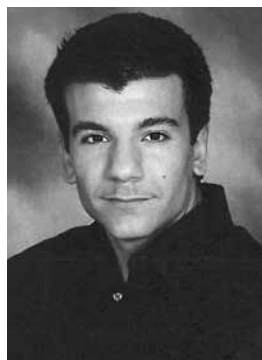
This year, again, we enlisted the aid of teachers from Central Regional Schools, Hackensack Schools, and Bayonne Schools under the supervision of Triantafillos Parpanides, Superintendent of Central Regional Schools. In their letter of comments, they selected six students in terms of scholarly achievements, community orientation, and academic promise. The scholarship awards were as follows:



Michael John Boyas received an award of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500). He graduated from Upper St.. Clair High School, Upper St.. Clair, PA. He was sponsored by Alexander Hamilton Chapter #54 where his father maintained his membership in the AHEPA. Michael will be entering Oberlin College and Oberlin Conservatory to pursue degrees in Biology and Vocal Performance, respectively.



Andrea Kyriacou received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). She graduated from Jackson Memorial High School, Jackson, NJ. She was sponsored by Ocean County Chapter #467 where her father maintained his membership in the AHEPA. Andrea will be entering Rider University to pursue her goal in Business Administration.



Nicholas Ananias Eliades received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). He graduated from Wayne Valley High School, Wayne, NJ. He was sponsored by Ramapo Chapter #453 where his mother maintained her membership in the Daughters of Penelope. Nicholas will be entering Fordham University to major in Social Humanities.



Charlotte Marie Mastoridis received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). She graduated from Gloucester County Institute of Technology, Sewell, NJ. She was sponsored by South Jersey Chapter #162 where her father maintained his membership in the AHEPA. Charlotte will be entering Temple University majoring in International Business.



Yanni Frangos (Wildwood Weekend Award) received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). He graduated from South Brunswick High School, South Brunswick, NJ. He was sponsored by Monroe Chapter #75 where his mother maintained her membership in the Daughters of Penelope. Yanni will be entering Rutgers University, New Brunswick – College of Engineering to major in Mechanical Engineering.



Samson Pettemerides (award provided by National Headquarters) received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). He graduated from Jackson Liberty High School, Jackson, NJ. He was sponsored by Ocean Jersey Chapter #467 where his father maintained his membership in the AHEPA. Samson will be entering Stockton College of NJ majoring in Chiropractic Studies.

The members of the Scholarship Committee would like to congratulate the recipients and wish them good luck in their college education and future endeavors. The names of the awardees were acknowledged at the Grand Banquet of our annual District Convention held at the St.. George Greek Orthodox Church, Ocean, NJ on the evening of Saturday, June 2nd.

Before I close, the Scholarship Committee would like to thank those chapters in our District who supported the Scholarship Fund by paying their Per Capita Tax to our fund. All chapters must participate and pay their Per Capita Tax to the District Scholarship Program.

AHEPA District 5 Discusses with Hellenic News & Hermes Expo Founder How to Promote Greater Inter-Hellene synergy

By Michail Vafeiadis

PENNSAUKEN, NJ- In the new Law Offices of George G. Horiates, Esq., a meeting was held June 23 to discuss the future cooperation of AHEPA District 5, the Hellenic News of America and Hermes Expo International.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Paul Kotrotsios, Founder and President of the Hermes Expo International and Publisher of HNA, stressed the necessity for further synergy and joint action among the Hellenes across the nation to efficiently cope with the challenges they face nowadays both here and the motherland as well.

"We can achieve greater levels of synergy. Currently there are too many organizations and thus, we should bring the surrounding area together," Mr. Kotrotsios said.

In a conciliatory mode, participants with a long tradition of involvement and contribution to Hellenic affairs such as Governor Bill Harrison, Lt. Governor Sammy Thomas, Lee Millas from the AHEPA board, George Horiates, George Chronakis and George Pappas, agreed on the urgency of this initiative and underlined the reasons it has to succeed.

Mr. Kotrotsios said that it is in the interest of both AHEPA, HNA and the Hermes Expo International to attract and engage a more quality crowd consisted of young professionals that would later become the backbone of Hellenism in the nation. One of the goals discussed in the meeting was organizing in the near future a joint AHEPA-Hermes seminar and dinner during HNA's 25th anniversary in October and bring prominent speakers from across the professional spectrum to discuss the future of Hellenism in the Tri-state area consisted of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware and also to develop more links among the Hellenes in the U.S. and Greece.

Mr. Chronakis, President of the Camden Chapter #69, emphasized the need for AHEPA to reinvent itself and "look back to what we did in order to move forward."

Another discussing theme was institutionalizing a concerted networking and publicity effort to better showcase AHEPA's philanthropic work and

activities like the Fifth District Cancer Research Foundation that organizes an annual fundraising to promote cancer research.

The call for synergy is louder than ever before considering the financial ills Greece and Cyprus encounter. Lt Governor Sammy Thomas said that AHEPA ought to also undertake business development functions to trigger and accommodate investment opportunities. "District 5 can lead this effort to provide the venue for all other Greek organizations to break down the walls among all professionals," he said.

Participants concurred that for all these proposals to succeed it is important to engage other Districts too.

Another idea was to cooperate more closely with the Hellas and Cyprus Districts and use booths during the next Hermes Expo Fair to organize webinars and discuss ways how Greek businesses can create opportunities here to expand their business cycles. Mr. Thomas, who often travels to Greece and is familiar with the political and economic developments in the country, cited the example of a Greek software company that recently downsized its activities and reduced its personnel from 120 employees to 20.

"To offer their services to the U.S. they need to be coached on what the expectations are in order to be here; from signing contracts to having a whole apparatus ready to facilitate their entrance," Mr. Thomas said.

In addition, this cooperation can also have a political facet which in conjunction with AHI and PSEKA in D.C. will have a stronger voice and halt ongoing investment plans and activities in Turkish-occupied northern Cyprus.

Mr. Papas also echoed the exigency for greater collaboration and highlighted the role Hermes Expo can have as springboard for such projects. A constructive cooperation with HNA and the Hermes Expo International will create a dynamic duo that will attract more people who want to learn, share and discover professional opportunities but civic responsibility, philanthropy, education and Hellenism too.

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AHEPA Family Celebrates Its 90th Anniversary in Style at the Monte Carlo in Las Vegas

by Ted Vittas, PDG

The Monte Carlo Hotel was the home base for the AHEPA Family as it celebrated the 90th anniversary of AHEPA's founding in 1922. The excitement of the city of Las Vegas was shared by all who united together as a family for a truly memorable week of July 22 – 27.

There were many first-timers at this convention. I sat with a group from Idaho and Washington state who attended for the first time. There were also many Canadians who were led by the Supreme President of Canada George Vassilas. There was a delegation from Greece, representing chapters in Greece, Cyprus, Serbia and Turkey. The Supreme President of AHEPA Australasia, Elias Doufas was also present. District 5 had over 20 AHEPA delegates with 3 tables at the Supreme banquet. Attendees had a choice of attending the convention's glendi, casino night, banquet and Sons and Maids after

hours or going sight-seeing at the many luxurious casinos. Of course many tried their luck at the gaming tables.

The convention was a celebration of AHEPA's legacy and accomplishments over its near century. During the week there were lectures, athletic events, a koulouraki contest, vendors and shows. I attended the lecture on why Homer is still relevant today and the history of Greek cowboys in the western US. I also attended the Athletic awards luncheon and basketball tournament organized by the Athletics committee. I was honored to have sat next to US Olympian Tom Pappas and his lovely family at the luncheon. It was a coup for the Hall of Fame Selection Committee to induct a 3-time Olympian at the same time that the summer Olympiad was beginning in London.

A big theme of this convention was providing aid to the economically

One of the Best Attended Conventions Ever

strapped people of Greece. Attending the convention from Greece was the Executive Director of the Apostoli Mission, Constantinos Dimitsas. AHEPA Supreme President John Grossomanides presented Mr. Dimitsas with a check as one installment towards AHEPA's commitment to provide relief to the people of Greece.

The Supreme Banquet was attended by over 600 and featured a surprise performance by two ageless Las Vegas personalities, Frank Sinatra and Marilyn Monroe. The impersonators did a great job getting the crowd in a festive mood as Marilyn sang "Happy Birthday" to President Grossomanides on behalf of AHEPA. Old blue eyes also sang many of Frankie's standards including "New York, New York."

Locally, while no one from District 5 was elected to AHEPA office, there were many bright spots. The Daughters of Penelope elevated Sister Demi Thomas of the Agape chapter in Wyckoff, NJ to Grand Secretary. The *AHEPA Voice* won outstanding publication for the second year in a row. The Ramapo chapter was awarded 3rd place for the most initiates of a medium chapter. The District 5 Sons of Pericles were selected as the "District of the Year." Finally, Gregory Vlahakis, a fine young man from Chatham, NJ was one of the Scholar Athlete honorees at the Athletics Award luncheon.

You can see a photo gallery of the festivities and read the convention election results by visiting the AHEPA web site <http://ahepa.org>. Next year's convention will be in Orlando Florida on the week of August 18-23, 2013.



Odyssey Charter School

The Pride of Wilmington Chapter #95: A miracle in progress!



By George N. Righos, PDG

Eight years ago, on February 16, 2004, during the “AHEPA Honoring the US Congress” festivities, I happened to listen to a presentation by Mr. George Mavrogiorgos, the then Greek Consul of Education, attached to the Greek Embassy in Washington, D.C. He was encouraging and pleading with Ahepans to plan and create Charter Schools where the Greek Language would be taught by Greek native speaking teachers. Greek teachers would have been sent to schools at the expense of the Greek government.

I rushed back to Wilmington and I called a meeting of our Wilmington Chapter #95 to report what I had just heard. I asked for the support of our membership to create such a school: an institution which will guarantee the perpetuation of our heritage, our language, and our culture. These values have waxed and waned in our communities and our churches in the U.S. from 1915 to today.

The Chapter not only approved and funded the incorporation of the Odyssey Charter School, but also decided to offer its scholarship fund, totaling \$65,000, as a non-interest bearing start up loan for the creation of the school. (The loan was generously forgiven in April 2012). This loan is and will continue to be a gift which will give in perpetuity, a forever scholarship, supporting the education of all children of the Wilmington community at large.

The creation of such a school was an opportunity to begin a miracle, which would culminate the dreams and hopes of our pioneer parents who came to this country to find the American Dream. The Hellenic heritage, which had been carried in their hearts, the philosophical ideas of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, the engineering marvels and discoveries of

Archimedes, the rhetoric of Demosthenes, the art of Pheidias, the laws of Spartan Lycurgus and Athenian Solon, the medicine of Hippocrates, the mathematics of Pythagoras and Eratosthenes, were now about to be offered to the Wilmington community, because our forefathers knew well that the Hellenic values were not the property of Greeks alone.

On August 20, 2012, the school celebrates its 7th year since its inception. The student body has now grown to 600 students in grades K to 5 with 86 teachers and staff, including 13 Greek teachers. Our students enjoy respect for their knowledge, and pride for their accomplishments in the academic world speak the Greek language fluently and love our culture. By Delaware public standards, Odyssey is compared with and placed well above many local private schools with high tuition costs.

The Odyssey Charter School is now a household word. You cannot stop in a market, restaurant, or any friendly gathering, without someone mentioning Odyssey and wishing to enroll their children in the school. During the enrollment period of November - January 2011, there were 250 students on a waiting list, hoping that they would be admitted to the school, after 130 students had already been enrolled.

During the past 6 years, Odyssey has been honored 5 times by the Delaware State Department of Education, and has been named a Superior School, a title earned by very few schools in the state. Odyssey students have been performing consistently at levels of 100%, 98% and 97%, in Reading, Math., Science, and Social Studies respectively.

Our own Greek teachers, under the direction of Dr. G. Fulkerson, Director of World languages, of DEDOE, have labored to write a Foreign Language curriculum for Elementary Schools (FLES). This parallels the



21st Century standards set by the US DOE and guides the teaching of the language and writing of lesson plans, which are created by our teachers and used to properly teach the Greek language in the U.S.

During the past several years, Odyssey has been making great strides in creating partnerships with several of the most prestigious institutions of higher education.

Harvard University, Pennsylvania University, University of Delaware, Stanford University, Dartmouth College, and others have shown a strong interest in our work.

The Center of Hellenic Studies of Harvard University, through its branch at Nafplion, Greece, is collaborating with Odyssey for the past three years to create projects in which our students and students from various public schools in Peloponnesos, take part.

Odyssey has been approved by the DOE, and is committed to open a middle school by the school year 2013-2014, and a High School by 2017. The total number of students of all three schools will be 1700.

At this time OCS is negotiating the purchase of a 16 acre property and our architects are drawing plans for a new school building. Brothers, this is not a temporary project that will end in a few months or in a few years. It will remain an AHEPA project for as long as there are Ahepans who are willing to believe and live according to the precepts of AHEPA: Hellenism, Philanthropy, Education, Civic Responsibility and Individual and Family Excellence.

As you have seen, all it takes, is 5 dedicated Ahepans to create a miracle. The rest is very easy. You can do it too. We will be glad to help and guide you.

2012 Trenton AHEPA Family Awards Program

On June 20, 2012 the Trenton chapter welcomed the community of St.. George to their 57th annual awards program held at the St.. George Community Center. President Evan Pilaras and Vice- President Paul Mamolou presided over the evening's affair.

Following the opening prayer by Father James Pavlow, State Senator Linda Greenstein and Assemblyman Daniel Benson congratulated the graduates and scholarship winners.

Certificates and bonds were presented to the outstanding members of the Greek Language school- Mary Spireas and Arianna Siliverdis, the chapter also honored the principal of the St.. George Greek School Ms. Sophia Stavrakis for her years of service to the Community.

Graduate certificates were presented to 6 High School seniors and 15 college graduates. Among the college graduates honored were Marissa Kakoyiannis, Carolyn Roscoe, Steven Rose and Andrea Roscoe Quintanilla who were awarded Masters Degrees by their respective universities.

The Daughters of Penelope awarded their scholarship to Francesca Ann Nolan who was also the recipient of the Spireas-Sigmapharm award. The John & Lula Blazakis award went to Nicholas Chingas. Anastasia Demetriou was the recipient of the Emanuel Perris award and The Trenton Chapter award went to Athena Georgiou.

Father James Pavlow attending his initial awards program gave the keynote address encouraging the graduates to strive for excellence in all their endeavors.



Daughters Of Penelope Altes Chapter #163

Our Chapter is already preparing for another exciting and productive year. Plans for our major fundraiser are well underway. We are looking forward to seeing our Sisters and Brothers of the 5th District AHEPA Family. We wanted to share with you the details of our Annual Gift Auction and hope to see some of you there. May we all have a productive and abounding year.

The Daughters of Penelope-ALTES #163 will hold its Annual Gift Auction on Thursday, October 11, 2012 at the Community Center of St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 1200 Klockner Road, Hamilton, NJ. Doors open 7:00 PM; drawings begin at 8:15 PM sharp. A \$10.00 donation includes one sheet of 25 tickets, door prize ticket, coffee, tea and homemade Greek pastries! Hot dogs, chips, soft pretzels, soda and water will be on sale.

Some of the gifts to be offered this year include: **A New iPad with Wi-Fi 16gb-Black-3rd Generation, Bose Sounddock Series II, HP Office Pro 8600 E-All-In-One Wireless Printer, Kindle Fire, Keurig B60 Special Edition Brewing System, Roku 2Xs Streaming Player, Ninja Kitchen System 1200**, many gift certificates, theme baskets, and 100+ gifts of interest for everyone. Proceeds will benefit many Special Charities of the Daughters of Penelope.

Reservations are required by October 1, 2012. No tickets will be sold at the door. **ADULTS ONLY** (18 and over). Call (609) 587-7119 for tickets. Full tables may be reserved for 10 or more guests. Assigned seating for smaller groups. As always, thank you for your generous support.



Pictured with some of the items to be auctioned at the upcoming Annual DOP Gift Auction are from left to right committee members Marcella Calagias, Jill Belviso, Co-Chairs - Marguerite Arabatzis and Donna Petinos, President- Dina Fanikos and Jane Allen. Committee members missing from photo include: Mary Rodda, Hope Demitry and Callie Muzithras.

RAMAPO REVIEW



AHEPA Ramapo Chapter 453 wrapped up another great year supporting education, promoting Hellenism and expanding its outreach efforts.

The Chapter held its annual end of year dinner at Oceanos in Fairlawn. During this wonderful evening, we recognized those Brothers who made tremendous contributions to our Chapter and who represented the values of AHEPA. Bro. George Mellides was recognized with a Lifetime Service Award, Bro. Basil Megariotis was presented the Ahepan of the Year award, and Bro. Jon Zymaris was awarded Secretary of the Year. These three individuals personify AHEPA and we congratulate them on their well deserved recognition.

At this event, the Chapter also gave \$5,000 to support the Greece relief efforts. A \$2,500 check was presented to National in support of their efforts; a second \$2,500 check was presented to the Hellenic Relief Foundation. Two members of our Chapter are founders of the Hellenic Relief Foundation – Bros. Phil Vogis and Prokopi Zervas.

We want to congratulate the incoming 2012-2013 Board, President Peter Kyriakoulas, Vice President Paul Savidis, Secretary John Psomas, and Treasurer Basil Megariotis, and to extend our thanks to past President Chuck Humblias and past Secretary Jon Zymaris for their years of service. The District Lodge will be visiting on Tuesday, September 18th to give the oath of office to the new officers.

GREEK LANGUAGE CLASSES FOR ADULTS

The AHEPA Modern Greek Language Program for Adults begins its Fall Semester of Classes on Friday, October 5th, 2012. The classes are held at St. Nicholas Church, 467 Grandview Ave. in Wyckoff, NJ. The program, which is now in its 6th year, will offer an Intermediary Greek II Class and another Greek I Beginners Class. Classes are open to anyone in the community and AHEPA Family that is interested in participating. For more details about upcoming classes and registration please contact Jim Giokas at 201-664-7002 or at mbrookly48@gmail.com.

November 5th is the date for our first annual Veterans Appreciation gala which will be held at St. Nicholas Church sponsored by Ramapo Chapter in cooperation with the Bloomfield NJ Vet Center. It is open to anyone who served in the US Armed Forces. The event will begin at 5pm.

District 5 Convention Wrap Up

by Ted Vittas, PDG

The district convention was hosted this year by the Thomas Edison Chapter #287 and the Daughters of Penelope Aulis Chapter #195 of Asbury Park on the weekend of June 1–3. The convention was held at the newly completed facilities of St. George Church now in Ocean Township, NJ. It was truly a beautiful facility that easily took care of the needs of our convention. Congratulations to the parish for successfully completing the transformation of their community to one of the best in the Metropolis of New Jersey.

The convention meeting was attended by upwards of 50 AHEPA delegates from throughout the district. Outgoing District Governor Savas Tsivikos reported on a successful year. Membership in the district was up to over 1,200

members thanks to several mass initiations and dual members added through the Sons of Pericles. District 5 is one of the leading districts in initiating political representatives in the Order. This year we were able to initiate Senator Robert Menendez. There was also a meeting with Governor Christie of NJ. Thanks to the chapters' generosity the Lodge was able to collect monies to send the children of St. Basils to see the Broadway play Spiderman. The Lodge hosted 2 district workshops, in Wyckoff and Vineland, NJ. The chapters and District Lodge marched in two parades annually in Philadelphia and New York. Finally, the new district website www.ahepadistrict5.org was launched and made available for the chapters to use.



Representatives from the chapters receive their membership award plaques. From left to right: Costa Linardakis (Asbury Park), Chuck Humblias (Wyckoff), John Mehos (Jersey City), District Governor Savas Tsivikos, George Chronakis (Cherry Hill), Robert Fourniadis (Holmdel), Michael Bonanos (Tenafly).

The meeting concluded with the election of the District 5 Lodge for 2012-2013.

- William Harrison – District Governor of Hudson #108
- Sammy Thomas – Lieutenant Governor of Ramapo #453
- Stanley Gerondelis – District Secretary of Monroe #75
- Asteris Fanikos – District Treasurer of Trenton #72
- George Pappas – District Marshal of Camden #69
- Tom Vastardis – District Warden of Monroe #75
- Nicholas Mariolis – District Athletic Director of Eureka #52
- Ted Vittas – Advisor to the Sons of Pericles of Ramapo #453

The banquet on Saturday evening was a festive event as the crowd was entertained by comedienne Ellen Karis. On the dais was Congressman Frank Palone who addressed the crowd and congratulated the community for the building of their new parish.

At the banquet on Saturday evening Governor Tsivikos announced the long anticipated awards.

- Chapter of the Year – Garden State #517, Holmdel, NJ
- Ahepan of the Year – Constantine Mikelis, designer of the new district web site
- President of the Year – Michael Bonanos, Past President of the Bergen Knights #285, Tenafly, NJ
- Secretary of the Year – Christos Genes, Hudson Chapter #108 Jersey City

Congratulations to all the winners. Next year's District Convention will be hosted by Hudson #108 and will be at the Ramada Plaza hotel by Newark Liberty airport. It is scheduled for the weekend of June 12–14th, 2013.



Ahepan of the Year – Outgoing District Governor Savas Tsivikos (left) presents the Ahepan of the Year Award to Constantine Mikelis (right) assisted by District Secretary Sammy Thomas (center).



Proud to be a Son!

Brothers and Sisters of the AHEPA Family,

I am both honored and privileged to serve as Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles. Over the past few years, the Sons have seen great success. With chapters in Greece, Canada, and across the United States, our impact has been noticed by a multitude of communities. My predecessors and our National Advisor, Chris Economides Jr., have already laid a sturdy foundation. I am ready to work diligently with the newly elected Supreme Lodge to build upon it for the betterment of the AHEPA Family. I encourage you all to support the Sons of Pericles and stay tuned to watch as the organization reaches heights not experienced in decades.

Our focus as an organization this year will primarily revolve around strengthening our current chapters, expanding and initiating new chapters, hosting more national events for our membership, improving our athletic events, and fundraising for our new National Project, Friedrich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA). It is important we work together as a Family to achieve these tasks. I encourage everyone to reach out to a Supreme Lodge member for further discussion about our goals for the year and how we plan to implement them.

The delegation at the Supreme Convention in Las Vegas voted to do a joint National Project with the Maids of Athena again and support FARA. Friedrich's Ataxia is a degenerative neuromuscular disease that results in a loss



of muscle control and affects one of our close friends in the Maids of Athena. Symptoms first occur in childhood and early adolescence, and gradually grow worse overtime. Over the past decade, however, seven new treatments have been founded to help patients with this disease. These alternative treatments provide evidence of FARA's tremendous track record and assure us any funds raised will directly contribute to FARA's ground breaking research.

In conclusion, I look forward to the great year the organization has ahead of it. We are the Rising Sons of the Order of AHEPA and look to emulate the ideals of Hellenism, leadership, philanthropy, education, and civic responsibility around the world. I hope to see many of you throughout the year. Feel free to reach out to me for any reason, I am passionate about expanding this organization and am confident we will continue to strengthen the AHEPA Family.

Fraternally,

Michael Michalopoulos, Supreme President, Sons of Pericles

Hellenic History Tournament Set for Saturday, October 27th

One of the national programs from the Order of AHEPA is the Hellenic History Tournament. It is a competition for high school students who would like to learn more about the 3500-year-long history of the Hellenes.

Tournament champions receive significant monetary scholarship awards. Contestants form their own 3-member teams and invent team names to generate a little excitement. Each team is sponsored by a local AHEPA chapter. Each contestant receives a copy of "Hellenika, Heritage and History" by T. Peter Limber, which is the book used as a basis for most of the competition's questions. Contestants have the summer to study the book. When students show up at the Tournament, they also receive a polo shirt with the Hellenic History logo. All in all, a price performer for their \$25 registration fee. Team sponsorship is approximately \$375. As of this writing, 16 teams were registered for the competition.

The actual tournament takes place on Saturday October 27th at the St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, Orange, CT. Each match pits two three-student teams against each other. During the match, each team takes turns selecting one of three historical periods: Ancient, Roman/Byzantine, or Ottoman/Modern. Once the period is selected, a question from that period and four multiple choice answers are projected onto a big screen from a computer monitor. Questions are read and answers confirmed and recorded by adult moderators during the match. There is no penalty for incorrect answers, except that the opposing team can then select from the remaining three answers. The computer keeps a running log of each team's score. The visual projection of questions, answers and scores simulates an exciting TV quiz show environment and keeps the audience aware and involved. The team that has the highest point score after the 24 questions are covered is the winner of the match and ready to go on to their next match. Each match takes about 30 minutes.

It is a single elimination tournament, so teams compete in successive matches until they lose a match. To keep the overall tournament duration to a few hours, multiple matches take place simultaneously within a few rounds. Eventually, the competition culminates in a final match between the two remaining teams. At the end of the final match, the winners are awarded a \$1,000 prize and a Hellenic History Trophy each. The second place winners each receive \$500.

The AHEPA chapter that sponsors the winning team receives the Hellenic History Trophy cup, which is inscribed with the chapter's name and number. They get to keep it for the year.



All contestants with John Grossomanides at left and Emmanuel Moshovos at right.

Scholar Athlete Gregory Vlahakis Honored at Supreme Convention

At the Athletics Awards Luncheon held at the Supreme Convention in Las Vegas, Gregory Vlahakis of Chatham, NJ (pictured at the extreme left) was one of the scholar athlete award recipients. Gregory is the first of two sons of Debra and Thomas Vlahakis.



At the Athletics Awards Luncheon held at the Supreme Convention in Las Vegas Gregory Vlagakis of Chatham, NJ (pictured at the extreme left) was one of the scholar athlete award recipients. Gregory graduated from Delbarton High School in Morristown, NJ. At Delbarton Gregory excelled in tennis.

In June, Gregory graduated from Delbarton High School in Morristown, NJ. At Delbarton, he completed a strong college prep core curriculum with emphasis on mathematics and sciences. He achieved a GPA of 4.37 (a little over an "A" average). He achieved high honors in every term for four years. His class rank not given, but probably in the upper tier of the class. Gregory was also elected as the Senior Class President. Gregory is attending Georgetown University in Washington, DC this fall.

At Delbarton Gregory excelled in team tennis. Gregory has many accomplishments, both academically and in the community. His family is a member of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox church in Westfield, NJ. There he participated in the GOYA and as a member in the Sons of Pericles. He has represented the parish at numerous events such as the Holy Cross celebration and Mr. & Miss Jr. GOYA Pageant. He has volunteered to do countless community service projects, too numerous to include. In 2008 he was selected to attend President Obama's inauguration as a representative of his town.

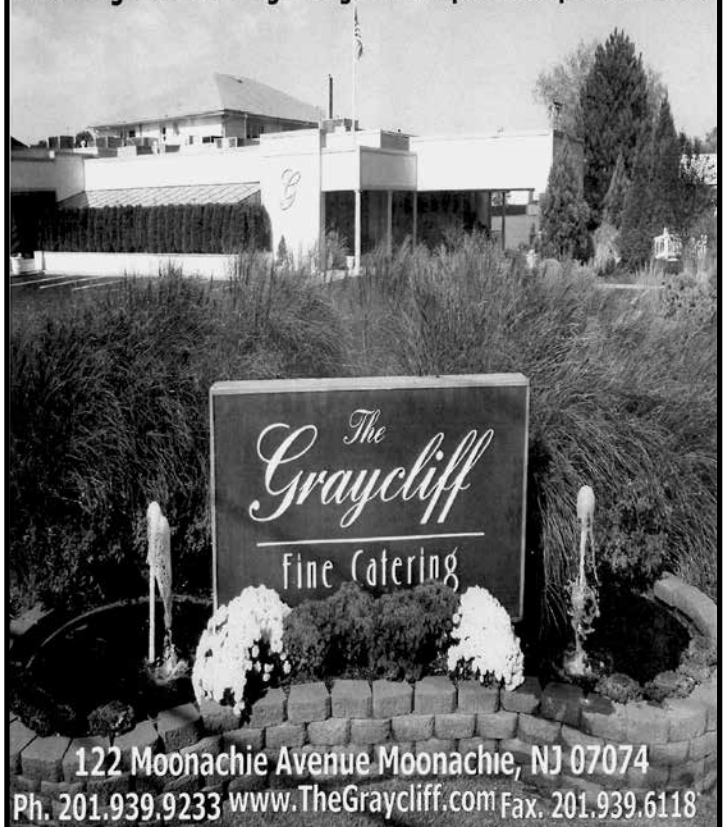
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AHEPA National Team wins NAIBT over Denver in Las Vegas

by Costa Papademetriou, Basketball Chairman

The 62nd annual 'Van Nomikos' National AHEPA Invitational Basketball Tournament (NAIBT) took place in Las Vegas, on July 27-28, at the end of the week long AHEPA convention. The tournament was held at the Stupak Community Center, four miles from the Monte Carlo Casino and Hotel, site of the convention.

Six teams participated in the tournament from around the country. These teams included Denver A and Denver B, New Jersey, Houston, Las Vegas, and AHEPA National. The teams competed in a two-bracket round-robin tournament. The two top finishers in each bracket competed in the finals for first and second place. The two teams finishing in second place in each bracket competed for third place.

The tournament kicked off with Denver A overtaking New Jersey in a very competitive opening match up. It was an intense game with the score remaining close until Denver pulled away late in the second half, thanks to the strong play of guard, Thanasi Panagiotakopoulos. New Jersey, which was undermanned, could not keep pace with a strong Denver team and their deep bench but it was the tough play and leadership of Tom and Eric Leider on the court that kept the game close.

The game that followed featured a young Houston team that would outlast a more senior Las Vegas team. Houston, a team coming together up to the convention, entered the tournament at the top team of the B bracket. The Las Vegas team, coached by Stavros Anthony, vice-mayor of Las Vegas, came in with the experience but was outlasted in the end by youth. Stavros Anthony was also instrumental in securing the local facilities and ensuring a very successful tournament. On behalf of AHEPA Athletics, I would like to thank Stavros for his support!

Later in the day, AHEPA National took on New Jersey who lost earlier to Denver, in their first game. This was another close game with a lead no larger than nine points until the end when the AHEPA National team pulled away. Again, NJ was impacted by a limited bench, forcing the starters to play most of the game.

Other key games on the first day featured Denver B vs. Las Vegas, Denver A vs. AHEPA National and Houston vs. Denver B.

In those final three games of the day, AHEPA National lost a close game to the experienced Denver A team by seven points, after taking a five point lead late in the game. It was the strong play of Thanasi Panagiotakopoulos that helped seal the win for Denver. Also, Denver B outlasted Las Vegas and Houston held off Denver B. By the close of the first day, Houston and Denver A remained undefeated and in first place in their divisions,

The following day featured the top three teams in the A bracket competing against the top three teams in the B bracket. The winners moved on to compete in the next and final rounds.



Left: All Stars from the Middlesex, NJ team Jeff and Tom Leider
Right: 3rd Place Champions from Middlesex, NJ

Houston advanced to compete against Denver A, AHEPA National faced Denver B and New Jersey faced Las Vegas. Houston would lose to the stronger Denver A team while AHEPA National and New Jersey defeated their opponents. New Jersey was later forced to drop out early due to injuries to their undermanned team.

The previous games set the showdown for the two strongest teams in the tournament to compete in the finals - Denver A and AHEPA National.

In the championship game, the two teams played a strong game back and forth with no team holding a comfortable lead. The game was very tightly officiated and each team had to work hard to score and defend. The game was decided at the free throw line with Nick Livas from the AHEPA National team hitting two key free throws after Denver's Thanasi Panagiotakopoulos missed two with only seconds to go and a chance for his team to go ahead. AHEPA National was able to hold on and win the game 75 - 72.

AHEPA National was led by Nick Livas with 28, Greg Taylor with 17 and Dan Mavraides with 16. Denver was led by Tom Bellairs and Aki Palmer, each with 19 points. Chris Tiritas chipped in with 14 points, including four three pointers and Jimmy Dadiotis contributed 13 points.

All-Star honors went to Aki Palmer and Mike Kelly from Denver. Nick Livas and Mike Bizoukas took All-Star honors for the AHEPA National team. Most Valuable Player Award went to Dan Mavraides who played consistently throughout the tournament, helping his team win the tournament.

All-Stars from the other four teams included brothers Jeff and Eric Leider from New Jersey, Al Flangas from Las Vegas, Andrew Moore and Aldo Rapos from Houston and Mike Grivas from Denver B.

Theo Gaitanos from Houston received the Most Spirited Player award for his determination, team play and fight to win throughout the tournament.



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Our Departed Brothers and Sisters

May Their Memories Be Eternal in Our Hearts

Athan Efstathiou, 96, of Kearny, N.J., was reunited with God on March 3, 2012, after a long, happy, and fruitful life. Born in the Lidorikion, Greece, Athan studied physics at Athens University, and was drafted into the Greek Army. During World War II, he served at the Albanian front, and later fought as an anti-communist freedom fighter during the Greek Civil War. For his military efforts, he earned the rank of captain, and was decorated with the Greek Medal of Brave Acts and the War Cross of the Third Order. After the war, he worked as a professor for several years. He then immigrated to the United States and taught at the College of St.. Basil. Soon after, he began his studies at Columbia University in graduate physics, married, and became a research physicist at RCA, Princeton. During this time, he conducted research on vacuum tubes, thin films, semiconductor devices, and projects related to the Apollo moon missions. He holds several patents as a result of this work.

In 1975, he assumed a more active role in the church communities of St.. Demetrios (Union, N.J.) and St.. Nicholas (Newark, N.J.), and as President of Eureka Chapter 52 of the Order of AHEPA and the Board of Education of the Greek Schools of these two churches. He was also a member of the Board of Trustees for St.. Basil Academy, Garrison, N.Y., and of the Federation of Sterea-Hellas. He served as the first elected president of the Elytis Chair Fund for Rutgers University. In 1985, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese awarded him the Medal of St.. Paul, the highest accolade that a lay person can receive. He was honored for his public service by the New Jersey General Assembly in 2006.

His wife, Bess (Vasiliki); daughter, Penny; son-in-law, Kevin, and grandson, Athan, and anyone that truly knew him will miss his unconditional love and support.



Lambros Constantinou, 80, of Manchester passed away Friday, March 30, 2012 at home. He was born in Larnaca, Cyprus where he resided until moving to the U.S. in 1952, living in Bayonne and Ridgefield, before relocating to Manchester in 2003. He was the eldest of five children. Lambros worked for Western Electric in Kearny and was a partner at Red Oak Diner in Fort Lee, NJ. He was on the Parish Counsel Evangelismos of Jersey City and the Ascension Greek Orthodox Church of Fairview, a member of AHEPA Chapter 467 of Toms River and Steward of St.. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Toms River.

Lambros is survived by his beloved wife, Rebecca (nee Charalambous); his sons, Michael and his wife, Christine, and James and his wife, Vicky; his brothers, Panayioti and Nico; his sisters, Elli and Marro; and his grandchildren, Alex, Sophia, Dean, Brianna, and Maria.



Christina C. Harris passed away on May 31, 2012. Born to Ernest and Matina Carapanos on Feb. 5, 1924, Christina was the beloved wife of the late Nicholas J. Harris. Dear mother of Martina Harris; JoAnn Whiteley (Rob), and Stacey Harris; Devoted grandmother to Zoe Harris and Liana and Jenna Whiteley. Tina was a dedicated wife, mother and business woman who worked with Nick for 40 plus years in the Harris Bouquet Shop located in Camden and Pennsauken, NJ.

Born in Salem, NJ, Tina raised her family in Philadelphia while attending and singing in the choir of St.. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral. Later, at St.. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church of Cherry Hill, Tina was a founding member of St.. Irene's Philoptochos and sang for many years in the choir. In addition, she was a very active member of the Daughters of Penelope, Cherry Hill and the Ladies Lions Club of Pennsauken.

She is survived by her dear sisters Lola Lagakos and Helen Terzakis, several sister-in-laws, and many nieces and nephews.

James (Dimitrios) Kogamihalis, age 83, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, June 15, 2012. Mr. Kogamihalis was born in Frederick, Maryland. As a young man, he worked for the HVAC Corp. and later as an inspector for the State Highway Dept. before his retirement in 1985. He was actively involved in his church being instrumental in the coffee hour, festival, youth sports activities, summer camps, youth groups. James was also a Past President of AHEPA Wilmington Chapter #95. He was initiated into the Order in 1960 and was a 52 year life member of AHEPA.

Mr. Kogamihalis is survived by his sister, Despina (Della) Savopoulos; and brother-in-law, Basil (Bill) Savopoulos; nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Basil Marmaras, 86, of East Hanover, N.J., entered into eternal rest on Monday, June 4, 2012.

Basil was born in Sineti, Andros, Greece. He came to America at the age of 24 and married Elizabeth Karayianis in 1954. He bought the Harris Diner in 1958 and continued to serve the East Orange community for the past 54 years. He was a member of AHEPA Eureka Chapter 52 and a founder of the St.. Panteleimonon Society of Andros.

Basil was the beloved husband of Elizabeth; devoted father of Catherine and husband, Robert; adored grandfather of Kosta and Christina; dearest brother of Nick Marmaras, Mariyola Mateos, the late James Marmaras, Hariklia Koukas, Efthalia Stratis and Katherine Garifalou. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.



Kostas Parlapanides, 71, died suddenly on Sunday, June 24, 2012 in Cliffside Park. Born and raised in Keramoti Kavala, Greece, Mr. Parlapanides came to the United States in 1966 living in New Brunswick prior to settling to North Plainfield in 1970. He founded Kostas Seafood in 1979 and was the owner and operator until 2011 when he passed the business down to Dean and Nicholas Parlapanides. Mr. Parlapanides was also the owner of the former Snack Shack Luncheonette in Plainfield as well as the former Renaissance Diner in North Plainfield.

Kostas was a devoted husband of our District Governor Eleni. He was a proud father to his four sons and adored all five of his grandchildren. Surviving are his wife of 42 years, Eleni; his four sons, Paul and his wife Anthanasia of New Hyde Park, NY, George and his wife Allison of Dunellen, Dean and his soon to be wife Andriana of New Milford and Nicholas of North Plainfield; his sister, Katina Mavroudi and her husband Karlos and his two bothers, Vallas Parlapanides and Pandelis Parlapanides and his wife Vasso all of Greece. Also surviving are his five grandchildren.



The Honorable US Congressman Donald Payne, Representative Donald M. Payne of NJ, a former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus who achieved a long-held goal of becoming the first black congressman from New Jersey, died on Tuesday in Livingston, N.J. He was 77.

Brother Payne was an active member of AHEPA Chapter 69, Camden, N.J. He was a champion of Hellenic issues and a member of the Hellenic Caucus.

The Congressman demonstrated strong support of Hellenic priorities in the Congress; he earned a 95% score in the 2010 AHEPA scorecard and a 100% score in the 2008 AHEPA Scorecard.



Peter N. Yiannos, passed away at home on July 2nd, surrounded by his loving family, following a battle with thyroid cancer.

Peter was born in the tiny village of "Ayios Sostis" in Southern Greece on November 27, 1932. He attended high school in Andritsena of Olympia and graduated from an Athens high school. He arrived in the United States on May 2, 1951 as a displaced person via the Truman Doctrine, because of Communist uprising resulting in his mother's death and destruction of their village home.

In the US Peter graduated from Missouri University, where he graduated with a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering. He was then employed by Scott Paper Company for more than 35 years, and advanced rapidly in various positions, retiring in 1994 as Vice President in Technology.

In 1962 he married Stella Baziotis Yiannos and since then they have been residing in Wilmington, DE. Peter is survived by his spouse Stella, of

50 years. His children Nikos (Lisa), Daphne Skoutelas, Demetrios (Tanya), and 9 grandchildren.

Peter was a civic minded person. During his retirement, his interest in education continued and he became more active in AHEPA - American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, AHI - American Hellenic Institute, Hellenic University Club, AFGLC - American Foundation for Greek Language & Culture, and Tri-state AFGLC. As president of the tri-state group, he helped establish the Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies (ICHHS) in 2001 at the Richard Stockton College in New Jersey, which has evolved to five professorships in Hellenic/Classical Studies. Along with his wife, Stella, they have donated the professorship of "Greek Language & Literature". He strongly believed in classical education causes. Peter was also a founding member and supporter of the Odyssey Charter School in Wilmington, DE.

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