

SPRING 2008

John G. Thevos Fifth District NJ/DE

# AHEPA *voice*

American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association



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# 5th District Governor, Order of AHEPA

## CHRISTOPHER DIAMANTOUKOS

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This past year I set my sights on three goals and learned three lessons in return. I have learned about how Communications, Time, and Effort are necessary to keep our AHEPA Family strong and growing.

Communications is not only a two-way street, but it is something we have to work on every day. Great things happen when we stay in touch with our fellow AHEPANs, Daughters, Sons, and Maids. Sometimes it is through the kindness and Good of the Order of others in our Family, and our communications and associations with them that can bring about beautiful events.

Events can happen out of anywhere: just by meeting and speaking with my Brother AHEPANs from AHEPA Hellas at the recent Biennial Banquet brought the world renowned Philadelphia Boys Choir to participate in the city's Greek Independence Day Parade. They sang the Greek National Anthem, in Greek, in return for the kindness shown to them by our

Brothers AHEPANs during their recent tour of Greece.

Many of you know that I was not ambulatory for a period of time recently due to an accident, and I lost some time that I could never replace in the work that I could have been doing for AHEPA. We must constantly be aware of the precious time needed to keep making progress for the AHEPA Family. As a grassroots organization, it is the time that everyone in our Family spends that helps make us strong and able to accomplish great things. And not just through the time spent amongst or with ourselves, but, most importantly, that time working with every part of our society and communities. The synergy, another Greek word, created by these united efforts is a direct result of that time spent together. Spending the time to keep the name of AHEPA out front, communicates to everyone that we are not an exclusive organization, nor in competition with other worthy Greek organizations and endeavors at all levels.

Finally, there is the effort behind these com-

munications and time: we must always remember that we can do more. We must constantly keep our efforts strong and be relentless. We cannot rest on our laurels and take anything for granted. Our efforts will serve to inspire others as new leaders will someday rise to lead the members of our AHEPA Family.

What were the three objectives I had in mind? Quite simply, to be fiscally responsible, improve the combined efforts of our AHEPA Family, and to establish a better identity and relationship within our young and growing Metropolis of New Jersey. Progress has been made in all these areas, but effort, time, and communications are needed so we can do more.

As I write this message Holy Pascha is a few weeks away. I wish everyone a Good Easter, renewed faith, good health, and strength, and look forward to greeting everyone at our 2008 District Convention.

Fraternally,  
Christopher Diamantoukos  
AHEPA District 5 Governor

# 5th District Governor, Daughters of Penelope

## DEMI THOMAS



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As I reflect on these past months I realize what a busy winter we have enjoyed. The District lodge has attended many visitations and chapter functions. Many of our chapters have been busy with their fundraisers. Our chapters continue to work hard to encourage new members to join the Daughters. Among those chapters Clifton, Dover, and Wyckoff have initiated over 20 new members, keep up the good work!

After working closely with our Brother Ahepans in the fall to help the in Wildfire Relief activities, we switched our focus in the winter to become more active in the civic affairs at both the state and national level.

Locally, I attended an AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope meeting with Congressman Scott Garrett (R – 5NJ) for a wide ranging discussion on issues of concern to our community.

The following week along with District Lt.

Governor Karen Marousis, PDG Antoinette Marousis, and PDG Stathia Marousis we continued our involvement in civic affairs by attending the first Capitol Hill Day in Washington, DC, organized by the Daughters of Penelope. The day was marked by a series of briefings on key policy issues by several Congressmen and several key Congressional staffers. Among the Congressmen to address the AHEPA Family were Congressman Zach Space (D-OH18), Congressman Gus Bilirakis (R-FL09), Congresswoman Caroline Maloney (D-NY14) and Congresswoman Niki Tsongas (D-MA05).

In addition to the briefings, the Daughters of Penelope also had the opportunity to meet with individual Congressmen and Senators to further discuss the DOP agenda, focused on domestic violence prevention, healthcare, and education.

The weekend continued with the Biennial Banquet on Friday evening and the "Salute to Women" on Saturday. As always the Salute

was an inspiring event. The Daughter's honored Her Excellency Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, Cypriot Foreign Minister. The weekend at our Nation's capital was a wonderful, successful initiative.

In further District news, the District Luncheon is planned for April 12, 2008. It will be held at the Lobster Shanty in Point Pleasant, NJ at 11:30 am. Don't forget to create a centerpiece for your table. It should reflect your chapter and your activities.

The District Convention will be held on May 30- June 1, 2008 in Maple Shade, NJ at the Quality Inn. Please make every effort to attend. This is your chance to see old friends and make new ones. Scholarship winners will be announced at the Convention. Don't forget to send in your Scholarship applications. The deadline is April 25, 2007

Now is the time to plan your summer vacation. Join us in Greece for the National Ahepa convention. Go to [www.ahepa.org](http://www.ahepa.org) for more information.

# Message From The Supreme Governor and Regional Director Louis Arvanitis

Dear Brothers,

It has been a very busy year. We started the 2008 with the Supreme Lodge meeting in Tarpon Springs. During the Epiphany weekend, the meeting was conducted by the Supreme President Ike Goulas and it was very productive. The meeting started with the Friday night diner and dancing held by the local AHEPA chapter. Everyone had a great time; moreover, the friendliness and hospitality of the brotherhood, as well as sisterhood was felt by all! Another big event was the Washington DC for the Biennial Banquet, which took place on March 5-7. Another Supreme Lodge meeting conducted by Pr. Ike Goulas who covered the membership report and the Greek Fire Relief. The AHEPA Visa Credit Card and centralized billing for the members and the daughters of Penelope were also discussed and reported their progress.

The Friday night banquet was very successful and enjoyable. The honoree was one distinguished gentlemen of our region Mr. John Katsimatidis, of New York, who, among

his professional achievements, has succeeded in a high level of public actions. On Saturday, the Daughters of Penelope had a very successful evening with the past Ambassador of Cyprus. One of the biggest events is the raising of the Greek flag outside the City Hall of Yonkers, NY which was followed with a reception hosted by the Mayor. On April 6, with the occasion of the Greek Independence Day Parade celebration on the 5th Avenue in New York City, the Districts 5, 6, and 7 marched together on one of the most beautiful floats; and, we were fortunate to have among us the Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA, the Daughters of Penelope Grand President, the Supreme Vice President Nicholas Karakostas, the Supreme Secretary Dr John Grosomanides and so many others that came to participate to this special event.

The same evening a "Macaronada with Lamb" dinner was organized at Eleni's Restaurant in Montvale, NJ. The event was attended by the Supreme President Ike Goulas and the ex-Director of AHEPA Basil



Mosaides. Notable presence was the one of the District Treasurer of the Maryland #3 District Steven Papparides. It was a very memorable evening and I would like to thank our Brother Ike who honored us with his presence. He was the 7th Supreme President who dined at Elenis Restaurant.

The past four months, I continued to visit different chapter of our region and I am very happy to do so, because it helps me to better communicate with you and to listen your concerns. I will keep doing that, if you call me beforehand, till my term reaches to an end. The dates of the District and Supreme Convention are approaching and I strongly encourage you to actively participate, so we can keep the flame of AHEPA always lit in our hearts.

## AHEPA VOICE

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## District Lodge

### AHEPA

Governor . . . . Christopher Diamantoukos  
Lt. Governor . . . . . Ted Fanikos  
Secretary . . . . . Phil Vogis .  
Treasurer . . . . . George G. Horiates  
Marshal . . . . . Savas C. Tsivicos  
Warden . . . . . William Harrison  
Athletics Advisor . . . . Nick C. Mariolis  
Sons Advisor . . . . . Asteris Fanikos

### DOP

Governor . . . . . Demi Thomas  
Lt. Governor . . . . . Karen Marousis  
Secretary . . . . . Robin Papagiannis  
Treasurer . . . . . Donna Karpodinis  
Marshal . . . . . Roula Thasites  
Advisor . . . . . Antoinette Marousis

## District and National Websites

National . . . . . [www.ahepa.org](http://www.ahepa.org)  
District#5 . . . . . [www.ahepafamily.org](http://www.ahepafamily.org)  
District Sports . . . . . [www.ahepasports.org](http://www.ahepasports.org)

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Gus Theodos, Co-Editor	PSG Tom Pappas
Ted Vittas, Co-Editor	PDG George Rigos
Vassos Chrisanthou, PSG	PDG Chris Sevast
PDG Steve A. Lioumis	PDG Stathia Maroussis

# **2008 Journey to Greece Program**



For the third year in a row, the Journey to Greece Program is offering our Greek American youth the opportunity participate in a unique Study-Travel Program for one month in Greece! Once again, the AHEPA Educational Foundation and the University of Indianapolis have joined forces to offer an unforgettable experience for our youth! This program is uniquely designed to immerse college age students (Minimum age is 17) in a wonderful learning experience that celebrates Greek culture, language and heritage. Students can earn 6 units of credit by taking two courses that are fully transferable to their respective schools. Students are housed in private apartments, fully air conditioned with TV, microwaves and washers walking distance to campus.

This year the Journey to Greece will include a special 8 day/7 night cruise offered through our Journey sponsor, EasyCruise! Students will have the opportunity to sail the Aegean in this specially arranged cruise for our students! The cruise will take place during the week of July 7th.

Journey students can choose between two summer sessions or go on both!

Session #1: June 15-July 1. One course/3 units of credit.

Session #2: July 1-July 27. Two courses/6 units of credit.

The Journey corresponds to the AHEPA Supreme Convention and will offer a special shuttle bus between the campus in Syntagma and the Convention activities at the InterContinental Hotel.

Special Group Flights on Delta Airlines are provided for our students by European Travel. Departures will take place from both LAX and JFK with connecting flights from other cities. Please contact Chris Balciyan, travel director for the Journey flights: [chris@eurotours.com](mailto:chris@eurotours.com), 213-624-4881 or (800) 524-8259, Ext. 106.

Additional information is available in detail at: [www.ahepa.org/journey](http://www.ahepa.org/journey). All questions related to the program can be directed to: Dr. James F. Dimitriou, PSP who is the Director of the JTG Study-Travel Program: E-mail: [jfdplato@aol.com](mailto:jfdplato@aol.com); tel: 310-375-5544; or fax: 310-378-7596.

Scholarship applicants are advised to apply directly to the AHEPA Educational Foundation.

## GARDEN STATE CHAPTER NO 517 HOLMDEL NEWS



*On Monday, March 3rd, 2008, our chapter visited the Ronald McDonald House as we do every year for the past 10 years.*

*It was a record number of brothers that came along to help entertain and provide dinner to a couple of hundred people.*

*A magician was going around entertaining the kids and brought some smiles on their beautiful faces. This is the most rewarding activity that our chapter undertakes*

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### Important meeting of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pappas and Congressman Rothman



## OCEAN COUNTY CHAPTER #467

On May 16, 17, and 18, the AHEPA Family will be sponsoring a Spring Festival at the Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Toms River. This will be the second annual Spring Festival sponsored by the AHEPA. The Spring Festival will include authentic Greek cuisine, souvlakia, loukoumades, Gyros, a bar, Greek dancing, a DJ, games and Greek pastries.

Proceeds from the Spring Festival will be used toward the purchase of new, interior furnishings for the Church. The AHEPA has undertaken the task to raise almost all of the funds for the purchase of the Church's interior furnishings. New Church furnishings are necessary so that the Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church can be consecrated.

Chapter 467 would also like to pay special thanks to lifetime member Lazar Garo who has played a very important and instrumental role in the Chapter's membership drive by bringing in many new members into the Order of AHEPA. Due to Lazar Garo's tireless efforts, the Chapter's membership has grown significantly.

Submitted by  
Lou Karagias, President

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## SISTERS OF ICARIUS #48 OF JERSEY CITY REPORT

The Sisters of Icarus # 48 have all paid their dues for the 2008 year and we have sent them to headquarters. In addition to our payment of dues we also took care of our district & national obligations. At our January meeting we added a new member, Anna Evangelistra. It was a pleasure to add a new face to our small family of sisters.

In the past month we have attended various social events including a Valentine's social sponsored by our Philoptochos. Mardi Gras events were attended at both St. Demetrios and Evangelismos churches as well as the Paramus Ahepa. Each event was a night of fun and socializing.

The District Lodge members attended our recent meeting and

informed us of the happenings of the district. That is always an enjoyable evening of sisterhood.

In the weeks to come we will be attending church services to celebrate our church's name day as well as Greek Independence Day. Our yearly Easter Brunch will be held after Easter. Elections will be held in May and in June we will have our end of the year dinner with our fellow brothers of Hudson #108.

Keep the date open. Saturday, October 4th will be the Jersey City Ahepa Family Octoberfest. It is always a successful and enjoyable evening so mark your calendars. We wish all of you a joyful Christos Anesti!

## OBITUARY

# Anastasios "Eddie" P. Laskaris

**A**ge 83, died peacefully at home with his family on December 24, 2007. Born to Yiannoula Limberakis and Peter Laskaris, Eddie was a true Spartan. During the depression he and his family moved to their homeland of Sparta in the small village of Tzintzina. Returning home after several years in Greece, he moved on and graduated from Wilmington High in 1943. He then proceeded to Temple University where he majored in electronics. He also served in the U.S. Army Anti aircraft artillery and chemical warfare battalion in the mid Pacific until 1946. Eddie also served in the Korean War as well until 1951. After the war he worked with his father at the original, Cozy Corner Restaurant on Delaware Avenue in Wilmington. Eddie and his brother John owned and operated the Five Points Restaurant and Bar from 1954 to 1998. All of his Greek friends knew him as Exathelfe (cousin). He was an active member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church and served as president of the Ahepa Chapter, Wilmington #95 from 1983-1985 as well as 5th district Marshall from 1992-1993. His most treasured love (agape) was his family.

Eddie is survived by his wife of 28 years, Thelma Laskaris; daughter, Johanna Laskaris; son, George Laskaris and his wife Alisha's daughter Eileen Bifferato and her husband Mike; his brother, Thomas Laskaris and his wife Mary and their children; his sister, Helen Danchulis and his grandchildren, Justin, Lauren, Dimitri and Alexander.

### Hudson County AHEPA Chapter 108 And The Daughters of Penelope Icarius Chapter 48 of Jersey City

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cpolychronis@aol.com

## DOP NEWS FROM ALEXANDER 250 OF MORRIS COUNTY

Due to space limitations, the following was omitted from the last two issues of the AHEPA Voice: A new scholarship has been established by one of our beloved sisters, Lillian Boyadjis. John Petrou, son of Sister Irene and Mr. John Petrou, was the first recipient of the "Lillian Boyadjis Scholarship".

Our first meeting of 2008 took us out of the doldrums of winter. We were honored with a visit from DG Demi Thomas and Robin Papagiannis, District Secretary. In addition, we initiated three new members.

Randolph has been chosen as one of the sites our DG will be holding membership teas. Our chapter will welcome DG Demi and her Lodge and all interested in learning more about the Daughters of Penelope to our community on Sunday, March 30. We will host a luncheon to answer questions and hopefully, inspire other women to join our esteemed Order.

April we will be attending the Spring Luncheon and in June we will award scholarships to deserving students. We always support the Education Foundation fundraisers, and will again attend a day at the races in June. Traditionally, we end our year with a joint dinner with the St. Andrew Philoichos.

We extend our best wishes to the delegates attending the District and National Conventions, for successful deliberations. Anna Zavros, and the sisters of Alexander 250 wish all of you and your families' safe travels and a safe summer.

In closing, we sorrowfully report the passing of a beloved Brother AHEPAN, Harry Sakas. Harry, was the devoted husband of Sister Freda Sakas. He was an active member of the Morris County AHEPA, a strong supporter of the Daughters and the community of St. Andrew. We will miss him. May his Memory be Eternal.

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# ALTES CHAPTER #163- TRENTON, NJ



*Two of the honorees from our Founder's Day Dinner; Selma Firestone and Antonia (Toni) Masouras, 50 year members of the Daughter's of Penelope, Altes #163.*

**T**he Daughters of Penelope- Trenton, Altes #163 held its Founder's Day/Past-President's Dinner on December 6, 2007. Honored that evening were our immediate past president, Marcella Calagias who served for four years; 50-year members Selma Firestone, Kathryn Kout-

souradis and Antonia (Toni) Masouras, along with 25-year member Athena Rochonchou. Longtime member Jane Allen was also honored as a surprise. She was honored for her dedication and service over the years to our chapter. Since her initiation into Altes 163, Sister Jane has been an ardent and loyal member. She developed our "Daughters Doings" Newsletter in 1990 and since it's inception she continues to provide our chapter with this fine newsletter every month always highlighting our upcoming events. We had fun providing this surprise along with the rich tradition of honoring our most recent Past President and 50 and 25 year members. We were also honored to enjoy the company of our District #5



*Members of the Daughters of Penelope local Chapter-Altes #163 presenting a \$1,000 check to Susan Adams of Womanspace at the annual Founder's Day/Past President's Dinner. The Ladies Philoptochos Society of St. George Greek Orthodox Church is also presenting a \$500 check donated by them.*

*Pictured from left to right: Jill Belviso, President of Altes #163; Fotini Baba-Flouda, President of Philoptochos Society and member of Altes #163; Karen Knicos, Vice President of Altes #163 and Susan Adams, Coordinator of Volunteers and Community Outreach Program of Womanspace.*

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Lodge that evening: Demi Thomas, District Governor; Robin Papagiannis, District Secretary; Kay Kehayas, Past District Lt. Governor; Patti Vlahos, Past District Governor; and Martina Harris, Past District Governor. This year we were able to make numerous sizable donations due to the success of our Annual Gift Auction held in October of 2007. Thanks to the generous support of the community it was a great success. The proceeds from the October Auction were distrib-





*Sisters Marcella Calagias, Patty Vlahos, Jane Allen, Demi Thomas, Joyce Allen, Selma Firestone, Martina Harris and Kay Kehayas.*

uted to many charities, including Womanspace, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, Daughters of Penelope (DOP)-5th District Scholarship Fund, Sunshine Foundation sponsoring two children for the Make-a-Wish Program, University of Miami Sylvester Cancer Center (PAP), Tender Hearts, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Arthritis Foundation, Alzheimer's Association, Boys and Girls Club of America, AHEPA 5th District Cancer Research Foundation, DOP National Scholarship, AHEPA Bone Marrow Donor Registry, DOP Altes #163 Chapter Scholarship, St. George Greek Orthodox Church, St. Basil's Academy in Garrison, NY, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Meals on Wheels, Olive Trees sent to Greece to replenish those that were destroyed in the tragic fires, Red Cross (California fire relief), Christina Sacarafis Memorial Fund (a member who lost her life in the Minneapolis bridge collapse), Operation Smile, American Heart Association, National Association of Autism Research and Penelope House for battered women and children in Mobile, Alabama (a DOP National Project).

We then started off the new year with our Membership Tea Party in January. All those that attended had a wonderful and relaxing time. We heard stories from the Tea Lady, sipped tea, shared tea sandwiches and mini desserts and conversed the old fashioned way. We are hoping to make this an annual event. (Probably a different time of year due to possible inclement weather!!)

We are continuing our work to fulfill our mission to promote the ancient Greek ideals of Hellenism, Philanthropy, Education, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence. We continue to work hard to recruit new mem-

bers. We are looking forward to a group trip to Mercer County Community College-Kelsey Theatre to see "Singin' in the Rain". After our March meeting we will be attending Lenten Lecture by Father Bill Gikas as a group. We are working with our Brother AHEPANS to plan a pancake breakfast fundraiser for the Fall '08.

## Half a Century AHEPAN



*Mr. Burlotos, PDG receives his 50 year AHEPA pin from John Tarabicos, PDG*

# TRENTON #72 NEWS

The chapter finished last year on a high as President John Polios welcomed over 60 Brothers to the annual Christmas Party at our Hall. Former Chairman of the Board Lee Millas served as emcee and distributed gifts to all the Brothers. Once again the Kitchen crew of Muzithras, Zimnes, and Vlamis prepared a great meal.

We began 2008 by initiating 2 young brothers, Chris Contor and Jacob Mamolou; both come from Ahepa Families and have participated in many of our activities.

John Microutsicos, son of our PSP Xenophon, sparked the sale of our annual raffle tickets. These funds are applied to paying the mortgage on our Hall.

Brother Asteris Fanikos was the leader in the chapter's collection of clothing and supplies for the Greek fire relief fund; aided by Mike Knicos, Strat Peters, Dino Zimnes, Mike Fanikos, John Polios, Herb Allen, Ted Fanikos and Lee Millas they completed the collection, packing, labeling and delivery of over 175 boxes of clothes to JFK for shipment to Hellas.

The chapter hosted 2 Texas Hold 'Em parties at our Hall. Brothers from Asbury Park, Cherry Hill, Holmdel and Toms River have joined us for these successful events.

The Blazakis Cultural Center at St. George was the host for our annual Apokriatiko Glendi. Brother Millas prepared an excellent journal and the mezedakia were pre-

pared by Brother Nick Angelakis of Colonial Farms.

The chapter delegation led by Lee Millas, Ted & Asteris Fanikos, Peter Kakoyiannis and Jim Knicos attended the National Banquet in Washington and Brothers Spireas, M. Rose and Steve Knicos attended the AHI banquet in Washington.

The chapter hosted the fellowship hour following Sunday services at St. George and we are proud that 10 of our Brothers are presently serving on the St. George Parish Council. For 82 years Trenton # 72 has served the community with leadership and financial support.

Our 6th Annual Golf outing is scheduled for October 14th at the Mountain View Golf Course in Ewing. The funds from this event are earmarked for our scholarship program. We present awards to students of our Community and to outstanding local student athletes from the Colonial Valley Conference.

The chapter and our Community were saddened with the loss of Brothers John Cocordas, John Stathos and William Demas. May their Memory Be Eternal.

The Brothers of # 72 wish all of our Friends a Happy and Holy Easter Season.

Submitted by  
James Knicos

## OBITUARIES

### William "Bill" Athan

**W**illiam Harry Athan, 83 beloved father and grandfather passed away Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at the Franciscan Home in Hockessin, DE.

Born in 1924 in Albany NY, he was a graduate of Albany High School. He served in the Pacific during World War II with the United States Navy and was retired from the US Postal Service.

Bill was a member of the Ahepa and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was a 32nd degree mason, a Shriner, and he played the cymbals in the Shriners Oriental Band, marching in parades raising money for the Shriner's Hospital for Children. He was also a volunteer at the Seamens Center, the Greek Festival, and loved playing Santa Claus for the Sunday School children at Christmas time. His greatest pleasures in life were his grandsons, Jack and Jamie, and watching them play hockey, rarely missing a game.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Betty; his loving daughter, Christine Berlin, and her husband, James of Landenberg, PA; grandsons, Jack and Jamie and daughter, Jean Athan. He was preceded in death by his brother Triffon.

### Harry J. Sakas

**H**arry J. Sakas died on Thursday morning, March 6, 2008, at Compassionate Care Hospice at St. Clare's Hospital in Dover. He was 80. Born in Lowell, Mass., he lived there until entering the Navy at age 17. He had later lived in Moonachie before moving to the Lake Hiawatha section of Parsippany in 1963. He served in the Navy from 1944 until 1957. Mr. Sakas founded Harry's Corner in South Hackensack in 1967. He operated the deli for many years before opening a second location, Harry's Corner II in Lake Hiawatha, retiring in 2004. He was a longtime member of St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church in Randolph, and the American Hellenic Educational Progress Association. He was also a member of the American Legion Post 249 in Lake Hiawatha. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Freda (Koufos); two daughters, Alexandra Hefferon of West Milford, and Pamela Kelly of Lake Hiawatha; two sons, Christos and Dan Sakas, both of Sarasota, Fla.; a brother, George Tsakanis of Lodi; a sister, Joan Tranoris of Miami; nine grand children; and three great-grand children.

# Γιορτάστηκε η 25η Μαρτίου στο Γιόνκερς

ΓΙΑ ΠΡΩΤΗ ΦΟΡΑ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΥΨΩΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΣΗΜΑΙΑΣ, ΔΕΞΙΩΣΗ ΜΕΣΑ ΣΤΟ ΔΗΜΑΡΧΕΙΟ



Η ύψωση της σημαίας έγινε για πρώτη φορά στο Γιόνκερς το 1958 από την τοπική ΑΗΕΡΑ και τα τελευταία χρόνια έχει αναλάβει η κοινότητα του Προφήτη Ηλία όπου και προηγείται λειτουργία ετησίως. Παρόντες στην φετινή τελετή έξω από το Δημαρχείο ήταν ο δήμαρχος Φ. Αμκόνε, ο πρόεδρος του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου Τσακ Λεσνικ, ο ιερατικός προϊστάμενος της κοινότητας του Αγίου Νικολάου Μανχάταν, π. Ιωάννης Ρόμας, ο πρόεδρος της κοινότητας Προφήτη Ηλία Κ. Φλόκας, ο κυβερνήτης της ΑΧΕΠΑ για τη Νέα Υόρκη και Νέα Ιερσέη, Λούης Αρβανίτης, ο δικαστής Τσάρλι Γουντ, η πρόεδρος του συλλόγου Μεσσηνίων 'Αριστομένης' και μέλος του συμβουλίου της κοινότητας, Βασιλική Καλύβα και αρκετοί ομογενείς. Σε στάση προσοχής όλοι έψαλλαν τους εθνικούς ύμνους Ελλάδος και Αμερικής και έγινε η ύψωση της σημαίας μας. Στη συνέχεια ακολούθησε δεξίωση μέσα στο δημαρχείο, με φαγητά, αναψυκτικά και καφέ προσφορά του εστιατορίου "Galaxy" που βρίσκεται στο Γκέτι Σκουέαρ του Γιόνκερς.

## New York District #6 Meeting in Bronx hosted by Chapter #175



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# AHEPA 38TH BIENNIAL BANQUET ENORMOUS SUCCESS

## Capitol Hill Day, Meetings with Members of Congress Well Received



*Some of the Ahepans from District 5 sharing a toast at the cocktail hour before the banquet.*

**W**ASHINGTON, D.C. - The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), the leading association for the nation's 1.4 million American citizens of Greek ancestry, and Philhellenes, welcomed a capacity crowd at its 38th Biennial Salute Banquet, honoring those in public service, on Friday, March 7.

AHEPA honored over 30 legislators from state and national government, with the AHEPA Public Service Award. "Everyday public servants sacrifice their time and energy to ensure our rights, issues and causes are represented across our nation," said AHEPA Supreme President Ike Gulas. "We are fortunate to be given an opportunity to say 'thank you,' present them with a certificate of appreciation and offer AHEPA's grassroots network to help champion our respective issues of concern."

This year, AHEPA awarded the Demosthenes Award to George Bistis, Chief, Voice of America Greek Desk. Born in Cyprus and raised in Greece, Mr. Bistis joined VOA in 1967. He is well known in the journalistic field, having produced and presented more than 500 television shows and over 75,000 radio shows. Among his observations, Mr. Bistis spoke poignantly of his coverage after the 9/11 attacks, which claimed among the thousands of victims over 30 Greek Americans. He cited the inspiration of Archbishop Demetrios moving among the rubble with the recovery workers.

The Aristotle Award awarded to John Catsimatides, Chairman and CEO, Red Apple Group, Inc. To cheers from the crowd and shouts of "next Mayor of New York", Mr. Catsimatides, born in Greece, briefly described his and his family's background. He credited his father's hard work and sacrifices providing him the opportunity to receive an education and



*A view from the balcony of the banquet hall at the majestic Mayflower Hotel.*



achieve business success. Mr. Catsimatides owns a number of enterprises, including Gristedes Supermarkets, United Refining Company, Red Apple Real Estate Development Company, and Red Apple aviation which operates a small fleet of corporate aircraft.

Additional speakers included President Gulas; Daughters of Penelope Grand President Karen Stamatiades; Former Foreign Minister of Cyprus Erato Kozakou Marcoullis; Ambassadors Andreas Kakouris, Cyprus and Alexandros Mallias, Hellenic Republic; U.S. Representative John Sarbanes (D-MD-3); His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios and our Emcee for the evening, U.S. Representative Zachary Space (D-OH-18).

Archbishop Demetrios addressed the banquet with his usual incite and inspiration. At one point, he seemingly went on a tangent to describe the impact of the Greek language on modern English using the word “phoni” (voice) as an example. He begins to gesture around the room demonstrating how the word has permeated our lives (“microphone, megaphone”), and then reaches into his robe a pulls out “the ultimate example, the ‘I-phone’”! Congressman Sarbanes was moved to



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*Honoree John Catsimatides of New York winner of the Aristotle Award.*

comment on the visual impact of the Archbishop showing his I-phone.

“Our evening was a success and I would like to thank Rep. Space for his excellent service as Emcee for the evening,” added Gulas. “It was a long night, full of surprises and Rep. Space helped keep the evening on track.”

Supreme President Gulas addressed the attendees of the banquet on the issues AHEPA has been educating members of the 110th Congress about, such as the Visa Waiver Program, Cyprus unification and Turkish troop withdrawal, the Greek Fires, FYROM and the Ecumenical Patriarch and Patriarchate.

The Supreme President challenged the attendees during the banquet, “we can do more,” he said, an important and inspired statement addressing the standing room only crowd on AHEPA’s achievements over the past 86 years and for the continued dedication to the associations’ goals.



*Some of the many elected officials from all levels of government honored at the banquet.*

### **AHEPA Capitol Hill Day**

On Thursday, March 6, AHEPA hosted an event for Ahepans on Capitol Hill. Senators Jeff Sessions (R-AL) and Robert Menendez (D-NJ) spoke about the issues that both AHEPA, and Congress, support concerning Greek-American issues. The discussions revolved around the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Turkey, the Cyprus issue and Turkey’s need to adhere to the principles of human rights and religious freedoms.

Following the reception, President Gulas and his Supreme Lodge went to the Capitol Building to meet with Representative Gus Bilirakis (R-FL-9) in the Rayburn Room. Rep. Bilirakis, co-chair of the Hellenic Caucus and a member of AHEPA, has been a champion of all issues that concern Americans of Greek heritage and Philhellenes.

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**The 5th District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation, Inc.**

### **19TH ANNUAL FALL GALA**

**Saturday, November 1, 2008**

Pines Manor, Edison, New Jersey

Cocktail hour begins at 6:30 p.m. followed By Dinner

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE HONOR THE FOUNDATION’S  
2008 GRAND RECIPIENTS

**Axios Award Recipient**  
**Dr. William Hait**

An Evening of Dinner  
and Dancing–Music by Alpha  
**Donation: \$85.00 – Cash Bar**

# SUPREME AND GRAND LODGE ATTENDS LARGEST EPIPHANY CELEBRATION IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE



During the weekend of January 5 and 6 the Grand Lodge met in Tarpon Springs, Florida for its third meeting of the year. In addition, we, along with the AHEPA Supreme Lodge, attended the Tarpon Springs AHEPA Family dinner dance held on the eve of Epiphany. This lovely event was well attended by many members of the AHEPA family from the West Coast of Florida, as well as His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios and many other members of the clergy. On Sunday we attended the impressive Epiphany service at St. Nicholas Cathedral and participated in the march to bayou to witness the throwing of the cross and the triumphant retrieval by one of the many hopeful young men. It was both a productive and memorable weekend.

# MACARONADA DINNER AT ELENI'S



**On April 6th, 2008, Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis hosted a dinner for all the members of our district following the Greek Independence Day at Fifth Avenue. It was a great honor the presence of our Supreme Governor Mr. Ike Goulas.**



*Ike Gulas at Eleni's Pancake House in Montvale, NJ on the evening of the Greek parade, April 6th. Between 40 – 50 people were on hand from as far away as Maryland and New York to hear Brother Ike Gulas, Executive Director Basil Mossaides and other guests. The host for the evening was Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis and his staff at Eleni's who prepared a delicious Macaronada and lamb.*

*The number of the attendees were exceeding the organisers' expectations. We thank Mr Louis Arvanitis, PDG for organising, once again such a great event and for cooking such a delicious dinner. Mr. Ike Goulas was surprised with this warm welcome from our district and he promised to be back again sooner than later .*







# Photo Memories from the Greek Independence Day Parade



# Ahepans at the Hermes Expo

The Hermes Expo, the largest Greek American trade show, took place at the Trump Taj Mahal hotel casino on the weekend of April 12-13. This was the 17th annual expo. It was founded in 1992 by Ahepan Paul Kotrotsios publisher of the Hellenic News of America newspaper. The day began with a symposium with discussions on increasing trade and tourism to Greece and the Balkans. The Expo was opened with a blessing by His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos. Part of the festivities

visit. The rage of the show was the company that demoed their massaging reclining chair. Also popular was the coffee machine that made Greek coffee. There was also numerous other food vendors, tourism booths, the sea port of Thessaloniki had the largest booth by far. There was much to see. If you could not make it this year, there will be another next year. The AHEPA Cancer Board would like to thank Mr. Kotrotsios for inviting us and making the booth available to the Cancer Foundation.



*Archbishop Evangelos blesses the Expo*

included a ribbon cutting, a Cretan dance group from Brooklyn and numerous speakers and dignitaries.

The AHEPA Fifth District Cancer Foundation was invited to participate in the expo. The District Lodge and a team of ACRF Board members and Ahepans manned the booth throughout the day. A bus load of Ahepans was organized by Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis and came down from Montvale, NJ. There were



*Hermes Expo producer Paul Kotrotsios (3rd from the right) visited at the AHEPA booth. Numerous Ahepans were manning or visiting at the booth including: John Kominos, Tom Pappas, Dr. Peter Yannos, Phil Vogis, Andy Boulos and Ted Vittas.*



*Cretan dancers performed to entertain the crowd at the Hermes Expo. This group was from Brooklyn, NY.*

also 17 other buses from all over the northeast. The crowd that attended the event over the weekend was upwards of one thousand. There were dozens of Ahepans on hand at the event. Many were from the neighboring districts of the northeast, from VA, MD, PA, NY, CT as well as from NJ & DE.

The AHEPA booth was only one booth among hundreds to

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# DISTRICT LODGE VISITATIONS



**Morris County #300**



**Camden #69**



**Trenton #72**



**Thomas Edison #287**



**Garden State #517**



**Eureka #52**



# GREEK PARADE IN PHILADELPHIA

## MARCH 30TH, 2008



*A view marching towards the viewing stand on the Ben Franklin Parkway.*

*District 5 Treasurer and Parade Chairman George Horiates, DOP Rep. Zaharati Morfesis, Camden 69 member and Parade Director Gus Horiates, Honorary Marshall John Bolaris, Drum line coordinator Angelo Horiates, Camden President and Federation Secretary Dimitrios Rozanitis and Federation President Pete Papadeas.*



*Metropolitan Evangelos, Grand Marshall Mayor of Philadelphia Michael Nutter and other dignitaries listen to DOP member Zaharati Morfesis.*

## 2008 DISTRICT #5 CONVENTION

MAY 30, 31 & JUNE 1, 2008  
QUALITY INN & GRAND VERSAILLES  
Maple Shade, New Jersey

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### FRIDAY – MAY 30TH

DISTRICT GOLF TOURNAMENT 8am – 2 pm  
Registration – 2pm to 9 pm  
OFFICIAL CONVENTION OPENING – 7pm  
Poolside Welcome Night Reception – (To Follow Opening)  
Sons and Maids Reunion  
Camden Chapter Archival Display (All throughout Convention)

#### SATURDAY – MAY 31ST

Registration – 9 AM to 2 PM  
General Business Sessions – 9 AM to Noon  
Daughters of Penelope Luncheon – 12 to 2 PM  
(Scholarships & Awards by both Ahepa & Daughters)  
Sons and Maids Blood Drive 10 AM – 2 PM  
General Session – 2 PM to 5 PM  
GRAND BANQUET – Reception 6:30 - Diner 7 PM  
(Hospitality Suite will be open at conclusion of Banquet)

#### SUNDAY - JUNE 1ST

Church Services – St. Thomas AHEPA DAY - Memorial  
Farewell Luncheon

NOTE: Daughters Scholarship Luncheon - \$35.00

Grand Banquet - \$ 60.00

Hotel - \$110.00 per night - Call 856-235-6400

George Horiates (856) 986-8972 Jimmy Rozanitis (856) 625-6708

## Alexander Hamilton Chapter #54



AHEPA Alexander Hamilton Chapter #54, in Paramus, hosted a presentation at Saint Athanasios Church, by Rev. Dr. Demetrios J Constantelos, who as you all probably know, is one of the world's most respected Orthodox theologians and scholars of Greek culture, as witnessed by his innumerable scholarly publications receiving critical acclaim by internationally recognized experts. The topic was "In Search of our Hellenic & Orthodox Christian Identity!" and the focus was on how "Hellenism & Orthodox Christian Spirituality" are intertwined and cannot be separated. Father Constantelos has so much passion while speaking about Hellenism & Spirituality, one cannot help but want to learn, know and do more to promote "Our Special Identity". Father Demetrios followed up his presentation by meeting with our parishioners and also autographing his books; the visit was concluded after a luncheon to thank our "Esteemed and Special Guest".

## The AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation and Sons of Pericles



On Friday December 21, 2007 the Sons of Pericles Patriarcha Chapter #317 from Wyckoff, NJ hosted a Christmas Party at Oceanos in Fair Lawn, NJ. The proceeds from the party, which exceeded \$1,500, were donated to the Sons National Project – The AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation. This condition, also known as Thalassaemia, has an especially large incidence among Greeks and their descendants. Over one hundred people joined the party to support a worthy cause and enjoy the music and dancing.

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## THREE NEW SONS INITIATED AT WINTER GETAWAY WEEKEND



*New Sons, Jimmy Maroules, Joe Katsikiotis, and Chris Mellis (left to right)*

TAMIMENT, PA - February 18, 2008 – The Sons of Pericles of Pathritha Chapter

No. 317 enjoyed a few days of fun this past weekend, as they went away to the Pocono's.

The trip, which was organized and hosted by Advisors Ted Vittas and Lou Mellis, lasted three days and two nights in

scenic Pennsylvania.

The first night, the Sons welcomed three new members, Chris Mellis, Joe Katsikiotis and Jimmy Maroules who were initiated into the brotherhood. The initiation was run by current members of the Sons, Vice President Arthur Kominos and members Chris Christodoulou, Evan Katsikiotis, John Vittas and Nick Kominos.

The initiation kick started the weekend which included many fun activities as well as just some good times back in the rooms. On both nights the boys spent time in the resort's recreation center, playing pool, air hockey, darts, video games, ping-pong and spending time in the swimming pool. The second night included a poker tournament, which was won by the hustler, Nick Kominos. Playing some Madden and watching the Slam Dunk Contest and NBA All Star Game were also on the nighttime agenda.

During the one full day that was spent in the Pocono's, the Sons enjoyed some snow tubing, an intense, inter-racial football game, and got some great deals at the local flea market. All in all, the trip was a great success and we all look forward to doing it again next year.



### Order of AHEPA District 5 Lodge District Convention Golf Outing

**Friday, May 30, 2008**  
Ramblewood County Club  
200 County Club Parkway, Mount Laurel, NJ

Meet at Quality Inn at 10:30 am for Coffee and Breakfast  
Registration at Ramblewood County Club at 11:30 am  
Starting Time 1:00 pm Shotgun  
Modified Scramble format (play best drive on Par 4 & 5 holes)

Greens Fees, Cart Rental, prizes, awards and lunch at the Quality Inn  
Only for \$85.00 per person

Event includes awards for:  
Longest Drive,  
Closest to Pin, Low Score  
& High Score

*Please make check payable to AHEPA Camden Chapter #69*

For information to sponsor a hole, or to book a foursome, please call  
George Horiates @ (856) 986-8972



## Celebrate Father's Day at the Races

Monmouth Park Race Track  
Oceanport Ave., Oceanport, NJ 07757

**SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2008**  
Doors open 11:30 am

Everyone is welcome! Bring your friends, family, and neighbors to this fun day and help raise money for the District 5 Daughters of Penelope Scholarships

**Entrance and Buffet \$45.00 per person**  
**Turf Room Parterre Level I of the Clubhouse**

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GEORGE BURLOTOS



# AHEPA Supreme Convention 2008 Events in Athens, Greece

## 1. The Convention Dates are July 1-11, 2008.

These dates are what we have been promoting since the beginning, and this includes the package with a cruise. The cost for the room and cruise range from \$2850 (1900 Euro) to \$3450 (2300 Euro). This price is for the complete package for BOTH People in the room. Example: 2 people staying at the Intercontinental Hotel (AHEPA HQ Hotel) and going on the cruise would pay about \$259 a day. When broken down, it covers the cost of transportation to and from the airport, breakfast daily, one additional meal daily (if you purchase the event ticket package as a delegate/alternate or registered guest).

## Visit the New Acropolis Museum

2. If you choose NOT to go on the Cruise, the price changes. The price per room changes at the Intercontinental to \$280 per day which includes transportation to and from the airport, breakfast daily, and one meal (if you purchase the event ticket package as a delegate/alternate or registered guest).

## Temple of Zeus/ Zappion the sight of some of our events

3. The AHEPA Registration package (the tickets for the events which Delegates and Alternates purchase) is available for sale at \$250 per package. These tickets are for all the AHEPA sponsored events while in Greece.

The Schedule of Events are unique this year. Many venues will be held outdoors. We will not be staying indoors for meetings the entire time we are in Athens. We will be visiting many sites and having many of our events outdoors, so be prepared to have Fun and enjoy time with your family!

The Opening Ceremonies are scheduled to be held at the Zappion, The Grand Ball is scheduled to be hosted in another outdoor event with live music and food, the Athletic Banquet & the The Grand Banquet will be held at the hotel, the July 4th party & barbeque will be held at the Glyfada Golf Course where we will have shuttles to the beaches, the tours of museums and vip archeological sites couples with seminars are all covered in this package. The closing ceremonies are scheduled to take place at the old Olympic Stadium (kalimarmaro) with a night of entertainment! Many of these events include food at no additional cost.

Ahepa Voice – SPRING 2008

## WEST COAST BASKET TOURNEY



On the weekend of January 18-21, 2008, the Sons of Pericles Supreme Lodge hosted the Western Regional Basketball Tournament in Long Beach, CA. The tournament featured ten basketball teams comprised of Sons from all over the country. While a majority of the teams were from California; there were also teams who traveled from Tucson, AZ and Middlesex, NJ.

The weekend started on Friday night when the teams congregated in the boardroom of the Hilton, Long Beach, CA for the Selection Show. As these individuals eagerly awaited the results of whom they would play and what time they would have to wake up the next morning, the tournament was organized in a double-elimination fashion.

The tournament was not only about basketball, however, as Sons Lodge, with the help of DJ Gus Sverkos (gus@greeksinla.com), set up various nightly events for those who came into town for the tournament. On Friday night a party was thrown at Frisco's and Sunday night was at Sachi.

Saturday was all basketball - from 9AM to 5PM; the games were running all day long at Cabrillo High School. By the time Sunday rolled around, only the Final Four teams were left. In the end, First Place went to the Sons Lodge team, comprised of Sons from seven different states. Second Place went to San Francisco, CA and in Third Place was Long Beach, CA. The Tournament MVP went to Seth Cooper (Madison, WI) of the Sons Lodge team.

The weekend was a huge success and the Sons of Pericles hope to continue this great tradition of the Western Regional Basketball Tournament. It was not only about fun and basketball however. Through the different activities, parties, basketball, and t-shirt sales, the Sons of Pericles were able to raise money for the Sons National Project – The AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation.

# Wyckoff, NJ Sons of Pericles Host Their 3rd East Coast Regional Basketball Tournament

On the weekend of March 7-9, 2008, the Wyckoff, NJ Sons of Pericles Patritha Chapter #317 hosted the Eastern Regional Basketball Tournament. The tournament featured nine basketball teams comprised of Sons from all over the East Coast. While a majority of the teams were from New Jersey, there were also teams who traveled from Philadelphia, PA, New England and Virginia. Other players,



kind enough to make a generous donation towards the Sons cause of Cooley's Anemia.

The weekend was a huge success and the Sons from Wyckoff, NJ hope to continue the tradition for years to come. This however, was obviously not was not only about basketball and parties. Through the different activities, parties, basketball, food, and t-shirt sales the Wyckoff Sons were able to raise money. Over \$1,000 was donated to the Sons of Pericles National Project – The AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation and over \$500 was donated to the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Wyckoff, NJ.



fans, and Maids of Athena also came to support from Minnesota, Florida, Michigan, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and California. This was the 3rd year that the chapter has hosted this event and it has now become an annual event.

The games began on Saturday morning and were played at the beautiful gym at St. Nicholas in Wyckoff, NJ. The tournament was conducted in a round robin fashion and by the time Sunday rolled around, only the Final Four teams were left. The championship game featured last year's champions Virginia Beach and a new entry in the tournament, a team from Philadelphia, PA. The game was a close contest throughout the game with numerous lead changes and ended up in overtime where Philly prevailed. With only seconds left, Philly made a crucial steal to prevent Virginia Beach from making a game tying shot. Rounding out the Final Four was 3rd Place Wyckoff, NJ and 4th Place Paramus, NJ. The Tournament All-Stars went to Jerry Kodopidis of Middlesex, NJ, Nico Papafil of Norfolk, VA, Evan Katsikiotis of Wyckoff, NJ, Andrew Berenberg of Paramus, NJ and Chris Vasiliou of Philadelphia, PA.

On Saturday night all of the tournament-goers attended a party held at Central Lounge in Astoria, NY. ([www.central-lounge.com](http://www.central-lounge.com)) The owners of the club were



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New Jersey automobile insurance premium survey		
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Keystone	\$1,770	(10/11)
Clubb Insurance	\$1,272	(10/11)
Mercury Indemnity Co. of America	\$976	(10/04)





# WILDWOOD AHEPA GREEK WEEKEND



**Newport Beach Resort**  
Ocean and Rio Grande Avenues  
Wildwood, New Jersey

**September 26, 27 & 28, 2008**  
(Friday, Saturday & Sunday)



## WEEKEND SCHEDULE

### Friday, September 26th

Arrive at your leisure

6:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner & dancing at the Rusty Rudder Restaurant (Oak & Atlantic Aves.)

### Saturday, September 27th

8-10:00 a.m. Full Breakfast at the Acropolis Coffee Shop

Afternoon at your leisure along the Boardwalk or one of the optional activities: Atlantic City casinos, Historic Cape May, or Monster Truck Races



6:00 p.m. Fabulous Filet Mignon Dinner & Dancing at the Rusty Rudder Restaurant

### Sunday, September 30th

8-10:00 a.m. FULL BREAKFAST at the Acropolis Coffee Shop

9:30 a.m. Orthros (Matins) begins at St. Demetrios Church

10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy begins

12:30 p.m. Farewell Luncheon

**All this for only \$169.00 per person (double occupancy)**

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Names of those attending: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

*For additional names, please use back or separate sheet*

Make checks payable to AHEPA CHAPTER #450 and mail to: P.O. Box 553, Wildwood, NJ 08260

# RAMAPO NEWS

## Congressman Garrett meets with AHEPA, expresses deep concern over human rights abuses of Christian minority in Turkey. Will seek State Department focus.

The AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope met with Congressman Scott Garrett (R – 5NJ) for a wide ranging discussion on issues of concern to our community. We expressed our appreciation to Congressman Garrett for his positive responses and initiatives of support since our last meeting with him in 2004. Among the initiatives we thanked him for was his joining the Congressional Hellenic Caucus, and his cosponsoring a bill, the “American-Owned Property in Occupied Cyprus Claims Act” (H.R.1456), which will provide our Americans the right to sue Turkey in US Federal Courts for compensation for their property in occupied Cyprus. In response to a question from Congressman Garrett, we informed him that several people in our community would directly benefit from this bill.

Our meeting with Congressman Garrett, hosted by Steven Sederas of the Suburban Diner in Paramus, NJ, covered a host of issues starting with the unmet promises by Turkey to respect the human rights of its Christian minority population. We described several troubling incidents over the past year in Turkey, including a Catholic priest shot dead by a teenager and an Armenian Christian journalist killed by a gunman. We also shared with the Congressman news reports of attacks against churches. One egregious incident was the forestry service on the Island of Chalki attempting to demolish the Christ the Saviour Monastery. Finally,



we reviewed the stalemate with Turkey over its closing of the Theological Seminary and the government’s refusal to allow it to function, denying the Orthodox Christian community in Turkey a source of trained priests and hampering the worldwide administration of the Patriarchate. Churches throughout Turkey, of every denomination, are crumbling because Turkey prohibits maintenance work without government approvals, which are rarely forthcoming.

## THE AHEPA FAMILY OF NEW BRUNSWICK HOLDS NEW YEAR’S EVE PARTY

Monroe Chapter No.75 of the Order of AHEPA and Tethys Chapter No.22 of the Daughters of Penelope held a New Year’s Eve party into AHEPA Hall of the church of St. George in Piscataway, NJ which was open to everyone in the community. The festivities commenced at 9:00 with taped music, provided Brother Kostas Katsoulis. The hall was festooned with traditional New Year’s decorations and everyone was provided with hats, horns, etc. to ring in the New Year.

The fare was a buffet of a wide selection of items with bottles of wine at each table. At the strike of midnight we had a champagne toast to ring in the New Year. There was a special ticket for the poinsettias at each table and a 50/50. The New Year’s Eve Party was a huge success with a great time had by all.

The AHEPA FAMILY of New Brunswick, New Jersey looks forward to having New Year’s Eve Parties for many years to come and invites our Brothers and Sisters in the District to join us next year.

Submitted by  
James W. Karamanos  
Past President, Monroe Chapter No.75



### Order of Ahepa Alexander Hamilton #54

We cordially invite you to attend our  
Benefit Buffet Dinner in support of the  
St. Athanasios parking.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2008**

**7:30 in the evening**

**Eleni’s Restaurant – 15 W. Grand Avenue  
Montvale, NJ 07645**

\$50 per person – Donations are tax deductible  
Checks payable to: Ahepa Alexander Hamilton#54

#### MENU

<b>Greek-American Buffet</b>	Roasted red Potatoes
Lemon Chicken	Mixed Vegetables
Baked Pastitsio	Rice Pilaf
Jumbo Shrimp Scampi	<b>Desserts</b>
Roast Leg of Lamb	Galactobureko
Seafood (crab, shrimp, lobster)	Rice Pudding
Psito Gourounaki	Sliced Fruits

**Phone: 201.666.8651 – Fax:201.666.0903**

## 1948 SUPREME MIAMI CONVENTION

Past 60 years and the flame of AHEPA is still alive. We can see our brothers back then in this very memorable picture.

Andy, Ted Bravakis (Newark), Tom

Kouridakis ( Monroe 75), Mike Kovatis

(Camden), Pete Liverakos (Monroe 75),

Pete Caravoulias, Past D.G. Jim Argyros,

John Thevos, Lee Millas' Dad Jim



## SMALL NEWS FROM TRENTON #72

**TEXAS HOLD EM TOURNAMENT** a great success thanks to the efforts of Asteris Fanikos, Lee Millas and Dino Zimnes. 32 players, with Jacob Mamolou and Strat Peters of our Chapter finishing in the money. A Brother from Asbury Park was the winner.

**HEALTH CORNER.** Brothers Hill and Knicos visited John Mavraganis; he is doing well and misses the Monday meetings. 2 from the hand. Peter Conelias sends regards. Get out there and visit your Brothers.

**GOLF OUTING.** The Chapter annual golf outing will be held on Tuesday October 14th at Mountain View Golf Course in Ewing. Information will be mailed to all Brothers during the summer months. So mark the date, Mountain View is celebrating their 50th year in operation and has a new beautiful club house.

## CORRECTION

Our Sister and dear friend points out an error on the article about Cleopatra G. Notarides. She was not the first elected Grand President of the Maids of Athena to hail from the 5th District; she was the THIRD.

First was Mary Snyder and second was Faith Prasses, both from Trenton Maids of Athena, Erectheion Chapter.

Ahepa Voice – SPRING 2008



**St. Nicholas Charity  
Golf Classic**  
467 Grandview Avenue  
Wyckoff, NJ 07481  
201-652-4774

Dear Friend,

You are cordially invited to the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Nicholas Charity Golf Classic. This fun filled day of golf will be held at the High Mountain Golf Club. It is located at 845 Ewing Avenue, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417 (201-891-1600).

The date is:

**Monday, June 16, 2008**

and it begins with a shotgun start at 10:00 AM.

Last years tournament was a tremendous success and just about everyone walked away with a prize. The proceeds from this event will help support the many Church sponsored charities and the Expansion Program.

There are a variety of sponsorship opportunities available. Sponsors will be recognized during the entire day with a sponsorship sign either at a tee or green and, then again, at the awards dinner. For additional information, please refer to the enclosed flyers. To make your reservations, fill out the registration form and return with payment in full.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fun filled and exciting event, starting with breakfast, shotgun (Calloway scoring), buffet dinner, prizes and much more. Bring a buddy, a smile and a good golf swing.

# A TRIP TO THE PAST



## 75 YEARS OF CAMDEN CHAPTER No. 69

Camden Chapter No.69 was organized on June 4,1925. Thirty six members were installed that evening. There was such great enthusiasm generated about this new organization, that by the year's end, this thirty six had increased to sixty.

For many years, our Chapter did not have permanent quarters. In 1947, out of the Camden Chapter, grew an organization named "American Hellenic Orthodox Centre". All their elected officers were Ahepans. A building was purchased in 1954 by the American Hellenic Orthodox Centre in Camden, where the Ahepa was given the second "floor for a meeting room and the third floor for the Greek language school. Some years later, the Greek Orthodox Church of Camden County was established and from this came the St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church. The ground on which our Church and Cultural Center are built was purchased by The American Hellenic Orthodox Centre, whose leaders had the foresight to realize, that for us to grow, we needed room. The building in Camden was sold to the city renewal program, and the proceeds donated towards the erection of our Church and Hellenic Cultural Center. In the Hellenic Cultural Center, we have one of, if not the finest, Ahepa meeting room in all the Ahepa domain.

The name "American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association" emphasizes education. It is not education as we think of it today, such as high school and college, but rather education about the laws that govern the new country to which the Greeks emigrated. In accordance with the oath and obligation taken as candidates-for membership, our chapter instructed them in how to apply for citizenship. The Chapter also realized that the Greek language and heritage needed to be preserved. In 1929,-the chapter established a Greek evening school. From that meager beginning, we now boast of having one of the finest Greek language schools in the Delaware Valley area and beyond. Each year, we present the "Ahepa Medal for Scholarship Excellence" to the outstanding student in our Greek language school.

Higher education is also of high importance to our Chapter . In 1965 one of our members established our first Scholarship Fund. Other scholarships have since been established by families of some of our deceased members. Our scholarship funds have given grants totaling \$46,300.00 to date.

At the District level four of our members distinguished themselves by becoming District Governors. Our chapter has hosted five successful district conventions (\*48,'58,'67,'75,'89) in addition to this year's convention. One of our members was instrumental in establishing the Ahe-

pa Fifth District Cancer Research Foundation. This foundation raises funds which are donated to be used for cancer research in the hope that some day a cure can be found to eradicate this disease.

Our chapter has hosted many benefit dances, with all proceeds going to different charitable organizations. It hosted dances to benefit 5th District Cancer Research Foundation, Deborah Hospital, Cooley's Anemia, and the purchase of a pulse oximeter that is located in the neonatal nursery of the West Jersey Hospital. (This is a care center where the new born child is examined by the surgeon.) Our chapter supported the Cyprus Relief Fund and, for several years, adopted a Greek Cypriot refugee.

Annually, we host dinner meetings honoring our "Old Timers" and the "Past Presidents" of our chapter. Each year, we conduct a memorial service for our deceased members. In the year 1975, we celebrated the chapter's 50th Anniversary, where we honored the surviving charter members, with Senator Paul Saibanes as toastmaster. In early years, our chapter had an excellent degree team. This biography has only touched the surface of our history. Past records will prove that the Camden Chapter No. 69 of the Order of Ahepa will endure and become stronger with age. Its future will be as bright as its past.

## TRENTON #72 AWARDS



*Vice President John Polios with graduates and parents: Jennifer Prassas, Kathlyn Koutsouradis, Mrs. Liakris. Maria Mastoris, Ashley Koble, Mrs C. Stratis*

# TOM DUSHAS TESTIMONIAL



**Tom's contributions to the AHEPA, Holy Trinity and the Westchester community include:**

On a personal level, Tom has distinguished his professional career as a member of the international shipping community and as an active horse breeder in the competitive "Sport of Kings". Tom lives in Rye, NY with his wife Eva and enjoys the love of three children and their spouses and eight grandchildren.

- Sons of Pericles, Chapter President
- Sons of Pericles, Former District Governor
- 43- year member of AHEPA
- Past President Evzone Chapter #405
- Past President, Holy Trinity Church
- Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople
- Leadership 100 Member
- First President of the NYS Hellenic Republican Assoc.
- Elected Harrison Town Leader
- Westchester County GOP Leader

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to our Brothers and Sisters in District Five

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**Chris Mavris**

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Please submit any articles and pictures for the next AHEPA VOICE  
by AUGUST 15th, 2008

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