

WINTER 2009

John G. Thevos Fifth District NJ/DE

AHEPA *voice*

American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association



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WORKSHOPS**

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5th District Governor, Order of AHEPA

THEODORE FANIKOS

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As I begin, I wish to extend to you my sincerest wishes for a happy and healthy Holiday Season. I hope that everyone will enjoy the company of their family and friends with them. I would also like to state that as we start this holiday season, that everyone have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

On Saturday, November 1, 2008, the Annual Cancer Foundation Gala was held at the Pines Manor. The Foundation awarded \$40,000 to various cancer research centers bringing the total amount of research grants to over \$600,000. We all know someone impacted by this terrible disease, which is why we must continue to endeavor to raise funds for a cure.

In fact, the reason for absence at some of the visitations is that my brother recently succumbed to this disease in Greece. I would like to thank everyone for their notes of sympathies and their phone calls to myself and my family. They were very much appreciated and

my family and I thank you. I still continue to look forward to meeting everyone at the visitations and the variety of AHEPA functions coming up and hope to see you soon.

Recently on November 8, 2008, the District Lodge held the State-wide workshop in Holmdel. I would like to thank the entire District Lodge for their efforts and hard work as top this event and ensuring that it ran smoothly. Moreover, I would like to thank all the officers and brothers in attendance for volunteering their time to make our brotherhood a better place. I would also like to thank the Holmdel Chapter and brothers for hosting the event and your hospitality is appreciated.

One upcoming event is the Friday, December 5th Makaronada event held at Eleni's in Montvale. Supreme President Ike Gulas will be there and we will also be conducted a mass invitation. We hope that you can attend and participate. I would also like to congratulate all the chapters and brothers on their many activities and fundraisers: Jersey

City's Oktoberfest, Ramapo's Greek language program, Trenton's 7th Annual Golf Classic, Wilmington's Odyssey School and all the chapters' accomplishments.

One event that I am especially looking forward to is the Christmas Pageant at St Basil's Academy in Garrison, New York. The children will present the pageant on Saturday, December 13, 2008 and everyone is invited to attend. Based upon the generosity of the brotherhood, the AHEPA will be presenting Christmas gift cards to the children at this event. If you are interested in attending and/or making additional donations, please contact me or any District officer. Last year's event was wonderful and heartwarming and this is not an event one forgets. During this holiday season, let us also remember those not as fortunate and open our hearts.

In closing, on behalf of the entire District Lodge, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas, full of good times and hope and that everyone has a healthy and happy New Year.



5th District Governor, Daughters of Penelope

DEMI THOMAS



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I hope you all enjoyed a very happy and blessed Thanksgiving. The District Lodge has had a very busy fall. We attended the Fall workshop, the Cancer Foundation Gala, AHEPA Past District Governor's Testimonial, Jersey City Octoberfest, several chapter visitations, and two fun tricky tray events. We continued the fun with Trenton's and Cherry Hill's Founder's Day celebrations. The members of the AHEPA Family were fortunate to attend the St. Basil's Christmas Party in Garrison, NY. The children preformed a moving Christmas pageant that captivated us all. Again this year, we collected money from our chapters to give gift certificates to all the children of St. Basil's.

Congratulations to all the chapters on their many activities and successful fundraisers: Jersey City's Octoberfest, Altes #163, and Tethys #229's Tricky Trays. I would also like to commend all the Daughter's chapters for their Founder's Day Programs;

hosting coffee hours, memorial services, dinners, and honoring longtime members of the Daughters.

The Daughters held their annual District Workshop in New Brunswick. What a wonderful day! Everyone who attended the workshop had a great time. The sisters of the Tethys chapter of New Brunswick hosted the workshop. They did a marvelous job. Thank you sisters for all your hard work! There was great food, good fellowship, and lots of information. Sister Nickie Stamoulis, our National Lodge liaison, attended the workshop. Also joining us at the workshop were several past district governors of District 5 and and Past Grand President Evellyn Tsiadis..

District 5 DOP has a new website! Please visit and catch up on all the latest happenings in the district. The new website address is <http://worknotes.com/NJ/Wyckoff/District5DOP>. You can see pictures from the latest District Events, -

just go to the photo gallery. We even have the District forms on the website. You can download the forms you need anytime you want.

Save the date! The 5th Biennial District 5 Salute to Women will be Sunday March 1, 2009 from 3 to 6 PM, at the Buttonwood Manor, Matawan, NJ. If you have someone you would like to nominate for the Salute please call Patty Vlahos at 732-542-7195 or Antoinette Marousis at 732-458-8782 for more information

District Governor's raffle tickets are now available! We are raffling off a beautiful Waterford Hurricane candle holder and a 6" Keane Bowl. Tickets are \$5. Get them from any member of the lodge.

On behalf of the entire Daughters District Lodge, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Yours in Theta Pi,
Demi Thomas

Message From The Supreme Governor and Regional Director Louis Arvanitis



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It gives me such a great pleasure to communicate with all of you this holiday season. It has really been a very busy fall, but a very interesting one as well.

In September I attended the District Governors' Conference and The Supreme Lodge meeting in Washington, DC. We discussed the progress of various projects, such as the Membership Drive, the Cooley's Anemia Foundation, the Journey to Greece for our college students and the support for the Parade for the Greek Independence Day.

The Regional Conference in Astoria, NY at Stamatis Restaurant was of a great success and really gave us the opportunity to exchange a lot of ideas as region, but with a great brotherly feeling. I would like to thank all the brothers who welcomed me with a great hospitality in the various visitations I did in many chapters this period.

In November, I had the opportunity to attend the Gala of the Cancer Research Foundation for District #5 at Pines Manor. It was, as always, a beautiful affair and the Foundation managed to collect \$40,000 in donations, which will be given to various hospitals. The Cancer Foundation reached the amount of \$625,000 in donations since its establishment.

Another successful event was the Makaronada Diner at Eleni's Restaurant. We had the opportunity to initiate 22 new Brothers to our great Fraternity. We were very fortunate to have with us our Supreme Secretary Dr. John Grossomanides, Jr., of Rhode Island and our Supreme Treasurer Mr. Anthony Kouzounis of Texas. I would like to thank all the Brothers for attending this historic event. Special tribute must be awarded to the Presiding Officer of the Decree Team Mr. John Mehos, PSG, because him and his team did a very ritualistic initiation and they impressed

everyone in the room.

In January 30th, 2009 there is a "Black Tie" event at Graycliff Catering in Moonachie, NJ. There is no admission fee for this event and it is expected to draw more than 600 people. Any donation will be appreciated in order to support the projects of Cooley's Anemia Foundation and The Journey to Greece for our Youth. Special thanks to the owners of Graycliff Tony Papamarkos and Spyro Georgatos for providing the hall, the food, the drinks, even the invitations for this event at no charge. I hope to see all of you there!

Finally, I want to wish to everyone Happy Holidays and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

AHEPA VOICE

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AHEPA

Governor Ted Fanikos
Lt. Governor Phil Vogis
Secretary George Horiates
Treasurer Savas C. Tsivicos
Marshal William Harrison
Warden Sammy Thomas
Athletics Advisor Nick C. Mariolis
Sons Advisor Ted Vittas

DOP

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

District and National Websites

National www.ahepa.org
AHEPA Districts. www.ahepafamily.org
District Sports www.ahepasports.org

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UNDERSTANDING AHEPA:

The “E” in AHEPA Stands for Education.

There are so many programs for our young people to take advantage of to further their education and their knowledge of Hellenism. Thanks to AHEPA there are numerous scholarships and schools to attend. Below are just some of the programs to take advantage of in the coming months.



school juniors. It is a networking and mentoring program sponsored by AHEPA's District 3. It has traditionally been held in June at George Mason University in Washington, DC. For more information, visit their website at <http://www.ahepacademy.com/>

Chapter Scholarships – Most chapters have their own chapter scholarships. If you are lucky enough to belong to a chapter that has one, see your chapter officers for the details. Each year AHEPA awards tens of thousands of scholarship from the more than 400 chapters in the AHEPA domain.

The Odyssey Charter School – Located in Wilmington, Delaware, the Odyssey Charter School is AHEPA's first Greek language charter school. Intended for the primary grades the school is quickly growing because it offers a quality education at no

District 5 Scholarships – Each year the district awards numerous scholarships ranging in value from \$500 to \$1,000. The scholarships come from the \$4 per member that is assessed as part of the dues each member pays. The scholarships are for graduating high school seniors who will be attending college in the fall. Awards are given based on merit. Applicants must be the child or grandchild of an Ahepan. The deadline for applying is in early April. Applications are available from your Chapter Secretary.

cost to the students. Visit their website <http://www.odysseycharterschooldel.org/>

Adult Greek Language Classes – Sponsored by the Ramapo Chapter in Wyckoff, NJ these classes are intended for adults to learn their first Greek works. There are 2 levels offered, Beginner and Intermediate. Classes begin with the New Year. See the advertisement in this issue of the AHEPA Voice with more information.

National Scholarships – Scholarships are also available from our national AHEPA Educational Foundation. Check the website for applications and deadlines: <http://www.ahepaeducationalfoundation.org>

Journey to Greece – This is a trip to Greece for college students. Students travel to Athens to take courses on Greek language, history and culture. It is an accredited program from Indianapolis University. There is also an optional leg of the trip to Cyprus. Applications and deadlines can be found on the national AHEPA website: <http://www.ahepa.org/journey/>.



AHEPA Academy – This program is for high

Alexander Hamilton's Chapter #54



Alexander Hamilton's Chapter #54 season has begun with the business meeting in September and the brothers made a tentative plan for the rest of the year 2008. The first thing, it was discussed, was the support that we should be given to the Cancer Research Foundation Gala with a great number of attendance. To the people, who organized the Gala, they deserve a congratulatory applause for doing such a fine job all these years. Secondly, a presentation was made by Constantine Christakos, Chairman of the Canister Project, which with the rest of our senior brothers, started the project with the amount of \$5,000 and they brought that number to \$75,000!

The 50-50 project was a great success. The amount of \$1,060 was raised for benefiting the Cooley's Anemia Foundation. We would like thank everyone for supporting this noble cause and a special thanks to Mr. Unknown, the winner of the event, who donated all his winnings back to the Foundation.

Our Christmas Party was of a great success, with more than 70 people participated to give a special holiday feeling. The management of Rudy's Restaurant made a great effort to please everyone and he succeeded. Special thanks to our new brother and owner of the restaurant for his great support. We also would like to congratulate our four brothers who received their 50 year old pin. Special reference must be made for our brothers Dimitri Melis and Louis Demison Past Presidents and brother John Betts, who makes a great job for twenty years as a secretary of our chapter.

Our Membership Drive marked a great success. We had a 20% increase of our membership and we keep trying to sign up even more. Finally, special thanks to our District Lodge for their visitation to our Chapter which was very warm and informative. We would like to wish to all the Brothers and Sisters Happy Holidays and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

TRENTON CHAPTER #72

From all the brothers of the Trenton Chapter #72, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. During the fall, we have had many events and look forward to many more. We have participated in our monthly meetings, as well as our social workshop sessions every Monday night at the AHEPA Hall.

Our 7th Annual AHEPA Trenton Golf Classic was held on October 14th at the Mountain View Golf Course in Ewing. We had over 90 golfers, great gifts, and a great lunch and dinner. As a result of the hard work by the brothers as well as the generosity of our sponsors, we are able to presents scholarship awards to students of our community in June as they go off to college. We welcome everyone to next year's Golf Classic on October 13, 2009; as well as to our scholarship awards night in June.

Another event that we are looking forward to is the 5th District Order of AHEPA trip to St. Basil Academy in New York. The children will present the St Basil Christmas Pageant on Saturday, December 13th followed by the brotherhood presenting Christmas gifts to the children. This is a wonderful event and one you will not forget.

During the holiday season we should especially remember those less fortunate than ourselves. Let us as brothers continue to help our communities and continue to raise funds for the needy, have clothing drives, food kitchens and/or blood drives. Let us strive to be examples and models for the youth and show them what brotherhood is about.

We are also looking forward to our annual Christmas Dinner. This will be held at the AHEPA Hall on Tuesday, December 16th and we hope to share in each other's company. The food, drink and desserts will be great, but the friendship and company will be better.

A reminder that the District Convention will be hosted by the Trenton AHEPA family on June 6th at the Crowne Plaza in Jamesburg, New Jersey. Details and additional information will follow.

Again Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Let it be safe and health one.

AHEPA FIFTH DISTRICT CULTURAL PROGRAM STILL GOING STRONG



Camden Chapter 69 teams up with Wilmington Chapter 95 to sponsor "The Bacchae" Greek tragedy by Euripides



ter. Also offering his congratulations was Fifth District Secretary George G. Horiates to both gentlemen and to the actresses in the play itself.

The director noted that ancient Greek tragedies, beyond works of art, are the starting points of western civilization. His decision to stage the show exclusively with actresses was innovative. This was Mr. Loizides' first time touring abroad with his Theatre Scheme and both Camden and Wilmington Chapters were proud to play a part in it. Indeed, the Fifth District is proud of its role in the promotion of Greek culture and of the involvement of Ahepa in quality Greek theatre abroad.

The following is a brief introduction to Euripides' Bacchae in its cultural context

As set forth by Roger Travis, Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Connecticut

Euripides' tragedy Bacchae (Dionysiac Women) was performed for the first time in Athens' Theatre of Dionysus, at the foot of the Acropolis, in the spring of 406 BCE. In the spring of 406, if our report is true (and there is little reason to doubt it), Euripides had just died in Macedonia, at the palace of King Archelaos, far from Athens. The Athenian polis (city-state) was not as she had been, and Euripides' absence must have been one of the least noticeable changes for the worse, though we are told that Sophocles, himself an older man than Euripides, made the moving gesture of bringing his own chorus on in mourning at that festival.

Are there powers of the modern world that seek, as Athens sought, to ensure that, as Pericles put it, "The things of the rest of the world flow into them because of their greatness"? Euripides' Dionysus might say to them, as he said to Athens in the guise of Pentheus, "You do not know how you live, nor what you do, nor who you are".

On Friday October 17, 2008, Camden Chapter 69 and Wilmington Chapter 95 played prominent roles in the sponsorship and promotion of "The Bacchae", a Greek Tragedy by Euripides under the theatrical scheme of Leonidas Loizides.

For many years now, the Fifth District has taken an active role in the sponsorship and promotion of worthwhile Hellenic Cultural endeavors throughout the district including guest speakers on the History of Modern Greece, The Smyrna Catastrophe, district wide cultural celebrations and last year a presentation by Andrew Kakouris, Cypriot Ambassador to the United States. The first of its kind theatrical presentation of "The Bacchae" in Media, PA was one of the Fifth District's greatest accomplishments in that vein.

In addition to Ahepa, the impetus for the program was from the Greek National Tourism Association, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hellenic Cultural Organization, World Counsel of Hellenes Abroad, Hellenic News of America and the Cultural Organization of the City of Athens. Each organization played an integral role in the evening's success. The theatre was filled with many Ahepans from the local chapters as well as outside the district from Philadelphia and even Baltimore.

The play itself was directed by Leonidas Loizides, whose work in producing and directing the theatrical interpretation of the Greek Tragedy met with critical acclaim as this was the first time "The Bacchae" had been performed in the United States under his adaptation. The composer, Demetrios Katis, was also present and received many congratulations from the crowd for his outstanding work performance.

Upon conclusion of the play, Mr. Loizides received a plaque from Mr. Dimitrios Rozanitis, President of Camden Chapter in honor of the event. Mr. Katis was recognized by Mr. Demitrios Dandalos, President of Wilmington, DE Chap-



Seed Grants Awarded at Nineteenth Annual Fall Gala Fifth District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation



Edison, N.J., November 1, 2008 - marked the Nineteenth Annual Fall Gala for the Fifth District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation, Inc. at the Pines Manor, Edison, New Jersey. The annual event is a festive conclusion to the year's efforts of fundraising for cancer research as well as an evening of honoring the recipients of the Grant Research Awards, whose goals are to analyze cancer in hope of a better understanding of finding a cure for this atrocious disease.

Since the Fifth District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation's humble beginnings in 1989, the funds raised for the "Grant Research Awards" has been achieved through canister collections, bowl-a-thons and direct mail campaigns. The Foundation has awarded \$625,000 in the form of 38 Grant Research Awards to various institutions for cancer research in the states of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Grant Awards, by Chairman Andrew C. Zachariades and Grants Chairman Stathia Marousis to four institutions that specialize in cancer research.

This year's recipients were the Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ for their study on Pediatric Brain Tumors, by the research team of Dr. John Glod, Dr. Dimitris N. Metaxas and Dr. Debartha Banajee. Dr. Glod gladly accepted the \$10,000 grant to continue the next phase of his study.

Children's Blood & Cancer Foundation/Weill Cornell Medical College, New York for their study on Tumor Metastasis Research by Dr. David Lyden and Dr. Marianna Pappaspryridonos; they also received a \$10,000 grant. The doctors were pleased to inform the attendees of the progress of their study and are working intensively towards completing and publishing their new findings.

St. Lukes-Roosevelt Hospital/Columbia University, New York also received a \$10,000 grant for their study on Prostate Cancer by Dr. Scott M. Kahn, in collaboration with Drs. Nicholas Romas and William Rosner. Dr. Kahn extended his deep appreciation for the continued support of his study.

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA for their study on the Origin of B Cell Chronic Lymphocyte Leukemia (Blood Cancer) Lori Gallagher, Corporate Relations Coordinator was elated

to receive the \$10,000 grant on behalf of the research team at Fox Chase Cancer Center.

The Axios Award, it is presented to an individual or individuals whose humanitarian purposes and endeavors contribute to finding a cure for cancer, unselfishly and devoutly in the name of mankind. This year the award was presented to Princeton, NJ resident, Dr. William N. Hait, Senior Vice President, Worldwide Head of Hematology and Oncology for Johnson & Johnson.

Due to Dr. Hait's busy work schedule, traveling abroad for medical conferences, Paula Hunchar, Executive Director of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation accepted the award on his behalf. In February of 2009 the Fifth District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation will host a Cocktail Reception Fundraiser to officially present Dr. Hait with his award.

Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson, Dr. Hait was the founding Director of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey and Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology and Associate Dean for Oncology Programs at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School from January 1993 to March 2007. Under Dr. Hait's leadership, The Cancer Institute



of New Jersey was successful in obtaining cancer center designation from the National Cancer Institute in 1996 and received the National Cancer Institute's highest designation of Comprehensive Cancer Center in 2002.

The Foundation's first Humanitarian Award was presented to Brick Township resident Monica Vermeulen, Executive Director of The Ashley Lauren Foundation. A cancer survivor herself, Monica experienced first hand, the pain involved in having a child with cancer. Having lived through the unexpected hardships of pediatric cancer, she realized how important the need for support was during this difficult time. Her passion is to reach out with hope and help to other families that are coping with the same difficulties in New Jersey.

Gifts to the Foundation were presented from Canister Collections Chairman, Gus Christakos in the amount of \$5000. Gus, a prostate cancer survivor, stressed the importance of cancer screening, stating that early detection of cancer saves lives. As well, Bowl for Cancer Chairman, Dino Genakos presented a check for \$5,000. Collectively both programs have garnered approximately \$400,000 since their inception..

District 5 Workshop a Huge Success

For any member new to AHEPA, the organization can be a bit of a mystery. There are 5 aspects to the mission, there are so many programs and a rich history. Getting a handle on all this can be a bit daunting. That is why the District Lodge annually holds one, if not two workshops for the leadership of the District.

This year, the District 5 workshop was held in the community of Holmdel on Saturday, November 8th. The new venue brought out a great crowd, one of the best ever! There were chapter officers present

Lt. Governor Phil Vogis did a fine job serving as the Chairman. Each Lodge member made a presentation to the audience. There were presentations on Social Networking given by Warden Sammy Thomas, finances and cultural programs given by George Horiates, philanthropic projects



from most of the chapters in the district. Also present were numerous Past District Governors as well as members of the Sons of Pericles Lodge.

by Marshal Bill Harrison, athletics by Nick Mariolis, the Internet given by Ted Vittas, National news, membership and the Greek parade given by Supreme

Governor Louis Arvanitis. In addition, Jim Giokas President of the Ramapo Chapter informed everyone of their Greek language school and their plans to start an AHEPA charter school. The next District Convention report was given by Lee Millas along with other members of the Trenton Chapter. Scholarships were covered by PDG Chris Sevast. Members of the Sons of Pericles Lodge were present. A presentation on their goals was given by District Governor George Sarris as well as Sons Supreme Treasurer Charalambos Tsivikos.

A scrumptious lunch was prepared by Louis Arvanitis and members of the Garden State chapter helped set up and serve. During the meal there was plenty of time to enjoy the fellowship of the brothers present. At the end of the program we left a bit wiser on the activities of the Order of AHEPA.

EAGLE ROCK DISTRICT LODGE VISITATION



Eureka Chapter #52

Eureka Chapter 52 celebrated Veterans Day by hosting a social get-together at JR Tobacco in Whippany. The brothers enjoyed good cigars, food, drinks and especially good company. As a result of the good turn out, we were able to raise some funds for our Chapter's scholarship fund.

Our next event will be on Tuesday, February 10th. We will be hosting a wine tasting event with a Sommelier @ The Marco Polo in Summit. The focus will be on trying some good Greek wines. Everyone is welcome to join us with their significant others and friends. This event will be to raise money for our scholarship fund. There will also be an opportunity to purchase some of these wines to take home. A portion of the wine sales will go to a donation to the AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation. For more information or to confirm attendance please contact Andreas Yanniotis @ 908-672-0925 or andreas_yanniotis2@comcast.net.

JOURNEY TO GREECE 2009



Duration

The first session starts July 5 and runs for two weeks, ending July 18. The second session starts July 20 and runs until August 12. Discounts are offered to students opting to take both sessions and to students who are returning.

Courses

Classes celebrating Greek language, culture and history are offered each year providing both an unforgettable learning experience and up to nine transferable university credits (if students attend both sessions). Academic credit is transferred to a student's home institution by an official transcript issued by the University of Indianapolis.

Session 1

Students take the following course for 3 credits:

- Modern Greek Society & Culture

Session 2

Students choose two courses for 6 credits:

- Modern Greek Language (Beginning and Intermediate Conversational and Written Greek)
- Ancient Greek Plays
- E.U. & Greek Foreign Policy
- History of the Orthodox Church

Courses incorporate visits to the archaeological sites and museums. Students will also benefit from use of the University Library, Computer lab, including internet access, and the magnificent University of Indianapolis Cultural Center located in the midst of the ancient ruins of Athens.

Accommodation

Students attending the program will be housed in apartments in very close proximity to the University in the Plaka area of Ath-

ens. Apartments are equipped with kitchen and laundry facilities, wireless internet and air conditioning.

The AHEPA Program Director and Counselors, as well as University staff, will be on hand to ensure the students' welfare.

Catering

Lunch is provided every weekday and breakfast and dinner are provided on excursions.

Excursions

Excursions, designed with learning in mind as much as having fun, form an integral part of the program.

In 2009 we are planning two short excursions in session 1 and a one week excursion to Constantinople and Northern Greece in session 2.

His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, has extended an invitation for JTG students to visit the Patriarchate and the Halki Seminary. This visit will also include several of the places of historical interest in Northern Greece.

Session 1

One Day Island Cruise

Two Day Excursion: Delphi-Rio-Olympia-Lagadia-Epidavros-Corinth Canal

Session 2

One week visit to Constantinople and Northern Greece: Lamia-Meteora-Thessaloniki-Kavala-Constantinople-Komotini-Xanthi-Vergina-Dion.

A New Sons of Pericles District Lodge is Organized



The Sons of Pericles in District 5 are very optimistic about the year ahead. They began the fall with a new District Lodge being organized and a new District Governor sworn in. The swearing in ceremony took place on Sunday, October 9th at the Synaxis At the Shore Restaurant in Asbury Park. It was lead by Supreme Treasurer, and outgoing Gover-

nor, Charalambos Tsivikos who swore in his successor George Sarris.

George has served the last two years as Lt. Governor of the district and also as an officer in the Asbury Park chapter. George is a freshman student at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. The remainder of the lodge has representation from each of the active chapters in the district.

Serving as Lt Governor will be Peter Logothetis, also of the Asbury Park chapter. Peter is a student at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ. District Secretary is Paul Toronidis, who will also be serving as President of the Paramus Chapter. District Treasurer is Christos Chrysanthou of Toms River. Christos is currently attending New York University. Finally, serving as Marshall is Arthur Kominos of Wyckoff Chapter, Patritha

317. Arthur is currently attending Berkley College in Paramus, NJ.

Appointed by Ted Fanikos to on serve the AHEPA District Lodge as Advisor to the Sons of Pericles is Past District Governor Ted Vitas. Ted is a former Supreme Governor in the Sons from 1984-1985 as well as a two-term Sons District Governor. His son John is currently the Secretary of the Wyckoff Chapter.

The Sons would like to congratulate Charalambos Tsivikos for his service as District Governor the last two years. Charalambos is quickly moving up the ranks of the Supreme Lodge. We hope to see him continue up the ranks and hopefully serve as Supreme President.

Also, a sincere thank you should go to outgoing Sons Advisor Asteris Fanikos who served in that capacity over the last two years.

CHRIS DIAMANTOUKOS, PDG TESTIMONIAL



Chris receives the Plato Award from Supreme Governor of Region 3 Louis Arvanitis



Chris Diamantoukos addresses all those present after receiving his accolades.



Chris receives an AHEPA medal with a framed certificate from Member of the Board of Directors and former Chairman, Lee Millas.



The District 5 Lodge present Chris with his Past District Governor's jewel. Making the presentation to the immediate right is Lt Governor Phil Vogis.

On Sunday, October 18, 2008, Camden Chapter 69 hosted a testimonial dinner honoring PDG Chris Diamantoukos at the Lobster Trap Restaurant overlooking scenic Cooper River Park in Pennsauken, NJ. Over 80 people attended from all over the district to be with Brother Chris during this event.

Remarks on behalf of Chris were given by Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis, Member of Board of Trustees Lee Millas, District Lieutenant Governor Phil Vogis and many others. Of course, the master of ceremonies for the event was District Secretary George G. Horiates. There were many past district governors whom attended the event to honor our most recent past district governor. A thank you goes out to all that attended this event from the four corners of our district.

The current district lodge presented Chris with his past district governor jewels. Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis and Ahepa Board member Lee Millas made special presentations. Chris was presented with a statue of Solon by Camden Chapter President Dimitrios Rozanitis. The highlight was a presentation of the poem "Ahepa" by Zaharati Morfesis of the Nike Chapter Daughters of Penelope. The entire program was videotaped by Past District Governor George Burlotos for the Delaware Valley's "Greek Spirit" television program and was aired on both October 26 and November 2, 2008.

All whom attended enjoyed a fine meal. Brother Chris was overwhelmed by the presentations and by the attendance and gave an eloquent response to all. Congratulations to Brother Chris. PANDA AXIOS !!

Monroe Chapter #75 Thanksgiving Dinner took place on November 19th at the Sherbans Diner South Plainfield and it was very well attended. At this evening we presented the service pins to the brothers who completed the required in good standing with AHEPA.

We presented 25 pins to two brothers Dimos Amaxopoulos and Dean Nikolaou.

At this time we presented the AHEPA of the year award to brother George Athanasopoulos. George is a well deserving brother because whenever there is a need for the Chapter he is always there to help.

Chapter President
Stanley Gerondelis

Monroe Chapter #75 Thanksgiving Celebration



Eleni Chakalos Testimonial



Brother Ahepans Bill Parlamis, Phil Vogis and Louis Arvanitis attended a testimonial dinner for Presvytera Eleni Chakalos. The dinner was held at the Garden State Arts Center on Tuesday, Nov 11, 2008. The event was sponsored by the Kimisis Tis Theotokou parish in Holmdel NJ. Brother Ahepan Bill Parlamis was the Master of Ceremonies. The Hellenic Dancers performed as well for Presvytera, who was their founder and Director for over 20 years. It was one of their best performances and a night filled with love for the Presvytera.

AHEPA RAMAPO PROGRAM OF GREEK LANGUAGE CLASSES FOR ADULTS

As it enters its third year of classes, the Modern Greek Language Program for Adults organized by the Ramapo 453 Chapter of AHEPA is planning to continue with its Spring 2009 Semester offering Modern Greek I and II classes at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Wyckoff.

Beginning Friday, February 6, 2009, AHEPA Ramapo president Jim Giokas is organizing an Intermediate Modern Greek II class that will be offered with another Beginner's class of Modern Greek I. Beyond that, Mr. Giokas has a further ambitious goal of enriching this Adult Education Program with classes on Greek Culture and Greek Heritage.

The Ramapo Chapter of AHEPA has taken the lead on this wonderful initiative, but the program is open to anyone in the greater Greek-American community and AHEPA family that is interested in learning conversational Greek and bringing the Greek language to their homes.

For more details about upcoming classes and registration, please contact Jim Giokas at mbrooklyn48@msn.com or at 201-664-7002.

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DISTRICT 5 & 6 LEADERSHIP MEET IN ASTORIA



Leadership from AHEPA districts 5 (NJ&DE), 6 (NY) & 7 (CT) got together on Monday night October 6th at Samati's Restaurant in Astoria, NY for an evening of delicious Greek food and to do the work of the Order. A seminar was put together by Louis Arvanitis, Supreme Governor of Region 3. Also on hand from the Supreme Lodge was Supreme Vice President Nick Karakostas.

Three years ago at the Supreme Convention, the delegates present in Hollywood, FL voted to consolidate the 27 districts into regions. In doing so, it was hoped that a new level of cooperation would begin among districts. The Supreme Governor would not be an at-large position but he would be responsible for membership in several districts. District 5 was combined with District 6 to form Region 3.

The districts have cooperated before. We have had combined conventions and conferences in Atlantic City. The district lodges had met before too at Stamati's. Each year we also march together in the New York Greek Independence Day Parade. However now, there are definitely more meetings and cooperation with the "six-ers" has never been stronger, after two years in the same region.

Friendships have been forged and the leadership has gone through a getting acquainted period.

Many matters were discussed at this seminar that included increasing membership, educational programs like the Journey to Greece and scholarship programs which was talked about by Joe Keane, chairman of the AHEPA Education Foundation. Athletics programs were discussed by Costa Papademitriou, the national basketball chairman. A good deal of discussion centered around the Greek Independence Day parade and the use of the AHEPA float. One idea was to put the Ahepans of the Year from each chapter on the float. There were numerous other presentations like



leveraging the Internet and having another combined convention as we did two years ago in Atlantic City.

Present at the seminar were many Past Supreme and District Governors from both districts. Although we arrived home rather late from the night out it proved to be very beneficial. Next time it may be on our side of the Hudson.

EVZONE CHAPTER # 405

A reply to Supreme Treasurer, Anthony Kouzounis of Houston Texas

On behalf of Evzone Chapter 405, I wanted to thank you for your generous letter, congratulating us for last weeks initiation/luncheon. Your letter, along with others we have received, will be read and circulated to all of our members next week at our Christmas Dinner. We're also delighted, you traveled from the Lone Star State, Houston, Texas and participated in the event.

This is also an opportunity to thank all of you as well for attending, participating and sharing brotherhood with us. Certainly, we're also proud we could share the fraternal experience with all of you. The event is

the talk of the town in our region and has greatly enhanced AHEPA's image in the larger marketplace.

Joe Keane has performed brilliantly as Evzone President and his well earned Lifetime Achievement Award and his election as Chair of AHEPA's National Education Foundation is a fitting tribute to his commitment to Hellenism, Education and Brotherhood. In addition, you saw first hand, Evzone is fortunate to have tiers of talented brothers who are top performers. This collection of professionals from diverse industries has made Evzone a very

special chapter. In addition, virtually every member of our parish council are members of Evzone. And of course, Father Nick is our Chaplain.

Again, we're grateful for the support from the Supreme Lodge, the delegations from the Garden State, Yankee and Empire State Districts and from Washington, D.C. It was the type of event that generates pride and enthusiasm and builds a desire to belong. That's what its all about. Indeed, it was a remarkable experience. Thank you.

Warmest greetings for the holiday season!

Joe Keane, receives Lifetime Achievement Award, Chapter Membership climbs to 125

Joe Keane, Evzone New Rochelle, Chapter #405, President received the Chapter's Lifetime Achievement Award on Saturday, December 6, at the Westchester Country Club in Rye, New York. In an earlier glittering ritualistic initiation ceremony, the Chapter initiated 15 new members raising the Chapter's membership to more than 125, making Evzone the largest Chapter in the Empire State.


AHEPANs, including Supreme Vice President Nicholas Karacostas, Supreme Secretary Dr. John Grossomanides, Supreme Treasurer Anthony Kouzounis, Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis, and Lt. Governor Gus Drivas District 6, attended the Chapter's annual initiation/luncheon tribute honoring Brother Joe. In addition, Garden State District Governor Ted Fanikos and Yankee District Governor Nicholas Nikas attended with delegations. AHEPA's Board of Trustees were ably represented by Lee Millas. Jim Poll, Chairman of AHEPA's Committee for St. Basil's Academy was also in attendance.

Evzone's Master of Ceremonies was Past President Zachary Marantis. Last year's Lifetime Achievement award recipient, Tom Dushas, was Co-Chairman along with Chapter Vice President of Membership, James Zafiros.

President Keane, one of AHEPA'S longest serving Chapter Presidents (18 Years) gave an eloquent address to more than 120 AHEPANs during the luncheon. Supreme Vice President Karacostas responded




ed with exceptionally moving remarks about Brother Joe and the Chapter's year long commitment to Hellenism, Education and to the Westchester Community. He also congratulated him on his election to the Chairmanship of AHEPA's National Educational Foundation and paid tribute to the Chapter's members for their commitment to AHEPA and their service to the community.



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201-939-9233

ANTHONY PAPAMARKOS
SPYROS GEORGATOS



WEDDINGS AND BANQUETS
BUSINESS AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

OCEAN COUNTY CHAPTER #467

On June 12, 13 and 14, 2009, the AHEPA Family will be sponsoring its third annual Spring Festival called "A Taste of Greece." The AHEPA has made a commitment to purchase the interior furnishings for the Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Toms River that are needed for the Church's consecration. Proceeds from the Spring Festival will be used for the purchase of a new bishop's throne, the second bishop's chair in the altar, the chanter's stand, and candle boxes and candle stands for the narthex. To date, the AHEPA has donated \$34,000 to the Church for new, interior Church furnishings.

AHEPA FAMILY VISITS WITH THE CHILDREN OF ST BASIL'S ACADEMY

The AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope Lodges along with numerous members of District 5 visited St. Basil's Academy in Garrison, NJ on Saturday December 13th. The guests included Basile, the renowned Greek American comedian. Everyone went to St



Hudson #108, Jersey City, NJ
Monroe #75, Piscataway, NJ
Morris County #300, Morristown, NJ
Ocean County #467, Toms River, NJ
Ramapo #453, Wyckoff, NJ
Thomas Edison #287, Asbury Park, NJ
Trenton #72, Trenton, NJ
Wilmington #95, Wilmington DE,



Basil's to see the kids perform their annual Christmas Pageant.

The Lodges also came bearing gifts donated from the chapters throughout the District. Each child was presented a gift card from the membership of AHEPA and Daughters of District 5.

The AHEPA District Lodge would like to acknowledge the following AHEPA chapters who made donations to the children of St Basil's.

Alexander Hamilton #54, Paramus, NJ
Bergen Knights #285, Tenafly, NJ
Camden #69, Cherry Hill, NJ



VISITATION TO D6 CHAPTER IN PORT WASHINGTON NY





Have a Merry and Blessed Christmas

Past Supreme Governors

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Tom Pappas

Ernie Tsaptsinos, Past Member, Board of Directors

Past District Governors

Herbert P. Allen

Louis Arvanitis

George Burlotos

Dino Callas

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Norman James

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Gust Kraras

Spiros Livanis

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Christopher Sevast

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Ted Vittas

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CHARLES KOUVEL
PETER KOUVAL
GEORGE KYREAKAKIS
GEORGE MANOS
VERY REV. A. MARKETOS
WILLIAM MASTIKOURIS
SPIROS MAVRIDIS
CHRIS MAVROS
JOHN MORAITIS
ALKIS PAPADOPOULOS
GABRIEL PAPADOPOULOS
JOHN D. PAPPAS
JOHN PETRIOS
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HARRY STEPHANOU
GEORGE E. SAKELLARIS
PETROS TAKAS
SIMEON TEVLETIDES
DEMETRIOS TSAKANIAS
APOSTOLOS TSANGARIS
SPYRO TSIELEPAS
DEMETRIOS VARIANIDES
CHRIS ZACHARIADES

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EVANGELOS ALEXOUDIS
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PANAGIOTIS CHRISTIANIS
GEORGE A. CUMMINGS
THOMAS DIMITRIU
KOSTAS DIMITROS
JOHN DINOS
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JOHN G. FRANGAKIS
PETER FRANGAKIS
DIMLTRIOS GEORGOULIANOS
KOSTAS GIANNIKOPOULOS
MICHAEL P. ISIHOS
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KOSTAS KANOS
CONSTANTINOS KARAYIANNIS
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KONSTANTINOS N. TZAFEROS
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HARALAMBOS KANOS
ANTHONY KASKABAS
GEORGE KLEKOS
DR. PAUL MASTORIDIS
GEORGE STERGIU.

THOMAS JEFFERSON #280

NIKOLAS AGATHIS
WILLIAM AGATHIS
GEORGE E. ANDRIANOS
CHRIS K. ANTHOLIS
JOHN K. ANTHOLIS
ANDREW P. ARBES
NICK L. BILLAS
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DINO GENAKOS
VAN GRAFAS
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ROBERT LOALBO
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HARRY A. PANAGOS
NICHOLAS PANTAGIS
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JOHN PAPPAS
GARFIELD PROVEL
GREGORY PSOMAS
WILLIAM M. SALLAS PHD.
STEFANOS SIDERIS
G. E. SKAMBAS
GEORGE SKORINKO
PAUL G. STAPPAS
BILL THEOFANOUS
ALEX VASILIADES
ISIDOROS VLATTAS
STRATA N. XENELIS
CONSTANTINE ZADES
WILLIAM ZERVAKOS

BERGEN KNIGHTS #285

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MICHAEL BONAMO
WILLIAM CARAS
CHRISTOPHER CORONEC
DIMITRIS DALLAS
DIMITRIOS DESDEKIS
NICK DIMITRIU
ANASTASIOS GEORGAS
JOHN C. GEORGINIS
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PETROS E. HALDOUPIS
DR. PETER B. HILARIS
WILLIAM P. KARADONTE;
NICK KATSAPIS
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DR. CHRIS KYRIAKIDES
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MIHAIL LILIKAS
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MARKJ.MELLS
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SOCRATES PAPPAS
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DR. JAMES A. TSIGOUNIS DOS
GEORGE TSOULIS
DR. ALKIS VAZACOPOULOS
JORDAN YUELYS
ANDREAS ZIGOURA

ASBURY PARK 287

NICK ANTONIOS
PETER A. BILLOWS
GEORGE CONSTANTINO
GEORGE DISAKIAS
JEROME FOKAS
ANTHONY F. GALONAKIS
ILIAS GAVAKIS
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DIMITRIOS HADJIMART
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EDWARD L. KRAEMER
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ATHANASIOS STEFANO
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THOMAS TSILIVITES
SAVAS C. TSLVICOS

CHAPTER #288

JAMES GOUMAS

MORRIS COUNTY #300

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JOHN R. KELLY
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OANNIS T. MARKOU
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NICHOLAS J. MASTRODIMOS
NICK MAVRAGC
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EFTHIMIOS PAPPADOPOULOS
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NICOS D. ROTSIDES
STELIOS D. ROTSIDES
HARRY J. SAKAS
APOSTOLOS SAKELLAROPOULOS
CONSTANTINE SEDEREAS
PETER C. SEDEREAS
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TAKIS N. SERETIS
VASLLIOS K. SERETIS
ALEX STAVROS
PROF. LOUKIS HEOCHARIDES
GEORGIOS TSIAMIS
PETE VELLIOS
DEAN VLAHOS
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GEORGE S. ZERIS
PETER S. ZERIS

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NICK BOUGADES
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JOHN CHAMBOUS
GORDON CONDOS
GEORGE COSMAS
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IOANNIS FLOROPOULOS
TAKIS P. DIONISOS
THOMAS G. GEANNAKAKES
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MILTON PANTAZIS
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THEORANIS PEEPAS
JIMMY E. SAVVIDES
PETER G. SERGIU

CHRIS SOPHOS
GUS TSILIKOS
THOMAS TSILIONIS
VASILIOS TSILIONIS
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SOLON VARDAKIS
CONSTANTINE M. VOVAKES

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HARRY KARAVANGELAS
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NICHOLAS D. KONIDES
GUST C. KRARAS
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WILLIAM A. MITCHELL
ANTONIOS PAPAGEORGIU
STELIOS PAPAIOANNOU
KONSTANTINOS PAPASPANOS
ANTHONY TRIVELIS

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CONSTANTINE ALETRAS
GEORGE ALETRAS
ANTHONY AMORATIS
NICK AMORATIS
ANTON AYVAS
EMANUEL AYVAS
CON BACALAKIS
MICHAEL BALLAI
GEORGE H. BEDOYA
STEPHEN (STEPHANOS) BOJEKIAN
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PHILIP A. BUFIS
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GEORGE CHARTOFILLIS
NICHOLAS CHARTOFILLIS
KYRIAKOS CHRISTODOULOU
SALVATORE CICATIELO
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CONSTANTINE CHASSAPIS
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MARC DEMETRIU
THEODORE DIMITRIU
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RICHARD DOLINSKY
HARRY N. DOUNCHIS, PHD
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NICHOLAS DRIVANOS
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PLATO ELIADES
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GEORGE GALEOS
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JAMES GOKAS
ATHANASIOS GOUGOUSIS
PAUL A. GOULET
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STAN HOLUBA
CHUCK HUMBLIAS
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DEMETRIOS KALTSIS
TED KARAS
NICHOLAS C. KARRAS
BILL KARSOS
STATHIS KATSAROS
VASILIS KATSIKIOTIS PHD
NICOLAOS A. KIRITSISCHRIS KITSOS
CONSTANTINE KOLOVOS
CONSTANTINE KOMINOS

JOHN KOMNINOS
 THOMAS J. KOMNINOS
 ALEXANDER A. KOUKOULAS, PHD
 JOHN H.KOULOOUTHROS
 PETER KYRIAKOULIS
 GUS LAINIS
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 ROBERT T. LEMON
 CONSTANTINE LENAS
 ANGELO LEFER
 VINCENT LONG
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 MICHAEL J. MAROSE
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 CHRISTOS N. MAVRIDIS
 BASIL P. MAVROVITIS
 BASSILIOS C. MEGARIOTIS
 MICHAEL MEIDANIS
 GEORGE MELLIDES
 LOUIS MELLIS
 NICHOLAS MICHAELS
 VASSILIOS MILCOS
 BOBBY P. MITROPOULOS
 THOMAS S. MONFRIED, ESQ.
 FR. JAMES MOULKETIS
 THEODORE MONOS
 HARRY NAFTPLIOTIS, PHD
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 CONSTANTINOS NIKOLAIDIS
 DOUGLAS OBERKIRCHER
 PETER PANTE LEAKIS
 COSTAS PAPADOPOULOS
 NICHOLAS PAPADOPOULOS
 GREGORY C. PAPALEXIS
 GEORGE N. PAPPAS
 NICHOLAS PAPPAS
 THOMAS N. PAPPAS
 GEORGE PASCHALIS
 EMMANUEL PITTAS
 ELIAS PLOMARTELOS
 CHRIS POULOS
 NIKOLAOS PROTONOTARIOS
 JOHN A. PROXINOS, PHD
 JOHN PSOMAS
 DR. CONSTANTINE ROSSAKIS
 THOMAS SAKARIS
 LEONIDAS SAVAS
 SAVAS SAVAS
 PAUL SAVIDIS
 CHRIS SAVOGLIOU
 ANDRESAYEGH
 CONSTANTINE SEDEREAS
 STEVEN J. SFUGARAS
 PRODROMOS SIRIS
 DONALD E. SLIKER
 JOHN SKOUTAKIS
 ARISTODEMOS STRATIS
 DEAN SYMEONIDES
 MICHAEL SYMEONIDES
 JAMES THASITES
 THOMAS SAKARIS
 SAMMY J. THOMAS
 MENELAOS TOSKOS
 ANTHONY T. TRIANT
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 NICK TSAPATSARIS
 DEAN TSELEPIS
 NORMAN A. TSACALIS
 JOHN TSADILAS
 PETER TSAIRIS, MD
 PETER S. TSATSARONIS, DDS
 NICHOLAS U. TSELEPIS
 JIM TSIAMTSIOURIS
 GUS TSOANOS
 ELIAS TSOUKAS, MD
 TED VITTAS
 PHILIP VOGIS
 JOHN ZANNIKOS
 PETER ZERVAS
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OCEAN COUNTY #467
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 ANDREAS KAIAFAS

ANDREW KYRIACOU
 ANGELOS TSOLAKIS
 ANTHONY TSAPTINOS
 ANTONIOS VERIKIOS
 CHRIS KARAMANOS
 CHRIS PAPAS
 CONG. ROBERT ANDREWS
 COSTA COUSOULIS
 COSTAS CALLAS
 DEMETRIOS KOUTSOUBIS
 DEMETRIS MALIOS
 DEMOSTHENES MAGEROS
 DENNIS KOSTOULAKOS
 DINO PANAS
 DR. GABRIEL GREGORY
 ERACLES PANAYIOTOU
 ERNIE TSAPTINOS
 FR. PAUL PAPPAS
 GEORGE DRIVANOS
 GEORGE GAMVAS
 GEORGE KYRIAKAKIS
 GEORGE MACKRES
 GEORGE SIAMPOS
 GUS KAKAVAS
 GUS PLOUMITSAKOS
 GUS RERES
 JAMES DIMITRION
 JAMES DRIVANOS
 JOHN GACOS
 JOHN KAKLAMANIS
 JOHN SEVASTAKIS
 JOHN XYLOPORTAS
 LAMBROS CONSTANTINO
 LAZAR GARO
 LOUIS KARAGIAS
 LOUIS LARRES
 NICHOLAS DEMOS
 NICHOLAS NICHOLS
 NICHOLAS PISTOLAKIS
 NICHOLAS RAPTIS
 NICHOLAS TSAPTINOS
 NICK SINGELAKIS
 NICKOLAS CRIST
 NORMAN JAMES
 NUFRY KARTALIS
 PERRY KELLY
 PETER GLIKERDAS
 PETER KALLOS
 PETER LINES
 PETER MAROUSIS
 PETER PETTEMERIDES
 ROD BOLEN
 SAVVAS KYRIACOU
 SOTIRIS SERGIOU
 STAVROS XANTHACOS
 STEVE CRIST
 STEVE KODOPIDIS
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CHAPTER #504
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 CHARLES GAVARIS
 DIMITRI GEANEAS
 JIM GEORGES
 THEO HADJITHEODOSIOU
 REPRESENTATIVE RUSH HOLT
 JOHNNY IOANNOU
 COSTAS KAIAFAS
 GEORGE KARATZIA
 GEORGE KATSINGRIS

BASIL KOTSIS
 JAMES LIAKIS
 GUS LIAPIS
 MICHAEL LOIZOU
 ARIS MANIOTIS
 ZACK MOROS
 FRANK MURPHY
 JIM NIKITPOPOULOS
 BILL NIKOLIS
 ALEXANDROS PANAYIDES
 SAVVAS PAPAASAVAS
 BILL PARLAMIS
 FLORIE PETROU
 SOTERIS PETROU
 COSTA PHILIPOU
 NICK PLAKOUDAS
 GREGORY PLOUSSAS
 THOMAS PROTENTIS
 ANTHONY SIDERIS
 ARTIE SOZOMENU
 STEVE SARANTAKOS
 FRANK THEOFLAKOS
 EMANUEL TSARNAS, ESQ
 JIM ZAMANIS
 WILLIAM ZAMANIS

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 MARLENE BLANOS
 HELEN CALATHOS
 BESS EFSTATHIOU
 HELEN GEOTAKES
 MARIA GEVAS
 COLUMBIA IPPOLITTO
 ELENI A. KAZANTZIS
 ASPASIA LINARDAKIS
 OLGA MACRIS
 MARY T. MAROLAKOS
 MARY G. MAROULAKOS
 EVA MICHELUDIS
 JANEEN PAPTAEODOROU
 NORMA POULAKOS
 DIANA STATHOPOULOS
 PENELOPE STAVRON
 MARY THEODOS
 KATHRYN VASILIOU
 BETTY VULGARIS
 IRENE WILCOX
 K. BARBARA ZOIS

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 DELORES BEHLOS
 CONNIE CHOKAS, VICE PRESIDENT
 DESPINA HATZELIS
 KATINA HATZELIS
 STAVROULA IGNATIOU
 MARIA KARRAS ,SECRETARY
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 MARY VALLORY
 EYELYN VARDAKIS, PDG
 SANDRA VARDAKIS
 MARY VARIANIDES
 HELEN VORRIUS
 ARETL YIANNIOYITS

**HAVE A
 HAPPY
 NEW YEAR**

Over Twenty New Ahepans Are Initiated into District 5



All candidates raise their hand and take the oath as it is administered by Supreme Secretary Dr. John Grossomanides.



The degree team mans their stations as the initiation ceremony is about to begin. The degree team consisted of John Mehos, Phil Vogis, Ted Vittas, Stephen Ferranti, Andy Zachariades and George Horiates.

Friday, December 5, 2009, Montvale, NJ – In a crowded restaurant dining room in northern NJ, close to 70 Ahepans came together from districts 5 (NJ/DE) and 6 (NY) to welcome in over 20 new members to the fraternity. It was a tremendous success for District 5 as a mass initiation was orga-

nized under the leadership of Supreme Governor of Region 3, Louis Arvanitis.

The initiates represent 5 different chapters in northern NJ; Ramapo (Wyckoff), Bergen Knights (Tenafly), Eureka (Union), Eagle Rock (Orange) and Hudson (Jersey City). The initiation was conducted by a newly formed degree team put together just for this occasion. The degree team performed the newly abridged ritual which instructed each candidate on the ideals and history of our order. The room was properly decorated with the stations in their place and large American and Greek flags adorned the dining room. Raising their right hand, the candidates recited their oath, which officially made them brothers. The candidates were then instructed on the secrets of the order and proper meeting procedure.

The evening began with dinner, as host Louis Arvanitis and his staff at Eleni's Pancake House put together a delicious macaronada dinner with arni (lamb) kokinisto. The dinner was topped off with coffee and galaktobouriko. All raved about the dinner and those who frequent Eleni's know it is one of chef Louie's specialties.

There were many dignitaries on hand, some had traveled great distances. Traveling the furthest was our Supreme Treasurer, Anthony Kouzounis, of Houston Texas. Also, from the Supreme Lodge was Dr. John Grossomanides of Westerly, Rhode Island. Attending from AHEPA Headquarters was AHEPA Executive Director, Basil Mossaides. From Trenton was Lee Millas, a mem-



District Governor Ted Fanikos of Trenton, NJ addresses the new initiates after the ceremony. Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis is at his side.



Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis welcomes everyone as the ceremony is about to begin.

ber of the Board of Trustees. In addition, present were numerous Past Supreme officers and Past District Governors as well as District Lodge members from both districts.

It is no doubt that this is what Ahepans had hoped for when the region concept was formed two years ago. It was hoped that the two districts working together would produce synergies that would benefit both districts. Both have been working well together for the good of the Order. This event will be followed by a similar event in Westchester County in New York. The two districts have hosted combined events several times over the past two years, the last event being a workshop at Stamati's Restaurant in Astoria, New York.

It is important that all members greet these neophytes into the chapter. At your next meeting introduce yourself to the new brothers. Make them feel welcome and share some Christmas cheer with them. It will be time well spent.

Past District Governors Christmas Party



Past District Governors of District 5 enjoy an evening of fellowship and holiday cheer at the annual PDG Christmas Party held at Mastoris Diner in Trenton. The dinner was on Monday evening, December 15th. Special guest was Rev Fr. Paul Pappas (seated in center) of St Barbara's Church in Toms River. He was a PDG of The Buckeye District #11.

Second Annual Halloween Bash



The start of the holiday season was commemorated when The Sons of Pericles (Paramus, NJ) hosted its Second Annual Halloween Bash on Saturday, November 1, 2008. Held at Biagio's Ristorante in Paramus, NJ, over 100 people socialized at the buffet and open bar costume party. Music, and entertainment was provided by DJ Jeffrey Balkin. President, and chairman of the event Paul Toronidis asserts, "The charity event was, and continues to be a huge success at bringing the Greek youth together."



AHEPA Ramapo Chapter 453
American Hellenic Education Progressive Association

GREEK LANGUAGE CLASSES FOR ADULTS

If you are interested in learning to speak conversational Greek in 12 simple lessons, please contact Jim Giokas for more information about classes and registration at:

201-664-7002 or mbrooklyn48@msn.com

Additional information at
<http://www.ahepa453.org/test>



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www.ahepa453.org

WYCKOFF SONS UPDATE

WYCKOFF, NJ – The Sons of Pericles Patritha Chapter #317 from Wyckoff, New Jersey hosted the first annual Wyckoff Volleyball Classic on Saturday, October 25. Teams from across New Jersey competed in a friendly and co-ed environment. The winner was Essex House of Orange, who defeated the older group of Sons from Wyckoff in a thrilling three game encounter. Trophies were presented to each of final two teams as well as the third place GOYA team from Wyckoff. The Wyckoff Sons intend to host the tournament again next year. All Greeks are accepted.

The Wyckoff Sons have the following plans for 2009:

The second annual Winter Getaway trip to the Pocono's in eastern Pennsylvania. Last year, the trip included snow tubing, Sons initiations, video games, swimming, ping-pong, and poker, and will once again take place on President's Day Weekend.

The fourth annual Eastern Regional Basketball Tournament, this spring. The date has not yet been finalized. The defending champs from Philadelphia as well as former champs from Virginia



Joe Katsikiotis, Athletic Director of the Wyckoff Patritha 317 presents the championship volleyball trophy to The Essex House team from Orange.

and North Carolina look to preserve their crown against a barrage of challengers.

Finally, a fundraiser for Cooley's Anemia is being planned for early January. Last year, Patritha #317 donated \$1,000 to the AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation from this event.

Submitted by John Vittas

OBITUARY

LITTLE RIVER, SC—Philip Louis Michaels, 84, passed away Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008. He was born March 31, 1924 in New York City, a son of the late Louis and Mary K. Michaels.



Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Theognosia "Tess" Michaels; his three children, Lee Michaels and wife, Billie, of Longs, and Nick Michaels and wife, Linda, and Elizabeth "Liz" Sliker and husband, Don, all of Little River.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2008 at the St. Johns the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Myrtle Beach. Burial followed in Southeastern Memorial Gardens in North Myrtle Beach.

Phil was the retired owner of Michael's Laundromat in Union, NJ.

He was most recently a member of Ramapo Chapter #453 in Wyckoff, but retired to Little River, South Carolina. Past offices that he had served in the AHEPA were Chapter Secretary and Vice President. These were probably with the Bergen Knights chapter of Tenafly.

George G. Horiates Attorney at Law

Member of NJ & PA Bars and US Supreme Court

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AHEPAcademy

Attention Greek-American High School Juniors: Don't Miss Your Chance to Be a Part of the AHEPAcademy Class of 2009

Apply for the opportunity to be one of a small, select group of Greek-American high school students selected from all over the country to participate in AHEPAcademy, an interactive leadership and networking seminar to be held on the campus of George Mason University outside Washington, DC from June 21-27, 2009.

AHEPAcademy is a program that identifies, educates, inspires, mentors, advances, and networks exceptional Greek-American high school students as they progress through their high school, college, graduate and professional careers.

Graduates of AHEPAcademy are eligible for further mentoring, access to a nationwide network of internships, and participation in continuing internet-based networking and learning opportunities throughout their academic careers and beyond. AHEPAcademy provides instruction and inspiration by prominent Greek-American and Philhellene instructors from the academic, professional, and public service fields across the United States.

AHEPAcademy is looking for exceptional Greek-American high school juniors during the 2008-2009 school year with top grades (minimum 3.5/4.0 GPA or equivalent or Top 10% of Class), who exemplify scholarship, leadership, character, participation in extracurricular activities, community service, and involvement in the Greek-American community to apply for selection in next summer's AHEPAcademy on Campus program.

Applications for AHEPAcademy are now available on www.AHEPAcademy.com. The first deadline for submission of completed applications to AHEPAcademy is March 1, 2009, but please contact AHEPAcademy and your local AHEPA Chapter as soon as possible to indicate your interest in applying for the program and regarding your eligibility to receive a scholarship from your local AHEPA Chapter for your participation in the AHEPAcademy on Campus program.

For more information, please visit www.AHEPAcademy.com or email AHEPAcademy at info@AHEPAcademy.com.



HUDSON CHAPTER 108 OCTOBERFEST



Hudson Chapter 108 would like to thank all who attended and contributed to their annual Octoberfest. This year it was held on Saturday, October 4th at the Evangelismos Community Center.

HUDSON HAPPENINGS

On Saturday, October 4th 2008 the Hudson Ahepa Family, Hudson Chapter #108 and Icarus #48 (DOP), hosted their Annual Octoberfest. A \$15.00 ticket included a full course dinner with desserts, DJ music and a raffle of many gifts. The members of both chapters worked very hard for a successful evening and we must thank the sisters and brothers from other chapters along with the District Lodges for their support. We are also grateful to the many businesses that donated for the success of this evening.

Hudson Chapter #108 recently initiated two new members to our chapter our Presiding Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Dionysios A. Marketos and Brother Costas Stampellos. Conducting the initiation were our District Governor Ted Fanikos and the District Lodge and Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis. We welcome the new initiates and hope they will become active members of Hudson Chapter #108.

Our chapters are preparing for their Christmas Dinner party on December 11, 2008. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone throughout our District a Peaceful and Joyous Christmas and a New Year filled with Happiness and Good Health.

ALEXANDER #250

After a summer hiatus, the Daughters of Randolph embarked on another busy year. Pres. Anna Zavros along with several sisters attended the District Workshop. The event proved to be very informative and gave everyone an opportunity to share ideas. DG Demi did an outstanding job. We enjoy a close relationship with all of the ministries of St. Andrew. In October we attended a "Panigri" for the benefit of our Sunday school. Many of our Sisters added to the success of the event by helping to prepare and serve delicious mezedakia, souvlakia, pastitsio, lamb, coffee, and desserts. Our community held a "Throw Down at St. Andrew Kitchen" contest to determine who has the BEST Marinara Sauce recipe. Here, too although we were not directly competing, we helped and supported this fun event. Good food and good fun; everyone had a great time! Proceeds from this event went to aid a family where the mother of quadruplets (age 12) is suffering from cancer.

November we joined with many to support the most worthy, AHEPA Cancer Foundation. We have traditionally sponsored a fall trip to Atlantic City and on November 8th a bus full of enthusiastic "players" embarked on a day which would yield a couple of casino winners and no doubt, a fun filled day for everyone! Founders' Day was celebrated with hosting the fellowship hour and for the first time, we had very successful loukoumades sale. We thank one of our loyal supporters, Angelo Zingaro for "slaving" over the loukoumades machine. While we enjoyed ourselves preparing for the joys of the coming Christmas Season, we gave pause to remember others not as fortunate. We participated with the Philoptochos in collecting for local food pantries, donated new and gently used coats, scarves, and gloves for needy families and in lieu of a gift exchange, at our DOP/Philoptochos Christmas Party we made contributions to Habitat for Humanity. This has become a long standing tradition for us.

We will be joining our brother AHEPAns for a Christmas celebration and will co-host a New Year's Eve Party in our St. Andrew Community Center. Proceeds will benefit the St. Andrew Community and various AHEPA/DOP projects.

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OBITUARY



Anastasios Koukeas, also known as Tasso the captain, passed away on November 21, 2008, from heart disease at the age of 75. Tasso was born in Kalamata, Greece on January 13, 1933, and came to the U.S. during the early 1950s. He attended college in Boston while working odd jobs as a sailor for a brief time on the Greek merchant ships before transferring permanently to the American shipping lines.

For the next thirty-five years, Tasso traveled the world as a Merchant Marine Officer rising through the ranks until he ultimately obtained his captains license in 1978. Throughout his career, Tasso was a union member with masters, mates & pilots; he finally retired in 1996. When he wasn't at sea, Tasso enjoyed being home, enjoyed summer cookouts with his wife, Effie, and their two children, Stathi & George.

Tasso was a parishioner at St. Athanasios Church in Paramus, NJ. He was also a proud member of the AHEPA organization where he enjoyed spending time with his friends. Tasso will be greatly missed.

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RAMAPO NEWS

Charter School Planning Committee visits Odyssey School



Very early in the snowy morning of Friday, November 21, the Charter School Planning Committee had the opportunity to visit the Odyssey Charter School in Wilmington, Delaware during a school day. Pictured above as we were warmly greeted by our hosts Assistant Headmaster Jacqueline Pastis and school Founder George Righos are AHEPA Brothers Jim Giokas, John Psomas, Sammy Thomas and Ms. Adora Nonas of the Planning Committee.

A tour of the Odyssey Charter School left us all in amazement at the quality and

level of work being mastered by students and the enthusiasm that prevails in the two story school building. Children in grades K-4 are immersed in a curriculum that integrates the learning of a second language, Greek, with the English language, to teach a rigorous curriculum of reading, writing, math, science and social studies. Math, in particular, is given added emphasis as instruction is also given in Greek for a portion of the day which reinforces the learning of Math skills as taught in the English language. This approach as we saw first hand in our tour begins right away in the Kindergarten classes. The Greek portion of the curriculum is taught by credentialed instructors from the National Greek Ministry of Education.

Veterans' Appreciation Night-A Big Hit at our November Chapter Meeting

The theme of our November Chapter meeting was "Veterans' Appreciation" and it truly lived up to its name as we had the good

fortune of a wonderful guest speaker who is a Greek-American WWII veteran. Brother AHEPAn Nick Constandelis took great pride in telling his story when he was a young gunner in many bombing runs over Japan in WWII. He annotated his remarks from his book of memoirs "8000 feet over Hell" which he also sold copies of that night to interested Brothers attending the meeting.

Brother Peter Kyriakoulis who chairs our Veterans' Committee was instrumental along with Brother Ted Vittas in reaching out and inviting Brother Constandelis. Brother Kyriakoulis also as part of our Veterans Appreciation program spoke about a charity for returning Iraq Veterans, The US Military Endowment.

The charity supports one of five veteran reintegration centers in Bloomfield, New Jersey. The Chapter adopted a motion to match all member donations to the charity of up to \$500. The website of the US Military Endowment and where donations could also be made is : www.militaryendowment.org

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΓΕΝΝΑΤΑΙ ΔΟΞΑΣΑΤΕ



THE KRARAS FAMILY Reading, PA

A Message from the Executive Director Of AHEPA

The end of the year is always a busy time for AHEPA headquarters. A snapshot of a late December day includes the efficient processing of dues that we have been receiving in significant volumes and making corrections to membership rosters so they are accurate as possible for 2009. Under the leadership of Supreme President Ike Gulas, AHEPA has exerted great effort to elevate our presence in the community and create awareness of our philanthropic and charitable works. AHEPA is striving to become a 21st century organization, and in the process, we have attracted many new members.

It is true that for years our demographic has been increasing in age. However, for the first time in a decade, we saw hundreds of new members under the age of 35 join AHEPA. Our national membership (members at-large) is steadily climbing and now numbers more than 400 members. I am confident this membership category will exceed 1,000 members by 2010.

Please Take the Time to Send in your Dues! In September, AHEPA's leadership met and discussed attaining new membership totals, setting an ambitious goal of a 10 percent increase. I am proud to state that as of today we have initiated and reinstated more than 1,200 members. Our stated objective was to get at least 1,500 of these members into AHEPA by December 31. Won't you help us reach our goal?

Finally, philanthropy is by nature a very important part of our mission. It is a fundamental principle of all organizations like AHEPA. In these challenging times, we realize it is hard to make charitable contributions. However, all of us at headquarters are asking you to remember our worthy projects. Cooley's Anemia, the Bone Marrow Registry, the Educational Foundation and our Charitable Foundation always welcome additional donations. Each chapter should donate a part of its treasury toward our national programs.

Again, thank you to all those members who try to make a difference by finding new members, calling the older ones, driving someone to a meeting, or simply not forgetting to praise AHEPA for all its hard work. AHEPA stands ready to assist all. Merry Christmas and Happy and Healthy 2009!

Fraternally,
Basil Mossaidis

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