

SPRING 2010

John G. Thevos Fifth District NJ/DE

AHEPA *voice*

American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association



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**2010 DISTRICT #5 JOHN G. THEVOS 79TH CONVENTION
SUPPORTS OUR YOUTH**

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HOST: ALEXANDER HAMILTON PARAMUS CHAPTER #54

FRIDAY JUNE 11th: Convention Registration 5 - 9pm Convention Opening 7pm

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS: 1. All Graduates from our District & Chapters

2. AHEPA Academy Students – 3. Journey to Greece Participants

We Welcome and Encourage all the AHEPA and Daughters Chapters to Award their Scholarships to their Recipients that Night

SONS OF PERICLES AWARDS NIGHT: DJ Music and Dance – You are all Invited – \$35 p.p.

SATURDAY JUNE 12TH: Registration – 9 AM to 2 PM General Business Sessions – 9 AM to Noon

Daughters of Penelope Luncheon – 12 to 2 PM General Session – 2 PM to 5 PM

GRAND BANQUET – Reception 6:30 - Dinner 7:30 PM with Music and Dance

SUNDAY JUNE 13TH: Church Services at St. Athanasios Church – 51 Paramus Road – Paramus, NJ

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5th District Governor, Order of AHEPA

PHIL VOGIS



Dear Brothers:

What a wonderful year this has been. I had the pleasure of visiting most of the chapters with my District Lodge Officers and have met so many new brothers and friends throughout the state of New Jersey and Delaware. I will make every effort to visit the remaining chapters before the summer.

Our District has had so many successful programs, two District wide workshops, our networking seminar with the Daughters which was a huge success, and our relationship between the District Lodges District #6 NY and District #7 CT has been the best ever in cooperation amongst our brotherhood.

Our Mass Initiations and the individual chapter initiations have brought in many new members in District #5 that surpassed all previous years this year. National Headquarters has advised me that we (District #5) are the Number One District over 27 Districts throughout the AHEPA Domain. A big thank you should go to all the chapters and the brothers that have worked so hard to make this project a success. District #5 will be presented the first prize award by

National at the Supreme Convention in Montreal Canada. I would also like to thank the following chapters for coming in first, second and third with the highest numbers of new members. First position Alexander Hamilton #54, Paramus NJ, second position Thomas Edison #287, Asbury Park and third position Ramapo #453, Wyckoff, NJ was also the number one chapter with the most members in District #5.

I would like to reflect on few of the accomplishments the District Lodge has worked on: Our District Son's Advisor Ted Vittas-PDG along with the Sons Governor George Sarris met with the youth of the St George GO Church in Piscataway to start the process in starting a Sons Chapter in that community, in addition, the Randolph community with the assistance of the Morris County Chapter is also starting up a Sons Chapter, great job to the Sons leadership. Congratulations to the Thomas Jefferson Chapter #280 for finalizing their nominations and elections of their new lodge officers earlier this year. The District Lodge is working on reinstating the Fairview Chapter #504 in Fairview NJ. I have been speaking with a number former chapter members and

new candidates to start up the chapter, our plans are to complete this task by end of May 2010. The District Lodge was honored to march at the Greek Independence Day Parade in Philadelphia PA, chaired by our very own Lt Governor George Horiates, the Lodge participated at the Sunday service at St George the Cathedral, then on to the parade downtown Philadelphia. In addition the Lodge participated at various local county flag raising ceremonies honoring our March 25, 1821 Independence. We are excited again this year to march at the NYC Greek Independence Day parade with the entire AHEPA Family. The District will continue to work towards the establishing an "AHEPA Hellenic Cultural Center" in NJ for our future members and youth. We look forward to your participation at our District Convention in early June at the Park Ridge Marriott, Park Ridge NJ.

In closing I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family XRISTOS ANESTI, may god bless everyone, Zito Ei AHEPA and God Bless America, PANDA ENOMENI.

Fraternally,
Phil Vogis District Governor



5th District Governor, Daughters of Penelope

ROBIN PAPAGIANNIS

Christos Anesti,

I hope you had a wonderful Pascha Season. This spring has been wonderful for the Daughters of Penelope with many events going on, the AHEPA family workshops, which went wonderfully with all our upcoming events being shared and inspirational speakers, the Daughter's of Penelope Day at St Basil's Academy, and Greek Independence Day Parades and Events, thank you to anyone who attended any of these events. The District has just a couple of upcoming events to please be sure to attend our Spring Luncheon being held at Lobster Shanty in Point Pleasant

on 01-May. Then of course we will all get together for the Annual District Convention, please get your registration forms in early for this year's convention, please plan on attending the entire weekend's events to get the full benefit of an AHEPA family event.

As this will be my last message to you as District Governor there are a few people I would like to thank for helping me have a wonderful year. First and foremost thank you to all the Chapter Presidents and their boards for their dedication and hours of volunteering for such a great organization. All DOP members you are the backbone of this organization you keep us up and running

with hard work and words of encouragement. My District Lodge I couldn't have done it without you, you are all amazing women. Phil Vogis and his AHEPA lodge you have made this truly a year where AHEPA was a family always including the Daughters and keeping in constant contact. Louis Arvanitis, Marcella Calagias, and Rula Thasites thank you for organizing this year's convention I know it is going to be an amazing weekend for us all. This has truly been a wonderful experience for me and I am proud to say I had the chance to be District Governor of the best District, District 5.

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District Lodge AHEPA

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Secretary Rula Thasites
Treasurer Marcella Calagias
Marshal Eleni Parlapanides
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District and National Websites

National

www.ahepa.org

AHEPA Districts

www.ahepafamily.org

District Sports

www.sonsofpericles.com

E-Mail Addresses

5th District Cancer Foundation

thianitsa@aol.com

E-Mail & Web Coordinator

rigos7@verizon.net

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PDG Chris Sevast

CORRECTION: In our last issue, we misspelled the name of George Karatzia, PDG in the title of the article about Colonel Gatanas. Our apologies to Brother George

President's Address:

SUPREME PRESIDENT DEAN TSELEPIS VISITS WHITE HOUSE AND US CAPITOL



Last month was one of the most exciting times for me as Supreme President. I had the unique opportunity to represent our great order of the Sons of Pericles in Washington, DC. I traveled down to our nation's capital not once, but twice. First, was for the Greek Independence Day Celebration at the White House and the second was for the AHEPA Family Capitol Hill Day.

On Tuesday, March 9, 2010, the White House celebrated Greek Independence Day a couple weeks early because the President was due to be out of the country on the 25th. The event began at 4:30PM with a reception in the White House. The cocktail hour, featuring food prepared by Greek celebrity chef, Cat Cora, provided a great opportunity to meet with Greeks from all over the country. Also present were Vasilis Kaskarelis, Ambassador of Greece to the U.S. and Andreas Kakouris, Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the U.S. As the nearly 300 guests and media took their seats, the room was filled with energy and excitement. Shortly thereafter, an announcement was made; "Ladies and Gentlemen, The President of the United States". First entered Archbishop Demetrios, followed by Prime Minister of Greece George Papandreaou with First Lady Ada Papandreaou and finally, President Barack Obama accompanied by First Lady Michelle Obama. The Greek Independence Day celebration is a long running tradition at the White House, but this night had two firsts. It was the first time that the Prime Minister of Greece was in attendance as well as the First Lady of the United States.

The first to address the guests was Prime Minister Papandreaou, followed by Archbishop Demetrios and then President Obama. All three focused on the fact that the United States founding fathers based this country on the ideals of democracy in ancient Greece. They also mentioned the strong relationship between the two nations as both allies and friends and discussed several pressing Greek-American issues such as the occupation of Cyprus and the reopening of the Halki Seminary in Turkey.

On March 24, 2010, I traveled back to Washington for the AHEPA Family Capitol Hill Day. I had always received emails about this event in years past, but had never con-

sidered going as I truly did not know what it was all about. What a mistake. This is truly a remarkable event and really enables one to do their duty as an American citizen. The day started at 8:30AM with a breakfast reception in the Rayburn House Office Building. There we were addressed by members of the Hellenic Caucus including U.S. Reps. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL), Dina Titus (D-NV), John P. Sarbanes (D-MD), Zachary T. Space (D-OH), Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY), Niki Tsongas (D-MA) and Frank Pallone (D-NJ).

Following the morning reception, each of us was assigned to small groups of two or three and provided with a schedule for the day. Meetings were organized with congressmen, congresswomen and senators. We were also provided with various talking points to discuss with the elected officials. I was paired with Brother Savas Tsivicos, father of our Sons of Pericles Supreme Treasurer Haralambos Tsivicos. Our first meeting was with Congressman Donald Payne (D-NJ) and then with Congressman Robert Andrews (D-NJ). Both congressmen were very open and receptive to hearing about the various issues facing the Greek-American community. It was truly a great experience.

Later in the day, I was invited to a State Department Briefing from Deputy Assistant Secretary Tina Kaidanow. We were brought up to date on many of the major European and Eurasian affairs, especially those involving or affecting Greece. We then attended two Greek Independence Day Celebrations, the first hosted by Congressman Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL) at the National Republican Club of Capitol Hill and the second hosted by the American Hellenic Institute (AHI).

The day concluded with the AHEPA "Salute to Civic Responsibility" Dinner Honoring Senator George Voinovich. Senator Voinovich was awarded the AHEPA Paul E. Tsongas Public Service Award. In addition, the audience received remarks from His Excellence Markos Kypianou, foreign minister, Republic of Cyprus, His Excellency Vassilis Kaskarelis, ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to the U.S., and U.S. Reps. Michael McMahon (D-NY) and Frank Pallone (D-NJ). His Excellency Andreas Kakouris, ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the U.S. also was present.

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AHEPA Academy

"AHEPAcademy had a Positive Impact on my life"

EVA ZYMARIS DESCRIBES HER EXPERIENCE AS A STUDENT IN AHEPA ACADEMY

AHEPA Academy was an enriching experience that taught positive lessons pertaining to business and the importance of networking between individuals. At the beginning of the program, we learned proper etiquette as well as the basic rules to have a fulfilling exchange between two people. The fundamental lesson was how to make, leverage, and sustain important business relationships. One useful lesson that I learned is that “networking” is not just about you - but that it is also important to help connect and network with other people. By bringing people together, you multiply the opportunities that these relationships can offer you.

After learning the proper techniques of “networking,” we were placed into a real life situation to make business connections at a dinner at the Capitol Hilton. At first, it was nerve wracking starting and holding conversations with much more experienced adults, but what we learned in the previous instructional sessions proved to be highly useful. We mingled and exchanged contact information with various interesting people at the event, members of Congress, an advertising executive, and a lawyer. I am

confident that these lessons and experiences will serve me well in the future.

Besides learning how to network and be positive leaders for the future, AHEPA Academy was an amazing experience. For recreation, we went to GO - Adventure Sports for teambuilding activities, the Baltimore Orioles Baseball Game at Camden

Yards, various museums in Washington D.C. and Baltimore, saw the play “Design for Living,” and took an acting class. For educational experiences, we went to the Capitol Building, all of the famous monuments in Washington D.C., and visited the Cypriot and Greek Embassies.

Everything that happened at AHEPA Academy had a positive impact on my life. Besides learning resourceful skills for the future and doing fun activities, I made outstanding friendships. Everyone that attended AHEPA Academy this year became almost like a family. We experienced our ups and downs, but in the end we all became amazing friends. These are the friendships that I know I will have for the rest of my life. I am grateful for this experience and I know I will cherish these memories forever.

THANK YOU LETTERS FROM GRADUATES WHO RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2009

June 17, 2009

Dear Mr. Tsapsinos and Mr. Sevast:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for awarding me a scholarship grant for the upcoming school year. The funds will be used to purchase books and pay for college fees at Dartmouth College. It is a privilege to be recognised by the Order of AHEPA, John G. Thevos District No.5, and I am deeply appreciative of this honor. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Matt Boyas

June 25, 2009

Dear Mr. Tsapsinos and Mr. Sevast

I would like to thank the Scholarship Committee for awarding me your annual scholarship. I feel honored to be given such a reward. This scholarship will help me for a new computer and some other necessities. In these times of high college costs, any financial assistance received can make enormous difference. I thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Facas

Dear Brothers of AHEPA,

I would like to thank you so very much for honoring me as a recipient for the AHEPA scholarship award. I was very greatly appreciated as it will help enable me to further my education at the University of Delaware. I know it must have been a difficult decision but I am truly honored for the recognition and award. Again, I thank you all.

With sincere appreciation for your thoughtfulness,
Alexander Bliziotis

Dear AHEPA Chapter,

I am honored to be one of the recipients of the Order of AHEPA District No. 5 Scholarship. Thank you for the generosity. It will help with the cost of college.

I will be attending Drew University as a freshman and will be studying Biology. I am glad to have the opportunity to thank you personally for your generosity.

Sincerely,
Christina Karas

OBITUARY

Cleopatra G. Notarides

Cleopatra G. Notarides was born in Jersey City, New Jersey in 1943. The only child of Evelyn Karagounelis and Andrew Notarides, she was raised in the Jersey City Evangelismos Greek Orthodox Church community. Serving as the President of the Ir. Goya, Cleo also taught Sunday school for twelve years.

This dynamic woman would be the first in many endeavors. Cleo was the first female President of the senior class at Dickinson High School. At the age of 19 she joined the Maids of Athena, serving the 5th District as Governor, shortly after she would serve on the Grand Lodge of the Maids of Athena as Grand Governor.

In 1966, Cleo was elected to serve as the Grand President of the Maids of Athena, making her the second elected Grand President to hail from the 5th District. Grand Presidents before her traveled hundreds and sometimes a few thousand miles, however as Grand President, Cleo traveled more than 20,000 miles visiting over 50 individual Chapters and 11 Districts across the country. With the assistance of the Daughters of Penelope a complete reorganization of headquarters was instituted involving the micro-filming of all past records, and updating of procedures. A new "Code of Ethics" was distributed; the Ritual was revised and reissued, as was the manual of instructions. During her tenure every District had at least one District officer, something never before accomplished. Further, six new Chapters came into the Order and ten chapters reactivated during her reign.

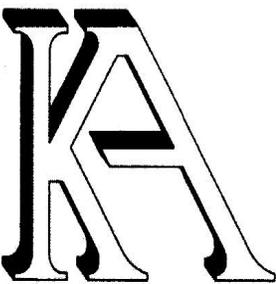
A graduate of Jersey City State College, Cleo earned her first Masters Degree in American History (Social History) from Montclair State College and her second Masters Degree for Behavioral Science from Kean State College. For twenty-eight years she taught at Ridgefield Park Junior/Senior High School in Ridgefield, NJ, developing the first full-year Psychology course in Bergen County. In 1976 she was honored by the Bergen County PTA as High School Specialist Degree in Individual, Marriage and Family Therapy from Seton Hall University.

Cleo was the Executive Director of Individual and Family Institute Inc., Paramus, New Jersey as well as an instructor at the



Bergen Community College Continuing Education Division. Further, she was the Bergen, Passaic and Monmouth Counties Family Court appointed case Evaluator and Expert Witness and is a Clinically Certified Forensic Counselor and Certified Grief Counselor.

Over the years, Cleo has been a guest lecturer, at numerous seminars and training workshops as well as appearing on radio shows. She is a member of the American association for Counseling and Development and the American Association of Grief Counselors. In 1998 she was presented by NJ Governor, Thomas Kean, the Governor's Teacher Recognition Award. Appointed by NJ Governor, James Florio to the Governor's Committee on Children's Services Planning 1991-1993, she was also appointed by NJ Governor, Christine Todd Whitman to serve on the State Board of Marriage Counselor Examiners from 1995-1998. In May of 1994, being only one of twenty mental health therapists, Cleo was invited by First Lady, Hillary Clinton, to attend the White house Conference on Health Care. Rest in Peace, Cleo



Demetrios Kaltsis, A.I.A.
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5TH DISTRICT AHEPA CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION



5th District AHEPA Cancer Foundation Board of Trustees and Staff CINJ.

New Brunswick, New Jersey, March 8, 2010: The Board of Trustees of the 5th District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation recently had the pleasure of visiting The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, as part of the Foundation's ongoing relationship with their Research Grant recipients. They were welcomed by Elia Desruisseaux, Executive Director, CINJ Foundation.

The trustees had the opportunity to tour the facilities at The CINJ as well as see Dr. John Glod's laboratory. The Foundation has been a supporter of Dr. Glod since the beginning of his study on Brain Tumors in children. Further, he gave an in-depth report on his findings and progress of his study. Dr. Vasiliki Karantza a past District 5 Daughters of Penelope Salute to Women recipient was also on hand to enlighten the Foundation on her study pertaining to Breast Cancer.

A personal tour of the facilities was conducted by Michele Walker, Director of Annual Giving, CINJ Foundation. The trustees were very impressed with the facility as well as their integrity and quality of care they offer their patients and families.

As New Jersey's only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, CINJ offers patients access to treatment options not available at other institutes within the state. CINJ currently enrolls more than 1,000 patients in clinical trials, including approximately 15 percent of all new adult cancer patients and approximately 70 percent of all pediatric cancer patients. Enrollment in these studies nationwide is fewer than 5 percent of all adult cancer patients.

The CINJ also has a Resource & Learning Center that provides reliable, relevant and current information about all aspects of cancer. It is free and open to CINJ patients and the community.

The 5th District Board of Trustees consists of twenty-four members, who reside throughout the state of NJ, who are all volunteers, dedicated to the Foundation to raise funds for seed grants for the outstanding research doctors and institutions that are committed to finding a cure for cancer. Currently, the Foundation's website is under construction, for further information please send inquires to: Fifth District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation, PO Box 481, Edison, NJ 08818-0481.

Submitted by: Antoinette Marousis-Zachariades

Ocean County Chapter #467 Will Host Church Festival, June 11-13

The Ocean County AHEPA family will be sponsoring its fourth annual Greek festival on June 11-13, 2010. The AHEPA has made a commitment to reimburse the Church for the new, interior Church furnishings that were purchased by the Church.

Proceeds from the June 11-13, 2010 Greek festival will be used to reimburse the Church for the purchase of the bishop's throne, the second bishop's chair in the altar, the chanter's stand and the candle boxes and candle stands in the narthex of the Church. These new furnishings were necessary acquisitions by the Church for the Church's October 24, 2010 consecration.

To date, the AHEPA has donated \$59,500 to the Church for this AHEPA family project. The AHEPA is hopeful that the June festival will provide sufficient funds so that the AHEPA can make its final installment payment for the Church's new, interior furnishings. Any monies from the June festival that exceed what is necessary to fully reimburse the Church for the new Church furnishings will be used to finance the Church's expenses for the upcoming October 24, 2010 consecration of the Church.

Daughters of Penelope, Aphrodite #374, Toms River, NJ

Toms River, New Jersey, January 30, 2010: Our January chapter meeting was another monumental day in the history of Aphrodite Chapter, #374. On this day the sisters voted to donate \$6,000 to our beloved St. Barbara Church for the purchase of the Fan and Cross Set for the Consecration of the church which will take place on October 24, 2010. The Chapter is very proud and pleased that they are able to contribute for this long awaited blessed day.

Submitted By: Antoinette Marousis-Zachariades, Chapter President

Trenton Chapter #72

During the winter, we had many events and look forward to many more. We participated in our monthly meetings, as well as our social workshop sessions every Monday night at the AHEPA Xen Microutsicos Hall.

Our chapter in conjunction with the Fifth District made donations to the St. Basil's Academy in New York. Although we were hit with a blizzard in Central Jersey, the children were able present their Christmas pageant. The various AHEPA chapters raised funds and presented Christmas gifts to the children at the academy. It is always a wonderful event that we will not forget. I recommend that everyone attend this event next year with their children to really see and share in the holiday spirit.

We also had a wonderful Christmas Dinner on December 16th at the AHEPA Hall. We shared in each other's company and the food, drink and desserts were great. I would like to thank Pericles Muzithras and Paul Mamolou for all their hardwork in chairing the event, as well as Lee Millas for emceeing the event and everyone who helped in the kitchen and in the logistics in insuring it was a success. Thanks to Kouzina by Sophia and Palace Dinner for their generous donations. Many Ahepans also attended the Daughters of Penelope's Christmas dinner on December 10th which was also a success.

I would like to thank everyone who helped out with the AHEPA Trenton Chapter and Daughters of Penelope Altes Chapter Blood Drive at St. George. Thank you to all the Ahepans who volunteered and donated: Jim Knicos, Strat Peters, Tom Pappas, Sim Rochonchou, Evan Pilaras, Paul Mamolou, Michael Knicos, George Demetriades, Peter Zimnes, Anthony Fanikos, Raymond Lally, George Rose, Rick Roscoe, Mike Fanikos and Lee Millas and others. Thanks also to the Daughters of Penelope who donated including: Jill Belviso, Regina Petinos, Presveytera, Kalli Bliziotis, Karen Knicos and Dina Fanikos. As a result of your donations, the event was a success and we were able to raise many pints of blood for the Red Cross. Thank you again.

Several of the Trenton brothers attended the Greek Independence Day parades in Philadelphia on March 21st and in New York on April 18th. Both parades were blessed with beautiful weather and a great turnout. Congratulations to the Ahepans of Cherry Hill and the other chapters who made the Philadelphia parade a success. Congratulations to Lt Governor George Horiates and Brothers Rozanitis, Charalambidis, Marmarou and others who made it a wonderful event. It was also truly wonderful hearing the children of the Odyssey School sing the American and Greek anthems.

Chapter scholarship information is available for graduating high schools seniors to children of the St. George Community as well as to outstanding student athletes from the Colonial Valley Conference. We will be hosting our annual Awards program in June at which time the scholarships will be awarded along with certificates to graduating high school seniors and awards to the outstanding Greek school students.

I would be remiss in not thanking Brother Chris Blazakis for his generous donation of the professional pool table. Also thanks to all the brothers that assembled it with the specific expertise of our good friend Teddy Rigas. Many of the brothers are "perfecting" their skills and enjoying themselves. Also on behalf of the Trenton chapter, I would be remiss in not thanking Tom for all his hardwork and construction expertise in making the AHEPA and the hall a better one. He is truly a role model as a brother AHEPAN and is a tireless worker towards its causes and for the Church.

I would like to thank all the brothers that make this organization a strong one and a growing one. Trenton Chapter's has had several initiations where we welcomed our newest brothers. They include Steve Balalis, Dino Demetriou, Anthony Fanikos, Chris Georgiou, Bill Harvey, Costa Houtras, Filipo Houtras, Margaritis Karapelou, Ray Lally, Theo Roussos, Anthony Stylianou and Steve Stylianou.

We are all looking forward to the District Convention in June as well as the National Convention in July. Let us continue to make the AHEPA a brotherhood that we are proud of.



Celebrate Day at the Races

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News from Alexander Hamilton Chapter #54

The first months of the year 2010 has been very busy for the Fighting Chapter #54. On January 29, our Chapter hosted one of the most participated banquets in our District's recent history. More than 250 people attended the event at Graycliff Catering in Moonachie, NJ in honor of Brother Louis Arvanitis, who served as Supreme Governor and Regional Director for Region #3 the last 2 years. Brother Louis is a great motivator in many projects of our Chapter. The Membership Drive is one of the most successful projects that Brother Louis helped. More than 90 new members initiated or reinstated the last 3 years making our Chapter one of the most active ones in the AHEPA family. Alexander Chapter #54 wishes Brother Louis the best of luck in his future endeavors.

This year our Chapter will host the 79th Fifth District Convention. Brother Louis Arvanitis will be the General Chairman. Him and the rest of the Committee are working very hard to organize a successful Convention. The theme this year is the youth and the bright future that our young hopefuls will shine for years to come. An advertisement with all the program is prepared and the weekend's highlight is Friday night, which is the Youth night.

James Zafiros Honored by the Evzone Chapter #405



On December 5th, at the Westchester Country Club, Evzone Chapter #405 of AHEPA conducted its 6 Annual Luncheon honoring this year's "Lifetime Achievement Award" recipient, James Zafiros. Brother Jim,

a former Vice President of Sales with NBC Television, is a forty-eight year member of the AHEPA and the Chapter's VP of Marketing and Membership. Under his guidance and tutelage, the Chapter has expanded from 63 members, in 2005, to today where it is approaching 150. The Chapter has accepted the powerful and imposing challenge of reaching a membership goal of 200 by the time it celebrates its 50 anniversary in 2011. Upon reaching this objective it would join the ranks of the Top-Ten AHEPA chapters in the nation. Jim's achievements have been recognized on the national level, where he was recently appoint-

ed Regions Membership Director for AHEPA.

The rewards' luncheon was preceded by our ritualistic initiation ceremony. This beautiful and classic ceremony dates back to AHEPA's founding in Atlanta, Georgia in 1922 and is known only to its members. The Evzone's execution is studied, rehearsed and nearly flawless, which possibly explains the presence of the top four ranked Supreme Lodge officers, in full regalia, as well as that of District Governors from New Jersey/



Pictured here are the honoree James Zafiros, Chapter President, Joe Keane, Event Co-Chair Tom Dushas, Supreme President Nick Karacostas and Event Co-Chair Zachary Marantis.



Left to Right - Front Row:

Kneeling; Honoree, James Zafiros; Supreme Treasurer, Col. Nicholas Vamvakias; New Members, Harry Wilson, Emmanuel Velivasakis, George Curtis; Supreme President, Nicholas Karacostas; New Members, Dimrtri Madouros, Nicholas Jembellis, Tom Jembellis

Second Row-Left to Right

New York District Lodge, Michael Papaphotes & Gus Drivas; New Members, Dennis Kouloumbis, Nicholas Hatjygeorge, Evzone President, Joe Keane; New Members, John Demascus, Nicholas Apostolatos, Joe Kourakos; Supreme Regional Governor, Ted Manolios, Event C-Chair, Tom Dushas



New York District Lodge, Michael Papaphotes, Jimmy Kokotas; Connecticut District Governor, Nicholas Nikas; Supreme Treasurer, Col. Nicholas Vamvakias, Sons of Pericles, Supreme Secretary, Monolis Sfinarolakis, Supreme President, Nicholas Karacostas, Evzone President, Joe Keane, Supreme Vice President, Dr. John Grossomanides, Supreme Treasurer, Anthony Kouzounis, Honoree, James Zafiros, Supreme Regional Governor, Ted Manolios, District 6 Governor, Gus Drivas, New Jersey District#5 Governor Phil Vogis and District Lodge Treasurer, Chris Gallis.

Delaware, New York and Connecticut/Rhode Island, along with their District lodges. There were more than 80 AHEPANS at the ceremony, including the guests of honor—the 15 new initiates and 4 former members. The new members, AHEPA’s and Evzone’s senior officers are shown in the picture below. They were later joined by family. They were later joined by family and friends at the luncheon, making this year’s initiation Empire District’s largest and most elegant celebration. Gala events like this and the Chapter’s recent explosive growth have contributed to the Evzone Chapter being referred to as the “Membership Model of the 21st Century” for AHEPA.



The question is often asked, “How is the Evzone Chapter thriving, when fraternal organizations and associations throughout the

country are on the decline?” The secret could easily lie in what the chapter provides for its members and the fraternity, purpose and focus. It is always in the forefront responding to needs relevant to the American-Greek community. Most recently, it provided \$5,000 to help fund the State Department’s dinner during the Patriarchal visit. Other examples include similar responses for rehabilitation efforts for the fires in Greece and Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana. Annually they provide numerous scholarships and sponsor many culturally focused Hellenism events.



The chapter has a three pronged emphasis on Hellenism, education and community service. President Joe Keane has a favorite saying for the members:

“Tell us what we are not doing, that you think should be done, and let’s do it together.” All these activities emanate around its monthly gourmet dinners where *parea* is the order of the day. It is a formula that is attractive to the very diverse membership, which includes entrepreneurs, Archons, members of Leadership 100, Ellis Island Medal of Honor recipients, members of sporting Halls of Fame, physicians, attorneys, entertainment figures, media and business executives.



The Chapter’s promotional efforts utilize all available multi-media tools to get its message across, which greatly contributes to its successful recruitment campaigns. The camaraderie and fellowship enjoyed by like minded professionals, who enjoy breaking bread together while they try to make this world a better place is a big attraction. All these elements combine in the Evzone’s selecting Pericles’ message to the Athenians as its motto: “We do not imitate for we are a model to others”.

Brother Zafiros received a standing ovation for his closing remarks which reflected the sentiment and passion of the AHEPANS and Philhellenes in attendance. He said: “While there are numerous American-Greek organizations and associations in this country, only one - the Order of AHEPA - is the legitimate and articulate spokesman for the Hellenic American Community.”

Greek Independence Day Is Honored by Tri-Chapter Flag Raising



Hackensack, NJ – March 25, 2010

– Upwards of one hundred Greek Americans and Phil- Hellenes were on hand at the Bergen County Administration Building in Hackensack, NJ to commemorate Greek Independence Day. The program was put together by the Bergen County Executive, Dennis McNerney and his staff with the leadership of the 3 AHEPA chapters of Bergen County, Ramapo #453, Alexander Hamilton #54 and Bergen Knights #285. Each respective Chapter President Jim Gio-

kas of #453, Dr Ted Constantelis of #54 and Stephen Ferrante of #285 made remarks as part of the program.

The program also involved the Greek American Chamber of Commerce who honored Gus Vetsas, a local restaurateur in Hackensack. The clergy of the church communities of St

Nicholas of Wyckoff, Fr. James Moulketis and Fr. Christos Pappas of Ascension, Fairview were also present to give the opening and closing prayers.

Two school children, Kira and Andoni Tsougarakis, recited poems remembering the Greek sacrifice for independence just before the flag was raised. The national anthems of both the USA

and the Hellenic Republic were sung by those present, the latter while the Greek flag was raised to stand alongside the US flag and the flag of New Jersey. It was a windy day, just what was required for a flag raising event.

You can see a video of the flag raising on YouTube.com, as well as a press release of the event at the Bergen County Executive's web site.



The 25th of March 1821: Freedom or Death and its Meaning Today

by Lampros E. Bourodimos, PhD, PE

Many members of our global community may have forgotten that today is an anniversary of major historical significance, but truly it is. It was on about this date, the 25th of March in 1821, that a handful of people, proud people who were slaves in their country, decided that enough was enough. For nearly 400 years they had been servants to barbarians on their land and in their country. Their language, religion, and culture survived intact, becoming part of each generation since they taught their children about their language, their history, their original and true Christian faith, and their traditions in secret, underground schools at night. These children would retain and pass on this brilliant torch to the next generation during those endless centuries.

It seems to most of us that if a nation was occupied for nearly four centuries, it would be unthinkable for its people to consider rebellion and independence from its rulers. It would be amazing that these people would even remember clearly who they were, and who their ancestors were. These people would be part of another "lost nation" that one would read about in the history books and try to imagine what their country must have been like 556 years ago.

On that historic 25th day of March in 1821, the day of the Evangelismos of the Theotokou, (the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary) in the Christian Church, roughly 800,000 Greeks of all ages, (men, women, and children) revolted against 3.5 million Ottoman Turkish colonists occupying their homeland. It was another

attempt to regain control of their country, and of their destiny.. **The Hellenic battle cry was "Freedom or Death!"**

Hellenes from all over the world, especially from the rest of Europe, hastened their steps homeward (some returning for the first time), enthusiastic for regaining a free Greece. Some were students at universities who had never visited their enslaved homeland as they had been born in other nations. Many non-Greeks, called philhellenes, who loved Greece and what she symbolized very much, more than even some Greeks did (or do) today, joined this impossible and seemingly hopeless revolt, as the newspapers of that time characterized it. These philhellenes believed in that hope and joined the struggle to fight and die for a cause they believed was worthy. People all over the world hoped that the heavily outnumbered and ill-equipped Greeks would not perish in their just struggle for freedom. The newspapers and experts of that time gave them no real chance of success. If it were not for those courageous Greeks of 1821, and their impossible 368-year dream of freedom from slavery, most of today's Greeks may not exist. We would not exist as a people, nor as a culture, and perhaps not as a Greek Orthodox Christian faith. If

The revolution of 1821 was like no other revolution that happened and succeeded on our planet. May Greeks, who now live in 167 different countries on the planet, and philhellenes, remember and teach others about this day. Whether we are descendants of these patriots or not, we have much to be inspired by their actions and to apply in our daily lives with AHEPA at our side.

Remember, nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come.



Photo Memories from the Greek Independence Day Parade in New York



HONORING A LEADER

Testimonial Dinner Honoring Past Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis

Moonachie, New Jersey, January 29, 2010: Brother Louis Arvanitis, Past Supreme Governor of the Order of AHEPA was honored Friday evening at The Graycliff Restaurant. The evening was a tribute to Brother Louis, whose accomplishments in the Order of AHEPA as well as his personal and civic contributions stands on its own merits.

Approximately two-hundred people attended this event traveling from near and far to celebrate Brother Louis. Remarks were given by a multitude of guest speakers, honoring and thanking him for his service to the Order of AHEPA. The attendees were treated to a photo montage depicting Brother Louis through the years.

Past Supreme Governor, John A. Mehos, of Hudson #108 stated "Today we proudly honor an outstanding individual who is filled with dedication, decisiveness and determination in all his undertakings and accomplishments. Throughout his private and public life our honoree has approached every duty that has come his way with these three values in mind."

Louis Arvanitis was born in Thisvi, Thivon Votias, at the age



Brother Louis Arvanitis, PSG receives his award from our District Governor Phil Vogis

of 18 he immigrated to Canada and in 1971 became a resident of the United States residing in Jersey City. His early years were spent preparing for his future by learning the art of cooking and serving as chef at many varied diners, including the historic "Pavilion" in Union City, NJ. In time, he opened the Charcoal Pit in Newark, NJ, Colonial Restaurant in Fords, NJ and presently Eleni's Pancake House in Montvale, NJ. While earning citizenship to his adopted country, Louis felt the need to serve his fellow man and served on the Parish Council of Evangelismos Tis Theotokou for eight years during the crucial period of planning and building of their Community Center which was completed and opened in 1979.

June of 1973 Brother Louis was initiated into the Order of AHEPA, Hudson Chapter #108 and served in various elected offices. In February 1978 he was sworn in as President of Hudson Chapter #108 and served the chapter with dignity and pride for two and a half years. In 1980 he was elected to serve on the District Lodge and at the 52nd District Convention he was elevated to District Governor of the Fifth District. Continuing the



Chairman of the Dinner Alex Alexandris addresses the attendees and congratulates his very good friend Louis Arvanitis



Brother Louis Arvanitis, PSG receives his awards from Lee Millas (left) representing the New Horizons Party and from Supreme Vice President Dr. John Grossomanides (right) representing the Supreme Lodge





Father Anargyros Stavropoulos from St. Athanasios Church in Paramus, blesses the dinner

endeavors of his predecessors he added many achievements of his own with involvement in “Children of the World” program of Deborah Hospital, presenting them with \$13,000 and presentation of \$7,500 to the Elytis Chair at Rutgers University, and began a District Governor’s Newsletter at his own expense.

Undertaking yet another endeavor in 1979, under his direction the Pan Thisvian Society was formed. In 1983, he became one of the original Board of Directors of Pan Gregorian Enterprises. Further, he served on the P.G.E.I. of America Charitable Foundation, in various positions and was elected Foundation President in 1993. A charter member of the Greek-American Chamber of Commerce, he served two years on the Board of Directors.

In 1995 he formed the McLouis Foundation a charitable foundation whose purpose is to award educational scholarships and monetary donations to individuals and organizations in need. To date approximately \$175,000 has been raised through Place-mat Ads, Candy sales, Atlantic City Bus Trips, Raffles, Buffet dinners and of course Louis’ famous Macaronia Dinners. Annually, ten scholarships are awarded each year. Collectively about one hundred and fifty students have received a total of \$75,000. Other organizations that have benefited are the Montvale Police department-D.A.R.E program, senior Organizations, American Cancer Society to name a few.

Upon completion of serving as District Governor, Brother Louis returned to his home Chapter Hudson #108 and continued to serve that chapter ending with a long period as President in 2004 when he transferred to his present Chapter Alexander Hamilton #54. But nowhere has his dedication, decisiveness and determination been more evident than his unending devotion, as Business Manager, to the AHEPA VOICE, the noted publication of the John G. Thevos District Five New Jersey/Delaware. With great determination Brother Louis has kept the publication Ahepa Voice – SPRING 2010

tion financially successful and transformed it from a newsletter to an interesting magazine. Aiming to bring neighboring districts together, with his local chairmanship and fundraising for the Annual Greek Independence Day Parade.

At the Denver National Convention in 2007, and again in Athens, Greece in 2008 Brother Louis was elected Supreme Governor. As Supreme Governor of Region 3 – Districts #5 and #6, with the same dedication, decisiveness and determination that he has handled all of his prior accomplishments. The highlight of his two-year tenure as Supreme Governor was a Regional Banquet on January 30, 2008 donated entirely by the Graycliff Caterers. To a room filled to capacity, with only donations requested, over \$20,000 was raised for the Cooley’s Anemia Foundation and the Journey to Greece scholarship program.

We wish Brother Louis many years of good health and happiness. ΠΑΝΤΑ ΑΕΙΟΣ - ΚΑΙ ΕΙΣ ΑΝΩΤΕΡΑ



Brother Louis Arvanitis between his wife Stacey and his daughter Eleni



The honoree Louis Arvanitis, PSG addresses the attendees

A Heartfelt Thank You Letter from Brother Louis

Brothers and Sisters,

I can’t describe with words the great honor and satisfaction I received when I saw all of you gathered on January 29th to honor me. I would like to express my gratitude to all the brothers and sisters from the Districts #5 and #6, for your great support the two years I served as a Supreme Governor. More than 300 of my dearest friends braved the freezing weather that Friday evening and came to Graycliff Catering, which, as always, organized an unforgettable event. My special thanks to my Chapter Alexander Hamilton #54, the Chairman of the night Alex Alexandris and his Committee who worked really hard to organise a very successful evening. I also want to thank all the dignitaries for their very touching remarks during their speeches and all those who travelled hundreds of miles from the entire nation to be there and share that joy with me.

That Night will Always be...



... in our Memories



AHEPA SUPPORTS GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE IN PHILADELPHIA, PA

Odyssey Charter School Is Named Honorary Grand Marshall As The Students Sing The National Anthems Of Greece And The United States



The Odyssey Charter School led the parade as one of the honorary Grand Marshals. Pictured holding flags on the left is Principal Tony Skouletas and on the right, School Board President, George Chambers

On Sunday, March 21, 2010, the Ahepa Fifth District Lodge marched as dignitaries in the annual Greek Independence Day Parade sponsored by the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Philadelphia and Greater Delaware Valley. The event marked a watershed moment for Wilmington, DE Chapter 95, which played an integral role in putting together the Odyssey Charter School visit to the parade. Present with District Governor Phil Vogis was Lieutenant Gover-



The AHEPA Family marchers for AHEPA are: Jim Knickos, Alexander Harrison, Bill Harrison, Phil Vogis, Ted Fanikos, Marcella Calagias, Lee Millas, Ted Vittas and Asteris Fanikos.

nor George Horiates, District Treasurer Bill Harrison, District Warden Dimitrios Rozanitis – who also served as parade chairperson, and Sons Advisor PDG Ted Vittas.

Ahepa's involvement in the parade was in support of the growing number of communities in New Jersey that participate in the parade. The parade route was on the Ben Franklin Parkway, from City Hall to the famed steps of the Art Museum. The parade was supported by our Holy Metropolis as His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos led the parade and presided over the dig-



Federation President & AHEPA Lt Governor George Horiates poses with Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter



The children of St Thomas Greek Orthodox Church of Cherry Hill, NJ aboard their float.

nities at the review stand. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, 13 church communities, over 25 Hellenic Societies and students from many major universities in Philadelphia participated in the parade.

The theme of the parade was to highlight Wilmington's



District Governor Phil Vogis presents a proclamation to George Righos, PDG, representing the Odyssey School, recognizing the Odyssey School as Grand Marshals. Parade Chairman, Jimmy Rozanitis is on the right, is representing the Federation

AHEPA Odyssey Charter School. The School, with approximately 400 students, is a great success story and a source of pride for our District. It is known for strong academics and insight into the classical learning ideals of Hellenism.

District Governor Phil Vogis presented the Honorary Grand

Marshall plaque to PDG George Rigos as the representative chosen to receive the honor by the school. Five bus loads of Ahepans, students, parents and teachers marched with the Odyssey School to the reviewing stand. The parade thereafter was kicked off by the students by their performance of the Greek



AHEPA Camden Chapter #69 march with their banner, John Charalambidis, President, Dean Pappas, Treasurer, Chris Diamantoukos, PDG.

National Anthem. Many in the crowd and on the stage were impressed by the performance of the students, primarily non-Greeks, singing in the Greek language.

On March 13, 2010, the Fifth District hosted a "Concert For Freedom". The proceeds of the concert were to defray the costs of the parade. The Byzantine Choir of our Metropolis, with many Ahepans as members, gave a performance of traditional hymns and dimotika. Also, there was a performance by the Hellenic Heritage Dance Group. In attendance at the concert was District Governor Phil Vogis as he presented the performance group with a special commemorative plaque from our District. Also present were PDGs Ted Fanikos, George Karatzia, George Burlotos, Ted Vittas and of course PDG George Rigos, whose efforts towards the establishment of the Odyssey Charter School have been recognized throughout the Ahepa domain.

Past District Governor George Burlotos was also recognized in a pre-parade reception the evening before the parade at Estia Restaurant for his efforts in promoting the parade on his "Greek Spirit" television show. A wonderful time was had by all as Camden President John Charalabidis, Trenton President Asteris Fanikos, PDGs Cris Sevast and Ted Fanikos also were recognized along with many of the other dignitaries.

On Sunday, the Fifth district lodge, along with Parade Marshalls Nick and Athena Karabots, Agia Balta – Counsel to the Hellenic Republic, Koula Sofianou – Counsel to the Republic of Cyprus in addition to guest representatives from the Greek Parliament Elena Panariti (PASOK) and Mario Salmas (New Democracy) were escorted to the reviewing stand to watch the parade. The Ahepa Fifth District banner was prominently displayed on the reviewing stand. After the parade, a reception was held at St. Demetrios Church where many volunteers, notably our District Lodge Warden, Federation Vice President and Parade Chair Dimitrios Rozanitis was recognized for his outstanding efforts. ZITO H ELLAS ! ZITO TO ODYSSEY CHARTER SCHOOL !



Dr & Mrs Peter and Stavroula Yiannos of Wilmington (DE) Chapter #95 are dressed for the occasion.

19th Hermes Expo International

Again this year District #5 NJ/DE had a booth and displayed various items from AHEPA including membership applications. We had numerous brothers and sisters thru out the Expo stop by and greet us. At the Hermes Expo banquet brother Paul Kotrotsios, the producer of the Hermes Expo and publisher of the Hellenic News of America, honored the Supreme lodge and the District Lodge with appreciation plaques.





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10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy begins

12:30 p.m. Farewell Luncheon

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Wyckoff, NJ Sons of Pericles Hold the Third Annual Weekend In the Poconos

The Patritha Chapter #317 of the Wyckoff, NJ, Sons of Pericles held their annual weekend getaway in the Poconos. The event was held on President's weekend, February 13, 14 & 15. Part of the weekend involved the initiation of two young men into the chapter, Chris Apostolou and Alex Branton. The initiation was conducted by members of the District Lodge and the Chapter officers.

This year the Wyckoff Sons were joined by members of the Asbury Park Sons, which included District Governor George



Sarris and Marshal Nick Spyropoulos. In addition to the initiation the Sons went snow tubing and snow boarding. There were other recreational activities as well as shopping at the flea markets. The event was hosted, free of charge, by District Advisor Ted Vittas and his son John.

The boys came home with a better understanding of the mission of the Sons of Pericles, new friendships and a stronger sense of Brotherhood.

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Sister Evelyn Marose Appointed As Administrative Law Judge

Investiture ceremony at Bergen County Court House

Sister Evelyn Marose was administered the oath of Administrative Law Judge of New Jersey at an investiture ceremony at the Bergen County Court House on March 17. In attendance were many dignitaries from the State's Legislative and Judicial branches, her colleagues in the New Jersey Bar, and her family and friends.

Before Evelyn took the oath of office, several speakers including NJ State Senators and Presidents of local Bar Associations addressed the audience to laud Evelyn on her past accomplishments and to wish her every success in her new position. Her daughter spoke on the pride of her family for her tremendous accomplishment. At the conclusion of the introductory speeches, Evelyn arose to don her new Judge's Robe and took the oath of office administered to her by the Chief Assignment Judge of Bergen County.

Evelyn then shared her heartfelt thoughts with the audience. She began with the declaration that she never expected to be a judge. While growing up she never even aspired to be a judge. She was grateful to go to college, something neither of her parents had the opportunity to do.

When her two young daughters were both in school full-time,

she decided she was ready to work full time. When she told her real employer, a real estate broker of her plans, he asked her a life altering question: "If you could be anything in the world now, what would you like to be?" For the first time, she said out loud—a lawyer. With her boss' encouragement, she took the LSATs, was admitted into Rutgers and her legal career began.

Evelyn loved practicing law and being involved in bar association work. In addition to her work in the Bergen County Bar Association, she was also a trustee in the Bergen County Bar Foundation for many years and chaired both its Grant Committee and its School Supplies for Kids Committee, which she helped found. In addition, she was co-chair of the Senior

Lawyers Committee of the New Jersey State Bar Association and served on the Minority Committee and Nominating Committee of the association.

While flourishing in her legal career, Evelyn continued to work actively in the Daughters of Penelope and the Philoptohos Society. She was President of the Wyckoff Agape Chapter of the Daughters for two terms, and also served as President of the Philoptohos Society for several years.



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Motion from Wilmington Chapter #95

In the spirit of the ancient Greek concept of physical and mental excellence in line with the mission of the Order of AHEPA to encourage and award such individuals, we, the members of Wilmington Chapter #95, hereby petition our District #5 Lodge to initiate immediately a program for each and every chapter of District #5 to identify high school and college students within District #5 who have excelled in organized school athletics, cultural (acting, debate, musicals, etc) or other relevant activities during the academic year 2009-2010, so that they will be deservingly and respectfully recognized and awarded at our forthcoming District Convention Banquet of June 2010 and, furthermore, be proudly exhibitors in the outstanding District #5 Magazine: "The AHEPA Voice," for the entire membership to become aware of their achievements and themselves become involved in identifying future "stars".

The Sons of Pericles Supreme Lodge Encourages Chapters to Contribute to Haiti

As everyone is well aware, a catastrophic earthquake rocked the country of Haiti on January 12, 2010. Several months have passed since this tragic incident and much of the media and relief has since moved on from Haiti. As the poorest country in the Western hemisphere, now is when Haiti needs our help more than ever. The Sons of Pericles Supreme Lodge has made a donation to Haiti relief through the International Orthodox Christian Charities' International Emergency Response Fund (IOCC - www.iocc.org). It is very important to note that 92% of IOCC resources go towards emergency relief and development programs. The SOP Supreme Lodge encourages all SOP Chapters and the entire AHEPA Family to make contributions to the Haiti relief effort whether through a monetary donation, supplies or aid. It's never too late to help!



Sons of Pericles in Greek Independence Day Parade



On Sunday, April 18th, 2010, the Sons of Pericles of District #5 were well represented at the Greek Independence Day Parade along 5th Avenue in New York City. Members of the Patriarchal Chapter #317 from Wyckoff, New Jersey marched alongside with two Supreme Lodge Members – Supreme President Dean Tselepis, also from Wyckoff, and Supreme Secretary Manolis Sfinarolakis from Waterbury, CT. The District #5 Sons were able to unveil their new banner for the parade, which will be used in future parades for years to come!

www.GotGreek.org STUDY ON HELLENIC YOUTH

A landmark online national study is under way to learn how American college and university students with Greek ancestry feel about their heritage. The National Student Research Study is the first academically supervised national study focusing exclusively on college-age students of Greek heritage. Supported by funding from the Zapis Charitable Foundation, the study began in late 2008 with extensive in-depth interviews of Greek-American students on college campuses across the country -- including members of over 50 Hellenic student groups participating in the study. A detailed national survey was then produced under the supervision of a team of sociology professors and graduate students.

The "Got Greek?" survey is now ready for students to take online. The survey is all about their own experiences and your views about being young and Greek American in college today. Because this study is the first of its kind, scholars, leaders, community organizations -- and the other students across the nation who are participating -- are eager to see the results of this study.

We certainly want to make sure that the experiences of our own students are not left out of this study. The survey is open to undergraduate and graduate students with Greek heritage still enrolled in college today -- including second, third and fourth generation Greek American students - as well as students born in Greece or Cyprus currently studying in the U.S.

If you know anyone in your family, in your school, or among your friends who is in college today, please visit www.gotgreek.org to take the survey.

Thank you in advance for your help getting the word out about this study. If you have any additional questions, I can put you in touch with the Director of the Study, Stephanie Marudas.

Wyckoff, NJ Sons of Pericles Host Eastern Regional Basketball Tournament



The first place winners from Middlesex, NJ

On the weekend of April 24-25, 2010, the Wyckoff, NJ Sons of Pericles Patriarch Chapter #317 hosted the Eastern Regional Basketball Tournament. This was the Wyckoff Sons 5th year in a row hosting the tournament. The organizational effort was spearheaded by Supreme President Dean Tselepis and the Chapter Lodge led by President Arthur Kominos, Vice President Nick Komminos Secretary John Vittas, Treasurer Vasili Ikonomidis and Athletic Director Nick Apostolou.

There were eight 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 Pennsylvania, Virginia and New York. Other players, fans, and Maids of Athena also came to support from Minnesota, Nevada, Michigan, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Maryland and Washington, D.C. A Sons Chapter from Westfield, NJ was reactivated at the tournament with all six of the players being initiated into the

Order by the Wyckoff chapter officers and District #5 Sons Advisor Ted Vittas.

The double elimination tournament was played at the St Nicholas church gym in Wyckoff, NJ. The tournament winners were Middlesex, NJ while Virginia came in 2nd Place and 3rd Place went to Cherry Hill, NJ. The Tournament MVP was to George Karis of Middlesex, NJ

On Saturday night a party was held at Central Lounge in Astoria, NY. The owners of the club were kind enough to make a generous donation towards the Sons of Pericles Dual National Projects.

The weekend was a great success and the Sons from Wyckoff,



The newly initiated Westfield Sons of Pericles pose after their ceremony.

NJ hope to continue the tradition. Proceeds from the weekend's events will go towards St. Nicholas and the Sons National Projects. The Sons National Projects are the Cyprus Children's Fund and The ALS Association (Lou Gehrig's Disease) in honor of Brother George Catsulis.

Ramapo Chapter Sponsors St Nicholas Baseball Team



Thanks to a dedicated Ahepan, John Tsadilas, and his coaching staff and with the sponsorship of the Ramapo Chapter #453 of Wyckoff, a group of boys from the community of St Nicholas Church have again become the "Boys of Summer". The St Nicholas Baseball Team is once again playing baseball (for the 5th year) throughout Bergen County. Pictured are coach John and the players:

Christian Tsadilas
Christopher Gasparis
Nicholas Lascala
Athan Katsantonis
George Ioannou
Nicholas Pirsos

The team is currently 2-2 and in 4th place.

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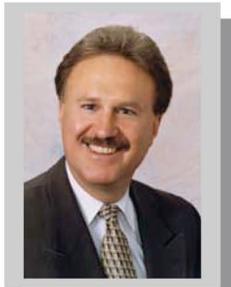


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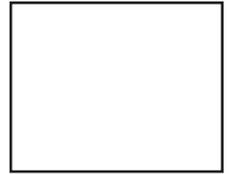
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