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WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The 2009 Annual Awards Ceremony of the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation

THE PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation Celebrates its 2009 Annual Awards Ceremony-51 Students are Given Merit Awards –

award recipients and be passionate about their future because they have the potential to be the leaders of tomorrow and the innovators that will change the way we live,”

**PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
AWARDS GALA 2009**



Mr. and Mrs. John and Eva Apostolou and Mrs. Georgia Litsogiannis



The extended family of Eleni and Dimitris Bousis, Mr. Christ Tomaras and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mell, Alderman for 33rd ward.



The President of the Foundation Chris Tomaras

25 Receive \$250,000 in Cash Grants

The Awards Gala took place at the prestigious Union League Club of Chicago and was filled to capacity by family, friends and philhellenes wanting to share in the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation's celebration of fifty one of the "best and brightest" Greek American students. All of the students were inducted into the PanHellenic Honors Society and as members will have the opportunity to communicate, network, promote education, stay connected and preserve their Hellenic Heritage.

Foundation Founder and Chairman Chris P. Tomaras in his address to the audience emphasized "continue to support the

and continued "the eternal values that these distinguished academic achievers received from their Hellenic upbringing will forever guide them to benefit themselves, their families and this great nation."

During his address, Mr. Tomaras revealed his future plans for the Foundation that include an endowment fund that will provide benefits to students in perpetuity, and a program titled "Birthright Greece" by which qualified American born students of Greek descent who have never visited Greece will do so on trips organized and paid for by the Foundation, so they can see for themselves and appreciate their heritage as such knowledge is their birth-given right.



Two well known families among the Greek Community in Chicago: Dr. George Skarpathiotis' and Tassos Chronopoulos'. Dr. Skarpathiotis is a famous paediatrician in the South side and Tassos is the president of TASSOS ENTERPRISES.

NATIONAL HELLENIC FREE PRESS GREEK-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

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1. To defend all who are unjustly attacked
2. To applaud the achievements of all our people
3. To support the ideas of the Greek Orthodox Faith
4. To promote the use of the Greek Language
5. To extend the knowledge of Hellenism, Greek culture and traditions
6. To encourage all worthy community causes
7. To further the just causes of the people of Greece
8. To uphold the Greek Cypriot cause
9. To assist all Greek-American fraternal, cultural, patriotic and religious organizations
10. To install Americanism in the Greek-American community.

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Ο

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ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΤΑΙΡΙΑΣ

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ΤΗΝ ΕΛΛΑΔΑ
ΕΥΧΕΤΑΙ ΣΤΗΝ ΟΜΟΓΕΝΕΙΑ

**ΚΑΛΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ
ΕΥΤΥΧΕΣ ΤΟ ΝΕΟΝ ΕΤΟΣ**



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FROM THE PANHELLENIC GALA AWARDS 2009 RECEPTION



From L. to R.: Mr. and Mrs. John Manos and Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Xenos



33 Ward Alderman Richard Mell, Eleni Bousis, Dr. Thanasis Economou and Ambassador Tassos Petrovas.

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM

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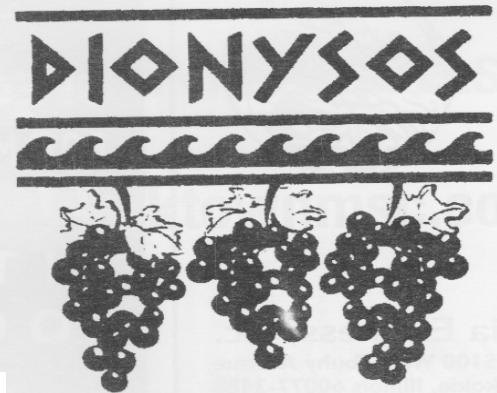
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TO ALL!



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Ο
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ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΤΑΙΡΙΑΣ
ΖΟΥΖΙΑΣ AND
ASSOCIATES

ΠΟΥ ΑΣΧΟΛΕΙΤΑΙ ΜΕ ΤΑ ΛΟΓΙΣΤΙΚΑ ΚΑΙ ΤΑ
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ΚΑΛΑΧ ΡΙΣΤΟΥΕΓΝΝΑ ΕΥΤΥΕΣ ΤΟ ΝΕΟΝ ΕΤΟΣ
2009

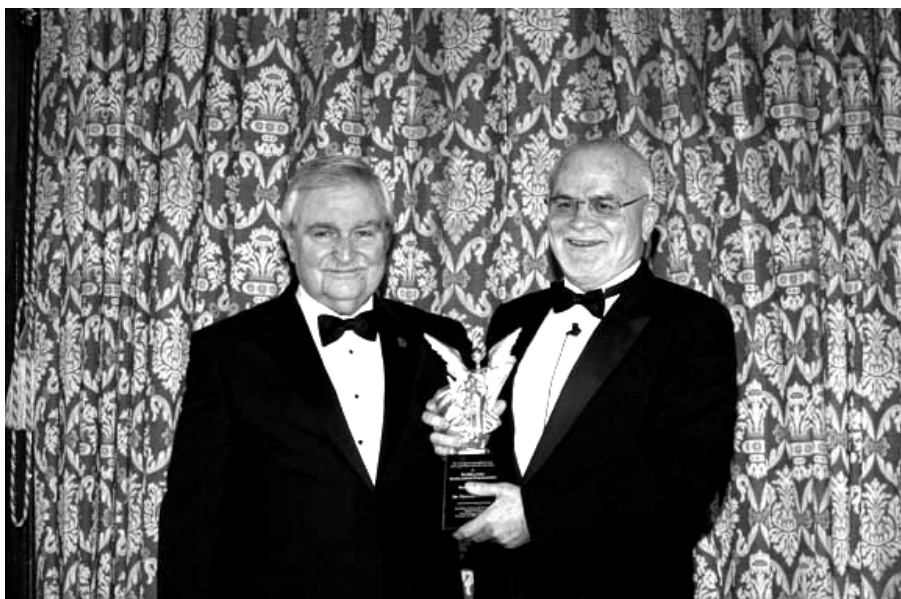
The 2009 Annual Awards Ceremony of the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation

This year, the Foundation received a record number of applications from all over the U.S with the largest number showing GPAs of 4.0 and higher. Of the fifty one award recipients, twenty five with documented financial need received a

phasized the need to continue to encourage and promote education, while several full scholarship grant donors congratulated the winners on stage and personally handed to them the awards. Included in these donors were Mrs. Evanthia Apostolou, Mrs. Eleni

a number of clergy, political and civic leaders attended, including: His Grace Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, Amb. Anastasios Petrovas, Consul General of Greece in Chicago, and Alderman Richard Mell. Also in attendance were the Honorable Maria Pappas, Cook County Treasurer, the Honorable Judge James Booras, the Honorable Judge Peggy Chiampas, the Honorable Judge Anna Helen Demacopoulos-Kosmas, Mrs. Maryanna Spyropoulos, Commissioner of the Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, Mr. Michael Halikias, Mr. John P. Calamos Sr., 2007 Paradigm Award Recipient and Chairman and CEO of Calamos Investments, Mrs. Eleni Bousis, President of the Greek American Rehabilitation & Nursing Centre, Mr. Demetrios Kozonis, Chairman of the Chicago Sister City - Athens Committee, Mr. Endy Zemenides, Senior Advisor to Illinois State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulas

of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
19. Constantine Giannaras - University of Illinois at
20. Ellen Goleas - University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign
21. Michael Graham - Youngstown State University
22. Thomas Hatzilabrou - University of Illinois at Chicago
23. Kristina Hauptmann - Ohio University
24. Cynthia Housianitis - Old Dominion University
25. Christopher Howell - University of California at Riverside
26. Kalissa Kakouros - University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
27. Panagiotis Karahalios - University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
28. Panagiota Karas - Northwestern University
29. William Kavadas - California



Chris Tomaras and Dr. Thanasis Economou

\$10,000 scholarship grant each. The Awards Gala tickets were sold out weeks before the event. The Foundation met the demand for attendance by holding the gala at a larger venue, and again successfully welcomed a full ballroom with supporters of education from across the country. The Invocation and a special

Bousis, Ms. Katerina Pappas, Dr. Tom Petropoulos and Dr. George Skarpathiotis. Student Stamatia Ress, who was selected to represent the 2009 Award Recipients, expressed both thanks and gratitude to the Foundation and the Donors.

A second highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Foundation's annual



Helen Sotos and John Valsamas

prayer were offered by His Grace Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, while well known Greek-American actress and spokes

Paradigm Award to world-renowned NASA Senior Planetary Scientist, Dr. Thanasis Economou, whose name is linked with most



From L. to R. Chris Tomaras, President, unidentified scholarship recipient, scholarship Grand Donor Dr. George Skarpathiotis and Life Time Benefactor John Apostolou

model Patricia Kara served as the evening's emcee.

Amb. Anastassios Petrovas, Consul General of Greece in Chicago, and Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas also conveyed their congratulations to the students for their accomplishments, and em-

of NASA's 50 year history. After accepting the award, Dr. Economou offered a fascinating presentation with images from space, including current NASA missions he is involved with.

Noted as Chicago Greek-American Community's most illustrious social event,



George Alexopoulos, D.A., Chairma Academic Committee

and Vice President of The International Coordinating Committee "Justice for Cyprus" and Mr. Gregory Pappas, President of the Greek America Foundation, as well as members of the clergy, officers of universities and educational institutions, representatives of Greek American Organizations and members of the Greek American media.

The 51 Award Winners for 2009, all inducted in the PanHellenic Honors Society, are:

1. Kyriaki Ades - Lake Forest College
2. Denise Alexopoulos - Loyola University
3. Ashley Alman - Duke University
4. Katherine Anoyiannakis - Grand Valley State University
5. Alexa Arvanitis - University of Florida
6. Alexandros Athanasakopoulos - Iowa State University
7. Sophia Bairaktaris - Loyola University
8. Julia Black - Berkeley University
9. Charles Blougouras - Bentley University
10. Sam Caldis - University of Minnesota
11. Athena Carapanos - John F. Kennedy University
12. James Commnellis - University of Missouri
13. Maria Constantinides - Southern Illinois University
14. Sable Diakos - St. John's University
15. Amanda Efthimiou - George Washington University
16. Marisa Falakos - Saint Xavier University
17. Kyle Feagin - University of Alabama
18. Katherine Georginis - University

State Polytechnic

30. Lauren Kottis - Duke University
31. Pia Kurkuvelos - Harvard College
32. Natalie Lalagos - Illinois Wesleyan University
33. Daphne Lambropoulos - University of Michigan
34. Alexander Mangos - Tufts University
35. Alexander Morelli - Harvard University
36. Stelios Papadopoulos - University of California
37. Theodora Papastratakis - University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
38. Georgios Parapouras - California State University in Long Beach
39. Matthew Polites - Washington University
40. Stamatia Ress - University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
41. Samantha Rose - Oral Roberts University
42. Anna Salapatias - Loyola University
43. James Schooley - Ohio State University
44. Leo Skiadopoulos - Loyola University
45. Shelby Stavretis - Butler University
46. Sydney Thayer - University of Southern California
47. Nicolette Theotikos - University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
48. Peter Tzioumis - Tulane University
49. Samantha Valsamis - University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
50. Maryann Vlahos - Columbia College
51. Athena Xides - University of the Pacific .

***MERRY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND THEIR FAMILIES.
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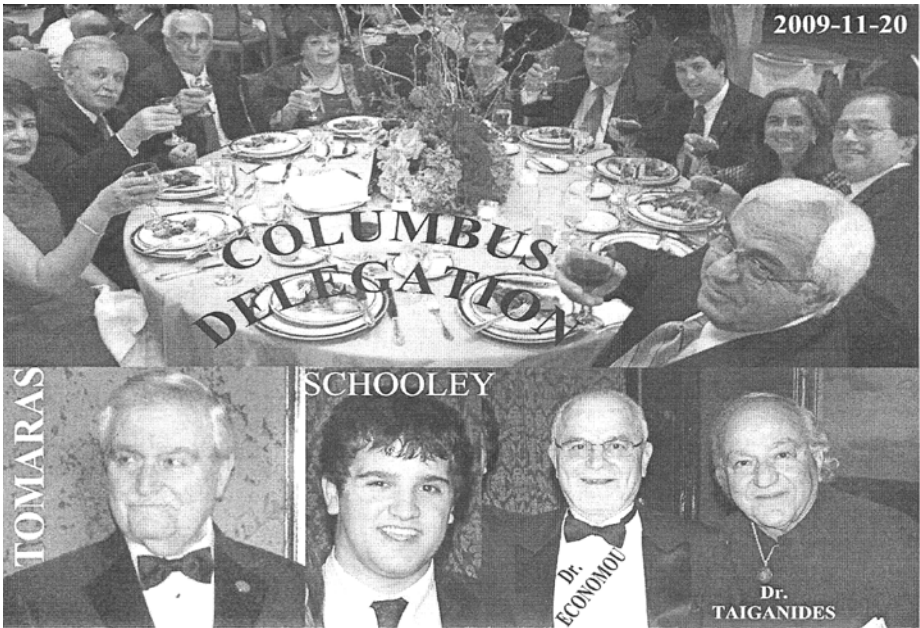


HOMAGE TO THE FUTURE OF
AMERICAN-GREEK HEDGEMONY
YOUNG BRIGHT STUDENTS HON-
ORED AT A GALA CEREMONY IN
CHICAGO. JIMMY SCHOOLEY OF
COLUMBUS OHIO WAS ONE OF
THE HONOREES A BOLD MOVE
FROM EXCELLENCE TO EMI-
NENCE ANNOUNCED.

E Paul Taiganides, editor & pub-
lisher www.GreekEthos.org

Eleven of us from Columbus [foto collage] attended the gala ceremonies on Friday 2009-11-20 honoring 51 bright young students who excelled academically and socially. 25 of those received \$10,000 each. The money was awarded on the basis of documented need. The banquet was held in the Union League Club, the prestigious address where world leaders lodge when visiting Chicago. A huge congregation of Chicago's elites attended the festivities.

This annual event was initiated and is organized by Chris Tomaras of the



www.PanHellenicScholarships.org foundation. “The Foundation has a single mission: to promote education by which Greek American scholarship recipients become significant achievers and, guided by the values of their Hellenic upbringing, contribute meaningfully to the ongoing development of American society”. This foundation that he founded a decade ago is only one of the many philanthropic activities of Mr. Tomaras [foto collage].

A man of Hellenic ethos and American ingenuity and altruism [Φιλαλληλία], Mr. Tomaras was the king of Gyros suppliers when Gyros was the king of Greek fast food outlets throughout the United States. He sold the company at a hefty price, which allowed him to devote time and money to philanthropic and cultural activities. For many years he served as Vice President of the Council of Hellenes Abroad [ΣΑΕ = Συμβούλιο Αποδήμου Ελληνισμού], part of an official program of the Greek government for the Greeks in Diaspora. Members of the advisory committee and I of the www.GreekEthos.org [Ἀἰεζιέῦ Ἀέῖδ] first met with Mr. Tomaras in May 2009. We discussed with him the possibility and ways of making Greek Ethos a national periodical.

The idea that had the most resonance with me was the bold move announced at the awards gala by Mr. Tomaras that he will use the Foundation to fund and sponsor groups of 25 to 30 students from American colleges and universities to a journey-to-the-Source, Greece, for what called ‘birth-given right’ to visit the land of their Hellenic heritage. This is a program similar to the one that is so effectively used by the American Jewish community in their effort to promote Israeli culture and interests. I think this idea of Mr. Tomaras will move us from the pursuit of excellence to the pursuit of eminence, something that is needed at this juncture now that we have a large crop of scholastic achievers with leadership qualities from the American Greek community, but who may not have the direct family roots that their previous generation had to help them in their search for their Hellenic identity.

Before I finish, let me say that an extraordinary Greek-American immigrant, Dr. Thanasis Economou [Θανάσης Οικονόμου] [foto collage] was presented with the 2009 Paradigm Award for his outstanding achievements in the design of soil sampling and topography surveying devices used in lunar and other star explorations by NASA, Russia, and the European Union.

I am writing this story al to bring to the attention of the Greek community the national honor given to one of our own, Jimmy Schooley [Δήμος Σκουλαρίνας] [foto collage], a Merit Scholar at Ohio State Univeristy of Greek ethos and American ambition [Φιλοδοξία], but also as a paradigm to our young, so they will dedicate themselves to the pursuit of excellence in their academic and social studies so they can be future recipients of the Hellenic journeys that the Pan-Hellenic Scholarships organization is planning for our future hedgemons in academia, politics, business, and culture in America.



Η "Ο" στέλλει θερμά συγχαρητήρια στην Ελίζαμπεθ και Λίο Ντανιελίδης για το νεογέννητο αγοράκι τους. Επίσης συγχαρητήρια και τους γονείς της μαμάς Βούλα και Γιάννη Τσάπας και καλές γιορτές.



Στα χαριτωμένα παιδάκια της Γωργίας Βρεττού τον Δημήτρη-Παναγιώτη Βρεττό και την Γαβριέλα-Αικατερίνη-Αγγελική Βρεττού που έκλεισαν τα 3. Χρόνια Πολλά.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING and SAVE The Date: April 22 in NY and April 24-25, 2010 at the TROPICANA Invitation for active participation at the 19th Hermes Expo, April 22, 2010 in New York and April 24-25, 2010 Atlantic City.

We believe that you would like to know our new plans, new additions, the 5 Networking opportunities and the following information, which can assist you decide which program fits your needs and your budget:

In Celebrating 19 continuous years of networking and expanding American Trade promoting the US Ethnic Business community and providing a platform with the South Eastern European countries, Greek- Americans, Romanian Americans and PhilHellenes, we invite you, a prominent member of the business community, to take an active part at the 19th Hermes Expo on April 24-25m 2010 at the TROPICANA and all its parallel networking activities.

Here are some key elements that could help enhance your professional experience and help elevate your business to a higher level as an Exhibitor and/ or Sponsor.

* RESERVE your Booth(s), sponsorship activities and plan now 160 days before the Hermes Expo for maximum exposure.

* INVITE your business Associates and friends to come and get informed, sample, taste, network with Americans, Greek Americans and Greeks, Romanians and other Balkan Countries that are looking to tap into this and other Ethnic Markets in USA.

* ATTEND the GREEN Symposium featuring fine speakers from US and Greece. (Saturday April 24, 2010 at 9:30 am -1 pm and 3-6 pm), Tropicana Ballroom.

* TAKE PART at the Grand Opening and besides the Exhibitors and sponsors meet the Invited Government Officials (Saturday April 24, 2010 at 1:00 pm).

* RESERVE your tickets and TABLE for the Dinner & Awards Presentation & Entertainment. (Saturday April 24, 2010 at 6:00 pm Cocktails, 7 pm Dinner)

* RESERVE your tickets for the Brunch on Sunday April 25, 2010 10:00 am to 12:00 Noon. Visit the 120 booths and Network 12-3 pm

* RECOMMEND the usefulness of the Hermes Expo to your business Associates and friends.

* PLAN your meetings at the Hermes Expo. Your personal invitation and information about the Hermes Expo is enclosed. Please visit www.HermesExpo.Com for more information and include the Expo in your 2010 budget and mark the dates on your calendar.

Should you be looking forward to new op-

portunities, we will be happy to arrange appointments with our Sponsors and Exhibitors.

Remember: With an active participation you help enhance your business horizons and networking and lay the foundations for your higher business returns. With your help and the help and guidance of many people, we are organizing the Hermes Expo since 1992. We are asking you for your active participation to make it even better and help it work for you too. Dead line as early as possible

We look forward to seeing you at the 19th Hermes Expo, on April 24 and 25, 2010 at the Tropicana Grand Ballroom. If you wish to discuss your details of your sponsorship participation please call at 610-446-1463 for an appointment at your earlier convenience.

Paul Kotrotsios, MBA Founder & President

**paul@hermesexpo.com
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PROPOSAL

FOR YOUR COMPANY TO PARTICIPATE AT THE 19th Hermes Expo International Please choose one of the following proposals and let us know which one fits your budget: Sponsorship Opportunities at the 19th Hermes Expo April 22, and April 24-25, 2010 @ the Tropicana SILVER \$5,500 GOLD \$7,500 PLATINUM \$9,500 NATIONAL \$25,000

* Standard Complete Booth \$2,500 (you bring your Banner, Posters Flyers, products and services and free promotional material for your invited clients and potential clients)

* Booth and Sponsor at the Grand Opening 1:00 pm Saturday April 24, 2010 \$3,500 (your short address to the visitors and Exhibitors, Great exposure) + all of the above

* Booth and Sponsor of the Green Symposium and Brunch 10-1pm & 3-6 pm on Saturday \$7,500 (Your address to the 250 attendees - Invited guests + all of the above)

* Booth and Sponsor of the Dinner Awards presentation 6pm Sat. \$7,500 (your short address to the 500 Business Executives, Sponsors and Exhibitors, Great exposure) + all of the above

* Booth and Sponsor of the Brunch on Sunday April 25, 2010 10-12 Noon \$6,500 (your short address to the Guests, visitors and Exhibitors, Great exposure) + all of the above

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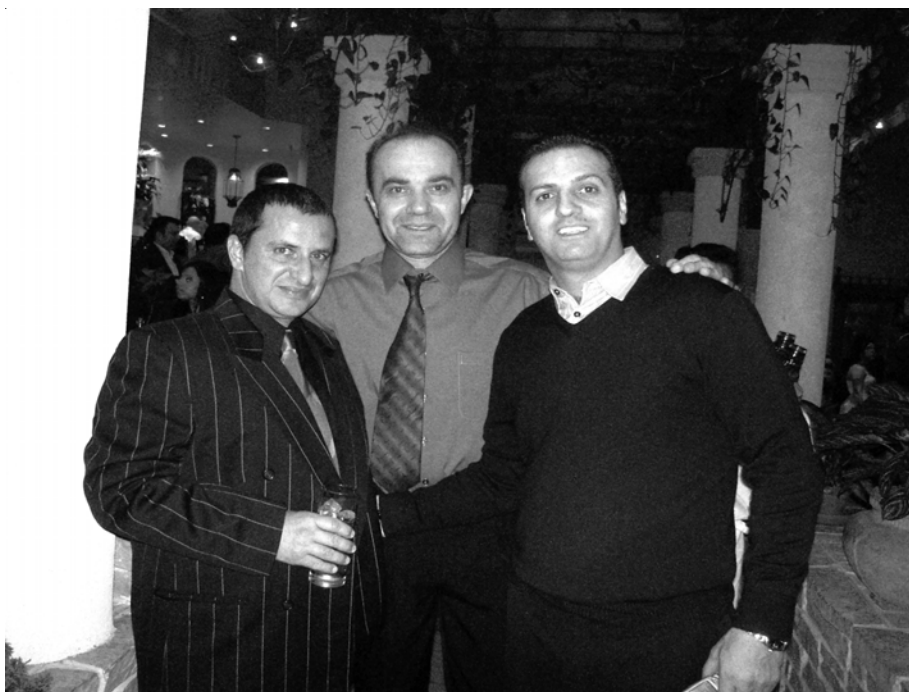
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GREEK NIGHT AT YANNI'S



On Friday the 4th of December at Yannis' Restaurant a very succesful Greek Night took place. More than 240 patrons had a very good time. Pictured above are the organizers, from L. to R.: Dimitros Gonias, producer, Lazaros, personnel and Steve: the co-owner.



The orchestra presented a well diversified musical program with leader the famous clarinetist Giannis Lignos and the beautiful singer Klara.

Boy's artistic talent ratified in contest

Glenview student's poster on Constitution wins national honors

Kimón Bolaris, in his classroom at Plato Academy in Morton Grove, is the son of Greek immigrants. "A lot of winners are immigrant kids," says Martha Childers of the GovDoc Kids Group. "Their families know what the

year-old seventh-grader at Plato Academy in Morton Grove, was in the school office making copies when the vice principal got the congratulatory e-mail and told him the news.



freedoms are." (Photo for the Tribune by Andrew A. Nelles / December 8, 2009)

When you're the youngest of four boys in a large Greek family, recognition can be in short supply.

So the day Kimon Bolaris heard his painting had been chosen from an international pool of almost 2,400 entries as a winner in the third annual GovDoc Kids Group Constitution Day Poster contest, his reaction was understandable. "I was really shocked and happy," the Glenview boy said.

Kimón (pronounced "Key-moan"), a 12-

Kimón was one of 13 winners from 37 states and Department of Defense schools in Italy, Japan and Korea.

The GovDoc Kids Group, an association of librarians and archivists, holds the contest to promote the use of democracy and to encourage children to learn about such government documents as the Constitution.

Kimón's watercolor painting features a red-and-white-striped circle against a blue sky. The words "We the people..." adorn the top of the circle. Stars rest be-

low.

"It's dramatic, it's striking," said Martha Childers, a coordinator for the GovDoc Kids Group and a librarian at the Johnson County Library in Kansas. "When you look at it, you go, 'wow.'"

"It's supposed to be the Earth as an American flag," Kimon said. "America is the land of opportunity and freedom, and I think the whole world should be free."

As the son of Greek immigrants, Kimon is not the first winner of the poster contest with foreign-born parents living in the United States.

"A lot of winners are immigrant kids," Childers said. "Their families know what the freedoms are, and the families that are old stock kind of take it for granted."

Having Plato Academy students participate in the contest was the idea of Kimon's visual arts teacher, Kathy

Hatzopoulos, to honor Constitution Day on Sept. 17. His win came as no surprise to her.

"Kimon is a very fun and witty child," Hatzopoulos said. "His work is definitely beyond his age."

Along with art, Kimon's favorite class is literature. Outside of school he likes kicking a soccer ball around with his brothers, playing the piano and performing every couple of months with his Greek dance troupe in retirement homes and banquet halls.

For his effort, Kimon will receive a certificate and two theater-size posters of his painting.

He plans to hang one poster on the wall in his bedroom and the other somewhere else in the house — perhaps in a place where his brothers can see it too.

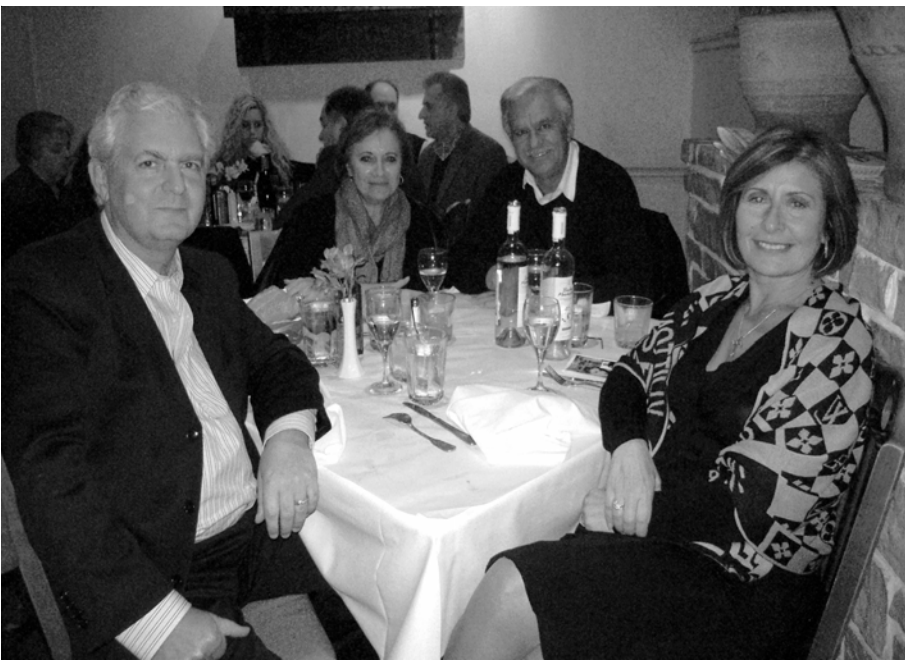
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GREEK NIGHT AT YIANNIS'



On Friday, December the 4th, there was a lively night at Yiannis' Greek Restaurant with Good food and live music. Pictured above are Mr. and Mrs. John Nikas in the back and Dr. George and Mrs. Karabelas in the front.



The show was stolen by the wonderful female vocalist Klara who impressed everyone with her beauty and her melodic voice.

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GREEK NIGHT AT YIANNIS'



This sizable "parea" seemed to have the best of good time. The camera of the "O" noticed some good friends in the "parea", Tom, Louis and Nick.



Yiannis' Greek Restaurant and Fresh Fish now is under new ownership and evrything there has changed for the better: from the fresh ideas of the menu to the lower prices and the mediterranean style of food preparation.



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GREEK NIGHT AT YIANNIS'



A night out for the editor: In front: Andreas Koliopoulos his friend (left) and the editor (right). In back: Angie (left) and Pola (right).



Over 250 patrons filled to capacity the multileveled areas of Yiannis' Greek Restaurant that night. They enjoyed good food, good company and good traditional Greek music.

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Φυλή των Μοκεν: τα παιδια της ελευθερίας

Αληθινή ευλογία να ανήκει κανείς στη φυλή των Μοκέν, μια από τις πιο ολιγάριθμες στον κόσμο. Έχουν παραμείνει νομάδες και ταξιδεύουν στο αρχιπέλαγος Μεργκουί, ανάμεσα στη Βιρμανία και ην Ταϊλάνδη, με τις βάρκες τους, που είναι ταυτόχρονα μέσο μεταφοράς και πλωτή κατοικία. Κάθε πρωί γυναίκες και παιδιά των Μοκέν ξεκινούν για να βρουν τα ψάρια και τα θαλασσινά που θα συνοδεύσουν το φαγητό-συνήθως ρύζι-της ημέρας. Οι νομάδες της θάλασσας ποτέ δεν προγραμματίζουν τι θα φάνε την επομένη. Τρώνε ό,τι περνάει μπροστά τους κολυμπώντας, κι έτσι το μενού διαμορφώνεται πάντα την τελευταία στιγμή.

Ποια είναι, όμως, η εκπαίδευση ενός παιδιού των Μοκέν; Βουτιές και κολύμπι στη βαθιά γαλάζια θάλασσα, για να μαζέψει εκπληκτικά κοχύλια, που το βράδυ θα τα πουλήσει σε κάποιον Κινέζο έμπορο. Γρήγορα μαθαίνει να διαλέγει σπάνια είδη που δίνουν σεντέφι, ενώ όταν η τύχη του χαμογελάσει ίσως πετύχει μέσα στην άμμο κάποιο κομμάτι κεχριμπάρι. Θα μάθει επίσης να πιάνει ψάρια με το καμάκι και να παγιδεύει τις νυχτερίδες στις γωνιές των μεγάλων σπηλαίων, βοηθώντας έτσι τους γονείς του να χτυπήσουν αυτό το ασυνήθιστο θήραμα με τα ραβδιά τους. Η τροφή είναι πάντα διαθέσιμη στους ανθρώπους και αυτοί προσέχουν να μη διαταράξουν το οικοσύστημα που την προσφέρει. Οι Μοκέν δεν δημιουργούν ποτέ αποθέματα από οτιδήποτε. Ένα ψάρι είναι αρκετό. Δύο είναι πάρα πολλά. Το ίδιο και τα χρήματα, που δεν σημαίνουν τίποτα γι' αυτούς, αφού τα ξοδεύουν αμέσως. Κανείς δεν πρέπει να είναι πιο πλούσιος από τον άλλο, κανείς δεν πρέπει να έχει στη βάρκα του μηχανή πιο καινούργια. Με το πέραμα του χρόνου, ο έφηβος Μοκέν θα ανακαλύψει νέους κανόνες, καθώς και το μαγικό κλειδί που ανοίγει κάθε πόρτα στη ζωή: την αγάπη. Οι λέξεις «ζω» και «παντρεύομαι» είναι ταυτόσημες στη γλώσσα αυτών των ανθρώπων. Οι Μοκέν ή ζουν σε ζευγάρια ή δεν ζουν

καθόλου. Τις βάρκες μόνο, ζευγάρια μπορούν να τις κουμαντάρουν: η γυναίκα κρατάει το καμάκι μπροστά, ενώ ο άντρας κάθεται πίσω στο τιμόνι. Το ίδιο ισχύει και για την τροφή: ο άντρας φέρνει το ρύζι - που απέκτησε ανταλλάσσοντας κοχύλια - και τα ψά-ρια, ενώ η γυναίκα μαζεύει τα σουμπάι, Έτσι, σε ηλικία μόλις 14 ή 15 ετών, τα νέα παιδιά παντρεύονται και ξεκινούν τη ζωή τους τα χνάρια των προγόνων τους. Στο δάσος, λίγο καιρό πριν από τη γαμήλια τελετή, οι συγγενείς της νέφης κατασκευ-άζουν μια βάρκα για το ζευγάρι, σκαλίζοντας τον κορμό ενός δέντρου που διάλεξαν με μεγάλη προσοχή. Οι νεόνυμφοι μπορούν πλέον ν' Αΰου αρχίσουν να εξερευνούν τη θάλασσα, γνωρίζοντας ότι θα ζήσουν την υπόλοιπη ζωή τους αφο-σιωμένοι ο ένας στον άλλο.

Από πολλές απόψεις ο κόσμος των Μοκέν είναι αληθινός παράδεισος. Κι όμως, απειλείται με εξαφάνιση. Και το πιο παράδοξο είναι ότι κινδυνεύει να χαθεί εξαιτίας των παιδιών του. Η κυ-βέρνηση της Ταϊλάνδης αποφάσισε να «εκπολιτίσει» αυτόν το νομαδικό λαό στέλνοντας τα παιδιά στα σχολεία. Ανάμεσα στο κολύμπι και στο κυνήγι νυχτερίδων, τα παιδιά των Μοκέν πρέπει τώρα να παρακολουθούν μαθήματα στα σύγχρονα σχολεία σε ολόκληρη τη χώρα. Εκεί διδάσκονται αξίες και παραδόσεις πολύ διαφορετικές από αυτές του λαού τους, με αποτέλεσμα να δημιουρ-γείται με ταχύ ρυθμό ένα χάσμα ανάμε-σα στις γενιές. Ο Μπατού, γιος του Σελάμα, για παράδειγμα, τραγουδάει τον εθνικό ύμνο και μιλάει στους γονείς του, στα τάι, γλώσσα τελείως ξένη προς τη διάλεκτο των Μοκέν. Έχει δε αρχίσει να βλέπει τους μεγαλύτερους με άλλο μάτι, θεωρώντας τους ίσως λίγο οπισθοδρομικούς και αμόρφωτους. Άραγε έχει στα αλήθεια ξεχάσει όλες τις γνώσεις που απέκτησε στη φύση και που κάνουν τόσο πλούσια τη ζωή των Μοκέν ;

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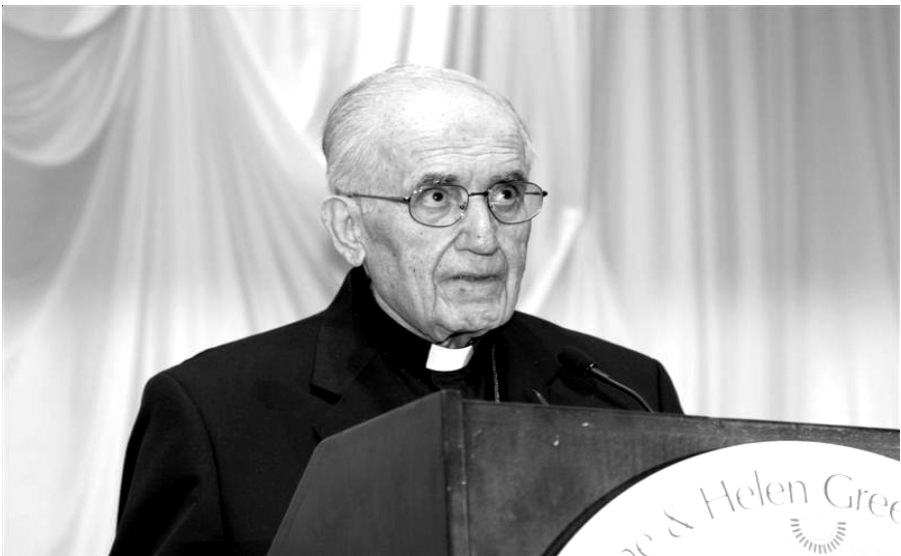
Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Palos Hills, Illinois, celebrates its 100th Year Anniversary and Honors Fr. Byron Papanikolaou for 50 years of Service with a Gala Celebration

On October 24, 2009 SS. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church celebrated its 100th anniversary and honored Father Byron Papanikolaou for 50 years of service with a Gala Celebration at the Oakbrook Hills Marriott Resort in Oakbrook Hills, Illinois. It brought together the many generations of people that have shared so many experiences and memories under the dome of the Church with an evening of dining, dancing and reminiscing.

Faith, love and dedication are the foundation that SS. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church were built upon and the reasons the many faithful congregated to celebrate one hundred years of this ever-thriving community.

This evening of elegance featured memories shared by the Mistress of Ceremonies, Danae Alexander; State Representative Dan Lipinski; Gala Chairpeople: Ned and Deanne Savide; Anniversary Chairpeople: Ted Argiris and Georgia Vouris; Parish Council President: John Arvanetes; Parish Pastor: Father Nicholas Jonas; Palos Hills city Mayor Gerald Bennett; Past Assistant Priest: Father Dean Paleologos; Son of the Honorees: Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou, Honoree: Father Byron Papanikolaou; Hierarchs of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis: Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago and Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, Chancellor.

One of the many highlights of the event was the presentation of an Icon featuring the Patron Saints of the Honorees, Father Byron Papanikolaou and his wife, Presvytera Cynthia Papanikolaou, a small token of appreciation for two people who have devoted their lives to the people of this parish. The evening featured a screening of the short subject documentary entitled, “Ipomoni – A Century of Faith and Perseverance”, the program featuring the history of the parish with a tribute to Father Byron told by those who have lived through the events which have shaped the lives of many. The evening featured the sounds of the Chris Sarlas Orchestra and brought the event to a close with the dancing and enjoyment of the faithful.



Father Byron Papanikolaou



Presvytera Cynthia Papanikolaou, Grandson Byron Papanikolaou, Father Byron Papanikolaou William Malliaras.



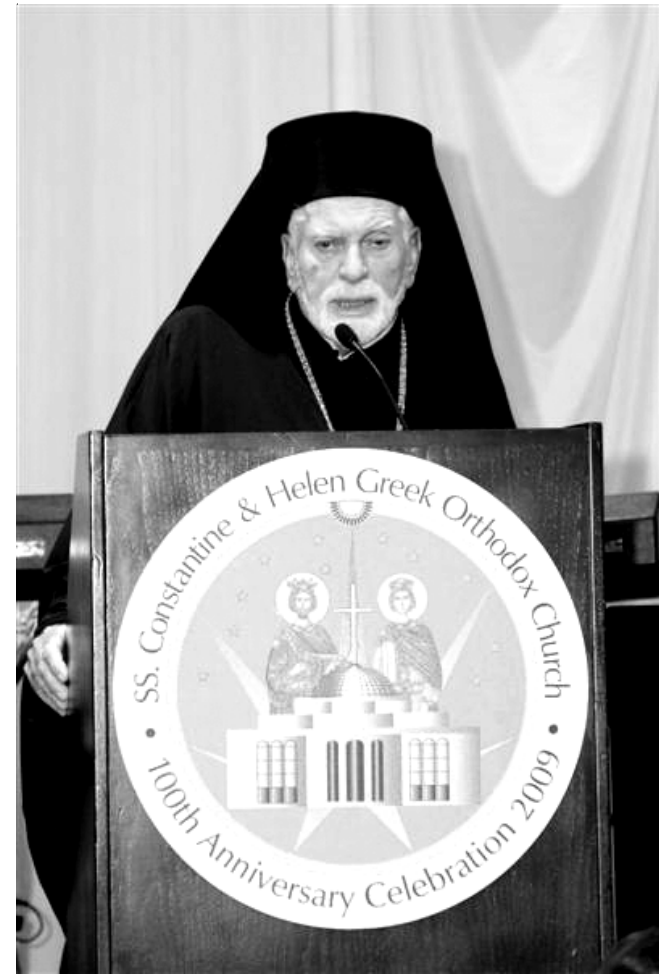
SultanaTsokolas and Danae Alexander, Mistres of Ceremonies



State Representative Dan Lipinski presnts proclamation to Fr. Byron and Fr. Nicholas.



Presentation of Icon to Father Byron and Presvytera Cynthia Papamikolaou



his
Eminence
Metropolitan
Iakovos



Ted Argiris, Anniversary Chairperson, Tom Manikas, Committee Member, Georgia Vouris, Anniversary Chair Person, Deanne and Ned Savide, Gala Chairpersons.

Best Wishes

From Andreas and Kostas Papantoniou



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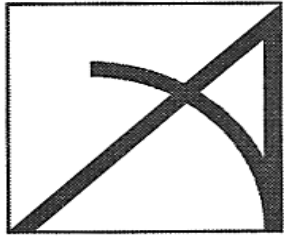
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CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH MARIA PAPPAS



On December the 3rd, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas celebrated Christmas with a colorful display of over 90 Christmas trees from all over the world.



However, For Christine (right) and her fellow office personnel it was a working day!

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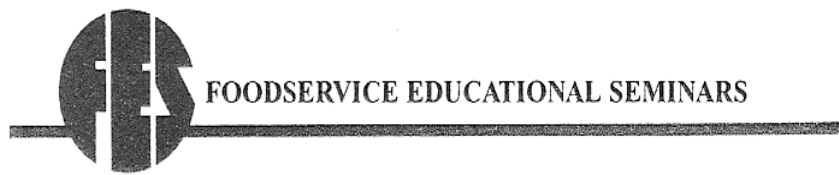
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NOVEMBER 21, 2009

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