

ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ

KARYYES

Lakonia



The bridge in Haidonoremma

News Bulletin

No 12

Spring 2017

“THE MODERN KARYATES FOR THE ANCIENT CARYATIDS” THE COMPLETION OF THE RENOVATION OF THE CARYATIDS MONUMENT CONCERNS ALL OF US

Great online movement of the Karyates Association (S.A.K.)

It's been nearly 40 years since the beginning of the construction, and about 35 years since the opening of the brilliant monument which was inspired and carried out by the Karyates who had been forced to flee their village either to Athens or to some foreign land. These compatriots – most of whom are not alive anymore – not only did they not forget, but they wanted to transform their love for this place into a monument that would mark the relationship between the ancient and the modern Karyes, thus making us proud and at the same time our village known throughout Greece. And indeed, four decades later, the conclusion is that **they achieved their goal**. The brilliant monument is now a point of reference for our village. Dozens of travel guides mention it and hundreds of visitors come to see it in person.

Our Association, to which the site belongs, is committed to take care and maintain it. The board members consider this the minimum obligation towards the project's initiators, who devoted a lot of time and money to motivate the Karyates in order to accomplish their goal.



As we have mentioned in previous issues, in the last years we have contributed:

- to the maintenance of the courtyard area
- to the waterproofing of the ceilings
- to the renovation (restoration of damages, maintenance of marble structure) of the monument

At the same time, we prepared and completed a study on:

- the restoration of the monument's statues, as well as
- the statues of the Muses, which in our opinion are now part of the archeological site of our village.

The latest development concerns the preparation of the final study for the construction of the trail that leads from the main road to the monument. This path was foreseen in the original image of the building, and with its construction its final image and form will be completed. It is time for all of us, younger and older, local residents and expatriates to contribute to the maintenance, and the completion of our magnificent monument.

The board members of the Karyates Association believe that **the monument should be a concern of all Karyates** and for this reason, we would like to see as many people as possible involved. We believe the cost should not be covered by a few individuals with a lot of money, but by many people with little money. Therefore, the association opened a bank account in the National Bank of Greece to make it easy for everyone to deposit the amount they wish. A small contribution of **€10 to €20** would be enough, if everyone would be willing to make a donation. Any contribution, of any amount is more than welcome. All contributions will be announced both on the Internet (website of our village, Facebook groups), as well as in our bulletin. The account number is (IBAN).

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ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ
SYNDESMOS TON APANTACHOU KARYATON
SWIFT (BIC) ETHNGRAA
NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE

Let us all help, in order for this goal to come true.

With patriotic greetings,
The members of the Directors Board Of our Association

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ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Karyates Association announces its intention to exploit the ground floor of commercial stores in its property building, located at Karyes Central Square, which will house the Karyes Center for the Memory and Culture.

We invite anyone interested in leasing the property to please contact us either by e-mail at info@karyes.gr, or by calling +30 6944 784563, +30 6974 720909.

The Board of Members

TORONTO BROTHERHOOD 2016:

A YEAR FULL OF ACTIVITIES



Our brotherhood in Toronto, Canada is an example for paradigm for many Greek Clubs. As we have mentioned in previous issues, it is a vibrant association with several activities that keeps alive the memories of our village to the Karyates who have migrated to the beautiful country of Canada.



Photos from the summer's paniryri



The activities begin every year with the opening of the privately owned Karyes Park in May and it is followed by the two-day summer feast.

This is followed by the feast of the roasted corn, which also takes place in the park, and is a last chance for a meeting in an open natural space before the winter.

The photos we publish are posted on the Brotherhood's Web site of the www.karyai.com.



Finally, at Christmas time each year the Brotherhood organizes the Christmas celebration which is dedicated to the young Karyates.

Our congratulations to the people of the Brotherhood and to all our compatriots and wishes to continue vigorously.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Mr. Harris Konstantopoulos
Secretary Gen. of the Karaytes Worldwide Association,
Head of the News Bulletin Editorial Group

The issues that concern the residents of our beautiful village lately are many. The two most important ones involve the investment of the money we have received from the **Kerchoulas Testament** and the proposal for the construction of a plant for the Mechanical Sorting of Waste, as well as the construction of a plant producing soil improvers from solid non-hazardous waste in scope of the Local Community of Karyes.

The Karyates Association is closely monitoring the developments of both issues. You need to be informed that the members of the Board have been offered proposals and strong incentives to take a stand in favor of one or the other. All members of the board have undoubtedly formed their own personal views, not only on these two issues, but on all issues that concern our village.

However, dear compatriots, the purpose of the Karyates Association is only one:

THE UNITY OF THE KARYATES

For this reason, we are not going to express our position in favor of one or the other point of view. Instead, we will express our concerns:

- How is it possible to have available money for investment all these years that yet remains uninvested?
- How is it possible that a series of business initiatives with money from our compatriots from Greece and abroad have all led to failure (creamery, slaughterhouse, chestnut processing factory, etc.)?
- How is it possible that within a period of crisis and with the continuing reduction of the population of our village, the residents cannot come to an agreement and make decisions for their common future?
- How is it possible that such an important issue as the construction of the Waste Treatment Plant has not been discussed in detail in the General Meeting of the Residents? A discussion that will lead to the creation of **a List of Pros and Cons.**
- How is it possible that the residents are prompted to protest for this plant, when the waste was burned or buried 1.5km away from the village and nobody expressed concern for decades?

Remaining neutral is not an indication of WEAKNESS or ABSTENTION. It is an indication of

LIABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY.

In any case, our Association that expresses all Karyates, will always be promoting

PEACE, GOOD UNDERSTANDING, and COMMUNICATION among us.

With patriotic greetings



Passing away of our compatriot Dimitrios Grivas



Forty days ago, we said good-bye to our beloved Dimitraki Grivas, a ninety-four year-old “teenager”. He reminded us of his age last summer, when we were telling him – without exaggerating – how well he looked. “That’s why the Registrar put the name ‘Dimitrakis’ in my ID, to confirm this flattery!” he added laughing.

Dimitrakis Grivas was born in Karyes, Lakonia, where he lived during his childhood. He was a graduate of the “college” of Makronisos, and a “visitor” of the islands of the Eastern Aegean (places of exile due to political beliefs). He never wanted – despite the pressure of his friends – to redeem his patriotic parchments.

He was fortunate to have an admirable wife who loved his birthplace even more than he did. We had the pleasure of seeing Dimitraki and Marika in the village during summer time.

He always supported his compatriots at times of sorrow, and also joined them in celebrating their joys. He made celebrations even more beautiful with his dashing poise, and was always polite and smiling.

Dimitrakis worked hard, raised his children and grandchildren, and even had great-grandchildren. He left discreetly, just like he had lived his life, with dignity and generosity. He is resting now, under the cypress trees of his second homeland, Kaisariani in Athens, next to his beloved son, whose premature death had utterly devastated Dimitraki.

Even though Dimitrakis was one of those who served their country with personal sacrifice, his name will not be found in history books. I do not think he would have wanted that anyway. He will, however, stay in the precious memories of those who met him, those who have grown rich from his philosophical rhetoric, his subtle humor, and the life lessons he gave with the silent projection of principles, whose arduous observance is a privilege of few people in time.

Vassileios Kakaris

Our compatriot passed away on 14 March 2017 in Los Angeles, California, USA at the age of 96. Vasilios Kakaris of Aristotle and Demetra (of the Trakas family) and was buried in Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

He was born in Karyes and immigrated to the U.S.A. in the 1950s, but he was visiting his birthplace every summer.

He left behind his wife Eugenia, four children, Maria wife of Konstantinos Melahouris, Dimitra wife of Koutsou, Christina wife of Dimitrios Kougias and Aristotle (Arthur) Kakaris and many grandchildren.

Our sincere condolences.

In the beginning of 2017 many of our patriots passed away. Let us mention them to honor their memory. Their name and age details were provided by the Reverend of Karyes, Father Efstratios.

- On 01.01.2017 Panagiotis Karagiannis, aged 72.
- On 17.01.2017 Ioanna (Giannoula) widow of Vassilios Pouloukefalos, years 92.
- On 21.01.2017 Konstantinos Leventakis, years 88.
- On 02.02.2017 Konstantina the widow of Solon Mertzelos, aged 91.
- On 05.03.2017 Eleni Diamandourou, age 101.
- On 30.03.2017 Konstantina Deverou, age 90.

We express our most sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to their families and friends.

WEDDINGS

On April 1st, 2017, Philemon Diamantatos, a physicist from Athens, married Christiana Moutzouvi, a chemist from Marousi, Attica.

Philemon is the son of Emmanuel Diamantatos and Paraskevi (Peggy) daughter of Panagiotis Kakaris, notary from Karyes and Anna Katsichti from Sparta.

Congratulations

BIRTHS

On November 1st, 2016, Nilos K. Kardaras became a grandfather as his younger son, Savvas, became father of a girl in Athens.

- On February 24th, 2017, Alexandros Davis and Konstantina Traka (daughter of Nikos and Eleni Traka) became parents of a girl in Athens.
- On February 28th, 2017, Vasilis K. Kardaras became a grandfather as his daughter, Marilena, gave birth to twin girls.

Congratulations



View of Karyes from the road of Agios Konstantinos

The Digital Archive of the newspaper “ΚΑΡΥΕΣ” available in <http://www.karyes.gr/archives/>

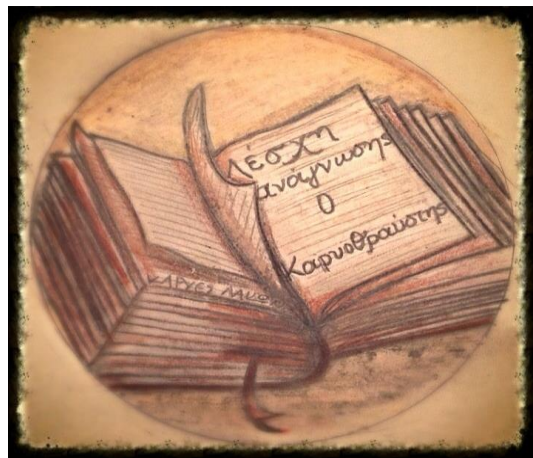


REQUEST

Those who wish to receive this news bulletin via e-mail, please inform us by sending your e-mail address at

E-mail: info@karyes.gr

“The Nutcracker” Reading Club is suspending its Operation



We were informed of the sad news about the operational suspension of the Reading Club, “The Nutcracker”.

Specifically, the relative post made by the manager of the Reading Club, Mr. Michalis Chikaras on Facebook mentions:

“Ending Titles for “The Nutcracker” and a wonderful woman. One of the first things we did when we came to live permanently in the small village of Karyes, Lakonia in September

2013 was to start a Reading Club, “The Nutcracker,” with an adult section which I would take over and a section for school children which would be run by my wife.

In the beginning, almost everyone believed we were crazy. “Really? A Reading Club at 1000 meters altitude?” was their response. Our goal was to cultivate the love for books and dialogue. Tolerance in individuality. Respect of others’ opinions. At first, I remember, we only had three entries in each section. And while the idea for the Reading Club was mine, the adult section never came along, because I did not have the necessary patience and willingness for such a venture. Eva never gave up, however. The three children that registered at first became five, the five became seven and at some point, they reached to twelve! Almost every Saturday or Sunday morning, the village community building was filled up with children who apparently enjoyed a wonderful and creative two hour time in Reading Club. Yesterday, Sunday 15/1/2017, was the last time they met. I am proud of you my gem, and you should also be proud of the substantial work you offered with “The Nutcracker.”

We hope that in the future, there will be similar cultural and educational initiatives in Karyes, similar to the Reading Club “The Nutcracker”.

The Carnival festivities at Karyes



Two Carnival events-Parties took place in our village during the three days of Ash Monday.

The first on **Saturday, February 25, 2017** at night, was organized by the Karyes Cultural Association and was on the ground floor of the building of the community of Karyes.

The second event took place the following day, **Sunday 26 February 2017** in the evening - as in recent years, at the "The Archontiko tou Parnona".

In both events there was a musical program by well-known DJs. The inhabitants and visitors of our village, as well as residents from the surrounding villages enjoyed the rhythm of the Carnival with kefi and a lot of dancing.

Announcement of the D.E.Y.A. concerning the regulation of water and sewerage debts

D.E.Y.A. of Sparti allows consumers to settle their arrears until 30.04.2017, paying 30% of the total debt and the balance in monthly installments, provided that the current accounts are regularly reimbursed.

Reportage of SKAI TV “Istories” concerning the Kerchoula Trust

On Tuesday, January 10, 2017, at 23:30, the well-known news and research journal "Istories" by journalists Papahelas, Tsimas, Kosioni and Telloglou on SKAI's television dealt with the history of the Kerchoula's trust and the prospect of building a biomass energy plant in Karyes in Lakonia.

It was a reportage that probably did not honour our village and it should be used as a source of questioning.



4th International Food-Drink Expo



For three days at the Syntagma Square Metropolitan Railway Station, Laconian Products were presented in order to make the inhabitants and visitors of the city of Athens aware of the richness of the Laconian land. There were also copies of the tourist map of our village, which was published by our Association, in order to let visitors know the beauties of our village in the Pavilion of the Municipality of Sparta.

At the end of the show, the pavilion was transported to the 4th FoodExpo International Food and Drink Exhibition, which took place from 18 to 20 March 2017 at the Metropolitan Expo. There, together with the producers of Lakonia, the Kiosks of “Mythical Peloponnese” hosted a total of 212m2. At the same time, 32 other individual companies participated in the exhibition, characterizing the participation of the Peloponnese as one of the most numerous and dynamic of the whole exhibition.

The producers had the opportunity to make several planned b2b business meetings with Foreign Buyers who were hosted by the event and to get acquainted with their products to the domestic professionals who visited the exhibition.

The opening of the exhibition was held by the Minister of Rural Development Mr. Evangelos Apostolou in the presence of the Deputy Minister of Citizen Protection Mr. Nikolaos Toskas, the President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mr. Konstantinos Michalos, as well as representatives of parties and institutions.

On behalf of the regions of the country, Mr. Petros Tatoulis, Regional Governor of Peloponnese, welcomed.

The Peloponnese Region's Pavilion was visited by the President of the New Democracy Party Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, who was welcomed by the representatives of the Peloponnese Region Konstantina Ms. Nikolakakou and Mr. Periklis Mantas, The representatives informed him of the extroversion actions as well as the cooperation of the Region with the productive classes. They declared that the extroversion of our country is based on the efforts of the elected Regions, which have the responsibility to develop their region, while asking the leader of the main opposition to contribute to the strengthening of the institution of the country's region. The kiosk of the Region of Peloponnese also visited by the President of the Union of Center parties, Mr. Vassilis Leventis, the representative of the parliamentary group of Democratic Compatriots Mr. Odysseas Konstantinopoulos and the former Minister of Rural Development and Food, Ms Katerina Batzeli.

During the presentation famous chefs from the Chefs Club of Greece presented traditional Peloponnesian recipes to the Presidents of the Chefs Clubs of Italy, Spain, France, Portugal, Malta, Cyprus and Lebanon. Guest chefs were impressed by the tastes of the recipes and by the high level of Peloponnesian products.

OUR COMPATRIOTS' DISTINCTIONS

Compatriot Architect Mr. John Karahalios at the "GR80s" Exhibition



A very interesting exhibition took place at the beginning of the year in "Technopolis" Athens in Gazi, reviving the GR80s, the Greece of the Eighties, with a program of parallel activities at the **Onassis Cultural Center**.

The exhibition is an original historical and cultural flashback to the '80s, which aims to offer the visitor a unique experience that recaptures the '80s, through the 18 stands and a combination of direct information, audiovisual exhibits, and interactive applications. Compatriot and architect, **Mr. Ioannis Karahalios** participated in the exhibition, and along with his colleague, Mrs. Elizabeth Plaini, who oversaw the planning of the interior representation of a typical Greek apartment during the '80s. The exhibit was titled "**Apartment 1987**" and was included in the stand "Housing and Public Space".

The exhibition was on until March 12th, 2017 in Technopolis Athens.

A Karyatis plays bouzouki at the White House on the occasion of the Greek Independence Day



The White House was dressed in the colors of the blue and white Greek flag on Friday, **March 24, 2017** in the United States, to welcome the Expatriate Hellenism representatives, the diplomatic Authorities of Greece and Cyprus, as well as influential businessmen from the U.S. and Greece on the occasion of **196th anniversary of the National Revival**. American President Donald Trump, Vice-President Mike Pence, and Greek-American incumbent, Reince Priebus, welcomed the Minister of National Defense, Panos Kammenos, and other Greek officials to the White House. This is the first event hosted by the new U.S. government honoring the Greek American Community and Greece, yet, the White House celebrates the Greek Independence Day on the March 25th for 31 years.

At the entrance of the White House, the high-ranking officials were greeted with Greek traditional melodies by a three-member orchestra. **John Barlas**, of Karyan descent, played bouzouki.

The Basketball Museum Y.M.C.A. OF Thessaloniki honors compatriot John (Ioannis) Kostalas

Yet, another award will be presented to our compatriot, John Kostalas, a few months after his recognition by the Greek Basketball Federation (E.O.K.) last February, where he received an honorary plaque as a "**symbol**" of **Greek basketball in America**. E.O.K. honored the Greek expatriate, who has provided initiatives and efforts that promote and highlight Greece, its culture, and its people, with financial and moral support. At the same time, we all know that he has hosted almost the entire Greek basketball team at his house.

Now, it is the Basketball Museum's (Y.M.C.A.) turn to honor this fellow expatriate for his great contribution to sports and basketball.

The event took place on Saturday, **December 17, 2016**, at the indoor sports hall of the Thessaloniki Youth Christian Union "Mimis Tsikinas" at the Museum's premises. Mr. Kostalas was represented by his nephew **Efstratios Kostalas**, general manager of Spartac Moscow Regional Basketball Club.

For the 80-year-old Giannis Kostas's contribution and their experiences, international veteran basketball players spoke at the event.

A few words about I. Kostala

Ioannis Kostas was born in Karyes in 1936 and in 1951 he went immigrant to America, because of the poverty. The destruction of Arachova by the Germans lead him to follow the way to the U.S.A. where he studied. However, he ended up with his three siblings in creating a **restaurant business in New York**, Later his two siblings returned to Greece, so he remained there by himself.

Since 1968, he has been the owner of **Essex World Cafe** in the Ground Zero neighborhood next to Wall Street, serving daily breakfast and lunch. The restaurant was almost two and a half years closed following the 11th September terrorist attack.

Today, he is a resident and entrepreneur in New York and although he is 80 years old, he continues and works actively.



Christoula Charakas in a special show at the Onassis Foundation's House of Arts and Letters



Compatriot **Christoula Evang. Harakas**, a prominent dancer and longtime resident in New York City, came to Greece for a special show at the **STAGE** of the **Onassis Foundation House of Arts and the Letters**. STAGE featured a choreography by **Maria Hassabi** with four of the best New York dancers, where body-sculptures have a different relationship with time.

The choreography was presented in 4 performances on **7-8 April 2017** and on **9 April 2017**, at the Central Stage of the Onassis Foundation House of Arts and Letters.

A few words about Christoula Harakas

Christoula Harakas is a contemporary dance artist based in New York City. She graduated in Athens from the **Niki Kontaxaki Dance School**. He moved to New York in 1996 as a scholar of both the **Alexander Onassis Foundation** and the **Merce Cunningham Dance Foundation**. She is a recipient of the **2006 Bessie Award** and has collaborated with inspiring artists such as Maria Hassabi, Donna Uchizono, Jodi Melnick, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Judith Sánchez Ruiz, Chameckilerner, Levi Gonzalez, Amanda Loulaki, Jeremy Nelson and Luis Lara Malvatas. She is a senior Pilates trainer.

THE TRADITIONAL GUESTHOUSE OF OUR COMPATRIOT MR VASILEIOS ARDAMIS WAS AWARDED AGAIN

The Champions of Greek Tourism

On **21 March 2017** at Athenaeum InterContinental Athens, under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism and the Greek Tourism Organization, distinct touristic units were awarded as well as some of the largest hotels in the country and businesses from the entire range of Tourism.

In the Traditional Guest Houses category, the **Ardamis Guesthouse** of our compatriot Vas. Ardamis in **Monemvasia, Lakonia** won a medal for the second consecutive year. Specifically, they won the bronze (Silver last year).

Because as they say "it's harder to stay on top than to reach it," congratulations!



THE ANNUAL DANCE OF THE KARYATES ASSOCIATION



This year, like every year, our Association held its annual dance. It was an opportunity for our compatriots from Athens to reunite and have a great time together. The event, which is traditionally accompanied by the cutting of the vasilopita, took place on Sunday, **March 12th, 2017**, at the restaurant "BARBA LAZAROS", a bright, beautiful and cozy place in Palaio Faliro, Athens. Our compatriots danced to the sounds of the music band consisting of five musicians and singers.

The event honored with their presence the president of the Sports Club "KARYATIS" and of the "SKIOURIS" Foundation, **Mr. Theodoros Mentis**, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Non-Profit Company "Trust of P. Kerchoulas", **Mr. George Tsvilis**. Also, **Mr. Nik. Koutsogiorgas** was addressed to the attendants on the account of **Mr. Tatoulis**, District Director of the Peloponnese Region.

The chairman of the **Karyates Association (S.A.K)**, **Mr. Michalis Repoulis** took the opportunity to thank all the compatriots and friends of our village, who honored the association yet another year.

We hope to see you all again next year!



THE ROAD SKOURA-PIRI IS COMPLETED



One of the most important constructions in Laconia was completed on December 23rd, 2016.

It is a new part of the National Road, which completely bypasses the city of Sparta and its suburbs. The road ends a few meters after the Sparta Military Camp, just before the bridge where the roads to Monemvasia, Molaoi, Neapoli and Elafonissos are separated on one hand and towards Gythio and Mani on the other. So now with the use of that road from Karyes, Southern Laconia and its beaches are less than an hour away on a safe road that does not pass through settlements.

At the inauguration of the new road, the **Regional Director of the Peloponnese, Mr. Tatoulis**, announced that within 2017, other major projects will be launched by the Region of Laconia, such as the port of Gytheion, the Spartan Music School and the roads Monemvasia-Neapolis and Fokianos-Kyparissi, while the road Gythio-Areopoli will be soon completed.

BULLETIN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF KARYATES WORLDWIDE

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

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