



ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ

KARYES

LACONIA



KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS BULETTIN

Issue Number 27

Winter 2020 - 2021

2021: Thoughts and hopes for the new year

A strange year came to an end. A painful year for many people, which will be indelibly engraved in the history of mankind. The new COVID-19 virus and the worldwide pandemic have upset economic, political and social life causing serious problems. There are many who face the danger of unemployment and anxiety about the future. However at the same time the pandemic, with all the disasters it brought, like any crisis, **creates new opportunities**

Globally, it has overturned lifestyles. Who would have expected that thanks to the possibilities of digital technology in a few week's time millions of **employees** would continue to **work from home** almost as efficiently as in their offices and millions of **pupils and students** would **continue their education via PC or mobile phone**?

At European level, who would have expected European governments will agree on a joint **European Financial Aid Program** for the next 5 years that is unprecedented and could be compared to the Marshall Plan that reformed Europe after World War II?

At national level, who would have expected that our country, Greece, which has been so much blamed during the last decade, would gather so many positive opinions about pandemic management from around the world, while great and developed countries worldwide (U.S.A., U.K., France, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Sweden, etc.) have failed completely?

Having a lockdown, as we suffer from the second wave of the pandemic, hoping to escape from the third one that has severely strike many countries, we expect the good news about the progress of science that will provide vaccines to stop and finally eradicate the pandemic in the coming months.

However, to all of us who love Karyes, many thoughts are born about the future of the beautiful settlement along with concerns, hopes and plans.

The image of Karyes during the past year

At 2020 during the period when the restrictive measures were not in force (ie until Halloween and after June until October) the image of the village fills us with optimism for its future. Karyes is slowly but steadily becoming more and more known as **a tourist destination**. On the weekends the hostels were almost always full booked and every Saturday and especially every Sunday **hundreds of visitors made day trips to our beautiful village** in order to walk in its streets and visit its monuments (Caryatids, Virgin Mary, Clock, School) and then to stay for a coffee or to have a lunch in the cafeterias and taverns in the Central Square, which as they say *"is by far the most impressive at the entire Parnon area"*. As we may see from many videos and photos posted in social media in autumn every weekend the square was full of people like during the summer time.

Meanwhile, the new **marked trails** have started to become known and to attract specialized tourism and almost every weekend you may see walkers with backpacks and special equipment. **Motor tourism** also makes its strong presence, since we regularly see motorists either with "enduro" or high-capacity motorbikes choosing the roads of Parnon Mountain for excursion, ending up in Karyes for coffee and food, while many also choose the hostels of the village for overnight stay. Also, the **cycling routes** allow the organization of races for the Greek National Bicycle Championship, as well as for races at an international level, bringing more tourists and making Karyes even more famous.

It is no coincidence that the **Deputy Regional Governor of Laconia, Mr. Veroutis**, who visited our village on Sunday, October 25, said he was **excited by the liveliness** of Karyes in a relevant post on FB, describing it as a **model for everyone**.

But all of the above are not accidental. It is a combination of timeless efforts of:

- the **private sector**, ie the families who have lived in Karyes and have invested in creating and maintaining modern businesses in the hotel sector and in the field of catering and trade that finally offer valuable services to the visitor and
- the **village bodies** that maintain the good infrastructure level (squares, monuments and churches) and at the same time advertise our village with printed (maps) and electronic material (site www.Karyes, initiative "in the Shadow of Mount Parnon").

It is a great reward for all those who love the place and at the same time have dreamed, planned and executed all these years many projects in order to achieve that result, often hearing "criticism". At the same time, it is an after death award for all the previous generations of our compatriots who had dreamed, had designed and finally had implemented large projects that were often judged too much for a village (Central Square, new St. Andrew's Church, Primary School, "Karyatis" Sports Stadium and of course the Caryatides Monument).

The future is already here and it is going to be promising

The dreams and the works of these previous generations are a guide for the members of the current **BOD of the Karyates Association**. During its existence and for more than **70 years**, the Association has put its "mark" on this image. A mark that is going to be even stronger grace to the project of the building complex housing the **"Karyes Memory and Culture Center" (K.M.C.C.)**.

This dream is becoming a reality, day by day, thanks to the **generous contributions of the compatriots Karyates** who live in Greece and abroad and thanks to the **high organizational level** that distinguishes the Association, as it managed to include the project in a financial program of the European Union.

The current image of the central square will change radically and it is *"in the hands of the people of the village"* to become a **reference point at the Culture level** not only for the whole region but also in a national level. The permanent residents are the ones who should embrace it as the **possibilities are unlimited**.

Furthermore, the **renovation of Rachi Square**, which is the most important public project in the village since many years, should be served as a great opportunity to create a **second recreation center** in Karyes. All the Karyes' bodies and the residents have to work in this direction.

The pandemic crisis however along with the difficulties, create opportunities for the development of the village as many patriots living in big cities decided to spend **almost all their summer holidays** in it, or even the whole period of the **second lockdown** (November-December). In fact, while someone may think that they were all **pensioners**, in fact there were several **employees** who, taking advantage of the ability to work in a remote (via computer) mode, decided to use **their village house as a workplace**. This fact should make us all think: *is possible the village of Karyes to become an almost permanent residence for the compatriots living in big cities or even abroad? Is possible the digital era to allow many more people to stay at the village for a longer period and not just for the holiday season?*

Although it is too early to judge, it is clear that our **way of life will change radically in the coming years**. Certainly Karyes offers advantages as it is a **lively village** with **easy access** to cities (Sparta, Tripoli) and close to the national center (2h.15m by car to the center of Athens and the airport), in an **amazing natural environment**. Our view is that the only thing that should be given priority at this stage is **health care**. Besides, the facilities exist, as there are a privately owned equipped doctor's office and a pharmacy. However, the problem is the absence of a **permanent doctor**. We therefore suggest that **the village bodies should cooperate** in this matter. One idea would be to contact Karyates doctors and ask what we may offer to them in order to provide a more permanent medical presence in the village, at least during the summer. In a second phase this presence could be more time extended.

Conclusions

In closing, we should mention that the image of Greece will change in the coming years. The country's **amazing climate and lifestyle** have always been a magnet for many people. The constant complaint was the lack of state organization and the problematic attitudes and mentalities, that as we all know, were not only an obstacle to progress, but also forced a large part of the young Greeks to emigrate.

All this seems to be finally **changing**. A **return wave** of our compatriots from abroad is already being identified, as well as great interest of foreigners to settle in our country. The use of modern digital tools will allow many employees to choose **Greece as a place of work** precisely for the climate and the way of life. Based on these indications and mainly with the money that will be invested in Greece thanks to the European financial programs, **many opportunities are created for Karyes**, which has hundreds of expatriates living abroad and in the Greek cities.

The young Karyates should move on and take advantage of these programs while avoiding the problematic examples of the past. The Bodies should assist in this effort and to coordinate their efforts when needed.

With these thoughts, we wish to all compatriots a happy new year! Stay safe! We hope to meet all of you under the Platano as soon as possible!

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

All the previous news bulletin are at your disposal in digital form at WWW.KARYES.GR



Karyates Association
News Bulletins

Adelphotis Arahoviton Karyae Gastonia - Charlotte

The pandemic has unfortunately strike the United States hard. Therefore for the first time the annual festival of the older Caryatic Brotherhood did not take place in 2020. However, the Brotherhood's Annual Album 2019 was sent to us, from which we publish a photo from the event of 2018. We wish in 2021 the health situation to be much better so as to our compatriots to be able to gather again and celebrate.



Panoramic photo of the compatriots who gathered at the annual summer celebration at August 19, 2018 ay the Karye Parc in Gastonia N.C.

President's message at the annual summer gathering August 18, 2019



Welcome everyone to our **96th** gathering if the Adelphotis Annual Picnic. I would like to thank the Boards of Directors for allowing me to serve as the president of this great organization, everyone's hard work making our functions at the park a success and the hard work in putting the annual book together.

In looking back, this park was a **dream of 13 men**, as a place to remind Greece, where Greeks would gather to help new comers get settled in America, catch up with relatives, friends and to make new acquaintances. The dream of these men was to have a place where families could talk about and teach the upcoming generations the traditions and customs of the motherland

These men would be amazed if they could see the accomplishments of this park and the accomplishments abroad.

In looking to the future of the Adelphotis Arahoviton "Karyae", I think these same 13 men would be disappointed. Every year our membership gets lower. Our youngest generation are not joining the Adelphotis, nor are they attending the functions of the Adelphotis. Our future generations are not going to know the sacrifices, the hard work to make a dream a reality nor the traditions of our forefathers 100 years ago.

Our **100th birthday is coming up 2023** and we need everyone's help in seeing we are still here to celebrate this great accomplishment. I know a lot of you have been coming to the park since you were small children, as I have been coming since 1946, only missing the years I served in the Air Force. We need to keep the tradition going. This year, it was a struggle to get 15 board members needed to oversee this great heritage. So I am asking you to persuade your children, your children's children and so on to join the Adelphotis to keep our heritage going.

Respectfully
George Trakas, President

The Foundation



The members of the **Karyae Benevolent Foundation** from the left Bill Copses, George Couchell, Phyllis Giannakopoulos – Treasurer, Missy Davis – Vice President, Perry Vastis, Pitsa Diantzikis - President, Margaret Trakas, Ilias Poulos, Peter Couchell. Absent Litsa Poulos



The members of the **Educational Scholarship Committe**: from the left Adrew Boukidis, Thanasis Kerhoulas, Sam Vastis, George Diatzikis and Theodore Karres

Two strong supporters of the Brotherhood passed away

Unfortunately two Karyates that had been strong supporters of the Brotherhood passed away. The members of the Katyates Association Bod expres their sincere condolences. Thus we republish a brief memorial for each one as they were posted in FB.

Mr. George Chris Copsis, of Charlotte, passed away on **December 9, 2020 at the age of 89**.



1931 - 2020

Mr Copsis was born in **Karyes, Greece, June 17, 1931** to the late **Christos and Marigo (Harakas) Kopsiaftis**. At the young age of 13, he left his hometown village of Arahova and went to the city of Tripoli, Greece to work. In **1951**, he came to the **United States** for a better life.

He began working in various cities before making his way to **Charlotte, NC** which became his home away from home. In **1955** along with his brothers, **Sam and Nick**, they opened the first **South 21 Drive-In on South Blvd**. In **1959**, they opened their second location on **E. Independence Blvd**, which he retired from in **1995**.

Mr. Copsis was a dedicated member of **Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral** and served his church for many years in numerous communities and organizations also was a proud member of **Adelphotis Arahoviton**. He loved hunting, fishing, and tending to his garden and yard. Mr. Copsis was a loving husband, father, and grandfather who always put family first. His greatest joy was having the whole family come together for dinner and spending time with one another.

As the youngest of **10**, Mr. Copsis was preceded by his brothers **Panos, Sotiros, Nick** and sisters **Eleni, Eftihia, Paraskevi, Vaso** and **Eleni**.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, **Haido Copsis**; daughter **Maria Housiadas (George)**; son **Chris G: Copsis (Christine)** and his sister **Anna Sinodinos of Greenville, SC**, and sister-in-law, **Anthoula Copsis of Charlotte, NC**. Also surviving are his 4 grandchildren **Heather, George and Aspen Copsis; Eleni Krasias (Giannis)**. He is also survived by several beloved nephews and nieces and godchildren. A walk thru visitation took place on **Saturday, December 12th at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 600 East Blvd, Charlotte**. **The Funeral Service followed and the burial took place at Evergreen Cemetery**.

The family wants to thank all the doctors and nurses at Atrium Health, and especially his primary care physician, Dr. Peter N. Copsis.

May his memory be eternal.

Mr. George Nicholas Vastis, 84, of Chester, SC, died Tuesday, **December 1, 2020** at Prisma Health Richland Hospital in Columbia, SC.



1936 - 2020

Mr. Vastis was born on February 10, 1936 in Karyae, Sparta, Greece. He was the son of **Nicholas S. Vastis** and the former **Demetra G. Mandis**. On **October 29, 1955**, he came to the **United States**, arriving in **New York** on board the **Queen Fredericka**. He went to **Chicago, Illinois** and got a job at the Sherman Hotel and remained there until **August of 1959**. In 1959 he went to **Greenwood, SC** and opened "**The Southwood Drive In Restaurant**" with his cousin, **Pete S. Zouras**. In **1961**, he went back to **Chicago** and worked at "**Ray Foley's Restaurant**" until **1965**. From **1965 to 1968**, he worked at "**The Drake Hotel**" in **Oak Brook, Illinois**.

On **June 23, 1968**, he married the former **Bessie Poulos of Chester, SC**. They moved to **Union, SC** and he worked at "Hearts Drive In Restaurant" until **May 1969**, after which they moved to **Chester, SC**. On **April 14, 1970**, he opened "**The Cyclone Drive In Restaurant**", along with Bessie's brothers, **Gus and Pete Poulos**. He operated the restaurant with his brother, **Andrew Vastis**, up until George retired in **November 2006**. The Cyclone is a Chester landmark that is still in operation today.

Mr. Vastis was a member of **Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Charlotte, NC** and **Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Spartanburg, SC**. He was also a member of the **Adelphotis Arahoviton Karyae** organization, where he served as a board member for many years, along with his wife, Bessie. Causes they supported included the Halloween Carnival, which they started in memory of Bessie's father, **Sam K. Poulos**, and kept alive for 42 years to benefit the **Chester County Hospital and later the Chester County YMCA**. He was also a big supporter of the **Chester Rotary Club**, of which Bessie is a member. Whatever the event in Chester County, George and Bessie attended and lent their support.

Always cheerful and friendly with a smile on his face, George was a kind, giving, and hardworking man. He was always ready to help everyone in whatever they needed. On most days since his retirement, he could be seen around town driving his red truck, slowing down traffic and making everyone smile. Keeping his yard perfectly manicured was one of his hobbies, along with supporting the the Pineview Lakes neighborhood association.

Mr. Vastis is survived by his beloved wife of 52 years, **Bessie Poulos Vastis**; one sister, **Dena Vastis Dalakouras of Chicago, Illinois**, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, **Nicholas and Demetra Vastis**, and his two brothers, **Sam N. Vastis** and **Andrew N. Vastis**.

The graveside funeral service held, **December 8, 2020 at Wilksburg Baptist Church Cemetery with Father George Nayfa of Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Spartanburg, SC officiating**.

A significant contribution from a distinguished Karyatis

The University of Los Angeles, California (UCLA) announced on June 15 that it has established a new endowed chair in Hellenic Studies. A gift commitment from **George and Tina Kolovos** has created the **George P. Kolovos Family Centennial Term Chair in Hellenic Studies**, which supports a distinguished scholar in the **UCLA Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) Center for the Study of Hellenic Culture**. The Center is a hub for multidisciplinary research, teaching and public programs aimed at the Los Angeles Hellenic community.



Mr. and Ms Kolovos

Dean of Humanities **David Schaberg** said, *"Our deep gratitude goes to the Kolovos family for their generous investment in this new endowed chair. It's a tremendous boost to the Niarchos Foundation Center and will have a long-term impact on Hellenic studies at UCLA and beyond"*

The Kolovos' philanthropic gift is augmented by the Centennial Term Chair Match Fund in the UCLA College, part of a \$3 million campaign to raise external match funds following a grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation in 2017 to initiate the Center.



UCLA engineering alumnus George Kolovos is a local real estate investor and developer, having previously worked for 32 years as an engineer and manager at Hughes Aircraft. He and his wife, Tina, are steadfast supporters of the arts in Los Angeles, particularly as it relates to Hellenic culture, as well as of archaeological and artistic endeavors in Greece. The couple are benefactors of the **Los Angeles Greek Film Festival** and of the **Society for the Revival of the Nemea Games**. The couple established the Kolovos Chair to honor their children and grandchildren and to commemorate the memory of George Kolovos' parents, **Panayotis and Maria**.

Mr. Kolovos said, *"I left Greece to come to this great country to educate myself. I had planned to go back to my beautiful homeland and work there for the best interests of my country. This was my dream, but the conditions were never right for me to return. I continued to live with a great love for my homeland and an admiration for what my ancestors have contributed and how our culture has helped our world. I adopted this great country as my second home, but my hope and my heart have always been in Greece and in the Hellenic culture. By establishing this chair, I am fulfilling a desire to connect my adopted country with the country of my birth."*

Ms Sharon Gerstel, the Center's founding director and a professor of Byzantine art and archaeology, has been selected as the inaugural holder of the Kolovos Chair. Gerstel's scholarly work focuses on the **intersection of ritual and art in Byzantium**. Her most recent publications concern **village communities in Lakonia**. *"I am honored to be the first holder of the George P. Kolovos Family Centennial Term Chair in Hellenic Studies,"* said Gerstel. *"George and Tina Kolovos are exceptional people who have a broad vision of philanthropy. I am so proud to be part of the effort to build a solid foundation for this field at UCLA, and equally excited to begin sharing the rich history and traditions of Hellenic culture with the world."*

Adelphotis "AI KARYAE" Toronto Canada The summer meeting

Although the annual festival was postponed due to the pandemic, the Karyates of Canada met, always keeping the health protocols, in the privately owned park of the Brotherhood on July 26, the day of Agia Paraskevi.

It was an opportunity for our compatriots in Canada to meet between the two winters and the lockdowns. The Karyates who could not travel to their homeland this year due to the pandemic, enjoyed the summer sun in the park. The photos we publish are from the Adelphotis group on facebook.

We give our best regards and we hope to meet most of them in our beautiful village next summer. For the rest we wish them to be able to enjoy their annual festival.



A distinguished Canadian Karyatis passed away



Peter Boukydis peacefully passed away at the age of 94.

He was born in Karyes Laconia by **Nickolaos and Nickoletta**. His siblings are **Stavroula Malikotsis, Kostandina Boukydis, Jimmy Boukydis, Eleni Kringas and Iphigenia Zubulakis**.

Peter arrived in **Toronto** in 1951 from Greece with Jimmy and operated the **"Atlanta"** Restaurant on **Carlton** and **"Jarvis"** in **Toronto**. The Atlanta became the centre of attraction for all the Greek families that immigrated to Toronto to find love and friendship.

Peter found his love and married **Lena Kouvara** in 1969. They lived in East York where Nick and Peter still live. Peter and Lena have 2 children, **Nick Boukydis** and **Maria Boukydis-Anastasopoulos** and 2 grand children, **Elena and George**. The unfortunate passing of Lena 16 years ago, left a huge gap in Peter's life, but his children and grandchildren were constantly surrounding him and keeping him busy.

The family received friends at **"Metamorphosis Tou Sotirou"** **Greek Orthodox Church** on Thursday, November 12th, 2020 for a memorial viewing. A funeral service took place also at Metamorphosis Tou Sotiriou on Friday, November 13, 2020 at 11:00 AM while the burial followed at Pine Hills Cemetery.

The new elected Board of Directors of the Chicago Adelphotis



We were very pleased to receive the news of the Chicago Brotherhood reactivation. In fact, there are many members who participate as Board members for the first time. The new Board of Directors consists of:

- Peter Kastanas** President
- Dinos Papamihail** Vice President
- Eleni Kripintiris** Secretary
- Elizabeth Seimenis** Treasure
- Sarantos Theodorakakis** Co-Treasure

Board Members: Helen Boutsikakis, Gus Hasapis, John Hasapis, Effie Papamihail, Chris Seimenis, and Nick Theodore

We wish to all the new elected members good luck and we declare our strong will for cooperation for the promotion of our beautiful village.

The upward course of a distinguished Karyatis: 2019 bronze metal, 2020 silver metal and 2021 Golden metal

It is a special joy for all of us on the Karyates Association and during these difficult times that one of our board members managed this year to place the olive oil she produced in the **GOLDEN CATEGORY** of the Health-Protective Olive Oils. **Ms. Evangelia Gioni-Kopsiafti** will receive this year the Gold Award from the **World Olive Center** and the **Athens University at the Olympia Health and Nutrition Awards ceremony**, which will take place in June 2021 at the **International Olympic Academy in Ancient Olympia**. We send our warm congratulations and wishes for health and distinctions in the struggle of quality and **health-protecting olive oil**. Let us hope that her example will be a guide for young people engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry in order to turn to organic farming, since our country has been designated worldwide as a paradise for pure local products.

In a phone call we had with Ms. Evangelia Gioni-Kopsiafti to congratulate her, we asked some questions to learn more about her whole effort and to be properly informed about the production of this innovative olive oil, she answered by sending us the following letter .

A creative year under “difficult times”

Dear members of the Karyates Association.



Our fellow compatriots I wish to all of you a happy new year. Thank you for all your wishes, as I need them in my everyday effort.

The production of this special olive oil, in addition to the effort and the additional costs due to "organic farming", requires a deep knowledge of its **BENEFICIAL PROPERTIES to the human health!**

Therefore, the Olive Harvest must be done at the right time, oiled quickly and correctly in the Olive Mill, bottled in the appropriate bottles and kept at the **right temperature, humidity and vacuum** until its consumption. The **necessary certifications** are required from **Internationally Recognized Laboratories** for all phenols, its organoleptic characteristics, its quality, acidity and purity from pesticides and other impurities. In order for a **polyphenolic olive oil** to have a beneficial effect on our body and to protect us from the oxidation of blood lipids, the content of tyrosol and hydroxytyrosol derivatives must be above 5mg / 20g according to EU regulation 432/12.

In this year's production, according to the certificate of analysis of the University of Athens, the derivatives of tyrosol and hydroxytyrosol are **23.8mg / 20gr.** and may bear the health certificate and the designation HEALTH CLAIM according to the above regulation.

I produce this olive oil because of the great substances it contains and especially the **oleander** in a high percentage which has important **BIOLOGICAL ACTION** as they have been attributed: **Anti-Inflammatory, Antioxidant, Anticoagulant, Cardioprotective and Neuroprotective properties**. The University textbook mentions the positive effect of this olive oil on **breast cancer, colon, rectum and pancreas**, in diseases such as **diabetes, arthritis** but also on blood vessels and skin.



From this year, each of our glass bottles is accompanied by a special information card which briefly lists its beneficial properties, according to the research of scientists-researchers-professors-doctors. Maybe in the future we need more information cards, since every day our scientists are pleasantly surprised (Alzheimer's, leukemia, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, etc.)

The comparison with the well-known cod liver oil

In Greece, there is some skepticism about the fact that special certified olive oil can act as a dietary supplement or as a medicinal food. On the contrary, we easily accept the same for cod liver oil (omega-3 fatty fish oils) through advertising. And yet both fall under the exact same European legislative framework 432/12. Thus, the price of certified polyphenolic olive oil follows the price of cod liver oil. Depending on its classification, quality characteristics and polyphenol content, it can be more expensive.

It is important to know that vitamins E, K, A, D as well as the omega-3 fats contained in this new olive oil are essential for **young and old, pregnant and lactating women**. It helps in the proper development of children's bones (vitamins K + D) and in the balance of metabolism making it **essential in children's nutrition**.

Due to the high concentration of vitamin E it contains, it provides protection to the lungs, while vitamin K shields our blood vessels (protection against Covid-19). Due to its anti-inflammatory and anti-thrombotic action, this olive oil protects our body from the venous thrombosis that this "*insidious virus*" causes when it enters the human body. It is a "*Shield of protection against harmful free radicals and oxidative stress*", as **Professor A. Kyritsakis** (MSc and Ph.D in Food Science and Nutrition, Michigan State University) points out.

More information regarding its beneficial properties can be found in a previous issue of our newspaper (issue 24, spring 2020) as well as in the card that each bottle of our olive oil has - High Phenolic EVOO. I am at your disposal to cover any question about this rare and valuable product of the Laconian land!

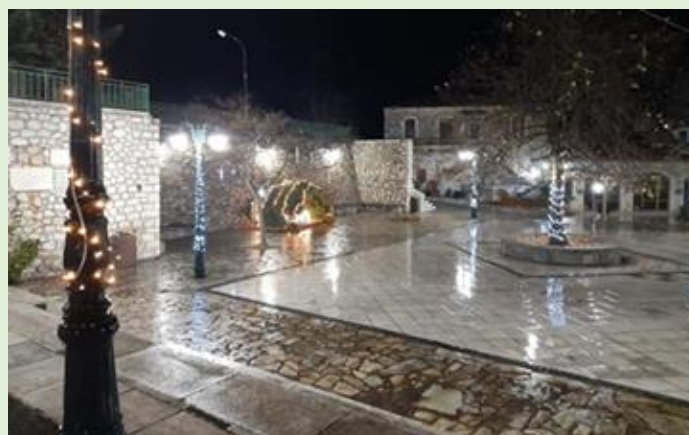
I will greet you all with the words of Homer: "Greek gold is Green Gold".

So let's give him the place he deserves in our daily lives for: **GOOD HEALTH - Wellness - Health protection of the body ELISIRE OF LIFE AND YOUTH**

For further information: Kopsiaftis Evagelia 0030-6944192316

Happy years with Health - Patience - HOPE

Fall and winter Karyatic moments



*Until we meet again
under the plane tree*

The renovation of Rachi square

The residents of the lower settlement are looking forward with great joy, the construction works in the square. The landscaping of Rachi Square had been a dream for many years, as more than 20 years have passed since the renovation of Agios Andreas Square. Finally, everything is settled and as it appears from the photos we publish, the work is expected to be completed before spring. It was first preceded by the replacement of all water supply and sewerage pipes and the dismantling of the asphalt. The existing flower beds were removed and now the paving began. The vehicles will pass only from the northeast side, while all the rest area will be given to pedestrians and other activities. So since this summer the residents and visitors of Karyes will have another place for leisure as an option.

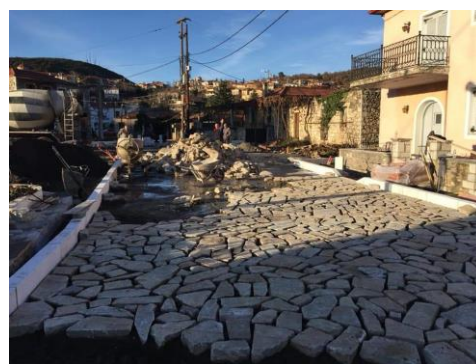
The pipelines



The concrete



The paving



A cave in Karyes: "the cave of Kalos"

Many times while Surfing at the web we may become surprised. Therefore we learn about a cave in Karyes. The post aroused our curiosity. It is true that for so many years we had not heard anything. The relevant post of the **Speleological Hellenic Exploration Group** was clear. Not only there is a cave but it is also very beautiful. As you may see from the photos that accompany the post and which we are republishing, this is a cave of about 50 meters with impressive natural decoration.



According to the post "Arriving, at the point that was indicated to us apart from the fantastic view (mount Taygetos and Parnonas) we saw the entrance of a vertical cave. The cave grows in depth in two branches along a branch. The first is one-piece and has a depth of 10m, while the second continues in small sections with constant change of direction and alternation of slopes and vertical sections, essentially proceeding vertically below the entrance. Going down the cave changes shape, we encounter calcareous formations, it becomes narrower and less wild. The cave is 50 meters deep. Nevertheless, because it is quite narrow and vertical, we had to go down one by one to avoid the stones falling, which greatly delayed the team."

We should mention that according to the post, the Group members proceeded with mapping and photography.

At the WEB SITE WWW.KARYES.GR
NEWSPAPER DIGITAL ARCHIVES 1986-2010



Do you deal with the arts
(art, painting, music-song, dance, theater, photography, video, floriculture, crafts)?

The Karates Association invites you to contact us to present your work to our compatriots (permanent and holidaymakers) and to our village's visitors during the summer either through an exhibition of your creations or through a cultural action. Now contact us at info@karyes.gr or at 0030-6944-784563, 0030-6974-720909.

DO YOU WANT TO BE ADVERTISED
IN OUR NEWSPAPER?

Contact us at 0030-6974-720909
or at the email: info@karyes.gr

A letter to all the Compatriots



By **Mr. Michael Repoulis**
President of the Karyates Association

Karyes, February 2021

Our fellow Karyates

It is known that for fifty years the Karyates Association (S.A.K.) has united the Arachovites of the whole world and has been engaged in important projects for the benefit of our beloved village. Our last big project, the creation of a cultural center-museum in the central square of the village, has started since the end of September 2020.

The museum will be housed in the two buildings of S.A.K. purchased in 2007 for this purpose and will function as a memorial site for the **preservation of the history and traditions of our village** with an important section **dedicated to our compatriots who live abroad**. In addition to being a place of remembrance for visitors and future generations, it will also serve as a cultural center with a **library, event-hall, a traditional café and a shop selling traditional products**.

After the delivery of the project, the creation of a **special committee** is foreseen that will undertake the establishment and operation of the Museum.

At the same time, the Association has managed to approve a funding of € 313,000 from the Parnonas Development Company for the execution of the project. However, the Parnonas Development Company approved the granting of the above amount only for the renovation of the basements, the 1st floor and the former ironworks, but not of the other two stores because they are concerned as commercial uses. For their completion, based on the drafted budget and the contingencies, an amount of the order of €40,000 euros or US\$ 50,000 is required.

The revenues of the Association, due to the financial crisis and the pandemic, have been significantly reduced (dances and events have been canceled) while its tax liabilities are high (property taxes etc.) and therefore we are unable to pay the above amount, with a serious risk that the project will remain unfinished.

Many times in the past the Arachovites abroad, either individually or as Associations, offered generously where there was a need.

The Cultural Center will preserve and preserve our past, unite the present and will be serving as a lasting gift for the future.

In order to complete this project, we turn to the patriots wherever they live and ask for their help in collecting the amount of **€ 40,000 (US \$ 50,000)** by the end of **August 2021** at the latest, so that the renovation works and the project to be delivered in full by the **end of 2021**.

It should be noted that by decision of the Board of the Association, the name of each donor who will offer an amount of more than € 10,000 euros will be written on a special commemorative plaque inside the Cultural Center.

With warm patriotic greetings

The Chairman of the Board **Mr. Mich. Repoulis**



Lets all participate at the lottery for the completion of the project

Our fellow Karyates and friends of Karyes. **The great moment has arrived!**

Finally the great project of the creation of the Karyes Memory and Culture Center is becoming a reality. As it is mentioned at Mr. Repoulis' (President of the Karyates Association) letter, there is an amount of **€ 40.000- (US\$ 50.000)** missing for its completion. It is an amount that it was not approved by the Parnonas Development Company due to the Financial Project restrictions.

Facing the great danger to remain the building incomplete the Board members of the Karyates Association make a plea to all of you to participate at the lottery organized for that purpose.

As we know that we pass through rough times we decided to set the cost of each lottery ticket at **€ 5,00 ή US\$ 6,00** so as everyone to be able to participate. **Every ticket is a support message to our cause.**

There is going to be three great prizes.

The first lottery ticket will win a cash prize of € 1,000-

The second lottery will win a cash prize of € 500-

The third lottery will win a cash prize of € 500-

Due to the extraordinary measures of the pandemic, the **purchase of the lottery tickets** can be done by **depositing the amount** to the bank account of the Association at the National Bank of Greece.

Account number is (IBAN)

GR560110662000066200228709

SYNDESMOS TON APANTAHOU KARYATON

SWIFT (BIC) ETHNGRAA / NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE

ATTENTION: In the deposit of the amounts, **your name is necessary.**

Immediately after the payment, you will be informed by phone and electronically about the lottery numbers you bought and with which you will participate in the draw.

The **date and place** of the lottery will be announced in **the next issue** of the Newsletter.

For any information do not hesitate to contact the members of the Board by phone. Association, who will be happy to guide you. The phone numbers are:

President	Repoulis Michael	0030-694-478-4563
Vice president	Prekezes Annita	0030-698-512-0559
Vice president	Mermigha Dimitra	0030-697-686-1951
General Secretary	Konstantopoulos Harris	0030-697-472-0909
Treasurer	Prekezes Chris	0030-697-611-5767
Member – public relations	Latsi Iefki	0030-695-163-2375
Member – public relations	Kopsiaftis Evagelia	0030-694-419-2316
Member	Trakas Nikos	0030-697-224-2914

Furthermoer, for any information, you may send us an **email to info@karyes.gr**.

Immediately after the draw of the public health measures, it will be possible to purchase a ticket through natural presence through the members of the Board.

Contributions for the Karyates Association

Vassiliki Andriana Ballou € 1.000

Panos Prekezes Family € 100

Anastasia Melentzopoulou € 150

Anastasios Athanailos € 50

Orestis Karakatsanis € 100

We would like to thank all of the above for their support.

The works have begun and the dream becomes a reality



KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS BULLETIN / QUARTERLY RUBICATION

For information E-mail: info@karyes.gr