



KARYYES

Lakonia



The community Clock "Roi" from above

Karyates Association News Bulletin

Issue number 34

Autumn 2022

Karyes Summer 2022: The return of normality

Finally, after two years with health measures because of the pandemic, the permanent residents, vacationers, as well as several friends of Karyes enjoyed a normal summer: with gatherings, several cultural and religious festivities. The Clubs once again motivated and organized many interesting events during July and August.

Of course, the existence of many open spaces and event halls in Karyes also plays an important role in the success of these events. At the same moment that in other villages and towns in Greece usually there is only one square, what exists in Karyes is **truly rare and unique**. There are **almost 10 (!) spaces, open and indoor, capable of hosting cultural events of many kinds**. What should we mention first? **The two ornamental squares**, the beautiful **grove of Agia Paraskevi-School**, the historic **plane trees of Panagia**, the **stadium of Karyatis**, the **grove in Roloï**, the **open multi-purpose hall of the Parnonas Mansion**, the **event hall of the Community Hall Building**, the **SAVAS CAFÉ**, the new **indoor gym of Karyatis**? Not to mention that the **events hall of the Memory and Culture Center** will soon be added to the above.

Of course, all these spaces and halls exist today thanks to the inspiration and the efforts of the previous generations of patriots. Therefore, they need a continuous maintenance to be kept in "good shape" and thus we should thanks the members of the village's club and the many volunteers for their efforts.

The permanent comment/moto that is heard by the visitors of Karyes when they first visit the village and walk through its roads and trails is: "**the people here love their homeplace**".

With that moto, we wish to all of you and to the members of your family a happy autumn!

Religious Celebrations

Saint Paraskevi

On the morning of **July 26**, the memory of the philanthropist Aghia Paraskevi was celebrated in the homonymous temple dedicated to her in Rachi. A lot of Karyates attended this great celebration in the beautiful historic chapel situated at the lower part of the village. The litany of the holy icon around the chapel under the trees of the grove followed. At the end of the divine liturgy under the presence of the **Madagascar archbishop Mr. Prodromos**, a ticket lottery for the support of the Ecclesiastical Council was organized.



Aghia Kyriaki

With summer splendor, the memory of Aghia Kyriaki was celebrated on **July 7th** in the small chapel dedicated to her memory situated at the road Karyes-Sparta. **Father Leontios** officiated while several village's residents and visitors attended the divine service. Bread was distributed by the church council and a ticket lottery was organized.



Elenitsa Melehe, a Karyatissa from Toronto, Canada, also attended the celebration after many years, was touched and full of memories, since during her childhood her family used to live in the area.

Saint John

On **Monday, August 29**, at the **Holy Church of Agios Ioannis** and next to the wonderful grove of fir trees, a divine service was held in memory of the beheading of Saint John (Prodromos). With the attendance of many residents and summer visitors, who "climbed" that beautiful morning of the end of summer to the at the "Roi" (Community Clock).



After the usual ticket lottery in favor of the Church Council's causes, our fellow compatriots from Australia **Kostas and Helen Kolovos** offered coffee, sweets and fresh figs on the terrace of their house which is next to the church.

The Nativity of Virgin Mary

As every year, this year many Karyates visited the beautiful Holy Temple in the settlement of **Fotinou** on **September 8**.

Under the giant oaks, the **Nativity of the Virgin Mary** was celebrated, while once again the Church Council organized a raffle with many gifts.



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Summer 2022: Cultural Events in Karyes

Album presentation: ARACHOVA | Dances and Songs from Karyes of Laconia



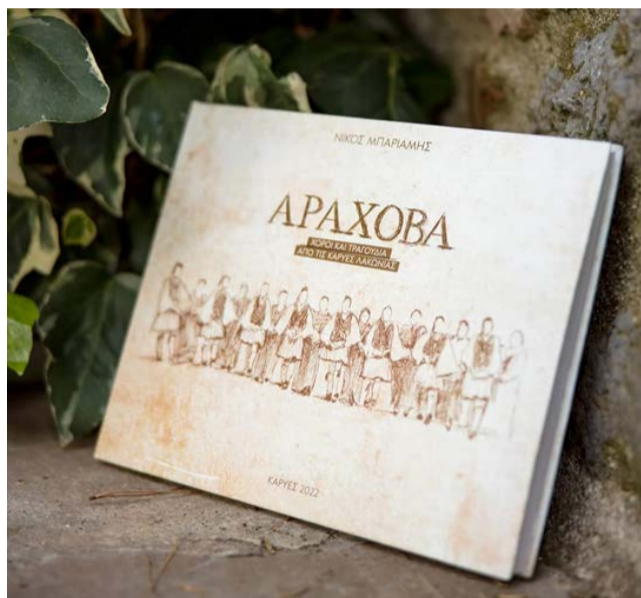
On Sunday, **August 7, 2022**, in the courtyard of Agia Paraskevi-School, the **Folklore Group of Laconia** and the **Panagiotis Kerchoulas Trust Management Association** presented the musical album: "**ARACHOVA | Dances and Songs from the Karyes of Laconia**".

The musical work is a release of the Lakonia Folklore Group and in fact the second, after it was preceded by "ZARAKAS" in 2019. It is the result of a five-year folklore research in the village and includes:

- **180-page book with folklore, historical information and rich photographic material,**
- **1 usb with 111 songs (archive and studio recordings) and**
- **Documentary on the history, the cycle of time and the music and dance identity of the village lasting 2 hours and 39 minutes.**

In the first part of the event, the following spoke about the project:

1. **Panagiotis Karahalios**, Representative of the **Panagiotis Kerchoulas Trust Management Association** "**Karyon Music and Dance Tradition Event**".
2. **Villy Fotopoulou**, Director of **Newer Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture** "**The value of recording and documenting the Intangible Cultural Heritage**".
3. **Rena Loutzakis**, Anthropologist of dance, Associate Professor of the **Department of Music Studies of the National Kapodistrian University of Athens** "**Reading a book**".
4. **Giorgos Tsampras**, **Journalist - Author** "**The terrestrial Municipal Song in the discography. Field recordings and studio recordings**".
5. **Nikos Bariamis**, Editor, Researcher, Head of the **Folklore Group of Laconia** "**The recording of Arachova. The Journey to the Dream**".



In the second part, selected footage from the documentary accompanying the release was shown.

This was followed by village songs by the Arachovites themselves who participated in the publication. **Dimos Koutris, Paraskevas Kolantzianos, Dimos Leventakis, Panos Ardamis, Yiannis Velonis, Takis Koutsogeorgas, Giorgos Devekos, Nikos Vastis, Despo Voukydis, Alkistis Traka, Voula Dalakouras and Nitsa Melehe** sang. The event was graced by the presence of **Kyriakos Strifas** from Varvitsa, a traditional performer of the songs of the wider region.

Afterwards, members of the Folklore Group of Laconia and children of Karyes danced the local dances. It was followed by a feast with Arachovite songs - as in the old days - with the participation of local and foreign guests. The event was covered by the musical group "**PENTAHEON**".



The organizers, according to their relevant post, thanked all the participants of the presentation and our speakers, as well as "*the Panagiotis Kerchoulas Trust for co-organizing the event, the President of Karyes local Community Georgos Devekos for his help throughout the process, the teacher of Karyon Primary School Giorgos Diamantouros for the concession of the school lands, the vicar of the village Father. Leontios and the church council for the concession of the site of Agia Paraskevi, the Cultural Association of Karyon for their assistance in the preparatory work, Giorgos Sarris and Thodoris Koutsogeorga for providing the seats and all those who attended from near or far in this important evening for us*".



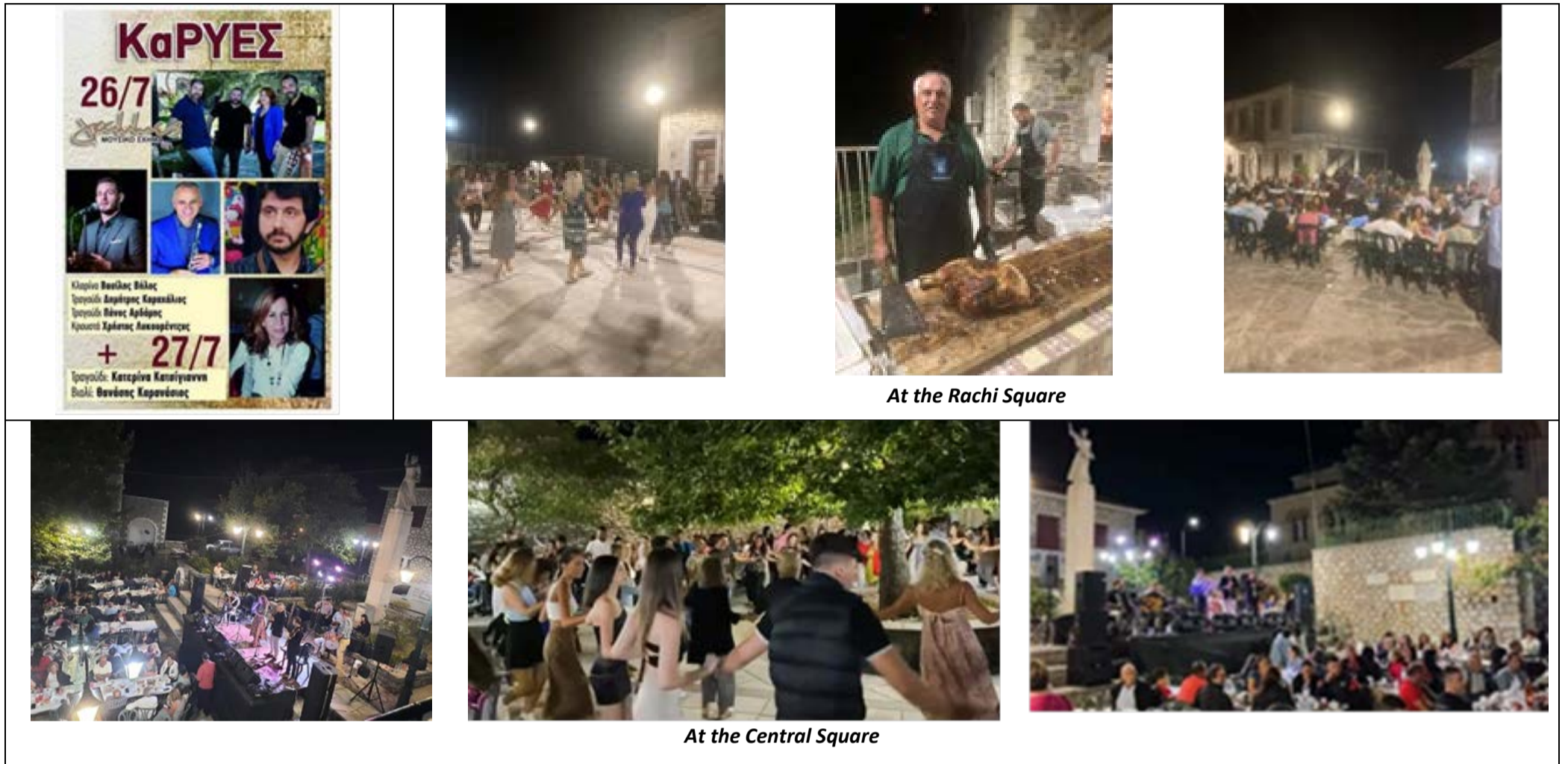
Photos : Vassiliki Mourla - ARTPHOTOS

Summer 2022: Cultural Events in Karyes

The “Archovitica Panighyria” organized with great success once again

After a two years break due to the Pandemic, the famous “Arachovitica Panighyria” were organized once again. Thus, on the evening of **July 26**, at the renovated **Rachi Square** the **Agia Paraskevi Panighyri** took place. Almost all Karyates and especially many young people came to the festival to have fun by listening and dancing to traditional and artistic music from the P. Ardamis band, while enjoying delicious traditional Greek food like the crispy pork, with the party lasting until the early hours of the morning.

The following evening, **July 27**, the **Panighyri of Agios Panteleimon** took place in the **Central Square** with even more people. For the first time, the band's stage was set up at the height of the Heron so that it could be visible from the entire square, a choice that seems to have satisfied both the musicians and the people who filled the square.



At the Rachi Square

At the Central Square

A painting exhibition by the Greek – American Karyatis Ms Fotini Christofilis

With a great success and attendance from art-loving visitors, the opening of the **painting exhibition of the Karyatis painter Ms Fotini Christofilis** who lives in the States, took place at the **Karyes Community Hall, on August 25, 2022**

The painter, daughter of **Kostas Christofilis**, born in the USA and lives in Greenville, South Carolina. Her grandfather is **Kostas Christofilis** and her grandmother is **Fotini Stamati-Christophili**, born in Karyes. With art studies at the College of Charleston and Tufts University, she has exhibited her works in the art galleries of all major US cities. Having repeatedly visited Karyes in the past and with a dose of nostalgia, she decided to exhibit her collection of works in our village as well.

The exhibition was organized by the **Karyates Association**, whose board members have stated that they will be available to those artists who wish to present their creations in their family's place of origin. They thank Ms. Christofilis for responding to the invitation and wish her many awards in the future.



July events

After the Archovitica Panighyria another two events took place in Karyes.

Specifically, on **Friday July 29**, the **Karyes Cultural Club**, with the co-financing of the **Municipality of Sparta**, organized a music evening with live Greek music (“laica”) in the **Central Square**, with **Spyros Koutsovasilis (singer)**, **Irini Christofilakis (singer)**, **Demosthenes Karamichas (bouzouki)**, **Giorgos Skiadas (guitar)**.

At the same time, two days of events were held on **Friday 29 and Saturday 30 July** by the organizations of the **Greek Communist Party** in the Peloponnese, in the grove of **Agia Paraskevi-School**, which ended on Saturday night with a traditional feast with **Giorgos Vourthi (violin)**, **Vasilis Georgiev (bouzouki)**, **Giorgos Demello (singer - guitar)**, **Nikos Kokkori (percussion)** and **Maria Livanou (song)**.



Summer 2022: Cultural Events in Karyes

August Events

August found the village full of people and the Clubs organized events focused especially on the youth and children.

Therefore, on **Saturday August 6**, the **Karyes Cultural Club** organized the annual **youth party**. For the first time the party took place at the open space (platia) at the "Parnonas Mansion/to Arhontico tou Parnona". It was a perfectly organized event. For everyone there was free transportation from the village square to the event venue and vice versa with a special "LUXURY TRAVEL" minibus. In addition to the main bar, there was also the special mobile bar of the "Vanara Events" team with delicious cocktails. Hundreds of young men and women from Laconia and Arcadia enjoyed the party dancing until the morning.



On the evening of **August 15** the annual Party at **SAVAS CAFÉ** took place with a DJ and party until the morning.



Karyes Cultural Club: Lottery draw results

- Four (4) nights for 2 people and 2 children with ALL INCLUSIVE AT 5* SKOPELOS HOLIDAY HOTEL & SPA – in Skopelos. LUCKY NUMBER: 0285 Alexis Panagiota
- Four (4) nights for 2 people and 1 child with ALL INCLUSIVE AT 4* EXOTIKA HOTEL & SPA – KALAMAKI ZAKYNTHOS LUCKY NUMBER: 2053 Dimitrios Bourtzinakos
 - Four (4) nights for 2 people and 1 child AT 4* CYCLADIC ISLANDS HOTEL & SPA – AGIA ANNA NAXOS LUCKY NUMBER : 3113 Velonis Dimitrios
- One (1) table for two (2) people in Polydosos (Zizina) for two (2) people AT Taverna "TO KOUKUNARI"
 - LUCKY NUMBER: 3750 Harakas Sotirios
 - Two (2) overnight stays for two (2) people AT the "PARNONA MANOR" LUCKY NUMBER: 0683.



On **Tuesday, August 16**, sponsored by the **Karyes Cultural Club**, there was a **puppet show** in the **Central Square**. All the children enjoyed the performance "**My name is Vissarion Bakakoulis**".

The events were completed on **Friday, August 19th** in the evening, where again at the initiative of the **Karyes Cultural Club** and the **Karyes Local Council**, sponsored by the **Culture and Environment Branch of the Municipality of Sparta**, the musical show-concert entitled "**Dedication to the immigrants (xenitia)**" was presented in the **Central Square** by the singers **Spyros Koutsovasilis** and **Erin Christofilakis**.

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



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ANNOUNCEMENT

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

The Karyates Association invites you to contact us in order to present your work to our compatriots and to the visitors of our village in the summer, either through an exhibition of your creations, or through a cultural action.

Contact now at the email address karyates.association@karyes.gr, or at the phones 6944-784563, 6974-720909.

ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗ ΑΙΜΟΔΟΣΙΑ

ΤΡΑΠΕΖΑ ΑΙΜΑΤΟΣ ΚΑΡΥΩΝ

Αιμοδοσία τη **Δευτέρα 1^η Αυγούστου 2022**, 5:00 – 8:00 το απόγευμα, στην αίθουσα πολλαπλών χρήσεων των Καρυών, στην Κεντρική πλατεία.

Η αιμοληψία θα γίνει από το κινητό συνεργείο της Νοσηλευτικής Μονάδας Σπάρτης.

Όσοι επιθυμούν να προσέλθουν και να προσφέρουν αίμα...

Karyes Blood Bank

The annual voluntary blood donation was held on Monday, August 1st in the Karyes Community Building Hall.

A renewed appeal was made to all those who can participate because, as is well known, the needs are many and "**blood gives life**".

The lights were turned on at Panaghia

After many several years, the visitors to Panaghia's plane trees are pleased to see the lights turned on. As you may know, the installation had been done several years ago, but the lighting had only been in operation for a few months.

We hope this time this will not be the case and this beautiful image will now be permanent.



Karyes Primary School annual day trip



Faithful to their given promise, the members of the BoD of the **Karyates Association** financed once again the **annual day trip of the students of the Karyes Primary School**.

After two years when the excursions had stopped due to COVID, the children were given the opportunity to visit the beautiful **Gortynia** region in Arcadia (Dimitsana, Stemnitsa) and become familiar, among other things, with the places where Kolokotronis and other famous revolutionizers fought for the Greek Liberty 200 years ago.



Karyates Association's building

As we wait the completion of the Karyates Association's building in the Central square, the BoD decided to cover the ground floor openings temporarily and in an elegant way.

For this purpose, two very fine banners with the Caryatids were ordered and placed, which by all accounts achieved their purpose.



A certified Training Seminar in Basic Life Support using Automatic External Defibrillator is going to take place in Karyes

The **Karyes Cultural Club** and the **Panagiotis Kerchoulas Trust Management Association**, in collaboration with the **Hellenic Rescue Team** (Lakonia Branch), are planning a certified training in Basic Life Support (B.L.S.) using an Automatic External Defibrillator (A.E.D.). The seminar will be held by H.R.T. rescuers in Laconia who have been certified as Trainers by the **European Resuscitation Council** (E.R.C.) and the certification of trainees is provided by the E.R.C. The training lasts approximately six (6) hours and costs €20 per person. The cost of participation will be covered by the Panagiotis Kerchoulas Trust Management Association.

All those who wish to participate should express their interest on the following telephone numbers: **6972460436 (Leventakis Christos)** and **6973023200 (Arvanitis Dimitrios)** or send a relevant email to **politistikos@karyes.gr**. The trainings will take place on Sundays and the dates will be announced depending on the number of applications (groups of 15 - 20 people) and after relevant consultation with the interested parties.

The two Clubs warmly thank the distinguished doctor **Mr. Theodoros Voukidis** for the important donation of one (1) defibrillator, which has been placed in the central square of the village and hope that it will never be needed, but in any case, everyone should know how to use it to help a fellow human if the need arises.

CLUB NEWS

The "Karyatis: Sports Club news



On **Saturday, August 13**, on the ground floor of the Karyes Community Hall, the president of the BoD Sports Club **Mr. Theodoros Mentis** gave a presentation of the **annual financial report**.

According to him, "we invite any Member, Organization, Friend, etc. if he/she wishes, to request full financial information individually or collectively, for the events, not only of the last years, but also of any time period from 1990 until today. The Cash Book and all the income and expenditure documents will be available to ALL, even non-members".

He also informed about the placement of a marble inscription in the house of the donor G.N. Skouris, as well as an information sign stating that the building houses the offices of the Skouris Foundation, the Karyatis Sports Club and the Karyes Dance Club.

Few days earlier the Bod of the Sports Club had made the following announcement:

"We wish to farewell the Physical Education Professor **Anastasios (Tassos) Smyrniotis**, Organizer and Coach of the Karyatis Athletics Team to the Games held in Karyes in 1960-62.

The Professor was a former Athlete of "Arcadikos", "Spartiatikos" and "Vlachiotis" Sports Club and he had already served as a Coach of the Greek National Throwing Team.

Our Sports Club had awarded the deceased during the event of the 2nd Parnon Half Marathon (2014), together with other athletes of the 60s.

May his memory live forever.

With respect, the Board of Directors of the "Karyatis" Sports Club"

The works of the restoration of the Saint Anargyri Chapel were almost completed

The residents and visitors of Karyes were quite pleased this summer by the new Chapel status, which is located just before the village's entrance. In fact, on the celebration of the **Transfiguration of the Savior** on **August 6**, the Divine Liturgy took place there, giving to all the opportunity to see the interior of the Church up close.



From the briefing that took place on the same day, by the member of the Bod of "The Saints Anargyri" Club for the restoration and maintenance of the Karyes Chapels Ms. **Pizza Kyriazi-Vagena**, the final stages of the work were expected to be completed in a few weeks. The history of the works was also presented with photographs and a special mention was made on the difficulties that the volunteers faced, but also of the touching offer of our compatriots to cover the costs.



In the next issue there will be a detailed report on the Club's initiatives.

Weddings in KARYES



On July 19, Makis Mousiadis and Dimitra Tsopelas from Karyes were married in the Karyes main Holy Chapel of Apostle Andreas.

On July 31, Ioannis Minogiannis and Maria Bolis got married in the Karyes main Holy Chapel of Apostle Andreas. It should be noted that although the newlyweds are not from Karyes, they decided to perform the sacrament in a place they love. In fact, during the feast in the central square, they decided to organize a small raffle with all the proceeds going to the Karyates Association for the purpose of completing the Karyes Memory and Culture Centre. We thank them very much.

We wish to all the newlyweds every happiness in their common life!

On August 21, Stefanos Meleches from Karyes and Konstantina Tabakis from Sparta married in the Holy Chapel of Virgin Dormition (Panaghia). The beautiful couple has been living in Karyes for some time and is active with the local community, helping wherever they can.

Baptisms in Karyes

On May 7, Konstantinos Vastis and Marianna Hilakos, owners of the SAVAS CAFE, baptized their daughter in the Holy Chapel of Virgin Dormition (Panaghia). And her name is Joanna.

On May 14, Nikolaos Koulouris and Akrivi Kaperonis baptized their son in the Holy Chapel of Aghia Paraskevi. And his name is Theodore.

On July 31, Ioannis Mentis and Maria Tsopelas baptized their son in the Holy Chapel of Aghia Paraskevi. And his name is Alexander.

On August 20, Georgios Fruntzas and Vassiliki Garaziotis (mother name Ardamis) baptized their son in the Holy Chapel of Virgin Dormition (Panaghia). And his name is Panagiotis.

On September 4, Efstathios Meleches and Christina Penesis baptized their son in the Holy Chapel of Virgin Dormition (Panaghia). And his name is Odysseus.

We wish to all parents, godfathers and godmothers a good Christian life for their children!

They passed away

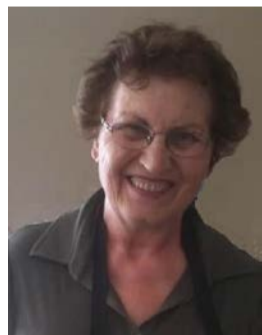
George Apostole Darnos passed away in Melbourne VIC Australia on Friday July 29, 2022 at the age of 93 .



His funeral was held on Monday 8 August 2022 at Holy Cross Church in Box Hill, Melbourne with burial at Springvale Botanical Cemetery. He leaves behind his beloved wife Stamatia and his beloved children Apostolos-Georgia, Demetrios-Demetra (dec.)

and his grandchildren George, Theodoros among with his siblings Zoe-Gregory, Andrew-Angellica.

Panghiota Leventakis, wife of Sotirios Tsakalakis passed away on Saturday June 14, 2022 in Melbourne VIC Australia at the age of 84.



Her funeral was held on Thursday 16 June 2022 at Holy Cross Church in Box Hill, Melbourne and interment at Box Hill Cemetery.

She leaves behind her beloved children Athanasios, Angeliki-Yiannis and her grandchildren Danae,

Sotirios, Paraskevi-Yiannis, Panagiota, Anastasia-Mark, Sofia, her great-grandson Konstantinos and her siblings Antonia-Lambro.

Kery (Kiriakos) Andrianakis passed away on Tuesday May 31, 2022 in Melbourne VIC Australia at the age of 56.



His origin was from the villages of Karyes and Amykles in Lakonia. The funeral took place on Monday, June 6, 2022, at the Holy Church of Saint Vasilios and the burial took place in Fawkner Cemetery amidst sorrow.

William Copes (Vassilios Kopsiaftis) passed away peacefully on July 16, 2022 in Spartanburg S.C. U.S.A. at the age of 88.



His funeral took place on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Spartanburg.

The deceased was born on March 25, 1934 in Karyes and was the son of Ioannis and Triseugene. He first immigrated to Canada in 1951, where he became a pastry chef while working in his uncle's restaurant.

On a visit to Greece in 1958, he met and married Stavroula ("Lula") Kyousi in Sparta with whom he had three daughters,

Teresa, Sophia and Ioanna (an active member of the Karyates Association).

That same year, he opened his first restaurant in Toronto, Ontario. However, in 1967, wanting to be closer to the rest of their relatives, they moved to Spartanburg, South Carolina where they opened Piedmont's first restaurant, the Four Seasons. In 1977 they opened the landmark restaurant Le Baron where he and Lula offered classic European cuisine in an elegant atmosphere for over thirty years.

The deceased was a member of many volunteer organizations including AHEPA, the Brotherhood of Arachovites and the Spartanburg Rotary Club, where he was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow. He was also a member of the Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. In addition to his love of cooking, he was an avid wine and spirit maker and a nature lover who enjoyed fishing, hunting, golfing and gardening.

He had two grandsons, William and James, while he himself as part of a large family lived near his brother Peter and his wife Voula, his sister Helen and many nieces and nephews whom he loved and who loved him. He was preceded in death by his sisters Dimitra Siarris, Panagiota Diantzikis and Konstantina Georgas.

Konstantinos Dalakouras, 89 years old died in Karyes on July 28.



His funeral was held in Karyes main Holy Chapel of Apostle Andreas and buried in Saint Nikolaos Cemetery.

The deceased served for many years as a member of the Karyes Church Council and the "Karyatis" Sports Club and he was a respectable member of the Village's society. He was the husband of Voula Dalakouras-Arvanitis, who also serves many years as president of the Karyes Blood Donation Club.

Dimitris (Dimo, Jimmy) Diamantouros passed away peacefully on September 9, 2022 at the age of 87 at Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto ONT Canada



A Visitation in his memory was held on Wednesday, September 14th and Thursday September 15th among with the Funeral service, burial and reception followed.

He was born in Karyes (Arahova) Laconia, Greece on February 21, 1935, to Panagiotis Diamantouros

and Zaharoula Diatzikis. He was the oldest of four siblings, Yiannis (Eleni Psihopedas), Georgia (George Xanthakos), and Christos.

Dimitris immigrated to Toronto, Canada in 1957, and made his living operating a number of restaurants and banquet halls with his brothers and brother-in-law. In 1965 Dimitri married Kanella Giannakopoulos; they had three daughters Roula (Chris Bahaviolos), Mary (TonyTsampiras), and Patricia.

He was passionate about all Greek things; history, language, culture and travel but above all, the "chorio", Arahova, his birthplace. It was his wish to visit Arahova one last time this summer despite his doctors' warnings.

Rest in Peace our beloved father, husband, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend to all. In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to Canadian Blood Services, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Sunnybrook Hospital.

Efstratia Darnos, 99 years old died on July 19, 2022 in Dafni, Laconia and was buried in Karyes.

Her funeral was held in the Karyes main Holy Chapel of Apostle Andreas and buried in Saint Nikolaos Cemetery.

Artemisia Koutsogeorgas, 90 years old died on July 31, 2022 in Athens and was buried in Karyes.

Her funeral was held in the Holy Chapel of Saint Paraskevi where he was buried in the homonymous cemetery.

Elias Vrynios, 98 years old died on August 30, 2022 in Karyes.

His funeral was held in the Karyes main Holy Chapel of Apostle Andreas and buried in Saint Nikolaos Cemetery.

Our deepest condolences to all the families.