



KARYES

Lakonia



Karyates Association News Bulletin

Issue Number 41

Summer 2024

The Karyes village is ready to welcome its expatriate children and friends for an unforgettable summer.

Summer has arrived and Karyes is prepared to welcome compatriots and friends, vacationers and visitors.

The new Local Council has taken care of the neatness of the village, with the help of the local clubs, while the renovated shops, cafes and taverns are ready to offer high level services to everyone.

In the Central Square, next to the impressive "SAVAS CAFE" and the newly renovated "CAFEPOLION", this year the beautiful new cafe-meze shop "MELIOS" has been added. Together with the famous throughout Laconia and Arcadia taverns "PARNONAS" and "PLATANOS", the central square of Karyes has now become one of the most popular dining destinations in the Peloponnese.

At the same time, there are the grocery store "DIAMANTOUROS" provides all the items of a small supermarket, the beautifully renovated confectionery - traditional products shop "Λ - LEVENTAKIS" and another station of traditional products from MELIOS will be added in the coming weeks.

But Karyes has something more than other villages. An additional beautiful square, that one of Rachi. There, the cafe is now under the management of Ms Sofia Lassou, who with her experience offers an alternative proposal for visitors. Near to it, in Rachi, the oldest tavern of the village, the famous "ARETI" of the family of Takis Koutsogiorgas, is always present.

Of course, all visitors and vacationers may enjoy many activities since there are endless options. From simply walking through the streets of the village visiting the monuments and groves (Karyatides, Roloï-municipal clock, Panagia Planes, Grove of Agia Paraskevi-School, Sakali fountain), or the beautiful chapels next to the forest (Agia Varvara, Agios Konstantinos) and at the entrance the village (Agioti Taxiarches, Agioti Anargyroi), to -for those who wish more intense sport activity- a walk or a cycling tour to the marked paths and cycling routes (Caryatides Trails).

Finally, the Sports Center of the "KARYATIS" Sports Club with its football and basketball-volleyball-tennis fields, as well as the Indoor Hall that will probably be operational this year with exercise equipment and table tennis available that offers additional options for everyone will want to combine sport and recreation during their vacation.

Furthermore, the Local Community along with the village's Clubs have already planned a series of events during the summer.

First, on **Saturday evening on July 20** the **Annual Reception** organized by the **Karyates Association** in honor of visiting compatriots, expatriates as well as from the rest of Greece will take place in the **Event Hall** of the **Karyes Community Building**.

This will be followed by the famous traditional **Panigyria (festivals) of Arachova/Karyes**, those of Agia Paraskevi on **Friday 26 July in Rachi Square** and of **Agios Panteleimon on Saturday 27 July in Central Square**. The fact that this year's festivities coincide with the weekend suggests an even greater participation of the people.

On the same weekend, the **celebration of the "Karyatis" Sports Club's 100 Years of Presence** begin. Therefore, an Exhibition of Historic Photographs will be inaugurated in the Event Hall of the Karyes Community Building. The exhibition, which will last several days,

Furthermore, next **Saturday, August 3**, a friendly match between Karyatis veterans will be held at the **football stadium**. After that an **Event** will follow in the evening in the **Central Square** in honor of those who have contributed to the sports club.

The following day, **Sunday, August 4** at 7:30 p.m., the **Karyates Association** organize the **children's party** at the **Central Square**.

On **Sunday, August 11**, in the afternoon, the Sports Club celebrations will conclude with a **friendly match** on the **football field** between KARYATIS and a football club from Laconia to be announced soon.

On the same **evening of Sunday, August 11**, there is an open invitation to all for the **Karyates Association Annual Summer Dance** in the **Grove of Agia Paraskevi** in the **courtyard of the Primary School**, with the famous **Koutsovasilis music band**.

The summer events will conclude on the **evening of Saturday August 17** with the **Karyes Cultural Club Annual Youth Party** which will take place, as last year, in the **Grove of Agia Paraskevi** in the **courtyard of the Primary School**.

The village of Karyes invites all of us promising an unforgettable summer.

Until we meet again!



The Karyates Association Board of Directors

announces his intention to proceed

**in the rental
of his property plot**

**area of 9 acres
near the chapel of Agia Barbara,**

Anyone interested
may contact the Association
via the email address
karyates.association@karyes.gr

HAVE WE PAYED OUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP?

Dear patriot

The **Karyates Association** for over half a century serves its purposes thanks to your love and support.

To achieve its goals, the only thing that asks from you is the annual membership fee of

€ 5.00 or US\$ 5.00

Anyone may pay that small fee, "digitally" through internet banking.

The bank account number (IBAN) is:

GR 560110 662 00000 66200 228709

**SYNDESMOS TON APANTAHOU KARYATON SWIFT
(BIC) ETHNGRAA / NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE**

The same account is available to anyone for donations and any financial support desired for the purposes of the Association.

Regarding the Newsletter, although the cost of postage is high, it will be sent **FREE OF CHARGE**.

However, every contribution helps us cover the costs and gives us strength to keep going.

*With Patriotic greetings,
The Karyates Association Board of Directors*

**Plot for sale area 1,234 sq.m.
with permission to build
in Kokkinorahi, Lakonia**

Information

on the telephone number **+30-6986-835-980** or
at the real estate office **5 Star Realty**
78 Leonidou str. Sparti tel. **+30-697-710-5639**,
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Contact us at **0030-6974-720909**
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REQUEST

**Those who wish to receive
this news bulletin via e-mail,
please inform us by sending your e-mail
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karyates.association@karyes.gr**

March: A month full of festivities in Karyes

As stated by the President of the Karyes Local Council, Mr. Pan. Mentis: "During March, the first month of spring, many visitors came at the beautiful Karyes thanks to a series of sports and cultural events that were organized in our village. From March 7 to 10, once again, the international mountain bike races took place. This 4-day event ended with a large number of visitors arriving mainly on the last day, where young cycling Athletes from various cycling Clubs of the Peloponnese participated. Several days later a 3-day carnival festivities took place and our village again became a destination for many young and old. That month ended with the organization of the <<Molon Lave Sprint Rally>>. Organized expeditions of motor sports fans from all over Greece had Karyes as their destination. About 2,000 people visited our beautiful village that day to enjoy the spectacle. The Karyes Local Council would like to thank all the village Clubs and the volunteers who contributed to make these events a complete success."

Carnival 2024

Thanks to the warm weather and despite the afternoon rain on Sunday, Karyes was filled with people during the three days of Celebration of Carnival and the Ash Monday as for Greece it's a long weekend. The events which were organized by the Karyes Cultural Club, started on Sunday afternoon in the Central Square with the lighting of a big bonfire with music, dancing and skewers and continued the next day at noon with traditional fasting foods.



The celebration of the Greek Revolution and of the "Evangelization of the mother of God" March 25th 2024

The double celebration, the **Annunciation of the Virgin Mary** and the anniversary of the **Greek Revolution of 1821**, was celebrated in the village with splendor. In the flag-decorated church of Ag. Andreas officiated by the priest Father Leontios, a solemn Divine Liturgy was held and "Hypermachos Stratigos" was sung by the children of the Primary School and the whole congregation.

After the end of the service, there followed the recitation of poems by the children of the Primary School as well as a brief history of the Revolution. Afterwards, a trisagio was sung and followed by the laying of wreaths at the monument of the heroes by the new leadership of the Local Council, the representative of the community in the Sparta Municipality, the Primary school and all the village's Clubs and Associations. The ceremony concluded with a minute's silence and the National Anthem. Despite the prevailing cold, many people attended the event.



The Divine Liturgy and the Poems from the children of the Karyes Primary School.

Wreaths honoring the Greek Revolution. From the left the **President of the Karyes Local Council Mr. Panagiotis Mentis**, the **President of the Karyates Association Mr. Michael Repoulis** and the **representative of Karyes at the Sparta Municipal Council Mr. Demetrios Arvanitis**.

International Mountain Bike Races



One more time Karyes became the Greek Centre of the Mountain Bike.

On **Thursday March 6, 2024**, only six months since last time, the **International Mountain Bike Race** (part of the **MTB Series of the Union des Cyclistes Internationales - U.C.I.**) took place. The races are counting at the international point system for men and women which is a criterion for the participation at the Olympic Games in Paris, 2024. Therefore, many international athletes participated i.e. from **France, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Czech Rep., Slovakia, Israel, Kazakhstan** and of course **Greece**.

Furthermore, on **Saturday, March 9, 2024** and on **Sunday, March 10, 2024** **Greek Club Races** took place of the **Greek Cyslist Association Calendar** for kids.

The races are held under the auspices of the **Municipality of Sparta**, the expertise of the **Spartan Gymnastic Club** and **Alterbiketours** and the support of the **Karyes Local Community** and the **Karyes Cultural Club**.

Karyes : A center for the Greek Car Racing Sport



The dirt races of 2024 started from the beautiful Karyes. The special track of Laconia, extremely popular for drivers and spectators too, has returned to the racing calendar of this year's dirt races. On **Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 March 2024**, the "Molon Lave Sprint Rally" took place based in our welcoming village, on a well-known technical and spectacular special route from the past that attracted the interest of many crews and spectators.

On Saturday in Sparta, the Administrative and Technical Control took place at the Administrative Office from 13.00 to 16.00. Then followed the Ceremonial Start in the Sparta Central Square at 19.00 and afterwards the crews moved to Karyes and specifically to the **Karyatis stadium** where the Service Park as well as the reconstruction took place.



Photos from the races



On Sunday, the race started shortly several meters after the village of Varvitsa and was completed in three timed passes. A total of 36 crews and another 23 with historic (antiques) cars took part and the entire race was exemplary.

The very interesting 12km route combined slow and fast sections with a wide variety of turns. The road surface was very good but, in some places, it required experience and special management from the athletes. The race was counted in the **Panhellenic (Greek) Dirt Cup** and the **Panhellenic (Greek) Historic Cars Dirt Cup**.

The race was organized after the approval of the **Motor Sports Federation of Greece (OMAE)** by the **Sports Association of Motor Racing Drivers Association (A.S.S.O.A.A.)** with the valuable support of the **Laconian Regional Unit**, the **Municipality of Sparta** and the **Karyes Community**.

Photos from the antiques sport car races



The awarding of prizes took place two hours after the end of "Parc Ferme" in the Karyes Central Square.

The prizes



The president of the "Karyatis" Sports Club mr. John Mentis welcome speech

The water springs cleaning



The young people of the village responded to the call of the **Karyes Local Council** regarding the cleaning of the springs. Cleaning is of immense importance since these sources supply water to the settlement and given the scarcity of water not a single drop should be wasted.

The Local Council congratulates those who responded positively to the call, as well as the "Kafepoleion" who offered free beers and meze after the work.

Karyes Pharmacy: Termination of its operation and an open invitation



Bad news to the village residents and visitors of Karyes a few days before Easter. The owner of the pharmacy has announced the imminent closure of its operation. According to his related post on Facebook:

"I would like to inform you of a difficult decision that I have to make in the coming days. Almost 8 years ago I made the choice to establish the pharmacy in your beautiful village. All these years I tried to get to know you and for you to get to know me, to honor your trust, your preference.

We shared very beautiful moments (weddings and festivals), but also unpleasant ones (losses of fellow villagers). I have done everything in my power to make your pharmacy a place of primary care and service to the community. You hug me, you made me feel like one of you. My heart would like to continue serving our village, but personal reasons force me to stop operating our pharmacy. I apologize from the bottom of my heart for being forced to make this decision.

I know I will upset everyone who honored me during these 8 years. So I would like to thank you for your love and declare that I feel like a friend and if you will allow me, a member of the village. I promise that for the next few weeks that I will still be present in my role I will try to ensure that I do not leave any unfinished business to all of you who have trusted me."

Having a pharmacy in the village is vital for residents and visitors. Given that **its financial viability does not appear to be the reason for its stop of servicing**, an **appeal** is addressed to all patriots, so that anyone who can mediate in approaching pharmacists who would like to open a branch in Karyes to contact the President of the Karyes Local Community Mr. Panayotis Mentis.

Easter 2024



As every year, this year there were many visitors to the village during Easter too. The Greek Easter is always combined with spring nature, therefore for many compatriots who live in big cities it was a pleasant opportunity to enjoy the beautiful village's nature. Although the weather was relatively unsettled, the fact that Orthodox Easter was in early May meant that the trees had shed their leaves and the place was lush green.

This year there was a modification of the celebrations, given that the Resurrection would take place in Agios Andreas Church, on Great Friday the service of the epitaph did not start from the Agia Paraskevi Church to end after the procession to Aghios Andreas Church, as it should be due to tradition.

The reason was that the renovation work of Agia Paraskevi, which keep the Church closed. So the liturgy took place in Agios Andreas and the procession of the epitaph, after going down the "steno" street, reached the square of Rachi and returned from the Main Street to the Central Square, where it ended up back in Agios Andreas.

With the improvement of the weather from Easter Sunday until Tuesday (given that the 1st May Day national holiday had been moved) Karyes, as can be seen in the adjacent photo, was full of people every day enjoying the village's cafes and the taverns.



Saint George celebration

Due to Easter, the celebration of St. George this year took place on Easter Monday and given that the Easter visitors were also in the village, there were many who went in the morning to the "Arachovitikos Kampos" to attend the Divine Liturgy at the recently renovated Chapel that is dedicated to the Saint.



After the end of the Divine Liturgy and thanks to the good weather, many Karyates, maintaining the tradition, remained in the surrounding meadows, having barbeque and feasting until the afternoon.



Saints Constantine and Helen celebration



The great feast of Orthodoxy which marks the transition to summer, that of Saints Constantine and Helen, was once again celebrated by the Karyates who thanks to the good weather went to the hill above Rachi to the Church dedicated to the Saints name in the forest.

It should be noted that after the end of the Divine Liturgy, a memorial service was held in memory of the benefactors-donors of the village, **Konstantinos and Eleni Sotiropoulos**.



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



ANNOUNCEMENT / INVITATION

Are you involved in the arts (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 Karyates Association email address karyates.association@karyes.gr, or at the phones (+30) 6944-784563, 6974-720909.

CLUBS NEWS



ΚΑΤΑΠΙΣΤΕΥΜΑ ΠΑΝΑΓΙΩΤΗ ΚΕΡΧΟΥΛΑ
PETER KERHULAS TRUST

PETER KERHULAS TRUST: republishing of financial statements

The editorial team of the Bulletin republishes the complete financial statements regarding the financial resources of the Kerhulas Trust, as they were posted on the website www.karyes.gr.

The entire financial statements are available on this website.

In summary the **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BALANCE SHEET 2022** is as follows:

CREDIT		
PURPOSE	AMOUNT €	AMOUNT US\$
Balance transfer from 2021	20.580,95	1.228.309,00
Conversion from U\$ D	597.531,73	-629.031,87
Other receipts of fiscal year 2022	238,00	1.122,38
TOTAL AMOUNT	618.350,68	600.399,51

DEBIT		
PURPOSE	AMOUNT €	AMOUNT US\$
Balance transfer from 2022	234.093,81	368,80
Balance transfer to 2023	384.256,87	600.030,71
TOTAL AMOUNT	618.350,68	600.399,51

At the same time, from **01.10.2022 until 09.10.2023** were spent the following amounts in €, including VAT. 24%:

1	Glazing materials for the Church of Agios Andreas	29.983,00
2	Students Financial support	8.012,00
3	Repair of Sakali spring barrels and supply of a 3rd barrel	2.808,00
4	Album presentation	4.741,00
5	Law Services	4.092,00
6	Defibrillator training	377,00
7	Emergency assistance to a producer due to bad weather	2.000,00
8	Construction of the "Karvelo" pipeline	39.679,00
9	Small expences	375,00
10	"Karyatides Trail" maintenance	570,00
	TOTAL AMOUNT	92.637,00

KARYES FIRE SAFETY TEAM: An interview with its President Mr. Achilleas Sioutos

As we mentioned in the previous issue, this year will be dedicated to the village's clubs and Associations. Therefore, we are publishing the interview given by the newly elected president of the Karyes Fire Safety Clubs, **Mr. Achilleas Sioutos**, to the head of the Newsletter Editorial Team, **Mr. Harris (Charalampos) Konstantopoulos**.

Harris Konstantopoulos: Mr. Sioutos, congratulations on your recent election as chairman of the Fire Safety Board of Directors. The Club has been officially operating since 2011. Can you describe its track until today?

Achilleas Sioutos: Dear Compatriot Harry, thank you for your wishes. The Club has been operating since 2011 normally and officially as defined by its Statute. Its presence is intense in the summer months when its Board of Directors and its members are constantly alert, especially on difficult days with patrols and an observatory in Kaminia observation post. I would like to inform the readers of the Bulletin that on the website www.Karyes.gr and in the presentation of the Clubs there is a separate reference to the FIRE SAFETY of our village.

H.K. In the past the Club had already received equipment such as the fire truck, personal equipment and fire extinguishers. In what state are they today?

A.S. The fire engine as well as the three (3) modified tanks on agricultural 4x4 cars are in good condition, maintained and prepared in time for emergencies. All materials acquired from time to time are stored in a special space allocated in the warehouse of the former Agricultural Cooperative. What is required to be replenished are the clothing and masks of the volunteer group that have been worn or consumed over the years. It is worth mentioning that not only there was a strong presence of the Karyes Fire Safety in the great fire of the springs in 2000 and 2007 in Parnonas Mountain, but also a significant contribution to smaller fires (Manari, Kokkinoloutsas, Ai Thodoros, Lakopetra, 'Elato, etc.).

H.K. We have recently been informed of the purchase of a new vehicle. Can you describe to us its capabilities as well as how this was acquired?

A.S. Regarding the new vehicle that was acquired, we inform you that after the minimal presence of the Municipality and the Forest Service for the cleaning of the zones, the Fire Safety got in touch with **Mr. Panagiotis (Takis) Od. Skiouris**, and with his intervention the **Chicago Adelphotis of Arachoviton** donated to the village a tractor with the necessary parts for a destroyer, fire extinguisher and road cleaner. This vehicle will soon be in the village and will make a decisive contribution to the field of fire prevention and firefighting. Also, we should mention that the equipment has recently been added to the donation from Mr. Skiouris, a 22-ton tank, which will be placed in the "Rogia" area as a water storage.

H.K. Given the climate change that occurs in our country in the form of heatwaves in the summer, the absence of snowfall in the winter and rainfall in the spring and autumn and the fact that the existence of the beautiful forest of Karyes which is adjacent to the settlement and is part of the wider forest of Parnon National Forest, what are the preparations and plans you have made so that we are ready to face a forest fire?

A.S. For our part, we have these means at our disposal and we are ready for our intervention as quickly and efficiently as possible. In the event of an incident, everyone should know that the Greek National Fire Service is the one that has the authority to give orders, draw up a plan and, under its instructions, help us effectively to deal with any incident.



The new vehicle

H.K. What needs do you consider existing nowadays, but also in the long term in order to strengthen the work of the Club?

A.S. We should point out that, apart from the shortcomings we described earlier, but also covering the financial costs of the machines, the most important thing for strengthening our project is the voluntary spirit, the action, the participation of everyone, especially the young people of the village, if we want to be proud of what nature has beautifully created, in favor of our life and existence. Ending the Board of Directors of Fire Safety warmly thanks **Mr. Takis (Panagiotis) Od. Skiouris** who has been on the side of fire safety all these years as well as the **Chicago Adelphotis of Arachoviton** for donating the Tractor. He also thanks **Mr. Nikos and Mr. Giorgos Pantazopoulos** who financially support the Club in **memory of Christos Dalakouras**, the **Karyes Church Council**, **Mr. Stavros Mermigas**, as well as all those who have contributed financially to previous years. Also, a thank you to all the young people of the village who, when asked in the summer, stand watch in Kaminia observation post.

H.K. Mr. Sioutos, thank you very much and I wish you success in your difficult task.

Karyates Association: Invitation to a General Assembly



AGENDA

1. Report of the Board of Directors.
2. Account of income and expenses.
3. Audit Committee Report.
4. Exemption of the Board of Directors from all liability.
5. Election of a new Board of Directors
6. Election of a new Audit Committee.
7. Rest announces.

To the members and friends of the Association

The Board of Directors of the Association, during its meeting on 24.04.2024, decided to announce elections for the appointment of a new Board of Directors.

Following this, all the members of the Association are INVITED to a General Meeting that will be held in the event hall of the Philanthropic Association of Agiasios, 3rd September street no. 39, 1st floor, on Sunday, June 9, 2024 at 11 a.m.

In the event that the quorum provided for by the articles of association is not reached (1/2 of the total number of regular members), the General Assembly will be held definitively, regardless of the number of members present, on June 16, 2024, Sunday at 11:00 a.m in the same place and with the same subjects.

Those wishing to be included in the list of candidates (Article 10 of the statutes) are requested to notify the Association's Board of Directors in good time.

The presence of all members of the Association is absolutely necessary. You can vote through an authorized representative with the originality of your signature certified by gov.gr, K.E.P., Police Department or other Public Authority.

With patriotic greetings

The members of the Board of Directors

Donation in favor of the Karyates Association

- **Ardamis Stefanos** € 50-
- **Athanailos Kon. Anastasios** € 100-
- **Theodoros and Maria Vatsela** € 50-
- **Prekeze Annita** € 50-
- **Elina and Eftimios Bouloutas** € 150-
- **Konstantinos and Panaghiotis Koutsogiorgas** 400-
- **Michael and Dimitra Repoulis** € 50-
- **The Karyates Association BoD** € 50-

In memory of **Georgia Floris**:

In memory of **Thomas Papadopoulos**:

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



LOCAL NEWS

Stone cleaning of the Diros River Bridge by the Karyes Local Council

A commendable first attempt to protect the historic stone bridge that connects the neighborhood of Pinigoura with the rest of the village, that of the river Deiros, was carried out by the Local Council. As the President, Mr. Pan. Mentis informed us there was a cleaning of the stone surfaces and the result is obvious.

It should be noted that the bridge was built in the 1880s, by Italian craftsmen, and its impressive size and width is due to the fact that the central road connecting the cities of Sparta and Tripoli was intended to pass through it (a plan that was abandoned along the way).



Special Tribute

The presentation of the "KARYES PARK", Gastonia N.C.

On the opposite side of the Atlantic on the border between North and South Carolina there is an **Arachovite beacon of Hellenism**, the "KARYES PARK". This is an **impressive project** based on a **pioneering idea** of a group of Arachovite immigrants **100 years ago**.



Impressive, because it was built and maintained not by a Greek local community in general, but by a **group of Greek families**, who reside mainly in several Southern States of the U.S.A. and who have one thing in common: they are descendants of immigrants from a certain village, the **Karyes of Laconia**, the historical **Arachova of Parnon**.

Innovative idea, because when it was designed and started to be implemented, in the 1920s it did not exist in the U.S.A. hardly any organized Greek club, or any community. And yet, its founders were not only **pioneers of the American Hellenism**, but had the foresight to infuse this work with features that would ensure its longevity.

Five years had passed since the establishment of the Brotherhood (Adelphotis) and the first major project, that of water supply in the village, had been launched, when it was decided by its leadership to identify a place where compatriots could meet and celebrate. The founders of the Brotherhood wanted to find a place that would remind them of their mountain village, which was difficult since the wider area was flat with small hills. However, after much searching, a suitable area was found near **Gastonia**, North Carolina, at the foot of a small mountain very close to the border with South Carolina, and so in **1928** it was purchased and named, as it were, "**KARYAE PARK**". The area in question was definitively transferred on **October 14, 1929** to the ownership of the Brotherhood and since then its events have been held there.

So, every summer began the **festival** that took place on the weekend after the fifteenth of August (the first festival was held there in August 1928). The compatriots who started to have families and no longer had the possibility to visit Greece regularly, visiting the park lived their Greek moments, meeting their compatriots, feasting in Greek, but also inoculating their children who were born in a new country with the Greek tradition.

The infrastructure construction works also started immediately. Initially, in **1928**, the **Meeting Hall** and the also wooden roofed **Ballroom** were built with timber that was cut within the park, while some rooms were also built for the accommodation of visitors. In the spring of **1930**, a fundraiser was started for the construction of the **chapel of Dormition of the Virgin Mary**, which is inaugurated the same summer. In **1936** the Ballroom was destroyed by fire, but in **1937** it was immediately rebuilt.



The old Event Hall



The dance hall



The first wooden church

At the same time, the Brotherhood continues to improve its facilities and in **1946**, with the end of the Second World War, the **Heroon of Fallen Compatriots** was erected. In the 1950s, after a thirty-year hiatus in immigration, the situation in Greece and in particular the village that has been completely destroyed by the Nazis, creates a new immigration stream and revitalizes the Arachovite/Karyatian community in the area.



The "Heroon"

Hundreds of young people are immigrating to the Southern States, having been invited by their old immigrant compatriots. They in turn create families and immediately participate in the commons of the Brotherhood.

As a consequence, the new immigrants in turn embrace the park and a major renovation is decided upon. So in **1956** the **Administration Building** was erected to house the offices of the Brotherhood and the following year, in **1957**, the grove was expanded with three (3) additional acres and the **New Entrance** was built. Finally, the following year, in **1958**, the **Barbeque Stand** was built.



The Barbeque stand



However, the participation of the people is so much that again new infrastructure is needed and so in **1967** the **new Ballroom** (left) is built, while at the beginning of **1970** the **new stone-built Chapel**. Finally, at the beginning of the **21st century**, the **Meeting Hall** (below) was also renovated, so today the park can be described as a real jewel.



The renovated "Koimisis tis Theotokou" Chapel (at the left photo the list of donors)



Special Tribute

The presentation of the "KARYES PARK", Gastonia N.C.



Today the **Offices** also functions as a **Photographic Museum** since there are posted, among other things, all the photos of the acting presidents of the Board of Directors of the Brotherhood and the Foundation too (top and bottom left), as well as the large "family photos" of the festivities.

OVERSEAS CLUB NEWS

Brotherhood of Canada: The Macaronada Carnival Dance

The annual "**Macaronada**" carnival dance was organized with great success in Toronto, Canada by the Arachovite Brotherhood "AI KARYAI" on **Saturday, March 16, 2024**. In a full hall our compatriots with their families met and had fun. Among other things, the three best disguises were awarded with cash prizes.



The competition winners



The event hall full of people

We are reposting some photos from those posted on the Fraternity FB group.

Once again, we must give our compliments to the leadership of the Adelphotis (Brotherhood) of Canada, who are truly teaching us all a lesson in the way they keep a decades-old club alive while maintaining the privately owned **Karyes Park** in an fantastic state.

Congratulations to all!



The young generation

An impressive start from the new elected Board of Directors of the Adelphotis in Carolina

The rites have been completed in the most historic expatriate association of the Karyates, that of the "Adelphotis Arahoviton AI KARYAE" (Brotherhood) in the south of the U.S.A. in Gastonia N.C.. The new Board of Directors under the Presidency of Mr. Sarantos Kaperonis along with many young people and under the support of the old members plan the revival of the Association encouraged by the great success of last year's celebration of its 100 years of history. We are republishing the announcement of the new BoD's call and at the same time we as members of the Board of Directors of the Karyates Association, we declare that we will be at their disposal for whatever they need. Here is the announcement:

Dear fellow Arahovites and Arahovitises,

As of 2024, the Adelphotis Arahoviton Karyae of Gastonia, NC has a new 15-member Board of Directors that will serve the Adelphotis for the next two years. These members include:

- [Sarantos N. Kaperonis – President](#)
- [John S. Vastis – Vice President](#)
- [Sam J. Vastis – 2nd Vice President](#)
- [John P. Mahairas – Secretary](#)
- [John B. Vastis – Assistant Secretary](#)
- [George T. Karres – Treasurer](#)
- [Andre T. Harakas – Assistant Treasurer](#)
- Nick Karres
- Ilias Poulos
- Lee Sarris
- Panos Stathakis
- Pitsa Diatzikis
- Litsa Poulos
- Elise McGinnes
- Greg Vastis

As a board, we have been working together to develop a vision for the future of the Adelphotis. We are excited to build on the incredible momentum from last year's centennial celebration and revitalize the Adelphotis after a period of decline. With that in mind, we have laid out some initial goals (the first of many) in hopes of fulfilling this mission:

1. **Membership Growth** – We will be forming a Membership Committee with hopes of increasing membership in the Adelphotis. We only had around 75 paid member last year and the success and participation of last year's centennial celebration (over 600) demonstrates our potential.
2. **Engaging Events For All Ages** – Our goal is for the Adelphotis to host at least four events each year: The Saint George Picnic, the June Panigiri, the Panagias Picnic in August, and re-start The Makaronada during Apokries. We want these events to be a great way for Arahovites of all ages to get together and have a great time. Each event will have its own dedicated committee with these goals in mind.
3. **Increased communication** – As a board, we feel it is important to communicate with the members of the organization on a more consistent basis about what is taking place in the Adelphotis. We'll provide consistent updates on upcoming events, share a newsletter with organizational news, and hold two General Assembly meetings annually.
4. **Get our youth involved** – The Adelphotis' future hinges on our youth. After the 100-year celebration, there was lots of interest from younger Arahovites on how to get involved and our goal is to get this younger generation engaged.

Although each goal is listed separately, each goal is interconnected to fulfill our whole vision of the Adelphotis. A larger, well-informed membership fosters lively events, attracting more youth and propelling further growth. We are confident that by working together, we can make the Adelphotis a thriving organization once again.

Upcoming Events

The Adelphotis has three upcoming events on the calendar for 2024 and all events will be held at Karyae Park. More information and flyers will follow regarding each event. For now, please mark your calendars and save these dates!

1. **The Annual Saint George Picnic & General Assembly – Saturday, May 11**
2. **The Annual June Panigiri – Saturday, June 22**
3. **The Annual Panagias Picnic – Sunday, August 18**

After the success of last year's 100-year celebration, we have decided to host an annual Panigiri at Karyae Park in June. With schools out, kids home from college, most people still in town before their summer Greece travels, and the general lack of major events, we feel mid-late June is a great time to host an annual Panigiri at Karyae Park. This year's event will take place on Saturday June 22 with lots of dancing, food, a cash bar, and LIVE MUSIC by Endasi!

This year's Saint George Picnic will be held on Saturday May 11 as opposed to Sunday, May 12th due to Mother's Day. The day will include a church service in the morning followed by lunch, and we will have activities for kids of all ages. We will also host our first General Assembly meeting on this day. We will give updates about the organization and how we plan to execute our goals listed above.

Our annual August Picnic will be held as always on the Sunday after Panagias. This year it will take place on Sunday, August 18. More details will follow about this event in the coming months.

Ways To Get Involved

The success of the Adelphotis depends on its members. We encourage you to consider joining one of our newly formed committees: Membership, Saint George Picnic, June Panigiri, or Panagias Picnic.

The Membership Committee will focus on increasing membership from across the Southeast. A broad participation in this committee is key to its success. The other three event committees will focus on planning every aspect of these events to ensure their success. We have members with a variety of skills, and we need your talents on these committees. If committee work is not your preference, but you still wish to contribute, please do not hesitate to reach out.

If you are looking to join a committee or help in anyway, contact Sarantos Kaperonis at 704-661-0881 or via email at snkaperonis@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you all at Karyae Park in the months ahead. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Sarantos Kaperonis (contact information above) with any questions, feedback, or ideas for the Adelphotis. With your support and help, we look forward to a successful and eventful year in the Adelphotis. Your participation and support will be instrumental in achieving our goals. This organization has a tremendous history, and it is up to us to continue its legacy.

Thank you,
Adelphotis Arahoviton Karyae Board of Directors



SOCIAL NEWS

Thomas Papadopoulos passed away in Athens on **March 15 2024**, at the age of **66**.

He was a distinguished friend of the Karyates Association.

His funeral took place in **Karyes on March 19 2024** and his burial in the **Cemetery of Agios Nikolaos**.

Our deepest condolences to his family

KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS BULLETIN QUARTERLY PUBLICATION
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