



AHEPA Yankee News Publication of District #7 Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Western Massachusetts May, 2015



The Art Night Trolley: In Warren at 30 Cutler Street or in Bristol at 125 Thames Street.

Ocean Drive: amazing mansions, beautiful landscapes and ocean views.



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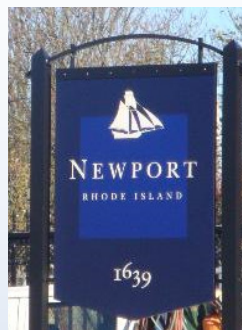


Rough Point mansion, museum, and garden tours. 680 Bellevue Avenue.

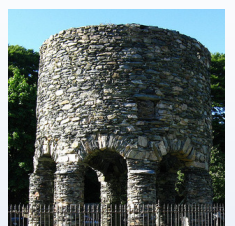


New England Regional Convention Districts No. 7, 8 & 9 May 29-30-31, 2015 Mainstay Inn 151 Admiral Kalbfus Road Newport, RI

Newport, Rhode Island...something for everyone!



Aquidneck Ferry is a new boat service in Newport: 39 America's Cup Ave.



The Newport Tower, built around 1680; Touro Park, at the top of Mill Street.

Greek Independence Day Observed - 2015

In 1821, after nearly 400 years of Ottoman oppression, the Greeks bound together under a flag bearing the cross to fight for freedom and justice in the land which gave the world democracy. Like the revolution which took place in America 45 years earlier, Greece would embark on a journey forever linking our two countries in their struggle for freedom and independence. The Founding Fathers of the United States of America drew upon the ideals and principles forged in ancient Greece in constructing our nation. Thomas Jefferson called ancient Greece "the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness." All who cherish a free and democratic government are beneficiaries of Greece's legacy and thus should consider themselves Philhellenes.

Throughout history Greece and the U.S. have stood shoulder-to-shoulder to face the challenges of an ever-changing world. Greece had been allied with the United States in every major conflict of the 20th Century. The strong alliance continues into the 21st century. Greece, via NSA Souda Bay, Crete and other military capabilities, has contributed significantly to NATO and United States missions, including peacekeeping operations, in the ever-increasingly important region of the world.

In celebration of the 194th Anniversary of Greece's independence, AHEPA family chapters, districts, and our communities, are working together to promote parades across the country, to secure Proclamations from state and local government officials,



and are organizing flag-raising ceremonies at various State Capitols and City Halls. Indeed, AHEPA members worldwide promote and sustain the celebration of this historic day for all Hellenes.

I would like to thank Secretary of State John Kerry for his statement on Greece's National Day and express our gratitude to the members of Congress who took the time to commemorate Greek Independence Day with speeches on the Senate or House Floors, and in the Senate, where a resolution will pass to commemorate Greek Independence Day. Finally, I also ask Hellenes throughout the Diaspora to take a moment to acknowledge and pay their respects to those who sacrificed which allowed freedom and democracy to take root-once again-in Greece in 1821.

Fraternally,
Phillip T. Frangos, Supreme President,
Order of Ahepa

Order of AHEPA, District 7
Yankee District News
& Mohegan Trail
Westerly, RI 02891-2022



**A Message from the
Order of AHEPA
District 7 Governor,
Alex Boutsoulis**

Dear Brothers,

I hope all is well, considering the cold winter we had. It seemed that since January, New England was in a period of "unbearable low temperatures along with a daily chance for snow or ice".

Thank you to all of you who attended our Spring Conference in New Britain, CT. A very special thanks to New Britain brother AHEPANS and sister Daughters of Penelope for the fabulous job they did in the conference, which was attended by approximately 40 members.

In addition, I would like to thank the Stamford, New Haven, New Britain, Waterbury and Hartford AHEPA Chapters for inviting the District Lodge to the following events in 2015:

- ◆ Stamford – Friday Night History Lecture and Town Meeting regarding Hellenic issues with US Senator Chris Murphy
- ◆ New Haven – 50th Anniversary March on Selma discussion regarding Dr. Martin Luther King & Archbishop Iakovos
- ◆ New Britain – NYC Greek Independence Day Parade Bus trip and Chapter initiation.
- ◆ Waterbury & Hartford – 6 new AHEPANS were initiated at dinner meetings.

The District Lodge participated at both Hartford, CT and Providence, RI Greek Independence Day celebrations on Wednesday, March 25th. At the Hartford event, it was my honor to say a few words of what the day means to me as a Greek-American.

Hope to see you soon!

Fraternally,
Alex Boutsoulis
AHEPA District 7 Governor

**A Message from the
Daughters of
Penelope District Governor,
Myrsini Papoutsis**

Dear Sisters,

This year marks the 85th Anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope and the 90th Anniversary of AHEPA Yankee District 7. All the more reason for our District to have a great celebration!

The achievements of our District placed us in 2nd place for several awards which are the product of strong leadership at Chapter and District Levels. These District achievements have come from the vision, hard work, passion and dedication of individuals who lead the way daily in our chapter officers and membership. District 7 inspires everyone and impacts everyone's lives doing good in our communities and the world. It's a labor of love. Let us continue to chart the course of success for the upcoming 2015-2016 year. I'd like to thank the Host Chapters for our Spring Conference which was held in New Britain this past March. The conference was very successful.

The New England Regional Convention is in Newport in May, the Supreme Convention is in San Francisco CA in July, and the District Scholarship Dinner is in New London, CT in August. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at these upcoming events.

I thank each and every one of you, District Lodge Officers, Chapters Officers and Membership. Without your commitment, activities and progress we couldn't have achieved all that we did during the 2014-2015 year. I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to everyone including my home chapter allowing me to embark on this journey. I enjoyed working with the entire Ahepa Family. I wish every District and Chapter Officer and Member a fabulous experience for the year ahead. I encourage you to make the most of the upcoming year while having a great time and continue to increase our membership as our members are the future success of our organization.

Yours in Theta Pi,
Myrsini Papoutsis
D7 Daughters of Penelope
Governor, 2014-2015



**AHEPA
Officers 2014-2015**

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Advisor**

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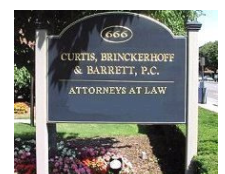
**ANDREW C.
ZACHARIADES**
SUPREME SECRETARY
ORDER OF AHEPA

*Best wishes to the Brothers
in Yankee District #7*



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District 7 SPRING CONFERENCE

New Britain, CT - March 14, 2015

The membership of the District 7 AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope gathered at the St. George Greek Orthodox Church Banquet Facility in New Britain, CT on March 14, 2015. Despite the cold and rainy weather, approximately 40 AHEPANS and Daughters were in attendance. The gathering was honored by the presence of Supreme Secretary, Andrew Zachariades, Supreme Counselor, Greg Stamos, Region 4 Supreme Governor, Frank Fotis, and Maids of Athena Grand Vice President, Tria Charnas. A majority of the District 7 Lodge officers from both branches of the AHEPA family were present. A fantastic lunch and great conversation was had by all.

A summary of the Spring Conference business meeting is as follows: Greg Stamos promoted Capitol Hill Day. It was decided that D7 needs to organize a table for the Banquet at the Capitol event. John Grossomanides suggested that Greg Stamos coordinate with the District which will talk to the Chapters to determine attendance and invite their respective Representatives and Senators to the D7 table.

Jack Isaac is trying to bring attention to the plight of Christians in the Middle East by sponsoring local informational lectures at Yale University, providing the Capitol Day attendees talking points to use with their Representatives, and Supreme is reviewing what type of response is warranted. A motion was made by John Grossomanides and seconded by George Rados for the Supreme Lodge to advance this cause on behalf of District 7. An amendment to the motion was made by Demetrius Tasoulas and accepted by the originators to distribute this statement, when issued, simultaneously to all members of Congress. The motion was passed unanimously.

Brother Nick Nikas provided a presentation on membership of the Chapter, District, and National levels. A committee and a membership coordinator for District membership will be appointed by the District Governor. A report concerning the 2014 Hellenic History Tournament was given by Nick Nikas. A motion was made by Greg Stamos, seconded by George Rados and passed to accept the report and to applaud Nick Nikas for his efforts to foster education and knowledge of Hellenic history. Rick Pecka discussed the District Scholarship and passed out copies of the application to the members in attendance.

District Governor, Alex Boutsoulis gave his report starting with information about the Yankee District News (YDN). Alex and Jack have been acting as co-editors. John Melonopoulos and John Grossomanides have helped to make the YDN financially solvent by selling ads. Krystyna Kazakos is no longer working on the YDN but was a great resource to the publication over the years. The YDN has changed to a larger paper size format to save money and provide greater copy space. Terry Plumley, the St. George New Britain Church secretary, is the new publication publicist.

The Convention issue release date was discussed and moved up to make sure that information gets out in a timely fashion. The Fall Conference will be hosted by the Bridgeport Chapter October 3, 2015. The next Scholarship Dinner will be held August 16th in New London as part of a new four year rotation along with Waterbury, New Britain, and Bridgeport.

Photos by Simones.



Frank Fotis, Region 4 Supreme Governor, Alex Boutsoulis, D7 Governor, Greg Stamos, Supreme Counselor, and Andy Zachariades, Supreme Secretary.



Frank Fotis, Region 4 Supreme Governor, Greg Stamos, Supreme Counselor, Andy Zachariades, Supreme Secretary, Alex Boutsoulis, District 7 Governor, Tria Charnas, Maids Grand Vice President, Myrsini Papoutsis, DOP D7 Governor, Donna Rados, DOP D7 Treasurer, Rick Pecka, Sons of Pericles Advisor, and Jack Isaac, D7 Advisor (standing).



Steve H.

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Daughters of Penelope

Yankee District

Lodge #7

District Governor - Myrsini Papoutsis

Lt. Governor - Karen Isaac

Secretary - Marianne Boutsoulis

Treasurer - Donna Rados

Marshall - Helen Sakellarides

Maids of Athena Advisor - Gina Kotsaftis

Daughters Advisor - Penny Pecka

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Greek Independence Day Observed at the Capitol Building

The Greek community of Connecticut met in Hartford at the State Capitol Building Hall of Flags to commemorate the 194th anniversary of Greek independence.

The program began at 4:30 PM and lasted about 1.5 hours with nearly 200 people in attendance. The Master of Ceremonies was Themis Klarides, Minority Leader of the House of Representatives. Speakers included Mr. Bakes Christos (Pelana Society), Rev. Fr. James T. Bogiatzis (St. George Greek Orthodox Church, New Britain, CT), Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, Alex Boutsioulis (AHEPA District 7 Governor), Demetrios Giannaros (Former State Representative), and Fotis Papadimitrakopoulos (Paideia Secretary).

A presentation of a plaque and Spartan helmet statue was made by the Paideia Secretary to Governor Dannel Malloy which was accepted on his behalf by Lt. Gov. Wyman. A State Proclamation for Greek Independence Day was received by Fr. James Bogiatzis. There were traditional poetry readings by students from Hartford, Waterbury, New Britain, and Orange communities. Traditional Greek Folk Dances were performed by the UCONN Hellenic Student Association Dancers and the Pontian Society Dancers from Norwalk.

The second part of the commemoration took place at St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Hartford at 7:00 PM. The Doxology was given by the following priests: Fr. George Zugravu (Hartford), Fr. James Bogiatzis (New Britain), Fr. Stephen Natsis (Retired), Fr. Charles Simones (UConn & Paideia), Fr. Ignatios Achlioptas (Bristol), and Fr. Perikles Kallis (Waterbury). This was followed by singing of the American and Greek National anthems. Remarks followed by Ilias Tomazos (Paideia President) and Fr. Charles Simones. This program was followed by a fish dinner that was enjoyed to the sounds of Leonidas Tsandiris & *The Islanders* by the approximately 80 people that were in attendance.



George Scarveles, Greg Stamos, Angelica Spanos (Fox News CT), Alex Boutsioulis.



Greg Stamos, George Scarveles, Themis Klarides, Demetrios Giannaros, Alex Boutsioulis.



Third from L to R: Fr. Perikles Kallis, Fr. Charles Simones, Fr. James Bogiatzis, Fr. Ignatios Achlioptas, Fr. George Zugravu, Fr. Stephen Natsis.

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Greek Independence Day Celebrations!



Above and right: Around 10 people gathered at St. Sophia Hellenic Orthodox Church in **New London, CT** at 8:45 AM to raise the Greek Flag prior to Annunciation Liturgy. Among those present were Terry Mitchell (AHEPA PSS), Demetrius Tasoulas (D7 Lt. Governor), Greg Simones (D7 Secretary), Fr. Charles Simones (Winthrop Chapter 250 Recording Secretary), John Louziotis (PDG), and Fr. Dean Panagos (Parish Priest).



Bristol: Leo Papadimitriou, Andy Aros, Nick Nasiakos, George Rados, Chris Nasiakos, Bristol Mayor Ken Cockayne, Nick Bouras, Mike Bolovis, Jim Dimopoulos.
Below: Harry Sitalides, George Rados, and **New Britain** Mayor Erin Stewart raise the flag.



NYC Mayor Bill DiBlasio with SP Frangos.



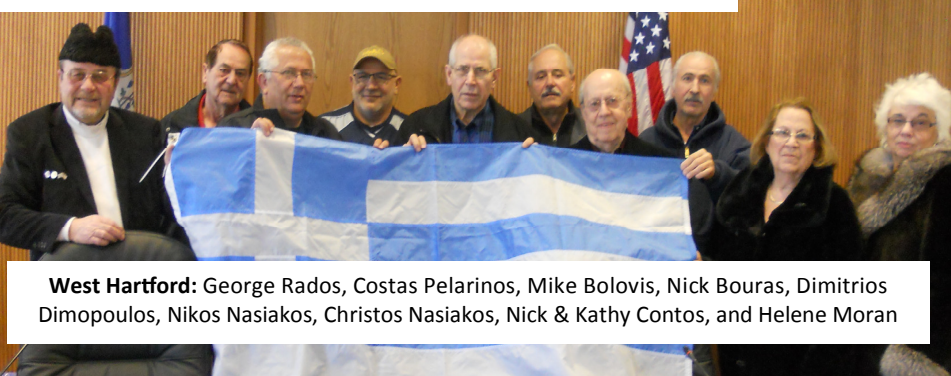
NYC: Left: Supreme President Phillip T. Frangos marched down 5th Ave on March 29 with tens of thousands attending. Members of the Supreme Lodge convened on 60th Avenue after liturgy at Holy Trinity in NYC. The Supreme President was joined by Supreme Secretary Andrew Zachariades, Supreme Counselor Gregory Stamos, Supreme Governor Phil Vogis, Past Supreme Governor George J. Scarvelles & Supreme Sons Advisor Jimmy Kokotas. Supreme President Frangos had the honor of marching with Mayor of New York Bill diBlasio, Grand Marshall Governor Andrew Cuomo, and His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios.



Rhode Island State House: hosted by RI State Senator Leonidis Raptakis, Sophocles #106. Brother Raptakis is the person in the center with the light blue tie next to Rev. Dr. George Economou. Children from the Newport, Pawtucket and Cranston Greek Language School presented a brief program.



Southington: Town Manager Garry Brumback, George Rados, Michael Mavroudis, Demetrius Dimopoulos, Town Office Manager & Jack Isaac



West Hartford: George Rados, Costas Pelarinos, Mike Bolovis, Nick Bouras, Dimitrios Dimopoulos, Nikos Nasiakos, Christos Nasiakos, Nick & Kathy Contos, and Helene Moran



New Britain: City officials with Christos Nasiakos, Leo Papadimitriou, Jack Isaac, Demetrius Dimopoulos, Andy Aros, Fr. James Bogiatzis, Nick Bouras & Nick Nasiakos.

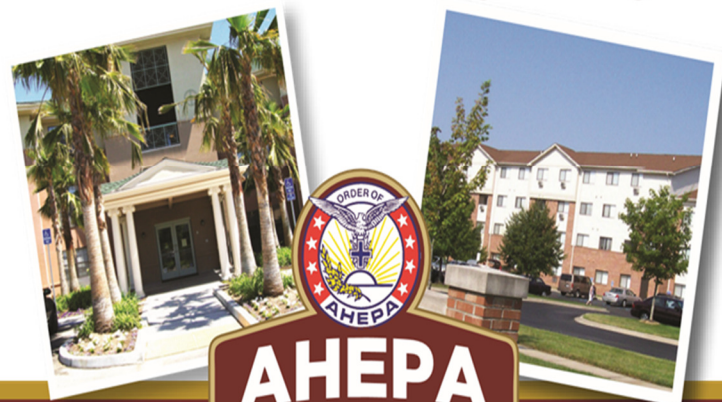
"I am grateful and honored to be elected to serve AHEPA as the Supreme Governor for Region 4. To succeed, I need your cooperation and support.

Our goals are to increase membership and to continue providing services to our communities.

My Personal goal is to visit as many chapters as possible within Region 4, comprised of Districts 7,8,& 9 covering all of New England."

- Frank P. Fotis, Supreme Governor

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Norwich AHEPA Participates in the Annual Vasilopita Ceremony

by Tony Petros



On Sunday, January 4th, the Norwich AHEPA Chapter participated in the Vasilopita ceremony, held at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. Multiple loaves of Vasilopita breads were baked by the women of the community and were auctioned off after church. President Peter Argiros of the Rose of New England Chapter 110, AHEPA, successfully bid \$100 on one of the breads. Peter Patsouris and George Grossomanides received Vasilopita Bread (see right), and it was brought to the next Chapter meeting where it was enjoyed by all members present.

John Louziotis, President Peter Argiros, Paul Constantion, Joe Homski and Mike Lewis (below) were ready to cut into the vasilopita bread. The Norwich AHEPA has participated in this event for the past 30 years.

Father Paul Pantelis, of Holy Trinity GOC in Norwich (right) blessed all the Vasilopita breads that were to be auctioned off for the benefit of the Church.



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Daughters Of Penelope
Ares #49
 Newport, RI

EDITOR'S NOTES

by Jack Isaac,
 PDG & Co-Editor, YDN

District 7 has taken the initiative to publicize the struggle of our brother Christians in the Middle East. Recently, the Pope and Patriarch have both spoken about this issue with the Pope "decrying the silence of many."

The Christians in the Middle East represent a community that has been there since the dawn of history. They were among the first to embrace Christianity, and now they are in grave danger. The rise of the so-called Islamic State or ISIS, has given fanatics the opportunity to try to eliminate the Christian community as well as others. We have seen the reports of ancient relics smashed, churches vandalized and destroyed, as well as religious leaders kidnapped, tortured, and murdered.

From a position a few years ago of 1 million strong in Iraq, the Christian community is down to a small remnant. They have been given the choice of paying exorbitant taxes, convert, leave or die. This has resulted in an exodus of biblical proportions with many fleeing to Kurdistan, Syria, or anywhere available for refuge. AHEPA stands proudly for the Rights of Man among which is the freedom of religion. We strongly condemn what is happening and in District 7 we have decided to put on a series of lectures at Yale University to educate the citizenry of the tragedy unfolding.

We thank our brothers Prof. George Syrimis of Yale, and Atty. Greg Stamos for their assistance in arranging these discussions.

Chapter 98 Brings New Meaning to "Easter Offering"

Brothers Peter Gekas, Augusti Fifis, and George Scarveles passed out over two hundred bags of Easter candy to the kids of Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church on Palm Sunday. Chapter 98 has hosted or passed out candy continually for over 75 years on palm Sunday. It's a program that reaches out to all the kids in the community both on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. The two big kids in the photo are Stella and David Patrick, George's Grandchildren.



During the month of March, these brothers of New Haven/Orange Chapter 98 worked behind the scenes to prepare food for over two hundred Soup Kitchen Recipients. L-R: Jim, Napoleon, George, Paul, Angelo and Gus. They were unaware "the eyes of March were upon them."

Submitted by George J. Scarveles



Vincent Antonelli, DDS
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From the Brothers of
Sophocles Chapter #106,

Warwick, RI,

& the

Thursday Night Crew
 at Crusty's Pizza



~ Brother Lakis Andriotis ~



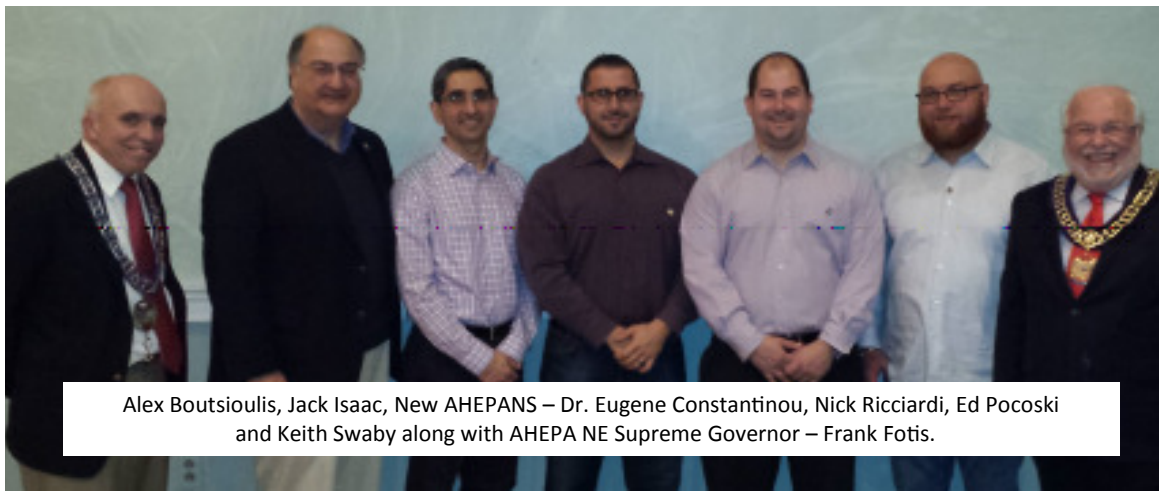
Irene Dizes, demonstrator
 Adele Antoniou, President THOAS #198; Marianne Boutsoulis, District Secretary; Karen Isaac, Lt. Governor; Myrsini Papoutsis, District Governor; Donna Rados, District Treasurer.

Thoas Chapter #198 was honored with a visitation from the District Lodge. The evening began with a Delicious "Lenten Dinner" that we shared with our Brother AHEPANS. After dinner we held our meeting with much information from the District Lodge of all the upcoming events we are to look forward to. To end this very busy evening, we had a presentation by Irene Dizes, who shared her beautiful creations of Couture clothing and accessories which she made from her hand woven fabrics. *Submitted by Adele*

Compliments
 Order of AHEPA
 Elpis Chapter
 # 117
 New Britain, CT



Mr. & Mrs. Angelos Maintanis
 15 Horizon Drive
 Cranston, RI 02921



Alex Boutsoulis, Jack Isaac, New AHEPANS – Dr. Eugene Constantinou, Nick Ricciardi, Ed Pocoski and Keith Swaby along with AHEPA NE Supreme Governor – Frank Fotis.

On February 23, 2015, AHEPA **Chapter 48 of Waterbury, CT** initiated 4 new brothers. The Waterbury initiation followed with a dinner/meeting which was attended by 45 AHEPANS. A special thanks for their participation to the New Britain Brothers Jack Isaac, Andy Aros and George Rados and Brother Frank Fotis who made the trip from the Boston area. As usual, compliments to the Chapter 48 chefs – President Paul Velezis, Costas Galanis and Anthony Rinaldi.

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From Nick Bouras & Family



Jack Isaac, PDG; John Melonopoulos, President; Greg Simones, D7 Secretary; newly initiated brothers Tim Kontogouris and Mike Hatzikostandis; Alex Boutsoulis D7 Governor; Frank Fotis, Supreme Governor; Emanuel Moshovos, Chairman

On March 31, 2015, **Nathan Hale Chapter 58** hosted an initiation starting at 6 pm in the chapter's lodge hall. We welcomed the D7 District Lodge for a visitation. Two new Brothers were initiated and welcomed by all after their initiation by the District Lodge. The evening began with a delicious "Faki" dinner prepared by Brothers (and "chefs") George and Mike Bonatsakis, and an enjoyable evening of dining and fellowship was enjoyed by both the AHEPANS and Daughters. The room was decorated for Spring and preparations for our gathering were made by DOP president, Adele Antoniou, (also an excellent cook!) who prepared a special Greek salad for all to enjoy. Desserts were provided by her committee. A short chapter meeting followed with a report of the Nathan Hale Assurance Fund by fund chairman, Niko Yanouzas, outlining its year-end values. (This fund was created to benefit our deceased member's family with a special \$2000.00 benefit.)

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October 11, 2014: Congratulations to the newly reactivated chapter **Chryseis #195 of Norwich, CT**, District 7. Our Grand President Deanna Socaris and GT and Grand Liaison Effie Sapuridis were present as well as Daughters of Penelope Grand President Anna-Helene Grossomanides and Grand Secretary Jan Spanos. Welcome to the Sisterhood ladies, we're excited to have you!

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**Waterbury Sons Co-Host
NE Basketball Tournament**

The Waterbury Sons of Pericles have been very active over the first few months of this year. They carried the momentum that they had from co-hosting the annual Thanksgiving weekend basketball tournament into this year. The Thanksgiving weekend basketball was a great event with teams from all over New England and New York. In total there were 9 teams that participated. The Waterbury Sons of Pericles were co-hosts of this event and worked alongside the entire Supreme Lodge. We had games Saturday and Sunday and a Greek night at one of the local Greek restaurants on Saturday night. Overall it was a very successful tournament. The Supreme Lodge would like to thank District Governor Alex Boutsoulis for all of his help with this tournament.



Submitted by Steven Gaggs, Sons of Pericles Supreme Governor



Peter Tsavdos, Supreme Athletic Director, with the winning team from Brooklyn, NY, and Supreme President, Jimmy Googas

Carrying that momentum, the Waterbury Sons of Pericles continued with another athletic event. This time they hosted a dodgeball event the second week of January. This event has become an annual event and draws teams from surrounding towns. This year we had 11 teams participate which raised almost one thousand dollars which will be donated towards National Project. Everyone who participated had such a great time that the Waterbury Sons are now planning to host another dodgeball tournament towards the end of June. The Waterbury Sons have been very active so far and are always planning new events. Be on the lookout for the next one!

Submitted by Alex Boutsoulis

**Sons of Pericles Supreme President
John Ververis' Testimonial**

John Ververis, past Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles was honored with a testimonial this past Labor Day weekend in Waterbury, CT. Over 125 attended the luncheon that honored John for not only his Sons of Pericles accomplishments but for his many volunteer activities at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Waterbury. Past Supreme Sons of Pericles (SOP) President, Rick Pecka was the master of ceremonies while guest speakers included AHEPA Past Supreme Presidents John Grossomanides and Anthony Kouzounis, Daughters of Penelope (DOP) President Anna-Helene Grossomanides, National Advisor to the SOP Jimmy Kokotas, AHEPA Supreme Counselor Gregory Stamos, DOP District 7 Governor Myrsini Papoutsis and AHEPA District 7 Governor Alex Boutsoulis. This testimonial was a very well-deserved honor for John.

By Alex Boutsoulis

Dr. John Grossomanides
Past Supreme President
AHEPA
&
Anna-Helene Grossomanides
Grand President
Daughters of Penelope

**Compliments of John & Liz Louziotis
& Grandchildren:**

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The History Presentation
By George A. Rados

First, there was HAOS (Chaos).

Isiodos (Hesiod) was the first Greek who put in writing what we know as Kosmogonia (Cosmogony, the making of the Cosmos). In other words he organized in writing what he knew from oral tradition, of the appearance and 'existence' of the Greek Gods and the Creation-according to the unique conception and understanding of his times. He was preceded by Omiros (Homer) who, in his epics of *Iliad* and *Odyssey* referred to some of the same Gods but not from a religious point of view. Homer was not interested in details. He was a poet, a sensitive artist interested in presenting his epics in a human way, the best possible way of his works for posterity, not for Religious reasons.

Isiodos on the other hand was not a poet but a farmer. A poor one for that matter, an embittered soul, who had fallen victim at the hands of his closest relatives. He was a person of earthly experiences in all

aspects of society and he was a questioning mind in matters of Religion because of his experiences. Being conscious that perhaps what he knew could have at the least a marginal truth in its existing form, he probed and presented his findings and knowledge with caution and an apparent acceptance. So, one cool and damp fall morning, having finished with the plowing and seeding of his lot, he sat down with his stylus on hand and some waxed tablets to record for posterity what he had been taught growing up. He recorded what the Greek Nation had already formed in its collective mind of what was thought as a sensible Religious set of ods and their rules, not knowing that the future Greek generations would be proud of his work but miss its message completely. Isiodos (composite of isios=straight and odos=way), like almost all interpreters of Religious aspects of Creation, started with the words: "At the beginning there was Haos/Chaos!..." Wrong start in my mind, for the simple reason that there is no beginning-as there is no

end! I will explain: In order for a beginning and an end to exist, there must be time limitations. But time is limitless! We, actually, do not measure the time...we measure our passage through it! Further, due to this axiom, Chaos is still in charge of things, as we can judge from our state of affairs world-wide! Take a close look at governments, at the affairs of our C.E.O.s, the "reality" shows of our society on TV and the "history" presentations through all media of information, the school shootings, the degenerate affairs of the affluent persons, the Religious and social intolerance! The list goes on and on like time itself, which Isiodos claimed of being within certain space (he did not define Space) and as an androgynous entity (the word androgynous means male and female in one) capable of creating its own offspring unassisted!

*(To be continued next time:
Then, from Chaos was
Erevos (Erebus).*



Celebrating our 85th Year



AHEPA Southeastern Connecticut
Winthrop Chapter 250

STAMFORD AHEPA

The members of the Stamford chapter (#99) congratulate the Pawtucket, RI community for reactivating their chapter (#121).

Thank you Fr. Philip Zymaris and Ioannis Apostolakis for your support and dedication which made this dream a reality. Our District now has 15 chapters!

**A Salute to Veteran
George A. Rados**

In 1961 with the Cyprus events, Brother George Rados volunteered for service in the Greek Army before he finished his studies at Aristotelian University of Salonika and finished his initial training (boot camp) in 1962 in Corinth.

Brother George returned from Cyprus and his unit participated in a street line-up in Athens for King Constantine's wedding to Danish princess Anna-Maria in 1963. During the last months of service, he was stationed at 3rd Army's Headquarters in Thessaloniki guarding its radio station. Brother George served longer than the normal two (2) year tour, due to political turmoil in Greece at that time.

Brother George is a member of Elpis Chapter 117, New Britain, and has served as Chapter Secretary, Chapter V.P., District Secretary, District Treasurer, Chapter President, District Hellenic Affairs Chair and then District Governor -in this chronological order. He served again as Chapter President last year and he remains as the District's Hellenic Affairs Chair.

Meantime he completed his studies in History (major) and Archaeology (minor) at New Britain's C.C.S. University. Under this capacity, he lectures at Middle and High schools of the region as well as at clubs and societies such as 'The Lions'.



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BRIDGEPORT

Reflections of My Experience at Selma By AHEPA Executive Director Basil Mossaidis

In March 1965, I was 15 months old and living in the suburbs of Philadelphia, almost 1000 miles away from Selma, Alabama. In 2015, at the 50th Anniversary of historic Selma to Montgomery March for voting rights, I was honored to be walking the streets and on the bridge that defined the Civil Rights Movement in America. I'm proud that AHEPA was the only American Hellenic organization there.

Under the supervision and direction of AHEPA Supreme President Phillip T. Frangos, members of the American Hellenic community came together and traveled with the Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church of America to witness and participate at events that commemorated the 50th anniversary of the March. Past Supreme President Ike Gulas, Birmingham, Alabama, coordinated much of our movement in Alabama. Ike's father, Alec, was the first nightclub owner in Birmingham to hire African American bands to play. The designated point person to accompany Supreme President Frangos from AHEPA's national leadership, Supreme Counselor Greg Stamos, came all the way from Connecticut to join us.

On Friday March 6, AHEPA was invited as guests of the mayor of Birmingham to a private tour of the Civil Rights Institute. More than 100 members of Congress made the trip to Alabama and toured alongside us. Through our national leadership, AHEPA's progressive and community service-oriented programs that serve to strengthen our society were projected to the members of Congress. Congressman John Sarbanes (an Ahepan) took it upon himself to make sure our supreme president and Ahepans present were properly recognized. We were able to interact with the following members during lunch: U.S. Reps. John Sarbanes, MD.; John Lewis, GA.; Albio Sires, NJ.; Eliot Engel, NY.; Minority Whip Steny Hoyer, MD.; Earl Blumenauer, OR.; Gary Palmer,



AL.; Joaquin Castro, TX.; Carolyn Maloney, NY.; Eleanor Holmes Norton, D.C.; Sheila Jackson-Lee, TX.; John Conyers, MI.; Al Green, TX.; Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, CA.; Robert Aderholt, AL.; Terri Sewell, AL.; Debbie Wasserman Schultz, FL.; Sander Levin, MI.; and U.S. Senators Jeff Sessions, AL., and Senator Rob Portman, OH; to name a few.

After the tour, we crossed the street and participated at a prayer service at the historic 16th Street Baptist Church where African American community leaders shared stories of the days of struggle in the early part of the 1960s. Congressman John Lewis, Atlanta, a civil rights icon, was an original freedom fighter and shared personal moving stories of those dark days. Members of Congress sat alongside us while we were told of the importance of the movement and the history of the church itself.

During the weekend, AHEPA represented the American Hellenic community, in addition to His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Church of America—the traditional "Twin Pillars" of Hellenism in America. Supreme

President Frangos explained AHEPA's origin and the pivotal role the Order played to fight discrimination, hate and bigotry, largely at the hands of the Ku Klux Klan in the early 20th century. Founded in 1922 in Atlanta, AHEPA addressed the Greek-American immigrant's struggle to fully participate in American society. Moreover, AHEPA's leadership was vocal about how proud the Order, and the American Hellenic community, was when His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos (an AHEPA Life Member) marched arm-in-arm and stood boldly with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1965, advocating the principles AHEPA holds true. At the Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church where national leaders came to speak on March 8, and before the march to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Ambassador Andrew Young, civil rights activist and former mayor of Atlanta, stated, "Archbishop Iakovos was my mentor." Ambassador Young went on to say that without the archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church, the whole movement could have failed and that the African American community owes a debt of gratitude to the Greek Archbishop.

America is the beacon of freedom for the world, which has drawn countless to its shores seeking opportunity and a better way of life. Unfortunately, America has not been without its faults as the history we recounted in Selma attests. However, every AHEPA member can take pride in the organization's long tradition of providing support to underprivileged people. Just as our AHEPA forefathers advocated for the fundamental principles of democracy, freedom and human rights, so today does AHEPA stand ready to advocate for the fair treatment of all. And as AHEPA rapidly approaches its 100-year anniversary (which is only seven short years from now), we will be able to reflect proudly upon how AHEPA has been at the forefront on social issues and opened doors to pave Greek America's pathway into the Fabric of America.



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Brother Steve Costas

YANKEE NEWS RECEIVES 2ND GRANT

BY JOHN MELONOPOULOS, YN CFO/ DISTRICT 7 TREASURER

The AHEPA HARTFORD FOUNDATION, INC awarded the Yankee News a grant of \$400 to assist with efforts to operate the YN without deficits. The foundation Treasurer, Brother Jerry Copsinis forwarded the check for YN to use. The BOD of the foundation felt this contribution would assist the newspaper to continue its operation with the new full size and brilliant colored pictures. On behalf of District 7 and the Yankee News staff, we applaud the AHEPA Hartford Foundation, Inc., Nathan Hale Chapter 58, for this contribution –

.....THANK YOU.....

2015 Calendar of Upcoming Events

- May 15** AHEPA Yankee District 7 Scholarship Application Deadline
For current undergraduate and graduate school students only.
- May 29-31** 2015 New England Regional Convention: Newport, RI
- July 1-5** 2015 National Convention: San Francisco, California
- August-TBD** AHEPA & DOP District 7 Scholarship Awards Dinner: New London
- October 24** Past District Governor's Dinner Dance: Waterbury, CT
- November 14** Hellenic History Tournament: St Barbara Church, Orange, CT

NEXT YANKEE NEWS DEADLINE for submissions: AUGUST 19, 2015

AHEPA District 7 Yankee News

yankeed7news@aol.com, cc: Alex.Boutsioulis@uinet.com

Production dates are scheduled in conjunction with Conferences and District Convention dates. **IN THIS ISSUE: Waterbury-Providence-Hartford-New Britain-New Haven/Orange-Norwich · and more!** Submit **YOUR** local AHEPA Family News today!

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