



# Yankee News



Publication of AHEPA District #7  
Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Western Massachusetts  
In Continuous Publication Since 1949



## May 2021



### The 200th Anniversary of Greek Independence

# 1821 March 25<sup>th</sup> 2021



In 1821, the Greeks launched an eight year campaign for freedom against the Ottomans. 200 years later we remember and honor such a significant revolution for our people and the world.



Rigas Feraios



Dimitrios Karatasos



Theodoros Kolokotronis



Greece personified as a woman in the painting "Grateful Hellas" by Theodoros Vryzakis, 1858



Georgios Karaiskakis



Domna Visvizi



Yannis Makriyannis



Athanasios Diakos



Laskarina Bouboulina



Nikitas Stamatelopoulos "Nikitaras"



Manto Mavrogenous



Konstantinos Kanaris



Grigorios Dimitriou Dikaio-Flessas "Pappaflessas"



## The Yankee District No. 7 District Convention



at the gorgeous  
**Hilton Mystic Hotel & Convention Center**

200 Coogan Boulevard in Mystic, Connecticut

on

# Saturday, May 22, 2021





### A MESSAGE FROM THE D7 AHEPA GOVERNOR

Brother Ahepans and Sons of Pericles,

We are optimistic as we welcome the light on the horizon signaling the relief of the pandemic and hope to soon have unrestricted, in-person chapter meetings and events as we remember. As the vaccine is distributed so is the light enhanced and the virus will be subdued. We remember and pray for the everlasting memory of Ahepans and those others departed during the

pandemic this past year.

The Lodge and I am excited to introduce you to the new website known as [Ahepad7.org](http://Ahepad7.org). Soon you will see all the exciting information and interconnecting websites regarding AHEPA and our affiliated organizations. This website is being built by a company directed by Brother Ahepan and Past Supreme Governor Wynn Storton and recommended to the Lodge by the Past District 7 Governors Council. This will be a most active conduit and will enhance AHEPA and to a broader community.

There are teams being formed for the Hellenic History Tournament and we are grateful for the leadership of PSG Nicholas Nikas with this endeavor since 2009. The Hellenic History Tournament is like a fine cut gem of this district and has been a model for other Hellenic History Tournaments far and wide! I implore each chapter to field one or more teams by June 30th to prepare for the November competition.

I would like to thank Supreme President, George Horiates, Past Supreme President, Dr. John Grossomanides, the Past District Governors, Past Supreme Secretary, E. P. Terry Mitchell, Past Supreme Counselor Gregory Stamos, Supreme Governor Jack Isaac, Dr. Hadjimichael, Dr. Apostolakis, and George Rados for all their counsel in helping me and the District Lodge. And thank you to Marianne Boutsoulis for her counsel, functional masks and perseverance, in and outside of the AHEPA domain during the ongoing pandemic.

A century of dynamic philanthropy, education and human rights is AHEPA. It is our charge to bolster the membership of Hellenes and Philhellenes as we celebrate the light that started to shine on Greece 200 years ago, in order to continue the good work of AHEPA.

We hope to see you at the AHEPA District-7 Convention on Saturday, May 22nd at The Hilton in Mystic.

Yours in Fraternity,  
Demetrius E. Tasoulas



### A MESSAGE FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE D7 GOVERNOR

Dear Sisters,

I hope that you and your families are well. It has been quite a year. We have all been through hardships; some more than others. Being separated and isolated from our loved ones has been heartbreaking.

We are starting to receive our vaccines and are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. I look forward to the day I can see your smiling faces without wearing a mask... In the mean time, be safe!

Some chapters have not met during this past year, some have met only over Zoom, and some have met in person and via Zoom. Whatever you have done this past year the first priority was always to keep yourself and your family safe.

Here are just a few dates to remember:

- ☆ On May 22nd we will be having our District Convention at the Mystic Hilton. Registration and Delegate Forms have been emailed to each Chapter.
- ☆ On June 13th, Waterbury will be hosting the District Scholarship Dinner. COVID protocols will be observed. I am looking forward to celebrating this years recipients!
- ☆ Chapters elections should be held in April or May! District Elections will be held at the Convention. If you are interested in a position at the District Lodge, please feel free to contact me, or any Lodge member.

As my term should be coming to the end, I would like to thank you all for your support and encouragement over the past 3 years. I would particularly like to thank the Sisters of our Lodge: Donna Rados, PDG, Penny Pecka, PDG, Karen Isaac, PDG, Elisa Marotta and Stamo Dimitratos. It has been a pleasure to serve with you.

With Warm Regards In Theta Pi,  
Marianne Boutsoulis

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Proud of our members' immigrant roots;  
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Proud chapter of AHEPA District 7.

**BEST WISHES  
to all of our  
Brothers!**

*from*

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## Salute to a Veteran ~ Evangelos Bakoulis

Today we bring you the story of a terrific guy - Evangelos "Angelo" Bakoulis. A great American, an Ahepan and a friend to many. Angelo was born in Akron, Ohio to the late George and Anastasia (Stavrinothakis) Bakoulis. He married the late Zeta (Shillo) in 1957.



Angelo joined the United States Airforce in 1956 and was stationed at Forbes Air Force Base in Topeka, Kansas. At the time, Forbes was a Strategic Air Command (SAC) base that had the long range B47's Bombers stationed there. In addition, it was an Atlas E-Missile Site. Angelo received the "Airman of the Month" Award in 1957. Angelo was a skilled mechanic on aircraft which came in very handy when, in civilian life, he worked for Kaman Aircraft in Moodus, CT for over 30 years, retiring in 1989.

On August 5th, 2007, Angelo was initiated into the Norwich AHEPA Chapter 110, while living at the Norwich AHEPA Senior Housing apartments. Angelo was an active member and, while visiting Greece after his initiation, he stopped at the AHEPA Hospital in Thessaloniki, Greece. He was proud of the fact that AHEPA built that hospital. His son Stephany Bakoulis is also a member of the Norwich AHEPA.

Sadly, Evangelos Bakoulis passed away on October 9th, 2020. The AHEPA Funeral Ritual was performed by the members of the Norwich AHEPA Chapter 110.



AIRMAN 2ND CLASS EVANGELOS BAKOULIS



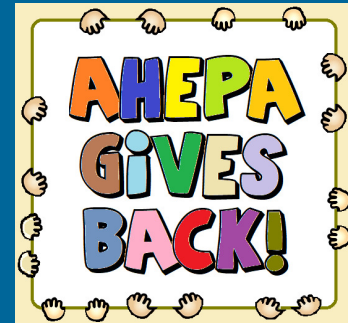
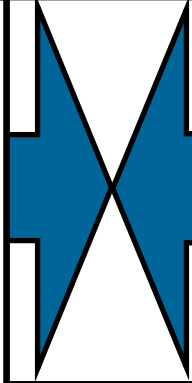
### EDITOR'S NOTES

Submitted by Jack Isaac

In today's Editor's Notes I'm pleased to announce the introduction of a new feature in the Yankee News. Beginning with our next issue, we will highlight the community work of one chapter each issue. I've always believed that community service is a great way to energize the Philhellenes we are attempting to attract to AHEPA.

The new spotlight on the chapter will be under the headline "AHEPA GIVES BACK" - our new slogan for 2021 - which reflects the important contribution that AHEPA makes to our communities.

If you would like us to highlight your chapter, contact me by phone, mail, or email with the information on how YOUR AHEPA chapter GIVES BACK to your surrounding community.



Does YOUR AHEPA or Daughters of Penelope chapter give back to the community?

**Tell us about it!**

Share your experiences as you share your gifts with your community.

### YANKEE DISTRICT 7 CONVENTION

Saturday, May 22, 2021

#### AGENDA

*(Subject to more detail prior to the convention)*

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:00 - 10:00 AM : | Registration   |
| 8:30 - 9:30 AM :  | Breakfast  |
| 9:30 - 10:00 AM : | Group Photos   |
| 10:00 -10:30 AM : | AHEPA FAMILY MEETING   |
| 10:30 - 1:30 PM : | YANKEE DISTRICT 7 MEETINGS<br>of the AHEPA & Daughters of Penelope   |
| A.                | Election of Convention Officers:<br>Chairman, Vice- Chairman, and Convention Secretary   |
| B.                | Minutes of the September Convention  |
| C.                | Supreme Officer Report   |
| D.                | District Officer Reports   |
| E.                | Convention Committee Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Finance and Budget</li> <li>b. Membership</li> <li>c. Legislation</li> <li>d. Scholarship Foundation</li> <li>e. Hellenic History Tournament program</li> <li>f. Hellenic Affairs</li> <li>g. Yankee News</li> <li>h. Sons of Pericles</li> <li>i. AHEPA Housing</li> <li>j. Advisory Council comprised of PDGs</li> <li>k. Chapter Reports (written), Discussions</li> <li>l. For the Good of The Order</li> </ol> |
| F.                | Nominations and Election of District Officers  |
| G.                | Oath of Office of Lodge Officers   |
| 1:30 - 2:30 PM    | Luncheon   |
| 2:30 - 3:30 PM    | Scholarship Foundation Meeting   |
| 3:30 - 5:00 PM    | Social (post meeting)  |
| 5:00 - 7:00 PM    | Cocktail Party / Awards  |

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**Patricia A. Martin**

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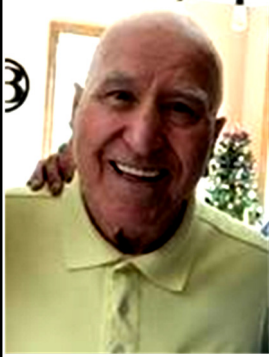
Compliments,

Brother  
Fred  
Stavropoulos



Brother  
Nicholas  
Stavropoulos

***To the outside world, we all grow old. But not to our brothers and sisters. To them we will live eternal.***



**Evangelos A. Bakoulis**

Evangelos Angelo Bakoulis, of Norwich passed away October 9, 2020 at home with his family by his side. Evangelos was born March 30, 1929 in Akron, Ohio, the son of the late George and Anastasia (Stavrinouthakis). He married the late Zeta (Shillo) November 30, 1957 at St. Nicholas Church in Norwich. She passed away on September 27, 1986.

Evangelos served in the United States Airforce from 1956 – 1960. He was employed as an aircraft mechanic at Kaman Aerospace for over 30 years until his retirement in 1989. Evangelos was a very loving, giving and generous person. He privately helped to support a family who immigrated to the United States. He was a member of the AHEPA #110 of Norwich, and a member of St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church in Norwich. He was an avid fisherman. He also volunteered for many years at the William W. Backus Hospital.

Evangelos is survived by his children and their spouses Stephany Bakoulis (Karen), Dimitri Bakoulis (Ferdinand Cabrera), Elena Nowicki (Robert), and Antonia Raptis. Known as "Popou" to his grandchildren, he will be greatly missed by his grandchildren Stephanie Robillard (Rodney), Jason Bakoulis (Maura), Joshua Bakoulis (Elizabeth), Justin and Courtney Nowicki, Georgia Raptis (fiancé Joseph) Evangelos Raptis (Danielle) and by his great grandchildren Katelyn Robillard, Evan Bakoulis, Stephen, Daniel and Nikolette Raptis and Olivia Raptis. In addition to his wife and parents, he was predeceased by his brother and his sister.



**Alexander H. Kounaris**

Alex Kounaris, dearly loved husband of the late Effie (Lane) Kounaris, passed peacefully on Friday, December 11, 2020. Born in New Britain, Alex lived in both Newington and Wethersfield, and was fortunate to winter in Ft. Lauderdale. A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, he was also a selfless friend to all. Generous, quick-witted and gregarious, Alex was a man who loved life, cherishing each day and will be forever remembered in every tomorrow. Fiercely proud to be an

American, he was honored to serve as a corporal, fighting in the front lines during the Korean War. Alexander was an AHEPA Life Member with 71 years, was a current member of Nathan Hale Chapter 58, Hartford, CT, and long-standing member of the church. He was Church Treasurer for many years and was thrilled to be President of the church's "Seniors" group. After retiring from the family business, *Connecticut Automatic Sales*, Alex truly enjoyed spending his time with family and friends, and, of course, rooting for his beloved Yankees. He leaves his grief-stricken but, grateful, daughters; Cynthia Kounaris of Ft. Lauderdale, Adrian East of New York City, Allyson Kounaris of Newington and his adored 'adopted' daughter, Janice Cox of Southington. His family's stalwart hero, he will be greatly missed by his girlfriend Trudy Stamos, son-in-law Fred Cox, grandsons Bryan and Kevin Cox, cousins Ike and Chris Kounaris, nieces and nephew (Judy, Eva and Bill), as well as all those lucky enough to call him ""Nouno"" or ""Papou"" - Madison, Christian, Carol, Janine, Alexia and Effie.

Knowing Alex, he would want a memorial service befitting his large personality. As such, one will be held post COVID-19 followed by a military burial.



**Spiros Velezis**

Spiros Velezis of Waterbury passed away December 13, 2020. He was loving husband for 53 years to Lola (Stefanopoulos) Velezis of Middlebury.

Spiros was born in Eptahori, Greece on November 11, 1941, son of the late John and Athena (Vlahos) Velezis. He immigrated to Waterbury in the 1960's with so little and ended up creating multiple restaurants and businesses. Currently, along with his wife and son, he owned and operated the *Four Brothers Restaurant* in Mahopac, NY.

In addition to his wife Lola, Spiros is survived by his children, Athena Capobianco and her husband Valerio of Watertown, Elaine Oatmeyer and her husband Daniel of Boca Raton, FL and John Velezis and his wife Gabi of Carmel, NY, his grandchildren that he adored, Theodora Daniella and Yianni Oatmeyer, Valerio and Eliana Capobianco and Spiros, Silvio & Theodore Velezis and his brother James Velezis of Watertown, along with several brother-in-laws, sister-in laws, nephews and nieces.

Spiros was a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Waterbury and the Eptahorian St. George Society, serving as a President and Board of Director for years. Spiros was 45-year member of AHEPA Chapter 48. His with wife Lola and daughter Athena are Daughters of Penelope members; his son John and his son-in-law Valerio are also Waterbury Ahepans. Spiros hosted the end of the year AHEPA Chapter 48 dinner's in June at Four Brothers Restaurant in Mahopac, NY for many years.



**Walter J. Barry**

Walter Barry, 77, died peacefully Monday, Feb. 1, 2021, in Branford, after a long battle with cancer. Of Polish and Irish ancestry, Walter was born Jan. 22, 1944, in New London, son of Edward W. and Mary C. Leahy Barry. He was named after his father's brother, Walter "Joe" Barry, a standout baseball player at Bulkeley School in the 1920s, who passed away at age 23 in an automobile accident while attending New York University.

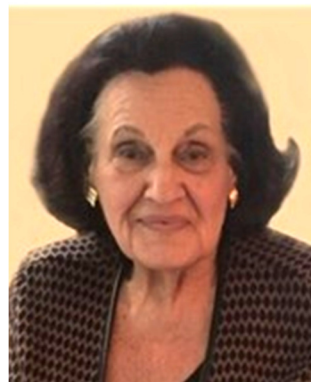
Following eight years at St. Mary Star of the Sea School, Walter attended St. Bernard School, where he graduated in 1962, as a member of the first co-educational class, subsequently dubbed "The '62 Gang." After earning his Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Bentley University in 1966, he successfully completed his certified public accountant exam and began his long career as an accountant.

Walter married Christina Segura on September 16, 1967, at St. Peter the Apostle Church in Provincetown, Mass. They made their home in Waterford. In 1991, after many years with a local accounting firm, Walter started his own accounting business, establishing an office on Boston Post Road in Waterford. It was during this time that he flourished as an accomplished accountant and practical financial advisor. He later assumed the role of chief financial officer at Thurston Foods in Wallingford, an opportunity that strengthened his connection with the Thurston family, a connection he cherished, especially on their numerous treks to Foxboro to cheer his beloved New England Patriots.

Throughout his life, Walter served his community in countless other ways. A member of the New London Lodge of Elks No. 360, a former president of the Waterford Rotary Club (Paul Harris Fellow) and a former treasurer of the Winthrop Chapter #250 of AHEPA, Walter also served as former chair of the Waterford Board of Education. He co-founded, and served for eight years as treasurer of, the Southeastern Connecticut Youth Hockey League. A member of Great Neck (formerly New London) Country Club, he greatly enjoyed his time on the links with his friends, especially when he could participate in events for charity.

Walter is survived by his wife of 53 years, Christina Barry; daughter Elizabeth Bourassa (Greg) of Charlton, Mass.; daughter Kathleen Barry (Hank Cormier) of Bethesda, Md.; son Shawn Barry (Elizabeth) of Falls Church, Va.; and son Patrick Barry of Waterford. Walter was blessed with five grandchildren whom he adored: Chase Bourassa; El and Abigail Barry-Cormier and Joseph and James Michael Barry. Two sisters, Veronica Schaeffer (Ed) of Naples, Fla. and Mary Anne O'Reilly (Jim) of Waterford; two nieces, Tracey Wright and Heather Wright; and one nephew Christopher Schaeffer (Mari), also survive him. Walter was predeceased by his parents and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Due to the on-going pandemic, a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to Smilow Cancer Hospital, Waterford, or The Connecticut Hospice, Branford.



**Stella (Mihalakos) Condaris**

Stella Condaris of passed away March 19, 2021. Stella was born on September 14, 1930 in Waterbury, CT and grew up with her large extended Greek family.

She was the daughter of the late Harry and Kalliope (Kachulis) Mihalakos and the beloved wife of the late James Condaris. Together Stella and James shared forty-four years of love and companionship until James's passing in 1999. Raised with much love, compassion and caring for others, Stella cherished life in her home city of Waterbury.

Graduating from Crosby High, Class of 1948, Stella then attended Post College and later worked as a secretary for the Assistant Superintendent of Waterbury Public Schools, where she met her husband James.

All who knew Stella were blessed by her kindness, compassion, generosity, and sense of fun. Stella enjoyed a life well lived that translated into her tireless commitment to her Greek Orthodox faith. Perfect moments for Stella included being surrounded by her family and friends, going to church, playing cards or doing jumbles with her grandchildren, or simply chatting on the phone with friends and family. Stella was a dedicated member of the Waterbury Daughters of Penelope, Chapter 199.

Left to honor her legacy and treasure her memories are her daughters, Christine Condaris of Williamstown, MA and Karen Condaris-Beati and her husband Mark Beati of Chelmsford, MA, her four grandchildren, Nicholas Beati, Elenna Beati, Alexandra Mitchell and her husband Alexander, and Petrea Mannello. She also leaves behind her beloved brother Honorable Socrates H. Mihalakos and his wife Joan of Vero Beach, FL and treasured cousin, Antoinette "Toni" Coukis, as well as her many nieces and nephews, all of whom she dearly loved. She was predeceased by her sisters Mary Bergeris, Freeda Mattison, and brothers James Mihalakos and Stephen Mihalakos.

**Sons of Pericles Initiation, March 27, 2021**

Submitted by E. Vagos Hadjimichael



Chapter 98 is fortunate to have had the opportunity to reinstate its Sons of Pericles Chapter. The New Haven SOP Chapter was first founded in 1928 as the Elm City Chapter 15. It thrived and stayed active for about 50 years but became extinct in the late 1970's. The effort to reinstate the New Haven SOP started in 2019. Thanks are due to the initiative of some of the young men in the new group who did the hard work culminating with the rebirth of the New Haven SOP, now renamed **Constantinople Chapter 15**. Following the induction proceedings, newly minted Sons of Pericles and their guests retired at the Gabriele's Restaurant for a celebratory dinner.



The SOP Constantinople Chapter 15 initiates, seated L to R: Robbie Wagner, Stavros Mastromanolis, Teddy Maniatis, Manny Mastromanolis, Paul DeBassio, Peter DeBassio, George Antonellis, Luke Berner, Giovanni Panagiotakis, Andreas Lolis. Back row: L-R: Alex Boutsioulis, Petros Tsakonas, George Scarveles, Alec Economakis (officiating), Demetrius Tassoulas (D7 Governor), E. Vagos Hadjimichael, Manny Cosmas, Tony Panagiotakis, George Antonellis and Elias Lolis.

**Chapter 121, Pawtucket, RI Answers the AHEPA Cares Call!** Submitted by Yiannis Apostolakis

Dear Brothers and Sisters, this year is without any doubt one of the most challenging years in our history. During this challenging year we were asked and motivated by the Order of AHEPA to engage with our communities and to support our neighbors during these challenging pandemic and economic downturn times. In these times of great need, uncertainty, and of many challenges ahead our AHEPA 121, Pawtucket Chapter takes the initiative to help and give hope. We are part of the fabric of this land and we will join the effort against the pandemic to bring hope to those who need it most. We focused on three campaigns to address the challenges and the much-needed support in several areas:

**We Support COVID-19 Research and Treatment!**

We are proud of our own Dr. Thomas Walsh and his staff at Weill Cornell Medicine/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, who continue their necessary work on COVID-19 treatment.

**We Support Our Neighbors in Need!**

The Pawtucket Soup Kitchen continues to serve to the homeless and low-income population. Housed in the basement of St. Joseph's Church, the soup kitchen serves breakfast and supper five days a week, as well as brunch on Saturday.

**We Support Others who Provide for Those in Need!**

Our CASA effort (Clothes And Supplies from Assumption) was a huge success! We asked for our community members to donate their used clothing for men, women, and children. We also asked them to donate personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, band aids, diapers for kids, deodorants etc. We created specially marked boxes with the *AHEPA 100 Years of Service* logo, and we placed them at our Community Center. At the end of October, we distributed the clothes and the supplies. We packed up a van and delivered more than 70 boxes of clothing and supplies, an estimated 4200 lbs., to three charitable programs:

- ☆ Providence Rescue Mission - a division of Rhode Island Rescue Ministries in Providence, RI (<https://www.providencerescuemission.org/>)
- ☆ Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church in Allston, MA (<http://hrocoboston.org/>)
- ☆ St. Patrick's Church in Providence, RI (<https://saintpatrickchurch.net/>).

Each of these institutions has an active program of directly providing clothing to the homeless and impoverished, who are in particularly great need at this time of year. The copious clothing that our Assumption congregation generously contributed will help keep hundreds of God's people warm throughout the cold weather of this winter and beyond.

Pictured from left to right, Brother Dr. Thomas Walsh (project lead), Brother Fr Phillip Zymaris (our parish priest who strongly supported our campaign), Brother Tom Andrikopoulos (who helped us distribute the clothes and supplies), Maria Walsh (wife of Dr. Walsh) and Brother Yiannis Apostolakis (Chapter 121 President)



**Chapter 121, Pawtucket RI Announces Community Webinars!**



During these challenging times of the pandemic, our community engagements as an AHEPA chapter are even more important and even more needed than before! We are happy to announce that, on Wednesday, February 10th, we had our very first Webinar! We have started a series of free, educational, online Webinars to our community, which cover many areas including financial matters, internet security, health matters, Hellenic Affairs, general topics, and community online discussions. These are online Webinars, for which you will need access to a desktop computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone as well as internet (Wi-Fi) access. Most will be in English however some will be in Greek. This is our approach to engaging with our community and, at the same time, raising awareness about the Order of

AHEPA community educational activities. We invite other Ahepans from District 7 Chapters to join our webinars, which are free of charge! Our webinars should not be interpreted as a solicitation or recommendation to participate in any professional activities with the presenters and/or the affiliated companies they represent. Also, no personal contact lists of attendees will be distributed. Contact me for information on how to join us!

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~\*~

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**&**  
**Karen Isaac**  
**Daughters of Penelope**  
**Past Governor, District 7**

~\*~



Priam Chapter 76 donating food items to the Connecticut Food Bank. From left to right: Christina Bates, Maria Petrus, Helen Ladas, and CT Food Bank representative.

### Daughters of Penelope Chapter 76, Meriden

Submitted by Margaret Curtis

Spring is here and the flowers are blooming! The weather is getting warmer and most of us have gotten our COVID vaccines. We are finally, slowly coming out of our confinement to our homes.

The Meriden daughters have been keeping in touch with our sisters

by phone but our chapter have had to put all of our plans on hold this year. We were able to keep our commitment to the CT Food Bank in Meriden. We thank Sisters Christine Bates, Maria Petrus, and Helen Ladas for ordering and delivering the much needed nonperishable food items to the Food Bank this year.

We are looking forward to having a real live meeting mid-April! We will be following CDC guidelines, wearing masks, socially distancing, and sanitizing. At this meeting we will hold officer elections and make plans for the remainder of the year.

We wish everyone a happy Easter. Be safe out there!

### Daughters of Penelope Chapter 198, Hartford

Submitted by Maria K. Tougas



Stephanie Zapatka, Tina Smith, Priscilla Kokinis, Maria Tougas, and Marie Klementon

In December, the Thoas Chapter 198 DOP "Warriors" welcomed two new members into the

Chapter, and plan to initiate a third member this Spring. During March, 2021, the Chapter held a Spring "Clean-up"/ Greek Independence Celebration Scholarship Fundraiser in order to raise money for their annual scholarships that they award to deserving students of the St George Cathedral (Hartford) Greek Orthodox Community. The sisters worked hard to promote the event, selling tickets outside after church services and throughout the church community. This fundraiser was developed and spearheaded by Sister Stephanie (Poly) Zapatka, and the prize consisted of a rake with various kinds of lottery tickets attached (pictured above). One lucky winner (a relative of one of our sisters) was drawn on March 28th, and we are waiting to hear the outcome of whether the lottery tickets yielded any further winnings!



Marie Klementon, Elaina Varunes, Stephanie Zapatka, Tina Smith, Maria Tougas, Priscilla Kokinis and Elena Argintaru

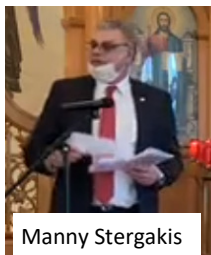
### Chapter 117, New Britain Honors Memory of Nicholas Kounaris

Submitted by Andrew Aros

December 6th, the feast day of St. Nicholas, the New Britain AHEPA annually honors our late beloved brother Nicholas Kounaris. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, led by President Emmanuil Stergakis, members of our chapter joined fellow Ahepan, Rev. Constantine Makrinos, as he celebrated the memorial service. Brother Kounaris bequeathed Chapter 117 a trust fund, the major portion of which is used to support Sunday School, Greek School, the Church Cantors and Scholarships for undergraduate or graduate students.



Thomas Morikis

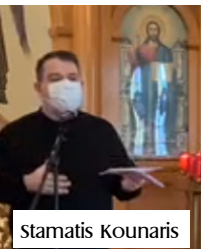


Manny Stergakis

At the conclusion of the memorial service, Scholarship Chairman Thomas Morikis, assisted by President Stergakis and Treasurer Michael Stamos, awarded the Nicholas Kounaris Scholarships and grants. Since its inception this charitable trust has given approximately \$600,000 in scholarships to deserving students.

This year's scholarship recipients are:

- Kristina Bolovis - University of Hartford - Masters in Education
- Demis Christodoulou - Southern New Hampshire University - Accounting
- James Christodoulou - University of Connecticut (UCONN) - Finance
- Elias Manos - UCONN - Geographic Information Science
- Nicholas Manos - UCONN - PHD Candidate in Mechanical Engineering
- Sophia Manos - UCONN - Physiology & Neurobiology / Pre Med.
- Marianna Nasiakos - Quinnipiac University - Nursing
- Ariadne Papadimitriou - UCONN - General Studies
- Alicia Polezonis - Johnson and Wales University - Culinary Arts
- Colette Polezonis - DePauw University - Political Science
- Alexandra Ritsatos - Binghamton University - Mathematics
- Irene Soteriou - UCONN - Statistics & Cognitive Science



Stamatis Kounaris

Two 2020 Demetrius Kounaris Memorial Service to St. George Scholarships were also awarded. They were given to Sophia Manos and Alicia Polezonis.

### Yankee News Receives Grant

Submitted by John Melonopoulos

The AHEPA New London Foundation, Inc. awarded the Yankee News a grant from their 2019 fiscal year funds. Their local 501(c)(3) foundation supports many organizations within New London annually. Their monies each year are from the AHEPA National Housing Corporation that supports the local chapters' affordable elderly housing efforts in each community.

Winthrop Chapter 250, through its housing corporation, supports 5 elderly housing projects in New London County: Niantic (3), Groton (1) and Waterford (1).

We thank the Board of Directors from ANLFI for their generous contribution to the Yankee News.

### The 12th Hellenic History Tournament

Sponsored by Yankee District #7

Venue: St. Barbara Church

480 Racebrook Road in Orange, CT 06477

Saturday, **November 20, 2021** from 11:30 am to about 4:30 pm

Calling all parents of students in grades 8-12

- ☆ who can join a chapter-sponsored team,
- ☆ who can learn a thing or two about Hellenic history, and
- ☆ who wants a chance to win \$500 or \$1,000!

Go to [ahepad7.org](http://ahepad7.org) for details before the **June 3** registration deadline!

**Calling all AHEPA Family members:**

*Help get teams formed! And volunteer to be a coach or helper at the event.*



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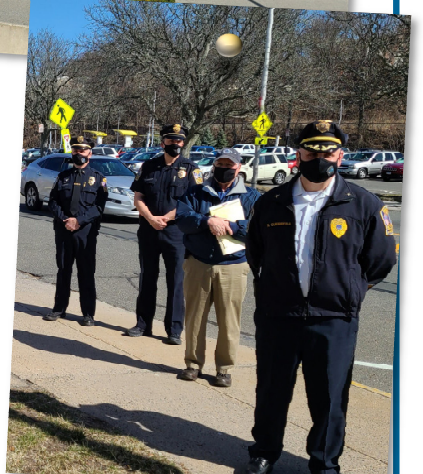
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**Celebrating 200 of Greece's Independence**  
Submitted by Andrew Aros

Greece's Bicentennial Anniversary of freedom from the Ottoman Empire was celebrated by New Britain AHEPA's annual raising of the Greek Flag in New Britain and several of the surrounding towns. Assisting Hellenic Affairs Chairman, PDG George Rados' event was Chairman Dr. Tito Ritsatos. The other towns the delegation of New Britain Ahepans visited were West Hartford, Bristol, Southington, and Middletown. Joining the members was Rev. Constantine Makrinos of St George New Britain, Supreme Governor Jack Isaac, District 7 Governor Demetrius Tasoulas, PDG Advisory Chairman Greg Simones, PDG George Scarveles, and Deacon-in-Charge Michael Sabounjian of the Holy Resurrection Armenian Orthodox Church of New Britain.



**Celebrating 90 Years Loved, Despite the Pandemic**

Submitted by granddaughter Valerie E. Jenkelunas

Larry Papanic celebrated his 90th birthday with the surprise of a lifetime. He walked out the front door of his Glastonbury home expecting a socially distant visit with his family and heard the Marine Corps serenading him from across the street. He immediately saluted, approaching the uniformed group who arrived care of several antique military vehicles. "It was the best birthday I ever had," Papanic recounted. "And I was in shock." It only took a moment for the music to pause before he was climbing into the driver's seat of a Hummer and chumming it up with its operator.



Papanic served almost five years as a U.S. Marine and attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. He travelled the world, which included seven months in French Morocco, and 18 months in London, England, where he almost settled down. Instead, Papanic returned to his Connecticut family, who emigrated from Greece, and spent his career working at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. He was married to his wife Ruth for 46 years, and is a doting father to his daughter, Elaine.

Today Papanic's family has grown to include a son-in-law, three grand-daughters, their spouses, and two great-grandchildren. His sister, Sylvia Papanic, lives close by and the two are known to seize the moment when it comes to any opportunity to poke fun at the other. The family hoped to make Larry's big day extra special

despite the pandemic, celebrating with a car parade that included friends from his old neighborhood in East Harford, who he hadn't seen in decades. These neighborhood children Papanic watched grow up on their suburban street, are now grandparents themselves. The group remarked that he is the last of their parents from the old neighborhood. All were glad to join Larry, who is known for a quick joke and the ability to relate an extraordinary story from his life. His adventures have included meeting the Doobie Brothers and being featured in a television commercial for Allstate Insurance.

These days, Papanic prides himself on becoming a rather elaborate home cook in his retirement years, taking a lengthy daily walk rain or shine, and enjoying a cold beer when the mood strikes. He stays active, volunteering at the St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral and has been a member of the AHEPA for 35 years. He believes that 'life is too serious to take too seriously.' When it is safe to resume social occasions, Larry Papanic looks forward to getting back out on the dancefloor and enjoying the company of his family and friends, who he attributes to a life well spent.



**The Declaration of the War by**

**Bishop Germanos at St Lavra on March 25, 1821**

Submitted by Yiannis Apostolakis, Hellenic Affairs Co-Chair, D7

The Revolution initially broke in the Peloponnese and Central Greece and quickly spread across the whole Aegean to Crete and Cyprus. In January 1822 the 1st National Assembly at Epidaurous declared the independence of the Greek Nation and consolidated their position with remarkable victories on land and sea until 1823 when attempts by the revolutionaries to assert control beyond the Peloponnese ended in a stalemate.



The Ottomans retaliated violently in other parts of Greece, massacring the Greek population of Chios and other towns. In Europe, the Greek revolt aroused widespread sympathy. Greece was viewed as the cradle of western civilization, and it was especially lauded by the spirit of romanticism that was current at the time. The sight of a Christian nation attempting to cast off the rule of a Muslim Empire also appealed to the western European public.

On October 20, 1827 the British, Russian and French fleets, on the initiative of local commanders but with the tacit approval of their governments, attacked and destroyed the Ottoman fleet at the Battle of Navarino (Πύλος). This was the decisive moment in the war of independence. October 1828, the Greeks regrouped and formed a new government under Ioannis Kapodistrias (Καποδίστριας). They then advanced to seize as much territory as possible, including Athens and Thebes, before the western powers imposed a ceasefire. The Great Powers, in the London Conference of 1832, determined that the new Greek state would be a monarchy and invited Othon, the second son of the Bavarian King Ludwig I to be King of Greece. Thus, Greece was finally recognized as a sovereign state. This state and an agreed border was formally recognized by the Turks and European powers with the signing of the Treaty of Constantinople in July 1832. The new state, however, contained less than one third of the Greek inhabitants of the Ottoman Empire and for much of the next century the Greek state was to seek the liberation of the "unredeemed" Greeks of the Ottoman Empire.

Celebrating our 90th Year



AHEPA Southeastern Connecticut  
Winthrop Chapter 250

*"Thank you to AHEPA and the Daughters of Penelope for supporting, encouraging and inspiring the Youth of our Community."*

~  
Angie and Ted Augustinos



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**The AHEPA Stamford Chapter 99**

salutes the

**Yankee News editorial team**  
for their dedication,  
hard work and good taste.



**March 25th, 1821 – March 25th, 2021  
200 Years of Greek Independence**

Submitted by Yiannis Apostolakis

The Greek War of Independence -also known as the Greek Revolution- was waged against the oppressive Ottoman Turk empire from 1821 to its official recognition of independence (though not all Greek regions were liberated) in 1832. The Greeks chose the date of March 25th as the starting date of their revolution wanting to connect the event with the Christian religion's traditional date of the Annunciation by Archangel Gabriel to Virgin Mary on the coming birth of Christ! Thus, religious rebirth on Justice was identified with National rebirth...

Prior to the fall of Constantinople, the Ottoman Turks occupied most of the Eastern Roman empire (Byzantium) which actually was constituted primarily of Greek territories since ancient times. This enslavement of the Greeks lasted (in many places) more than 400 years and, usually, under brutal conditions.

During the years of slavery, the church and the clerics took a leadership role in keeping the fire of Christianity and Greece alive. Since they were the most educated of all other people, they tried in many ways, to educate the Greeks in their history and language, to safeguard their traditions and above all to keep the Orthodox faith alive. We have all heard about the Secret School (Krifo Scholeio), where young Greeks would be sent in the midnight hours, in hiding and secrecy, to learn about their faith and their heritage by the priests in isolated locations, so that they would not be discovered by the Turks.

Despite the harsh slavery, the hope of liberation never left Greeks. Many educated Greeks, who lived abroad, tried with their books and their letters to Greeks in the occupied country to keep the hope of liberation alive. One of them, Rigas Feraios wrote enthusiastic poems and books about Greek history and many became widely popular. One the most famous (which he often sang in public) is the Thourio in which he wrote, "It's better to have an hour as a free man than forty years as a slave." In Greek:

«Ὡς πότε παλικάρια να ζούμε στα στενά... Καλλιῶναι μίας ὥρας ελευθέρη ζωή παρά σαράντα χρόνια σκλαβιά και φυλακή»...

He urged Greeks to leave the Turkish-occupied towns for the mountains, where they might experience more freedom.

Greeks rebelled many a time against the Ottoman Turks -more than 20 times actually! But, all the previous times before 1821 they were either not well trained or inadequately supported and always betrayed by the "Great" Christian Powers of the time -mainly the Russians!

In 1814, Greek patriots formed a secret organization called the Society of Friends (Filiki Eteria) in Odessa, Russia. With the support of wealthy Greek exile communities in Britain and the United States, the aid of sympathizers in Western Europe and covert assistance from Russia, they planned a rebellion. Ioannis Kapodistrias, an official from the Ionian Islands who had become the Russian Foreign Minister, secured the neutrality of the Powers in suppressing any and all revolutions against the existing empires as he was opposed to Metternich's Status Quo plan! Kapodistrias accepted the leadership of the liberated part of Greece as it became a recognized State and only after lots of pressure! (He knew what was in store...) Alexandros Ypsilantis and his brother Dimitrios were the leaders (initially) of the revolution, but they were sidestepped by the political "leaders" soon!

The start of the uprising can be set on March 6, 1821 when Alexandros Ypsilantis accompanied by several other Greek officers crossed the river Prut in Romania, or on March 23, 1821 when rebels took control of Kalamata in Peloponnese. Simultaneous risings were planned across Greece, including in Macedonia, Crete and Cyprus.

**How Should we Celebrate the  
25th of March 1821 Today?**

Submitted by Yiannis Apostolakis



March 25th, 1821 marks the rebirth of Greece, after 400+ years of brutal Ottoman occupation. Our fathers and mothers stood tall, when their faith, heritage and life was under siege. They fought without military training, without supplies and oftentimes without food so that today, us, the descendants of heroes, patriots and martyrs, can celebrate. They fought the Ottomans as well as the oppressive powers of Europe at the time opposing any idea of freedom or independence. They were driven by faith, by the ideas of American and French revolutions, by the desire to be free or to happily give their lives so that their children could be free. In their fight, they were joined by Philhellenes from the Unites States, France and other parts of the world.

Today we have many options to celebrate the 25th of March: Poems, songs, parades, speeches – they are all good and necessary. However, they typically end in about 1-2 hours and then what? Are the ideas of Hellenism, such as Greek culture, civilization, principles and ideals, including humanism, reason, the pursuit of knowledge, the arts, moderation and civic responsibility brought to life for just 1-2 hours and then they are forgotten?



Today, in 2021, in the Americas and throughout the world there is the new Society of Friends: **AHEPA**. We are united, by oath, to fight for Hellenism, to leave our tradition in this country and all the world and to have a voice, a pulse to fight for what our parents have left us. Above all, since 1922, we strive to guarantee our children the pride of Hellenism. At the same time, we have offered so much in this country, much more than any other organization.



**Let's ALL add one more way to celebrate 25th of March  
~ Philhellenes, Greeks, Greek Americans and Americans ~  
Let us Defend Hellenism!**

**Let us help Hellenic Affairs in District 7 to be a success story!**



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AND INFORM  
DISTRICT 7 AHEPANS.**

## Η Κληρονομιά του 1821...

Της Μάνας μου το βύζαγμα  
 δεν δώκε μόνο γάλα...  
 εδώκε μου την Λευτεριά  
 και όνειρα μεγάλα!  
 Μ' έδωσε για Κληρονομιά  
 πανάρχαια Ιστορία!  
 Ότ' η Πατρίδα και η Τιμή  
 έχουν κοινή Λατρεία...  
 Τι κι αν κρατώ απ' Όλυμπο,  
 τι απ' τον Ψηλορείτη,  
 τι απ' το Αργυρόκαστρο,  
 την Πάφο ή Κεφαλονιά,  
 την Ξάνθη ή την Μεγίστη;  
 Κι αν βρίσκομαι στην ξενιτιά  
 ο Νούς πάντα γυρίζει  
 πίσω, στην πέτρα εκείνη γή...  
 στού Καραϊσκάκη την πληγή!  
 Θυμάται -και δακρύζει-  
 τις Ιστορίες που ο Παππούς  
 έλεγε μπρός στο τζάκι,  
 ψήνοντας κάστανα ζεστά,  
 γι' Αλέξανδρο, Θεμιστοκλή,  
 για Φίλιππο και Ρήγα,  
 για Σολωμό, Φαρμάκη!..  
 Κι η Βάβω, έπλεκε σκυφτή  
 φανέλα και χλαμούδα  
 γιατί είν' ο γιός της στα βουνά  
 για την γλυκιά Πατρίδα!...  
 Κι αυτός μ' άλλους μαζί εκεί,  
 γράφει ξανά Ιστορία  
 πως η Ελλάδα πάει μπροστά!  
 Ξαναπατάει την Τροία!...  
 Κι αν ξέμεινε σε άλλη γη,  
 το βλέμμα του αρμενίζει  
 σαν τ' Οδυσσέα, ταξιδευτής,  
 περαστικός διαβάτης...  
 Μετρά οργιές χαμένης Γης,  
 Πατρίδες μιας ομίχλης,  
 Πατρίδες όνειρου πικρού  
 (νερό βαρύ -ξεσπιτωμού!)  
 μιάς αποφράδας Τρίτης...  
 Ο γιός κοιτά Βοριά κι Ανατολή  
 Νοτιά, κι αυτήν την Δύση  
 με βλέμμα θολωμένο.  
 Στο ένα του χέρι, το σπαθί.  
 Το άλλο χέρι σηκωμένο,  
 γνέφει και ξαναπροσκαλεί  
 κάθε αποξενομένο  
 να μην ξεχνά, μα να θυμά,  
 πως 'κείνα τ' άγρια βουνά  
 γεννήσανε την Λευτεριά,  
 Αριστοτέλη, Απελλή,  
 Ανδρούτσο, Καζαντζάκη!..  
 Να μην ξεχνά την Αθηνά,  
 την Πηνελόπη, που περνά  
 τα χρόνια της στο υφάδι!  
 Την Παναγιά να προσκυνά  
 και στο καντήλι λάδι  
 πάντα να βάζει!..  
 Τους Άγιους να μελετά,  
 τον Καρατάσο, τον Μελά  
 -και τις φωνές να βάζει  
 σε κάθε τύπο που γελά!  
 Να λέει, και να το νοά,  
 «Αυτά πιά δεν περνάνε!  
 Όλα, με χρόνια, με καιρούς,  
 πάλι δικά μας θα 'ναι!...»

Γιώργος Α. Ράδος - Ιστορικός/Αρχαιολόγος  
 Πρώην Κυβερνήτης ΑΧΕΠΑ, Περιοχής Νο. 7

## My 1821 Inheritance...

Suckling my mother's breast,  
 her milk nurtured also my soul  
 with great aspirations  
 of Liberty and Justice!  
 It so transfused the inheritance  
 of the Ancient Glory  
 of God, of Dignity, Country and Honor;  
 All of them being equal in Worship!  
 It matters not if my own birth  
 took place at Olympus or Mt. Idi,  
 or at the Argyrokastro  
 or Paros, or Kefalonia,  
 or Xanthi—or Megisti!  
 Even when in a foreign land,  
 my mind is always turning  
 right here, to this barren, rocky land  
 To Karaiskakis' wounded side!...  
 With tears I recall  
 the stories my grandfather told  
 while chestnuts roasted  
 on the stove those long wintery nights...  
 He told me of Alexander's deeds;  
 of Themistocles, of Rigas and of Philip's glory!  
 He told me of poems of a Solomos,  
 And the ideals of Farmakis  
 all while grandmother knitted  
 a sweater or a mantle  
 for her beloved son who fights  
 every invader up in the hills  
 to keep our country free!  
 He - along with other braves-  
 Creates a History - a Legend -  
 that Greece leads us again  
 against a powerful Troy!  
 What if he fights in foreign lands;  
 His gaze keeps turning  
 Like Odysseus' once did...  
 A mind traveler through lost countries -  
 Countries which hide in memory's  
 Eternal mist of time!  
 There are the locales of bitter loss -  
 of forced evictions through rivers of blood -  
 Results of many a cursed Tuesday.  
 The son glares now to the North,  
 now to the East or West or South.  
 His gaze is clouded in pain...  
 He hold up his sword and points...  
 He calls and he asks all the estranged,  
 all the prodigal souls, not to forget  
 but to remember that thin rocky land  
 is the birthplace of Liberty!  
 The birthplace of Aristotle, Apelis,  
 Androutsos, Diakos, Kazantzaki...  
 Not to forget the goddess Athena  
 nor Penelope who spends her life  
 weaving and anticipating...  
 He asks them to always bow their heads  
 before our Lord's Holy Mother,  
 to light a candle for the saints,  
 to keep the votive oil handy  
 for a libation to our Martyrs,  
 to Karatasos and Melas!...  
 To shout to any foreigner who laughs  
 "I pay no mind to all your threats!  
 'cause all that I've lost,  
 In time again,  
 All will be mine!"

George A. Rados  
 D7 Hellenic Affairs Co-Chairman



## ARS GRATIA ARTIS\* BUT NOT IN GREECE ANY LONGER?!

Submitted by George Rados

Whoever of the AHEPA Family membership observes - even occasionally- the Facebook projections of news and events in Greece, I am sure he/she has seen the graffiti artistry of a young man (18 years of age) known as Έvrytos (the accent is emphatic on the letter E). He made the patriotic decision of applying his artistic ability as graffiti by portraying the faces of the 1821/1830 heroes and heroines of the Greek Revolution for Independence! Wisely, he has not used his real name on his art. I note the word "wisely", because it seems that Patriotism and Art in the country which (until recently) it was famed for, have become a forgotten notion. These are considered "offensive" ideas of "fascists", according to prevailing leftist anarchists who are roaming lately all over the country! Those types of gang members have disfigured most of these portraits of the Heroes and, it is almost certain, they'd likely attack the Patriot Artist if they knew his true identity!





What is utterly disappointing is the fact that the State itself plays "dead possum" and there has being no attempt to find and jail the thugs who disfigure both the portraits and the statues of people who are the IDOLS in

the minds and hearts of every admirer of the Greek ideals and traditions.



Let us hope there are more like Έvrytos who remember the faces and want to remember and pass down the stories of our Independence heroes!

\*Ars Gratia Artis, the Latin phrase, is loosely translated in English as "Art, for Art's sake!"





Hope, Success and Health  
 for all the AHEPA Family.  
 -Demetrius E. Tasoulas-

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**In Commemoration of the Greek Revolution for Independence and in Honor of the Macedonian Contribution During the Struggle**

Submitted by George A. Rados, Hellenic Affairs Co-chair, Historian, & Archaeologist

Every 25th day of March after the Governorship of Ioannis Kapodistrios, the Greek Nation commemorates the beginning of the revolution for freedom from the Turkish Ottoman Empire. In truth, the revolution started a few days prior to the 25th of March 1821, from the southernmost region of Peloponnesus, the Mani and the city of Kalamata. Due to the religious affiliation of the Greeks with Christian Orthodoxy though, the day of the Annunciation was deemed to be the appropriate date to officially start the revolt. The chief leaders of the revolution came to the monastery of Agia Lavra that day where Bishop Germanos of Old Patras blessed the cause!

While the revolt started in Southern Greece, the Macedonians up north did not remain idle. In spite of the fact that, in Macedonia and the regions of Western Thrace (Thraki), there were masses of Turkish armed forces which consisted of regular armed forces and "irregular" forces which consisted of Kurds, Turcomen, Bedouin Arabs, Caucasian and Laz mountaineers, Macedonia bravely revolted also!

The reason for such a multitude of Turkish troops stationed permanently in Macedonia and Thraki was the expansionistic move of the Austro-Hungarian empire from the Northwest toward Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Russians from the Northeast! Therefore, there was a need of many troops stationed within these two regions for their defense. Another reason was that both Macedonia and Thraki were (and still are!) rich regions in cereals and were able to sustain large numbers of people!

In spite of the odds, the Greek Macedonians (not the Slavs) organized and armed bands of freedom fighters. They were the first ones who tried to free themselves from the oppressive dynasty, way before the beginning of the revolution in Southern Greece. For instance, there was the 1627 (almost 200 years earlier, and not for the first time) revolt in Central/West Macedonia. They were assisted by well known freedom fighters like Zedros, Lapas, Farmakidis, and the Lazeon family. Most famous was Nikotsaras! They all fought valiantly but, with no help, they failed. Their flag had the same colors as the modern Greek flag but in reverse - a blue cross on a white banner. This was probably the most widely used revolutionary flag!

Even from abroad, Greek Macedonians living in Europe fought in a different way, trying to enlighten the Europeans and to support the Greek refugees there. Gregory Zalikis from Thessaloniki opened his hotel open to newcomers in Paris, France. The Poullos brothers from Siatista used their newspaper in Vienna, Austria. They worked closely with Rigas Feraios. Alongside those, there were Lasanis, Olympios and Fermaki who fought under the leadership of Alexandros Ypsilantis in February 1821 during the failed revolt in Moldavia.

Against all of these difficulties, in March of 1821 Emmanuel Pappas of Serres started a revolt in Chalkidiki, assisted by the monks of Mt. Athos and moved against the regional capitol town of Polygiros. Having to face the combined armies of Pasha and Ottoman governor Yusuf Bay, Pappas was forced to retreat to the sub-peninsula of Chalkidiki, the Kassandra (the ancient Pallini) and more than 42 towns and villages were burned by the Turks and their inhabitants were either slaughtered or sold as slaves. The requested help from the southern Greeks never materialized and Pappas, with a few of his fighters, moved to the Northern Aegean Islands to continue the fight. All of those men died. The Pappas family gave every member's life to the cause of freedom. Alongside Emmanuel, all of his sons died fighting. Ioannis at Maniaki next to

Papaflessas, Nikolaos at Kamatero, Athanasios in Chalkida, and two more sons got killed during the Messolonghi exodus (The Ottoman Empire attempted to capture Messolonghi several times in the early 1820s. It was the first town in Western Greece to join the cause for Greek Independence). As the Turks transferred troops to Southern Greece (Peloponnesus and Roumeli), the Macedonians of the city of Naousa and the surrounding regions from Veria to Pella took heart and on February 19, 1822, they revolted again! Naousa had a favored status in the Turkish empire due to its resistance against the rebel Ali Pasha of Ioannina and its industries in silk and wine productions. Yet, the city and region, with great leaders such as Logothetis, Karatasos and Gatsos, revolted and freed the area! Prior to this revolt, the city's leaders conferred with the leaders of Southern Greece and agreed on coordinating the movement. As before, the southern Greek politicians and military leaders "played possum". Later, Demetrius Ypsilantis - feeling badly about it - stated that the southern promise for help was excellent on paper but deplorable in delivery.

Meantime, the Turks - under the leadership of the butcher Lumbut Pasha - and with about 20,000 regular and irregular army, came close to the city on all sides. After months of continuous fighting, the city fell on April 18, 1822. The last defense was the tower of Zafirakis. A slaughter of non-combatants followed, and many women preferred suicide to slavery as they with their children drowned in the Arapitsa River.

As Southern Greece finally became liberated with help from England, France and Russia, the much misunderstood Ioannis Kapodistrias became the first free Greek State governor. Later, in 1879, the areas around Mt. Olympos which were still under Turkish rule, revolted once more in answer to the unjust Treaty of St. Stephan. Once again, without help from anyone, the victims numbered tens of thousands. But this time it was not only the Turks who slaughtered the helpless Greek Macedonians! The Bulgars, Albanians, and even Serbs and Romanians participated. This struggle continued until almost 1909. This time, volunteers from Southern Greece and the island of Crete forced the governing partied of Athens to change their policies and their thinking...The two Balkan Wars followed (1912 & 1913) to finally have most of Macedonia liberated and unified with the rest of Greece. After a period of almost 560 years of enslavement.

Today's Greece (ELLAS), as it is internationally recognized, has these regions:

1. South Epirus (the north part was given arbitrarily to Albania!)
2. Macedonia (parts are under Albanian, Bulgarian & Skopjan rule)
3. Western Thraki (East Thraki is still Turkish and North/East - Rumelia - is Bulgarian)
4. Thessaly
5. Sterea/Roumeli
6. Ionian Isles (the ONLY positive thing coming from England)
7. North Aegean Isles (Imvros and Tenedos are still under Turkish rule)
8. Sporades Islands
9. Crete
10. Peloponnesus
11. Cycladic Islands
12. Dodecanese

Sources: *The Macedonians of the 1821 Revolution* by Etairia of Macedonian Studies

*We, the Macedonians* by N.I. Mertzos

*The Contribution of the Macedonians during the 1821 Revolution* by Chris Intos

*Macedonia, the Gordian Knot Unraveled* by G. A. Rados

*The Greek Face of Macedonia* by P. Vassoulis and *Notes* by Anthony Spetsaris

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**Yankee News Staff**

**Office: 14 Hartung Place, Old Lyme, CT, 06371**

Editor *Jack Isaac* [jckisaac012@gmail.com](mailto:jckisaac012@gmail.com) Publisher *Terry Plumley* [yankeed7news@AOL.com](mailto:yankeed7news@AOL.com)  
Secretary *Andy Aros* [aros@cox.net](mailto:aros@cox.net) Reporter/Photographer *Greg Simones* [pdgahepad7@gmail.com](mailto:pdgahepad7@gmail.com)  
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**Upcoming Events: Yankee District 7: 2021**

- 05/22/2021: District 7 Convention: Mystic Hilton, Mystic, CT
- 05/31/2021: Maids of Athena Scholarship Application Deadline
- 06/01/2021: Supreme Convention Early Bird Reservation Deadline
- 06/13/2021: District Scholarship Awards; Waterbury, CT
- 06/30/2021: Hellenic History Tournament Registration Deadline
- 07/24-31/21: The 99th AHEPA Supreme Convention  
*The Grand Bretagne & King George Hotel, Athens GREECE*
- 08/05/2021: September Yankee News Deadline for Submissions
- 11/08/2021: December Yankee News Deadline for Submissions
- 11/20/2021: The 12th D7 Hellenic History Tournament  
*St. Barbara Church, Orange, CT*

For details on events, check out the calendar at [AHEPA7.org](http://AHEPA7.org)

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