

AHEPA

Yankee District News

Publication of District #7 (Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Western Massachusetts)

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Fall 2008



Message from the Order of AHEPA District Governor

Dear Brothers,

It is with humility and hope that I accept the office of District 7 Governor bestowed upon me at our annual convention on May 31. I thank all of you for this great honor and pledge to support every chapter in our common effort to achieve our mission of promoting Hellenism, education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, and family and individual excellence.

My first responsibility is to visit every chapter, meet with you, get your perspective on what we should be focused on, and share with you my sense of urgency and concern for the future of our organization. Please invite me to join you at your next chapter meeting or community event.

Before I go any further, I want to express my deepest appreciation and gratitude for my predecessor, Kip Kyprianou, for all his contributions to our District in the past few years, and in particular, for streamlining the Scholarship Selection process and for creating and maintaining the District 7 website. I was very proud to serve as his Lieutenant Governor. Kip's leadership will be sorely missed, but we are fortunate to continue to have access to his friendship and advice. Given his dedication

to AHEPA, I am certain he will continue to be a key player in the district lodge.

Appreciation and gratitude are also due to our man in the Supreme Lodge, John Grossomanides Jr., for his continuing contributions as editor of the Yankee News. As you probably know by now, John did us proud once again by getting re-elected to the office of Supreme Secretary for the coming year. Congratulations, John! ΚΑΙ ΕΙΣ ΑΝΩΤΕΡΑ.

In my new role, I have already represented you in two important events: (1) the very impressive annual awards dinner of the Norwich chapter on June 24, and (2) the excellent AHEPA Family national convention in Athens, Greece, on July 1-6. They both made me proud to be an AHEPAN. The next event is the Governors Conference in Washington, D.C., on September 13. If there is an issue you want me to bring up there, please let me know.

It has been my dream in the past few years to participate in a district-wide event, other than a conference or convention, in which we celebrate our common heritage in such a unique and enthusiastic way that we manage to get some attention from the media. My proposal for such an event is the Hellenic History Trophy, a high-school-level competition in the format of a quiz show that will provide scholarships for students who best demonstrate their knowledge of the 4000 year old history of the Hellenes. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact me. I would like

to have an opportunity to explain it to you in more detail and to get your valuable feedback.

Communication is a key component of any successful organization. Hope to hear from you soon. Fraternally,
Nicholas Nikas
203-554-5570
niketes@yahoo.com

Message from the Daughters of Penelope District Governor

I would like to begin this New Year with a thank you to all sisters, who by their vote have asked me to once again take the position of Governor. I hope that by working together we will end this year as a stronger and a more invigorated sisterhood.

Over the past few years, our record of growth has almost been non-existent. In fact, we have lost some chapters all together. It would be a shame if our district did not exist at all. In that aspect, let me share some of my thoughts with you.

All of the organizations within our churches, clubs and communities have their goals and ideals. Many sisters have complained that the Philoptochos Society has taken precedent over the Daughters of Penelope in many church communities. The Philoptochos organization is concentrated on being the right hand of the church, along with their many charitable contri-



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2008–2009**

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butions. Others, such as Choks, Libraries, Athletic, Mothers, or Cooking Clubs, etc, all have their merits and add so much to our churches and communities. The Daughters of Penelope is the only organization that promotes the ideals of Hellenism, locally, nationally, internationally, while successfully promoting our Philanthropic endeavors along with our education/scholarship programs. Joining and serving the local chapters as women of Hellenic roots or those who share Hellenic ideals is your way of perpetuating your culture.

I therefore take this opportunity to challenge, first, the Ahepans of District #7 to encourage your wives, sisters, daughters, etc to join the Daughters of Penelope in order to work with you in promoting the Hellenic culture. Second, I call on any past officers or members of disbanded or suspended chapters to reorganize and be an active entity once again. Thirdly, I also challenge all my fellow sisters to encourage daughters, sisters, friends, etc. to join our order. We have so many dedicated sisters who need additional hands to help with our educational and charitable works.

Whatever your reasons for not participating or joining in the past, I ask you to take a little time to gain so much. Contact me at any time.

With love for the Sisterhood,

Donna Rados, PDG
District Governor

In Memoriam

Brother Diogenes John, 91, of the Norwich Chapter #110 passed away on July 27, 2008.

May his Memory be Eternal

Upcoming Events

**AHEPA District #7
Fall Conference**

October 11, 2008

St. Barbara's Greek Church
10AM
Orange, CT

**AHEPA New England
Regional Conference X**

June 5,6,7, 2009

Holiday Inn
Mansfield, MA

AHEPA

Supreme Convention 2009

July 1-5, 2009

Hyatt Regency
San Francisco, CA

**86th Supreme
Convention
Highlights**

The Annual AHEPA Supreme Convention was held June 30 -July 6, 2008 in Athens, Greece for the first time since 1970. New officers for the 2008-2009 year were elected. They are as follows:

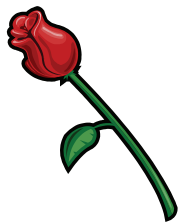
Supreme President: Ike Gulas
Supreme Vice-President:
Nick Karacostas
Supreme Sec.:
Dr. John Grossomanides
Supreme Treasurer:
Anthony Kouzounis
Supreme Athletic Director:
Dr. Monthe Kofos
Supreme Counselor: John Galanis

Supreme Governors: Charles Stamoulis, Thomas Gober, Peter Kaldis, Nicholas Perdaris, Louis Arvanitis, Philip Giavasis, John Mesogitis, and Constantine Calliontzis.

AHEPA Chapter #110 Rose of New England Norwich, CT

The Rose of New England Chapter #110 held their Annual Awards Banquet and Installation of Officers dinner at the Dino Pappas Community Center on Tuesday, June 24, 2008. The awards banquet was a huge success. A full house of ninety mem-

bers and guests turned out for the event at which the chapter charitable Foundation; AHEPA #110



Foundation distributed \$5500 to the following non-profit organizations: Norwich Free Academy Modern Greek Studies Program, Norwich Free Academy (NFA) Scholarship on Classical Greek Studies, NFA Scholarship on Modern Greek Studies, Three Rivers Community College-Highest achiever in the History Program, Norwich Otis Library, Norwich Historical Society, The Reliance House, ARC of New London County, Bethsaida Community Inc/The Katie Blair House, East Great Plains Fire House, VFW Post #594, and each of the three Tenants Associations.

The District Lodge of Yankee District #7 led by District Governor Nick Nikas installed the new chapter officers for the coming year. Joining the Governor were District Lt. Governor Mo Moshovos, District Secretary Jack Isaac, District Treasurer John G. Grossomanides, and District Marshall James Cocolis. Brother Nikas conducted the installation of the chapter officers:

President-George Grossomanides
Vice President- Peter Patsouris
Secretary- John Louziotis
Treasurer-Peter Joseph Hominski
Capt. of the Guard-Tony Petros
Sentinel-Larry Wyland
Warden-Simeon Mavrides
Chaplain- John G. Grossomanides
Athletic Director-Dennis Daniska

Board of Governors: Sotero Daniska, Ernie Pool, Tony Petros, John G. Grossomanides.

In addition, AHEPA service pins were awarded to the following: a 45 year pin to PDG Tony Petros, 40 year pins to Robert Booth and Theophanis Lampos, and a 25-year pin to Chief Richard Abele.

AHEPA Chapter #99 Stamford, CT

The Harry Fanos Chapter, In recognition of the 555th anniversary of the fall of Constantinople to the Ottoman Turks on May 29, 1453, we invited Dr. Giuseppe Paleologo, a descendant of the last dynasty to rule the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) empire, to talk to us on May 21. Dr. Paleologo covered the story of the Palaiologos family both before and after 1453 and concluded with an interesting discussion of the migration of his own personal family branch from Rome to Sicily and back to Rome over a period of about 500 years. His presentation was followed by a very lively question and answer period, an indication of the audience's high degree of interest.

The event attracted about 45 people and enabled the chapter to net \$500 for the scholarship fund. A group of students from Westhill High School, who attended at the request of their Latin teacher, Ms. Laura Nelson, received extra credit for attending. Everyone left the church hall knowing a bit more about the long history of our people.

This successful evening would not have been possible without team work. I would like to thank all the brothers who helped run the event and all those who attended. We can all be proud in the knowledge that your effort enabled our chapter to fulfill its mission of promoting Hellenism and education for the fourth time this year.

Daughters of Penelope DISTRICT LODGES 2008- 2009 OFFICERS CONTACT INFORMATION

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**AHEPA Chapter #106
Sophocles
Providence, RI**

Our Chapter is hosting a
AHEPA Fundraiser Golf Event

**Date: Mon. September 29,
2008**

Place: Kirkbrae Country Club

We will have lunch at noon - Salads (Potato, Pasta, Garden), Burgers\Hot Dogs\Sausage (w\peppers), Chips, Dessert and Drinks

Tee Time: 1 PM Shot Gun

Format - Best Drive - Bramble

Cocktails - 5:30 PM

w\Calamari,
Mini-pizzas,
Calzones,
Wings and
others
Dinner - 6 PM
- Roast
Beef\Turkey
stations, Pasta
stations
(several
choices) and
Desert Bar



Raffle to be done while eating and daily golf prizes finished by about 7:15 PM

Price: \$200/golfer (Includes all golf events and raffle tickets - no extra \$\$\$ on the course) and also you can purchase \$200/ad - Contact George Coclin coclinassociates@aol.com - 401-334-6005 or P. Manis pxmanis@earthlink.net

**AHEPA Chapter #126
Meriden, CT**

John Stargu has been elected as President of the Chapter one more time.

**AHEPA Chapter #62
Bridgeport, CT**

Regards from Brother Alex Vlantés- Chapter Secretary.

**DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE
Chapter #368 Asteria
Danielson, CT**

The Asteria Chapter will be hold a 25th Anniversary Dinner Dance on Saturday, September 27, 2008 at The Imperial Room in Danielson, Connecticut. The event will be held from 7-11PM with a cost of \$30 per person. For more information or tickets contact Nikitoula 860-465-6848 or Betty at 860-774-0598.

**AHEPA Chapter #58
Hartford, CT**

AHEPA Senior Citizens Housing Phase Ii building will be dedicated this fall. We are anxiously waiting for the date.

AHEPA #58 Foundation distributed substantial contributions to CT Coolies Anemia, St. Elizabeth's Home, Open Hearth of Hartford, and UCONN Children's Hospital. We are planning events with the DOP for an active fall year: another Blood Drive and interesting guest speakers.

**AHEPA Chapter #48
Waterbury, CT**

Brother Paul Velezis has been elected as President of the Chapter. Congratulations to Brother Rick Pecka who just completed his term as Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles.

**AHEPA Chapter #250
Winthrop
New London, CT**

Our Chapter will be dedicating our fourth AHEPA Senior Citizen Housing Project in Niantic, CT on Friday, September 19, 2008 at 11AM. Everyone is welcome to attend.

On May 19, 2008 the chapter initiated new Brothers: Father Dean Panagos and Thomas A. O'Connell.



The theater of Herodes Atticus
Acropolis in Athens

**AHEPA Chapter #90
Danbury, CT**

With great sadness we learn of the passing of Dino Macrocostas' daughter-in-law Elizabeth Fair Wymbs-Macricostas, on August 19, 2008. She was the wife of George Macrocostas, they were residents of Incline Village, Nevada.

AHEPA Chapter 90 expresses their condolences.

Letter from the
Supreme Secretary
John Grossomanides:
Brothers of District #7,

It is indeed an honor to be re-elected as the Supreme Secretary of the Order of AHEPA. I would like to thank all the Brother AHEPANS of District #7 for their support. I could not have been elected to the Supreme Lodge without your help and the delegates throughout the nation. It is through the efforts of Brothers such as you that I have been able to move up in our organization.

I would like to announce my candidacy for the office of Supreme Vice President at the 2009 Supreme Convention in San Francisco. It is my hope that we send a large number of delegates to the convention and support the District #7 candidate.

Fraternally and God Bless,
John Grossomanides

Highlights District #7 Convention Mystic CT on May 31,2008



2008 District #7 Scholarship Recipients with Dr. Joanne Hologgitas and District Governor Nick Nikas



Yankee District #7 Lodge -2008-2009:

- District Governor
Nicholas Nikas
- District Lt. Governor
Emmanuel Moshovos
- District Treasurer
John G. Grossomanides
- District Marshall
James Cocolis



5 Past District Governor Kip Kyprianou passes on the District #7 Governor Pin to Nick Nikas



Daughters of Penelope Grand Governor Helen Santire with Past District Governor Helene Moran

Highlights District #7 Convention Mystic CT on May 31,2008



District Governor Nick Nikas and Dr. Joanne Hologgitas, PGP present the Macricostas Scholarship to Sadie Barchini of Waterbury, CT



Dr. Guy Rogers is the Keynote speaker at the District Convention Banquet



Nick Nikas, Supreme Secretary John Grossomanides, and Dr. Joanne Hologgitas present the Mary and Angelo Pappas Scholarship to Dane Loree of Norwich, CT



AHEPA Board of Directors Member and Past Supreme Secretary Terry Mitchell presenting Peter E. Mitchell Memorial Scholarship



District Governor Nick Nikas (L) with Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles Rick Pecka (center) and Past Grand President Dr. Joanne Hologgitas presenting a scholarship



Krystyna Kazakos of Hartford is presented the District #7 Scholarship by Grand Governor Helen Santire (left) and Dr. Joanne Hologgitas, PGP (right)

2008 District #7 Scholarships Recipients

Angelo and Mary Pappas Scholarships

Ryan C. Bossis	Danbury AHEPA	Cornell University	Agriculture and Life Sciences
Ellen Michael	Waterbury DOP	Univ. of Massachusetts	Undeclared
Evangeline A. Ververis	Waterbury DOP	Univ. of Connecticut	Psychology
Dane Loree	Norwich AHEPA	Merrimack College	Business Administration
Stephania Pelarinos	New Britain AHEPA	Univ. of Connecticut	Business Administration

Dino Macricostas Scholarships

Alexander P. Tinios	Waterbury DOP	Massachusetts Coll. of Pharmacy	Pharmacy
Steven Rougas	Providence AHEPA	Brown Univ. Medical School	Medicine
Sadie Barchini	Waterbury DOP	Brown Univ. Medical School	Medicine
Christina Feigel	Hartford DOP	Northwestern University	Music Performance and Theory

Peter E. Mitchell Memorial Scholarship

Antonia Giannakakos	Danbury AHEPA	Western CT State Univ.	Elementary Education & Psychology
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District 7 Scholarships

Krystyna Kazakos	Hartford DOP	St. Joseph College	Pre-med
Gregory C. Papachristos	Bridgeport AHEPA	Villanova University	Biochemistry
Kristina H. Grossomanides	Norwich AHEPA	Framingham State College	Business

Nakos AHEPA Educational Foundation

Jaimie Vassiliou	New Britain AHEPA	Univ. of Connecticut Dental School	Dentistry
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District Governor Nick Nikas with Dr. Joanne Hologgitas and Past Supreme Governor George Scarveles present Alexander Tinios of Watertown, CT one of the four Dino Macricostas Scholarships. Alexander is attending the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy in Boston, MA.



Past Supreme Secretary George Anagnostos along with Dr. Joanne Hologgitas present Jaimie Vassiliou of Bristol, CT the National Nakos Scholarship. Jaimie is attending Dental School at the University of Connecticut.

Highlights Supreme Convention in Athens, Greece July 1-July 6, 2008



Supreme Lodge 2008-2009



The AHEPA sponsored a team of Collegiate Greek American Basketball players to travel to Greece. The team played four games against the Greek National Under 21 team and was coached by former Villanova coach Steve Lappas, **District #7's very own Greg Stamos of New Haven, CT, and National AHEPA Basketball Director Costa Papademetriou of Stamford, CT.**

The AHEPA team had a very successful record against the Greek National Team. The AHEPA team were seen as celebrities and enjoyed first class treatment by the Greek Government, Ministry of Sports, and the Supreme Convention delegates.

The above picture was taken at a game held at OAKA Stadium on the site of the Olympic Village. The AHEPA team won this game 75 -65.



Newly installed Supreme Secretary Dr. John Grossomanides with Supreme Governor Tom Gober of Indiana



On the plane; returning home from Greece



Above: Supreme President Ike Gulas receives a presentation from President of Parliament Dimitris Sioufas at the Supreme Convention in Athens.



Above: Opening night Ceremonies were held at the Zappeion Atrium where Dora Bakoyannis greeted all the AHEPA Family



Above: Supreme President Ike Gulas, Grand President Karen Stamatiadis, and **our own Rhode Island State Senator Lou Raptakis from the Sophocles AHEPA Chapter Providence** at the Truman Statue in Athens, Greece.



Below: District Governor Nick Nikas, the **AHEPA Mobile**, along with a number of Brothers from New York and New Jersey at the Supreme Convention in Greece.



SUPREME CONVENTION

**AHEPA Chapter #117
Elpis
New Britain, CT**

An archeology group of ten students and two professors from Central CT State University, and George Rados as a Historian guide arrived in Giannitsa, Greece on July 15th. The purpose of the trip was educational and to assist in archaeological excavations in Pella and other sites. The group received a warm welcome from the municipality. The Giannitsa authorities arranged to have the group picked up from the Thessaloniki airport, had them placed at a nice hotel close to the excavation in Pella and provided transportation for the group's needs. The group was able to work with the archaeologist in charge, Dr. Maria Akamatis, for several days.

Many evenings after work various associations from the city had

traditional dinner/dances performed. The youth associations of the city also took our students out to entertain them. During our stay, we visited the archaeological and Byzantine museums of Thessaloniki and toured the most important sights of the Macedonian capital. The group enjoyed dinner at the Panorama, overseeing the bay and the city. They also worked at and visited Edessa and were received by both the Prefecture and the Mayor. Next they visited Halkidiki and had a boat tour of Agion Oros and its Monasteries and swam by the Ormos of Panagia. They were received by the Mayor of Aridaea and its spa. The students were amazed by its natural beauty. Then came receptions from Pentaplatanos, the Pontian Society of Nea Trapezous, the Lyceum of Ellinides, The Pontian Organization of Giannitsa, and the Cultural Society of Ampe-

lies. The group visited ancient Aegae (Vergina) and the tomb of Philip, father of Alexander the Great, the location where Aristotle taught at Mieza (near Verria) and the excavated site at Dion, by the foothills of Mount Olympus. Both students and teachers did not want to return. In a thank you speech, CCSU Archaeology Professor J.F. Sawyer said: "You, Macedonians, have managed to change my life and my ways of thinking and for that, there are not adequate words to express my heartfelt thank you!"

Giannitsa's mayor Mr. N. Papanikolaou expressed his desire to visit New Britain next spring and we extended our hospitality to him and his escort. The event was sponsored by the Hellenic Affairs Committee of New Britain AHEPA chapter, the Sister City Committee of New Britain and C.C.S.U.



Giannitsa (sister city of New Britain)



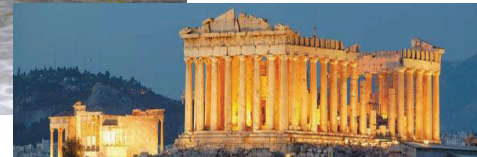
Group posing in front of Thessaloniki's Archaeological Museum with Archaeologist from CCSU, Prof. J.F. Sawyer



CCSU group during the Archeological excavations in Pella and their host city of Giannitsa.



Group dancing in Pontian Greek uniforms, at a reception in Giannitsa.



The trip was so successful that the municipality of Giannitsa is prepared to assist future visits. The university has also agreed to use tuition funds and grants to lessen the financial burden on the students. The final details of this program are still being worked out.

Tà véa

Brother **George Scarveles** is the Managing Director for Grifon Hover Craft USA in Hamden, CT.

Congratulations to Brother **Demo Angelopoulos** and wife Jackie on the birth of their daughter, Ava. *Να σας ζήσει!!!*

Congratulations to Brother **Demetrios Petros** on his marriage on September 7, 2008. He is the son of Past District Governor Anthony and Heidi Petros of Norwich, CT.

Congratulations to Brother **Steve Patsouris** of the Norwich, CT on winning the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Clergy Laity Award. He and his wife were honored at a dinner of the Boston Diocese in Randolph, MA in June.

Brother PDG **Ernest Pool** spent his August fishing in Alaska.

Brother Dr. **John Grossomanides** was elected President of the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Foundation at its Annual meeting in San Diego, CA.

Congratulations to Brother **Simeon Mavridis** who graduated from the University of Connecticut with his Masters in Business Administration. He has a concentration in marketing and its looking for positions in the Connecticut area.

Painting and sculpture

In contrast to other illustrated forms, surviving ancient Greek paintings are very rare. Greek painters worked mainly on wooden panels, and their finest works were admired for hundreds of years after their creation. However, these paintings rapidly disappeared after the 4th century AD when they were no longer adequately protected. In addition to sub-standard Roman copies, for example in Pompeii, rare surviving examples have been found in the tombs of the kings of Macedon at Vergina, at Lefcadia also in ancient Macedon, as well as Kazanlak in ancient Thrace.

In the Byzantine period, religious art was the dominant theme, with highly-decorated mosaics and icons adorning religious buildings. The Renaissance artist, El Greco (Domenikos Theotocopoulos), responded to Byzantine and 16th century Mannerist art, producing sculpture and paintings with a liberated form, light and color that inspired 20th century artists such as Pablo Picasso and Jackson Pollock.

Moreover, an important and often pioneering role was played by artists from Ionian islands in the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century, who exploited developments of the Italian Renaissance and baroque ateliers. As efforts persisted with new directions and objectives, Greek artists emerging in the world during the first decades of the 19th century reconnected Greek art with its ancient tradition, as well as with the quests of the European ateliers, especially those of the Munich School, with defining examples of the Greek contemporary art of the period including the work of *Theodoros Vryzakis* and *Nikiphoros Lytras*. The British-Greek Marie Spartali became the pre-eminent female artist of the Pre-Raphaelite era.

In the early twentieth century Demetrios Galanis, a contemporary and friend of Picasso, achieved wide recognition in France and lifelong membership of the Academie Francaise following his acclaim by the

critic Andre Malreaux as an artist capable "of stirring emotions as powerful as those of Giotto". Later in the century Nikos Engonopoulos achieved international recognition with his surrealist conceptions both of painting and poetry, while in the late 1960s Dimitris Mytaras and Yiannis Psychopedis became associated with European critical realism.

Greece has continued an ancient sculptural tradition well into the Modernist and Post-Modernist eras, with contributors including philosopher Costas Axelos and the more famous Constantine Andreou, recipient of the French Legion of Honor.

(Footnote: Information is from Culture of Greece from Wikipedia)

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Ernest Pool, PDG
Norwich, CT

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Nicholas Nikas

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There are three giving levels, our theme mirrors that of the Olympics: Gold, Silver, and Bronze levels for \$200, \$100, or \$50. This will provide you, your business, or chapter recognition in 4 issues of the Yankee News.

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George Grossomanides

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www.ahepad7.org

Email news to:
yankeeneeds@ahepad7.org

**Next Yankee News
Deadline is:
November 1, 2008**

Reminder
AHEPA District #7 Fall Conference

Date: Saturday, October 11, 2008

Place: St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church Orange, CT

Time: 10AM

Hosted by the Chapter #98 New Haven AHEPA



Sunset on the Island Mykonos

