



AHEPA

Yankee District News

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

Volume XLVII

Number 1

Winter 2007



Message from the Order of AHEPA District Governor

I hope that this issue of Yankee News finds all of you and your families well. There are several upcoming events and projects I would like to announce. The District Conference will be hosted by the **Hartford chapter on April 28, 2007**. The Tri-District Convention will be held on June 1-3 in Marshfield, MA.

The Hellenic Studies Program at Yale University has been in operation for the last five years, promoting the culture of Hellenism in Greece and of its diasporas. Because of the program's contribution to the study and promotion of Hellenism in North America, Yale has been selected to host the 20th bi-annual symposium of the Modern Greek Studies Association (MGSA) on October 18-20, 2007. This is the first time Connecticut has been selected to host such an event.

Our Lt. Governor, Nicholas Nikas, attended the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) meeting. In the past local communities had the opportunity to display their history through various exhibits, installations, or shows. The symposium attracts academics from North America, other European countries and Greece, Cyprus and even as far as Australia. All District 7 chapters are requested to decide whether they want to participate, nominate a Yale event contact and inform the Lt. Governor, Nicholas Nikas (niketes@yahoo.com, 203-554-5570) by March 31, 2007

Through the efforts of brother Aristotelis A. Chronis, Esq. AHEPA has a new program called AHEPAcademy. Brother Chronis is a member of chapter 438 of Falls Church, VA. He can be reached at 703-470-3971 or via email at Aristotelis@AHEPAcademy.com

AHEPAcademy is a program that identifies, educates, inspires, mentors, advances and networks exceptional Greek-American high school students as they progress through their high school, college, graduate and professional careers. The program includes a one-week AHEPAcademy on Campus session that invites one Candidate from each AHEPA Chapter each summer to participate in an intensive academic and interactive program facilitated by prominent Greek-American and Philhellene instructors from the academic, professional, and public service fields. For more information and an application you can visit the project's dedicated website at www.AHEPAcademy.com.

Lastly, brother George Rados, PDG, of the New Britain Chapter is organizing a trip to Greece. This is going to be a 15 day trip that will take place the last week of July and the first week in August. The trip is geared to non-Greeks that want to visit and learn about Greece and our culture. Estimated cost (double occupancy) with 2 meals daily, ground transportation and air fare is \$2,600.00. The group will be escorted by brother Rados and they will visit Athens, Thessaloniki and Delphi. For more information contact George Rados at (860) 635-5602 or by email at makedonia@sbcglobal.net.

Fraternally,
Kip Kyprianou

Message from the Daughters of Penelope District Governor

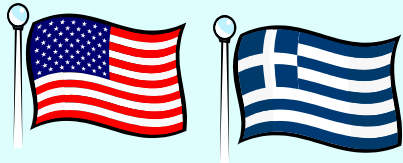
A Very Happy New Year, to all our Sisters, Brother Ahepans and their families. May 2007 be a year filled with good health and great AHEPA memories.

As the year begins I look forward in visiting the Chapters of our District. I was delighted to attend the Christmas/ Anniversary Party of the Daughters of Penelope #49 in Newport, Rhode Island. I congratulate the Chapter on their 70th Anniversary and I wish them many, many more years of success.

On behalf of District #7 DOP, I would like to express our Deepest Sympathy to Brother Cos Marandos (District #9) and his family on the tragic death of his son. May his great memories help his family get through the difficult days.

Sisters remember our theme this year, Catch the Spirit and then Share the Spirit. I hope that each Chapter has reached out to the Sisters who have been missing and approached the many ladies who have never joined our organization. Keep up the Great work and be a proud member of the Daughters of Penelope, one of the largest women's organizations.

Our District Raffle tickets are still available. We held our December drawing in Newport and the winners were: \$75-Cleo Rumpakis Portland, OR and \$25-Marge Odishoo from Kensington, CT. We will continue monthly drawings. Please support your District and purchase your Raf-



**AHEPA District #7
District Lodge Officers
2006—2007**

District Governor
Kip G. Kyprianou
5 Vista Drive
New Milford, CT 06776
860 350 2700
KKyprianou@CompuAid.us

District Lt. Governor
Nicholas Nikas
58 Benjamin Street
Old Greenwich, CT 06870
203 637 3151
niketes@yahoo.com

District Secretary
Emmanuel Moshovos
65 Primrose Drive
East Hartford, CT 06118
860 568 4383
momosh@comcast.net

District Treasurer
John G. Grossomanides Sr.
8 Mohegan Trail
Westerly, RI 02891
401-596-7453

District Advisor
George Rados
7 Cheryl Court
Cromwell, CT 06416
(860)-635-5602



file ticket today. See any member of the District Lodge. Thank You for your support. Good Luck to Everyone.

Please mark your calendars with the following dates: Spring Conference on Saturday -April 28th in Hartford, Tri-District Convention- June 1-3 at the Holiday Inn in Mansfield, MA, and the AHEPA Supreme Convention July 9-14 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Denver, Colorado. Check the Denver website for updates: <http://www.ahepadenver2007.org/2007convention.html>

Remember if there is anything I can do for your Chapter PLEASE call or email me. Yours in Theta Pi,
Loukia
Governor Lucia Kazakos

**AHEPA Chapter #99
Stamford, CT**

In the summer months we offered a double CD and a DVD of our incredible April 29 concert of Grigoris Maninakis and the Mikrokosmos Ensemble singing songs of "The Rembetika Teachers" Markos Vamvakaris and Vasilis Tsitsanis. We have sold almost 100 CD sets at \$20 each, but we still have some left, so if you want a set, call 203-554-5570.

On November 15, we sponsored, a behind the scenes video presentation on St. Catherine's Monastery of Mount Sinai by Fr. Vasilios Bassakyros, a Greek Orthodox priest who had served as an akolyte there. We had 55 people who were very appreciative of the opportunity to attend.

On January 10, we sponsored a multimedia presentation by Dr. Angelo Athanopoulos on the recent history of Greece, from the resignation of Karamanlis in 1963 through the collapse of the Junta in 1974. Some of the 65 attendees came from as far away as New Jersey, New York City, and northern Connecticut.

On January 28, we participated in the Greek School's Greek Letters celebration and presented each attending student with a magnificent two volume hard cover beautifully color-illustrated history of the Greek war of independence titled Athanato (Immortal) 1821. We have some sets left over for sale at \$40, so if you want a set, call 203-554-5570.

On March 10, we plan to sponsor a combination performance and lecture by

Upcoming Events

***Greek Independence Day
March 25, 2007***

***AHEPA District #7
Spring Conference
Saturday, April 28, 2007
St. George Church
Hartford, CT***

***AHEPA Sunday
Sunday, May 20, 2007***

***Tri District Convention
NERC IX
June 1-3, 2007
Holiday Inn Mansfield, MA***

***Supreme Convention
July 9-14, 2007
Adams Mark Hotel
Denver, CO***

Yannis Simonides based on the memoirs of General Makriyannis. Yannis was the actor who played the role of Socrates in an extremely well received performance of Plato's Apology a few years ago at our church. Makriyannis was a revolutionary war general who was active in the political life of Greece after independence. His Memoirs were hailed by many as one of the most significant works of literature written in Demotike.

**AHEPA Chapter #62
Bridgeport, CT**

The Chapter held a combined Installation Ceremony with the Daughters of Penelope on September 20, 2006. Installing officers were: District Governor Kyp Kyprianou, District Secretary Emanuel Moshovos, and Past Supreme and Past District Governor George Scarveles. The following officers were installed for the 2006-2007 year:

President—John Frangenes
Vice President—Frederick Klamka
Secretary—Alexander Vlantēs
Treasurer—Chris Savides

Assistant Secretary—Van Hatzis
 Board of Governors
 Chairman Sam Koutas
 John Bochanis
 Alexandros Pettas
 James Demont
 Constantine Pulos
 George Christopoulos
 Andy Poniros
 Apostolos Tsimbidaros
 Capt of the Guard—Gus Leventakos
 Chaplain—Christie Demetros
 Sentinel—James Tatalias

The chapter has held a number of activities, first we held a Christmas Turkey raffle which was a big success. In January, we held our Annual Chicken Dinner after church services and had a record attendance.

**Daughters of Penelope
 Priam Chapter #76
 Meriden, CT**

John and Pat Pappas celebrated their 56th anniversary. We wish them many more. They also became great grandparents to a beautiful baby girl.

On November 19th the Meriden and New Britain Chapters honored their 50 or over member in a coffee hour after church services. The honorees are: Irene Katechis, Artemis Nemphos, Lillian Tella, Helen Ladas, Dr. Peter Vouras, John Stargu, George Katechis, and R. Charles Tolis. The Daughters received an engraved silver tray and a pin and the AHEPANS received a plaque and a pin.

Maria Theodoratos and Karen Nemphos are the newest members of the Priam Chapter. The chapter reinstated sister Stella D'Agostino.

We wish to express our deepest sympathy to AHEPAN John Stargu on the passing of his beloved wife Sister Mary and to PDG Artemis Nemphos on the death of her mother Sister Mary Souliotes.

Congratulations to Sister Olympia Soteriou on the birth of her third grandchild. Mary Petrus is off to



Left to Right -Sister Christina White, AHEPA Chapter President Jerry Copsinis, and District Governor Loukia Kazakos work the registration desk at the Nathan Hale and Thoas Chapters first ever Blood Drive.

South Africa and she just returned from South American. Mary slow down.

Finally, the AHEPANS and the Daughters held a very successful Valentines Day Dinner on February 4th at Sister Olympia Soteriou's restaurant.

**Daughters of Penelope
 Eretria Chapter #138
 New Britain, CT**

This past fall and holiday season, our chapter presented the following to the youth of our community and some very special people. Welcome back roses for our choir members Halloween "goodies" bags for the children of the community Special Christmas candy canes to the Sunday School Children Spun glass Christmas angel ornaments to the Sunday School staff. Poinsettia plants to our coffee hour kitchen staff

In November as part of our Founder's Day celebration we. Along with the New Britain Ahepans and Meriden Chapter, honored our fifty year and more members. A plaque and 50 year pin were presented to the men and an engraved tray and 50 year pin were presented to the women.

Our chapter joined our brother Ahepans for the annual Christmas Party along with invited chapters from Hartford and Meriden. The evening was well attended and enjoyed by all. During the evening our chapter drew the first of our yearlong 50/50 raffle. We continue to sell tickets for our second drawing in April. If you see a New

Britain sister with some blue tickets in her hand, by all means buy a bunch.

We take this opportunity to wish all our brothers and sisters a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

**Daughters of Penelope
 Thoas Chapter #198
 Hartford, CT**

The Hartford chapter welcomes its newest member: Joanne Karabetos, Deanna Hantzikostantis, Patty Barlas, Betty Petrides, Cindy Serbegis, and Vanessa Porter who were initiated at the January meeting. We look forward to their energy and creative ideas.

**AHEPA Chapter #58
 Nathan Hale
 Hartford, CT**

On December 27th, the Chapter took on it's first-ever sponsorship of a Blood Drive in conjunction with the American Red Cross. The Drive was held at the Saint George Greek Orthodox Church's Matthew's Fellowship Hall on Fairfield Avenue in Hartford, Ct and was the brain-child of President, Jerry Copsinis. He was assisted in this effort by Jerry Pangakis, Past Chairman of the Board of Governors; Paul Matsikas, Past President; Andreas Kapetanopoulos, Treasurer; Jordan Smith, Secretary and Larry Papanic, long-time Chapter Member.

Several DOP #198 officers and members also took part on Drive Day to accommodate the 50 donors who came. Key participants were DG Lou-

kia Kazakos, Christine White, Marguerite Lake and Marilena Kapetanopoulos. Matthew White, son of Christine and Grandson of Daughter Evelyn Bassos contributed his knowledge and assistance gained through his work at the Red Cross.

A number of St. George's parishioners were among the donors and the committee was indebted to the Very Reverend Archimandrite John Heropoulos, pastor at St. George's for his support. Many Ahepans and Daughters were donors and we thank them for helping.

President Copsinis noted that the results were in line with the Red Cross's expectations and that the event served as yet another avenue for the Chapter to be of service to the community at large.

CALL TO ACTION: CHAPTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN YALE EVENT

As you may know, the Yale Hellenic Studies Program has been in operation for the last five years, promoting the culture of Hellenism in Greece and abroad. In addition to their academic programs, they have organized lectures, conferences and concerts for the benefit not only of the Yale community but of the greater Hellenic and philhellenic community of Connecticut.

In recognition of their contribution, they have been selected to host the 20th biannual symposium of the Modern Greek Studies Association (MGSA) on October 18-20, 2007. They are very excited, as this is the first time Connecticut has been selected to host such an event. The symposium attracts academics from North America, other European countries and Greece, Cyprus and even as far as Australia.

In past symposia, local communities have had the opportunity to display their history through various exhibits, installations, or shows. The AHEPA District 7 Lodge has been invited to serve on the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) and to have a say in the constitution of the various cul-



New Britain #117 Founders Day, AHEPA Chapter President Jack Isaac and Daughters President Donna Rados, PDG.



Donna Rados, PDG and Denise Halepas, Co-Chair of the New Britain Founders Day event.

tural activities that accompany the academic symposium. The event organizers want to take advantage of our expertise in the affairs of the local Greek communities and would be most appreciative of our collective (all chapters) contributions to the success of this event.

They are looking to us to represent and marshal the resources of the local Greek communities in two specific areas: 1. Dance troupes to perform traditional Greek folk dances. Practically every Greek Orthodox church in Connecticut has a group of young men and women who dance traditional Greek dances in period costumes at community festivals. We need to identify at least 3-4 such groups who would commit to perform at the event. 2. Original items of historical interest documenting the establishment and development of the Greek communities in Connecticut to be part of the exhibit. Photographs, books, certificates of marriage, wedding wreaths, embroidery, other handicrafts, etc. will be loaned to the event organizers who will issue a receipt and will return the items at the close of the exhibit.

All District 7 chapters are requested to decide whether they want to participate, nominate a Yale event contact and inform the Lieutenant Governor, Nicholas Nikas (niketes@yahoo.com, 203-554-5570) no later than the end of February. The MGSA is the professional association representing scholars from close to fifty North American uni-

versities, from all academic fields who specialize in the study of Hellenism, Greece and the Greek diaspora. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of Modern Greek Studies in the United States and Canada. The Association's activities over the years have been extensive: it has convened international symposia and summer seminars and has issued periodical publications as well as a number of significant volumes on Greek history and literature. For more information about the Association please visit its website at <http://www.hnet.uci.edu/classics/MGSA>

At any given symposium, a total of 60 people make presentations and close to 20 panels are organized. A call for papers has been posted on the MGSA website should you wish to take a look at it: www.mgsa.org

**Notice:
AHEPA Family
Spring Conference
Saturday, April 28, 2007**

Registration at 9:30AM
Joint opening at 10:00AM
St. George Greek
Orthodox Church
Mathews Social Hall
433 Fairfield Avenue
Hartford, CT



American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association

AHEPA District Seven

Scholarship Award Application for 2007

ELIGIBILITY

Applicant must have completed high school or is currently attending college or postgraduate school and plans to enroll as a full-time matriculated student in the next academic year.

The applicant must satisfy **one** of the following:

The applicant is a member of an AHEPA family organization of District Seven.

The applicant is a child of a member of an AHEPA family organization of District Seven.

The applicant or the parent of the applicant must complete one year of membership into an AHEPA family organization prior to the deadline of this application.

Applicant must have at least a 2.5 GPA.

The application portion of the Verification of Eligibility form, below, must be completed and signed by the Chapter President.

Applicants may re-apply if they continue to meet the requirements *and* have not received two previous grants from the Yankee District #7 Scholarship Foundation.

AWARDS

Scholarships will be awarded at a special AHEPA District Seven event . Recipients will be notified and be invited as honored guests of the District at the event, usually held during the month of October, at which time they will receive their grants. Award winner or parent/guardian should attend to receive award. If award winner cannot attend, the committee must be contacted prior to the award ceremony.

FILING

All information requested must be submitted for the application to be considered complete. **Incomplete applications will not be officially accepted and filed.**

Only information requested herein will be evaluated. Letters of recommendations and testimonials are not required. Awards are given primarily on the basis of academic achievement, community service.

All materials requested must be submitted to the Scholarship Committee Chairman, by the deadline.

All materials submitted will be held in strict confidence and are not returnable.

The following materials must be submitted:

This application, filled out, typed or legibly printed in its entirety.

An **official** transcript from the most recently attended academic institution. Official transcripts must be received directly from the academic institution.

A certificate of enrollment or admission letter from the academic institution you are planning to attend.

On a separate sheet of paper submit a typed essay of at least seven hundred (700) words and no more than on one thousand (1,000) words. Choose one topic from those listed in section five (5) of the application.

The completed scholarship application must be postmarked or handed to the Scholarship Committee Chairman by **June 30, 2007**.

The completed application package can be mailed to:

Nick Nikas
Chairman, AHEPA District Seven Scholarship Committee
58 Benjamin Street
Old Greenwich, CT 06870

CONFIDENTIALITY

All the information reported on the scholarship application will be kept strictly confidential. Only the scholarship selection committee will review the information within the application. Applications are evaluated anonymously.

PERSONAL DATA

NAME	
PERMANENT ADDRESS	_____
TEMPORARY ADDRESS	_____ _____
TELEPHONE and E-MAIL	_____

2. VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

I hereby certify that _____ applicant's parent applicant is a paid-up member in good standing of Chapter _____, for one year prior to the deadline of this application, located in the town of _____ in the state of _____.

Signed _____ Date _____
(Chapter President) Chapter Number

3. EDUCATIONAL DATA

SCHOOL MOST RECENTLY ATTENDED

NAME OF SCHOOL	CITY & STATE	DATES ATTENDED	DEGREE AWARDED	YEAR COMPLETED

NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY YOU WILL BE ATTENDING: _____.

4. LIST ACTIVITIES, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE, CLUBS, AND ORGANIZATIONS YOU BELONG TO:

FROM - TO	DESCRIPTION

(Attach additional pages as required)

5. ESSAY

On a separate sheet of paper submit a typed essay of at least seven hundred (700) words on one of the topics below. The essay should not exceed one thousand (1,000) words.

- a. Why would I want to become a member of the Order of AHEPA or Daughters of Penelope?
- b. What have been the most important contributions of the Order of AHEPA since it was founded in July 1922?
- c. How has my Greek heritage influenced my personal long term goals?

6. HARDSHIP (OPTIONAL)

Are there any family hardship circumstances you would like the committee to consider? (Attach additional pages as required)

7. ENDORSEMENT

I hereby certify that the information furnished in this application and the corresponding documents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that making false statements will result in having my application rejected. The scholarship committee reserves the right to request additional documentation in support of my statements herein.

Applicant's Signature

Date

REMEMBER! ENSURING ALL MATERIALS REQUIRED ARE POSTMARKED BY THE DEADLINE IS SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT



In our last issue we introduced our most recent Literature Nobel Prize laureate, Odysseus Elytis. In this issue we will present Giorgos Seferis; the first Greek Nobel Prize laureate ever. Seferis received the Literature Nobel prize in 1963.

Giorgos Seferis was born in Smyrna, Asia Minor, in 1900. He attended school in Smyrna and finished his studies at the Gymnasium in Athens. When his family moved to Paris in 1918, Seferis studied law at the University of Paris and became interested in literature. He returned to Athens in 1925 and was admitted to the Royal Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the following year. This was the beginning of a long and successful diplomatic career, during which he held posts in England (1931-1934) and Albania (1936-1938). During the Second World War, Seferis accompanied the Free Greek Government in exile to Crete, Egypt, South Africa, and Italy, and returned to liberated Athens in 1944. He continued to serve in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and held diplomatic posts in Ankara (1948-1950) and London (1951-1953). He was appointed minister to Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Iraq (1953-1956), and was Royal Greek Ambassador to the United Kingdom from 1957 to 1961, the last post before his retirement in Athens. Seferis received many honours and prizes, among them honorary doctoral degrees from the universities of Cambridge (1960), Oxford (1964), Salonika (1964), and Princeton (1965).

His wide travels provide the backdrop and color for much of Seferis's writing, which is filled with the themes of alienation, wandering, and death. Seferis's early poetry consists of *Strophe* (Turning Point), 1931, a group of rhymed Lyrics strongly influenced by the Symbolists, and *E Sterna* (The Cistern), 1932, convey-

ing an image of man's most deeply felt being which lies hidden from, and ignored by, the everyday world. His mature poetry, in which one senses an awareness of the presence of the past and particularly of Greece's great past as related to her present, begins with *Mythistorema* (Mythistorema), 1935, a series of twenty-four short poems which translate the Odyssean myths into modern idiom. In *Tetradio Gymnasmaton* (Book of Exercises), 1940, *Emerologio Katastromatos* (Logbook I), 1940, *Emerologio Katastromatos B* (Logbook II), 1944, *Kihle* (Thrush), 1947, and *Emerologio Katastromatos C* (Logbook III), 1955, Seferis is preoccupied with the themes he developed in *Mythistorema*, using Homer's *Odyssey* as his symbolic source; however, in "The King of Asine" (in Logbook I), considered by many critics his finest poem, the source is a single reference in the *Iliad* to this all-but-forgotten king. The recent book of poetry, *Tria Krypha Poiemata* (Three Secret Poems), 1966, consists of twenty-eight short lyric pieces verging on the surrealistic.

In addition to poetry, Seferis has published a book of essays, *Dokimes* (Essays), 1962, translations of works by [T.S. Eliot](#), and a collection of translations from American, English, and French poets entitled *Antigrafes* (Copies), 1965. Seferis's collected poems (1924-1955) have appeared both in a Greek edition (Athens, 1965) and in an American one with translations *en face* (Princeton, 1967). From *Nobel Lectures, Literature 1901-1967*, Editor Horst Frenz, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1969

Μέσα στις θαλασσινές σπηλιές

Μέσα στις θαλασσινές σπηλιές
υπάρχει μια δίψα υπάρχει μια αγάπη
υπάρχει μια έκσταση,
όλα σκληρά σαν τα κοχύλια
μπορείς να τα κρατήσεις
μες στη παλάμη σου.

Μέσα στις θαλασσινές σπηλιές
μέρες ολόκληρες σε κοίταξα στα μάτια
και δε σε γνώριζα μήτε με γνώριζες



Theodore Vryzakis; *The sortie of Messolonghi*. The painter was inspired by the [Greek War of Independence](#).



Inside sea caves

Inside sea caves
there is a thirst there is a love
there is an ecstasy,
all as hard as seashells
you can hold them
in the palm of your hand.

Inside sea caves
for entire days I gazed into your eyes
and did not know you nor did you know me

Ο τόπος μας είναι κλειστός

Ο τόπος μας είναι κλειστός,
όλο βουνά που έχουν σκεπή
το χαμηλό ουρανό μέρα και νύχτα.

Δεν έχουμε ποτάμια, δεν έχουμε
πηγάδια, δεν έχουμε πηγές.
Μονάχα λίγες στέρνες,
άδειες κι αυτές.
Που ηχούν και που τις προσκυνούμε.

Ήχος στεκάμενος, κούφιος,
ίδιος με τη μοναξιά μας,
ίδιος με την αγάπη μας,
ίδιος με τα σώματά μας.

Μας φαίνεται παράξενο
που κάποτε μπορέσαμε να χτίσουμε τα
σπίτια,
τα καλύβια και τις στάνες μας.

Και οι γάμοι μας, τα δροσερά
στεφάνια και τα δάχτυλα,
γίνονται αινίγματα
ανεξήγητα για την ψυχή μας.
Πώς γεννήθηκαν,
πώς δυναμώσανε τα παιδιά μας;

Δεν έχουμε ποτάμια, δεν έχουμε
πηγάδια, δεν έχουμε πηγές.
Μονάχα λίγες στέρνες,
άδειες κι αυτές.
Που ηχούν και που τις προσκυνούμε.

Ο τόπος μας είναι κλειστός.
Τον κλείνουν οι δυο μαύρες
Συμπληγάδες.

Στα λιμάνια την Κυριακή σαν
κατεβούμε ν' ανασάνουμε,
βλέπουμε να φωτίζονται στο
ηλιόγεμα σπασμένα ξύλα,
από ταξίδια που δεν τέλειωσαν
σώματα που δεν ξέρουν πια
πώς ν' αγαπήσουν.

Our place is closed

Our place is closed,
all mountains that have for a roof
the low sky, day and night

We do not have rivers, we do not have
wells, we do not have springs.
Only some cisterns,
also empty.
That echo and we worship them.

A stagnant sound, hollow,
same as our loneliness,
same as our love,
same as our bodies.

It seems odd to us
that someday we managed to built the
houses,
our hutches and our corrals.

And our marriages, the fresh
wreaths and the fingers,
become riddles
inexplicable for our soul.
How were they born,
how did our children got strong?

We do not have rivers, we do not have
wells, we do not have springs.
Only some cisterns,
also empty
That echo and we submit to them.

Our place is closed.
Its closed by the two black
Symplegades. (clashing rocks)

At the harbors on Sunday as
we descend for a breather
we see illuminating in the
sunset broken woods,
from travels that never ended
bodies that no longer know
how to love.

The celebration of Greek Independence Day on March 25th draws inspiration from one of the holiest days for Greek Orthodox Christians, the Annunciation of the Theotokos. This is the day that the Archangel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would bear a child. Bishop Germanos of Patras seized the opportunity by raising the banner of revolution, in an act of defiance against the Turks and marked the beginning of the War of Independence. Cries of Zito H Ellas and Eleftheria H Thanatos can still be heard today. These freedom fighters, or klephts as they were called, of Greece sacrificed much for their country. Kolokotronis, Nikitara, Karaiskakis, Bouboulina, and Mpotsaris are some of the heroes of the revolution.

The struggle for independence was supported abroad by intellectuals of the day. In addition to the Secret Society of Friends (Filiki Eteria) and the Sacred Band (Ieros Lohos) prominent world figures including Lord Byron of England, Daniel Webster and Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe of the United States raised the interest level among Europeans and Americans.

After centuries of unsuccessful uprisings and failure of the Ottoman Empire to assimilate and convert the Greeks, The War of Independence began in 1821 rising up against 400 years of occupation and oppression by the Ottoman Turks. The origin of the Turkish occupation began in 1453 with the fall of Constantinople (currently referred to as Istanbul). All true and faithful Hellenes living in their occupied homeland reacted to the Turkish oppression and resisted the attempts to deprive the Greeks of their heritage, their freedom and their religion. During the dark years of the Ottoman occupation, thousands were killed and tortured for attending church or teaching their children culture, history and language. It was the Greek Orthodox Church that helped to retain their very identity by the institution of Crypha Scholia (Hidden Schools).

For eight years the fighting ensued, until 1829, when the Sultan Mahmud II, facing Soviet troops at the gates of Constantinople, accepted Greek independence with the Treaty of Andrianople.



Bridgeport Chapter #62, Chapter Installation with District Governor Kip Kyprianou, George Scarveles-PSG, Emmanuel Moshovos-District Secretary.



Norwich #110 Chapter President George Grossomanides Promotes Cooley's Anemia at a Holy Trinity Church Coffee hour, with perspective new AHEPAN, Simon Mavridis.



Τά νέα

Congrats to **Peter and Virginia Argiros**, on the marriage of their daughter Jessica on October 21, 2006.

Brother **Constantine Antipas** and wife Amy of Mystic announce the birth of their new daughter Zoe Katherine - 7 lbs, 15 oz. - Na Sas Zisi.

Brother **Dino Kolitsas**, after 4½ great years with Photronics, he is leaving to return to the restaurant industry as a minority partner in an Atlanta Bread Company (fast casual bakery-café concept) franchise in White Plains, NY. If all goes well, he hopes to develop more stores in the NY-NJ-CT area.

Snowbirds Brother **Tony Petros** and wife, Heidi; Brother **Bob Booth** and wife, Kay; Brother **John Trantalis** and wife, Viola; **Billy Trantalis** and wife, Elaine are spending some or all of the winter in Florida.

Brother **John Grossomanides** and **John G. Grossomanides** representing the AHEPA Supreme Lodge attended the Epiphany Celebration at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Tarpon Springs, FL.

Brother **Terry Mitchell** and wife Esther can be found skiing in Killington, Vermont.

Father Paul Pantelis and Dr. **John Grossomanides** traveled to the St. Photios Shrine celebration in St. Augustine, FL on February 3rd and 4th. This year the St. Photios committee honored the Order of AHEPA for their commitment to supporting the Shrine and for

AHEPA helping to pay off the balance of the mortgage.

Helene Moran, PDG traveled to Texas to visit newly born grandson. She also spent Epiphany in Tarpon Springs, FL. Safe Travels!

Congratulations to Brother **George Coclin** and wife Maria on their new home in Cranston, RI.

Congratulations to **Lou Raptakis** on the his re-election as a State Senator for the State of Rhode Island.

Get Well soon to **Angelo Maintanis**, **Steve Grossomanides**, and **Milan Kukich**.

In Memoriam

Our sincerest condolences to Brother **James Maistros**, Winthrop #250 New London on the passing of his mother and to **Cos Marandos**, District #9 PDG and PST on the accidental passing of his son, Tory.

2006 Membership statistics

The Supreme Headquarters has recently released the membership numbers for the past year.

The "Top 10" AHEPA Chapters in terms of membership are:

1. Chpt 145, Denver, CO -303
2. Chpt 31, Washington, DC -249
3. Chpt 29, Houston, TX—227
4. Chpt 88, Warren, OH -222
5. Chpt 438, Arlington, VA -203
6. Chpt 63, Akron, OH -185
7. Chpt 80, Worcester, MA -185
8. Chpt 43, Milwaukee, WI -182
9. Chpt 53, St. Louis, MO -173
10. Chpt 122, Norfolk, VA -172

AHEPA national membership totals 18,000 and has over 500 chapters in the United States, Canada, Greece, and Cyprus.

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**Next Yankee News
Deadline is:
April 15, 2007**



Ahepans who worked at the Nathan Hale Chapter Blood Drive(L-R) Paul Matsikas, Larry Papanic, Jerry Copsinis, Jerry Pangakis ,and Jordan Smith



Six initiates in to the Hartford Thaos #198 on January 16,2007 (L—R) Cindy Serbegis, Betty Petridis, Vanessa Porter, Joann Karabetsos, Patty Varlas, Deanna Hatzikostantis, and President Helene Moran