

AHEPA Yankee District News





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

Volume XLVII

Number 3

Fall 2007



Message from the Order of AHEPA District Governor

The summer is almost over. I hope all of you had an enjoyable one. I would like to thank all of you for reelecting me as your Governor. I will continue my efforts towards promoting AHEPA and Hellenism. In June I attended the Norwich Chapter awards night. I was moved when William Trantalis presented his father with the Chapter Community Service Award. That is an example to be followed. It can only happen if we bring our children into the organization. In July I attended the National convention. I had the opportunity to attend the Cyprus Committee meetings and to spend a lot of time with congressman Bilirakis and the ambassadors of Greece and Cyprus, Malias and Kakouris, respectively. In September I will be attending the Governor's Conference in Atlanta Georgia. The District Fall conference is scheduled for Sunday October 21, in New Britain. I would like to see as many of you possible to attend.

Fraternally, Kip Kyprianou

Message from the Daughters of Penelope District Governor

Dear Sisters.

Thank you for the honor and confidence in electing me Governor. I will do my best for the benefit of our District. Although our district has shrunk over the past few years to 7 chapters, we are already off to a go start; 5 chapters are represented on the District Lodge. They are Hartford, Meriden. New Britain. Newport, and Waterbury. In addition, these 5 chapters had 6 delegates and 1 alternate at the National Convention in Denver. Way to go Sisters!! While at the National Convention, we ran into Sister Esther Mitchell, who said she is willing to reactivate the New London chapter ASAP; all she needs is a minimum of 10 sisters. Please call her. With your help, I'm hoping to reactivate the chapters of Norwalk, Cranston, and Orange (New Haven).

While on the subject of the National Convention, Congratulations to Rick Pecka on his election as Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles. He is the son of Dick and Penny Pecka of Waterbury. Penny is our District Advisor to the Maids of Athena. Also, Congratulations to Terry Mitchell, of New London chapter, who was elected chairman of the AHEPA National Housing Committee, and to Dr. John Grossomanides Jr., of the Norwich chapter, who was elected Supreme Secretary. While at the Convention, Dr. John gave a presentation: "You and Your Medications". He has agreed to repeat the presentation at one of our conferences.

At the **Tri-District Convention**, District Governor, Loukia Kazakos presented the following District Awards: **Astia Award to Margo Sklavouris** of New Britain Chapter, **Achievement Award to Mary Cham**

pion of the Newport Chapter and the Membership Award to the Hartford Chapter for 6 new initiates and 1 transfer (13% increase) Congratulations to the recipients! Next year's District Convention is scheduled for May 30—June 1, 2008 SAVE THE DATE!!!

Thank you to outgoing Governor, Sister Loukia Kazakos, PDG for volunteering to chair the District Fundraiser, "District 7 Cash Raffle." This has proven to be a successful fundraiser over the past three years; Sister Joanne Hologgitas, PGP was busy at the National Convention selling her tickets. Fifty percent of last year's winners came from outside the District, as a result many sisters outside of our District continue to support our District raffle. As in the past, there will be 9 drawings throughout the year; first prize \$75, second prize \$25, the winning tickets are re-added to the raffle. Each ticket has 9 chances of being a winner. The raffle ticket is \$10 It is hoped that Brother Ahepans will support our raffle as well. Please see any Daughters' Lodge member or Chapter President to buy a ticket. The first drawing will be at the Fall Conference, Sunday, October 21, New Britain. BE THERE!

I look forward to attending the Governor's Conference, September 8-10 in Atlanta and bringing back helpful information to share with our chapters at the Fall Conference. Until then, enjoy the rest of the summer. Wishing you a successful year. Yours in Theta Pi.

Helene

Helene Aliferis Moran District Governor



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District Lodge Officers
2007—2008

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Past District Governors Message

Brothers and Sisters...

It has been my pleasure to serve the District as DOP Governor for the third year. I made many new friends along the way, at the National Level and District Level.

These are friends and times that I will never forget. This year has been a difficult year for many Districts. Chapters are trying to hold onto the Sisters they have and reach out to new members. We must continue to make the Daughters of Penelope known to our communities in order to continue with what we have and build on for the future. Keep up the GREAT work!!!!!

This year started when I attended the National Convention in Hollywood, Florida. This was a Convention in which I will never forget. The meetings were successful, (I sat on the National Scholarship Committee again) the hotel beautiful and the company fantastic. My daughter Krystyna was initiated into the maids of Athena, to begin her years in our order.

In September, I attended "The Apology of Socrates" in New Britain, CT, what an amazing performance. In October, a successful Fall Conference was held in Waterbury, CT. I attended the Christmas/70th Anniversary Party of Daughters of Penelope Chapter #49 in Newport, Rhode Island. As always, the joint Ahepans/Daughters Christmas Party in New Britain was a great time.

I attended all the planning meetings for the NERC in Worcester, Massachusetts. I was able to visit, Hartford, Waterbury and Meriden for a monthly business meeting. Great food at the Pot Luck Supper in Meriden, Thank you Sisters. I would to thank our liaison Christine Constantine for attending our Spring Conference, Tri-District Convention and her continued support throughout the year. My District Lodge, Joanne, your advice and support helped me a great deal, thank you for being just a phone call away and providing the great candy at National. Penny, thank you for your continued help at the Conferences and continued work with the Maids of Athena. Angela and Maria for your help at the fall Conference, thank you. Helene, even though the Lt. Governors job is not a big one, your help, support and ideas were appreciated. Thank you!!!

Donna, where do I begin?? Thank you

Upcoming Events

AHEPA District #7 Fall Conference October 21, 2007

St. George Greek Church New Britain, CT

AHEPA Yankee #7
District Convention
May 31-June 1, 2008
New Britain, CT

AHEPA Supreme Convention 2008 July 1-12, 2008 Athens, Greece

for the MANY hats you wear to help our District. I knew our finances were in good hands with you and checks were always ready when I needed them. You have been a wonderful roommate, friend and Sister. Thank you is NOT enough.

Past District Governor Steve
Jennings and present Governor Kip
Kyprianou it was a pleasure to work
with you and Thank you for everything. Brother John Grossomanides
what an amazing return of the Yankee
District News....Thank you and
PLEASE continue the FANTASTIC
JOB!!!!

My family- thanks for understanding (when I missed special events) and helping me throughout the past 3 years. Tony I appreciated you keeping me company on a few visitations and Krystyna for helping me when I needed it.

I THANK the ENTIRE District for trusting me to represent OUR District. It was my pleasure and I hope that I made you proud of being a member of the Ahepa Family Yankee District #7

Many THANKS again to ALL of you; Yours in Theta Pi.

Loukia

Lucia (Loukia) Kazakos Past District Governor AHEPA District #7 had a presence at the Greek Independence Day Parade in New York City in April.

Brother Nick Nikas, Lt. Governor, Stamford #99 marches in the parade with District #6 and District #5 AHEPA Brothers.









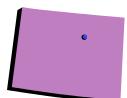




DISTRICT BREAKFAST DENVER

District #7 had a Daughters of Penelope and AHEPA Breakfast at the Supreme Convention in Denver, Colorado: George Rados, Donna Rados, Ellen Anagnostos, Ann Bartis, Ernie Pool, Helene Moran,

Angelo Maintanis, Pat Maintanis, Penny Pecka, Dick Pecka, Mary Petrus, and Kip Kyprianou.



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE DISTRICT #7 CONVENTION ELECTS 2007-2008 OFFICERS:

From left to right: Donna Rados, PDG, District Treasurer, Loukia Kazakos PDG, District Advisor, Helene Moran PDG, District Governor, Christine Constantine, Grand Governor Zone III, Mary Petrus, District Lt. Governor, Angela Volpicelli, District Secretary and Maria Botelho, District Marshall

85th Supreme Convention Highlights

The Annual AHEPA Supreme Convention was held July 10-15, 2007 in Denver, CO. New officers for the 2007-2008 year were elected. They are as follows:

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

Rick Pecka was elected to the highest position in the Sons of Pericles—Supreme President. Rick, the son of Dick and Penny Pecka of Waterbury, CT is the first member from District #7 ever elected to Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles.

District #7 had a very rewarding trip to Colorado. Brother Terry Mitchell was elected as one of two Board of Trustees members of the Order of AHEPA.

Lastly, Dr. John Grossomanides was elected to the office of Supreme Secretary. He follows previous District #7 Supreme Secretaries: Terry

Mitchell (Winthrop #250 New London, CT) and George Anagnostos (Maud Howe Elliott #245 Newport, RI). He is the first Ahepan from the Rose of New England Chapter #110 Norwich, CT to hold such office and the first District #7 Ahepan to hold both the office of Supreme Secretary and Supreme Treasurer. Axios!!!

Sons of Pericles Solon Chapter #61 Waterbury, CT

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for: Spiro Nicolopoulos (President), John Ververis (Vice President), Manolis Sfinarolakis (Secretary) and George Karolidis (Treasurer). The Sons of Pericles will be holding a breakfast at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Waterbury on Sunday, October 7th. Proceeds will go to Cooley's Anemia. For more information, please e-mail Spiro Nicolopoulos at spiro.n@gmail.com.

PETROS THE ARCHEOLOGIST

After having dug to a depth of 10 meters last year, Italian scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the Italians, in the weeks that followed, Turkish scientists dug to a depth of 20 meters. Shortly thereafter, headlines in Turkish newspapers read: "Turkish archaeologists have found traces of 200-year old copper wire, and have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network one hundred years earlier than the Italians."

One week later, a Greek newspaper, reported the following: "After digging as deep as 30-meters in fields near Athens, Petros Petropoulos, a self-taught archeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Petros has therefore concluded that 300-years ago, Greeks were already using wireless." Yiasou, Petros

DOP YANKEE DISTRICT # 7 2006-2007 RAFFLE RESULTS

October 2006:

\$75-Helen Rockas, Fresno, CA \$25-Diane K Petersen, Elk Grove, CA **November 2006:**

\$75-Lis Kotzambasis, Tucson, AZ \$25-Myrsini Papoutsis, Middlebury, CT **December 2006:**

\$75-Cleo Rumpakis, Portland, OR \$25-Marge Odrshao, Kenningston, CT **January 2007:**

\$75-Poppy Chimetakis, Coral Gables, FL \$25-Dillon-Baxter Funeral Home, Wethersfield, CT

February 2007:

\$75-Sheila Rubitz, Colchester, CT \$25-Marguerite Lake, Wethersfield, CT **March 2007:**

\$75-Jane Tamdolo, Newport, RI \$25-Steven Gagas, Waterbury, CT **April 2007:**

\$75-Louie Raptakis, Rhode Island \$25-Pam Hustus, Colchester, CT **May 2007:**

\$75-Jan Spanos, Sacramento, CA \$25-C. Agoitsas, Rhode Island **June 2007:**

\$75-Ray Apostolides, Peabody, MA \$25-Anna Topougis /Angie Speliopoulos/

\$75-Canela Souris, Newport, RI \$25-Georgia Souris, Gilbert, AZ

THANK YOU to all who purchased tickets this year. Tickets are available for 2007-2008...see District Lodge Members from DOP Yankee District #7 GOOD LUCK!!!

AHEPA Chapter #110 Rose of New England Norwich

The Chapter held a very successful AHEPA Sunday on May 20, 2007. An Artoklasia was done for the living members of the Chapter and a Memorial Service with Koliva was done for all the departed members of the Order of AHEPA Chapter #110.

Following the Liturgy the Chapter sponsored the coffee hour and provided lunch for everyone in the community.

The Chapter held its Annual Awards Banquet and Installation of officers ceremony at the Dino Pappas Community Center on Tuesday, June 26, 2007. The

awards banquet was a huge success. They had a full house with over 90 members and guests in attendance. The event went over very well - the food was excellent and the company was great. Distinguished guests included District Governor Kip Kyprianou and Supreme Treasurer John Grossomanides Jr. conducted the installation of the chapter officers for the 2007-2008: President George Grossomanides Vice President Sot Daniska John Louziotis Secretary Treasurer Joe Hominski

Board of Governors were: Dean Antipas, John Louziotis, John Grossomanides Sr., Anthony Petros, and William Trantalis.

The chapter presented the AHEPAN of the Year Award to long time Brother George Grossomanides, The Chapter Community Service Award was presented to John Trantalis. Anniversary Pins were presented to the following Brothers: 40 year pin were presented to Cleon George, John Louziotis, and Costa Patsouris. Twenty-five year pins were presented to Peter Argiros, Nick Topalis, Steve Patsouris, and Richard Hominski.

The AHEPA #110 Foundation presented philanthropic donations to the following Charitable organizations: Backus Hospital Emergency Room construction project, Rose City Senior Citizen Center, Hellenic Society Paideia at the University of Connecticut, Norwich Free Academy Foundation (Modern Greek Studies Program), Norwich Historical Society, The Katie Blair

Academy Foundation (Modern Greek Studies Program), Norwich Historical Society, The Katie Blair House (For Battered Women), Reliance House, VFW Post 594, and the ARC of New London County. The Tenants Association of the AHEPA Elderly Housing Projects Phase I, II, and III each received a donation. The chapter outdid itself in the community by giving more than \$3,500 in grants to area organizations.

Finally, the Chapter is holding a fundraiser raffle in which the prize is

a Chevy Pick-Up Truck. The ticket prices are \$10 per ticket and the drawing for the truck will be on Saturday, September 15, 2007. Anyone interested in tickets can contact Tony Petros at tonypetros@yahoo.com.

District #7 Foundation

The Annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the District #7 Foundation took place on June 2, 2007 in Mansfield, MA. This year the Foundation assets reached \$400,000 for the first time and continue to grow. The Foundation has allocated \$17,000 to be presented for scholarships in 2007. This matches last year as the largest amount in the history of the District #7 scholarship program.

The Foundation sends its Thanks to the generous contributions of Deno Macricostas, Angelo and Mary Pappas, and the E. Peter Mitchell Trust which have helped to endow the majority of the Foundation's Scholarship Fund.

This year the District elected one Ahepan and one Daughter of Penelope to the two expiring terms. Nikitoula Menounos and George Coclin were elected to a three year term. Other Board of Directors who have remaining terms are: George Anagnostos, Penny Pecka, Christine White, and Dr. John Grossomanides.

AHEPA Chapter #48 Waterbury

The Chapter will host its 11th Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Sunday, September 9, 2007 at the Western Hills Golf Course in Waterbury, CT. There will be an 8AM shotgun start and a Prime Rib Dinner with Social Hour following at the Holy Trinity Greek Church Community Center. For more information Contact—Alex Boutsioulis at 203-271-2929 or boutsie7@cox.net.

The AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope chapters handed out 17 scholarships on June 17, 2007 at an awards ceremony held at the Waterbury Church and sponsored by the GOYA.

AHEPA Reaches Historic Milestone

WASHINGTON, DC — Ike Gulas, international president of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), the leading association for the nation's 1.3 million American citizens of Greek ancestry, and Philhellenes, issued the following statement about the 85th Anniversary of AHEPA:

"In 1922, America was far removed from the America of equality which we cherish today. Greeks were discriminated against and treated as second class citizens all across our nation. But for the determination and steadfastness of the eight Greek-Americans in Atlanta, our accomplishments today would not have been realized.

"We not only owe gratitude to AHEPA for assisting our ancestors assimilate in a foreign and distant land, but we also owe them praise for the ability to foresee the need to establish an organization that would stand-up for what is right, not only for the Greek population, but also for all who needed a voice.

"On this day, we should reflect not only on our past, but also on AHEPA's bright future."

On September 8, AHEPA will mark the 85th anniversary with celebrations in Atlanta, Ga.

AHEPA was established July 26, 1922, by visionary Greek-Americans to protect all from prejudice originating from the KKK, and in its history, AHEPA has joined with the NAACP and B'nai B'rith to fight discrimination. The mission of the AHEPA family is to promote the ideals of Hellenism, education, philanthropy, civic responsibility and family and individual excellence. For more information about AHEPA, or how to join, please contact AHEPA Headquarters, 202.232.6300, or visit www.ahepa.org.



AHEPA 2008 Supreme Convention

Brothers, Sisters and Friends: Numerous people have signed up for information for the 2008 AHEPA Supreme Convention in Greece! The AHEPA Family has visited Greece for Supreme Conventions twice since 1922.

Join us as we do it again!! The dates to remember for the 2008 Supreme Convention in Athens. Greece, are July 1-12, 2008. The AHEPA Convention Committee has been working hard to prepare a wonderful getaway for the entire AHEPA community. The AHEPA from Australasia, Canada, Greece and Cyprus will be attending our event in Athens, Greece. Thousands of Ahepans, Daughters, Sons and Maids will work together for this family reunion. As this convention will be held in Greece. AHEPA and its members MUST move quickly to reserve a space at our convention hotels and secure flights for the dates they choose to attend.

AHEPA has contracted FREI Travel Congress to handle all our travel needs and together with our partners for air travel, we are working to provide the most comprehensive and affordable program we can to our members. This convention will be a most memorable and rewarding experience for the entire AHEPA Family.

We have planned a week of unforgettable events, a spectacular Opening Ceremony, July 4th Party, dances and social events which will forever be engraved in your heart and soul. This homecoming will be unlike ANY convention you have attended, we hope you and your family will join us. On behalf of AHEPA, I invite you and your family to meet with us in Greece July 1-12, 2008 for the Official International AHEPA Supreme Convention

It is very important for all persons wanting to attend the convention to make their reservations early, visit www.ahepa2008.com to download the appropriate forms and reserva-

tions procedures. Please visit www.ahepa2008.com for updated information on the 2008 AHEPA Supreme Convention in Greece, the sooner the better before the rooms run out.

AHEPA 85th Anniversary Celebration

The Order of AHEPA's birthday is July 26, 1922 and in hopes of celebrating our 85th anniversary in the founding city, AHEPA has scheduled the 85th anniversary celebration on the weekend of September 7-9, 2007. The Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA, Ike Gulas, invites you and your family to attend this weekend of events.

In addition to these events the AHEPA family (Daughters, Sons and Maids) will hold their annual District Governors meetings and our AHEPA Supreme Lodge and Board of Trustees meetings. I encourage all of you to make reservations early at the Marriott Century Center Hotel in Atlanta, GA. The AHEPA will be honoring all our Past Supreme Presidents during this event and the local chapters have prepared so much more... In addition to our celebrating our rich history we will be honoring the creation of the Archdiocese as well. These two institutions have maintained and promoted Hellenism in America.

Welcome Supreme Governor

The newly elected Supreme Governor for Region IV (District #7, #8, and #9) is Brother Constantine Calliontzis of Dedham, MA. Connie has previously served as a Supreme Governor and is a Past District Governor of District #8. He can be reached at 781-326-8744 or email at ccalliontzis@yahoo.com

Did you know

The official website of Yankee District #7 is www.ahepad7.org

You can find a variety of forms, dates of events, copies of previous newsletters at this website. The national website is www.ahepa.org

Τά νέα

Brother *Greg Benios* is a Business Development Specialist for Moore Medical in New Britain, CT and the new District Warden!

Brother *John Dionis*, Danielson and his wife, are spending the summer at their home in Greece.

Get Well Soon to Ahepans **Gus Hologgitas** and **Nick Moran**!

Περαστικα

Congratulations to **Helene and Nick Moran** on the birth of their new grandchild. $N\alpha \sigma \alpha \zeta \zeta \eta \sigma \varepsilon \iota$

In Memoriam

Brother *Berg "Ben" Kooloian*Past District Governor, of North
Providence, RI passed away on
Wednesday, July 18, 2007. May his
Memory be Eternal

News, news, news

As always if you have any news please mail it to: Dr. John Grossomanides 8 Mohegan Trail Westerly, RI 02891

Please send any pictures electronically via email. Any chapter news is always welcome, engagements, marriages, new babies, promotions, moved, retirement, or just taking a vacation let us know, forward it via email to:

yankeenews@ahepad7.org

Reminder

To each chapter secretary, please mail a copy of your chapter officers form to the District Secretary. This list should include the office, name, address, phone number and if possible email address for each of the top four offices (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) in your chapter.

This is to help improve communication between District and each chapter. It is very important you get all the correspondence from the District Governor and/or District Secretary. A copy of the of your Chapter officer list should be sent to the Supreme Headquarters, too.

Ask the Pharmacist

Does Ibuprofen (Advil/ Motrin) interfere with my aspirin?

Aspirin is very helpful in preventing heart attacks and strokes because it interferes with a normal blood clotting element called platelets. It actually prevents the platelets from sticking together to form a clot, which can cause a heart attack or stroke.

Recently, ibuprofen has been shown to interfere with aspirin's blocking of the platelet enzyme; it essentially "gets in

the way" of the aspirin. If aspirin is taken with ibuprofen, it could significantly decrease the effect of the aspirin in preventing heart attacks.

It is recommend that people who are taking aspirin to prevent heart attacks or strokes and use ibuprofen, take their aspirin at least two hours and I recommend four hours before taking ibuprofen, take the aspirin first thing in the morning with breakfast. This way, the aspirin is able to interfere with the platelet aggregation by binding to the platelet enzyme before ibuprofen is around. It is also recommend that both aspirin and ibuprofen be taken with food to decrease any chance of upsetting the stomach or getting an ulcer.

One other point to keep in mind is that both of these medications can irritate the stomach. It is best if they are taken with a glass of milk, food, a meal (this does not mean one saltine cracker) to prevent any ulcers from occurring.

Editors Note:

It is my understanding our Yankee District News was the third best newsletter in the entire AHEPA domain. Thanks to everyone for making it such a large success.

On a personal note, I want to Thank everyone who

helped me win my election for Supreme Secre-



tary in Denver. Who knows maybe I can be elected as the Vice-President next year in Athens.;)

Daughters of Penelope <u>DISTRICT LODGES 2007-2008</u> <u>OFFICERS</u> <u>CONTACT INFORMATION</u>

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Rose of New England Chapter #110 Norwich, CT has an Installation and Awards Dinner on June 26, 2007



Ribbon cutting of the expanded Pappas Center. The Norwich Chapter built a 800 square foot expansion to the existing structure. Shown left to right are Peter Argiros architect, resident of the AHEPA housing, Norwich Mayor Ben Lathrop, and Tony Petros President of the AHEPA #110 Housing Corporation.



40 Year Member Pins are presented to Dino Patsouris, Cleon George and John Louziotis by George Grossomanides and John G. Grossomanides. PDG.



Peter Pappas (left) presents George Grossomanides the 2007 AHEPAN of the Year Award.



District Governor installs new chapter officer with the assistance of Supreme Treasurer. Left to right; John Louziotis Secretary, Kip Kyprianou District Governor, George Grossomanides President, Sot Daniska Vice-President, Joseph P. Hominski Treasurer, and Dr. John Grossomanides Supreme Treasurer.



Tony Petros (left) and George Grossomanides (right) holding an AHEPA Chapter 81st year Anniversary cake.



25 Year Member Pins are presented to Peter Argiros, Nick Topalis, and Steve Patsouris, by George Grossomanides and John G. Grossomanides, PDG.



John Trantalis is presented the 2007 Norwich Community Service Award by son William J. Trantalis



Happy Birthday! Chapter #110 Rose of New England Norwich, CT

Picture from the 2007 Supreme Convention in Denver, Colorado held July 10-15, 2007



Sons of Pericles Supreme President Rick Pecka, AHEPA Supreme President Ike Gulas, Daughters of Penelope Grand President Karen Stamatiades, and Grand President of the Maids of Athena Stephanie Maniatis (Daughter of Tim Maniatis, District #7 PDG)



Newly elected Supreme Secretary Dr. John Grossomanides with dad John G. Grossomanides, PDG.



District #7 has a very successful Supreme Convention; (left to right) E. Peter "Terry" Mitchell elected as member on the AHEPA Board of Trustees, Rick Pecka elected Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles, and Dr. John Grossomanides elected Supreme Secretary.



(left to right) Terry Mitchell, John G. Grossomanides, and John Grossomanides following the installation of officers.



Supreme Vice-President Nicholas Karacostas (R) and Supreme Secretary Dr. John Grossomanides (L) with Supreme Treasurer Anthony Kouzounis (C)

Winter 2007



Between the mountains and the sea There stands the pass of Thermopylae Where Leonidas and his men Against the vast hordes of Asia defends

With only a token force from each ally The power of Asia they defy.

Four-thousand men the city states had sent

And more would be forthcoming after religious festivals were spent.

Xerxes, the epitome of regal splendor, To slavery, the nature—loving Greeks would render

And with pomp and regal airs Against the rocky lands of Greece repairs

To conquer thse freedom-loving Greeks and enslave

And add to their proud race to his enclave.

The two armies faced one another And Xerxes marveled at their small number.

With three-hundred thousand men bivouacked in his tents

Numbers in the narrow pass were irrelevant

Xerxes perceiving the small band of Greeks barring his way,

Waited four days hoping that they would run away.

Such was the number of barbarians, one was told,

That when they shot their arrows: lo and behold!

The sun would be blotted out And darkness would take hold. To which, Dieneces, a Spartan, promptly replied:

"We shall fight in the shade!" not at all terrified!

On the fifth day Xerxes ordered his Medes

Against the small band of Greeks to proceed.

The Medes marched forward and rushed the Greeks

But fell in large numbers mids't shouts and shrieks.

Others took their place, when they fell, As the fierce battle ebbed and swelled The Medes finally withdrew from the fight

And Persia's best—The Immortals — were brought into sight.

The Immortals had high hopes that the

Hellenic Cultural Corner

Greeks would yield

But their hopes were dashed upon Spartan spears and shields.

Thrice Xerxes jumped from the throne he sat on

In fear for his Immortals that in the pass were beset upon.

The Immortals fighting in the narrow pass Had no advantage from their greater mass. The next day the barbarians tried again to force the pass

But try as they might, the Greeks held fast. The Immortals hoped that the Greeks might be weak at best.

Having fought all day long without any rest. Now the Immortals pressed forward with renewed vigor in the pass,

But could not force it except to leave heaps of dead upon the grass.

Xerxes and his Generals were at a loss How best to combat the Grecian force.

When up stepped Ephialtes with reward as his aim

And to Xerxes showed another path to claim. Great was Xerxes' joy at the news

And all Persian eyes on Ephialtes, the traitor, were fused.

Around the mountains he led the Persian force,

And Ephialtes, at his treasoin, felt no remorse.

But in his eyes saw only the ill-gotten gain That, from Xerxes, he would surely obtain.

The Greek scouts descended the mountain and verified the fear,

That the Persians would soon be advancing on their rear.

Immediately, Leonidas a council of war holds And to the allies all their options he unfolds All the options, pro and con, were spent And it was agreed that the allies to their respective cities be sent.

Spartan men, alone, will fight until the bitter end.

And none Sparta could or would be sent. For Spartan law forbade retreat

Only victory or death, with open arms, would greet.

And every Spartan man on Spartan law adhered.

And torture and death, in battles, the Spartans never feared.

"For on your shield or with your shield, " the Spartan mothers cried

And true to Spartan laws we will abide. Thus spoke Leonidas with a stern look, And the earth beneath him trembled with every step he took.

The Thespians—six hundred strong— alone remained.

And with three hundred Spartans either victory or defeat obtain.

As Homer's "rosy-fingered dawn" appeared Xerxes' hordes approached the Greeks from

both front and rear.

Leonidas advanced to a more open portion of the pass

And spread death and destruction on the barbarian mass.

The Captains of the Persians armed with whips

Urged their men forward with curses on their lips,

And with continuous blows on their backs, Were forced to keep up the ceaseless attack.

Thus the free-men of Greece willingly sacrificed their lives.

While the slave soldiers of tyrants were forced into their demise.

By now the Spartans' spears were all shivered.

And death and destruction with naked swords was delivered.

With drawn swords they mowed the Persians down,

And many into the sea were thrown and drown

Leonidas, fighting bravely at the fore, finally

And o'er his body a fierce struggle swelled. Four times the Persians strove the body to posses

And four times the Greeks denied them their behest.

Finally the Greeks in bearing off the body, succeed

And to the narrowest part of the pass proceed.

Surrounded, now, on every side Weakened and weary as fresh Persians arrive

They narrowed their circle as their numbers decline.

With swords and shields now broken and shattered.

With their hands and teeth the enemy batter. Overwhelmed, at last, by a shower of missiles, they succumb,

And for the Persians a hollow victory was won.

Thousands of Persians fell in the fray, Including two brothers and two uncles of Xerxes: — to sadden his day.

Thus the Autocrat of the East knocking on the doors of Europe,

Was ready to feast on the liberty-loving Greeks and her city-states,

And send them into oblivion and to rue their fate.

Of having to submit to despots and their state.

Thus Sparta's bold had expired, And, with their last stand and deed, The whole world inspired!

This poem was sent by Brother George Trambukis of the Sophocles Chapter #106. Br. George lives in Riverside, RI. Thank you!!!!

AHEPA Chapter #48 Waterbury

Congratulations to Rick Pecka on his elections as the Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles. The chapter has one life member Brother William Kotsaftis.

AHEPA Chapter #58 Nathan Hale Hartford

The chapter in finalizing plans for the completion of our second Senior Citizen Elderly Housing Project in Wethersfield. We are planning a ribbon cutting ceremony the end of October. This 4.8 million dollar HUD project is 97% complete.

AHEPA Chapter #62 Bridgeport

God Bless, our 68-year life-member Alexander Vlantes who was once again elected Secretary of the chapter. The chapter has the following life-members: Chrisie Demetros, Victor Laliots, Gus Leventakos, and James Mellas. Brother John Frangenes was elected as the chapter president for the 2007-2008 year.

AHEPA Chapter #90 Danbury

The Chapter has two life-members Brothers Michael Zotos and Nicholas Zotos. Congratulations to Brother Kip Kyprianou who was re-elected as our District Governor.

AHEPA Chapter #98 New Haven

The chapter has four life-members Edward Basel, Louis W. Basel, George Faracles, and Stephen J. Rellas. The St. Barbara's Odyssey Festival will be August 31 to September 3, 2007.

AHEPA Chapter #99 Harry A. Fanos Stamford

The chapter has two life-members

James J. Cocolis and Vasilios Zaharis. We are sorry to inform everyone that Past District Governor Doc Loter has passed away. The chapter was also very excited to participate in the New York City Greek Independence Day Parade.

AHEPA Chapter#106 Sophocles Providence

The chapter has the following life members: Harold Demopoulos, Louis Dostou, Angelo Maintanis, Ernest G. Pappas, and Eustace Pliakas. The chapter holds its meetings on the



forth Tuesday of each month, all are invited to attend. Brother Angelo Maintanis represented the chapter at the Supreme Convention in Denver, CO with his wife, Pat.

AHEPA Chapter #117 Elpis

New Britain

Brother George Rados and wife, Donna attended the Supreme Convention in Denver, CO. Donna Rados was the Chair person of the Daughters Budget and Finance Committee.

AHEPA Chapter #126 Archimedes Meriden

Regards from John Stergu and all the Brothers of the chapter.

AHEPA Chapter #245 Maud Howe Elliott Newport

Brothers George Anagnostos, Gus Hologgitas, and Canelo Bartis all attended the Supreme Convention in Denver, CO. We had a number of Brothers assist with the Saint Spyridon Greek Church Festival July 20-22.

AHEPA Chapter #250 Winthrop New London

Congratulations to Terry Mitchell on his election to the Board of Trustees of the Order of AHEPA. Our second phase of the Niantic Senior Citizen Elderly Housing project is 80% complete. We are looking to have our ribbon cutting after the first of the year.

AHEPA Chapter #387 Norwalk

Hello, to everyone!!! Chapter has two life members Chris Papadopoulos and Harry Vasilacopoulos.

AHEPA Chapter #418 Danielson

The chapter is taking the summer off and vacationing at the Webster lake. The chapter has two lifemembers Peter Kalivas and James Haveles.

National AHEPAN of the Year

This year, 2007, at the Supreme Convention in Denver, CO, Brother Elias Tsekerides of North Tarrytown, NY and the Yonkers AHEPA Chapter. #51. Elias is a Past District Governor of Empire District #6 in New York and a two-term Supreme Governor from 1997-1999. We wish to congratulate him on this outstanding accomplishment. Axios!!

AHEPA Congressional Banquet

In March 2008 the Order of AHEPA will hold its Biennial Congressional Dinner in Washington, DC. Please look for details in upcoming issues of the AHEPAN magazine and the Yankee News. Order of AHEPA Yankee District News c/o John Grossomanides 8 Mohegan Trail Westerly, RI 02891 NON PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 63 Westerly, RI 02891

AHEPA District #7 Yankee News

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Please visit us on our website: www.ahepad7.org

Email news to: yankeenews@ahepad7.org

Next Yankee News Deadline is: November 1, 2007

AHEPA District #7 Fall Conference

Date: Sunday, October 21, 2007

Place: St. George Greek Orthodox Church New Britain, CT

Time: 12 noon-1:00 PM Lunch

1:00 PM Meeting

Hosts: New Britain AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope chapters



From the Tri District Convention (L-R): Harry Psaltis Supreme Governor, Kip Kyprianou District Governor District #7, and John Grossomanides, Supreme Treasurer.