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Remembering “OXI Day”...Greece’s Historic Courage



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«TO BEΛΟΥΧΙ»

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ΕΚΔΟΤΗΣ/ΣΥΝΤΑΚΤΗΣ

Ελευθέριος Κ. Περούλας

ΣΥΜΒΟΥΛΕΥΤΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow Evrytians and Friends,

It is to my great honor that I have been given this opportunity to serve as the first woman president of this highly respected organization. Thank you for the trust you have placed in me. It is my hope when my term is over, that we will all be proud of our accomplishments.

As all of us know, the membership has been dwindling over the past 10- 15 years. It must become for each of us the main goal - not just for our vice-president, but for each chapter president and representative. I will challenge each chapter and find a reward for the chapter that brings in the most new members at the end of my two-year service as president.

We're very excited to have the Greenville Chapter accept the next National Convention, and Mr. James Chulkas, as Chair, chapter president and first vice-president of the Velouchi, along with his committee will do a fantastic job. This chapter has the knowledge and background to do an incredible job.

One of our objectives is to increase awareness of what the Velouchi accomplishes outside of what information is given to our members. And this can be done through informative fliers that can be included, maybe once or twice a year, in each chapter's church bulletin.

Another goal is to increase the advertising in our Velouchi magazine so that we could make its printing and distribution to our members affordable. We all have contacts whereby we can extend our advertising.

Also, we have to update our nearly 10-year old directory - and to include the spouses' name where possible. Chapter assistance will be needed to get this goal completed.

I have always held great admiration for the Velouchi, having spent eight years as the executive secretary, and realize that you, too, hand in hand, will help to realize a stronger, significant and more thriving Evrytanean Association.

With patriotic regards

Laura Nixon
President



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ΜΗΝΥΜΑ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ

Αγαπητά Μέλη Φίλες και Φίλοι,

Είναι μεγάλη τιμή για μένα που μου δώσατε την ευκαιρία να υπηρετήσω, ως η πρώτη γυναίκα πρόεδρος, την αξιοσέβαστη Ένωσή μας. Σας ευχαριστώ για την εμπιστοσύνη σας στο πρόσωπό μου. Είναι ελπίδα μου ότι, όταν τελειώσει η διετής θητεία μου, όλοι μας θα είμαστε περήφανοι για τα επιτεύγματά μας.

Όπως όλοι μας γνωρίζουμε, ο αριθμός των μελών μας μειώνεται τα τελευταία 10-15 χρόνια. Θα πρέπει για τον καθένα από εμάς να γίνει ο κύριος στόχος - όχι μόνο για τον αντιπρόεδρό μας αλλά και για κάθε πρόεδρο και εκπρόσωπο των 18 Τμημάτων μας. Θα προκαλέσω κάθε ένα από τα Τμήματά μας και να βρούμε ένα είδος ανταμοιβής για το Τμήμα εκείνο που θα καταφέρει να εντάξει στην Ένωσή μας τα περισσότερα νέα μέλη μέχρι το τέλος της διετούς θητείας μου ως πρόεδρος.

Είμαστε ιδιαίτερα ενθουσιασμένοι που το Τμήμα του Γκρίνβιλ στη Ν. Καρολίνα αποδέχθηκε να οργανώσει του χρόνου το 72^ο Συνεδριό μας στην έδρα του. Ο πρόεδρος του Τμήματος και αντιπρόεδρος της Ένωσης, κ Δημήτριος Τσόλκας, ως επικεφαλής της Οργανωτικής Επιτροπής του Συνεδρίου, θα κάνει εξαιρετική δουλειά. Τα μέλη αυτού του Τμήματος έχουν τις γνώσεις και το υπόβαθρο για να φέρουν εξαιρετικά αποτελέσματα.

Ένας από τους στόχους μας είναι να αυξηθεί η επίγνωση του τι επιτυγχάνει το Βελούχι πέρα από την πληροφόρηση που παρέχεται περιοδικά στα μέλη μας. Και αυτό μπορεί να γίνει μέσω των πληροφοριακών φυλλαδίων που μπορούν να συμπεριληφθούν, ίσως μία ή δύο φορές το χρόνο, στο ενημερωτικό δελτίο της εκκλησίας καθενός εκ των Τμημάτων μας.

Ένας άλλος στόχος είναι να αυξηθούν οι διαφημίσεις στο περιοδικό μας «Το Βελούχι», έτσι ώστε να ελατώσουμε το κόστος

έκδοσης και αποστολής του στα μέλη μας. Όλοι μας μπορούμε με τις γνωριμίες που έχουμε να βοηθήσουμε στην επίτευξη αυτού του σκοπού.

Επίσης, θα πρέπει να ενημερώσουμε και να εκδώσουμε έναν νέο κατάλογο που θα περιλαμβάνει όλα τα μέλη μας καθώς και τα ονόματα των συζύγων τους εφ' όσον είναι δυνατόν. Για να ολοκληρωθεί το έργο αυτό χρειάζεται οπωσδήποτε η βοήθεια όλων των τμημάτων μας.

Πάντα τρέφω μεγάλο θαυμασμό για το Βελούχι. Υπηρετήσα την Ένωσή μας οκτώ χρόνια ως γραμματέας του Δ.Σ. και έχω συνειδητοποιήσει ότι κι εσείς επίσης, χέρι-χέρι, μπορείτε να συμβάλετε στη δημιουργία μιας ισχυρότερης, πιο σημαντικής και ακμάζουσας Ένωσης Ευρυτάνων Αμερικής «Το Βελούχι».



Greek Orthodox Archdiocese E-bulletin

Prime Minister of Greece Alexis Tsipras Visits Archbishop Demetrios

NEW YORK – His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America met with the Prime Minister of Greece Alexis Tsipras, Oct. 1, 2015, at the headquarters of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. Archbishop Demetrios welcomed the Prime Minister at the entrance and together they entered the chapel of the Archdiocese, where His Eminence showed to Mr. Tsipras the few items that survived the destruction of St. Nicholas Church during the terrorist attacks of September 11.

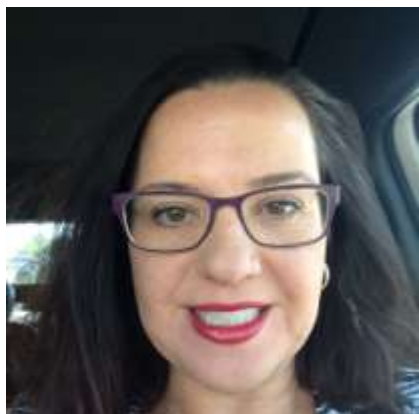


(Left): Archbishop Demetrios explains to Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras the details of rebuilding St. Nicholas at Ground Zero.

(Right): Archbishop Demetrios presented to Prime Minister Tsipras the few items that survived the destruction of St. Nicholas Church during the terrorist attacks of September 11.

(photos by D. Panagos?GOA).

==ΟΥΓΑΤΕΡΕΣ ΕΥΡΥΤΑΝΙΑΣ==

President's Message

Dearest Evrytanians,

I hope that this letter finds you all well and happy. In my first letter to you I had been President for only a few days and was very "green". In the weeks since then, I can say that I'm still a little green, but it's a darker shade. I've been overwhelmed with the support given to me as I try to learn as much as I can about the Daughters of Evrytania history and where you would like us to head in the future.

Paula Apostopoulos, Helen Clonaris, and Olga Kleto have been providing me with lots of information and several of us are meeting in October for a brainstorming and "get Joy up to speed" session. I'm so grateful for their generosity with their time and talents. I attended my first Board Meeting of the Evrytania Association yesterday in Charlotte. It was a wonderful afternoon and I am humbled to be with a group of such dedicated and enthusiastic advocates.

Demetri, Alexandra, and I have a trip planned to Greece in November. We will visit Evrytania and to say that I am excited would be an understatement. I know that the needs are great in the Region and I hope to be able to better understand them after a visit.

President Jimmy Carter says: "My faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference."

I love this quote and I believe that if we all do what we can, where we are, with what we have that great

things will happen. So, I'm going to ask all of you reading this a favor. Is your Daughters of Evrytania membership current? If not, please reactivate it. If you have never joined, please do so now. Are you not sure how to do that? Contact me at Joy.Dascalakis@Volvo.com or at 336-210-0726 and I will help you do it. Your parents and grandparents from Evrytania have done amazing things; let's continue those great things together.

Ευχαριστώ.

Joy Dascalakis, President

P.S. If you haven't watched the Velouchi DVD then watch it with your family. It's excellent!



Daughters of Evrytania new elected Officers: From left to right: Olga Kleto, Membership Chairman; Mary Ann Contogiannis, outgoing President; Helen Clonaris, Treasurer; Paula Apostolopoulos, Secretary; Liz Contogiannis, Vice President; Joy Dascalakis, newly elected President.

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CHAPTER #2*«Markos Botsaris»***FAYETTEVILLE, NC***==Της κ. Μαρίας Κουτσοπούλου==***♣ΓΕΝΗΣΗ♣**

Στις 6 Φεβρουαρίου 2015 το ζεύγος Κων/νος και Κων/να Φραγκάκη απέκτησαν το πρώτο τους παιδάκι, ένα χαριτωμένο αγοράκι. Το νεογέννητο είναι εγγονάκι του Θωμά και της Μαρίας Φραγκάκη από την πόλη μας και του αείμνηστου Γιάννη και Μαρίας Γαλλή (Gallins) από το Γουίνστον-Σάλεμ. Επίσης, είναι δισέγγονο των Κων/νου και της Μαργαρίτας Φλώρου και της Μαρίας Γαλλή από το Γουίνστον-Σάλεμ.

*Να σας ζήσει και να γεμίζει
με ευτυχία το σπιτικό σας.*

♣ΓΑΜΟΣ♣

Στις 8 Φεβρουαρίου, τα αγαπητά μας μέλη **Θωμάς Τσιάρας και Στέλλα Αναγνωστοπούλου** έδωσαν αμοιβαία υπόσχεση γάμου. Το μυστήριο τελέστηκε στις 5 Ιουλίου 2015 στον Ιερό Ναό των Αγίων Ευρυτάνων στο Καρπενήσι με κουμπάρους τους Sammy και Σπυριδούλα Μπάλλα. Ο Θωμάς είναι γιός του Κων/νου και της Ελευθερίας Τσιάρα από το Γουίνστον-Σάλεμ και η Στέλλα είναι κόρη του Γεωργίου και της Ελένης Αναγνωστοπούλου από την ενορία μας, Ακολούθησε

===NEWS FROM CHAPTERS===

θαυμάσια δεξίωση στο πολυτελές ξενοδοχείο «Μοντάνα» με γνήσια ελληνικά φαγητά και γλυκά καθώς και υπέροχη μουσική με παραδοσιακά ελληνικά τραγούδια.

Ευχόμαστε στους νεόνυμφους «Βίον Ανθόσπαρτον» και καλούς απογόνους.

♣ΣΥΓΧΑΡΗΤΗΡΙΑ♣

Συγχαρητήρια για την επιτυχή διεξαγωγή του 71^{ου} Ετήσιου Συνεδρίου της Ένωσης Ευρυτάνων Αμερικής «Το Βελούχι» στην πόλη Myrtle Beach της Νότιας Καρολίνας.

Συγχαρητήρια επίσης στους κ.κ. **Γεώργιο Νταή και Αθανάσιο Σκεντέρη** για τη βράβευσή τους από τον απερχόμενο πρόεδρο Ιωάννη Γ. Πεσλή ως ελάχιστο δείγμα



αναγνώρισης της δημιουργικής συνεργασίας τους και στήριξής τους στις προσπάθειες του κ. Πεσλή για την επίτευξη των στόχων της Ένωσης κατά τη διάρκεια της τετραετούς θητείας του.

Συγχαρητήρια στις φοιτήτριές μας **Μαργαρίτα Γκρίφιν και Φρόσω Σκεντέρη** για την επιβράβευσή τους με ετήσιες υποτροφίες από την Ένωση και τις Θυγατέρες Ευρυτανίας. Ευχόμαστε και σε ανώτερα και κάθε επαγγελματική καταξίωση.

Συγχαρητήρια και στο νέο Δ.Σ 2015-2016 του τοπικού μας Τμήματος «Μάρκος Μπότσαρης»: **Alfred Barefoot (Πρόεδρος), Fr. Alexander Papagikos (Αντιπρόεδρος), Chris T. Vlahos (Γραμματέας), Paul Kanos (Ταμίας), George Anagnostopoulos (Αντιπρόσωπος στο Εθνικό Διοικ. Συμβούλιο), Tasos Hasapis (Αντιπρόσωπος στο Εθνικό Διοικ. Συμβούλιο).**



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===ΝΕΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΑ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΑ===

CHAPTER #2
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

==OBITUARY==

ΚΩΝ/ΝΟΣ
ΣΤΑΘΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ
1921-2015

Την 1^η Ιουλίου 2015 απεβίωσε σε ηλικία 94 ετών ένα εκλεκτό μέλος της ενορίας μας, ο Κων/νος Σταθόπουλος. Ο αείμνηστος γεννήθηκε στο Νόστιμο Ευρυτανίας, σπούδασε στην Αθήνα και στη συνέχεια υπηρέτησε τον ελληνικό στρατό ως ασυρματιστής. Το 1951 ήρθε στην Αμερική και ασχολήθηκε με επιχειρήσεις εστιατορίων. Ήταν ιδιοκτήτης για πολλά χρόνια του εστιατορίου «New York». Ήταν παντρεμένος με την Παναγιώτα (Penny) Κάππα για 62 συναπτά έτη. Απέκτησαν μια κόρη, την πρεσβυτέρα Μαρία Πάππα και δυο γιούς, το Σπύρο και τον αείμνηστο Δημήτρη.

Ο Κωνσταντίνος υπήρξε ένα από τα πιο ενεργά μέλη της κοινότητάς μας και διετέλεσε και μέλος του κοινοτικού της συμβουλίου. Ήταν επίσης μέλος της ΑΧΕΠΑ και της Ένωσης Ευρυτάνων Αμερικής «Το Βελούχι». Αγαπούσε το διάβασμα και τη μάθηση και ήταν πολύ ευγενικός και αγαπητός άνθρωπος όχι μόνο στην οικογένειά του αλλά και στους συνανθρώπους του.

Στη σύζυγό του Παναγιώτα, στην κόρη του, πρεσβυτέρα Μαρία και το γαμπρό του π. Αγγελο Πάππα, το γιό του Σπύρο, τ' αδελφία του Χρήστο και Γιάννη Σταθόπουλο και τις οικογένειές

τους, στα εγγόνια του και στο δισέγγονό του εκφράζουμε τα θερμά μας συλλυπητήρια.
Ας είναι αιωνία η μνήμη του!

♣ΣΥΛΛΥΠΗΤΗΡΙΑ♣

Εκφράζουμε τα θερμά μας συλλυπητήρια στην πρεσβυτέρα Ανθούλα Εμμανουήλ και στην Ευσταθία Σαλούπη για τον θάνατο της αδελφής τους στην Ελλάδα.



===NEWS FROM CHAPTERS===

CHAPTER #3

«Ο Πλάτανος»

WINSTON-SALEM, NC

==Της Αλεξάνδρας Σκυλοδήμου==

♣ΓΕΝΝΗΣΕΙΣ♣

Συγχαρητήρια στους:

- **Σπύρο και Στέλλα Στραβομούτη** για τη γέννηση της κόρης τους **Έλενας Βικτωρίας**. Περήφανοι παππούδες και γιαγιάδες είναι ο Παύλος & Δέσποινα Στραβομούτη και Δημήτρης & Ελένη Χονδρού από το Φέγετβιλ της Β. Καρολίνας.
- **Μαρία & Θεόδωρο Κ. Καζάκο** για την γέννηση της κόρης τους, Ruby Virginia, στις 31 Ιουλίου 2015.



Περήφανοι παππούδες και γιαγιάδες είναι ο Κωνσταντίνος & Ευαγγελία Καζάκου και ο Λάμπρος & Ρουμπίνη Ζιώγα.

Να σας ζήσουν τα νεογέννητα.

♣ΓΑΜΟΙ♣

Συγχαρητήρια στους:

- **Θεόδωρο Ζιώγα και Θεοφανία Λεώνη** για το γάμο τους στις 6 Ιουνίου 2015 στην Φλόριδα με κουμπάρο τον Θεόδωρο Πρίτση.
- **Θωμά Τσιάρα και Στέλλα Αναγνωστοπούλου** για τον γάμο τους στην Ελλάδα στις 5 Ιουλίου 2015 με κουμπάρους τους Σεραφεΐμ & Σπυριδούλα Μπαλατσιά.

*Τους ευχόμαστε
«Βίον Ανθόσπαρτον»*

CHAPTER #4 «Ο Έλατος» - CHARLOTTE, NC

==Της κ. Ιωάννας Κατεργάρη==

Οι Ευρυτάνες στη Σάρλοτ τίμησε την μνήμη της Παναγίας Προυσιώτισσας

Στις 23 Αυγούστου 2015 οι Ευρυτάνες της Σάρλοτ γιόρτασαν με ιδιαίτερη χαρά και ευλάβεια την προστάτιδά τους Παναγία Προυσιώτισσα στο όμορφο εκκλησάκι «Παναγία Προυσιώτισσα» στο Πάρκο Έλατος του τοπικού τμήματος. Όπως κάθε χρόνο, έτσι και φέτος, οι εκδηλώσεις του διήμερου ξεκίνησαν την παραμονή με Εσπερινό και ανήμερα ετελέσθη Θεία Λειτουργία με ιερέα τον νέο προϊστάμενο του Καθεδρικού Ναού Αγίας Τριάδας, π. Ευάγγελο Αρτεμά, στον οποίον εκφράζουμε τις θερμότερες ευχαριστίες μας. Μετά τη Θεία Λειτουργία της Κυριακής προσφέρθηκε εξαιρετικό γεύμα και γλυκά στους 400 περίπου πιστούς Ευρυτάνες και φίλους. Το γεύμα ήταν προσφορά της οικογένειας του αιμνήστου Θεοφύλλου Φωτόπουλου. Εκφράζουμε τις εγκάρδιες ευχαριστίες μας προς την οικογένεια.

Το μεταλλικό στέγαστρο του προαυλίου της εκκλησίας (60X80 πόδια) έγινε ήδη πραγματικότητα. Θερμότατα ευχαριστήρια στους δωρητές μας που κάλυψαν το μεγαλύτερο κόστος του μεταλλικού αυτού στεγάστρου. Θέλουμε όμως ν' απευθύνουμε έκκληση σε όλα τα μέλη και φίλους μας να συνδράμουν οικονομικά στην αποπληρωμή του υπόλοιπου ποσού. Ειδική πλάκα θα αναρτηθεί σε ειδικό και εμφανή χώρο του στεγάστρου με τα ονόματα όλων όσων πρόσφεραν για την κατασκευή του.



===ΝΕΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΑ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΑ===

CHAPTER #4 - CHARLOTTE, NC

Κοσμοσυρροή στη γιορτή της Παναγίας Προυσιώτισσας στο «Πάρκο Έλατος»



♣BIRTH♣

Peter and Sophia Thomopoulos proudly announce the birth of their daughter **Jenna Patricia** on July 23rd, 2015 at 10:47am. She was 7lb 6oz. Her big sister is Adrienne.



Her grandparents are John and Noula Hondros, Patricia Thomopoulos, and Andrianos Thomopoulos.

Να σας ζήσει το αγγελούδι!

===NEWS FROM CHAPTERS===

CHAPTER #4 CHARLOTTE, NC

==OBITUARY==

Frances Pistolis 1934-2015



Frances Pistolis, age 81, of Charlotte, NC passed away on July 25, 2015. Frances had a long and happy life. She grew up in Greece, where she had three sisters and two brothers.

At 14, she came to the United States and lived with her brother Sam. She and Sam have a special relationship since they started together in the United States and he is her only living brother. She lived in Houston, TX but later moved to Charlotte.

She was set up on a date with Jim Pistolis and she "thought he looked good". Soon after they were married and were happy together for 40 years. She often said how lucky she got when she was fixed with Jimmy.

She and Jim had two sons, George Jim and Gus Jim. Frances loved being a mother and wife. She enjoyed many happy times on the farm property they owned- with the kids and in the garden.

Frances and Jim also ran a successful restaurant "Jakes" in uptown Charlotte for 30 years. She enjoyed working and the people there. Jake's was a family restaurant. Her sister Nia later moved to the United States and worked there along with her brother, Sam.

Frances had many happy years involved in church at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral- that she loved so much. Church, children, work, friends, holidays, baking, gardening, visiting,

watching sports with Jim – for a small lady she got a lot done!

Later on the boys married and grandchildren came- She had Demi, Kate, Jacob, Joshua, Maria and Georgia. She loved the grandkids and had many special times with each of them.

As she and Jim grew older, his health declined and he passed away. This is an event that Frances has never recovered from. Even though she lived for another 9 years she was never the quite the same. She has missed Jimmy and has lived with a broken heart. In her last years she spent lots of time with Demi and Kate. She had a special relationship with the "the girls". They kept her going many times.

Frances will be sorely missed by her family but how wonderful the life she enjoyed. She is survived by her two sons George J. Pistolis (Dena) and Gus J. Pistolis (Christie). Frances is also survived by her 6 grandchildren and her three sisters, Nia (George) Patronis, Litsa (Tom) Tsoukas and Voula (John) Kontopanos and her brother Sam (Carolyn) Daise. She was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years Jim Pistolis.



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===ΝΕΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΑ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΑ===

CHAPTER #4 CHARLOTTE, NC

CONGRATULATIONS TO



Cate Luzio Katergaris

In the September issue of the "American Banker," there is a great article on Cate Luzio Katergaris, the daughter-in-law of our hard working Velouchi members, George and Joanna Katergaris, and wife of their son, Mike Katergaris. The article deals with the 25 most powerful women in Banking, and Cate ranks up there with the best.

Cate Luzio, who in business keeps her maiden name, is Head of Global International Subsidiary Banking Client Coverage, Global Commercial Banking, HSBC.

Cate Luzio takes a local approach to international banking, and believes in hiring bankers who know their markets — Nigerian bankers in Nigeria, Turkish bankers in Turkey, Brazilian bankers in Brazil. At her last job with JPMorgan Chase, she led the establishment of eight new branches of the bank's women's network, including in countries across the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Partly through her efforts, JPMorgan Chase became the first international bank with a women's group in Saudi Arabia — a real achievement in a country where women's rights are limited.

She was tapped last month to coordinate HSBC Group's work across the globe with the affiliates of multinational corporations it banks, a job giving her oversight over the bank's operations in 62 countries.

She's held similar roles overseeing North and South America for HSBC and Europe, Africa and the Middle East for JPMorgan Chase.

Joining HSBC last year brought the New Jersey native home after seven years in London.

Two other experiences at international startups — or quasi startups — set her career in motion. The first was in China, where a (literal) startup sent her shortly after college to hash out partnerships with local telecom companies, despite her unfamiliarity with the country and its language.

"It set my career on fire a little bit," she says. "One, I was very young, and two, I was a female in a country and a culture where that wasn't the norm" in business.

Her entrée to finance took place in Mexico City, where the credit-card issuer MBNA sent her to help build a partnership with a Mexican bank.

"The younger women coming into financial services are craving leadership," she says. "They like to see women who are successful, whether you're 39 or 59. It's also great for me to learn from the challenges they're facing."



Παρασκευή, 4 Σεπτεμβρίου 2015

Να τα χιλιάσει! Τα κεράκια των 100 χρόνων της έσβησε η κα Ελένη Αντωνοπούλου



Έναν αιώνα ζωής συμπλήρωσε τον Ιούνιο του 2015 η κα Ελένη Αντωνοπούλου, μητέρα της Ιωάννας Κατεργάρη από τη Σάρλοτ της Β. Καρολίνας. Τα εκατοστά γενέθλια της πάντα χαμογελαστής γιαγιάς γιορτάστηκαν με ένα πάρτι έκπληξη που ετοίμασαν οι συγγενείς της σε γνωστή ταβέρνα της Ποταμιάς, εκεί όπου η αιωνόβια έσβησε τούρτα γενεθλίων πάνω στην οποία δέσποζε ο αριθμός «100», όσα και τα χρόνια της.

Η κα Αντωνοπούλου ζει στο Γηροκομείο Καρπενησίου και όπως λένε τα παιδιά της (ζουν στην Αθήνα, Αυστραλία και Αμερική) διατηρεί πλήρη πνευματική διαύγεια, είναι ετοιμόλογη και γεμάτη χιούμορ.

Εμείς της ευχόμαστε να τα χιλιάσει!

===NEWS FROM CHAPTERS===

==OBITUARY==

Theofilos D. Fotopoulos 1938-2015



Theofilos Demetrios Fotopoulos, of Charlotte, passed away peacefully in his home, on Sunday, August 16, 2015. The youngest of

five children, Theofilos was born in Tourkoleka, Arkadias to the late Demetrios and Despina Fotopoulos. Theofilos graduated from the Naval Academy of Athens and rose to the rank of first lieutenant before retiring from the navy. He immigrated to the United States in 1967 and was sponsored and warmly welcomed by his late brother Konstantinos.

Theofilos was a long standing member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral and he served as a parish council member. He lived according to the teachings of the Orthodox Church imparting Christian values to his children through his example. He taught unconditional love, importance of gratitude, the value of hard work, the power of humility, compassion and philanthropy. He was proud of his American citizenship and grateful for the opportunities he found in this country. With faith as his compass, he found the courage to achieve his dream to establish and successfully operate his own businesses.

In 1977, he partnered with George Couchell and opened the Mr. C's restaurant in downtown Charlotte, which he operated until 1991. In 1982, he opened the Lake Wylie Fish Camp Restaurant in Rock Hill, SC which he operated until his retirement in 2000. He enjoyed taking care of his customers and

greeting each of them by first name with his genuine smile. His dealings with others were always characterized by his integrity and kindness.

Theofilos was also a long-time member of the Evrytanian Association Elatos Chapter 4. The week following his death and funeral, the Fotopoulos family attended the Panagia Prousiotissa Picnic at Elatos Park, at which they donated all the food to all members and friends attended. They knew he would have wanted them to proceed with this kindest of gestures. It was an emotional day for all his family and his Evrytanian friends.

Theofilos was most proud of his family and the life he built with his loving wife of 45 years, Andromache (nee Fragakis). Theofilos is survived by his wife, children Despina (Tina) Apostolopoulos and husband Dimitrios, Efrosini (Effie) Fotopoulos and his most precious in his heart grandchildren Stavroula (Stacy) and Theoharis (Henry) Apostolopoulos who were blessed to have the most wonderful and loving grandfather "Pappou".

May his memory be eternal!



A Tribute to Georgia Georgoulakos *Spouse, Mother, Teacher, Philanthropist, Friend and Mentor.*



1943-2015

Georgia Georgoulakos, Charlotte, NC, was so many things to so many people. She motivated those who knew her with her vivacious personality. She was a compassionate person and her smile was contagious.

Her students at the Holy Trinity Greek School will remember her as a loving and caring educator.

The community will remember her for her hospitality and warmth she exuded during the many years she worked the "Kafeneion" at the Greek Festival.

The Daughters of Evrytania will remember her as a long-time supporter and contributor. The theatrical productions she directed gave us so much joy and laughter.

Everyone will remember Georgia in their own way. She was an inspiration to many and made such a positive impact on people's lives. We will miss her but will never forget her.



In memory of my wife Georgia

Once more if I could see you smile
Just for a minute, for a little while
The heartache within me and the grief
Would instantly vanish beyond belief
I miss you as you'll never know
Life without you is eternal misery and woe
I kiss your angelic face each day
I keep you close to me, I solemnly pray
No one could ask for a better wife
You were the woman of my life
Years may come and years may pass
But it's the memories that last
One day together we both shall be
Together at last eternally

*Dedicated by your husband who loved you
more than anything else in the world.*

*With eternal love,
John Georgoulakos*

==NEA ΑΠΟ ΤΑ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΑ==

CHAPTER #6
“Athanasios Karpenisiotis”
ASHEVILLE, NC

==OBITUARIES==

Maria Apostolopoulos
1918-2015



Maria Apostolopoulos, 96, passed away Thursday, June 4, 2015, surrounded by her family. She was born to the Tsopanakis / Chinoporos family in Agios Andreas, Evrytanas, Greece and immigrated to Asheville in 1966 where her family operated the Athens Restaurant on Merrimon Avenue for 27 years. She was preceded in death by her husband Spiros Apostolopoulos and son Athanasios “Arthur” Apostolopoulos.

She is survived by her son Nicholaos Apostolopoulos of Asheville, daughter-in-law Linda B. Apostolopoulos of Asheville, daughter Chris and her husband Arthur Pappas of Charlotte, son Andy Apostolopoulos from Asheville, and daughter Demetra and her husband Dean Hatjioannou of Charlotte. She is also survived by nine grandchildren, ten great grandchildren, her sister Eula Balomenos of Asheville and numerous nieces and nephews.

Maria was a loving and supportive wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Although small in stature, she was known as “Big Yiayia”. She was an active member of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church for almost 50 years and several other civic organizations within the church.

Funeral services were held on Monday, June 8, 2015 among relatives

and friends. Rev. Michael Diavatis and Rev. Tommy Vlahos (nephew) officiated.
May her memory be eternal.



Ismini A. Dermas
1938-2015



Ismini A. Dermas, age 76, departed us at 9:30 AM on Monday, September 28, 2015 at Memorial Mission Hospital. She was born December 22, 1938 in Karpenisi, Greece a sister city of Asheville.

A resident of Asheville for the past 50 years, Mrs. Dermas was a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.

She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Gus J. Dermas; two sons, John G. Dermas and his wife, Lauren and Yotty Dermas all of Asheville; two granddaughters, Nicole and Maria; two sisters, Pipitsa and her husband, Nikitas and Victoria Kastrinakis (late husband, Theodore) all of Easton, PA; three brothers, John Apostolopoulos and his wife, Bessie of Easton, PA, Constantine Apostolopoulos and his wife, Zozo of Volos, Greece and George Apostolopoulos (late wife, Eleni) of Athens, Greece.

A devoted wife, wonderful mother and a fantastic Yia Yia who loved her family, she was a God fearing person who was loved and admired by many for her personality, good-hearted kindness and selflessness. She will be dearly missed.



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May 1, 2016

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Save the Date...

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2015

2nd Velouchi
Board of Trustees
Meeting 2015-2016

The Association's Second Board of
Trustees Meeting for 2015-2016
will be held in

WINSTON-SALEM, NC

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2015 @ 1:00 p.m.

===NEWS FROM CHAPTERS===

CHAPTER#7 "Sotira" KNOXVILLE, TN

♣WEDDING♣



Matthew Kotsianas and Kike Kontoes were married on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Atlanta, GA. Matthew is the son of John and Becky Kotsianas, of Knoxville, TN and the grandson of Frank and Helen Kotsianas. Kike is the daughter of Mike and Anna Kontoes of Atlanta, GA. A beautiful reception was held at the Hellenic Center. After a honeymoon to Europe, the couple now resides in Knoxville, TN.

May God give them abundant love and happiness!



CHAPTER #10 "Itia" * WASHINGTON, DC

--By Sotirios Nasios--

On April 19th 2015, the Evrytanan Association of America Chapter 10 "ITIA", together with our brothers from the Roumeliotes society, held a fundraiser to benefit the NEW Building fund of Sts. Constantine and Helen of Washington DC. The event was held at the Hellenic center in Bethesda, Maryland. The fundraiser was a great success as we raised upwards of twenty thousand dollars.



On June 10th Chapter 10 "ITIA" held its annual picnic at Seneca Creek State Park in Gaithersburg, Maryland. It was a hot day with brief thunderstorms in the evening, but that did not stop us from having a great event! Plenty of people came out, including our past National President Mr. John Peslis with his

wife and friends. With plenty of good food, music, and dancing, we had a memorable day. Thank you to all that participated.



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==NEA AΠO TA TMHMATA==

CHAPTER #10
WASHINGTON, DC

==OBITUARY==

Panos P. Siatis

October 6, 1927-July 7, 2015



Panayotis ("Panos") Periclis Siatis was born on October 6, 1927, in Agrinion, Greece, the eldest of seven children of Periclis and Eleni Siatis. He was raised in Agrinion, spending much time laboring on his family's farm in a village in the outskirts of Agrinion, called Zapandi. He served as First Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers in the Greek Army from 1950-1951. He earned a degree in Electromechanical Engineering from the National Polytechnic School of Athens in 1952. After two years working for the Public Power Corporation Omnium in Patras, Greece, he attended the Ecole d'Electricite Industrielle de Paris in Paris, France from 1954-1956.

In 1957, Panos traveled to the United States to continue his education. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida in 1960. Upon graduation, Panos enjoyed a successful 35-year career as an electrical engineer at A.D. Ring and Associates Radio Consulting Engineers (Washington, D.C., 1960-1963), Kershner & Wright International Consulting Engineers (Alexandria, Virginia, 1963-1968), and the United States government agency Voice of America (Washington, D.C., 1968-1995). In his role as antenna engineer with the

Voice of America for over 25 years, Panos designed, planned, supervised and led teams constructing high-powered high and medium wave antenna systems in a number of locations across the globe, including in Africa, Greece, Bahrain, the Philippines, England, Morocco, and in multiple sites in North America and Central America. Panos also had the unique experience of visiting Cuba in December 1982-January 1983 on assignment from the Voice of America.

On May 11, 1963, Panos married Koula (also known as "Bessie") Karagianni, born in Athens, Greece, after meeting her in Charlotte, North Carolina, where Koula was working after obtaining her Bachelor of Education from Queens College. Panos and Koula settled in Northern Virginia, and during their 52 years of a wonderful marriage, they had four children and five grandchildren. Beyond his successful career and devotion to his extended family, Panos was a generous benefactor to his hometown in Greece, helping people in need financially, donating funds for the building of a Church and other buildings in the town and surrounding villages where he was raised. He was a devout Greek Orthodox Christian, faithfully attending Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Falls Church, Virginia, for over 40 years and serving several terms on the Church's Parish Council. He loved music, especially Greek music. He learned to play the drums, piano, and clarinet, making sure that he learned how to play Greek folk music on each instrument. He enjoyed working around the house, cutting down trees to beautify the yard. There was not a broken device, contraption, or automobile that Panos couldn't fix.

Panos is survived by his wife Koula, his children Elaine (married to Steve Trakas), Linda (married to George Moratis), Mary (married to George Charuhas), and Perry, and his grandchildren Grace Trakas, Victoria Trakas, Christian Moratis, Anna Moratis, and Vasiliki Charuhas. Panos was a cherished friend to many around the world. His kindness, humor, and sincere heart will be remembered and missed by all those with whom he came in contact. May his memory be Eternal.



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===NEWS FROM CHAPTERS===

CHAPTER #13 "Evrytania" CHICAGO, IL

Hello from Chicago! Hope you all are doing well. We wanted to send you some pictures from our church. Almost 2 1/2 years ago, our parish suffered a fire caused by a candle that nearly razed the building. Yesterday, we celebrated the reopening of our beautifully renewed sanctuary. Athens Construction oversaw the rehab. Mr. Dimitri Kourkouvis owns the company and he is also the president of our Velouchi Chapter #13 in Chicago.

Below is a picture of our restored church. We had a luncheon after church to celebrate this joyous occasion. The second picture shows us with Dimitri, his wife and sister. Say hi from us to everyone in Charlotte.

With Love,

Lambros and Mary Peroulas



2014 PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Tom Nixon (Chair) * Tassos Hasapis (Vice-Chair), George Davis * Chris Poulos * John Poulos

We wish everyone a blessed Lenten Season and Pascha as we again remember our children with special needs in Evrytania. Thanking you for the past donations, we ask for your support to continue this program. We hope this plea will again touch your most philanthropic and Christian emotions.

The Welfare Department of Evrytania and the representative committee of our association, specifically Mr. Pantelis Vlachos, select which children qualify to be in this program. Qualifying needs are that the child:

- is in a family receiving welfare
- is under 18 years of age
- has a chronic physical or mental disability that requires medical and family attention and fulltime care

For these children that need extra help, even though in Greece medical help is free, taking the child for treatments or therapy usually costs a parent his job. Parents who are on welfare cannot afford a trip to the "big city" where help is available. The strain on all the family causes hardships that we can relieve with as little money as we spend on "one night out".

You may send in any amount you wish, but for \$1500 a year you may "adopt" a specific child for the year. If you have any questions about this program or a specific "adoption", you may communicate with our Association Headquarters at 1-800-307-4795. This is a 100% + interest earning donation (the money earns interest while the family withdraws \$250 every other month). Evrytanes always stand by the less fortunate, and in giving joy and relief, are thanking God for their own good fortune.

We hope all Evrytanes will continue to support this program. It is a special honor to donate to this project. The Children with Special Needs program has given our association recognition for our caring philanthropy.

I would like to make a donation to the Children with Special Needs Program in the amount of: \$20 \$50 \$100 other \$

I would like to "adopt" a child in the Special Needs Program \$1,500

At this time our funds can support only 10 children in the program. We used to have 15. According to the Committee Chairman's findings, there are more children who qualify to enroll in the program if our Association could provide the additional funds needed.

We need additional contributions to increase the number of children serviced.



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===NEA ΑΠΟ ΤΑ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΑ===

CHAPTER #17

“Ο Αετός”

ATLANTA, GA

(By Golfo Vastakis)

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church was honored again this year to have Mr. Jimmy Caras of Atlanta bring the Panayia Prousiotissa Icon to Macon, GA on August 15 - 16. A Paraklesis service was held on Saturday night, and on Sunday immediately after the Divine Liturgy celebrated by Rev Father Michael Vastakis, a procession of the venerable Holy Icon took place before the Artoklasia service. A celebratory luncheon followed in the Parish House.



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===NEWS FROM CHAPTERS===

CHAPTER #18 "O Agios Taxiarchis" CAMP HILL, PA

♣Annual Evrytanian Picnic♣

This year's annual picnic brought together many members of the Velouchi "O Agios Taxiarchis" Chapter #18, Camp Hill, PA. Blue skies and warm temperatures on Sunday, September 20, 2015 made the picnic very enjoyable along with the delicious food and fellowship. The picnic was held at Creekview Park, Camp Hill, PA. We enjoyed visiting and spending time with many Velouchi guests from other states, New Jersey, District of Columbia, Virginia and Kentucky. A 50/50 raffle was held during the event and the winner was Kostas Liappis from Falls Church, Va.



MEMBERSHIP DUES - Dispelling a Myth

We would like to take this opportunity to dispel the misconception that senior citizens are exempt from paying their annual dues to the Association and their local chapter. After researching, we found no past decisions or by-laws stating senior citizens are exempt from paying Association dues. Therefore, anyone wishing to be in good standing may pay their annual Evrytanian Association dues regardless of age.

Bobby Tsiabassis
Velouchi Second Vice President



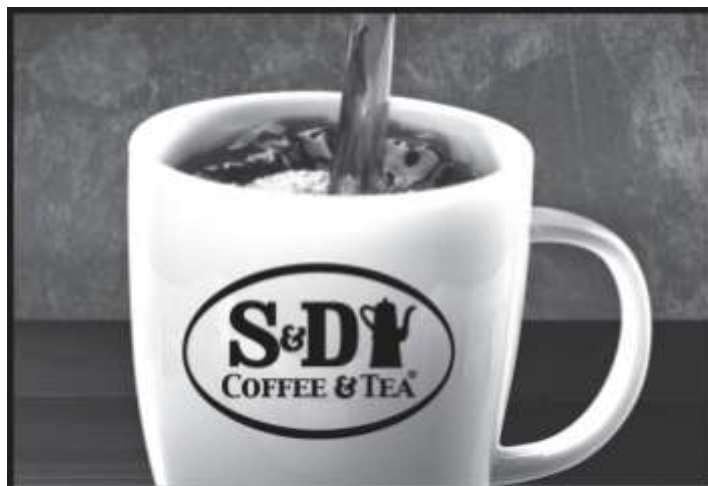
Father Michael Varvarelis gives a short greeting to the members before offering the prayer.



Father Varvarelis with President Tom Paparoidamis and the winner of the 50/50 raffle, Kostas Liappis.



Members and guests sitting at the tables enjoying the delicious lambs prepared by John Peslis as well as many other wonderful delicacies.



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Velouchi Chapter 9 "Kefalovriso" in Greenville, SC is the host for our 2016 National Convention



Dear Fellow Evrytanes,

It is my pleasure to announce that Velouchi Chapter 9 "Kefalovriso" will host the 2016 Evrytanian Association Convention in Greenville, S.C., during the weekend of June 17-19, 2016. Preparations are underway to make this our best convention yet.

The Convention Committee has developed many ideas to please all age groups of our proud association with special emphasis being placed on the entertainment of our youth. We are planning a full weekend of activities for the young and "not so young" to enjoy.



Greenville, S.C. is an exciting city in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains midway between Charlotte and Atlanta. Our award winning downtown offers a vibrant atmosphere of restaurants, shops, museums, parks, theaters and night life, and boasts a beautiful cascading waterfall running right under Main Street through the center of town which can be viewed from the graceful pedestrian suspension bridge spanning the falls. Along with Greenville's forward thinking business



community featuring BMW's American manufacturing plant for its X series SUVs and Michelin's North American Headquarters, it is no wonder Greenville ranks in the Top 10 Cities to live in the United States.

From athletic tournaments and excursions during the day to exciting nightlife and the latest Greek music and dancing at night, we promise satisfaction and "kefi" for everyone. Come join family and friends for a weekend of fun as we celebrate our Evrytanian heritage here in America.

Velouchi Chapter 9 "Kefalovriso" looks forward to welcoming you to our fair city of Greenville, S.C., on June 17-19, 2016, and hopes you make every effort to join us as we host the 2016 Evrytanian Association Convention.

Respectfully yours,

*James N. Chulkas
Chapter 9 President*

===NEWS FROM EVRYTANIA===

Velouchi Scholarships in Evrytania

—Του κ. Παντελή Βλάχου—

Την Τρίτη, 5 Αυγούστου 2015 πραγματοποιήθηκε, στο Ίδρυμα Κοινωνικής Πρόνοιας Ευρυτανίας, η εκδήλωση απονομής των ετήσιων υποτροφιών της Ένωσης Ευρυτάνων Αμερικής προς τους αριστεύσαντες απόφοιτους 2014-2015 των Γενικών Λυκείων και ΕΠΑΛ του Νομού Ευρυτανίας.

Την ωραία αυτή εκδήλωση τίμησαν με την παρουσία τους οι ιερείς π. Νικ. Σταμούλης και π. Γεώργιος Χρυσάφογεώργος, η νεοεκλεγείσα πρόεδρος της Ένωσης Ευρυτάνων, κ. Ελευθερία Νικοπούλου, ο πρώην πρόεδρος της Ένωσης, κ. Αθανάσιος Νικόπουλος, ο Αντιπεριφερειάρχης της Περιφερειακής Ενότητας Ευρυτανίας, κ. Ατιστείδης Τσιός, ο πρώην Αντιπεριφερειάρχης Ευρυτανίας, κ. Βασίλειος Καραμπάς, ο Δήμαρχος Καρπενησίου, κ. Νικόλαος Σουλιώτης, ο πρόεδρος του Δ.Σ. του Κέντρου Κοινωνικής Πρόνοιας Στερεάς Ελλάδας, κ. Νικ. Λυκοκάκης, πρώην πρόεδροι του Ιδρύματος, ο πρόεδρος του Φιλεκπαιδευτικού Συλλόγου, κ. Παν. Παπαδημητρίου, εκπρόσωποι υπηρεσιών, συλλόγων και φορέων του Νομού, εκπαιδευτικοί, γονείς, μαθητές και πολλοί Ομογενείς Ευρυτάνες.

Την εκδήλωση χαιρέτισε ο Αντιπρόσωπος του Βελουχιού στην Ελλάδα και πρόεδρος της Επιτροπής Υποτροφιών της Ένωσης στο Καρπενήσι, κ. Παντελής Βλάχος, ο οποίος με γλαφυρότητα και ιδιαίτερη συγκίνηση εξέθεσε τους σκοπούς της Ένωσης και την συνεχή φιλανθρωπική και εκπαιδευτική προσφορά της στη πατρίδα Ευρυτανία.

Εκ μέρους των βραβευθέντων μαθητών και μαθητριών μίλησε η Ελένη Μαυρογόνату, η οποία έδωσε έμφαση στη σπουδαιότητα των υποτροφιών για την ενθάρρυνση των αποφοίτων για μεγαλύτερες κατακτήσεις στην ακαδημαϊκή και επαγγελματική τους πορεία.

Το χρηματικό ποσό των 5000 δολαρίων ΗΠΑ (κατανεμημένο ισόποσα) και οι τιμητικοί έπαινοι απονεμήθηκαν αντίστοιχα στους εξής απόφοιτους των

Γενικών Λυκείων και ΕΠΑΛ της Ευρυτανίας:

1. Μαυρογόνату Ελένη του Στυλιανού του Γεν. Λυκείου Καρπενησίου
2. Μοτσιόλας Βασίλειος του Σιδέρη του Γεν. Λυκείου Καρπενησίου.
3. Νούλα Ευρυδίκη του Παναγιώτη του Γεν. Λυκείου Καρπενησίου.
4. Χορμόβα Χριστίνα του Δημητρίου του Γεν. Λυκείου Καρπενησίου.
5. Φαρμάκη Αρετή του Δημητρίου του Γεν. Λυκείου Καρπενησίου.
6. Αβράμπος Αθανάσιος του Νικολάου του 1^{ου} ΕΠΑΛ Καρπενησίου.
7. Μακρής Βασίλειος του Κλεομένη των Λυκ. Τάξεων Κερασχωρίου.
8. Ζαχαράκη Ευανθία του Παύλου των Λυκ. Τάξεων Ραπτοπούλου.
9. Μακρή Ιωάννα του Ευαγγέλου του 1^{ου} ΕΠΑΛ Δυτ. Φραγκίστας.

«ΑΙΕΝ ΑΡΙΣΤΕΥΕΙΝ»



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ΥΠΟΤΡΟΦΙΕΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΝΩΣΗΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΥΡΥΤΑΝΙΑ



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Νομικός σύμβουλος του Δήμου Καρπενήσιου, του Θεραπευτηρίου Χρονίων Παθήσεων Ν. Ευρυτανίας (Γηροκομείο) και πληρεξούσια δικηγόρος της Τράπεζας Εργασίας - EUROBANK ERGASIAS A.E.

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- Τακτοποίηση φορολογικών υποχρεώσεων και εκπροσώπηση πελατών σε δικαστήρια σε όλη την Ελλάδα
- Διόρθωση σφαλμάτων κτηματολογίου και παράσταση σε αγορές και πωλήσεις σε όλη την Ελλάδα

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Remembering “OXI DAY” - Greece’s Historic Courage



OUR MISSION

The Washington Oxi Day Foundation is a nonprofit, 501c3 organization dedicated to informing American policymakers and the public about the profound role Greece played in bringing about the outcome of World War II and celebrating modern day heroes who exhibit the same courage as the Greeks did in continuing to fight to preserve and promote freedom and democracy around the world.

While the OXI DAY story has become more well-known through the efforts of our Foundation, very few realize the reason it was **one of history’s most courageous acts**.

When Greece said “Oxi” (No) to surrender to the Axis Forces in WWII, Greece became one of only two countries in the world opposing Hitler’s Axis Forces. The other country was Great Britain, and they had been sent into retreat across the English Channel. The Axis Forces had crushed all other opposition. The world’s most powerful military, France, fell in just 45 days. Fourteen other countries fell even faster. The Soviet Union had a non-aggression pact with Hitler and America was a neutral nation at the time of Greece’s historic stand. US President Franklin Roosevelt best explained this incredibly admirable courage of the Greek people when he said:

“On the 28th of October 1940, Greece was given a deadline of three hours to decide on war or peace, but even if a three day or three week or three year deadline were given, the response would have been the same. The Greeks taught dignity throughout the centuries. When the entire world had lost all hope, the Greek people dared to question the invincibility of the German monster raising against it the proud spirit of freedom.”

Greece’s “OXI” was an incredible historic accomplishment on its own. But it led to six more historically significant WWII accomplishments of the Greek people. It led to:

- The first defeat of the Axis Forces;
- Hitler losing more Nazis in the first day of the Battle of Crete than in any other day in the year-and-a-half year war;
- Hitler’s elite troops facing the first citizen counterattack on the island of Crete;
- Hitler’s troops encountering on Crete the first battle opposition from large numbers of civilian women;

- The Greek people’s unsurpassed courageous reaction to the Holocaust; and
- Delaying Hitler’s invasion of Russia, causing the Russian and German military leaders to credit Greece with Russia’s victory and Hitler’s ultimate defeat.

Quotes from World Leaders

“When the entire world had lost all hope, the Greek people dared to question the invincibility of the German monster raising against it the proud spirit of freedom.”
FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

“If there had not been the virtue and courage of the Greeks, we do not know which the outcome of World War II would have been.”
WINSTON CHURCHILL

“I have taken up my cross. I spoke to the Lord, and made up my mind to save as many Jewish souls as possible.”
ARCHBISHOP DAMASKINOS OF GREECE

“[We] thank the Greek People, whose resistance decided WWII... You fought unarmed and won, small against big... You gave us time to defend ourselves.”
JOSEPH STALIN

“Historic justice forces me to admit, that of all the enemies that stand against us, the Greek soldier, above all, fought with the most courage.”
ADOLF HITLER

“The Greeks delayed by two or more vital months the German attack against Russia; if we did not have this long delay, the outcome of the war would have been different.”
HITLER’S CHIEF OF STAFF

“Hence, we will not say that Greeks fight like heroes, but that heroes fight like Greeks.”
WINSTON CHURCHILL

Remembering "OXI DAY"



Greece's wonderful Sophia Vembo, like other artists of the time such as Anna Kalouta and Mimi Traiforos, added her magnificent voice to the fight against the occupying forces, and became synonymous with resistance and uprising, thus earning her the title of Singer of Victory -Τραγουδίστρια της Νίκης).



Sofia Vembo

One song which is a feature of nearly all the videos is magnificent Paidia, tis Ellados Paidia, (Sons of Greece) - a particularly

moving patriotic song which inspired everyone, regardless of his or her political affiliation, because it spoke directly to the heart of every Greek in Greece, so 'real' it became the national song of a whole generation.

It talks to the soldiers and their Mothers, women desperately trying to find, or get a glimpse of, their sons. Their sons, the sons of Greece, have been conscripted and are fighting the enemy in the mountains and villages of Greece, and the song urges the mothers not to weep because such faint-heartedness does not suit the temperament of Greek women and mothers; it tells them that they should be as heroic as Souliotisses**, the women of Souli, who joined hands as if in dance and jumped to their death from the heights of Zaloggio, in Epirus, rather than be taken captive by the Turkish troops during the 1821 revolution. (see note and pictures below).

The final chorus tells the soldiers that everyone is praying and waiting for them to return on the wings of victory!

A truly beautiful song.

ΠΑΙΔΙΑ, ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ ΠΑΙΔΙΑ

Μες τους δρόμους τριγυρνάνε,
οι μανάδες και ζητάνε
ν' αντικρίσουνε

τα παιδιά τους π' ορκιστήκαν,
στο σταθμό σαν χωριστήκαν
να γυρίσουνε.

Μα για κείνους πού 'χουν φύγει

και η δόξα τους τυλίγει,
ας χαιρόμαστε
και καμιά ποτέ ας μην κλάψει
κάθε πόνο της ας κλάψει
κι ας ευχόμαστε.

Παιδιά, της Ελλάδος παιδιά,
που σκληρά πολεμάτε
πάνω στα βουνά.
Παιδιά, στη γλυκιά Παναγιά,
προσευχόμαστε όλες,
νά 'ρθετε ξανά.

Λέω σ' όσες ξαγρυπνάνε
και για κάποιον ξενυχτάνε
και στενάζουνε,
πως η πίκρα κι η τρεμούλα
σε μια γνήσια Ελληνοπούλα
δεν ταιριάζουνε.

Ελληνίδες του Ζαλόγγου
και της πόλης και του λόγγου
και Πλακιώτισσες,
όσο κι αν πικρά πονούμε,
υπερήφανα ας πούμε
σα Σουλιώτισσες.

Παιδιά, της Ελλάδος παιδιά,
που σκληρά πολεμάτε
πάνω στα βουνά.
Παιδιά, στη γλυκιά Παναγιά,
προσευχόμαστε όλες,
νά 'ρθετε ξανά.

Με της Νίκης τα φτερά,
σας προσμένουμε παιδιά.



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and applaud its esteemed
commitment to sustain and promote
American and Hellenic values



Μας τιμά που υποστηρίζουμε
«Το Βελούχι»
και επαινούμε τη δέσμευσή του
για την διατήρηση και προώθηση των
Αμερικανικών και Ελληνικών αξιών