

# TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE



Volume 18

Number 1 May 2010

## Tsintzina Society 2010 BOARD of DIRECTORS

- **PRESIDENT:** Eugene Geracimos  
ggeracimos@hotmail.com
- **VICE PRESIDENT:** Stephanie Schlick  
Tsintzinasociety@yahoo.com
- **TREASURER:** James Burlotos  
jamesburlotos@aol.com
- **SECRETARY:** Pauline Costianes  
pnc\_52@hotmail.com

## BOARD MEMBERS

**MEMBERSHIP:** Stephanie Schlick  
Tsintzinasociety@yahoo.com

**REUNION CO-CHAIRMAN DIRECTOR:**  
Olin Johanssen & Athan Laskaris

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George Sfikas  
John Zacharias  
Dr. Skevos Zervos

James Gregory: Alternate  
Nicholas Poulos: Alternate

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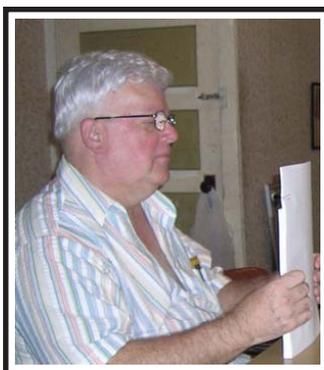
Roger and Christine Volk

## The President's Message:

Dear Tsintzinians,

Greetings! I am hopeful that you've had a good Easter season and are preparing for the late spring and summer.

The following is an update of the happenings of the Society since our Reunion ended last July.



We had an excellent Board Meeting in late October. We made decisions that will allow more time for social activities, competitive activities for all age groups, and business meetings in the late mornings. This will allow more time for Tsintzinians to visit with one another in the mid and late afternoons.

Olin Johanssen and Athan Laskaris are Co-chairmen for the 2010 Reunion.

Many decisions are being made to change event times, which will allow us more time with each other and the best use of our money. We are having dinner starting with a prayer and salad at 5:45pm on both Friday and Saturday evening. The dinner hour will conclude by 7:15pm. The children's talent show will be at 4pm on Saturday under the tent followed by a leisurely cocktail hour. The reasons for the 5:45pm start of dinner are: 1) Allowing 2 ½ to 3 hours before dancing begins at 10pm: 2) In 2008 and 2009 the band started playing at 10pm but not one person was on the dance floor until after 11:00pm. The intent is to allow rest for all, young and old alike and to utilize the \$1000 it cost for music from 10pm to 11pm. Other changes will be made for a more fun time for all.

Other items include: (1) John Zacharias has taken the responsibility of getting us a status of 501(c)(3) that will allow all donations to be tax deductible and eliminates the payment of village, county, and school taxes. While the process may take two years to complete it will eventually cut our annual taxes from \$6000+ to \$0. See article in this Chronicle. (2) Stephanie Soutouras Schlick is responsible for membership and all other fundraising. (3) Jim Burlotos, our new treasurer, is frustrated to say the least. From September 1, 2009 through April 20, 2010 we have collected \$8100+ in dues and the in honor or memory of program. We have spent \$16,400 year to date. The income and

Continued on page 2

## Continued from page 1

expenses for this fiscal year has reduced our Reserve Fund to \$17,000. We still have about 120 members to pay dues and everyone has an opportunity to buy Reunion Raffle tickets. (4) Since 2001 we have renovated the entire facility except the Board room and lowered our natural gas bill by over \$4000 per year. (5) Lastly, I apologize for a great mistake in my judgment. In the 2009 Fall fundraiser, in honor or in memory of program, I set benchmarks of \$75 and up. That was a huge mistake, particularly in our economy. If you have \$20, \$30 or whatever amount and would like to honor or remember someone please mail it to me by August 31, 2010. Those Tsintzinians you honor or remember will be named in our Fall 2010 remembrance book. Again, my apology to all of you.

You and I are aware that our Tsintzinian membership base has expanded from Honolulu to Clearwater to Baton Rouge to Eden Prairie and Old Greenwich. A three or four day vacation to Celoron is competing with all types of

activities and destinations. But, I'd like for you to think for a while about joining us July 29, 30, 31 and August 1 this summer. We do not have a materialistic Sooper Dooper Looper or an Avatar Avenger, but we have a bonding and a camaraderie of near and distant relatives that will last with us forever.

I want to thank the large number of you who financially support the Society and for various reasons you have not been able to attend the Reunion for many, many years. Thanks to you – and to your Moms and Dads who unknowingly gave you that feeling, need, or whatever you want to call it.

May God bless all of you. I hope to see many of you at this year's Reunion.

Gene Geracimos



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## Membership Q&A

Q: What does a **family membership** cost?

A: **Fifty dollars** or a movie and dinner for two.

Q: What does an **individual membership** cost?

A: **Thirty dollars** or a movie and Starbuck's coffee for two.

We want you to be a member in good standing even if you don't attend the reunion every year. We want you to receive the Chronicle. We know times are tough for everyone financially, but your regular support is crucial for the society's survival. Will you consider bringing your membership up to date?

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## SEND US YOUR NEWS

For Publication in the Chronicle

- EMAIL:**  
laskaris@roadrunner.com
- TSINTZINA WEBSITE:**  
www.tsintzinasociety.com
- WRITE TO:**  
Pete Laskaris, 703  
Summit Road, Marion, Ohio  
43302

## WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

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See the  
tsintzinasociety.com  
website and see full size  
pictures from the 2009  
**CONVENTION!!!**

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**2010 Tsintzina Reunion**  
**July 29 – August 1**  
**Thursday – Sunday**  
**(Plan Ahead)**

## BENEFACTORS

Mr. & Mrs. John G. Conomikes  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Costianes  
Ms. Pauline Costianes-Aronica  
Mrs. Helen S. Cummings  
Ms. Constance Dusckas  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene G. Geracimos  
Drs. Darin and Nicole Geracimos  
Drs. Ryan and Eva Geracimos  
Mr. & Mrs. James P. Gianukos  
Mr. & Mrs. A. Everett Hoeg III  
Mrs. Eve Chelekis Macheras  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter G. Macheras  
Mr. Peter B. Nickles  
Mr. & Mrs. Dean John Nickles  
Mr. & Mrs. George N. Papageorge  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Rinaldi  
Mr. & Mrs. John S. Zacharias  
Mr. Sam S. Zacharias  
Mr. James G. Burlotus  
Mr. Nicholas J. Gazetos  
Ms. Joann Lambros Pavlostathis  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas C. Yeotis

## NEW MEMBERS

Laurin Parthemos  
Anna Parthemos  
Ms. Kira Toila

## Attention Members!

If any of your family members are in the service, send their pictures and contact information to [tsintzinasociety@yahoo.com](mailto:tsintzinasociety@yahoo.com).

## Tsintzinian Heritage Society is Founded

For many years, there has been discussion regarding the creation of a tax deductible entity—one that educates people and maintains artifacts of the history of the growth of Greek immigrants coming to America. At the October Tsintzina Society board meeting, it was approved to create the Tsintzinian Heritage Society of America, Inc. So far, it has been incorporated as a not for profit educational organization and we are awaiting final approval of the IRS to become a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization. With this Society, we will be able to share in the operational expenses of the Club House since the board room will become the Society's library and museum. The expenses of the Chronicle will be taken over by the new Society and we will be able to apply for money grants for the renovation of our library and museum and the preservation of our artifacts. Eventually, most of the expenses of the Club House will be paid for by the new Society. At this time, we are asking members to sign on as Founders. You can become a Founder by making a tax deductible donation of \$1,000 to the new Society. So far, John Conomikes, Gene Geracimos, Jim Gianukos, John Zacharias and Sam Zacharias have committed to being named Founders. Other categories of donations are available for a lesser amount. For more information, please contact John Zacharias at 412-497-1776.

**Tsintzinian**  
Heritage Society  
of  
America

**Peter Laskaris**  
**LASKARIS & ASSOCIATES**  
Computer Consultants

703 Summit Road  
Marion, Ohio 43302

Phone: (740)-387-9271  
EMAIL: [laskaris@roadrunner.com](mailto:laskaris@roadrunner.com)



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Only \$25.00 Per Year  
Help Support the Tsintzina Chronicle  
Promote Your Business

## Jamestown and Family

This fall the society lost a very devoted member. Stella Annette Nickles Mavrophilipos past away September 4, 2009. For years Annette was the president of the Women's Auxillary and many of you remember her at each convention engaging in conversation as she made coffee and sold sweets to support the Auxillary. If you were lucky, she would even slip you a shot of Metaxa!



The convention was very important to Annette and she worked hard to make sure that it kept going each year so that her family could enjoy connecting with friends and family. I know that Annette and I would not have had the same relationship or be involved in each

other's lives as much if not for going to the convention each year. I am so thankful that our ancestors provided us with such a great setting for us to get together.

Annette and I were first cousins. Growing up we lived about a 2 hour drive from each other. (Less since the road was improved). But, like many Greek families, our fathers were deeply entrenched in building and maintaining their own businesses. We got together a few times each year for a day here and a day there but it never compared to the time our families enjoyed together in Jamestown the past 15 years.

The convention in Jamestown each year is such a great atmosphere for families getting to know families. Whether you are first, second, or third cousins or loosely related beyond that, the time together dancing, eating and visiting develops strong and lasting family connections.



I will always cherish the time I had in Jamestown with Annette and be thankful that we both took the time and effort to attend for the past 15 years. I hope that Tzintzinians everywhere will begin to attend or support the convention more regularly to take advantage of the unique opportunity that our fellow Tzintzinians started for us over 100 years ago. We have truly been blessed.

Contributions in memory of Annette can be made to the Society. Nothing would delight Annette more than to keep the Society she loved a thriving organization.

Thalia Nickles Johanssen, Dublin, OH

  
**Honored and Remembered  
Tsintzinians**

## Chris Leonidas Costianis

Born Jan. 7, 1931, in Sparta, Greece, a son of the late Leonidas and Polytimi (Sarafis) Costianis, he was a member of Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church in Aliquippa. Mr. Costianis graduated in 1949 from Prometheus College in Athens Greece as an aircraft mechanic and worked for Royal Airlines in Athens. In 1951, he migrated to Ithaca, NY and began working as an aircraft mechanic for Mohawk Airlines. He retired after 42 years as a lead mechanic from US Airways in Pittsburgh.



He married his devoted wife of 51 years, Aleka (Fetanis) Costianis, in 1958. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his beloved children, Leonidas "Lee" Costianis and wife, Eleni (Theofilactidis); Polytimi Vargo and her husband, Stephen; his granddaughter, Sofia Elizabeth Vargo, all of Beaver; a brother and sister-in-law, John and Niki Costianis of Frederick, VA; two sisters, Sophia Tselekis, Ithaca, NY and Venetia Alexis of Florida, and many loving nieces and nephews.

## Family News

### Costianes Son Completes Basic Training

Jeremy Slezak, 24, of Seminole, Florida, has completed Basic Training at Ft. Jackson, SC. He graduated with the Company B, 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment during ceremonies which were held on October 30 at Hilton Field on the base. The soldier's mother, Kathleen Costianes of Seminole, FL, was in attendance.

He will continue AIT training as a Petroleum Specialist at Ft. Lee, Richmond, VA for the next 4 months before receiving orders. Jeremy is expected to travel home to Florida and Michigan during the Christmas holiday. His proud grandparents are Nicholas and Fran Costianes of Albion, MI.

Jeremy is stationed near Seoul, Korea at Yongsan for one year as an E2, Petroleum Specialist.

Contact information:

Jeremy is available on Facebook and Myspace. Send him letters of support at Jsle16@juno.com



### Stella A. Mavrophilipos

Stella Annette Mavrophilipos of Norfolk, Va., passed away on Friday, Sept. 4, 2009, at the age of 56.



Annette was a loving daughter to Marcus and Mosca Nickles, a supportive and courageous wife to

Dimitrios Avgerinos Mavrophilipos, a strong and unyielding mother for her children: Mark, Avgerinos, Mosca, Vasilea and Christina; and a friend to all. Anyone who knew her was touched by her presence. She had a remarkable way of making people feel accepted and loved by her warmth, beauty and radiant smile. She will be greatly missed by everyone.

### Honored & Remembered Continued

#### Robert A. Schirmer

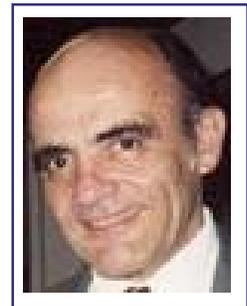
Robert A. Schirmer passed away January 18, 2009.

He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, the son of Charles and Margaret Schirmer.

He is survived by his wife of 26 years the former, Maria Chacona Opolicky; on her side, three children, Vanessa, Michael and Marcus; and four grandchildren.

Bob was one of two students selected from his high school class, West High, for the V 12 program to attend college. He went to the University of Notre Dame where he ran track and was a graduate, Class of 1948. After his service in the Navy, he was hired by General Electric in Syracuse, NY. He became a chief engineer with a specialty in international communication systems.

Bob was a golfer and a skier, enjoyed sports and loved to play the piano and entertain with his repertoire of popular standard tunes. He was fond of the arts, particularly classical music, and was a strong supporter of the symphony, opera and dramatic theatre and other civic foundations in Syracuse, where he made home most of his life. Bob was the epitome of strength, love and gentleness. In the face of the Alzheimer's disease that challenged his beautiful mind and to the very end, he never lost his musical appreciation, his sense of humor and his moral fortitude.



# LODGING

## In Jamestown, NY Area

### Best Western Downtown Jamestown

716-484-8400  
200 West Third Street  
Jamestown, New York,  
14701



### Radisson Hotel

(716) 664-3400  
150 W. 4th Street  
Jamestown, NY 14701

### Comfort Inn Jamestown

(716) 664-592  
2800 N. Main St.  
Extension  
Jamestown, NY 14701

### America's Best Value Inn

(716) 488-1904  
620 Fairmount Avenue  
Jamestown, NY 14701

### Red Roof Inn

(716) 665-3670  
1980 E. Main Street  
Falconer, NY 14733

### Budget Inn

(716) 665-4410  
214 E. Main Street  
Falconer, NY 14733

### Hampton Inn

716-484-7829  
4 West Oak Hill Road,  
Jamestown, NY 14701



## Greek Divorce

The Greek father calls his son a couple of days before Christmas and says, "Niko, I hate to ruin your day, but I must tell you that your mother and I are divorcing - forty-five years of misery is enough."

"Mba mba, what are you talking about?" Niko screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer. We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister Toula and let her know."

Frantic, the son calls Toula, who explodes on the phone. "No way are my loving parents getting divorced!" she shouts.

She calls Dad immediately and screams - - "Patera, you are not getting divorced! Don't do anything until we get there. I'm calling Niko back and we'll be there tomorrow. Do you hear me?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Endaxi," he says, "they're coming home for Christmas and paying their own way."

## Loukoumades Recipe

### Ingredients

250g plain flour  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
3 teaspoons dried yeast  
250ml warm water  
vegetable oil

### Syrup

1 teacup sugar  
1/2 teacup honey  
1/2 teacup water  
1 -2 teaspoons cinnamon

### Preparation

Sift the flour into a large mixing bowl, add the salt and mix the dried yeast into the flour. Using lukewarm water (if its too hot it will kill the yeast), slowly add to the flour, mixing in with an electric mixer until all the water has been added and the mixture is smooth and slightly frothy.

Cover with a clean tea towel and leave it in a warm place for about one hour or until it has doubled in size and it looks frothy. When the doughnut batter is about ready, first make the syrup by adding all the ingredients into a small saucepan, bring to the boil and simmer for about 5 minutes or until lightly thickened. Keep warm to serve hot with the donuts.

To deep fry the donuts you can use a deep-fryer or a deep saucepan. Fill with oil and heat to very hot but not smoking.

Take a teaspoon, dipping it in water first to prevent the mixture sticking, take a teaspoon of mixture and drop it in the hot oil. Cook about 6 - 8 donut puffs at a time, depending on the size of your fryer. The loukoumades will puff up and rise to the top of the oil very quickly. Turn them over and as they turn golden colour, take them out with a slotted spoon and place on some absorbent paper to remove any excess oil. Repeat with the rest of the dough or as many as is needed.

Serve about 4 or 5 of the hot loukoumades on a small plate, drizzle the honey syrup over them and then sprinkle a light dusting of cinnamon over the top.



## Hellenic Museum

By Maria A. Karamitsos  
The National Herald CHICAGO.



Since opening its doors in 1992, Chicago's Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center has welcomed thousands of visitors, exhibited works from multiple genres and showcased countless artists. Now, on the eve of the groundbreaking of its sleek 40,000 square foot facility, the museum has re-branded and refocused initiatives to extend the reach of the museum far outside Chicago. It is truly a national treasure.

## Greek American History

The first Greek known to have arrived on U.S. soil was a man named Don Theodoro, who landed on Florida with the Narváez expedition in 1528. He died during the expedition, as did most of his companions.

In 1592, Greek captain Juan de Fuca (Ioannis Fokas or Apostolos Valerianos) sailed up the Pacific coast under the Spanish flag, in search of the fabled Northwest Passage between the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean. He reported discovering a body of water, a strait which today bears his name. The Strait of Juan de Fuca forms part of the International Boundary between the United States and Canada.

In 1768, about 500 Greeks from Smyrna, Crete and Mani settled in New Smyrna Beach, Florida. The colony was unsuccessful, and the settlers moved to St. Augustine, Florida in 1776, where their traces were lost to history.

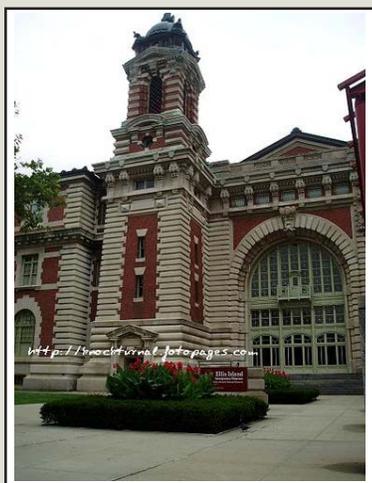
The first significant Greek community to develop was in New Orleans, Louisiana during the 1850s. By 1866, the community was numerous and prosperous enough to have a Greek consulate and the first Greek Orthodox Church in the United States<sup>[9]</sup>. During that period, most Greek immigrants to the New World came from Asia Minor and those Aegean Islands still under Ottoman rule. By 1890, there were almost 15,000 Greeks living in the U.S.

Immigration picked up again in the 1890s, due largely to economic opportunity in the U.S., displacement caused by the hardships of Ottoman rule, the Balkan Wars and World War I. 450,000 Greeks arrived to the States between 1890 and 1917, most working in the cities of the Northeast; others labored on railroad construction and in mines of the Western United States; another 70,000 arrived between 1918 and 1924.

Greek immigration at this time was over 90% male, contrasted with most other European immigration to the U.S., such as Italian and Irish immigration which averaged 50% to 60% male. Many Greek immigrants expected to work and return to their homeland after earning capital and dowries for their families. Two factors changed attitudes



A young Greek immigrant on Ellis Island, New York City late 19th early 20th century - Hulton Archive.



Continued on page 8

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and facilitated permanent immigration: 1) Loss of homeland: In 1913 at the conclusion of the Balkan Wars, the hometowns of 60,000 Greeks in America were converted to Bulgarian territory, and, in 1923, the hometowns of approximately 250,000 Greeks in America were converted from Ottoman to Turkish territory and, in both cases, these Greeks were de jure denaturalized from those homelands and lost the right to return and their families were made refugees. 2) The first widely implemented U.S. immigration limits against Europeans were made in 1923, creating an impetus for immigrants to apply for citizenship, bring their families and permanently settle in the U.S. Fewer than 30,000 Greek immigrants arrived in the U.S. between 1925 and 1945, many of whom were “picture brides” for single Greek men.<sup>[10][11]</sup>

The events of the early 1920s also provided the stimulus for the first permanent national Greek American religious and civic organizations. Greeks again began to arrive in large numbers after 1945, fleeing the economic devastation caused by World War II and the Greek Civil War. From 1946 until 1982, approximately 211,000 Greeks emigrated to the United States. These later immigrants were less influenced by the powerful assimilation pressures of the 1920s and 1930s and revitalized Greek American identity, especially in areas such as Greek language media.

Greek immigrants founded more than 600 diners in the New York region in the 1950s through the 1970s. Immigration to the United States from Greece peaked between the 1950s and 1970.<sup>[12][13]</sup> After the 1981 admission of Greece to the European Union, annual U.S. immigration numbers fell to less than 2,000. In recent years, Greek immigration to the United States has been minimal; in fact, net migration has been towards Greece. Over 72,000 U.S. citizens currently live in Greece (1999); most of them are Greek Americans.

The predominant religion among Greeks and Greek Americans is Eastern Orthodox Christianity. There are also a number of Americans who descend from Greece’s smaller Sephardic and Romaniote Jewish communities.

### Famous Greek Americans



Spiro Agnew • Olympia Snowe •  
George Stephanopoulos  
Jennifer Aniston • Tina Fey  
Pete Sampras • Nicholas  
Negroponte • Olympia Dukakis



## Famous Greek Americans of Tomorrow



Our youth at the 2010  
Tsintzina Reunion.

These young adults are  
both the present and the  
future of our society.

They also represent the  
future of America and all  
that is good in our country.

**Make Checks payable To: Tsintzina Society** c/o Stephanie Schlick  
2400 41st St NW, #504  
Washington, DC 20007

## 2010 Tsintzina Society Membership Form

Last Name:	First:	Middle:
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Spouse:	Father's Name:	
Phone:	Mother's Maiden Name:	

### PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AND HELP OUR SOCIETY!

Benefactor: \$100.00     Family: \$50.00     Individual: \$30.00

I am planning on attending the 2010 Convention.

**Amount Enclosed**

The new benefactor dues category gives Tsintzinians an opportunity to give more freely to help the organization with financial concerns. All benefactors will be duly recognized for their extra contributions.



## Come to the Tsintzina Society Reunion July 29 – August 1

Dues are an important part of maintaining our clubhouse and our Society.  
Please pay your dues.



You can pay your dues, donate money, or pay your registration fee for the Reunion using Paypal on our website at <http://www.tsintzinasociety.com>.



**Tsintzinian Chronicle  
703 Summit Road  
Marion, Ohio 43302**

**Please Forward**