

TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE



Volume 17

Number 2 June 2009

The President's Message:

Yia sas kai haras sas!!!!!!!

I am going to apologize in advance for being so "personal" in my last column as President of this wonderful organization.. But I really want to share a few personal moments with all of you.

On July 24, 2009 the Friday of our annual Reunion, I will be celebrating my 72nd birthday and I can't think of a better place to be on that day. I look back to 1949 when I was 12 years old. Once school was finished my parents Bill (Brasidas) and Nella Nickles put my sister Anna and I on the Erie Lackawanna Train in Middletown to Erie PA where we spent over a month with our relatives- George and Anna Nickles Chacana and our 11 cousins.



When the end of July arrived, the Chaconas (cousin Artemis) simply drove us to Jamestown where the Middletown Nickleses were and they drove us home after the festivities. That is when we met Nicky Lambros from Oneonta; the Chronis boys from Syracuse; StelliAnn from Ohio and numerous others. From that Erie PA contingent only

cousin Coogo Chacona from that generation remains. What memories my sister Anna and I both have of that wonderful summer and the subsequent reunions!

That is what The Tsinzinian reunion is all about. Please remember it is basically a GLENDI - a PARTY !!!!!!! It is the coming together of our "people/tribe" who have made a life for themselves in this country with the wonderful mosaic and fabric that comes with each generation and with those who have been " added" by marriage to our expanding family. We are by definition, the Tsinzinians of the USA with all that it encompasses.

There are still discount rooms available at the Best Western and other local motels. Please join us. Come celebrate my birthday- see your relatives- meet new people. ADD to your memories. I assure all of you that you will have a GREAT TIME.

Before signing off, I want to personally thank all of the unsung

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Tsintzina Society 2009 BOARD of DIRECTORS

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Jim Burlotos
Tom Costas
Lee Costianis
Jacob Johanssen
Nick Lambros
Jim Karfes
Peter Sfikas
George Sfikas
Stephanie Schlick

James Gregory: Alternate
Jim Costas: Alternate
Nicholas Poulos: Alternate

CARETAKER:
Roger and Christine Volk

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SEND US YOUR NEWS

For Publication in the Chronicle

- 1 EMAIL: laskaris@roadrunner.com
- 2 TSINTZINA WEBSITE:
<http://www.tsintzinasociety.com>
- 3 WRITE TO: Pete Laskaris, 703
Summit Road, Marion, Ohio 43302

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

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members who work behind the scenes- they know who they are- they edit this newspaper- prepare the food- run the bar, call the bingo, keep the place running- raise money, etc.

They are the members who keep our party going each July. I can't thank them enough.

Me agape,

Peter Brasidas Nickles.

See the
tsintzinasociety.com
website and see full size
pictures from the 2008
CONVENTION!!!

2009 Reunion Schedule

Thursday July 23

4:30pm	Greek Dancing Lessons
6:15pm	Dinner – (\$15 per person)
8:30pm-10:30pm	Dancing to the music of The Aegean Duo

Friday July 24

9:00am-12:00pm	Pastries, Juice and Coffee
9:30am	Golf Tee Time
1:30pm-6:00pm	Registration
1:00pm-4:00pm	Bingo
2:00pm-3:00pm	Investment Roundtable
3:00pm-4:00pm	Greek Dancing Lessons
4:00pm	Board Meeting
6:15pm	Dinner
10:00pm	Dancing to the music of The Aegeans
12:00am	Midnight Snack



Saturday July 25

9:00am-12:00pm	Pastries, Juice and Coffee
9:30am	Golf Tee Time
1:00pm	Texas Hold 'Em Tournament
1:00pm-5:00pm	Registration
1:00pm-4:00 pm	Youth Olympics
1:00pm-3:30pm	Bingo
3:30pm-4:30pm	General Assembly
5:00pm-6:00pm	Cocktail Hour
6:15pm	Dinner
7:30pm	Youth Talent Show
10:00pm	Dancing to the music of The Aegeans
12:00am	Reunion Raffle drawing
12:20am	Midnight Snack

Sunday July 26

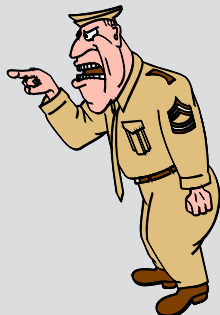
9:00am-12:30pm	Breakfast Buffet
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We all enjoyed the fun, the food, renewing friendships and relaxation. See y'all again at our 2010 Reunion



Costianes Son Enters Army

Jeremy Slezak, Clearwater, FL, is entering the Army in August 2009. He will be stationed at Ft. Jackson, SC for boot camp training. He is the son of Kathleen Costianes and grandson of Nick and Fran Costianes, Albion, MI.



Laskaris Birth

A 7 pound 2 ounce baby boy was born to Brian and Melissa Laskaris on June 9. The happy couple named their son George Brian Laskaris. The child is the grandson of Alex and Sarah Laskaris and the great grandson of George and Angie Laskaris.



Make sure your announcement gets in the next paper.

**2009 Tsintzina Reunion
July 23 – 26
Thursday – Sunday
(Plan Ahead)**

Peter Laskaris

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ICONOGRAPHY

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Becoming a Board Member

By George Sfikas

I have been coming to Jamestown ever since I can remember. My mother's father was George Costianes, a lifelong member and past president. It really wasn't much of a decision for my mom whether she was going to make Jamestown a part of my life as it had been such a lasting part of hers.

My oldest memories of Jamestown include swimming at the Gaslight Inn, riding go carts at Molly World, being "run out" of the board room because the older folks were playing cards, and falling asleep across 2 folding chairs because it wasn't quite time to leave the dance yet just to name a few. As I grew older I came to appreciate what our society meant to me and especially to my family more and more. The society has been around longer than any of its living members and has seen many changes in itself. It started as a businessmen's convention over a hundred years ago. A way for our forefathers to network across this new country they had moved



to. So long before the internet was ever dreamed of our great grandparents were coming up with networking solutions across the country from each other by coming together, meeting, and doing what we Greeks do. Being innovative.

Over the years the founders of our society started bringing family members and making full vacations of the annual convention. Those families made ties with each other based on a shared heritage, religion and basic purpose here in America and over the years the businessmen's convention molded itself into the "family reunion" we are now a part of. When I was 18 I realized that while we were a "family" gathering the board had not made it a point to appoint someone to oversee activities on the grounds to keep the youth of our society entertained. While our parents had all grown up meeting yearly in an age where heritage bonds were held on to tightly we were growing up in an age where the melting pot era had begun to wipe the backgrounds clean and ties like family origins were falling down the list in importance being bumped down by things such as school ties, job ties, and social trends. While I agree that these ties are very important in life I realized that to me having this society and being given the birth right our founders left for us I can't help but keep the heritage ties much higher on that list. I wanted to find a way to keep the youth of society interested in coming back. Keep them wanting to come back to Jamestown every year to meet new people that share that birth right, meet new people that they can look forward to seeing every year, and even correspond with, even network within their business ventures as they grew. I wrote up a proposal to the board that they create the

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Reminder for Tsintzinians: This Year, Invite your Relatives and Close Family Friends, Koumbari to the Convention

Major Change to Attendance Policy

The Tsintzinian Membership approved the major change to attendance policy to permit officially the attendance of non-members at the 2009 convention. Non-members who can now attend are generally defined as close family and family friends and Koumbari o f Tsintzinian members.



The cost for non-members to attend will be

roughly the same as for members. They must pay non-member fees, and buy dinner-dance tickets for the nights they attend. The non-member fees provide full access to events and the facility. Non-members may not vote in the general assembly, or be nominated for/serve as a trustee.

So, invite your friends and relatives this year to join us in July!! Let's make it a great reunion in 2009!!



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position of a "Youth Director" for the society. A person between the ages of 16 to 21 who because of being a part of the younger generation, could help see to the wants of the youth to make the convention that much more enjoyable. Now because the youth director is to be under 21 they wouldn't be a member of the board because you must first be a member of the society to be a member of the board and you must be 21 to be a member. So the board asked me to be the youth director and Gene Geracimos volunteered to be the board member representative to the youth director. Together Gene and I set up the Youth Olympics which have become a yearly tradition at the conventions. I continued on as youth director for the next few years trying to make sure annually that we had enough activities on the clubhouse grounds for all the kids and was eventually relieved of my duties by the next generation. Athan Laskaris and Socrates Zacharias approached me together both eager to take over the position but both having full plates with schooling and extra activities. It was decided that they would both take over as co-directors and have both done an exemplary job over the years.



When the time came to appoint the new directors the board had members leaving the board and they asked me if I would accept a nomination to become a full board member and continue serving by becoming the director's board member representative. I was honored to accept. Since then I have tried to be as helpful as I can in areas I am knowledgeable of. Coming from a restaurant background and having worked in bars periodically I have assisted in things such as setting up and running the cocktail hour with D'Louisa Kontos, which is quickly becoming a great tradition at the conventions and helping Peter and Helen Laskaris tend bar throughout the Friday and Saturday dances.

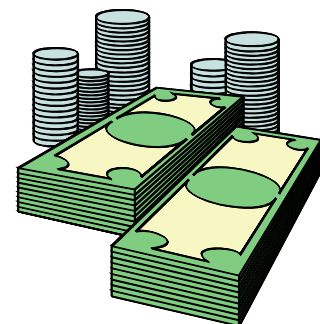
Being a board member is a great honor to me and any part of the convention I can help with I do so whole heartedly but I would whether I was on the board or not. The tradition that we have is so unique and such an amazing thing that I have nothing but respect for every one of you that pays dues every year, buys raffle tickets, donates money or time at the convention and in any way strives for the continuation of our society. That is the goal here I think, to keep this once a year meeting around to remind us of where we come from. Whether we use it as a family reunion, a business convention, or a getaway at the end of July doesn't matter. Just that we do what is in our means to keep our society alive and thriving so our children and grandchildren will know what it is like to be part of such an honored tradition.

Everyone I hope to see you this year in July. I will be attending the convention and I hope you will all be able to also. To your health, your happiness, and the continuance of our shared venture "The Tsintzina Society".

Is your Portfolio up at least 400%?

If your portfolio isn't up at least that over the past two years, it's because you haven't invested in stocks recommended by people who offered suggestions at the Tsintzina Financial Roundtable.

As of this writing, from convention to convention, one of our stock pickers is up \$350%. In 2007-2008, he recommended shorting CROX, a one-year 700% + gain. In year 2, which will end at this years convention, he recommended ARIA, which is currently down 35%, roughly in line with the market, but it is rising rapidly.



We'll check in late July at the convention, when it is expected to have moved significantly on news. Please note: ARIA carries high risk with it.

Not sure what to do in these trying times? Come to the Tsintzina Financial Roundtable on Friday, 2PM at the clubhouse. Investing in the financial markets has a strong legacy in the American Tsintzinian tradition. Join us on Friday and share ideas then, and throughout the weekend!!!

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2009 Tsintzina Reunion
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Thursday – Sunday
(Plan Ahead)



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Also, if there is interest, we will have a brief seminar on registering property in Greece.

(Note: The Financial Roundtable is not intended to be an investment club or provide financial advice; it is only an idea forum for self-directed investors, i.e. people who trade their own money and accounts with their own AEs or investment firms.)

Register Your Property in Greece

If you own a home or other property in Greece, you must register your property with the Greek authorities. Deadlines for certain areas have passed, and are approaching for Tsintzina, Zupena and Goritza.

The process can be daunting, you must identify the properties (often the hardest part), prove ownership, line-up all the other heirs, get affidavits and Powers of Attorney, provide translated death certificates and wills, accept the inheritance, survey the property and finally register the property and pay any inheritance tax due. It seems like a lot

and it is. While the situation is pretty much what would happen in the states, it can actually be a bit easier in Greece, or much harder, depending on circumstances.

If people want to learn more, attend the Financial Roundtable on Friday.



Fun Activities for Adults and Kids Near Lake Chautauqua

By Stephanie Schlick

When I was a kid, my idea of fun was not sitting around the clubhouse and listening to my parents reminisce about the good old days with their friends and relatives. Now the society has entertaining children's activities. Back in the day, however, kids found their own fun and parental supervision was not as necessary for those who wanted to venture farther afield. If you bring children and grandchildren to the reunion, you and they can find a happy medium between club and local attractions among the daytime activities listed below.

Ø Bring your bikes and enjoy scenic cycling routes along the 50-mile lake shore. For more information and printable route maps, go to www.tourchautauqua.com.

Ø Bring your binoculars for the Audubon Nature Center & Sanctuary, a 600-acre preserve with 5 miles of hiking trails through wetlands. For more information, go to www.jamestownaudubon.org.

Ø Walk through 4 acres of nature trails featuring 350 varieties of daylilies, at the Nass Daylily Farm. For more information, go to www.jamestownaudubon.org.

Ø Bring your own fishing gear or rent some and take a 4- or 8-hour charter fishing trip. Or fish for free off Bemis Point. Lake Chautauqua is full of walleye this season. Note: you must purchase a New York state fishing license (\$12 for a 7-day pass). For more information, go to Chautauqua Reel Outdoors (nyfisherman.net/mikesperry.html) or Chautauqua Angling Adventures (chautauquaanglingadventures.com).



Ø Rent a boat or jet-ski for a few hours. If you don't want a speedy craft, pontoon boats, pedal boats, canoes, and kayaks are also available at reasonable rates. For more information, go to Chautauqua Marina (chautauquamarina.com).

Ø Discover treasures created by local artisans at Chautauqua Miniatures, The Art Loft, or Chautauqua Ironworks and Fine Crafts, all located in nearby Mayville, NY. And don't forget the fun little shops at Bemus Point.



THE MOUNTAINAIRE

U.S. EMBASSY BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA June 05, 2009

The MountainAire is published weekly by the American Embassy of Bogotá. Please submit all articles/classifieds via email to the CLO office at CLOBogota@state.gov., no later than 9:00 am on Tuesdays (include your name and phone number). Articles must be marked clearly that they are for The MountainAire.

These are the People in Your Neighborhood CNG – The MUSical an original tribute to us!

Congratulations to our U.S. embassy kids who performed in the musical at CNG last month! CNG almost didn't have a musical this year, until director **Kaleroy Zervos** came to the rescue writing an original tribute entitled CNG The Musical. For those who missed it, it was a very clever and fun play about life at CNG that featured popular show-tunes with original lyrics depicting the CNG experience.

U.S. embassy participation in the production was amazing! Of the 32 CNG students who performed in the play, 12 were from our very own U.S. embassy community; including the stage manager and the voice of our M.S. counselor!

CONGRATULATIONS to those in the show: Nicolas Broihier, Kristie Evans, Daniel Gonzalez, Kendal Gabor, Katie Skinner, Carina Velazquez, Morgan Gabor, Ariana Velazquez, Sofie Nichols, Valerie Skinner and Crystina Falero, Stage Manager and Heather Allen, Voice of Announcements.

When asked what the best part of the play was, one of our embassy student-actors said, "Working with all my embassy friends who were in the play!"

Theater is a great opportunity for any student, but especially for some of our embassy kids, to express themselves and gain self confidence. Many of the students especially loved the chance to take part in a show that depicted their experiences at school. There was a lot of laughter coming from the audience in recognition of some of the „inside jokes about the school. The drama program is a great place for students to shine!

A warm "thank you" goes out to all those who supported our kids throughout this wonderful production. Can't wait to see what's in store for CNG Theater (and our U.S. embassy student-participants) NEXT year!

Contributed by Embassy Community Member and Proud CNG Parent

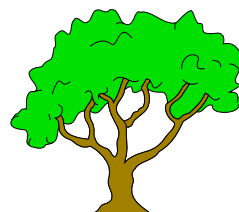
Plant Your Family Tree on our Clubhouse Grounds

Recently, our Society has lost several large, beautiful trees on our clubhouse property to major windstorms. Consequently, during our convention this year, we will establish a program where members can plant a tree on our property and designate it honoring your family, a family member, or any suitable entity. Then, in the future, when we attend on our annual convention, we'll be able to admire our beautiful expanding forest, and note how the trees grow year to year. It will become a great tradition.

We will establish details for the program during meetings at this year's convention. We will establish where the trees will be planted, tree types, markings permitted, cost and other parameters. Plantings will likely commence at the 2010 convention.

If you are interested in being involved with this wonderful program, please advise Tom Costas or any other board member.

As you may know, huge, pine trees surround Tsintzina, and despite the recent nearby devastating fires, our town still is sheltered by those glorious forests. The many trees lost in the fires are being replanted by various organizations. If you want more information on that, visit the "Plant your Roots in Greece" campaign at <http://www.greekembassy.org> and elsewhere.





Jamestown Movies

Hi Everyone,

I tried an experiment - putting my Jamestown home movies on Youtube. Since I didn't dance much, I took videos of the dancing.

They are searchable typing "Jamestown 2008" or "Jamestown Greek" etc — here are the direct links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odpnAxpLFms>

Part I — <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ay8Av87YuDA&fmt=18>

Part II — <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odpnAxpLFms&fmt=18>

Part III - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mY9QgFcWms&fmt=18>



You can see I added an **&fmt=18** to each link - that brings up the high quality version automatically. With Youtube, video quality is never great, even in HQ mode, but good enough to see everyone. The audio was suprisingly clear for a tiny CyberShot DSC-T70 hybrid still/video camera. You can click the little icon at bottom right of the video window to make it fullscreen.

Hope you enjoy, and again let me know if these being public poses a problem to anyone.

Nick Stam

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2800 N. Main St. Extension
Jamestown, NY 14701

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(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



Make Checks payable To: Tsintzina Society **c/o Gene Geracimos**
619 Kerri Cove Court, #202
Midlothian, VA 23113

2009 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 2009 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.



Let the 2009 Tsintzina Reunion be the time for our children to reunite and celebrate the closeness of their heritage.





Tsintzinian Chronicle

703 Summit Road

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Please Forward