

TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE

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The President's Message:

by Peter Brasidas Nickles

YIASAS : First, I would like to thank the board members who elected me to be the new President for the Society. I consider it an honor to serve our members in that capacity. I believe that it is the first time that a Nickles (Niocolaides) has held that position. The closet we have ever come was Cousin Hercules G. Chacona from Erie, Pa. whose mother was Anna Nickles, my grandfather's sister.

I also sincerely hope that I will not be the last of the Nickleses to serve this wonderful organization. I state that in light of the numerous teenage Nickleses in attendance this past July. I, as others, was extremely pleased to have seen some Tsintzinian families attending our **Reunion** for the very first time. One gentleman in particular related to us that he recently visited Zoupena, Koristsa and Tsintzinia in our ancestral Greece this Summer and after his return, he felt he had



to bring his family to the U.S.A equivalent-our Jamestown New York and he did. BRAVO.

I want to stress that our welcome mat is OPEN. It makes no difference if it has been years since you attended. Come this July 2006 and witness for yourself the multigenerational mix of family members, as well as extended family members via marriage. Your children's' cousins, who may have no connection to the Tsintzinian family other than you, are part of **your extended family** and we welcome all of them as well.

Everything moves extremely fast in this computer generated world that we live in. But you will find it rewarding and fun to slow down the last weekend in July and come relive part of your childhood and heritage. If you don't have children, consider bringing your nieces, nephews, godchildren, cousins and extended family relatives.

We no longer think of our get together as a convention (i.e. AHEPA

Continued on page 2

Tsintzina Reunion

July 27 – 30

(2006)

Although the holiday season is upon us and the summer seems a distant thought, it is never too early to make plans for attending our reunion.

The 2005 Reunion was a complete success with many attending the Thursday activities. Those who attended enjoyed renewing friendships with family and friends.

So plan ahead for 2006 and share in the joy of our heritage.

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Please See Our Website
<http://www.tsintzinasociety.com>

Preregistration Form
is on the site.

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Lee Costianis

Joanna (Costianes) Ferencz

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It is very important that we continue to hear from you. We need your input to continue to serve the needs of our fellow Tsintzinians. Please do not hesitate to contact us by email with your thoughts and suggestions.

A message from Demos Kontos....

I would like to thank Lee Costianis, Jim Karfes and Jerry Macrisopoulos for all of your hard work in the kitchen. Thank you also to Roger and Chrissy for all that you did to help us. Everyone's efforts are greatly appreciated. It wouldn't have gotten done without all of your help. Thank you and I look forward to next year!

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with election of State Governors, business and political agendas, etc.) but as a **family** reunion. Most of us know and spend our annual Holidays with parents, aunts and uncles and **first** cousins. But I guarantee you a trip to **our Tsintzina** will find you meeting and greeting second and third cousins from faraway places..

For those of you who may not have attended our gatherings in many years, you may be surprised to find female members on the Board as well as our youth members. Believe me, our organization is a microcosm of the world we live in. For a few days at the end of each July, we partake and experience the Greek "**kefi**" no matter what our Greek connection is. It is little bit different than attending a Church sponsored Greek festival. At our gatherings, we are all interconnected and I encourage all of you to join us next Summer and help us in **expanding** our Tsintzian family.

The Board of Directors held its Fall meeting in Beaver Falls, Pa. on October 21, 2005 which was well attended. In the subsequent Chronicles that are published prior to July 2006, we will keep you posted on some of the events and changes that we anticipated for next Summer. We welcome all suggestions from our members so that our traditions live on.

Have a wonderful and joyous **THANKSGIVING** with your family and loved ones.

ME AGAPE-

PETER BRASIDAS NICKLES

2006 Tsintzina Reunion

July 27 – 30

Thursday – Sunday

(Plan Ahead)

www.tsintzinasociety.com

Please visit our site and send us anything you want posted. Remember, this represents our heritage and you.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY ANTONIA SEFERLIS

Congratulations Antonia Seferlis! A celebration honoring her 100th birthday was held on June 3rd at the Inn of the Seasons. In attendance were her family and many of her friends.

Antonia was born in Plattsburgh, New York and is the daughter of Petro and Pauline Lasckas. She married William Seferlis and lived in Water-town, New York where they owned the Commo-dor Restaurant and raised their three daughters, Sandra Grigoriades, Angeline Booras and Georgia Seferlis (deceased). In the early 1960's they moved to Syracuse and owned a restaurant where Phoebe's is now. Antonia continues to enjoy good health and currently lives at the Heritage Apartments in Syracuse.

Antonia sends her sincerest thanks to her family and to her friends for their congratulations on her 100th birthday and for their well wishes. In commemoration of her 100th birthday, Antonia Seferlis has made a donation to her beloved Church, St. Sophia's.



Socrates on Defense

"Mt Lebanon was the team of the hour tonight. Quarterback Nick Till led Mt. Lebanon on a 73 yard drive late in the last quarter, capping it with a 6 yard run, as the Mt. Lebanon Blue Devils rallied for a 34-30 victory against Washington County's Trinity in the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) Class AAAA quarterfinal. Trinity nearly countered that score,

driving to the Mt. Lebanon 20. But two incomplete passes and a sack by SOCRATES Zacharias ended that threat with 1:17 remaining." Mt Lebanon goes into the semi finals next week with an 8-3 record. Mt. Lebanon has won 5 straight after losing to 3 of the top seeded teams in the first 6 games of the season. Many have said that it has been the defense led by its captain that has made the season better than expected.

Socrates, son of John and

Joan Zacharias, started his senior year as both the starting middle linebacker (and defensive captain) and offensive fullback. An early season high ankle sprain prevented him from blocking and ball carrying but he excelled as middle linebacker. Socrates weighs 205 pounds and is 5 feet, 11 inches. He leads his team in tackles

with 74 in eleven games. As an outside linebacker in his junior year, he was second on his team with 38 tackles. In addition to playing football, Socrates is the vice president of the student government and a straight A student. He is interested in pursuing a career in medicine and is hoping to attend an Ivy League school next year. He is a senior altar boy at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh and loves to Greek dance.



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A Message from George Sfikas....

As youth director I am trying to collect the names and addresses of all the younger Tsintzinians. If you didn't fill out a youth directory form in Jamestown this past year, please fill out the form below and mail it back to me. I would like all forms by December 12. If you can't get it in by then mail it in as soon as you can. All forms can be mailed to:



George Sfikas
4275 Berkshire Drive #3
Warren, Ohio 44484

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Blast from the Past

1939-40 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Left to right sitting: Peter G. Comuntzis, Secretary, Morgantown, W. Va., James P. Laskaris, Vice-President, Lewistown, Pa., James A. Chacona, President, Franklin, Pa., Geo. C. Canellos, Director, Syracuse, N. Y., George J. Georgetson, Director, Olean, N. Y.-Standing, left to right: Leo A. Chacona, Ass't, Treas., Oil City, Pa., Hercules G. Chacona, Director, Erie, Pa., Socrates S. Zacharias, Ass't Secretary, Toronto, Ohio, John G. Cummings, Director, Oil City, Pa., Chris Vlahos, Director, Warren, Ohio.

Missing: James C. Caravasos, Treasurer, Morgantown, W. Va.

Tio-Ornstein Marriage

Zoe Vasiliki Tio and Michael Marisi Ornstein met, by chance, at a party in an apartment on Manhattan's the Upper West Side. Zoe was standing in the entranceway to the living room when Michael glanced over and engaged her in a conversation



about moving to the country. They talked for a while and ended up exchanging phone numbers. During their first phone conversation, they immediately fell into a major political argument. A few weeks later they decided to meet for a drink and, leaving politics aside, they fell in love.

Zoe and Michael were married first in a private ceremony in the apartment where they met. They then had a second ceremony for their families in Sage Chapel on July 16th, 2005.

Zoe is the daughter of Amalia Stratakos Tio, who teaches Spanish at Cornell University and Aurelio Tio of Cincinnati. Michael is the son of Marie and Harvey Ornstein, who are currently re-locating to Cape Cod.

Zoe, a native of Ithaca, graduated from R.I.T. and went to work for Kodak in Rochester, before beginning a career in New York City with Oracle. She recently received her EMBA from the Johnson School of Management at Cornell University. ABC Carpet and Home is where Zoe has found her career home. Michael is an accomplished oil painter and actor from New York City. Michael's paintings are in evolving exhibition at www.monkeylanguage.com



**Honored and Remembered
Tsintzinians**

P. Mack Zaharis



“Petey”,
16, died Saturday, August 6, 2005 as the result of a one vehicle accident on West

Covert Road. The only son of Darlene and Peter Zaharis, Mack is survived by his two sisters, Samantha and Karissa. Mack was an honor student at Trumansburg High School and an avid soccer player for both the school team and his premiere league team, TC United. Mack was an active member of the community, participating in church activities of youth group and tent crew, snowboarding as a member of the schools’ Ski Club, and always seen with his skateboard in hand. A wonderful brother and son, Petey will be remembered the peacemaker of the family and will forever be missed by his parents and sisters. Mack will be remembered for his wonderful smile, his awesome tan, his great personality and unending thoughtfulness when it came to others.

Mack is the grandson of Peter E. Zaharis, Ithaca, New York and the late Pepitsa (Chacona) Zaharis, great grandson of Edward L. and Garfelia (Marinos) Zaharis, Ithaca, New York and Venetia (Papageorge) Chacona and Spero N. Chacona, Ithaca, New York.

Helen J. Manos will be missed!

Helen J. Manos, 96, the cherished matriarch of the Manos Family, passed away peacefully at her daughter’s home on Sunday afternoon, July 31, 2005. She was born in Cortland, NY, on June 13, 1909. Helen was the daughter of the late Peter and Irene Marinos Zaharis, and widow of James Manos.

Helen, one of twelve children, grew up in Goritsa, Greece, and returned to the US in 1947. Mrs. Manos lived and worked in Des Moines, Iowa, for 15 years before coming to Ithaca in 1961 with her husband and children to establish the local landmark restaurant Manos Diner, where until the age of 93, she still arrived every day to work.

Helen Manos has spent the last 40 years in Ithaca, always giving of herself to her family, her community and most importantly to her church. Her many contributions to St. Catherine Greek Orthodox Church have included her unwavering attendance at church services, including many times arriving before the priest, baking for the philoptochos bake sales, making the prosforon for church services, as well as contributing to every

fundraising event the church sponsored.

But her love of church went well beyond St. Catherine as she spent her days reading from orthodox religious writings sent to her from various monasteries that she supported throughout the world, and she was most proud and grateful for having been able to visit The Holy Land, Jerusalem, twice in her lifetime. Her lifetime of love and devotion to family and God remains an example for



all of us to follow. We will truly miss her.

Survivors include her daughter, Matoula (George) Nickles; son, Bill J. (Paulette) Manos; son-in-law, Nicholas Giannoucos; sister, Sophia Floros of Greece; grandchildren, Anna (Yanni) Stavropoulos, Eleni Manos, Amanda (Michael) Karfakis, and Stacy Kazenski; great-grandchildren, Georgia and Matoula Rena Stavropoulos, Jory and Jamie Nickles. Helen is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Besides her parents, she was also predeceased by her son, Elias; daughter, Rena Giannoucos; and grandson, Pano Nickles.

Leon E. Zaharis

Leon E. Zaharis, 86, formerly of 429 N. Aurora St., died Friday, April 22, 2005, at the New England Hospital, Boston, MA. He was born in Baldwinsville, son of the late Evangelos and Garefalia Marinos Zaharis.

Leon retired as supervisor at Cornell University where he had worked for many years. He was a long-time member of St. Catherine’s Greek Orthodox Church.

Continued on page 6

Another Blast from the Past

ANOTHER LOVE MATCH



MISS CALEROY J. CHELEKIS

Flowers always play an important part when a young man goes courting and in the floral business the motto is "Say it with flowers." This is exactly what young and handsome Gus J. Georgeston did when he asked for the heart and hand of lovely Miss Caleroy J. Chelekis, the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Chelekis, of Youngstown, O. Mr. Georgeston is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Georgeston, of Pittsburgh, Pa. Gus, a likeable chap, has been courting Loy for some time and it had to be a real Tsintzinian affair, the Youngstown dance the junior organization gave last spring at the, Ohio Hotel amid romantic surroundings for him to propose.



MR. GUS J. GEORGESTON

Mr. Georgeston being in the florist business showered Miss Chelekis with roses and orchids, had everyone fooled, as our members in that business are very generous with their beautiful flowers. However in this case the flowers that Gus gave to Loy were for sentimental reasons and he had all the reason in the world to be. The two make an ideal couple and to them we wish all the happiness the world can give. A late fall wedding is rumored. The Bulletin and its members shower this charming couple with congratulations.

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Leon is survived by his son, Edward Zaharis of Interlaken; his daughter and son-in-law, Joanne Zaharis and Richard Chambers; and grandson, Eli Chambers, all of Boston. He, is also survived by his brother, Peter Zaharis of Ithaca: sister, Connie Ward of Blairsville, GA; and several nieces and nephews. Leon was predeceased by his wife, Olga Chacona Zaharis; and his sisters, Amamandia Dentes and Antonia Papas.

A Special Thank You

A special thank you to Bill Manos of Ithaca, NY and Paul Alikakos (friend of Demos Kontos) of Binghamton, NY for donating liquor to the cocktail hour. Your donation is very much appreciated. THANK YOU!



**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**



ICONOGRAPHY

Written by the hand of the
servant of God

Joanna Ferencz

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**The Tradition
of the Reunion continues!**



The 2005 Tsintzina Reunion



The Youth Movement of the Reunion



**Parents and children sharing
the family experience!**

**Children and young adults
enjoying the fellowship of
friends and family.**

Christmas in GREECE

St. Nicholas is important in Greece as the patron saint of sailors. According to Greek tradition, his clothes are drenched with brine, his beard drips with seawater, and his face is covered with perspiration because he has been working hard against the waves to reach sinking ships and rescue them from the angry sea. Greek ships never leave port without some sort of St. Nicholas icon on board.

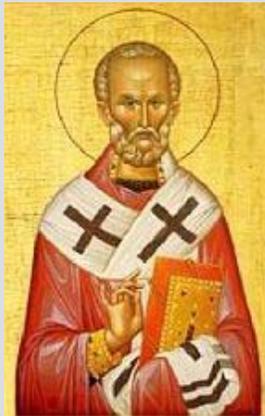
To members of the Eastern Orthodox Church, as are most Greek Christians, Christmas ranks second to Easter in the roster of important holidays. Yet there are a number of unique customs associated with Christmas that are uniquely Greek. On Christmas Eve, village children travel from house to house offering good wishes and singing *kalanda*, the equivalent of carols. Often the songs are accompanied by small metal triangles and little clay drums. The children are frequently rewarded with sweets and dried fruits.

After 40 days of fasting, the Christmas feast is looked forward to with great anticipation by adults and children alike. Pigs are slaughtered and on almost every table are loaves of *christopsomo* ("Christ Bread"). This bread is made in large sweet loaves of various shapes and the crusts are engraved and decorated in some way that reflects the family's profession.

Christmas trees are not commonly used in Greece. In almost every home the main symbol of the season is a shallow wooden bowl with a piece of wire is suspended across the rim; from that hangs a sprig of basil wrapped around a wooden cross. A small amount of water is kept in the bowl to keep the basil alive and fresh. Once a day, a family member, usually the mother, dips the cross and basil into some holy water and uses it to sprinkle water in each room of the house. This ritual is believed to keep the *Killantzaroi* away from the house.

There are a number of beliefs connected with the *Killantzaroi*, which are a species of goblins or sprites who appear only during the 12-day period from Christmas to the Epiphany (January 6). These creatures are believed to emerge from the center of the earth and to slip into people's house through the chimney. More mischievous than actually evil, the *Killantzaroi* do things like extinguish fires, ride astride people's backs, braid horses' tails, and sour the milk. To further repel the undesirable sprites, the hearth is kept burning day and night throughout the twelve days.

Gifts are exchanged on St. Basil's Day (January 1). On this day the "renewal of waters" also takes place, a ritual in which all water jugs in the house are emptied and refilled with new "St. Basil's Water." The ceremony is often accompanied by offerings to the naiads, spirits of springs and fountains.



EIRESIONI SONG

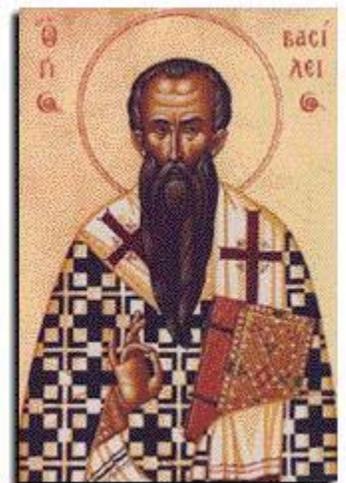
*In this house we came of the
rich-landlord
May its doors open for the
wealth to roll in
The wealth and happiness and
desired peace should enter
And may its clay jugs fill with
honey, wine and oil
And the kneading tub with rising
dough.*

EPIPHANY CAROL

*Today is the lights and the
enlightenment
The happiness is big and the
sanctification
Down the Jordan River
Sits our Lady the
Blessed Virgin Mary
She carries an organ,
a candle she holds
And pleads with St. John.
St. John lord and Baptist
Baptize this divine child of mine
I shall ascend to the heavens
To gather roses and incense
Good day, good day
Good day to you master and the
missus.*

Happy Holidays and a Very Merry Christmas

St. Basil



Make Checks payable To: Tsintzina Society c/o Gene Geracimos
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2005 Tsintzina Society Membership Form

Last Name:	First:	Middle:
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Spouse:	<input type="checkbox"/> Please Check if ladies Auxiliary Member	
Phone:	E-MAIL:	

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AND HELP OUR SOCIETY!

Family: \$40.00 Individual: \$30.00 Student: \$20.00

I am planning on attending the 2005 Convention.

Amount Enclosed:



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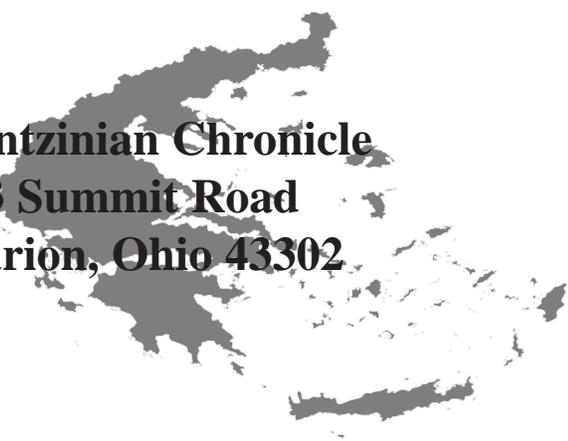
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