

TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE



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The President's Message:

by Peter Brasidas Nickles

Although I personally thanked most of the board members at Dinner this past July, since our reunion was an astounding success, I again want to personally thank **all** of the hard working volunteers who were responsible for everything going like clock-work. Most of the assignments were handed out at our May 2006 meeting. When the **party** started, everyone just did what they said they would.

No one had to be reminded. I thank all of the board as well as everyone who spent hours in the kitchen.

Recently, friends of mine (a couple from Waverly, NY- Southern Tier) purchased (for a very modest price)THE MOOSE LODGE, a building half of block long. They reside on the second floor(where there is a stage); will do catering for special events on the main floor (where there is a ballroom) and will lease out the aboveground basement as a restaurant. Apparently all over the USA, the members of the current generation are no longer joining Fraternal organizations such as the Elks, Masons, Eagles, and other similar clubs. When the extremely mobile society joins anything today for weekend activities, it is most likely a tennis, golf or country club not a fraternal organization.

I was trying to determine what distinguishes our Tsintzian Society from all of the social organizations going out of business. I truly believe we are different because we are **all oikoyenia** —**FAMILY**. Look back far enough and we all seem to be related by blood or past, current or futures marriages. With us, our cousins' newly acquired family members become our family members as well. The **family** connection is the only thing that can guarantee our survival.



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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!

The Greek Tomato Garden

An old Cretan wanted to dig his tomato garden. His only son, Vasili, who used to help *him*, was in prison. The old man wrote to his son, "I am depressed. Fin just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I wish you were here to help me." A few days later he received a letter from his son. "Dear dad, please don't **dig up that** garden. That's where I buried the BODIES."

Of course, the letter was intercepted by the prison authorities and at 4 am the next morning, security agents arrived at the old man's home and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left, leaving the entire garden dug up.

That same day the old man received another letter from his son. "Dear dad, go ahead and plant the tomatoes now That's the best I could do under the circumstances. Love. V". -Submitted by Fr Milton Efthimiou

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It is not too early to plan for the long last weekend in July 2007 in Celeron Park. Our family **REUNION** depends on all of you. Plus it would be nice to increase last year's attendance.

I also want to personally thank all of our members who donated funds over and above our modest annual dues. Some of you are in a position to assist us with money; others with time and we applaud those efforts. For those of you raising families, taking care of others or retired with limited budgets, your presence is present enough for us. In many ways, our club is evolving but in others ways we stay the same since our roots and heritage stem from Tsintzina, Greece.

Enjoy Thanksgiving and the upcoming Holidays with your families, relatives both old and newly acquired as well as friends at your tables.

We have **much** to be **thankful** for.

Me agape,
Peter Brasidas Nickles— President

2006 Reunion Raffle Winners

\$1,000 Barbara Poolos Greenville, PA	\$50 Marcus Peterson Silver Lake, OH
\$400 Nicholas P. Costianes Albion MI	\$50 Pauline Costianes Albion, MI
\$200 Tasso E. Camarinos Pittsburgh, PA	\$50 Ernie & Vicky Memphis Fallston, MD
\$50 John Conomikes Pittsburgh, PA	\$50 Anna Amato Atlanta, GA
\$50 Tom Farmakis New York, NY	\$50 Ria Zervos San Francisco, CA



Honored and Remembered Tsintzinians

Nicholas J. Chacona

ITHACA - Nicholas J. Chacona, 94, of 555 Elm Street, Ithaca, passed away Friday evening, March 31, 2006, at home. He was the son of the late John and Elatia Chacona.

Nick was owner and operator of United Sales Inc. for many years in Ithaca. He was a veteran of the United States Army, serving during WWII, also a member of V.F.W. Post 961, Ithaca Elks Lodge #636, and the Masons.

Survivors include his wife, Martha Eager Chacona; daughter, Jean Elizabeth Chacona of San Carlos, CA; grandchildren, Ezra Duong-Van of Washington, D.C., and Cynthia Wilcox of Charlotte, NC; a sister, Mary Chacona of Greece; and a nephew, Elias Logos.

More Honored and Remembered Tsintzinians

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2007 Tsintzina Reunion

July 26 – 29

Thursday – Sunday
(Plan Ahead)

Peter Laskaris LASKARIS & ASSOCIATES Computer Consultants

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Eugenia K. Stefanakos

Eugenia K. Stefanakos, 94, of 1336 Otter St., Franklin, died at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 26, 2006, in UPMC Northwest, Seneca.

Born April 20, 1911, in Gortsia, Greece, she was the daughter of Athenious and Athena Conomikes Andritsikes.



She came to the United States in 1932 and lived in New York City. She moved to Franklin in 1941.

Mrs. Stefanakos and her husband operated the Town Tavern in Franklin for many years.

She was a member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Farrell and also the Philoptochos, an organization of the women of the church.

Mrs. Stefanakos enjoyed gardening, cooking for the family, and especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was married Dec. 22, 1930, to Kostas Stefanakos, who died Aug. 29, 1975.

Surviving are two daughters, Maria Bell and husband, Charles, of Franklin and Georgia Pandeladis and husband, Nickolas, of Pittsburgh; a son,

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FRIENDS VS. GREEK FRIENDS

FRIENDS: Never ask for food

GREEK FRIENDS: Are the reason you have no food.

FRIENDS: Will say "hello"

GREEK FRIENDS: Will give you a big hug and a kiss.

FRIENDS: Call your parents Mr. and Mrs.

GREEK FRIENDS: Call your parents Theo and Thea

FRIENDS: Have never seen you cry.

GREEK FRIENDS: Cry with you.

FRIENDS: Will eat at your dinner table and leave

GREEK FRIENDS: Will spend hours there, talking, laughing and just being together

FRIENDS: Borrow your stuff for a few days then give it back.

GREEK FRIENDS: Keep your stuff so long they forget it's yours.

FRIENDS: know a few things about you.

GREEK FRIENDS: Could write a book with direct quotes from you.

FRIENDS: Will leave you behind if that's what the crowd is doing.

GREEK FRIENDS: Will kick the whole crowd's ass that left you.

FRIENDS: Would knock on your door.

GREEK FRIENDS: Walk right in and say, "I'm home!"

FRIENDS: Are for a while.

GREEK FRIENDS: Are for life.

FRIENDS: Will ignore this.

GREEK FRIENDS: Will forward this.





The Greeks Had A Word For It!

“Democracy arose from men thinking that if they are equal in any respect they are equal in all respects. “ • “Plato is dear to me, but dearer still is truth.” - Aristotle

“He who throws away a friend is as bad as he who throws away his life.” - Sophocles

“The foundation of every state is the education of its youth.” - Diogenes

“The unexamined life is not worth living.” -Socrates

“There are only two remedies for the suffering soul - hope and patience.” - Pythagoras

“The nearest way to glory (a short cut) is to strive to be what you wish to be thought to be.” - Sophocles

“We do not say that a man who takes no interest in politics minds his own business. We say he has no business here at all!” -Pericles

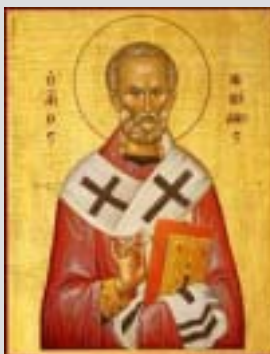
“By all means, marry. If you get a good wife, you’ll become happy; if you get a bad one, you’ll become a philosopher!” - Socrates

Solemn Greek Christmas Traditions

Christmas in Greece is a traditionally a solemn, religious holiday. Throughout the festivities, there is never any question about whether Greece is remembering the Christ in Christmas. Beautiful carols called kalandas have been handed down from Byzantine times and add to the reverent quality of the celebration. And can the remote Greek villages, with whitewashed walls, stone corrals for the precious livestock, and clear starry skies be very far in spirit from a night in long ago Bethlehem?

St. Nicholas

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.



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Thomas Stefanakos and wife, Juva, of Hudson, Ohio; nine grandchildren, Eugenia Zimmer and husband, Nathan, of Erie, Athena Rodgers and husband, Scott, of Slippery Rock, Cathy Elaine Pandeladis of Pittsburgh, Michael Stefanakos and wife, Victoria, of Maine, Leonidas Pandeladis of Harrisburg, Robert Stefanakos of Boise, Idaho., Shannon Bell of Franklin, James Stefanakos and wife, Amanda, of Atlanta, Ga., and Constantine Bell of Pittsburgh; four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers, George and Nickolas Andritsikes; three sisters, Sophia Benekos and Helen and Constance Andritsikes.

John P. Chacona

John P. Chacona of 415 Second Street Athens, Pa. died April 7, 2006 at the Robert Packer Hospital following an extended illness. He was born in Ithaca, New York March 9, 1914 the son of the late Paul and Georgia Mattheos Chacona. He was a graduate of Sayre High School in 1934 and attended Cornell University aspiring to be a physician - his lifelong dream. His father’s death in 1936 forced him home to operate the family business. The Garden of Sweets Confectionery Parlor. In

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the early years of Chacona's Resturant in Sayre he was a partner with his brother Nicholas. He was a veteran of WW2. He finished his career with twenty five years of service as a well known valley Prudential insurance agent.

Besides his parents he was preceded in death by his first wife Mary Ricketts Chacona in 1950; his second wife Yole Petropoly Chacona in 1993; his brother Theodore in 1994; his sister Bertha Covello in 1996; and his nephew, Marcus Chacona in 2005.

He is survived by his son David at home; brother Nicholas (Evelyn) of Sayre; nephews, John (Charlene) of Newark Del., Paul B. (Claudia) of Athens, Theodore (Jeanne) of Sayre, James (Pat) of Athens, William and Chris of Sayre, Paul N. (Kona) of Rochester,

N.Y.; nieces Georgia of Sayre, Donna (John) Detrick of Sayre; cousin, Connie Papayanakas of Ithaca; sisters-in-law Ruth Chacona of Sayre, Ann Stover of Athens and many great nieces and nephews.

George Spero Chacona

George Spero Chacona, long-time resident of Ithaca, New York, passed away peacefully at his home on Monday, May 1, 2006. George was born in Goritsa, Greece on February 1,

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Greek and Cretan Christmas customs

The Greek Orthodox Church, like the Christian Church, celebrates the birth of Christ on December 25. That date was picked because on the same day in the Mediterranean area they used to celebrate a Persian god, Mithras, who was the god of the Sun. And, because the difference between light and darkness is such an important aspect of the December month, all our Greek traditions and customs are still based on that contrast of darkness and light.

Christmas tends to be a quiet, solemn, season. In some areas, the holiday is preceded by a time of fasting. For Greece, the season is in full swing by December 6th, the Feast of St. Nicholas when presents are exchanged, and will last through January 6th, the Feast of Epiphany. On the day and evening before Christmas and New Year's, children sing the equivalent of **carols** (kalanda) from house



to house. These kalandas bless the house. Often the songs are accompanied by small metal triangles and little clay drums. The children are frequently rewarded with sweets and dried fruits.

The word **carol** comes from a Greek dance called a choraulein, which was accompanied by flute music. The dance later spread throughout Europe and became especially popular with the French, who replaced the flute music with singing. People originally performed carols on several occasions during the year. By the 1600's, carols involved singing only, and Christmas had become the main holiday for these songs.

St. Basil's Day (**New Year's Day**) is a time for parties and gift giving. St. Basil is the Santa Claus of Greeks.



The 2006 Convention in Pictures



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1945, and immigrated to the United States at the age of five. He spent much of his life living on South Hill and attended Ithaca City Public Schools. George also attended State University Colleges in New Paltz and Cortland, New York.

From a very young age, George was drawn to music. He was deeply touched by melody and lyrics, and lived his life through the messages conveyed in music. Although he never played an instrument and could hardly carry a tune, he found many other ways to utilize song as his great communicator of love and life.

Although George's love for music was the catalyst for his successful career, his joy and fulfillment in life was helping people. Working with various support groups, he offered his time, energy, and encouragement to others. George would often open his home to ensure that others would have a safe and comfortable place to stay.

George is survived by his loving wife, Laura, devoted son, Nickolas, sister, Maria Shirmer, his loving caregiver and adopted son Carlos Lugo, and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and



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friends.

Michael L. Chronis

Michael L. Chronis 67, of Indianapolis, passed away, July 17, 2006.

He worked as a Chemical and Industrial Engineer. He also served in the Army during the Vietnam era. He was a member of AHEPA, Sigma Chi Fraternity, and Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church and served at past Parish Council President of Holy Trinity.

He graduated from Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia.

He is survived by his wife, Martha Yarosh Chronis and brother, John L. Chronis.



See the tsintzinasociety.com website and see full size pictures from the 2006 CONVENTION!!!

The 2006 Convention Continued



2006

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Spouse:	Father's Name:	
Phone:	Mother's Maiden Name:	

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AND HELP OUR SOCIETY!

Benefactor: \$100.00 Family: \$40.00 Individual: \$30.00 Student: \$20.00

I am planning on attending the 2007 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.



Kala Christouyenna!

(Merry Christmas!)



From the
Tsintzina Society Board
to all members and friends,

We wish you the
Best of Holidays
and a Happy New Year.

May this year bring you the
joy and happiness that
you all deserve.



Tsintzinian Chronicle
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