

TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE

Volume 4

Number 5 December 1998

Happy Holidays From The President

By Dr. John Gregory

Dear Fellow Tsintzinians;

The second Tsintzinian Chronicle paper of the year is out just in time for the holiday season. Our reminder of the past and the future is read in each and every line. Your stories and ideas are expressed for all to share. I want to congratulate the new Editor on a terrific job, Pete and Helen way to go.

As we look forward to yet another year here at Jamestown we all are aware of the advancements that have been made, yet there are many more things, which need to be addressed. Our board needs your support to bring all ideas forward to the table speak up and take part in the future of Tsintzinian Society, we all welcome you. One idea brought to me at the last convention was to have in the Year 2000, a National Convention not only in Celoron, but a week later travel as a group to Tsintzina, Greece and continue the 2000 celebration there. Nicky Lambros has been chasing this idea, and I believe this is a perfect year to have it all organized. Think 2000. A travel consultant has advised me that leaving from Toronto, Canada the flights would be greatly reduced. We will follow this exciting project and keep you abreast through the Chronicle.

At the last convention I had the opportunity to speak with our youth. I have invited them to attend our board meetings, to get themselves organized and potentially start the Tsintzinian Youth Organization. To take active part in the future decisions and participate in the direction of our great Society.

In 1999, I ask each member to reach out to another Tsintzinian who is not a member, invite them to become members and active participants. Let us build a strong Society, and we shall all share in the pride of growth, prosperity and family.

Finally to each of you, Donna and I wish continued Health and Happiness to you and your families this coming year. Happy Holidays to everyone.



THANKS

Dear Tsintzina Society Members,

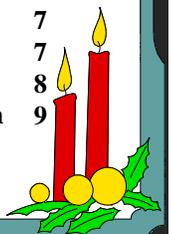
Thank you so very much for your contribution to my college education. It was truly a pleasant surprise to find out that I had won. I will soon be heading off to Duke and am really looking forward to a new experience. I am so grateful for your generosity. I will do my best and work hard to earn your gift. Thanks again...

Sincerely, Darin Geracimos

*May the spirit of Christmas
fill your home...
Long after the tree and
wrappings are gone.*

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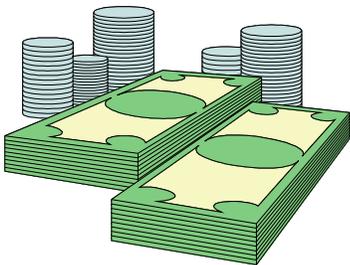
Keep Those Cards and Letters Coming...

Thanks to all who have helped this paper by sending articles to share with fellow Tsintzinians. It is only with your help that the paper will continue. Please send news to...

Tsintzinian Chronicle
289 Powhattan
Marion, Ohio 43302
Tel. (740)383-2762
Fax (740)375-2915
E-mail laskaris@gte.net.

Winner of the Raffle

The drawing for the \$1,000.00 Tsintzina Society Raffle took place at the October 25th board meeting. George Tsuturas from W. Chester, Ohio was the \$1,000.00 winner. A big THANKS to all who bought tickets. The money is used to pay the taxes on the clubhouse. Also thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Skevos Zervos for their hard work on getting the tickets printed and out to everyone.



**The Tsintzinian Web Site
has moved to allow for
better service. The new
address is
[http://156.63.251.180/
Tsintzina/tsin.htm](http://156.63.251.180/Tsintzina/tsin.htm)**

Fellow Tsintzinians:

By George Laskaris

For the past 90 years we have traveled the long distance to Jamestown to attend the Annual Convention/Reunion of our wonderful Tsintzinian Society. I can not help but think back many years to the time when our roads were narrow and not the best. It was always a difficult drive to Jamestown. Then after we arrived there, we would have the task of finding a place to stay.

Think back to the time when there were NO motels, a few hotels, and rooming or tourist homes. Accomodations were always difficult to find. It was a hard trip because the cars were not the best, and you had to travel much slower than today. Money was scarce due to the Depression and the War.

But our families did everything possible to get to Jamestown to see relatives and friends and to be a part of our heritage. They saved their money, took the long trip, found a place to stay, and did what was necessary to be a part of the convention and their Greek heritage. They loved every minute of their stay in Jamestown.

Today, the roads are better, the cars are better, there are more modern motels in the area, and you can even fly into Jamestown. So what took almost a week for the Reunion in those days can now be done in just two or three days. That is the way the Reunion today is scheduled.

We need to spend a part of our annual vacation if possible in Jamestown where we can take an active part in the activities and see once again, our relatives and friends. Once you go, you will want to go again. You will all love it. So make your plans now for the Reunion in 1999. You will not regret it.

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830 POST ROAD EAST
WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880

Dispensing with the “Lodge” Idea

By Joanne (Costianes) Ferencz

As an overview of the report made at the October Board Meeting, I would like to inform the Tsintzinians about a very important decision that was made concerning the renovation of the remaining rooms above the Hall.

As a member of the committee that was to discuss the pros and cons of this project, my assignment was to look into the availability of competing facilities in the area. I obtained the Chautauqua County 1998 Accommodation’s Directory plus the Jamestown Area Chamber Calendar of Events for 1998, from the Chamber of Commerce.



Upon researching this material and recording the available facilities in the area that were registered with the Chamber of Commerce), I found a variety of available units for lodging with a variety of prices. This included condos/vacation homes, -(405 units), hotels/motels, -(over 1178 rooms), cottages- (139 units), and bed and breakfasts- (76 units). These facilities/units were then categorized by weekly and daily rates, with a low end and a high end plus approximate median charges. I will not bore you with the figures. I am sure you can see that the Chautauqua County area is saturated with accommodations. For this reason the Board voted unanimously to stop any further investigation of or renovation to the remaining upstairs rooms for the purpose of a Lodge or Bed and Breakfast as has been proposed in the past. The issue is closed.

Lee Costianis offered to look into the cost of renovating the rooms into one apartment that could be an income generator for the Tsintzina Society. The Board has agreed to look into that and will discuss its possibilities at the next board meeting. A suggestion that was made by one of the members upon hearing this recommendation is to possibly rent this apartment by the week to avoid the hassles that accompany renting on a year to year basis. If the apartment were rented out from Sunday night until Saturday morning, this would allow its use during the week by customers who are in the area for whatever recreation they are enjoying and would prevent interfering with renting out the hall on Saturday night. Just renting out the apartment on a weekly basis at a competitive price for even just 20 weeks out of the year would generate around \$5,000.00 per year. THIS MONEY WOULD BE USED TO HELP PAY BACK THE DEVELOPMENT FUND – one of our major goals! We will keep you posted once we gather the facts.

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Advertise in the Chronicle

The Advertising team at the Chronicle has decided to make the advertising a little easier this year by offering only one size [business card size] for advertising in the Tsintzinian Chronicle for 1999. Let the people know what you are doing and that you may be of service to them. Last year was a better year for advertising but we still need your support so that the paper will continue. We need all the support that we can get. To print and send the Tsintzinian Chronicle 4 times a year costs about \$500 plus dollars each time. We are sending the Chronicle to about 850 actual subscribers. Some of our dues support the mass undertaking of making this Chronicle come true. We would like to see some of the cost burden defrayed from membership dues so hopefully it supports itself. I believe that this can be done by a small amount of advertising 4 times a year by your support. Thank You For Your Support.



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Mr. Peter W. Dickson (Alternate)

A Greek Christmas...Tradition

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 mem-

Continued on page 6

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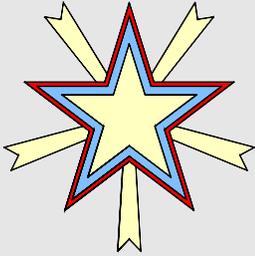
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January 6 "Epiphany"

On January 6 we celebrate the holy Epiphany of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

In all the holy churches of God we celebrate the holy Epiphany of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ and from evening onwards we keep a vigil because when the Lord completed His thirtieth year on earth He wanted to make Himself known to people that He is God in body.



When the Lord was being baptized by John, he was revealed in voice by God the Father from above and by the coming of the Holy Spirit to be true God and consubstantial with the Father. From that time onwards it was made known to all through miracles and His excellent teaching that He certainly is the God who was openly preached by the prophets.

He came to baptism for such a reason: When the Lord became man for us, he fulfilled the whole law throughout His whole life. John on the other hand came from the desert and was baptizing in river Jordan according to what God had told him and to the order and law of God. That is why the Lord wishing to fulfill even this word as divine law, after he completed thirty years of age, He went to John the Baptist to be baptized as the rest of men did, although he had no need of baptism being sinless.

So, when the Lord was baptized by him, he immediately rose from the water and behold! The heavens opened and John saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and going to Jesus. But even a voice from heavens above was heard saying: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased". From this it was made obvious to the Jews that John was not greater than Jesus, according to the false conviction held by many, but that he was incomparably lower than Him and that he was His servant and stooge. That is why the Spirit descending addressed the Father's voice to Jesus and obviously showed as if pointing out with the finger that "This is my beloved Son" was not said about John the Baptist, although he was glorified and accepted by many, but it was said about Jesus who was being baptized. When the Lord had completed this legal commandment of baptism as well, He broke the curse which had been put on Adam because he had broken the Divine law. Following this He discontinued the Jewish baptism and gave to us, the faithful, the commandment to be baptized with the baptism of the three immersions and immersions, which has the grace of the Holy Spirit that was absent from John's baptism. Because, when the Lord had been baptized in that same river, he completed the shadowy and imperfect baptism and opened the gates of the spiritual and divine baptism of the Church. This baptism we, who were baptized, need from that time onwards to keep pure and immaculate from sin by carrying out the life-giving commandments so that we may reach the kingdom of heavens.

Greek Orthodox Web Site

The Newest Tsintzinians Born...

Mr. and Mrs. Gunter Steege are the proud parents of a son, Nikolas, born Sept. 9, 1998, weighing 8 pounds and 6 ½ ounces. Mrs. Gunter is the former Stephanie Stam, daughter of Sam and Helen [Lambros] Stam of Oneonta, New York.

50th Anniversary

George and Matoula P. Nickles of Ithaca, New York celebrated their 50th in October.

Gust and Jeannette Chelekis celebrated their 50th Nov. 14th from Apple Valley, CA.

George and Angie Laskaris of Bartlett, Tennessee will be celebrating their 50th on January 9, 1999.

George and Mary Lambros of Oneonta, New York will celebrate their 50th on January 16, 1999.



Our Dear Departed

Ponagiota Vournakis, 89, died August 24th, 1998. She was the widow of Nicholas Vournakis who died in 1979. Her sons and daughters-in-law James and Karen Vournakis of Georgia and John and Karen Vournakis of South Carolina survive Mrs. Vournakis. Her brother, Panagiotis Andritsakis still lives in Athens Greece.



Honored and Remembered
Tsintzinians

Continued from page 4

ber, 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 homes 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.

*Children, family,
good friends.... A
Christmas wish that
never ends.*



NICK VOURAS
JOHN VOURAS

658-0812



906 Union Street • Wilmington, DE 19805

Nick Caravasos Earns Award

A Zoupeniotis, Nikolaos {Nick} Caravasos {Nikolaos Anastasiou Karabastos), receives a national award from the American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics (AIAA) at the 3rd World Aviation Congress, which was held on 28-30 September 1998, at Anaheim, California.

Mr. Caravasos was born in Zoupena and immigrated to the United States in 1951. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from West Virginia University and Masters of Science in Applied Management from the University of Pennsylvania.



Mr. Caravasos is recognized as an expert, nationally and internationally, on survivability matters having worked on numerous major programs including fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft.

He has lectured on "Aircraft Combat Survivability, an Industry Perspective" course for more than six years and on a graduate "Helicopter Design" Course dealing with military requirements for two years at the Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey, California. He has also lectured to Greece's NATO forces at KETA, in Glyfada, Athens, Greece.

He is a member of the AIAA Survivability Committee that he chaired from 1992 to 1994. He is also a member of JTCG/AS Industry Advisory Committee, and has just been selected to review and oversee the "Reduction of Aircraft Vulnerability to Man-Portable Air Defense Systems (MANPADS) program.

His wife, Mary, is a graduate from the University of Athens Law School, and his daughter, NiaLena, is a graduate from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and from Boston University School of Law with a J. D. Degree. She is a practicing criminal lawyer in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Alex Macheras Win's Prestigious Lexington Cup Tournament

Well known local golfer and Rockbridge County High School golf coach Alex Macheras fired an impressive, 3-under par 68 at the Lexington Golf and Country Club in August. Although the club championship at the course is considered to be the season's end match play tournament, many golfers consider the stroke play Lexington cup the most difficult challenge of the season. The two-day tournament was held Sat. and Sunday with 18 holes of stroke play [no mulligans!] each day. We [fellow Tsintzians] are proud of you Alex.



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1998 Tsintzina Convention Group Photo

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Tsintzinian Historical Society Group Picture July 1998, Jamestown, NY

Black & White 8 x 10 Photograph @ \$10 plus \$2 shipping: **Total = \$12.00**

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Give Us Your Memories

We would like to hear the thoughts and memories of our members in future *Tsintzinian Chronicles*. The editors of this paper realize that your recollections of past Conventions help to keep the memories of this great and historical organization alive. It helps us remember times past and the importance of why we get together as a group to celebrate our ancestry. It brings out long forgotten memories in others and allows us to reflect on our families and this Society as a whole.

We would also like you to comment on what it means to be a Tsintzinian Greek and a part of the Jamestown experience. Anything will be accepted.

This paper is the voice to keep your words and memories alive. We want this paper to be your method to communicate with those you only see once a year. Please be a part of this effort.

Send all messages to the *Tsintzinian Chronicle* 289 Powhattan Marion, Ohio 43302, E-Mail to laskaris@gte.net, or use the comment page on the Tsintzinian Web page.

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Policies:

The Chronicle has the legal right to reject advertising for any reason. We will not change your ad without first contacting you.

CORRECTIONS

In the September issue of the Chronicle I noticed several errors. My Aunt Pota Costianes's maiden name was Caravasos, not Caravasios. Also her age at the time of her death was 95. George Kapps's Greek name was Kapsalis, not Kosalis. His wife Troula survives him. Regards Nikolas Caravasos.... Thank you for the corrections we are sorry for any mistakes we make.

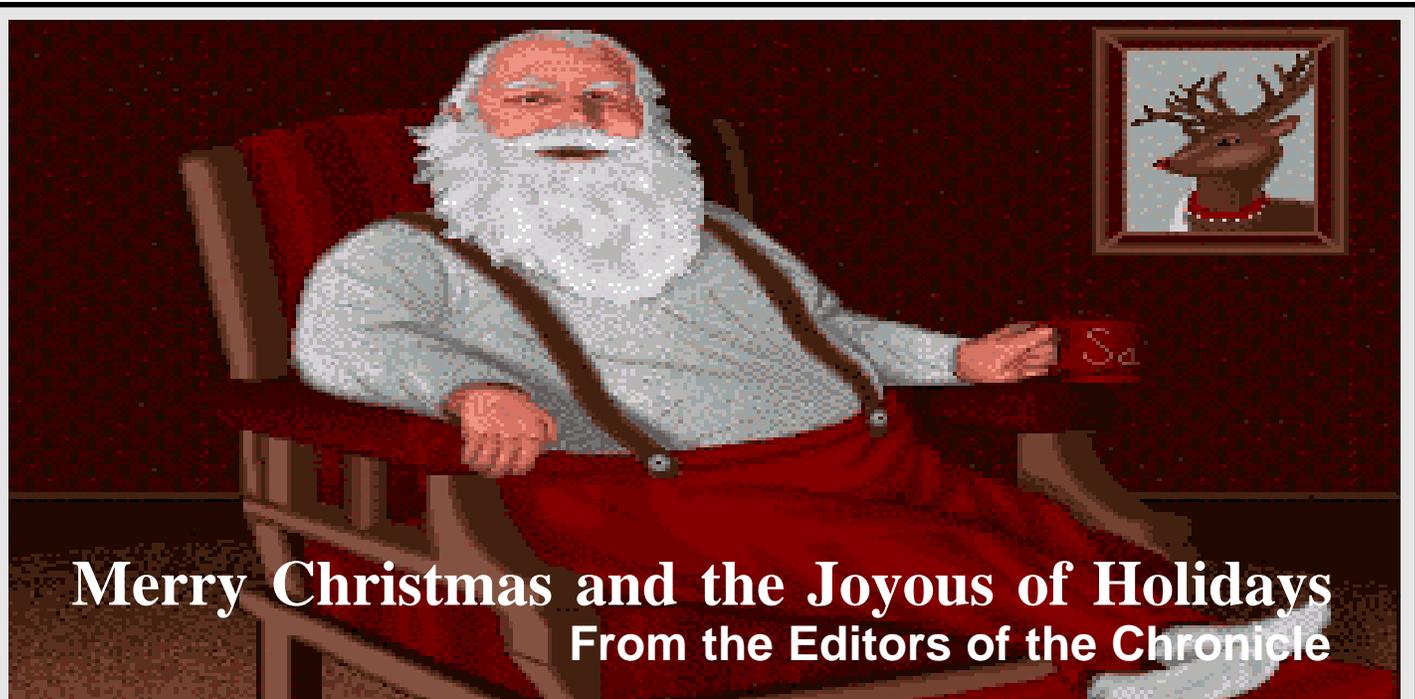
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Καλα Χηριστουγεννα



Merry Christmas and the Joyous of Holidays
From the Editors of the Chronicle

1999 Membership Drive...Dues

Dear Tsintzinians:

We are now at the end of 1998 and about to enter the beginning of the 1999 fiscal year. The Board of our Society is asking that you consider paying your Annual Society Dues as early as possible this year. The Board at its October meeting decided not to increase the membership dues for next year. Therefore, I wish to inform you that the dues will remain at \$35 for a family until May 1st and \$55 after May 1st. We will enforce the cut-off date for the reduced rate rigorously this year, as we are giving the membership plenty of advanced notice. So, I ask you to please send in your dues now! This will make it possible for the Society to have the resources for the proper planning of next July's convention. Please send the checks to the address indicated in the form attached to this issue of the Chronicle. Thank you in advance.

Your Dues Secretary,
John N. Vournakis

The Tsintzinian Chronicle has
a NEW ADDRESS:

Tsintzinian Chronicle
289 Powhattan
Marion, Ohio 43302

Tel (740) 383-2762
Fax (740) 375-2915
E-mail laskaris@gte.net



Make Checks payable To: Tsintzina Society
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1999 Tsintzina Society Membership Form

Last Name:	First:	Middle:
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Spouse:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please Check if Ladies Auxiliary Member
Father's Full Name:		
Mother's Maiden Name:		
Phone:	E-MAIL:	

Family Decedents Of: (Please Check All That Apply) Tsintzina Zoupena Goritsa Other

Type of Membership (Please Check One)

Family \$35.00
\$55.00 after April 30th

Individual \$25.00
\$35.00 after April 30th

Student \$20.00
\$30.00 after April 30th

Amount Enclosed:



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Address Correction Requested