

THE TSINTZINIAN

Historical Society of America

July 2012

The President's Message:

Hello.... It is that time of year again... JAMESTOWN!!! The board has been working all year very hard to make sure this convention happens. A special THANKS goes out to John Z for coming up with a fund-raising plan to carry us over for at least the next five years. Eleven families have committed to giving \$1,500 a year. Some families have already given their share for this year. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!! If everyone pitches in, even just a little, we can keep the history going.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER.....

-How many of your grandparents met at the convention and got married?

-Have you ever walked to the lake from the club house and gone to the little place with the player piano?

-How many people have you piled into the car to make the trip to Jamestown?

-What is the first thing you do when you get to the club house?

-What is the first memory of Jamestown that you have?

-How many cousins and friends have you

connected with in Jamestown.

-One can travel to any state in our country and meet up with a Tsintzinian.

Every year you come you are making history. Let us keep the history living. I am very sorry this paper is so late- my Nouna passed away-as I sit back and think of the great memories she and I have made together it reminds me of the GREAT memories we are all making in Jamestown. Lots of people have walked through the front door to our club house, let's keep their memories alive. George has been in and out of the hospital- all is better now.

I hope to see you all in two weeks...

Helen Laskaris

PLEASE BRING CASH OR CHECK TO PAY FOR THE CONVENTION.... Credit Cards cost us money and we are trying to cut costs....

The Tsintzinian Historical Society of America

2011 BOARD of DIRECTORS

- **PRESIDENT:** Helen Laskaris
laskaris@roadrunner.com
- **VICE PRESIDENT:** Thalia Johanssen
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- **TREASURER:** Eugene Geracimos
ggeracimos@hotmail.com
- **SECRETARY:** Pauline Costianes
pnc_52@hotmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP: Stephanie Schlick
Tsintzinasociety@yahoo.com

REUNION CHAIRMAN DIRECTOR:
Thalia Johanssen

MEMBERS:
Lee Costianis
Peter Nickles
John Schlick
Peter Sfikas
John Zacharias

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2012 Tsintzinian Reunion Schedule

Thursday July 26, 2012

4:00 PM Reunion Registration
 6:15 PM Dinner
 8:00 – 10:30 Dancing – Bring your favorite Greek music CD's

Friday July 27, 2012

9:00 am – 12:00 pm Socialize @ clubhouse, share family histories, photos, etc.
 9:30 AM Golf
 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Board Meeting
 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm Social Time - BINGO
 3:00 PM Greek Dancing Lessons
 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm Reunion Registration
 5:45 PM Dinner
 10:00 PM Dancing to the music of The Aegeans
 12:00 AM Midnight Snack

Saturday July 28, 2012

9:00 am – 12:00 pm Socialize @ clubhouse, share family histories, photos, etc.
 9:30 AM Golf
 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm General Assembly Meeting
 1:00 pm – 1:15 pm Board Meeting
 1:00 PM Youth Activities
 1:30 PM Texas Hold 'Em Tournament
 2:00 pm – 5:30pm Social Time - BINGO
 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm Reunion Registration
 4:30 PM YOUTH TALENT SHOW
 5:15 PM NEW! - Self Defense Demonstration
 5:45 PM Dinner
 10:00 PM Dancing to the music of The Aegeans
 12:00 AM Midnight Snack

Sunday July 29, 2012

9:00 am – noon Breakfast Buffet at the Clubhouse

*Keep the Tradition
 Alive!*

Bring your family...

Meet relatives...

Make new friends...

*Learn about your fore-
 fathers.....*

*Dance the night away
 to the music of the
 Aegeans!*

2012 Tsintzinian
 Convention

July 26, 27, 28, 29
 Celoron, New York

TSINTZINA HAS TALENT!

-Get your act ready
 for the children's talent
 show under the tent
 Saturday afternoon.

-Show starts at 4:30
 p.m.

2012 Convention Rates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Adult Price</u>	<u>Child Price</u>
Thursday (July 26)	Dinner and Dancing to CD's	Adults Age 21+ = \$15	Under 21 = \$5
Friday & Saturday (July 27, 28)	Dinner and Dancing to The Aegeans	Age 13+ = \$60	Age 5-12 = \$20
Friday or Saturday (1 Day)	Dinner and Dancing to The Aegeans	Age 13+ = \$35	Age 5-12 = \$15
Sunday (July 29)	Breakfast	Donation = \$5	

Katherine Slezak Graduates

Kathryn Slezak of Seminole, Florida has graduated from St. Petersburg College with an Associate's Degree in Business. She is now pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in International Business and plans to study abroad. Kathryn is the daughter of Kathleen Costianes and granddaughter of Nick & Fran Costianes of Albion, Michigan.



You know you're Greek when
WTF means "where's the food"



SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

**WE LOOK FORWARD
TO HEARING FROM YOU!**

There is Hope for our Society!

There is Hope for our Society!

If you do not agree with this effort, please advise me as soon as possible.

For the past 3 months, Board Members and their families and a group of dues paying members have been discussing the features of Family Grouping Fund Raising (FGFR). It is a technique where by the fund raising goals of a private organization is communicated and implemented through small sub groups, in our situation, families; in college situations, graduating class years. Since I used the technique very successfully to raise \$37,000 between 1999 and 2001 from 31 Tsintzinian families for the Dino Serfirlis water well wall hanging, I believe it can work again. The goal this time is to have approximately 17 families pledging and paying \$1500 per year for the next five years; other combinations can be done as needed. So far we have 11 families organized with family coordinators who feel that their family together as a group can meet the \$1500 per year goal.

WHAT are some of the details of FGFR? In our situation, we need approximately \$25,000 annually of income to cover the costs of operating the Clubhouse. Assuming \$1500 per year, all we need are 17 families. If we can get 17 large families, supposedly all blood relatives, each adult giving an average of \$187.50 (assuming 8 adults), over the next five years, it will give us an opportunity to show our committed financial support where withal to the Foundations that will help us reach our goal of establishing an educational learning center. There will no longer be raffles or special appeals. If you are part of one of these family groupings, your participation there waves your dues. For those Tsintzinians who cannot get 8 adults in one family, since we are all cousins, just put your group together. There is nothing magic about the 8 adults in one family. If there are only 5 of you, based on experience, one of your group may already be contributing \$1000 a year. This contributor may be a senior citizen who helps reduce the average allowing a younger person with a growing family to be part of a family.



WHAT is the next step? During the next two months, you need to start your family grouping. I have already volunteered 12 family coordinators. If you decline serving in this position, please pass the responsibility to someone else in the family. If you need any help, please feel free to contact me. Proper communication is critical the next three months. We are at a cross roads in our history. If the consensus at the convention is to proceed with FGFR, it is most important to continue owning the Clubhouse. We will then need your family's first contribution, preferably \$1000 by the end of

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August. The balance of your pledge will be due by the end of the year. During the convention in July, there will be general assembly meetings to first discuss the extent of interest among families. If there is not a positive response to FGFR, then other alternatives will be discussed such as selling the Clubhouse to a friendly buyer who will let us use the Clubhouse once a year for our convention.

WHAT happens if FGFR fails? Since we have the 501c3 IRS classification as we always wanted, the assets (the Clubhouse) will be sold and deposited in our Endowment fund to distribute scholarships to the individuals who study the successes of Tsintzinians in America.

Cordially,

John Zacharias

Nick Costianes Elk of the Year

Ever since 1964 the Albion Elks Lodge #1798 has named one of its members "Elk of the Year". This honor is a mandatory tradition of the Grand Lodge to be bestowed on one individual who has proven themselves worthy of the honor. Past "Elk of the Year" recipients choose this individual based on his or her willingness and assistance in the betterment of Elkdom. This year that honor goes to Nick Costianes.

Nick is the last of 10 children born to Greek immigrant parents, in Batavia, New York in 1928. He has been an Elk at the Albion Lodge for 46 years. John Momtsios, his brother-in-law sponsored him in 1966. He and his wife Fran have been married 60 years and they have three daughters, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.



Nick graduated from New Concord, OH, High School in 1947 where he lettered in football and basketball. He was also active in choir and won a first place rating in baritone voice in state competition.

In 1948-1950 he served in the U.S. Navy and received an honorable discharge as a Parachute Rigger, Airman 1st class.

Nick spent over 50 years in newspaper advertising sales and promotion in Albion, Homer and Marshall. He and his wife Fran have both served on the Albion City Council and have actively volunteered for numerous civic organizations over the years.

Nick has served as editor of the monthly "Elks News" Bulletin and has been Public Relations Chair since 2008. He also graciously took over and chaired the Paul and Russ Hrab Memorial Golf Outing when it was thought that the event would no longer take place. July 21st, 2012, will be his 3rd year chairing this event.

His leisure activities include golf, dancing, serving his church and just trying to stay healthy.

Greek Americans Info

Greek Americans are Americans of Greek descent also described as Hellenic descent. According to the 2007 U.S. Census Bureau estimation, there were 1,380,088 people of Greek ancestry in the United States, while the State Department mentions that around 3,000,000 Americans claim to be of Greek descent. In addition, the 2000 census revealed that Greek was spoken at home by 365,436 people older than five. Greek Americans have a heavy concentration in the New York City metropolitan area, Chicago, Detroit, Boston, Baltimore, Dallas, and Cleveland.



Tarpon Springs, Florida is also home to a large Greek American community and the highest concentration of Greek-Americans in the country (11%). The United States is home to the largest overseas Greek community, ahead of Cyprus and the United Kingdom, which despite having a Greek population of less than 1 million has a larger percentage of Greeks than the U.S.

Do you know?

Our society was founded in 1893.

We are the oldest Greek society in America.



John Floros

John Christ Floros, age 87, formerly of Erie, passed away Sunday, June 15, 2012, in Tsintzina, Greece. Interment will be in Greece.

Farewell to John FLoros who passed away in Tsintzina on June 15. He was such a pleasant man and I can always picture him standing behind the bar at the clubhouse. I last saw him in Tsintzina exactly 2 years ago, playing cards at the Motivo Cafeneo. Kat Costianes

Victoria Louise Memphis

On February 8, 2012 Victoria Louise Memphis (nee Latgis) beloved wife of Ernest Memphis; devoted mother of the late Wm. Ernest (Billy) Memphis; beloved daughter of the late James and Paula Latgis; dear daughter-in-law of the late Wm. Charles and Marie Rose Memphis; loving sister of Nicholas and Rita Latgis, James and Irene Latgis, Marina and Paul Trossbach, and the late Chrysanthy and John Chirgott; dear sister-in-law of Diana Memphis and the late Charles Memphis and his surviving wife Sara Memphis; also survived by many nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

Memories of Jamestown

“My Memories of Jamestown”

by Marian (Andrews) Lipsius (Tujunga, CA)

I was introduced to the Greek convention at an early age, about six years old on my first visit. I remember we stayed with a family who lived nearby, maybe in Celeron or Jamestown.

My father, George P. Andrews from Wesleyville, PA, as a second cousin to George P. Chacona of Erie, PA was invited to attend the convention. Daddy helped in the kitchen most of the time we were there.

But it was there, as a child I got to see my father doing Greek dances for the very first time. Until that time I had only heard about what a good dancer he was from our Greek relatives and friends. I loved the music and spent a lot of time watching all of the people dancing.



I was in my forties the last time I attended the convention with my sister Jean Bernadowicz from Ohio. We spent time with Nick and Dean Manos, reminiscing about our fathers and the many hours they had put in working at the conventions. Jean is gone now, but her eldest daughter, Susan Wight from Leesburg, VA is now a member of The Tsintzina Society.

This wouldn't be complete without telling what a feast the women and men put on for each meal. The pies and everything served was outstanding! No one ever went away hungry.

Thank you to all those who keep “The Tsintzina Society” going for others to enjoy now, and in coming years.

Most Sincerely,

Marian (Andrews) Lipsius



Piled into hotel rooms.....dancing to the music of the Aegeans till the wee hours of the morning.....meeting cousins you never knew you had....renewing relationships.....getting to see those cousins every summer....reunions.....enjoying food with everyone.....watching the tradition of the talent show.....playing bingo, Texas Hold Em.....Greek dancing lessons....talking till you can't talk anymore.....eating Greek pastries.....golfing.....youth Olympics....learning about your ancestors.....Keeping the Tsintzinian spirit ALIVE!!! That is Jamestown. Thalia Johanssen

More Memories of Jamestown

It is hard to believe that it time for our annual Tsintzina Convention in Jamestown, New York.

It is even harder when I remember the many times that my family and I made that trip to the convention.

I remember my first trip to Jamestown back in 1936. My father, Alex and his close friend Gus Pappas of Salem, New Jersey got their heads together to somehow make that long trip from Wilmington, Delaware to Jamestown.

Was it hard? Picture two families trying to drive an old auto loaded up through the mountains of Pennsylvania. Arrangements had to be made for our luggage so that meant our spare tires had to be tied to the outside of the car. We needed water for the car and that was just the start. We needed extra gas so we filled up the spare tank in the old Auburn car.



Everything was done during the hard times of the Great Depression. Off we started on this trip and as hard as it was, we finally made it. When we finally got to Celoron and saw the beautiful sight of the convention, it was more beautiful then imagined.

My father and his friend had only heard about the site and here we were, getting our first look at this wonderful place. There were no motels available at that time so we stayed at different homes throughout the town. The convention was more than we hoped for. We made trips back to the convention in 1937, 1939, and 1940. The war prevented trips between 1941-1945.

Many improvements have been made since those early years making the trip easier for the families. We have a wonderful clubhouse and grounds and much work has gone into making this a very special place.

Now we need to keep it special. So many of the "OLD TIMERS" gave with their efforts and their money. Other have contributed in many ways.

Are we eager to keep this wonderful place? I know my family and their children are. We need funds to keep this very special place going. Even if you can't make it to the convention, help by paying your dues and maybe some extra to our heritage alive. George A. Laskaris

Memories of Jamestown by Nick Lambros

My memories of Jamestown and our Convention go back 65 years. We could not wait to go to Jamestown each summer in July. We at the time lived or rented private homes near the Clubhouse. We kids went to Celoron Park everyday and played on all the rides offered. We went to Bemus Point, for swimming and boating' we played on the grounds with older kids, and adults, great soft-ball games.

Jamestown is where I meant so many life time friends. In 1947 shortly after the war many new faces showed up at the Convention, they were from the villages, they had been part of the terrible civil war in Greece. We at 10 years old had no idea how they suffered,

but were now safe, and able to enjoy our Convention, m e e t u n c l e s , a u n t s , make new and last-ing friends. As years went by I admired those kids more and more..



I remember the dancing never stopping, I remember we as years went by stayed in the Hotel Jamestown, seemed all the people were there. We would leave the clubhouse at 3am and go to a Greek Diner around the corner from the Hotel. Dancing continued in the Restaurant, it

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was so much fun.

The Stow Ferry, near Bemus point was always something we kids remember. Golfing with the crazy Greeks, dancing till the wee hours, just sitting outside the clubhouse and talking to old and dear friends, watching the dancing, watching the young dancers, seeing the



happy faces, seeing old timers that were so nice to me as a kid, it meant so much, and means so

much to me. My brother and sister have passed, George and Angie, so many others have passed, love looking at the pictures and remembering those who I met there, and are no longer with us, they are Jamestown Week.

We all had our sweethearts mine was Stelian Parthemos, please correct my spelling. She was my girl for a week each year. Her family was the greatest, her son Jimmy I see each year, her husband Frank is a wonderful guy, but Stelian in those years was dear to my heart. It was so sad she passed. I can go on and on, just know I love our Convention, and all the good memories I have. Nick Lambros

2012 Tsintzina Reunion

July 26 – July 29
Thursday – Sunday
(Plan Ahead)

Memories of Jamestown—

Although I will not be there this year, I am always with you in spirit— Hoping to be there next year with a couple of my kids, Zack, Taryn and maybe even Stephanie and grandson, Brandon. My son, Zack, is in Dubai this year, serving our country at an Air Force Base there. He and Taryn will definitely be in Jamestown in spirit.

I have many many memories of Jamestown —I have been attending for 40 years, off and on. One memory would be that if you were a single girl and went out on the front porch with a boy , then you better be ready to marry them—the times were that strict!

One time when I was about 9 years old, I was playing around the water pump that is still in front of the hall. It was broken, so I put my hand in it to see where it was broken— another kid came up and pulled the handle up, totally smashing my thumb in the pump. I screamed in pain and my Dad, Jack Costas, wrapped my throbbing thumb in a piece of bread that had been soaked in whiskey. He said that was a cure in Greece for taking the pain and throbbing away. I guess it worked because it doesn't hurt anymore! (Let's see that is well over 35 years ago.) LOL



I also remember that there were so many lines on the dance floor on Saturday night that everyone could not fit in the room.

But most of all I remember ALWAYS having a GREAT time and crying when it was time to go home—I always wished it lasted longer! Thank you.

Nancy (Laskaris) Costas Breckenridge
 Daughter of the late Angeline(Laskaris)and John Costas
 Fredericksburg, VA

2011 Costianes Reunion at Jamestown



Places to Stay

Best Western Downtown Jamestown

(716)-484-8400

3 miles

200 West Third Street

Jamestown, New York, 14701



Clarion Jamestown

(866)-538-6194

3 miles

150 W. 4th Street

Jamestown, NY 14701

Red Roof Inn

(716) 665-3670

7 miles

1980 E. Main Street

Falconer, NY 14733

Comfort Inn Jamestown

(716) 664-592

4 miles

2800 N. Main St. Extension

Jamestown, NY 14701

Budget Inn

(716) 665-4410

6 miles

214 E. Main Street

Falconer, NY 14733

America's Best Motel

(716) 488-1904

1 mile

620 Fairmount Avenue

Jamestown, NY 14701

Hampton Inn & Suites

716 484-7829

4 West Oak Hill Road

Jamestown, NY 14701

The Young Men and Women of Jamestown



Greek Proverbs

"A different man, a different taste."

"A gift, though small, is welcome."

"A library is a repository of medicine for the mind."

"A lucky person is someone who plants pebbles and harvests potatoes."

"A mad bull is not to be tied up with a packthread."

"A miser and a liar bargain quickly."

"A miser is ever in want."

"Act quickly, think slowly."

"After the war, aid."

"All things good to know are difficult to learn."

"An iron rod bends while it is hot."

"An open enemy is better than a false friend."

"Before you can score you must first have a goal."

"Character is habit long continued."

"Death is never at a loss for occasions."

"Eat and drink with your relatives; do business with strangers."

"Even from a foe a man may learn wisdom."

"First secure an independent income, then practice virtue."

"From a thorn comes a rose, and from a rose comes a thorn."

"Good accounts make good friends."

"Gray hair is a sign of age, not wisdom."

"Great abilities produce great vices as well as virtues."

"Great birth is a very poor dish at table."

"He who cannot bear misfortune is truly unfortunate."

"He who respects his parents never dies."

Make Checks payable To: **Tsintzina Society** c/o Gene Geracimos
550 East Holly Ave Apt.32E
Pitman, NJ 08071

2012 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 (Age 21+): \$30.00

I am planning on attending the 2012 Convention.

Amount Enclosed: —

The 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 26 – July 29

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