

TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE

Volume 9

Number 3 June 2005

The President's Message: -The Value of our Tsintzina Society

by John Zacharias

In the last Chronicle, I wrote about the value of our leadership and in a previous to that issue, I wrote about the value of your membership. This message addresses the value of our Society, albeit, a state of the union.

In my over 30 years as a board member, the most recent eight years as president, I have seen the steady participation and interest of a strong group of families that are always there. They attend the conventions, they pay their dues and they buy raffle tickets. For special financial appeals such as the roof project and the renovation of the Clubhouse, they were always there. It is this financial dedication and support that motivates the board and committee members to continue our Society. As we approach owning our Clubhouse almost 100 years, we have something to be proud of. One of the last improvements is being completed this month— the re-



placement of the entrance pillars—the lake effect has nearly destroyed them. Hence, we have an attractive property that we rent to the local residents that generates income for us. We, of course, have a second floor 4 bedroom apartment that our caretaker and his family enjoy as it was renovated also 10 years ago and accommodates his young , growing family. So that is our Shrine.

On the financial side, we have annual expenses of approximately \$20,000 and through rental income, dues, convention profit, raffle sales, and lady's bake sales, we have been successful in covering these expenses. Our Endowment Fund is close to \$50,000 and with few ex-

Continued on page 2

July 28, 29, 30, 31 The Tsintzina Family Reunion

Set your calendars and be at this year's reunion. There are many great activities planned and the spirit of friendship and family will be enjoyed by all. Take part in your Tsintzinian heritage and take pride in our history.

**Make reservations quickly
and plan to be at the best
Reunion yet.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President Speaks	1,2,3
Itinerary	2
Lodging Info	3
History Project	4,5
Misc News	4,6
Sefelis Remembered	5,7
Paid Members	6,7
Honored Tsintzinians	6
Greek Dancing	8
The Raffle	8
Dues Form	9
CD Form	9

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

Preregistration Form
is on the site.

Continued from page 1

ceptions, has only been used for capital improvements. Considering everything, we have assets totaling over \$300,000. I would say that is pretty outstanding for our long standing, small Society of descendants from Tsintzina. I would also say that myself and the board is highly protective of these assets. There is no foolish spending or donating to other causes.

On the social and fraternal side, I think that we are solid. We have no trouble getting board members who are willing to work; the board meetings are held 3 times a year and are fairly well attended. The board has had 2 mid year retreats in the past 12 years which have resulted in well thought through plans and the continuation of our forefathers' visions. We currently have close to 200 dues paying members and expect over 200 at this July's reunion. We have the most up to date membership list that we have probably ever had as the result of many volunteer hours of calling and verifying living members and their addresses. We have a most impressive website that portrays our Society as viable and active. Go to <http://tsintzinasociety.com> and see for yourself. The annual reunion is getting new interest. As a result, we are scheduling a full range of activities for Thursday, including live music. The manager of the Colony Motel told me last month that he has more reservations for Thursday night than he has ever had. The blue and white party tent on the front yard adds a festive atmosphere and provides a place for the traditional socializing and organized games such as bingo. We had over 70 people attend last year's dinner on Thursday night. De-

Continued on page 3

Tsintzinian Reunion Program 2005

Thursday, July 28

2:00-6:00pm
2:00pm
3:00pm
4:00pm
6:15pm
8:30-10:30pm

Early Registration
Greek Cooking Lessons
Investment Roundtable
Greek Dancing Lessons
Dinner under the tent
Dancing to the music of the Aegean Duo



Friday, July 29

9:00am-12:00pm
9:30am
12:00-3:00pm
2:00-6:00pm
2:00-4:00pm

3:00-4:00pm
4:00pm
3:30-5:30pm
6:15pm
10:00pm
12:00am

Pastries, Juice and Coffee (Poolos Hall)
Golf Tee Time
Lunch available – Sandwiches, chips, pickle & drink
Registration
Youth Activities – Horseshoes, Foul Shooting, Video Games¹
Greek Dancing Lessons
Board Meeting
Bingo – under the tent
Dinner
Dancing to the music of The Aegeans
Midnight Snack

Saturday, July 30

9:00am-12:00pm
9:30am
12:00-3:00pm
1:00-5:00pm
1:30-4:00 pm
2:00-3:30pm
3:30-4:30pm
5:00-6:00pm
5:00-6:00pm
6:15pm
7:15-8:00pm
10:00pm
12:00am
12:20am

Breakfast Buffet
Golf Tee Time
Lunch available – Sandwiches, chips, pickle & drink
Registration
Video Game competition¹, Jewelry making²
Bingo - under the tent
General Assembly (followed by Board Meeting)
Cocktail Hour
Family Photo Sessions
Dinner / Stuffed Animals – age nine and under
Youth Talent Show
Dancing to the music of The Aegeans
\$50 Raffle and other prize drawings
Midnight Snack

Sunday, July 31

9:00am-12:30pm Breakfast Buffet and a safe trip home

¹ We will have TVs in the hall – Please bring your Nintendo, Playstation and X-Box hardware, software and connections.

² All supplies and tools will be available for jewelry making.



Lodging in Jamestown, NY Area

Best Western Downtown

Jamestown

716-484-8400

3 miles



200 West Third Street
Jamestown, New York, 14701

Holiday Inn Jamestown

(716) 664-3400

3 miles

150 W. 4th Street
Jamestown, NY 14701

Comfort Inn Jamestown

(716) 664-592

4 miles

2800 N. Main St. Extension
Jamestown, NY 14701

Colony Motel

(716) 488-1904

1 mile

620 Fairmount Avenue
Jamestown, NY 14701

Red Roof Inn

(716) 665-3670

7 miles

1980 E. Main Street
Falconer, NY 14733

Budget Inn

(716) 665-4410

6 miles

214 E. Main Street
Falconer, NY 14733

Star Motel

(716) 763-8578

1 mile

270 E. Fairmount Avenue
Lakewood, NY 14750



Continued from page 2

spite deaths of many of our members, we are continuing to get new and old people who are traveling from even California to attend the reunion. This year, we will have one of our experienced film maker members produce a documentary on our Society and its families. The production crew is in Sparta right now starting its filming of where it all started. Oppaa!

On a serious side, we as members cannot let up. A study has been conducted of the dues paying members who are over 75 and the effects of their future deaths. We need all of us to make an impression on our children and grandchildren and emphasize the importance of supporting our Society through paying dues and buying raffle tickets. This needs to be done in order to keep the memories and traditions alive of our Shrine in Jamestown. It is amazing to see the faces of members who have not been to the Clubhouse for 20 or 30 years—they are in awe. We are a living historic landmark. As many have done in the past, please put the Tsintzina Society in your will and reference us as a memorial donation. I remember in the 70's how there was discussion on what to do if our Society goes defunct. The \$50 raffle has saved us. There has not been a discussion of that sort since and now that we are over 100 years old, there should never be a discussion like that. We are now in the Institution category. Looking forward to seeing you on July 28.

www.tsintzinasociety.com

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



ICONOGRAPHY

Written by the hand of the
servant of God

Joanna Ferencz

Phone: (724) 537-2651

www.comeandseeicons.com/ferencz.htm

First Tzintzinian Triplets?



The children are (left to right) Nicole Maria, Michael Chris and Joanna Sophia. They were born January 4, 2005 in Syracuse, NY.

Chris & Penny (Papageorge) Meskos from Syracuse, NY. My parents are Garyfallia (Benekos) and the late Nicholas Papageorge.

Congratulations

Matina Banks will be completing her studies in Communications at Marymount Manhattan College in NYC in December, Alicia Banks is graduating from Oakton High School with a an AP diploma in June and, George Banks will be completing his BA in June of 2006 from the College of William and Mary.

Parents George and Karen (Vlahos) Banks are trying to keep up with it all.

**SEE YOU AT
THIS YEARS TSINTZINA
SOCIETY REUNION
July 28, 29, 30, & 31**

Peter Laskaris

LASKARIS, JAMES, EBLIN & NORRIS
Computer Consultants

703 Summit Road
Marion, Ohio 43302

Phone: (740)-387-9271
EMAIL: laskaris@frognet.net



TSINTZINA SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

We would like to remind all of our members that a documentary style filmmaker will be present at this years convention to create digital video portraits of both individuals and families. We want to once again urge all of our Tsintzinian families to make a special effort to bring their senior members to the convention so that we can make sure that their wonderful memories will be preserved forever. Be sure to bring family album photos including those of relatives that trace the family back as far as possible.

The following are questions that you and other family members may begin thinking about answers for:

- What stories did your parents or other relatives tell you about their lives before and after they came to America including their recollections of earlier Tsintzinian conventions?
- What are your personal recollections that may include fondest memories of your family (parents, grandparents and children), trips to Tsintzina, old convention experiences, etc?
- What advice did your parents or other close relatives give you that maybe should be passed down to future generations.
- What is your earliest memory?



Continued on page 5

Cathedral Sculptor: Constantine L. Seferlis Dies

By Joe Holley

Constantine L. Seferlis, 76, a sculptor and stone carver whose work graces Washington National Cathedral, the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the Capitol, Hillwood Museum and Gardens and other sites in the Washington area, died March 27 at Medlink Nursing Center in Washington. He had complications from Parkinson's disease.

He was a resident of Garrett Park, where he maintained a studio for many years.

Mr. Seferlis, whose work was featured in the Academy Award-winning documentary "The Stone Carvers" (1984), moved to the Washington area in 1958 to work as a carver at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Two years later, he began his work on the cathedral and over the next 18 years created more than 200 works for the building's exterior and interior, including flowers, sculptures, animals and other Gothic decorations. Among his favorites were the heads of Helen Keller and Pope John XXIII.

Friends and family members pointed out that in almost every photograph of Mr. Seferlis, he is wearing a devilish grin, and his work includes some of the more playful gargoyles, grotesques, mythical creatures and symbolic human forms that embellish the 83,000-square-foot cathedral.

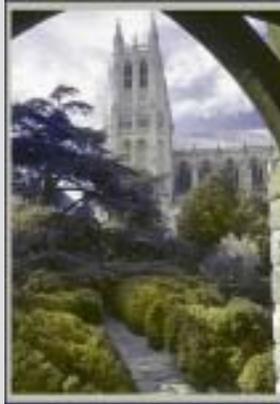
They include a hippie, replete with torn sweater, to represent Vietnam War-era protesters, and a character who honors the profession of dentistry. Of the latter, he once said that a dentist approached him and said he'd like something as a memorial.

"I want a tooth with a cavity," the man said.

"A tooth with a cavity," Mr. Seferlis replied. "Let me think about it."

He quickly realized it would be difficult to carve a dentist working in a mouth, since teeth are so small; it might look like a doctor peering into a throat. "So I decided to exaggerate it — a dentist working on a walrus's tusk."

He was a renowned animalier, a sculptor of animals. A bulldog, a poodle, a cat with a bird in its mouth, a praying mantis, a praying pig, a lobster, an octopus, an elephant, a donkey — a veritable menagerie of animals — gambol in stone throughout the cathedral, inside and out. His son noted that Mr. Seferlis was one of the first sculptors to



Continued from page 4

- What is your happiest childhood memory?
- What did you want to be when you grew up?
- What about your school years?
- What would you like to say about your life's work?
- How did you meet your spouse and what attracted you to her or him?
- What values have you tried to pass on to your children?
- Describe some of the happiest days of your life.
- What was the hardest thing you ever faced?
- There is a lot to be learned in this life. What are some of the most important lessons that you have learned?
- What would you still like to accomplish?
- If you had your life to live over, what would you do differently?
- What is your most cherished material possession?
- What is your recipe for a happy, successful life?
- If you had three wishes, what would you wish for?
- As we finish this interview, what would you like us to remember for the rest of our lives?

Your Family History:



Continued on page 7



**Honored and Remembered
Tsintzinians**

Nellie (Lemberakis) Tozzi

Nellie (Lemberakis) Tozzi died in Arizona during Holy Week.

Sophia J. Yianoukos

Mrs. Yianoukos died on Friday, May 6, 2005 at the United Helpers Nursing Home in Canton where she had been a resident since May of 1998.

Funeral services for Sophia J. Yianoukos, 87, of Potsdam, NY were held at the Garner Funeral Home in Potsdam, with Father Phillip Yanoulis, from St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church officiating. Burial followed at the Bayside Cemetery, Potsdam.

She is survived by a son, Steven and his wife, Joyce, Yianoukos of Potsdam; a daughter Pota and her husband, Stephen Davis, of Potsdam; grandchildren, Fia and Tim Cronin of Charlotte, NC.; Lia and Stephan Davis of Potsdam; and John and Melissa Yianoukos of Fort Myers FL, and a great-granddaughter, Logan Rena Cronin of Charlotte, NC.

Mrs. Yianoukos was born Sophia Voulamanos on August 6, 1917 in Goritsa, Greece where she attended schools.

On May 20, 1945 she married John Yianoukos in Greenville, PA. They then moved to Potsdam NY where together they owned and managed the Rialto Theatre, the Roxy Theatre and the Moonlight Drive-in Theatre. John died on July 21, 1986.

Members Paid after March 10, 2005

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mr. & Mrs. Frixos Alexis | Ms. Melainie Covis |
| Mrs. Demetra Pappas Anargyros | Mrs. Nancy G. Covis |
| Mr. & Mrs Leon N. Andris | Mr. & Mrs. Stephen C. Davis |
| Mrs. Vanessa Opolicky Andris | Mr. & Mrs. Michael Demas |
| Mr. & Mrs. Gus Anton | Mr. & Mrs. George Dusckas, Jr. |
| Mrs. Angeline W. Booras | Mrs. Theodora Economakis |
| Mr. & Mrs. Constantine. Caravasos | Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Foti |
| Mr. Nick A. Caravasos | Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Franks |
| Mr. & Mrs. John G. Chacona | Mrs. Loy Georgetson |
| Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas J. Chacona | Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Giannoucos |
| Mr. James Anaistassios Chacona, Jr. | Mr. & Mrs. James Gianukos |
| Mr. Mike Chelekis | Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Gliwa |
| Mr. & Mrs. George D. Constantikes | Continued on page 7 |
| Mr. & Mrs. George Constas | |

Remembrances of 2004

Be a Part of the Memories in 2005!



Educational and Corporate Development and Training

GENE GERACIMOS

Individual Tutoring and Preparation for PSAT/NMSQT, SAT I, SAT II, ACT and College Application & Acceptance Process

10831 W. Broad Street
PMB 288
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Phone 804-741-3001
Fax: 804-346-8595
ggeracimos@hotmail.com

Continued from page 5

carve his gargoyles and grotesques in such a way that they interact with the building.

His work on the cathedral reminded him of the glorious architecture he saw all around him during his childhood in Greece. "If you live in Athens, and beneath the archaeological museum, under the shadow of the Acropolis, there's no way you can't be serious," he once said.

Constantine Leonidas Seferlis was born in Sparta, Greece, and received a master of fine arts degree from the Academy of Fine Arts in Athens.

Of his craft, he told The Washington Post in 1985, "It seems I was always preparing for it. When I was a boy, always I had a little knife and a piece of wood to carve."

He learned to play chess at age 12 and carved a set of hardwood chessmen in a month.

Postwar unemployment in Greece, a poor country even in the best of times, prompted him to seek his fortune elsewhere. A friend from Greece who had settled in the United States in the 1930s and taught at the private Horace Mann School in New York encouraged Mr. Seferlis to immigrate.

He came to New York in 1957 and enrolled at the Art Students League, which allowed him to make connections and find commissions.

He moved to Washington the next year. In addition to his work on the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, he worked on the restoration of the Capitol's East Front in 1959. He also was involved with the restoration of the Dupont Circle fountain and did relief carvings throughout the interior of the Washington Monument.

At the time of his death, he and his two sons, who learned the craft from their father, were overseeing restoration of the Smithsonian Castle's exterior stone work. It has been a 20-year project as they work to repair



the damage done by the old building's decades-long cover of Virginia creeper, which reaches into mortar and wreaks damage on the stone. The work is expected to last another two decades.

He also taught sculpting and stone carving to students at the Corcoran College of Art and Design, Maryland Institute College of Art and Northern Virginia Community College. Although he was demanding, his teaching style was casual and personal. He encouraged his students to start not by carving angels but by observing nature — the intricacies of a leaf, for example.

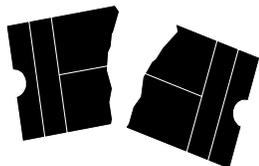
He was inducted into the National Sculpture Society in 1971 and the National Academy of Design in 1974. He also was a member of Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Washington.

Continued from page 6

Mrs. Estelle Gould
Mrs. Helen T. Gregory
Mr. Steven Harris
Ms. Thaila Johanssen
Mr. George E. Johnson
Ms. Sandra Karahalios
Mrs. Elaine P. Karas-Shadle
Dr. Frank J. Karfes
Mr. James Karfes
Mr. Dino N. Kostianes
Mr. & Mrs. George H. Lambros
Mr. & Mrs. Alex G. Laskaris
Mr. & Mrs. Peter G. Laskaris
Mr. & Mrs. Robert MacGuffie
Mr. James G. Macheras
Mr. Perry G. Macheras
Mr. & Mrs. Avgerinos
Mavrophilos
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Mavrophilos
Mr. Mark Mavrophilos
Miss Mosca A. Mavrophilos
Ms. Cassandra Mihalakos
Mrs. Harriet Mitchell
Ms. Amanda Moore
Mr. Achilles J. Nicholakis
Mr. & Mrs. Achilles Nickles
Mr. & Mrs. D. J. Nickles
Mrs. Mosca M. Nickles
Mr. & Mrs. George Papageorge
Mr. & Mrs. George P. Parthemos
Mr. & Mrs. Spero Pavlostathis
Mr. & Mrs. George L. Peterson
Mr. Marcus Peterson
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas P. Poulos
Mrs. Anna Ross
Ms. Stephanie Soutouras Schlick
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Scott
Mrs. Antonia Seferlis
Mr. & Mrs. Gus Skidas
Mrs. Helen Stam
Mr. & Mrs. Gunter Steege
Mr. John G. Stratakos
Mrs. Toni Tuminella
Mr. Pete Vamvakaris
Mr. & Mrs. Steven J. Yianukos
Mr. & Mrs. Sam S. Zacharias
Ms. Ria Zervos

The Tsintzina Raffle:

Please expect a direct appeal letter from Gene Geracimos shortly for the \$50 raffle. We need every Society member to be part of this raffle this year. Split a ticket with other family members or buy two tickets.



This raffle only has two hundred tickets so the odds are in your favor. Under the direction of Dr. and Barbara Zervos, this raffle has generated close to \$200,000 of profit for our Society. Let's honor them by buying all 200 tickets this year. We are not doing an emergency appeal this year nor have we done one for many years. A \$50 raffle ticket is not that much money any more. When this \$50 raffle started in the 1970's, that was a lot of money. So please, especially if you are not coming to the convention, please send your request in for a \$50 ticket as your support for the Society. Sell one to your friends also.

I look forward to a great convention—great weather, great food, and great fun. I hope to see you on July 28, 29, 30, and 31.



Jamestown is for young and old!

Greek Dancing

<http://www.yasou.org/festival%20pages/dances.htm>

The music of Greece falls into two main categories: folk (or regional music) and popular music. The folk music is divided into the mainland music and the music of the islands. Popular music is often referred to as "Bouzouki" music, emerging from the seaport tavernas and spreading quickly to all parts



of Greece. (The Bouzouki is the guitar/mandolin type instrument you'll find in any Greek band).

With the rhythm of song must go the movement of dance. Most commonly, the men of Greece perform the intricate steps and movements of a slow

moving, turning, twisting **Zeibekikos**, which is a stately war dance originally performed with a sword and shield. The dancers circle around each other fighting a fanciful battle as the music unfolds.

The Hassapikos, contrary to modern versions, was to be performed by men only since it was originally a butcher's dance in Constantinople during Byzantine times. This is followed by the Hassaposervikos, wielding knives as they whirl to the fast and often strenuous tempo. This is the dance done in the movie *Zorba the Greek*.

The Kalamatianos is performed in a circle and originated in the Peloponnesian district of Kalamata. An ancient mainland dance, the kalamatianos is mentioned in inscriptions at Delphi from 1 AD. The leader performs bravura turns, twists and jumps while the other dancers follow in smooth moving rhythmic steps. Very common.



The Syrtos dates back to the Hellenic period with its smooth flowing movements reminiscent of the classical era of ancient Greece. The Syrtos is the kalamatianos of the Aegean islands. The island of Crete has its own Syrtos.

There are many, many more Greek dances. Each region and area has its own traditional dances and costumes which have evolved through the years, but have been retained for everyone's enjoyment as part of the Greek heritage.