

TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE

Volume 4

Number 2 March 1998

Spoken By The President:

Dear Members,

The Board of Directors and I hope that you had a pleasant 1997 year and that all your families are in the best of health. This has been an exciting and hectic 1997/1998 for The Board members and Associate members along with Donna and I on a massive undertaking of renovating the inside of the clubhouse and major landscaping work.

The General Managers apartment facility is now completed and came very close to budget. As we repaired the one side of the facility upstairs, we found many structural problems that were entire need of repair and also some major re-construction that needed immediate attention.

Roger Volk, our new general manager and his wife Christine, whom has assumed the position of Banquet Manager have moved in to the new facility and are presently managing the grounds. Roger is doing a great job and already due to the major beautification of the facility and huge improvement of the grounds, bookings are starting to take place for 1998 and also for 1999.

For the first time the kitchen has been inspected by the health department and is in the process of passing all the health codes.

Many previous patrons, since re-visiting the ground have re-booked for future events for 1998. This added income would help support many additional projects and gives us a working revenue not only to support ongoing maintenance but reimbursing monies back into the always needed building fund.

The membership grew last year, with the support of the continuing effort of Dr. John Vournakis, membership director and the Chronicle. Past members that heard about the great improvements on the Clubhouse property have started to reinvest. The board has adopted in its'

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The 1998 National Convention

The National Convention this year will be on July 23, 24, and 25. A Send off Breakfast will be served on the morning of the 26th. Once again were hoping for another great year. There will be many events for all our past and new members this year. All the details, with the agenda will be published in the next Chronicle. We are asking for volunteers to help with the many events. This year we are asking for 2-3 roving photographers to photograph the three days of events for the Chronicle to publish and to put on the web page.

July 23rd to 26th

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“Goals and Objectives” for 1998 to try to achieve a 4% per year added paid membership goal. Dr. John Vournakis has been tasked to try to get more members to become active.

Donna and I have been back to the clubhouse many times since the last July convention. We take time to meet with the local township people and officials. We are extremely proud when we hear from the “xenie” townspeople about the big improvements that are happening at the Tsintzinian Clubhouse grounds. People actually stop and come to visit the facility. From many of these visits, Roger has booked wedding, and family outings.

Roger and Donna have created flyers on the home computers that advertise our grounds for weddings, graduation reunions, and many other events.

We were previously informed that no events would happen until the month of June and already Roger is booking events starting as early as March. July is totally booked and only one remaining weekend in August. My dream is the same dreams, hopes, and desires of all the past presidents, that is that the property starts to become self sufficient by producing its own revenues. I would read from year books dating back to the 1930's, that presidents during their presidencies, were also experiencing money worries. My ultimate dream and goal would be that over the next 36 months that the clubhouse would generate not only enough monies to pay taxes, maintenance and supporting costs. Make it profitable enough that all Tsintzinian paid members could come to the 3 day convention with all the food, dance, and major events would be free.

Until the next issue, God Willing, I hope that you have a beautiful spring and a happy and healthy 1998.

Your President,
John



Artist On Display

Like in prior years Artist on Display we are seeking those of you with talents we have not yet had the privilege to see. We all applaud those of you with the gift, and only wish to share in the celebration of your talents. Some of you are photographers, painters, sculptures, and writers. Art is a wide and reaching field it goes into abstract creative uses, musical orientation, poetry writing, children's stories, and even the old story teller, the one that can capture an audience with the tone of their voice and relay a story like no other. Some artists may not be around any longer, if you would like to share the talent of your family member we would love to show their work as well. Let us truly celebrate all of the Past Present and Future Tsintzinian Artists. These talented people are out there and we welcome you all to participate in this year Artist on Display Saturday afternoon between 12:00 noon and 3 o'clock. Once again the gallery display will be in the boardroom.

2nd Annual Children's Savings Bond Award

The 2nd annual children's savings bond award will be given on Saturday night at this year's convention. This year's essay topic will be How A Young Tsintzinian Can Make A Difference For The Future of The Society.

All ages are welcome; there will be 2 age groups with a \$50.00 savings bond to be given in each group. The winners will read their essay on Saturday night during the dinner hour and have their essay published in the

Chronicle. Submit all entries to the Tsintzinian Chronicle 312 N. Glen Ave. Annapolis, Md. 21401. ENTRIES must be received by June 30, 1998. Age groups are 0-13 and 14-18. The Chronicle Staff, 2 schoolteachers, and 2 board members will judge all entries. Good Luck once again to you all.



The Caretaker's Apartment Is Complete

Finally Roger and Christine and their son Josh have moved into the apartment. We wish to welcome them and hope for a long and happy relationship. John and I have been working along side of them since February a year ago, time has flown by and many things have been done. We believe the board has made a wonderful choice in Roger and Christine. If you have not had the chance to meet them they will be at this years convention and the apartment will have tours on each day at set assigned times. If you can not make it to the convention, feel free to call the clubhouse and speak with them. They love to meet Tsintzinians and they want to feel apart of making each convention a success.

Children Artist on Display

This year we hope to have the Children's Art also on Display. At last years Art Show an entry from a young Tsintzinian girl was added. She did a beautiful historical photo family quilt. We invite those younger Tsintzinian talents to participate in this years Young Art-

ists on Display. If you have won a Science project contest or have placed in the Invent America contest or are simply a young and aspiring Artist do not hide your talents. Bring it out for your entire Tsintzinian family to see and share.

The Younger Works of the Mature Artists

Calling all past participants of the Artists on Display. At this years display we would like to show a piece or two of your very early works next to your current work so that the younger Tsintzinian can

see the growth you have accomplished. So pull out that old stuff from college or when you first started with your talent and show us how far you have come in your field.

Interested persons should contact the Tsintzinian Chronicle via phone fax or mail. PHONE & FAX # 410-280-3319. E-mail dknw93A@prodigy.com , 312 N. Glen Ave. Annapolis, Md. 21401

The CARETAKERS APARTMENT

Wow, what a difference. The past smell of animal urine and musty carpeting is changed to the fragrant sweet smell of scented candles and fresh flowers. Created is a beautiful Caretakers apartment with the help of many. If you have never been involved with a building project you may not realize all the hard work, long hours and tears that go into a successful venture that this has been. Thanks to The Board for realizing the need to complete this project. Thanks also to Roger, Christine and their son Josh for putting up with all the delays, running errands, and keeping us informed each day of the happenings.

The construction crew headed by Mike Cheney has done an outstanding job. There is not a piece of wood or a part of the apartment that has not been touch or changed in some way by Mike and his crew. It has been a pleasure to work with a man that has been strong, honest, hardworking, and still be able to laugh when we come across an unexpected problem. You will be so proud when standing in front of the



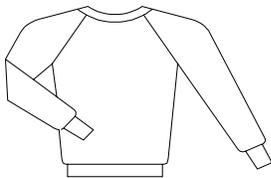
Beautiful Clubhouse. The approach is without a doubt stunning from the freshly painted gated entrance filled with flowers, new sign, and a new black top driveway all the way past the beautiful landscaped gardens on the left and the green mowed grounds on the right. We can park our cars past the new gravel driveway and

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into the cleared field. This has become a truly beautiful facility we all can be proud of. The apartment has under gone a make over. All the rooms have new light fixtures, carpet, ceiling fans, and closets and are freshly painted. Hallways are lighted, have new carpeting and smoke detectors. All closets have lighting. All new vinyl clad windows are now on the entire second floor and all new electrical systems and wiring were installed. Electric baseboard heat was put in all rooms, the most cost efficient for the area. There is no air conditioning so we chose ceiling fans for each room. Every wall and ceiling were replaced old floors and carpet were removed the old plaster was tore out for the new wiring. We send out a special thank you to you all, for your help, support, ideas, questions, and donations of time and money none of this could have been completed without you.

T-shirts, Pins, and Photos



Did you miss getting your New *I'm a Descendent of Tsintzinia Greece* T-shirt, or the Tsintzinia lapel pin, and what about the 8x10 photo of the 1996 convention. We still have some available for purchase. T-shirts are \$12.00 sm, md, lg, xlg, xxlg. Pins are \$5.00 Photos are \$10.00.

Send your check with order to the Chronicle, PAYABLE to the Tsintzina Society. While supplies last so place your order now.

John Vournakis' Report

Dear Members:

During 1997 our Tsintzinian Society made great strides in many ways.

We were able to make significant improvements to our Jamestown facilities, both indoors and on the grounds with the addition of new recreational facilities, parking etc.

The clubhouse has been renovated, converted to a safe and efficient facility, with a major potential to have a small lodge in the upper floor for added revenue.



The Tsintzinian Chronicle was initiated and we paid to publish several issues during the year.

Perhaps the most important accomplishment in 1997 was the record 10% increase in our paid membership. The extra income derived from this increase in paid members has allowed the Society to complete many of the above tasks and to plan on initiating several other improvements during 1998. The continued health of our organization depends totally on its financial stability and strength. We are now well into 1998 and are already looking ahead to this summer's convention in Jamestown.

In my short tenure as Membership Chairman I have discovered that there are two kinds of Tsintzinians; those who pay dues annually on a prompt and regular basis, and those who do not. We know that each of you intends to be among the former.

To that end, I suggest that you clip the membership form from this issue of the Chronicle and send in your annual dues today, thus benefiting personally from the early payment reduced rates and at the same time benefiting the Society with money that is sorely needed at this time.

It is important to point out that the annual Society dues have not changed significantly for many years, whereas operating costs have gone up dramatically. Your Board has developed several innovative ways to generate new forms of income to the Society, as you can see in the other articles in this issue of the Chronicle, hoping to be able to keep the annual dues low. Thus, we need all of you to participate as full members by sending in your annual dues now, even if you do not intend to be at Jamestown this summer.

I appeal to you as your Membership Chairman to support the Board and join in making 1998 a "fully-paid membership" year for our Tsintzinian Society.

John N. Vournakis

Letters to the EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I last attended, and much enjoyed as usual,, our 1996 Convention, and I like and look forward to, the Chronicle. While much is written and said about the Tsintzinians who came to America so early, I have seen or heard nothing on the derivation on the name "Tsintzina" when the village was first settled, and when it became know as Polidrosso, as it now appears on my extremely-detailed Greek language map of the Peloponnesus.

I would like to know the same about Zoupena and now appears on the map as Ag. Anargiroi. Likewise about Goritsa, which is still so-designated on the current map. What, if anything, is the special connection between Zoupena and Goritsa and Tsintzina?

Fraternally yours,
G.N.C.
Wheeling, W.V.

Dear George,

Thank you for your most interesting questions, and queries. When we first started publishing the Chronicle, we first queried many members as to what they wanted to read in a historical journal. Answer was past, present and future. We have tried to accommodate these request and feel that were close but not there as yet. I personally share exactly what you and many of our younger generation are now asking.

Peter Dickson has done an outstanding job as to addressing about out Tsintzinians that came to America and placed their name and our heritage into history. The major questions now being asked are "Who, What, and where is Tsintzina, how long has it been in existence. Many have heard rumors, and little documented. I believe that if we do not address this scenario soon we will lose its meaning and "history". I am preparing a letter that will be published in the Tsintzina newspaper published in Athens and distributed to all Tsintzinians and asking everyone who has read, or know of any publications, documents that give the original history of these three villages to come forth to the Tsintzinian Chronicle so that we may decipher this historical information, verify, document and publish it to all our

members.

The Chronicle has a staff of 5 active people, and we always ask

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Special Thanks

The Chronicle would like to give a special thank you to Patty Poulos from Auburn, N.Y.. Mrs. Poulos has spent enormous time, effort and money in keeping up with many address changes from some of our member that have forgotten to send in address and families updates in the Necrology Records for our computer.

Without the previous assistance of Sharon Stratakos, and Patty Poulos we would not have had or could have developed the present mailing list which exceeds presently 985 of both paid and unpaid members.

Patty has been maintaining the only close to accurate "necrology" list of our past Tsintzinians. These ongoing historical records are part of are history of this great society should you have any information that would add to these historical records, please write or contact the Chronicle or Patty Poulos.

Early Bird 1998 Full Paid Members



The Board wishes to thank the following members for there memberships.

- **Helen Simos**, Washington, D.C.
- **Nick Vouros**, Wilmington, DE & 1 year Ads for Chronicle
- **Catherine A.Green**, West Des Moines, IA
- **Dr. John & Donna Gregory**, Annapolis, MD
- **Peter & Helen Laskaris & family**, Marion, OH

NICK VOURAS
JOHN VOURAS

658-0812



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for more help, that has not surfaced to this writing and we just cannot undertake this massive writing and search program. I feel so strongly about this issue and commitment that am considering to resign my presidency of the Society and embark on this assignment. As for a direct answer to your question, I frankly don't know as of this writing to where to retrieve this information.

Thank you for your letter.
John

Special note from the Editor. If anyone has information as to the above, PLEASE write the Chronicle and let us know. Either write or e-mail us at dknw93a@prodigy.com or the return address of the Chronicle.

To Editor,

I am planning to bring my entire family across the country to attend the 1998 National Tsintzinian Convention. It will be the first time for my wife and children. Are there other festivities in the Celron area that we can enjoy just prior to the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday events. My family all like fishing and we understand that there is a lake near by. Looking forward with excitement to the convention. We also enjoy very much reading the chronicle, and wish it came out more often.

Regards,
P.J.V. Jackson Hole, WY

Dear Peter and Family,

Celron is a beautiful place not only in the summer, but all seasons. As for fishing, Lake Chautauqua is one of the largest Bass Fishing northern lakes in the country. One of the biggest bass fishing tournaments is being held during the week of the national convention. I suggest that you contact the Chamber of Commerce and obtain their active WEB page of all the events in the area.

CHRIST C. CHACONAS

Christ C. Chaconas, the first immigrant from Tsintzina, is undoubtedly still the outstanding character in the history of our American-Tsintzinian society. Those who knew Uncle Christ, speak of him with affection, respect, and admiration. Practically every one has a good reason to be grateful to him, for Uncle Christ was never absorbed entirely in his private business, but devoted a large part of his time, for more than a generation, in activities which promoted the well being of his fellow Tsintzinians.

Christ, the son of a Tsintzinian shepherd, was born in a tent on the hills of Mr. Parnon, near the village of Zoupaena, and received the name of his father who died before his birth. He grew up with his family, sisters, one brother, and his mother, until the age of fourteen, then he left Tsintzina for Piraeus and Athens where he worked in coffee shops. A few years later he went to Egypt, but his adventurous spirit was not satisfied there fully, and at the first opportunity he embarked on a ship for the United States, where he arrived, in the year 1871.

Those who came to America in our time had some relative or friend who helped them to find employment or to start in business. Uncle Christ knew no one when he arrived in Chicago, and as he possessed little money and a limited knowledge of the English language he had no choice but to become a peddler. He sold fruit and candy, and to his surprise he enjoyed an unexpected success and prosperity. The Chaconas family at Tsintzina

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Young Greeks Rediscover Worry Beads

Is there something to worry about?

By The Associated Press

The click-clack beat of traditional beads is growing ever more noticeable from the hands of the hip. Young Greeks are finding some comfort in an old custom — flicking and fingering the “komboloi,” often known outside Greece as worry beads.

Click. A bank executive says the soft tapping of his wooden beads melts his stress.

Clack. A guy nursing a frothy iced coffee at an outdoor cafe believes women are drawn to the crisp snap of his big plastic beads. He proudly displays an address book full of names.

Whatever the reason, it’s suddenly cool to be with beads.

“Sales are way up — and I’m not talking about to tourists,” said Costa Mavromatis, owner of a jewelry store near Athens’ vast flea market district. “These young Greeks come in looking for something that goes with their style. You know, a macho guy wants leather and gold one. Artists go for colorful stone ones. It’s the current fashion.”

And it can carry a thoroughly modern cost — far removed from the simple komboloi (pronounced kom-bo-LOY) toled by their grandfathers.

In Athens’ tony Kolonaki Square — just around the corner from an Armani boutique — two men in their mid-30s admired each others’ beads. Eventually, they got down to the real issue: how much?

“Fifty-thousand,” said one,

flicking his string of mother-of-pearl beads on a gold link chain that cost about \$190.

“Nice,” said his friend, twirling a loop of ivory and polished black stone beads. “These were about 65,000 (\$250). But I got a deal. My brother bought the same ones.”

The costs run from cheap plastic beads sold at newsstands to more than \$1,000 at top jewelers.

For the growing legions of Greek yuppies, the komboloi is more than just a noisy trinket. It’s a scrap of tradition amid their endless feast of foreign culture — from Tex-Mex restaurants to huge American-style cinema complexes — that is rapidly shoving aside the sounds and flavors of old Greece.

“The sound of the komboloi is a sound of Greece,” said Thanasis Haroumboulis, a 28-year-old graphic artist wearing a Planet Hollywood T-shirt.

The practice of carrying strings of beads originated in India as a way of counting prayers. In Greece, the komboloi never had a widespread religious association as in Roman Catholic regions of Europe. It evolved into a pastime and a symbol of maturity since it was generally favored by older men.

The newfound popularity among the young has some of the elders pleased — and bemused.

Andreas Stamatis, a 74-

year-old retired chef, was shocked to discover that a few women have even taken up the beads — inspired in part by the late actress-turned-politician Melina Mercouri, who often carried a silver komboloi.

“Women?” he gasped. “How would they even know how to handle them?”

Scott (Nickles) Celebrates Fourth Generation Quilt

Katie Scott the daughter of Paul and Mary Ann (Nichles) Scott was the proud designer of a four-generation quilt. A stitch from time definitely saves nine, or in this case four. Katie designed a quilt to display her family history. Images on the quilt were recreated and digitized by a computer. Yiayia Mabel Nickles has a lot to be proud of .

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naturally shared in his good fortune, but that was not sufficient satisfaction for his generous nature. Uncle Christ saw opportunities in Chicago for the hard working and idle young men of Tsintsina, and in 1876, he returned there, reported the good news, and persuaded a large number of his compatriots to follow him. Between 1876 and 1886 more than fifty Tsintzinian farm boys arrived in Chicago and under his guidance established themselves as peddlers of fruit, candy and soft drinks in the heart of the city.

From 1876 to 1900 he developed and operated successfully many stores, mostly confectioneries. He was an honest, progressive and public-spirited merchant. During this period he was also the acknowledged leader of his Tsintzinian friends. They did nothing without his advice, if they were in need of help they went to him. If they quarreled, he was their arbitrator. Uncle Christ was always ready with money and time to serve every one of them. Perhaps their gratitude was best expressed in one of the first Tsintzinian re-unions at Jamestown, N. Y., in the year 1895, when they surprised him with an unexpected gift, a Tsintzinian inspiration. They presented to him the mortgage on his house, which they had bought secretly.

In the last years of his life he was fortunate to return to his beloved Tsintzina, the town of his childhood days, where hardships disciplined his character and a mother's self-sacrifice planted in him the seeds of unselfishness. But that was not an occasion for rest. After a study of Tsintzina's needs he raised money and with the cooperation of town authorities be spent it for necessary improve-

ments which made the town safer and more beautiful.

Uncle Christ died, but his deeds will always be remembered. The Tsintzinians of Greece are reminded when they see his statue of a benefactor who raised their standard of living. More than one thousand Americans, whose fathers or grandfathers were led by him to this prosperous land, enjoy advantages and

opportunities today, which their ancestors never thought or dreamed of. Let us hope that many of these young people will make a modest contribution to American culture by preserving and perpetuating some of the beautiful traditions and virtues which lived and flourished for thousands of years in the country of our origin.

Chicago, 1941
PETER ANDREOU

The Ladies Auxillary



Message from President

Where has the time gone? It seems I just blinked my eyes and Christmas came, went and now Easter approaches us. Before we know it, the Convention will be here.

I want to thank all of the Ladies who brought baked goods to last year's convention. Please keep us in mind for this year's convention. Once again, we are asking for donations of baked goods for our table.(Greek or American)

I would like to encourage all of you to join us at the convention this summer. It is a wonderful way to have a family reunion within our own convention. We also have an opportunity to see old friends and make new ones.

We are still looking for information regarding the past presidents of the Ladies Auxiliary. Please make an effort to forward any information to Helen Laskaris. To this date, we have not received any information.

The specific agenda for the Convention is in the works. It will be in our next newsletter. With Easter so close to us, I want to wish you all KALO PASHA.

Annette

OFFICE: 330-750-7555
FAX: 330-738-8793

MEDICAL ANNEX: 330-758-0545
MED-DEN-BUR: 330-744-4513

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Tablecloth

Our thanks goes out to Magda Hatzis who has volunteered to carry on the embroidering of the Ladies Auxiliary Tablecloth. If you have not already signed the tablecloth, please see Magda at the convention. It cost \$10.00 to sign the tablecloth, it will be around for generations to see in the future.

Spring is here

As we are cleaning out our closets, please keep The Childrens' Room in mind for donations. For example, bean bag chairs, games, toys etc. will all be gladly received. Any extra footballs, volleyballs and baseball equipment could be used for the outside field games. If you have any, bring them along to the convention.

News Update:

Talent show- Saturday Night Please encourage all our children to participate in the Talent Show. All who participate receive \$5.00 for their talent. So kids dust off your trumpet, polish up your dancing shoes and warm up your vocal cords.

News News News

Where did the news go? Did anyone see it? Did anyone get married, have a baby, graduate, etc.??? I can't believe it, no news??? Someone did something! We would love to hear from you. Please share your news with us. Send it to Helen Laskaris - 289 Powhattan - Marion, Ohio 43302 - Phone...(740) 383-2762 - Fax...(740) 375-2915 - E-mail ..laskaris@gte.net

Please cut and return with check

Ladies Auxiliary Table

The incorporation of the membership and bake table was made during our last convention. In this manner less volunteers will be needed and we can all enjoy our time at the convention. We will need volunteers for Thursday afternoon, all day Friday and Saturday, and a few hours Sunday morning.

Ladies' Dues

Ladies Auxiliary dues are \$10.00 per year. Anyone wishing to join please mail dues to: Sharon Stratakos - 8 Meadow Wood Circle - Pittsford, NY 14534

A New Tsintzinian Yiayia

Birth announcement... Annette Mavrophilipos became a yiayia on Nov. 11th. **Her son Nino and Shannon had a baby girl(Jordan Alexandra).**



Make Checks payable To: Tsintzina Society
312 N. Glen Ave.
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

1997 Tsintzina Society Membership Form

Last Name: First: Middle:

Address: City: State: Zip:

Spouse: Please Check if Ladies Auxiliary Member

Father's Full Name: Mother's Maiden Name:

Family Decedents Of: (Please Check One) 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

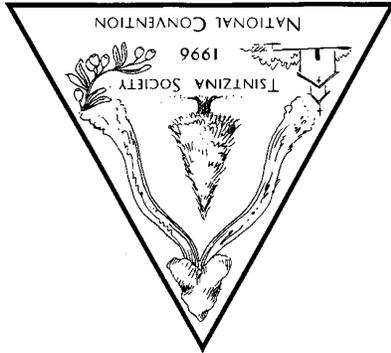
For Non-Members only requesting to receive the **Tsintzinian Chronicle** \$10.00

For Official Accounting Use Only:

Check #	Membership #	Payment Date	New Paid Member
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE



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