

THE TSINTZINIAN

Heritage Society of America

March 2014

The Tsintzinian Historical Society of America

2013 BOARD of DIRECTORS

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The President's Message:

I have often wondered if people who live in areas of the globe that don't see the season changes like we experience here in Ohio feel the same way about spring as I do. What is it about this time of year that conjures up so many nostalgic feelings? The cool, crisp, cloudless mornings are so invigorating! The ridiculously blue sky seems like it goes on forever and gives the feeling that I'm wrapped in a blanket of smiles – because who can be grumpy on a day so beautifully perfect? Enjoy the specialness of spring because all too quickly it will be gone.

As the seasons change, the people on the Tsintzinian board have been working on keeping this club together. I would like to take this time and thank those who work year round for Jamestown. The bills are being paid, new and old members are being contacted, the club house is being worked on, and many new ideas for fund raising are going on. The convention committee is busy planning. A new necrology database is being added to our website. The board is working hard to maintain and build our heritage for future generations.



We are very lucky to have this shared bond of heritage between our members. The Tsintzina Society represents a history that very few can claim. It is very important that we don't take this bond lightly. Each year we lose more and more of our older generation, those who have made huge contributions to our heritage and our Society. We need to remember our lost ones in our hearts and continue the legacy that they worked so hard to build for their children. Jamestown is a very special place and it will continue to be special as long as we are willing to work to guarantee it's future.

Make your hotel reservation NOW ! Many things are happening in Jamestown and hotels are filling up..
Hope to see you July 24-27!!!

Dues are due for 2014- you can pay anytime now (on line or by check). Those who pledged \$1,500 please make your winter/spring payment.

A New Tradition to Remember our Past Members with Love

Last year on Friday night, we began what we hope will be a lasting tradition that everyone will embrace and participate in. We offered everyone present, the opportunity to purchase small white bags on which they wrote a deceased family member's name on each bag for the donation of \$5.00 per bag. Just as it was getting dark, the committee members and volunteers helped set the bags along both sides of the driveway. Then we lit the candles inside the bags which made a beautiful "Luminaria memory lane" along our driveway.



Just before the snack at midnight, the reunion members all gathered outside on the driveway and all the deceased family member names were read. That was followed by singing Memory Eternal and a moment of silence. It was a very special event and participants lingered on the driveway among the luminaria conversing with fellow Tzintsinians and family members, remembering with tears and laughter the loved

ones who were so special and important to our Jamestown Reunion history. It was such a special event that we left the bags up for the remainder of the weekend although they are only lit on Friday night. We were very grateful it did not rain!!

The project was so successful the committee will offer this opportunity again this year and hopefully it will be an annual tradition. The bags had sand in them and little tea lights which burn for about 4 hours. This year we would like to extend this a bit by asking anyone interested in purchasing a \$5.00 bag, (or as many as you desire, to honor your deceased family and friends), to bring a canned good to stabilize each bag you purchase so we can donate the food items to the community. Thus making this not only a special memorial event but a community connection as well.

I would like to thank all those who purchased bags last year, those who helped set out the bags, read the names, lead the singing of Memory Eternal, lit the candles and picked up the bags at the end of the reunion. All your help made this wonderful event a success. I'm sure all our deceased members appreciated this new tradition as well because we could feel their essence present during the memorial for sure!

Looking forward to seeing everyone this summer and hoping more people will come on Friday to participate in this wonderful memorial salute. Remember, Friday is a very special time to be in Jamestown!!

Thank you and Kali Anastasi –
Have a Blessed Pascha!
Joanna (Costianes) Ferencz

**May their Memories
be Eternal!**

*Be a part of the Family
Group Fund Raising
program. Help us
guarantee our future
for many years
to come.*

*Contact John Zacharias
to setup your own
family group and help
secure our future. Any
donations will
gladly be accepted and
will be listed with a
group of unconnected
families.*

2014 Tsintzinian
Convention
July 24, 25, 26, 27
Celoron, New York

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!**

*Keep the Tradition Alive!
Bring your family...
Meet relatives...
Honor and Remember your forefathers.....
Dance the night away to the music of the
Aegeans!*

2014 Tsintzinian Convention

July 24, 25, 26, 27

2014 Tsintzinian Reunion Schedule (subject to change)	
Thursday July 24, 2014	
Noon – 4:00 pm	Come help decorate the clubhouse for the weekend
4:00 PM	Reunion Registration
6:15 PM	Dinner
8:00 – 10:30 pm	Dance - Bring your favorite Greek music CD's
Friday July 25, 2014	
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Socialize @ clubhouse, share family histories, photos, etc.
Morning	Explore the Jamestown area or come to the clubhouse, share family histories and get to know your fellow Tsintzinians
2:00 PM	Board Meeting
2:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Social Time – BINGO - Massages
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Greek Dancing Lessons
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Reunion Registration
5:00 PM	General Assembly Meeting
6:00 PM	Dinner
10:00 PM	Dancing to the music of The Aegeans
11:45 PM	Honored and Remembered Tsintzinians
12:00 AM	Midnight Snack
Saturday July 26, 2014	
9:00 am – noon	Socialize @ clubhouse, share family histories, photos, etc.
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Youth Activities
1:30 PM	Texas Hold 'Em Tournament
2:00 pm – 3:30pm	BINGO - Massages
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Reunion Registration
5:00 PM	YOUTH TALENT SHOW UNDER THE TENT
6:00 PM	Dinner
10:00 PM	Dancing to the music of The Aegeans
12:00 AM	Midnight Snack/Raffle and 50/50 winners
Sunday July 27, 2014	
9:00 am – noon	Breakfast Buffet at the Clubhouse



2014 Convention Rates

Thursday (24-Jul)

Dinner and Dancing to CD's Adults 21+ = \$15 Under 21 = \$5

Friday and Saturday (July 25-26)

Dinner and Dancing to The Aegeans Age 13+ = \$60 Age 5-12 = \$20
Age 0-5 = Free

One Day ONLY – Friday OR Saturday

Dinner and Dancing to The Aegeans Age 13+ = \$30 Age 5-12 = \$15
Age 0-5 = Free

Sunday (Breakfast)

Donation \$5

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR RESERVATIONS!

Best Western Downtown	(716)-484-8400
Comfort Inn	(716) 664-5920
Red Roof Inn	(716) 665-3670
Budget Inn	(716) 665-4410
Hampton Inn & Suites	(716) 484-7829
America's Best Motel	(716) 488-1904

SPECIAL RATE AT COMFORT INN UNTIL JUNE 24th!
Ask for Tsintzina Society block rooms!

Jamestown is on my Mind

by George Sfikas

My mind keeps drifting back to a small town in New York named Jamestown. The town is the birth place of Lucile Ball and is a pretty nifty little town. About 110 years ago a group of Greek business men pooled their funds together and purchased a hall on a nice piece of property there. The Greek businessmen would meet once a year to discuss ways to improve their businesses. These men lived all over the United States but had a common denominator in that they were all from a group of villages south east of Sparta. The group titled themselves the



Tsintzina Society after one of the three villages in Greece. The business men all got together once a year and would network and share ways of improving their businesses. After years of these meetings the businessmen started bringing their families and spending extra time in the area of Jamestown enjoying the relaxing atmosphere that could be found in the area surrounding the lake near their clubhouse. Over the years bonds were formed, businesses flourished and a legacy grew. The society has changed over the years but still endures for the moment. There aren't any business meetings any more except for those held by the board of the society trying to figure out how to keep the legacy alive.

I have so many memories from Jamestown. I am currently 32 years old and have only missed going to the annual convention once in my entire life. My earliest memories of Jamestown are from the clubhouse. We would pull in to the clubhouse and first thing see my grandfather George Costianes sitting on the porch at the registration table with George Chelekis. They knew everyone by name and stayed in contact with them throughout the year. The first person my age I remember meeting in Jamestown oh so many years ago was DLouisa Ford. I might have been 6 or 7 years old swimming in the pool at the infamous Gas Light Inn. She couldn't have been more than 3 or 4 years old. She decided that I would suffice instead of putting her floaties on. The next memories in the scattered time line involve a pretty tight group of friends once upon a time. For quite a few years you would find us all hanging out together in random places throughout the grounds. Every year it was the same routine. Friday we'd hang out on the grounds playing softball, soccer and other games, then the dinner, then the dance. Friday was usually an early night though because Saturday was the big day. Saturday after breakfast we would all go to Molly World for go-carts, mini-golf and batting cages. We'd dance for most of the night but we'd always find time to sneak back in to the board room to play some cards. A few years later Molly World closed down but that was ok because there were so many more kids now that we could do more things without having to leave the grounds. We started discovering that we really could do some of the Greek dances and do them



Athan & Jessica Get Hitched

Athan Laskaris, son of Peter and Helen Laskaris was married to Jessica Johnson, daughter of Ken and Jane Johnson on November 2nd, 2013. The ceremony and reception were both held at a lovely outdoor nature facility in Fort Worth, Texas. Jessica, originally from Dallas, is a marine biologist while Athan is a loan specialist for Chase Bank. They have recently bought a home and are residing in Fort Myers, Florida.



Stephen & Rebecca Marry in Chicago

Alex and Sarah Laskaris announce the marriage of their son Stephen to Rebecca Parker of Chicago. The wedding and reception took place in downtown Chicago on September 1st of 2013. The festivities were attended by numerous friends and family members. The couple will continue to reside in Chicago.



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**Honored and Remembered
 Tsintzinians**

Melanie Ann Irene Covis

Melanie Ann Irene Covis, 48, of Bethlehem, PA passed away on Saturday June 15, 2013 at home. Melanie was born in Manchester, NH daughter of Nancy (Geracimos) Covis of Bethlehem, PA and the late Constantine J. Covis. A graduate of Pinkerton Academy in Derry, NH class of 1982.

She was employed at Osram-Sylvania in Bethlehem, PA. Melanie was also a Sales Rep for Avon. Survivors: Mother Nancy; son James Anthony Covis of Bethlehem, PA; brothers James C. Covis, husband of Allyson and

their children
 C h l o e e
 a n d
 N i c h o l a s
 o f W e s t
 C h e s t e r,
 P A a n d
 D e a n C.
 C o v i s a n d
 h i s
 d a u g h t e r s



Deanna and Devann of Goffstown, NH.

**May their Memories
 be Eternal!**

pretty well. More years past and more kids joined the party. We all have so many memories at that clubhouse, with our families and with each other.

Over the years many things in our lives have changed, getting older, getting jobs, relationships, so many things have come and gone but every year we have always been able to count on that last weekend in July being OUR weekend. I recently had my most memorable experience pertaining to Jamestown. I have a daughter now. Her name is Hailee. Hailee is 7 and last year was her first year in Jamestown. This year during the first week of July she looked at me and had a bit of a twinkle in her eye. She said "Daddy? Do I get to go to Jamestown again this year?" I almost cried. I said of course honey. She bounced off the walls for the next 3 weeks until the big weekend. Knowing the amazing memories I have, I am probably more excited now that my daughter will get to experience similar situations, build friendships just as strong and have the bond with her heritage that Jamestown has provided for me.



This is the biggest reason that my heart is breaking with news of our societies situation. Our society is on the verge of folding and we owe that to no one but ourselves. Our society has over 450 people that are associated with it that if they paid their dues every year, a measly \$35, our society would be thriving. Unfortunately the majority of the "members" only pay their dues the years they plan on going to the convention. The bills don't get put on hold though the years people don't come. The gas still needs paid, the lawn still needs mowed and the taxes never stop going up. The board has been trying to come up with ways to try to entice people to pay their dues ever since I can remember and the time has finally come where even that might not be enough. We've started juggling bills because we don't have enough to pay them all at the same time. So what do we do? It is up to us. Every one of us has a bond, a bond our grandparents built that we seem to be allowing to just slip farther and farther out of sight with each passing year. The time has come my fellow Tsintzinians. We have to make a decision. Do we let these memories die with us? Do we help out for now or when it's convenient? Or do we take the reins our forefathers left for us and make this society a part of our children's futures that they can be proud of the way we once were. Will you stand up with me and secure this society to be a place our grandchildren can play together? I sure hope so. I pray that there are enough of us out there. Enough people the same as me who have the memories that I have.

This Friday when I get paid I am going to log in to TsintzinaSociety.com and I am going to click on the paypal link to donate \$100 to the society. Not because I owe my dues, not to pay for next years convention, not for the air conditioner fund but to do what I can to help support the house my papou helped build for me. Will you join me? If \$100 is too much will you give \$20. If you have more will you do what you can? I hope to see you all in Jamestown this year. I pray it will be there for us all next year.

Tsintzinian Heritage Society Necrology Database Online Now

We proudly announce the new genealogical data-base on our website. The data represent years of volunteer work by the society's men and women to document the births, marriages, and deaths among our membership. The data also include where available early portraits, ship's records, immigration records, passport applications, citizenship applications, and valuable census data showing where our ancestors lived and worked.

As one member said, the database is "a real historic compilation of a corner of the Greek immigration to the US during the 19th and 20th centuries." Although our relatives are gone, we can preserve their memory and presence here. We can contribute to Greek representation in the genealogical research community.



We hope to collect more data about our deceased relatives. To do that, we need your help. If your parents, aunts, uncles, and grandparents are not listed here, please fill out one genealogical history form for each family member and send the forms in with your dues. You can also request a history form by email to tsintzinasociety@yahoo.com. Please visit www.tsintzinasociety.com and explore your heritage today.

An Update on the Family Group Fundraising Project

Again, special thanks to the many Tsintzinian families who contributed to our FAMILY GROUP Fundraising effort. This money helps us venture forward to protect our aging clubhouse and to preserve our cultural organization as we have known it for many years. One of our first projects will be to renovate the board room and create an educational learning center of artifacts. In addition, we will search for foundations that can assist our Society in creating long-term stability. We want this clubhouse and organization to be here for our great-grandchildren as it was here for us. Anyone interested in making additional contributions should contact Peter Laskaris, 703 Summit Road, Marion, Ohio 43302.

Family Group Fundraising Participants

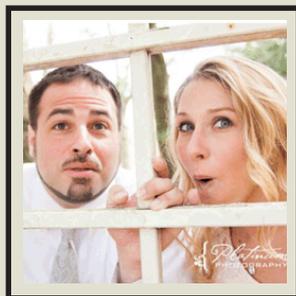
The following individuals/families are currently participating in the FAMILY GROUP Fundraising effort:

Tom Costas family
Leon Andris family
John and Karen Vournakis
Sam and John Zacharias family
Jonathon Manos
Peter and Helen Laskaris family
Alex & Sarah Laskaris family
George and Angie Laskaris family
James Macheras
Alex Macheras
Perry Macheras
Peter Macheras
John and Karen Martin
David and Ann Haller
George and Gretchen Dusckas, Jr.
Homer and Sally Capotis
Constance Dusckas
Nancy E. Dusckas
George J. Dusckas, MD
Dr. C.J and Barbara Poolos
Eldon and Mary Mack
John Contromanes
John Stratakos
Pauline Costianes
Christina Costianes and Mary Rice
John Costianes
Catherine Costianes
Nick and Fran Costianes
Dean Manos
Anna Stathes
Olin Johanssen
Frank Karfes
Irene Karfes
Jim Karfes

The Society is grateful for the generous donations of over \$31,000 by these pledge families and individuals. Our sincere thanks!

Sfikas and Lowe Marry in Warren

George Sfikas and Ashley Lowe were married on the beautiful, sunny day of August 24, 2013. George Sfikas is the son of Angie (Costianes) and Paul Grant and the grandson of the late George and Vaia Costianes. Duane George Ferencz, 1st. cousin of the groom and godfather of the bride served as their koumbaro and Peter Sfikas, brother of the groom, served as best man. Other family members in the wedding party were Hailee Sfikas, daughter of the groom; Stamos Sfikas, nephew and godson of the groom; Kiara Sfikas, niece of the groom; Vaia Ramfos, cousin of the groom; Allie and Maddie Lowe, nieces of the bride and Demos Ford, godson of the groom. Cousins and friends danced the night away to dj Evan Tavolaris. The couple resides in Warren, Ohio.



**Let's Celebrate
Our Heritage!!
We are
Tsintzinians!!!**

Greek or white natural yogurt?

March 5, 2014 by VeronikaGoncalves

Greek yogurt has become very popular and one may wonder what difference there is between regular and greek yogurt. I personally prefer greek yogurt which has more nutritious benefits than a regular one. Yogurts are in general highly inflammatory, so it has also negative points. However, if I could chose between greek or regular, I would choose **100% greek yogurt**. Why?

1. Greek yogurt has about two times more **protein** than a regular one. Normally, 1 cup contains 10 – 20 g of protein.
2. It has **less carbs** than normal white yogurt. It usually has just 9 g of carbs compared to other one, which usually has around 17 g of carbs.
3. Above mentioned statements are linked to the fact that producers **strain off the whey** from greek yogurt and that's why it has less sugar and carbs.
4. It contains **less sodium** than usual yogurt; this results in **improved blood pressure**.
5. Greek yogurt is **less caloric**, but on the other hand, greek yogurt has much **more fat**, usually 2 g more than a regular one. Choose **low-fat greek yogurt** instead! I always buy Total 0% fat, a real greek yogurt made of skimmed pasteurised milk.



6. The real greek yogurt **does not have any food additives or added sugar**. Pure greek yogurt should only have these ingredients: **Pasteurised Milk and live active yoghurt cultures**. Probiotics, live active cultures promote digestion, boost immunity and prevent yeast infections.

BOUBOUNIERES KOUFETA FAVORS

The custom behind Bomboniere originated 300 years ago in ancient Greece. Bomboniere were given to the guests as a thank you. Wedding Bomboniere consist of an uneven number of sugar coated almonds (usually 5), representing the bittersweet life of a married couple. The 5 almonds have a significant meaning wishing the new husband and wife happiness, health, wealth, children and a long life. Fresh almonds have a bittersweet taste, which represents life. The sugarcoating is added with the hope that the newlyweds' life will be more sweet than bitter. Tradition holds that if an unmarried woman puts the almonds under her pillow, she'll dream of her future husband.

Six Greek Wedding Traditions

Crowns. During the wedding ceremony, the bride and groom are adorned with crowns that are connected by a single strand of ribbon. This signifies the union of the couple as well as indicates the pair's "rule" over their household.

Party Favors. Candied almonds are considered a favorite at some wedding receptions. However, at a Greek wedding, candied almonds are given to guests immediately following the ceremony. The almonds are usually distributed in a cloth or tulle covering and guests can expect to receive an odd number of the edible delicacies.

Dances. There are two significant dances associated with a Greek wedding. The first, the Isaiah dance, is performed by the bride and groom during the ceremony. Afterwards the couple is part of another dance. This one, called the Kaslamantiano, is performed in a circle during the reception.

Koumparo. Koumparo is the Greek wedding tradition of the groom and his attendant preparing for the wedding ceremony. During this time, musicians, playing traditional Greek music, accompany the groom to the church. After this, the musicians will go to the home of the bride and travel with her as she makes her way to the ceremony.



Receptions. Greek wedding receptions are lively events. Guests are treated to native food and music as well as traditional Greek dancing.

Gifts. Giving newlyweds gifts during the reception is a common occurrence in most cultures. Greek traditions also allow for something slightly different. A person attending a Greek wedding reception should not be surprised to see guests pinning items such as money to the bride's gown.

Alana Sfikas Baptized

Alana Vaia Sfikas was baptized in October, 2013. Her parents are Peter and Lindsay, her godfather is Duane George Ferencz and her yiayia is Angie (Costianes) Grant. We celebrated her first birthday in Nov. 2013.

Lambros Grandson Born

Congratulations to Maria (Lambros) and Rob Waner of Pompano Beach, Florida on the birth of their son Nicholas on July 30, 2013. Maria and Rob also have a daughter Jaelyn who is five. Nicholas and Jaelyn are the grandchildren of Nick and Sharon Lambros of Oneonta, New York.

Birth to Twins

Another Lambros addition..... Alexandra, daughter of Jo Ann Lambros Pavlostathis and her husband Dinos had twin boys last month. Spiro and Nicholas were named after their papous, Nick Mitsios and Spiro Pavlostathes. Alexandra and her family live in Albany, New York.

LASKARIS & ASSOCIATES
Computer Consultants

703 Summit Road
Marion, Ohio 43302

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EMAIL: laskaris@roadrunner.com



**Make your hotel
reservations soon
and see you at
this year's
reunion.
July 24-27**

Tsintzinian Heritage Society Membership 2014 (Please print.)

Make checks payable to Tsintzinian Heritage Society	c/o Stephanie Soutouras Schlick 2400 41st St NW Apt 504 Washington, DC 20007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$100
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family \$60
Email:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single \$40
Please pay your dues and help our society.		
Last name:	First:	Middle:
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Spouse:	Father's name:	
Phone:	Mother's maiden name:	
We are attending the 2014 Reunion. (Y/N)		Amount Enclosed \$
<i>Benefactor donations give Tsintzinians the opportunity to help the society meet its financial obligations. All benefactors will be recognized for their extra contributions.</i>		
<i>Your dues and donations are payable via PayPal at www.tsintzinasociety.com. You can also use your credit card at PayPal. Please consider adding a little extra to offset our transaction costs.</i>		



Come to the Tsintzina Society Reunion

July 24 – July 27

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