

THE TSINTZINIAN

Monthly Newsletter

November 2019

The Tsintzinian Historical
Society of America

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The President's Message:

My Fellow Tsintzinians,

I hope our first Chronicle Newsletter finds you well! As I mentioned at our General Assembly, we will be distributing this newsletter to help build better bridges of communication. Throughout the year and in between the regular Chronicles, we will issue these newsletters to inform you of a key item worthy of detail and discussion. In this first edition, I will discuss one of the proposed projects.

This project involves the Poolos Hall. I'm focusing on this area for a couple reasons. The main hall has gone through several renovations recently. Not only has the HVAC system been overhauled but we have successfully added air conditioning and a heater. These additions and improvements were made to not only to lower annual maintenance costs but also increase annual rentals. In addition, the bathrooms went through a much needed renovation. Therefore, it's time to address the areas of concern in the Poolos Hall.

The Poolos Hall was added post WW2 and is truly an army barrack. Some improvements were made along the way, most recently being new windows and a floor covering. However, we have found some structural repairs that are needed. This area has come to the forefront of priority because of our want and need to increase our annual rentals. Of course, we will also enjoy the repairs and improvements planned.

So structurally, we have to address the subfloor and roof. We have some soft spots/dipping in the floor. We also have some leaks in the roof. We are getting bids for the flooring that will include the subfloor and flooring overlay. As for the roof, we are monitoring the situation because we noticed 2 years ago when the snow turned to ice and then melted the water found a way in but last year the weather wasn't as bad so we didn't have any leaking but enough damage was done initially to make this a concern. Our outlook for the roof is to repair the immediate areas affected and also add a gutter with an ice guard. The floor, especially the subfloor, therefore is the first priority. We will be updating you all as the bids come in and we have a final assessment of the repairs needed. A couple of us are planning to journey to Jamestown in the next couple weeks to make a final inspection before any work is approved and scheduled.

In conclusion, our goal is to have a sound Poolos Hall with some esthetically pleasing updates. These repairs and renovations will help add to the total amount of rentals but also the amount we can charge for them. We have recently in-



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President's Letter Continued

stalled a soda fountain system through Pepsi, installed a commercial ice maker and thrown away/recycled any broken equipment. In a future Newsletter I will be discussing the next project, the kitchen. The kitchen has been structurally tied into the Poolos Hall but has its' own set of concerns that are considered to be separate in design.

Lastly, if anyone has or knows of someone who can either donate some equipment, materials or time, please let me know 412-576-8505 or dgefrenz@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Duane G Ferencz

Thesmophoria: An Ancient Greek Thanksgiving Celebration

<https://usa.greekreporter.com/2014/11/26/the-ancient-greek-thanksgiving-celebration-and-a-recipe-for-greek-turkey/>

For thousands of years festivals for giving thanks have been taking place in many locations around the world. In ancient Greece when the underworld god Hades abducted the young maiden Persephone, her mother Demeter wouldn't feed the world, and winter came upon the land. When Persephone was restored an elated Demeter gave the gift of agriculture to mankind.

The Greeks believed that because of her the earth provided the bounty it did. Honoring her with offerings and ceremonies would promise a new and fresh harvest each year. The holiday dedicated to Demeter was called Thesmophoria. Demeter was also called Thesmophoros because she gave certain thesmoi 'laws' to mankind. The festival Thesmophoria, was held in the fall during a month known as Pyanopsion. It occurred between October and November; in the same months as the Canadian and U.S. Thanksgivings. The Thesmophoria were the most widespread festivals and the main expression of the cult of Demeter, aside from the Eleusinian Mysteries.



Today Greeks in America and Canada not only celebrate the modern day "Thesmophoria," but also add Greek flavor to the American Thanksgiving tradition. Ask any Greek and they will give you a variation on how to cook the turkey, or, you can get chef Peter Minakis' Greek style Turkey, below.

Tzatziki For Thanksgiving:

Tzatziki goes with almost everything and makes a wonderful starter (with fresh veggies) as the finishing touches are being put on the table. The creamy combination of yogurt, cucumber, and garlic makes tzatziki a refreshing appetizer that can be eaten alone, with bread, or as an accompaniment to vegetables, meat dishes, and pita wraps. It is one of the dips for which Greece is most well-known.

Thankful For:

I am thankful that each year at Jamestown I have the opportunity to spend time building and deepening relationships with family and fellow tsintzinians.

Best wishes,
Sarah Tillotson

Feeling thankful for extended family and the opportunity to "grow" our relationships through the years, making memories for generations to come, especially at the Convention.

Kathryn Slezak

I am thankful that I can connect with family and friends who have become family because our club is still there for us every year, year in, year out. I would be especially thankful if everyone paid their dues every year so that we don't have to go begging for support. Just sayin ...

Stephanie Soutouras Schlick

I am thankful for family's dedication to this great Society! They have instilled the significance of this culture from our roots to our reunion. I hope and pray that we all continue to share our special gift with the generations to come.

Duane Ferencz

I am thankful that our forefathers had a dream and the board has kept that dream alive!

Helen Laskaris

**2020 Tsintzinian
Convention
July 23, 24, 25, 26
Celoron, New York**