

TSINTZINIAN CHRONICLE

Volume 6

Number 4 November 2000

New President Speaks:

Dear Tsintzinians,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I greet you this fall. We have just completed our fall board meeting and having served as recording secretary for 10 years and treasurer for 17 years, I agree with one of the attendees, it was one of the best meetings that we ever had. As your new president, I first want to say that we should honor our new board that I think represents more families than one can ever remember. Please note the list of board members elsewhere in this Chronicle. Our new board responded to their tasks by everyone attending this first meeting. It use to be the eastern Ohio, western Pennsylvania, western New York affair. They now come from Richmond, New York City, Rhode Island, Michigan, and Cleveland in addition to the locals. Even an old time adviser Tasso Camarinos and Mary attended.

I would like to report on some of the highlights of our October 15 meeting. First of all, we checked out the completion of the installation of all new windows in the clubhouse, including upstairs and the Poolis Hall. We discussed the options for the dance hall ceiling. Since the ceiling tiles have been falling and the light fixtures are obsolete and the fans are too noisy, we are looking forward to a new look for next year's convention, including curtains on all the windows. We re-discussed the Saturday night dinner dance times again and voted again with more consensus that dinner will start at 8:00 p.m. and dancing will start immediately following dinner. There will be a cocktail hour before dinner and the board room and Jackson Street porch will be available after dinner if it rains while tables are taken down and chairs re-assembled. Let's try it. Throughout the meeting, it was mentioned many times how to continue the spirit of the Society to all descendants. The consensus was to re-establish communication with old members and conduct activities during the con-



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Farewell to Great Couple

We regret to report to you that since the convention, one of our greatest ladies of our Society has passed away--Joan (Noli) Floros, in late August. She was a Chacona sister and wife of John. Noli will be missed dearly. We have since learned that John is permanently leaving Erie also. He has been present at every convention for as long as anyone can remember. He



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vention that will encourage people to come back and have memorable experiences, especially our young children. To many, the July convention is the only Greek dance and food that many of our members are able to experience.

In summary, I look forward to leading our board and Society through the next period of time. There appears to be a tradition and a momentum that no one wants to stop. Tsintzina and Celoron seem to be in a lot of people's blood; it is my goal to keep our heritage and memories alive. Plan to be with us next year to commemorate a Yiayia's birthday, a wedding anniversary, or just an old fashion family re-union. We will take care of all the details.

Cordially,
John Zacharias

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"The 2000 Convention":

by George Sfikas

Well another convention is over, again a great time had by all, but how? Well you will probably get a different answer no matter who you ask. So many different things go into making our annual conventions such a great success that it's sometimes hard to remember all of them. This leads me to wonder, why would you not come to Jamestown, NY this one weekend out of the year. One weekend to celebrate your heritage, be with your friends, and party your hearts out. What's the detraction? I'll tell you, there's nothing I have found yet that could keep me from Jamestown this one glorious weekend. This year was an average year in Jamestown, good food, great music, friends, family, and non-stop activities. For those of you who couldn't make it this year, here's what you missed.

Thursday: For dinner Thursday night we all gathered outside under the new tent where we were served authentic Greek spaghetti with meatballs on the side. Not many people had arrived yet but that didn't stop them from having a good time. You could hear the

laughter and the boisterous voices for blocks as family and friends reunited. Dinner was followed by some softball practice (for a few of us who just haven't had the chance to get out much this past year), and then a quick dip in the pool, at the Colony Motel right down the road. I don't think anyone slept much that night. The motel room lights blazed late into the night as everyone caught up on old times.

Friday: Breakfast Friday morning was, well I have to admit I didn't make it to breakfast Friday morning but I heard everything was wonderful. I also have to say that this past Friday I was let down. It was brought to my attention that our annual Tsintzinioti Grand Prix was not going to take place due to the closing of Molly World, but we got over it, we just went back to the motel and swam some more. After our fingers and toes were properly pruned we headed for the clubhouse where there were many sporting activities to be had. We played a little softball, some basketball, and there was a great volleyball game going on, and rumor has it there was even a little golfing going on at the clubhouse that afternoon. Unfortunately though none of our soccer or football players showed up this year. Dinner Friday was prepared by Bill Manos with Demos Kontos, and of course a helping hand from Roger and Chrissy. Friday's dinner consisted of chicken w/ manestra



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The Tsintzina Challenge 2000 and Seferlis Sculpture Contribution

In the last Chronicle, there was an extensive article recognizing Dino Seferlis, our native Tsintzinian who is a nationally recognized sculptor. He has graciously donated his time and completed the wall hanging sculpture of the Tsintzinian village women going to the town center spring to get water. Thank you Dino. This sculpture is the key-stone of our Challenge 2000. Every family that contributes \$1000 to our society will receive a replica of the sculpture. The \$1000 will go into our endowment fund. It has been determined that if we get 100 families to contribute, we will be able to carry on the traditions of our Society for many more years without asking for any more future donations. At this time, we have 31 committed families and hope to have 20 more by the end of this year. Please join the project when asked. For more information, contact either John Zacharias in Pittsburgh or Joanne Ferencz in Adamsburg, PA.



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JOHN VOURAS

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Check out the Tsintzinian
Web Site.

[http://156.63.251.180/
Tsintzina/tsin.htm](http://156.63.251.180/Tsintzina/tsin.htm)

**If you think of anything
to add to it please let us
know.**

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was either behind the bar, in the kitchen or outside greeting every new arrival. John will be returning to Greece early next year and hopes to visit us occasionally. Please feel free to write John a good wishes letter at 219 West 8th St., Erie, PA 16501 before he leaves. Should you want to make a memorial donation in memory of Joan, please send it to Duane Ferencz, Treasurer, at 848 Killarney, Pittsburgh, PA 15234.

Convention 2000 Raffle Winners

The conventions winners in the
\$1,000.00 raffle were

\$ 1,000.00

Tom Costas
New York, NY

\$500.00

John Floros
Erie, PA

\$300.00

Fr Nic & Joann Ferencz
Adamsburg, PA

\$200.00

Steve Chelekis
Warren, Ohio

IN TZINTZINA ABROAD

The bitter poisons of being abroad
you first felt
far from acquaintances and friends
from brothers and parents.

In cellars in kitchens
unending hours of work
you had the same thought in mind
with one hope in your hearts.

To gather a little money
you had your secret longing
and immediately to return
to your beloved village.

He sends money for father
for him to erase some debt of his
for another to get an animal
another to marry a sister.

Days and years pass
they pass and quickly leave
the hope of your return
now seems dimmer.

No matter how much time passes
it doesn't wipe out of your heart
some beloved image
Zoupaina, Tzintzina, Goritsa.

The nostalgia the recollections
an unquenched flame in your heart
led you to build
Tzintzina here abroad.

You built in Jamestown
and there once a year
you would go to meet with each
other
to remember days of old.

Festive feelings
in this sacred place

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Tsintzina Society Board Members 2000-2001

John S. Zacharias
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Tom Costas
New York, NY

Evan Nickles
Charlestown, RI

Annette Mavrophilipos
Baltimore, Md.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the
board members with your concerns.



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kisses embraces tears song
till morning cheerfulness dancing.

Like a family at table
you did prayer
and like beloved brothers
you supped all together.

Outside in the shade in the grass
you spoke all day
about the villages about your
relatives
how much you sought them.

One spoke of sewing
another of the olive gathering
carrying, the threshing, the harvest,
about the tall bundles.

The olive press with the worker
and the slice of village bread
toasted dipped
in the fresh olive oil in the vat of
fresh olive oil.

You spoke of Pilalistra
Gogena and Karia
of Karagine Bouloufades
Laina Stephen Xeria.

About the night hunting watches
about the rabbits and the dogs
the ordeurve at the taverna
with the old skordalia.

You spoke of feast days
of the Virgin Mary, of the Prophet
Elias
the instruments were playing all
night
and the dance was next to it.

Some intoxication some craziness
some choral singing at night
you lived a little in the homeland
you forgot that you were abroad.

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2001 Convention--July 26, 27, and 28

Planning for the 2001 convention has already started. The Board has named Lee Costianis and Gene Geracimos as Co-Chairmen. The Welcome Center Tent will be erected again as the outside headquarters. The Hall will have a new look with the installation of new windows, curtains, ceiling tiles and lights with paddle fans. There will be a new format on Saturday night--Dinner starting at 8:00 and dancing starting afterwards after a short delay for cleanup, and chair rearranging. The midnight snack including the famous hot dogs with sauce will be at 1:00 a.m.

There are several new activities being considered. The golfers have their events so we are planning activities that others can enjoy such as continuous showing of classic Greek films like "Zorba" in the hall, maybe a boat trip on Lake Chautauqua or a bus trip to Niagara



Falls, video games for the children and other youth activities. This is a re-union weekend so we want to plan the activities that everyone will have a chance to enjoy and encourage everyone to come back, especially the children. In the next issue of the Chronicle, look for convention activity and atten-

dance forms for you to submit so we can effectively plan the convention. Start your plans from now for a family re-union for Yiayia's birthday, a wedding anniversary, or a contest to see how many first, second and third cousins including spouses from the same family come. Would it be the Laskaris, Costianes, or Chelekis. Plan to attend and all the details will be handled by the convention committee. For many people, our Convention is the only Greek food, dance, and traditions that they experience every year.

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Ladies Auxillary News

Reflections:

The convention was wonderful. The talent show had seven wonderful acts. We thank our young Tsintzinian entertainers for all the time and effort spent in getting ready to perform for us. We also, remind them to "prepare for next year!" The bake sale went well. This year we had a few new items on our menu. Aleka Costianes made spanakopita wraps. They were delicious. We appreciate and thank all our volunteers for their help and support. Everyone helped by baking, selling or donations to the Auxiliary. It was wonderful for all of us to work together. The raffle included (2) baskets of cheer with Greek wines. We will try to do this for next year's convention. It was well received by all. The Auxiliary is working together with the Board to help improve our Clubhouse. By working together, we can accomplish a great deal. Everyone can help! The Holidays are fast approaching, it is not too early to start planning a family reunion at Jamestown now!

New Business:

YIAYIA's COOKBOOK!!!

Our heritage is very important. We need to pass this heritage to our younger generations. I am asking for each and every Tsintzinian, male and female to participate in this endeavor. There are many recipes in all our families. I have Yiayia Antoinitsa Benekos Nickles recipe for pita made from pumpkins. I also have her recipe for making diples. I ask all members to take this project seriously. This is not just a fund raiser. This is a way to pass our heritage to our future generations. Please start sending recipes to the Chronicle. I hope to be able by next newsletter to tell you that I have enough to start publishing.

Once again, I thank each and every volunteer from this past convention and look forward to next year. As I stated previously the Holidays are coming, may God Bless you all to enjoy them with good health and happiness.

Annette Nickles Mavrophilipos

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About some brave deed
about some jokester
truly you thought you were
in Chantzi's taverna.

Just like those years
we the new generation also
are following your old steps
customs and habits.

Outside in the shade in the grass
in the supper or in the dance
near us may you always be
like the good old times.

Oh Tzintziniotes forbears
in our thought and in our heart
your memory will eternally live
in Tzintzina abroad.

By Chris Costianis

Chacona Moves Up at Showtime

Marica Chacona was promoted to vice president, program scheduling at Showtime Networks. Chacona will serve as the senior member of the programming team responsible for the development and execution of the monthly program schedules for Sundance Channel, The Movie Channel, and Flix.



October Raffle Winner

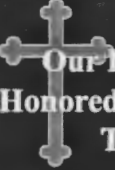
The winner of the October raffle was LOY GEORGETSON of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She won \$1000.00.

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**Our Dearly Departed
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Peter (Taki) G. Conomikes from Hoffman Estates Ill passed away in March of 2000. He is survived by his wife Evelyn and sons Dean, Peter and Mark, also a brother John G. Conomikes. Peter's parents were Gus P. and Lucretia(Lou) Procas Conomikes.

James J. Poulos from Ithaca New York, passed away March 20th, 2000. He was the son of the late John and Katherine (Conomikes) Poulos. He was the widower of Pauline Nickles Poulos. Jim was a life long restaurateur. Jim is survived by daughter and son-in-law Katherine and Paul Karakantas and granddaughters Adamandia and Demitra all of Ithaca. Also his sisters living in Greece, Nica Geracimos and Katherine Seferlis.

Charles Gorant passed away recently.

On June 24th, 2000 **Delia Manos** of Mt. Lebanon, Pa. passed away. She was the wife of the late Theos E. Manos. Sisters Anargyros Camarinos, Sophia Paul, and Tasso Camarinos and son Ted Manos survive her.

Nicholas G. Papageorge Passed away on June 16th, 2000 of Liverpool. His wife Garyfallia, a daughter, Penny Papageorge, two sons, George and Strati, sadly miss him.

Ithaca expresses grief with the passing of **John Tselekis**, on October 14th, 2000. His wife Sophia Costianis Tselekis, his son, George, his daughter and son-in-law Paulette and Bill Manos and granddaughter Anastasia Kazenski survive John.

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and the traditional Greek salad "finally without the onions" a few youngsters exclaimed. After dinner a few intense card games of UNO or Rummy could be found, while others took yet another dip in the pool, or just rested up for the dance. Fridays dance, although only lasting till two, was outstanding as always. Nick Mouganis's band played a great variety of kalamatianos, tsamikos, and sailor dances, with a few hasapikos thrown in. After the dance most of us went directly to bed (to get our beauty sleep), while others carried the party on at Denny's or in their hotel parking lots.

Saturday: What a day! So many activities so little paper to print on. Saturday saw off the annual golf outing. Although a few mumbles were heard from Nick Lambros about needing some competition, everyone who participated had a great time, even after pulling a few balls out of the woods. While the outing was going on, a few of the kids decided that if they were going to be up early they would enjoy it spending their parents' money. And what better way to spend money close to Celeron then by finding a boat and risking life and limb on the waters of beautiful Lake Chatauqua. The boating expedition lasted for about 2 hours and gave everyone grand expectations for next year. The voyage will definitely be repeated next year by at least a few of us. After lunch the boaters, golfers, sleepers, and even a few latecomers, met at the clubhouse for an exciting game of softball. A few fly balls in to the tent, a hit to the head with a softball (sorry Nick), and 2 hours later every one was properly worn out and ready to go rest up before dinner. We won't mention which team one, Cough, Cough, still undefeated. Dinner Saturday was even better than the night before, consisting of tender, juicy lamb and some delicious potatoes, again prepared by Bill Manos and his crew. The new board was named, headed by John Zacharias as your new President, with Duane Ferencz taking over the vacant position of Treasurer. Directly following dinner was the talent show, which with singing



(in both Greek and American) and a dance routine. It was as adorable as always. After diner most went back to their hotels and rested in or near a pool, while some kept entertained by "Grease" which was playing on a local network that night. The dance was great with everyone showing up in their Sunday best, which was a bad idea for some of us who just don't know when to stop dancing. The 12:00 snack was outstanding as ever with hot dogs you yearn for all year round. At this time they had the 2 raffles. The ladies auxiliary gave away 2 baskets of Greek wine

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Members of the Challenge 2000

The following list represents individuals and/or families that have been signed on for the \$1000 donation toward the Challenge 2000. These Challenge 2000 donations will be used to keep our Society together for the future. We thank those who have participated and hope that many more will join the effort.

Chelekis, James and Anna N
Chelekis, George J
Conomikes, Spero and Maria
Costas, Thomas Z(Laskaris)
Costas, Angeline(Laskaris)
Costianes, Nicholas
Costianes, George P
Costianis, Chris
Ferencz, Fr. Nik, Joanne,
Duane and Stacey
Dusckas, Nicholas
Floros, Joan

Geracimos, George
and Margaret
Gregory, Helen(Laskaris)
Karfes, Steliane
Laskaris, Peter and Gianoula
Laskaris, Alexander G.
and Nikonia
Macheras, Eve
Nicholakis, Peter and Sophia
Nickles, Mosca M
Parthemos, Arete(Irene)
Zacharias, Socrates and Ann
Zacharias, John and Sam

Below is a list of those who have indicated they will sign on.

Gregory, Nancy
Lambros, Nick
Zervos, Skevos
Stratakos, John

Vournakis, John (3)
Treires, John
Geracimos, Steven

Continue our heritage, our tradition, and our Society by participating in Challenge 2000....

Births

Mr. and Mrs. David Ziska of Brooklyn, New York became the parents of a son, Andrew, born May 21, 2000. David is the son of the late Stella (Zaharis) Ziska.

Mr. And Mrs. Aki Matheos Nestopoulos, from Ithaca, New York, are the parents of a daughter, Demetra Maria. Aki is the son of Maria (Gavrelis) and the late Demon M. Nestopoulos.



Internet Places to Check Out

Yanni Tsakonas came across this great site and thought you might want to check it out. We hope you enjoy it! http://members.tripod.com/~shirish_kalele/anthems/gre.htm

Also check the web site of <http://www.estherclaypool.com/Chacona5.htm>. There you will see George Chacona, a renown artist in Seattle, Wash.

113 Jackson Avenue, W.E.
Jamestown, NY 14701



TSINTZINA
SOCIETY,
INC.

TSINTZINA CHALLENGE 2000

BACKGROUND: As we are entering the new Millennium, the Tsintzina Society continues to make history -- the Clubhouse in Celoron has been re-roofed, re-sided, and significantly remodeled inside; descendants continue to receive national recognition; 200 - 300 people still attend the annual reunion in July; and The Society is financially sound. This is all the result of the hard work of our third and fourth generation members and officers.

THE CHALLENGE: The Society is ready to go forth and carry on the traditions and customs. With the help of our own internationally acknowledged sculptor Dino Seferlis, he will be providing a sculpture commemorating our Tsintzina heritage. We now need your help. We would like 100 families to donate \$1,000 between now and December 31, 2000 to the "Tsintzina Challenge 2000" in honor of their family. The family name will be enshrined along with the sculpture at the Clubhouse. A miniature replica of the sculpture will be given to the first 100 families completing their contributions. We hope that every living descendent of the early Tsintzina Society members will be able to participate. Families can organize to breakdown the \$1,000 into fractional shares as low as \$50. Please respond by completing the form below.

THE REALIZATION: When we accomplish our 100 family goal, it is projected that with the existing Endowment Fund and other assets, and the new contributions, we will be able to maintain the existence of The Society forever.

Challenge 2000 Enrollment

Family Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Family Coordinator:
Name & Address: _____

Initial Contribution: \$ _____
Balance of Contribution: \$ _____



Please make checks payable to "Tsintzina Society"
and mail to:
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Pittsburgh, PA 15243

