



Chicago's Cretans Hold Weekend Event for Nat'l President & Board

The Cretan Fraternity of Chicago and Cretan Ladies Amaltheia hosted National President John Sargetis and the Pancretan Association of America's National Board Meeting. National Board members attended from all over the United States. The events began Friday, October 31, with a Welcome Night and dinner open to the public.

The evening's program, emceed by Elena Manos with presenter Zaharoula Marmatakis, included a documentary exploring the 85 year history of the PAA, its support and contributions here in the United States to Greek and Cretan Americans as well as the overwhelming support to our homeland Crete. The organization started in Chicago in 1929. During the presentation, live Cretan music from different historical eras was played by Argyro Kaklis, Agape Kaklis, Mihalis Alefantinos, Giannis Kaklis, Antonis Marmatakis and Stelios Papadakis. The musicians provided music throughout the weekend's events. Also speaking at Welcome Night were PAA President John Sargetis and Cretan Ladies Amaltheia President Evangeline Alpagianis.

The weekend's events culminated with the Cretan Fraternity's 98th Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday night, November 1. The dinner dance was attended by nearly 600 people. The Opening Prayer was provided by His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago. Cretan Fraternity of Chicago President George Kallegis presented awards to Former PAA President and Former Cretan Fraternity of Chicago President John Manos and Cretan Fraternity of Chicago Honorary President John Brillakis for their years of service.

The Ladies Amaltheia President Evangeline Alpagianis and PAA Women's Executive Director, Zaharoula Marmatakis presented the Amalthea Service Award to Former Amaltheia President Eugenia Manos. Live music showcased the highlight of the evening, "the Cretan Youth of Chicago's dance troupe".

The Cretan Youth President Despina Hobitakis and dance instructors Patricia Nouhakis and George Venianakis had prepared a wonderful dance program with both the younger and adult dance groups. The young dancers had the attendees on their feet throughout their presentation!

Panagia of Asinou is the Topic of Lecture at Cyprus Consulate



The church of Panagia of Asinou.

The speaker at the event was the erudite Annemarie Weyl Carr, distinguished professor of Art History Emerita, Southern Methodist University. The subject of the lecture was 'An Evening at Asinou' and the venue was the Consulate General of the Republic of Cyprus, with hosts Ambassador Vassilios Filippou, Consul General and the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (CAARI).

Having visited this ancient church of Our Lady of Asinou back in 1988, I was able to appreciate Ms Carr's lecture to the fullest and I enjoyed her descriptions of

the age old frescos, still in vivid colors after the passing of so many centuries. The Panagia Phorbotissa at Asinou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is among the most cherished of Cyprus' Byzantine churches. Perched in tranquil isolation at the lip of a mountain valley, the tiny building is sheathed with frescoes that enfold the visitor in warmth and color. It seems immune from the thrust of time.

Yet its frescoes belong to many eras, each with its own character and its own, vivid portraits of the people who loved, used, and supported the church. They are in fact an unparalleled witness to time. *Asinou Across Time* (Harvard University Press, 2012) a book by an international team of scholars—two of whom are Trustees of CAARI—has traced Asinou's history, with hundreds of new color images. In the evening at the Consulate of Cyprus, the book's editor and co-author, professor Emerita Carr, laid out its discoveries.

Immediately after Ms Carr's lecture, her husband and the major photographer, Dr. Gerald L. Carr took the podium and with the aid of photographs he has taken during his many visits to Cyprus, elaborated on other aspects of the Asinou church, such as the joys and challenges of photographing Asinou. CAARI promotes the study of archaeology in Cyprus, fosters dialogue between American and Cypriot scholars and offers services to researchers of all nations in the fields of the human, social and related natural sciences. It is a small center but it has world-wide impact. As a hub of cultural diplomacy in Cyprus, it yields a remarkably global return on the investments made to it. It is one of 24 American overseas research centers and is sponsored by the American Schools of Oriental Research.

Judge Harriet George gets A.G.A.P.W.'s Distinguished Life Achievement Award



Judge Emerita Harriet George (center) displaying the award, flanked from left to right by Officers and Directors of AGAPW, Christina Feggoudakis, Konstantina Koulosousas Spatola, Esq, founder Dr. Olga Alexakos and Irene Sarri.

New York.-The Association of Greek American Professional Women (A.G.A.P.W.) continued its series of 'Conversations with Women Leaders' by honoring on Wednesday, November 5th Judge Emerita Harriet Pavles George at the Press and Communication Office Permanent Mission of Greece. Judge George's professional achievements include: Private practice in Queens County for 20 years; Judge of the Housing Part of Civil Court for 20 years, in both Manhattan, where she handled all cases brought by the City against slumlords, as well as in Queens, where she handled city cases as well as cases brought by both owners and renters. Judge George has served as President of the Queens County Women's Bar Association and The Housing Court Judges Association. She has been a long standing

member of the Queens County Bar Association, Queens County Women's Bar Association, Columbian Lawyers Association (Italian American Bar), and the Hellenic American Lawyers Association.

Judge George has served as an active member in many Religious, Civic and Philanthropic Organizations: Past Board member, National Philoptochos, St. Michael's Home; Cyprus Children's Fund; Neighborhood Chairman, Girl Scouts, Den Mother; past President Hellenic Parents Teachers Association of St. Demetrios Church, Jamaica; Present Board member of Hellenic Women's Club of the North Shore, Forest Hills Women's Club and Philoptochos Society of St. Demetrios Church Jamaica, N.Y.; member of the Pancyprian Association; past president and member of the Women's Club of Jamaica Estates.

Following the presentation of the Distinguished Life Achievement Award ceremony, Judge George participated in a captivating and insightful discussion moderated by Ms. Maria Markou, Esq. The discussion commenced with Judge George narrating to the audience great stories about her powerful connection to Hellenism and how being a Hellene influenced her personal life and career. After that, she shared with us her strongest strengths and major influences, noting that her greatest accomplishment is her wonderful family of six talented children, thirteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren. It should be noted that four of her children were present at the event and were really touched by their mother's narratives. Judge George also recollected memories from the time she was studying at Hofstra and Fordham Universities. As an active philanthropist and a trailblazing leader, she spoke about her interests, and besides career-related, also volunteer activities that she has pursued throughout her life. Moreover, based on her extensive experience as a Judge in New York City, she underlined the obstacles in the practice of justice and she expressed the pros and cons of serving at the bench as compared to practicing law. The discussion concluded with Judge George offering her invaluable advice to professional women and especially the young professionals and encouraging them to escape from the dilemma of pursuing a career or becoming a mother. Judge George has demonstrated to all of us indisputably that a professional woman can successfully balance a demanding career with a wonderful family life. A reception featuring Greek wine and delicious Greek mezedes generously provided by the Blue Olive Market followed the discussion.

Aktina, Inc Gives Us An Evening with G. Savvidakis Interpreting Hadjidakis

A much befitting tribute to the late genius composer and Oscar winner Manos Hadjidakis was paid on Friday, November 7 at Hunter College's Kaye Playhouse as part of Aktina's Greek Music Journey 2014, and celebrating Aktina Productions 21 years contributions to the arts, Culture and Public Service radio broadcasting. The Music and songs of Hadjidakis were celebrated through the interpretation of Greek star Giannis Savvidakis and his orchestra, who captivated the audience with their rendering and unusual style.

Co-presented by Cypreco Of America, Inc., the event enticed the audience through Savvidakis' vocals and Giannis Konstantinides' accompaniment in the songs and guitar strings, Kostas Psarros' bouzouki, Kostas Milona's drumbeat and Glafkos Kontemeniotis' orchestration and keyboard execution. Giannis, a versatile crooner, captivated with his interpretations of the Hadjidakis tunes, cracking a joke here and there, conducting sing-alongs, conversing in perfect English at times and at one point interacting with the concert's executive producer Elena Marouletti in a radiant conversation.

The program began with clips from the days and life of the composer, a great part of which was intertwined with the life of Melina Mercouri, the pinnacle of which was the legendary Never on Sunday song, Ta Paidia tou Pirea. The first song executed that evening was Manos' Athena followed by tunes made famous by Merkouri, Nana Mouskouri and other virtuoso performers of the Greek song. It is sad that attendance wasn't par to the significance of the event and I'm told there we're not too many Cretans in attendance, which may or may not have a connection with the fact that the great Cretan was born in Xanthe instead of his own Cretan soil. Naturally I am joking, but the fact is that the chance to enjoy such an event as the one honoring one of Greece's top composers doesn't come by as often as it should, so one would expect that attendance would be at its peak.

The musical evening was complemented by an evening of music and dancing, complete with eating and drinking on Sunday, November 9, at Bayside's Veranda restaurant-café.

Audiences can make up for this deficiency by attending Greek Music Journey 2015' Yannis Kotsiras Unplugged on Friday April 17 in 2015. It feature soloists Akis Katsoupakis with Vangelis Machairas on the bouzouki, tzoura and mandolin, and Kostas Michalos, guitar and vocals. VI

Interpol to Investigate Soccer Sleaze

The assault against the vice president of refereeing committee (KED) Christoforos Zografos last week and the subsequent suspension of all soccer games prompted Interpol to launch a full fledged investigation. A report in To Vima newspaper said that John Abbott, the Chairman of Interpol's Steering Group, for the Interpol - FIFA initiative to reduce corruption, was going to be in Athens in order to meet and hold talks with soccer and political officials over the recent developments. Olympiacos chairman Vangelis Marinakis has left it to be understood that he has vital information on the assault against Zografos and has called for all club owners to convene to put an end to violence



Vangelis Marinakis