



AFGLC / IFGLC
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR GREEK LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GREEK LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

February
2008

BULLETIN

Dr. Byron P. Palls

WE HAVE A NEW PRESIDENT!

On January 10, 2008, the Board of Trustees met in the Engineering building of the University of South Florida and named a new IFGLC/AFGLC President. The vote to elevate Acting President Dr. John Balis to President was unanimous and was celebrated by the membership as another major step toward improving the image of our Foundation.

A year ago, then Vice-President Balis, stepped forward and assumed the responsibilities of an Acting President, as prescribed by our Bylaws, in an effort to strengthen the direction of AFGLC/IFGLC. Dr. Balis began his Herculean task by earning the trust and support of the University of South Florida, then of the Interdisciplinary Centers, and finally of the membership, building the confidence of all. During his year as Acting President, he made progress in several areas (set up committees, managed a remarkable Forum, asked the Board of Directors to limit the presidency to a 3-year term, returned the semi-annual *Newsletter*), moving us forward. His *modus operandi* has been to arrive at decisions democratically and with complete transparency. He expects quality work from those who surround him, is slow to criticize but quick to offer praise, and is always guided by a sense of fairness, never compromising his integrity or that of others.

Dr. Balis is Professor *Emeritus* of the University of South Florida, which he served as the Director of the Department of Pathology's Teaching Program for medical students for 25 years and as the Head of the Department for 5 years. What our new President now needs most is the support of us all as he takes the helm to advance the noble goals of AFGLC/IFGLC.

2008 FORUM/CONFERENCE

Our annual Forum/Conference is drawing near; it will take place on March 7&8, 2008 in the amphitheater (#109) of the brand new Charles W. Young building of the University of South Florida. This year's theme will be: *"The Hellenic Legacy through the Ages."* The two days of presentations, engaging discussions, and fellowship promise to inform us, enhance our knowledge, make us proud of our cultural roots, and entertain us. Some of the sessions planned are:

Friday, March 7:

"Philanthropy through the Ages," (lecture w/a panel discussion); "The Impact of Hellenic Thought in the Creation of Democracy in America;" "Hellenic Diaspora: The Greek-American Experience;" "The AFGLC Agenda: Work in Progress and Plans for the Future." The USF Hellenic Dancers are going to entertain us again with their beautiful Greek dances.

The highlights of the two-day event will be the Rev. Dr. Demetrios Constantelos' lecture, "Philanthropy in the Greek World," and the Key Note Address by Dr. John Anton, "The Universal Values of Hellenic Tradition in the Age of Technology," delivered during the Friday night reception at the Embassy Suites.

Saturday, March 8:

"Educational Commitment to Principles of Hellenic Paedeia," (panel discussion); "Hellenism and Language/Culture;" "Hellenism and Sciences."

Arrangements have been made to provide ample parking to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend any of the above sessions, so please, mark your calendars now and plan to support this effort: **March 7 & 8!**

HERE 'N THERE:

Αν σκοπεύετε να κάνετε ταξίδι στην Ελλάδα φέτος το καλοκαίρι, να μην ξεχάσετε το διεθνές συνέδριο που οργανώνει το Κέντρο της Αθήνας, με θέμα «*Ελληνικές επιρροές στους σύγχρονους Πολιτικούς θεσμούς*». Το συνέδριο θα λάβει μέρος στις 26-28 Ιουνίου, 2008.

Have you checked out our ever-improving web site lately? Please go to afglc.org and see for yourselves. Our webmaster, Dr. Ulysses Balis, has been busy making many changes which, we hope, you will approve.

Many thanks to Mr. Theophanous for his indefatigable efforts to keep the Hellenes of the Tampa Bay area informed about community and other events which are of interest to us all.

To help us improve this Bulletin, or to report news, please let us hear from you at: bpalls@verizon.net



You are kindly requested to renew your membership in AFGLC for 2008--or become members if you are not--and help us promote Hellenism. Please, make your check or money order for \$50 payable to "AFGLC" and send to: AFGLC, Inc., 10413 Butia Place, Tampa, FL 33618-4117.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____