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Newsletter

Summer, 2010



Μοῖσα μοι
ἀμ>φι Σκῆμανδρον
εὐρων ἄρχομαι
ἀεὶ|ν|ιδεν

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. John U. Balis



Dear Members and Friends of AFGLC/IFGLC,

I am pleased to report that our Foundation continues to serve as a beacon in promoting the establishment of academic centers of excellence for Greek Language and Culture at institutions of higher learning. Highlights of the Foundation's continued efforts and accomplishments during the past six months include the following:

A. The New Year commenced with extensive preparations for our annual AFGLC-ICHS Forum/Conference 2010, "Hellenic Values in a Global Civilization: Engaging the Colleges, Universities and Citizens," which was sponsored by two great philanthropists: Mr. George D. Behrakis, who serves as the Honorary President of our Foundation, and his lovely wife Mrs. Margo Behrakis. By any measure, this two-day educational event and AFGLC community-building event, was very successful and very well attended. It was convened on February 19 and 20, with the first day hosted by the University of South Florida at its Tampa Campus and the second day hosted by St. Petersburg College at its Tarpon Springs Campus. An all-inclusive report covering this important educational event is presented by Dr. Byron Palls on page 2 of this issue. Similarly, the evolving national and international impact of the Conference, as presently known to us, is discussed by Dr. Ulysses J. Balis on page 3. At present, written transcripts of many of the 2010 conference presentations are available on the AFGLC website, with the balance of them expected by the end of the summer. As content on the website is now being updated regularly, I encourage you to check back often for new educational content and important announcements.

B. Reverend Dr. Stanley Harakas delivered an impressive inaugural address for a new AFGLC tradition, "The Dr. Demetrios Halkias Keynote Lecture on Faith" at Tarpon Springs' Spanos Center on the evening of February 20. This most auspicious event, which was chaired by AFGLC Tampa Chapter President Ms. Kalliope Halkias, enjoyed a turnout of more than 400 people. Following the keynote address, the evening continued with a captivating concert performance given by the acclaimed pianist, Mr. George Skaroulis. Accompanying his music was a video presentation that showcased aerial photography of many historic and spectacular sites of the Greek Homeland, entitled: "Concert Dedicated to the Memory of Dr. Demetrios Halkias and Dr. Bayzar Erkman-Balis." At the conclusion of this memorable evening, we could all sense that AFGLC's mission does indeed promote the bonding of Reason with Faith! (Cont'd on p. 2)

A Message from the President (Cont'd from p. 1)

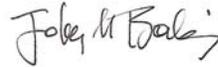
C. Following comprehensive discussions, the AFGLC-ICHS Educational Forum Committee, in concert with academic leadership from the USF ICHS, decided on a compelling overall theme for the AFGLC-ICHS Forum/Conference 2011: "Greek Paideia Revisited: Ancient Remedies/ Contemporary Ills." The 2011 theme will allow the Foundation to explore a new series of topics that stand at the crossroads between contemporary challenges to humanity itself and the ancient wisdom and insights that represent the tradition of Hellenic Paideia. The 2011 Forum/Conference will follow in the footsteps of the 2010 event's legacy of scholarly excellence and new-found partnership with both USF and St. Petersburg College, with continued active participation of academics from colleges and universities in the United States and Greece. Dates have already been reserved, with the 2011 AFGLC Educational Forum now being slated to convene on February 25, at the University of South Florida's Tampa campus, and on February 26, at the St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs campus. Every effort will be made to advance the exuberant cross-bay partnership which so characterized this year's event.

D. Development efforts for AFGLC's newest Chapter, AFGLC-NY (Stony Brook), continue to proceed in rapid fashion, with their chapter's state-of-the-art website (www.afglc.org/ny) expected to go live any day now. Worthy of note is the fact that Stony Brook's website infrastructure is being hosted in its entirety by AFGLC Headquarters. Kudos to our Webmaster. More about this exciting project can be

found in the Webmaster's report on page 3. I also wish to congratulate Dr. Tom Papademetriou for his innovative, high-impact accomplishments—which he describes in his ICHS-Stockton report on page 10.

The future growth and effectiveness of our Foundation should stand the test of time with our collective commitment to its mission as members of AFGLC/IFGLC. The strength of this commitment can best be assessed during periods of severe adversity and challenge, as underscored by our contemporary economic, environmental and political realities, on a global level. It is, therefore, most timely this year to review in depth the overall performance of our Foundation and optimize our future strategic plans and priorities. This task, currently being addressed by a number of recently established committees, will culminate in unity of vision and mission at the Foundation's retreat in November 2010. I strongly believe that the above self-assessment process will enable us to work with sustained synergy in order to fulfill the noble AFGLC Mission in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,



John U. Balis, MD
johnubalis@afglc.org



c: Mr. George D. Behrakis, Honorary President of AFGLC/IFGLC



**15TH ANNUAL FORUM/CONFERENCE:
 THE BEST EDUCATIONAL EVENT YET!
 Dr. Byron P. Palls**



The 15th Annual AFGLC Forum/Conference, a treasured traditional educational event, was held again this year on the 19th and 20th of February. As in the past several years, it was sponsored by the Honorary President of our Foundation, industrialist Mr. George Behrakis and his wife, Margo, to whom we are grateful. The event was a joint effort between AFGLC and its Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHS). The General Chairs of the event were Dr. John U. Balis, AFGLC/IFGLC President, and Dr. Christos Evangeliou, Towson University Professor. The two ICHS Executive Directors, Dr. James F. Strange of USF and Dr. Tom Papademetriou of Stockton College, served as Program

Chairs.

This year's Educational Forum Committee was comprised of Dr. John Balis, Dr. Michael Gibbons, Dr. Harvey Glass, Ms. Kalliope Halkias, the Rev. Dr. Stanley Harakas, Mr. Nicholas Maroulis, Dr. Santo Nicosia, Dr. Byron Palls, Dr. Elias Stefanakos, Dr. Marios Stephanides, Ms. Ourania Stephanides, Dr. James Strange, Ms. Alexandria Stubos, Dr. George Trimitsis, Dr. Joanne Waugh, and Dr. William Yotis. They worked tirelessly to produce this truly remarkable event but not without trepidation, for this was to be a departure from previous formats: not only would it be held in two academic venues instead of one; it would also depend (Cont'd on p. 5)



ATHENS CHAPTER REPORT

Prof. Emmanuel Bechrakis, President



Mrs. Pota Bali-Bouba

By Mrs. Pota Bali-Bouba, Treasurer.

Το ΔΙΕΓΠ--Ελληνικό Κέντρο είχε από τις αρχές του 2010 μέχρι στιγμής τις παρακάτω δραστηριότητες:

Στις 5 Φεβρουαρίου 2010 έγινε στο Πολιτιστικό Κέντρο-Εντευκτήριο «Κωστής Παλαμάς» του Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών η ετήσια εκδήλωση για την κοπή της παραδοσιακής βασιλόπιτας. Υπήρξε αθρόα συμμετοχή των μελών και φίλων του Κέντρου και πλούσιο καλλιτεχνικό πρόγραμμα. Στο Συνέδριο που διεξήχθη στην Τάμπα της Φλόριντα στις 19-20 Φεβρουαρίου, παρέστησαν από το ΔΙΕΓΠ-Ελληνικό Κέντρο και μίλησαν οι δύο Αντιπρόεδροι, καθηγητές του Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών, ο κ. Εμμανουήλ Μικρογιαννάκης, ο οποίος ανέπτυξε το θέμα: "The ideal constitution according to Pericles" και ο κ. Χριστόφορος Χαραλαμπίδης, ο οποίος εισηγήθηκε το θέμα: "Standard Modern Greek: The present state". Ο κ. Χαραλαμπίδης διάβασε την εισήγηση του μέλους του Δ.Σ. του Ιδρύματος, καθηγητή του Πανεπιστημίου Ιωαννίνων κ. Αθανάσιου Παπαδόπουλου "Death, Power and Society

in Prehistoric Aegean and Cyprus: The Evidence of Warrior Graves and Paintings."

Στο Συνέδριο παρέστη και η κ. Πότα Μπούμπα, Ταμίας του Ιδρύματος, η οποία μετέφερε τον χαιρετισμό προς το Συνέδριο του Προέδρου του ΔΙΕΓΠ-Ελληνικού Κέντρου καθηγητή Εμμανουήλ Μπεχράκη. Επίσης, οι ανωτέρω προσέφεραν σε μέλη και φίλους του Ιδρύματος τα τυπωμένα σε καλαίσθητο τόμο Πρακτικά του 4^{ου} Διεθνούς Συνεδρίου που έγινε στην Αθήνα τον Ιούνιο του 2008. Οι εντυπώσεις που αποκόμισαν οι εκπρόσωποι του ΔΙΕΓΠ-Ελληνικού Κέντρου από το παραπάνω συνέδριο ήταν άριστες.

Στις 5 Ιουνίου 2010 πραγματοποιήθηκε επίσης-ψη των μελών και φίλων του ΔΙΕΓΠ στον αρχαιολογικό χώρο της Βραυρώνας και στον Μαραθώνα με ξενάγηση των καθηγητών Αθ. Παπαδόπουλου και Εμμ. Μικρογιαννάκη. Οι επισκέπτες θαύμασαν τα εκπληκτικά εκθέματα του Αρχαιολογικού Μουσείου Βραυρώνας τα οποία χρονολογούνται από τους προϊστορικούς χρόνους.*



NEWS FROM THE WEBMASTER

Dr. Ulysses J. Balis, Director



Since the date of the 2010 AFGLC Forum this past February, the Foundation has enjoyed receiving a steady stream of written scholarly contributions, which echo the content presented in both USF/Tampa and St. Petersburg College/Tarpon Springs meeting venues. All that we have received so far is now posted on the AFGLC Website--and we are continuing to receive new contributions weekly. All told, the Foundation's electing to make all content freely available to the public, through our website, has been a resounding success, with this material's presence representing a newfound draw of website visitors. Several presentations have been particularly popular, with downloads exceeding the 20,000 mark, such as Dr. Felos' presentation on "Expatriated Art" and Dr. Katerinakis' presentation on "*Philotimo* and Ethics."

Most notably, we have surged past the 100,000 visitor mark since February, with even more downloads of our various presentations. Equally important is the observation that the Foundation's page rankings on the most important search engines, such as Google and Yahoo, have significantly improved over their prior state. In the specific case of Google, for example, the search terms "Greek Foundation" will return the AFGLC as the ****very first**** entry from a field of 36 million possible links. This is no small feat, with its attainment represent-

ing significant newfound visibility for the Foundation. I encourage you to try this for yourself on Goggle. Similarly, Google searches for additional search terms such as "Greek Language" and "Greek Culture" return the AFGLC as being within the first or second page of all returned links -- again, a major feat, given the generic nature of these terms. Finally, the AFGLC Website development team, working closely with the staff of the AFGLC-New York Chapter, has now completed the new AFGLC-NY Chapter Website, which is being hosted entirely within our existing website infrastructure. As the model Web prototype for, hopefully, all of our AFGLC chapters, we anticipate, within a year, to be able to represent each flourishing chapter with its own Web presence. An important component of the current oversight model allows each chapter the ability to manage and post content directly, without the need for intervention from AFGLC Headquarters' web operations, thus affording each site the quickest possible avenue for the dissemination of time-sensitive information. Should you encounter any information or make note of an event that could be of importance to the AFGLC community, please forward it to news-room@afglc.org such that we can post it to our growing audience. *



TRI-STATE REPORT
Dr. Peter Yiannos, President



PHOTOGRAPHS FROM RECENT ACTIVITIES AT THE TRI-STATE AFGLC AREA:



Photo 1. Dr. Yiannos addressing the graduating students of the Greek School of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Wilmington, Delaware, where he presented each student with the book “Hellenism Through the Ages”. The book written by Fr. Dennis Michelis, was published by Tri-State AFGLC. (You can receive a copy by donating any dollar amount to the Tri-State AFGLC-- caliopey@comcast.net).



Photo 2. Presenting the book “Greek Treasures” to Senator Carper sent by Professor Dr. Kotropoulos of Thessaloniki, who spent a year as an exchange professor at the University of Delaware and had been introduced to the Senator. Dr. Kotropoulos sent the book for the Senator in appreciation of his good experiences and fond memories at the University and USA. In the Photo, from Left to Right, are: Constantine Georgiou, Senator Tom Carper, Dr. Peter Yiannos and Dr. James Fallor.



Photo 3: George Plamantouras of the Hellenic Friends of Stockton College of New Jersey Organization (HFS), exhibiting books relevant to the Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies (ICHHS) at the Hermes International Exhibit in Atlantic City in April.

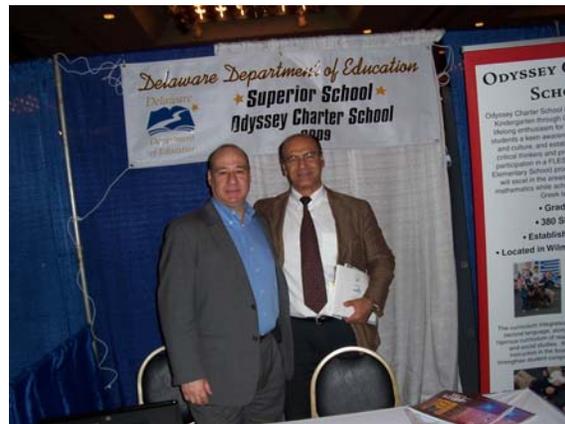


Photo 4: Tri-State AFGLC has a strong interest and its members support the Odyssey Charter School of Delaware. Mr. Anthony Skoutelas (L), the Principal of the Award Winning School and the Greek Embassy Coordinator of Greek Teachers Mr. Anthony Marmarinos (R) are shown at the Hermes Exhibit in Atlantic City.

Please, remember to renew your membership if you have let it lapse: we need your support! See p. 12.



NEW YORK CHAPTER REPORT

Dr. Stella Tsirka, President



The NY Chapter of AFGLC has continued to grow and focused on creating more awareness of its existence and immediate goals. Events have been and are being scheduled in an effort to strengthen the connection with the Hellenic community on Long Island.

The second event we organized served as a tribute to the day of Greek Letters and the Three Hierarchs, and took place on the 24th of January; it was a presentation of the book *Lost to the West: The Forgotten Byzantine Empire That Rescued Western Civilization*, by Lars Brownworth. The presentation was sponsored by Mr. John Tsunis, Esq. and attracted a large audience interested in the topic of Byzantine History. Mr. Brownworth eloquently described big and small events of that historical period and answered the plethora of questions that kept coming at the end of his presentation. It was a very successful outreach event.

The presence of the Chapter continued to be promoted: AFGLC-NY participated in the Parade celebrating the Greek Independence Day which took place on April 18. Proudly holding the AFGLC-NY banner (shown here on the right), members of the Chapter paraded on Fifth Ave in New York City.

An additional event took place on the 23rd of May. Triggered by the generosity of two members of the community, both strong advocates of Hellenism,

Mr. Manny Lakios and Dr. Herodotus Damianos, the establishment of AFGLC-NY was celebrated. The event was held at Mr. Lakios' elegant restaurant, Cu29, which he offered for the event, and the wine was provided by Dr. Damianos and Pindar Wineries. Distinguished guests and members of our communities made sure the event was a success.

On the academic front, Stony Brook University has approved the curriculum of an Intensive Elementary Modern Greek course that will start in September 2010. We are looking forward to a significant enrollment of interested students.

Additional plans are scheduled and added to our agenda little-by-little. We are moving forward in this effort for establishment of the Center for Hellenic Studies at SBU, and enjoy being part of the big family of AFGLC. *

Hellenic Studies
At Stony Brook University

Κέντρο Ελληνικών Σπουδών



**To Preserve Hellenism,
The Source**

www.afglc.org/ny/

15th Annual Forum/Conference (Cont'd from p. 2)

on community support for its success. When the sun set on the Forum's second day, the hoped for synergy between Community and Academy, between "town" and "gown," was crowned with success: The 2010 Forum/Conference was pronounced by all the best ever!

The umbrella theme of the two-day event was *Hellenic Values in a Global Civilization: Engaging the Colleges, Universities and Citizens*. The activities of the first day took place on the campus of the University of South Florida, Tampa. Dr. John Balis, Emeritus Professor of Pathology and Cell Biology, University of South Florida and AFGLC/IFGLC President, welcomed the attendees and invited the Rev. Dr. Stanley Harakas, Former Dean and Emeritus Archbishop Iakovos Professor of Orthodox Theology, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, to offer the invocation. The President then gave an overview of the program, and read an enthu-

siastic letter of support from Prof. Emmanuel Bechrakis, President of the Athens Chapter, who was unable to attend; he then recognized the dignitaries who were present: Dr. Ralph Wilcox, USF Provost, who he extended the University's official welcome to the conferees, reaffirmed the benefits of the strong partnership between the University and AFGLC, and reiterated USF's support for the annual Forum/Conference; Dr. James F. Strange, Distinguished University Professor and Executive Director of Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies, USF; Dr. Tom Papademetriou, *Constantinos and Georgiean Georgiou Associate Professor of Greek History* and Executive Director of the Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies, Stockton College, Pomona, NJ; Dr. Charles N. Paidas, Chief of Pediatric Surgery and Associate Dean of the College of Medicine, who once again voiced USF's pleasure in hosting the event; and a videotaped congratulatory (Cont'd on p. 6)

15th Annual Forum/Conference (Cont'd from p. 5)

message from the Governor of Florida, Charlie Crist, who was unable to attend due to prior commitments. Invited to participate this year were several distinguished professors from U.S. and Greek institutions of higher education, as well as persons with expertise in areas of interest to the Conference. They either read papers, led round table discussions, shared their ideas, or established dialogues with those attending the event, all of which resulted in a wealth of information for all who participated in this two-day event.

Scheduled to present papers and participate in round table discussions on this day were, by theme:

Theme 1. *Ancient Visions, Modern Issues*, Part I, moderated by Dr. Christos Evangelou, Towson University: Dr. Evangelou, "Socratic Lessons for the Post-Modern World;" Dr. Emmanuel Mikrogianakis, University of Athens, "The Ideal Constitution According to Pericles;" Mr. Theodoros Katerinakis, Drexel University, "From Kalokagathia to Philotimo: Connected Ethics in Modern Greek Cooperatives;" and Dr. Joanne Waugh, USF, "Commentary."

Theme 2. *Teaching Greek Language and Culture*, moderated by Dr. Aristotle Michopoulos: Dr. Katherine Panagakos, Stockton College, "Teaching Greek Language and Culture: An Overview;" Dr. Artemis Leontis, University of Michigan, "Teaching Modern Greek Culture;" Dr. Dean Lomis, University of Delaware, "Hellenic Paideia: College-level Education for High School Students;" Dr. Christoforos Charalambakis, University of Athens, "Standard Modern Greek: The Present State;" and Dr. Maria Hnaraki, Drexel University, "Green Rhymes: Raising Ecological Awareness through Cretan Songs."

Theme 3. *Work in Progress and Plans for the Future - A Panel Discussion*, moderated by Dr. William Yotis, USF: Dr. Peter Yiannos, Tri-State Chapter President; Dr. Stella Tsirka, New York Chapter President; Ms. Kalliope Halkias, Tampa Chapter President; Dr. Byron P. Palls, AFGLC/IFGLC VP/Editor; Ms. Ourania Stephanides, AFGLC/IFGLC Data Base; and Dr. Ulysses J. Balis, AFGLC Website Director. Concluding remarks were made by Dr. James Strange, USF ICHS Director, and Dr. Tom Papademetriou, Stockton College ICHS Director.

Following the presentations of the first day, the traditional Reception/Dinner was held at the Embassy Suites of the University of South Florida, and was attended by many members of the community. The audience was regaled once more with the voice of five-year-old Ricky, son of Dr. Joanna Hill, who gave a flawless *a capella* rendition of the national anthems of the United States and Greece. At the Reception, Dr. Balis honored two members of the Executive

Committee with plaques, in recognition of their service to the Foundation: Ms. Ourania Stephanides and Dr. Byron P. Palls.

This year's Keynote Lecture on Hellenism was delivered by ICHS Executive Director Dr. James F. Strange, the result of his findings after many years of excavations in Israel; his topic was "Nazareth and Sepphoris: The Explosive Birth of Christianity on a Hellenized Hebrew Hilltop." The finish touch for the day came during the dinner that followed, when students from the Hellenic Society of the University of South Florida entertained those present with folk dances from different areas of Greece, which they executed with their customary precision and grace.

The activities of the second day took place at the St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs Campus, where the Provost, Dr. Conferlete Carney, extended SPC's official welcome and placed the facilities of the College at the disposal of the Forum/Conference. Also present to welcome the conferees were the Honorable Beverly Billiris, Mayor of Tarpon Springs (who also read a proclamation on the occasion of AFGLC's presence in her city); the Honorable Michael Bilirakis, retired congressman, U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Antonios Sgouropoulos, Consul General of Greece, Tampa; and the videotaped congratulatory message from the Governor of Florida, Charlie Crist. Dr. Balis, once more, thanked the College for its gracious reception and gave an overview of the days activities.

Scheduled to present papers and participate in round table discussions on this day were, by theme:

Theme 4. *Ancient Visions, Modern Issues*, Part II, moderated by Mr. Basil Moutsatsos: Mr. Moutsatsos, Keynote Address: "Ancient Visions, Modern Issues;" Ms. Kimberly Felos, SPC, "Repatriation of Greek Art Treasures;" Ms. Connie Mourtopala, American Friends of the New Acropolis Museum, Washington, DC, "Commentary: Why Not?;" and Dr. Matthew Sims, SPC, "Homer on War and Warriors: The Achilles Syndrome."

Theme 5. *The Legacy of the Greek Immigrants: Will it endure?* moderated by Dr. Marios Stephanides, University of Tampa: Dr. Dan Georgakas, Queens College, NY, "Knowing Our Past: Overview of the Greek-American Story;" Dr. Tina Bucuvalas, State Folklorist/Historian, Tarpon Springs, "Tarpon Springs Folk Life and Folk Art: An Overview;" the Honorable Gus Bilirakis, US Congressman, "Thoughts of a Second Generation Son of Greek Immigrants;" Mr. Chris Alahouzos, Cont'd on p. 7)

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Commissioner of the City of Tarpon Springs, "Commentary by Informed Citizens."

Theme 6. Online Learning Programs for Teaching Greek Language and Culture, moderated by Dr. Vassiliki Rapti, Harvard University: Mr. Costas Dedegikas, Simon Fraser University, BC, "The Odysseas Online Tutor;" Dr. Rapti, Harvard University, "Innovative Approaches to Teaching Modern Greek: The Pilot Modern Greek Language Program at Harvard;" Mr. Constantine Stefanakos, Media/AFGLC Producer, "T.O.U.C.H. – An Online Center for the Learning of the Modern Greek Language, Global Communication and the Digital Archiving of the Hellenic Culture: A Proposal;" Dr. Eva Prionas, Stanford University, "Harvard-Stanford Alliance for the Advancement of Modern Greek: Practices and Perspectives;" and Dr. Ulysses Balis, University of Michigan and Director of the AFGLC Website, "Commentary."

Theme 7. Longitudinal Teaching of Greek Language and Culture, moderated by Dr. Ippokratis Kantzios, USF: Dr. Constantine J. Efthymiou, Hellenic Link, NY, and Dr. Maria Hnaraki (who read Dr. Frieda Charalabopoulou's paper, Research & Innovation Center in Information, as she was unable to travel from Athens, Greece), "Employing Technology as a Conduit to Enhance, Promote and Disseminate Less Commonly Taught Languages: The Case of Modern Greek;" Dr. Nikos Metallinos, Concordia University, Montreal, "Tools for Longitudinal Student Exposure to Greek Language and Culture;" Vassiliki Tsigas-Fotinis, Hellenic-American Educators, New Jersey, "Aligning Greek Language Teaching with US National Standards;" Dr. Constantine Hatzidimitriou, DOE, Washington, DC, "Modular Teaching of Hellenic Cultural Themes: The Crucial Link between Content and Pedagogy;" and Mrs. Annette Alahoussos, Tampon Spring, "Commentary by a School Teacher."

Theme 8, Workshop A: Hellenic Values and Milestones. Mrs. Sophia Kugeares, SPC: "Bread in Byzantium: The Staff and Stuff of Life;" Dr. Kevin Morgan, SPC: "The Origins of Philosophy: Why the Greeks?" Dr. Maria Hnaraki, Drexel University: "Into the Labyrinths: Amazing Myths Meet in Crete."

Theme 8, Workshop B: Teaching Hellenic Culture. Dr. Frieda Charalabopoulou, Institute for Language and Speech Processing "Athena:" "Educational Software for Greek Language and Culture;" Dr. Vassiliki Rapti, Harvard University: "On-Line Learning Programs for Greek Language and Culture;" Dr.

Constantine Efthymiou, Hellenic Link, Inc. "Longitudinal Exposure of Students to Greek Language and Culture."

Theme 8, Workshop C: Promotion and Support of Hellenic Education. Mr. Kostas Miliotis & Dr. Diane Touliatos, University of Missouri-St. Louis: "Motivating the Community and Developing University Support."

Theme 9. Sharing the Experience for Teaching and Promoting Greek Language and Culture: A Workshop, moderated by Dr. Karin M. Weidenheim, Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Dr. John P. Anton, USF, "Concluding Remarks: The Charge!"

During the lunch break, a select group of outstanding dancers from the Tarpon Springs Community known nationally as *Levendia*, clad in colorful costumes that reflected their families' origins, delighted everyone with their charm, exuberance, and impeccably executed folk dances.

At the conclusion of the presentations of the second day, a grand reception was held in Tarpon Springs, at the recently-constructed Spanos-Pappas Community Center, during which Ms. Kalliope Halkias served as the Mistress of Ceremonies. Once again, the crowd in attendance was exceptionally large, with some estimates putting the count at between 400 and 500 persons. There were the usual traditional Greek appetizers and drinks served, following which the audience settled in for an evening of entertainment and reflection.

Opening the program was a piano recital to honor the memory of two pillars of the Foundation, Dr. Demetrios Halkias and Dr. Bayzar Erkman-Balis. The recital was given by George Skaroulis, a native Floridian pianist with roots in the area (years back, his father had retrieved the cross during the Epiphany celebration in the Tarpon bayou); Mr. Skaroulis delighted the audience with a repertoire of his well-known compositions, and played for the first time his latest one, "Epiphany," written especially for the Tarpon Springs Community. The recital became emotionally charged as his entire performance was played against a background of beautiful slides of the Greek countryside and islands.

There followed the inaugural *Dr. Demetrios Halkias Keynote Lecture on Faith* which was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Stanley Harakas; he was introduced by Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis, the priest of St. John the Baptist church of Tampa. Dr. Harakas' thought-provoking speech set the (Cont'd on p. 11)



Dr. Erkman-Balis

PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Proclamation

City of Tarpon Springs, Florida

- Whereas,* the American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture (AFGLC) is a non-profit organization whose singular, most important objective is the preservation and diffusion of Hellenism and the Hellenic spirit; and
- Whereas,* the members of the Foundation, all volunteers from different walks of life, undertake to carry out this mission because they are convinced that our future leaders must have no lesser knowledge of the forces that shaped today's world (nearly all traceable back to the ancient Greeks) than did the founders of the United States; and
- Whereas,* one of the most prized activities of AFGLC is the annual Conferences it organizes for the benefit of its membership, of the faculty and students of the hosting university, and of society at large; and
- Whereas,* the most recent development in AFGLC's annual events has been the attempt to get closer to the people by bringing the Conference to them. Such is the case with this year's 15th Annual Forum/Conference, for the first time, will be divided between two venues and two areas of interest; scholarship at USF and culture at the St. Petersburg College in Tarpon Springs; and
- Whereas,* the program scheduled for February 19, 2010 at the University of South Florida and February 20, 2010 at St. Petersburg College-Tarpon Springs Campus will be rich in content and attract the interest of the local population.

Now Therefore, I, Beverley Billiris, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tarpon Springs do hereby recognize February 19, 2010 through February 20, 2010 as the

15th Annual Conference for the American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Tarpon Springs, Florida, to be affixed this 16th day of February, 2010.

Jane S. Jacobs
City Clerk & Collector



Beverly Billiris
Mayor

HELLENIC HISTORY MONTH IN FLORIDA!

On March 16, 2010, Governor Charlie Crist of Florida, designated March as "Hellenic History Month," as a result of initiatives taken by our fellow Hellenes of AHEPA. AFGLC welcomes the news and celebrates this designation with special pride, for it recognizes Greece for its many contributions to the United States.



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

HELLENIC HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, the first Greek colonists arrived on the shores of Florida on June 26, 1768 AD and established their new lives in the city of Saint Augustine; and

WHEREAS, in the 1880's Greek immigrants infused the city of Tarpon Springs, Florida with their rich culture and values; and

WHEREAS, many Americans fought alongside the Greeks in their fight for Greek independence, while stirring speeches by President James Monroe and Daniel Webster led the Congress to send funds and supplies to aid the Greeks in the struggle for freedom which continued until 1829, when Greek independence was achieved and thus ended 400 years of occupation; and

WHEREAS, the story of Greek military tactics used at the Battle of Marathon in 490 B.C. is still mandatory reading at the National War College in Washington, DC; and Greek soldiers were with the United States Marines on the shores of Tripoli in the military operations memorialized in the United States Marines' Hymn; and

WHEREAS, Greece gave the Allies their first military land victory of World War II when it initially defeated the Fascists in defense of Greece; and

WHEREAS, Greece is one of several nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict in the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, Sir Winston Churchill said of the Greeks after this fighting, "Hence we will not say that Greeks fight like heroes, but that heroes fight like Greeks"; and

WHEREAS, Greek Commander-in-Chief Petros Mavromichalis, a founder of the modern Greek State, said to the citizens of the United States in 1821, "it is in your land that liberty has fixed her abode...in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you"; and

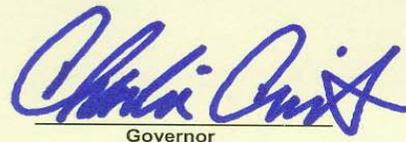
WHEREAS, the ancient Greeks established the Olympic Games; and

WHEREAS, the Founding Fathers of the United States drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy today;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing March 2010 as *Hellenic History Month*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 16th day of March, in the year two thousand ten.


Governor



A REPORT FROM OUR ICHS AT STOCKTON COLLEGE, NJ

Dr. Tom Papademetriou, Director

The last six months have easily been our busiest and most rewarding; the included trips to two countries, free languages classes, six performances of an original play, several faculty publications and more.

Our *Classical Humanities Society* hosted a three-part lecture series on sexuality in ancient Greece. Speakers came from the University of Pennsylvania and Villanova. The three topics were:

- Aristotle and the Science of Sexuality.
- The Secret of Good Love: Perception of Gender and the Art of Good Taste in Plato's Time.
- For the Love of Boys: Knowledge and Pleasure Among the Greeks.

While that drew attention and attendance, our “Examined Life” series guided fifteen teachers on an intensive course through the ancient Greek world in search of paradigms for use in the modern day classroom. Trips included the UPenn Museum and a nine-day tour of Greece. A recent event at the end of the course featured a presentation of lesson plans and ideas which were reviewed by Prof. Fred Mench. The fellowship ceremony will be held in December.

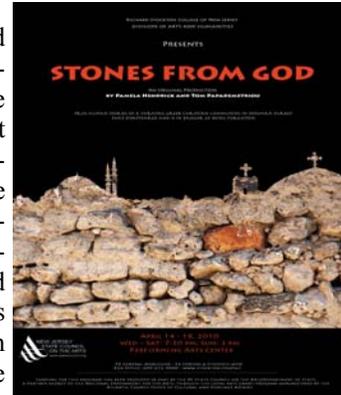


Teachers from the Examined Life visiting an archaeological site.

As the “Examined Life” wound down, our popular Free Summer Greek and Summer Latin programs started up. For the fourth year in a row, we are offering free Greek and Latin to anyone interested. With professors serving as mentors and monitors, our advanced students and community members teach for the summer. Last year, our Latin classes alone had over 25 people. Modern Greek has been the surprise so far this year with thirteen students.

Our Latin professor, Katherine Panagakos, and her student club of classicist fanatics staged a day-long reading of the entire *Odyssey*. The thirteen-hour affair, called “From Ithaca to Haiti,” raised over \$2,500 for Haiti Relief and drew the praise of students, faculty, supporters and the local media. While our former and current Byzantine Religion professors

Constantelos and Sicienski, respectively, saw the release of their most recent publications, Ottoman and Byzantine historian Papademetriou finished co-writing a play based on the oral histories of the Anatolian Greeks to which he gave the title *Stones from God*. The play



Dr. Papademetriou's play, *Stones from God*

had an excellent run of performances at Stockton College before joining a team of scholars in Istanbul for the second installment in our symposium series

(*Delphi* 2008). The final of two performances in Turkey was held at the Zappeion High School for Girls where it struck a powerful and emotional chord



A student performing in *Stones from God*.

with Istanbul Greeks and the General Consul of Greece in Istanbul who was in attendance.

The symposium, “Greek Orthodox Religious Culture in Ottoman Anatolia: Monuments, Memory, and Material Culture,” ran from the 11th to the 13th of June and featured speakers from the top universities of Greece, Turkey, and the United States, the Benaki Museum, the Bosphorus Cultural Alliance, the Center for Asia Minor Studies, *The Economist* magazine and more. Tours of the Theological School of Halki, the Monastery of Saint George on Prinkipos Island, and Istanbul, and musical performances of traditional Anatolian music by the acclaimed Bosphorus ensemble, all contributed to the unequivocal success of the symposium.

The papers will be published in a complete volume in 2011; another symposium is planned for 2012. Students have, of course, been the main benefactors of our activities. The last six months saw four of our students in Greece and twelve in Turkey.

These are but the highlights of what has been an unsurpassed half year at Stockton College. *



TAMPA CHAPTER REPORT
Ms. Kalliope Halkias, President



The Tampa Bay Chapter continues to work on its membership drive and it's encouraging to see new members joining the AFGLC Family. Please remember to renew your membership for 2010 (for membership applications, please go to page 13 of this publication).

The Tampa Bay Chapter worked diligently to provide assistance with the preparations of the 2010 Educational Forum/Conference. It was a very successful event including the new venue at St. Petersburg College and the Inaugural AFGLC *Dr. Demetrios Halkias Lecture on Faith*. On behalf of the AFGLC Planning Committee we would like to personally thank the Rev. Dr. Stanely Harakas, the Keynote Speaker, the Rev. Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis, who so eloquently introduced Fr. Harakas, and the other members of the committee: Mrs. Alexandria Stubos, Mrs. Ourania Stephanides, Mrs. Karlene Stefanakos, Ms. Ellen Klein, and Ms. Sylvia Beecham.

In addition, we would like to thank once more this year Dr. Joanna Hill and especially her five-year-old son "Ricky" who opened the event with a beautiful, a cappella rendition of both the American and Greek National Anthems. What a talented young boy!! The audience was truly amazed at his talent. Finally, we extend a heartfelt "thank you" to the USF Hellenic Society for the beautiful dance performance during the dinner program.

Several officers took part in a panel discussion during the Forum/Conference and presented an overview of the Tampa Chapter's current status and direction.

All in all, our Chapter is taking on more and more responsibilities away from Headquarters, which is welcomed by all. *

ANNOUNCEMENT



Dr. James F. Strange, Executive Director of the University of South Florida's Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies, has decided to resign his post to devote more time to his research. Dr. Joanne Waugh, the *Angelos Langadas Professor of Greek Culture* and Acting Chair of the Department of Philosophy of USF, has replaced him at the helm of the ICBS. We are confident that she will serve the interests of the ICBS with the same diligence and dedication as did Dr. Strange.



15th Annual Forum/Conference (Cont'd from p. 7)



Dr. Halkias

tone for future speakers in this just-established lecture series to honor Dr. Halkias, one of AFGLC'S founders, a man of strong faith and exemplary dedication to the Church and to his fellow man.

The reception was a fitting ending to a remarkable two-days; the 15th Forum/Conference will not be forgotten easily.

AFGLC is grateful to the City Council of Tarpon Springs for proclaiming our Forum/Conference an "AFGLC Day." The proclamation (see p. 8) was read during the morning welcome at SPC by Mayor Beverly Biliris. Indeed, such was the reception of the Tarpon Springs Community (its government officials, its College, and its people) that the Executive committee of the Foundation decided to make permanent what started out as an experiment based on faith and take this well-established educational event to the people again and again.

Lest we forget, the Foundation's basic goal is to pass on to the younger generation of the United States the torch of knowledge of the many seminal contributions that our Greek forefathers left as patrimony to the world: the all-important "road maps" or rubrics that provided the foundation for so many disciplines that have flourished in our day. Only when communities across the United States become aware of this noble goal, will the Foundation find its needed support and move forward to fulfill its mission! The 15th AFGLC Forum/Conference was indeed the most successful, the most well-received, and the best-attended educational event ever because it was taken to the people. AFGLC must strive to engage the people, from which to draw its strength--whether that be the community in the Tampa Bay area, in New Jersey, in New York, in Ann Arbor, in St. Louis, in Denver, in Dallas, in Athens, or in Bogotá--and invite the people to the feast of knowledge. *





MEMBERSHIP DONATION FORM



The mission of the American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture is to preserve and promote Hellenism (our Language and Culture) through Centers for Hellenic Studies in American Universities. The suggested yearly membership donation is \$50 and all donations are tax-deductible. Donors receive:

1. An organizational pin depicting the logo of the Foundation.
2. A semi-annual Newsletter with AFGLC news pertaining to the Greek Language and Culture.
3. Periodic Bulletins with information on events which require immediate publication.

Please join us in this endeavor and send your check or money order in the amount of \$50 to: **

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (_____) _____; E-MAIL: _____

Έντυπο Συνδρομής Μελών

Το Αμερικανικό Ίδρυμα για την Ελληνική Γλώσσα και τον Πολιτισμό έχει σκοπό την διάσωση και προώθηση του Ελληνισμού, της ελληνικής γλώσσας και παιδείας, μέσω πανεπιστημιακών Κέντρων Ελληνικών Σπουδών. Όλες οι συνδρομές είναι αφορολόγητες. Η ετήσια συνδρομή δωρεάς είναι \$50. Οι συνδρομητές λαμβάνουν:

1. Ένα έμβλημα με το σήμα του Ιδρύματος.
2. Μία εξαμηνιαία εγκύκλιο με νέα σχετικά με την Ελληνική Γλώσσα και Πολιτισμό.
3. Περιοδικά δελτία με πληροφορίες που απαιτούν άμεση δημοσίευση.

Σας παρακαλούμε, ενισχύσατε την προσπάθειά μας στέλνοντας προσωπική/ταχυδρομική επιταγή για \$50 στην παρακάτω διεύθυνση**:

ΟΝΟΜΑ: _____

ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΗ: _____

ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΟ: (_____) _____ E-MAIL: _____

**** AFGLC, Inc., 10413 Butia Place,
Tampa, FL 33618-4117**

AFGLC depends on the contributions of its members and friends to defray its operating expenses—which are many. In order to achieve its noble mission, it also depends on the generosity of philanthropists, Hellenes and Philhellenes to establish Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHS) in colleges and universities. Please send your contributions directly to your local AFGLC Chapter. For those without local Chapters and those residing in the Tampa Bay area, please send your tax deductible contributions to the address shown above. ** We are grateful for any support you may give us!

Newsletter Editor: Dr. Byron P. Palls.
Editorial Committee: Dr. Ulysses Balis, Dr. Harvey Glass, Mr. John Krinos,
 Dr. Tom Papademetriou, and Dr. James Strange.
Publication: Ms. Kalliope Halkias,
Contributors: All contributors names are duly noted with their respective contributions.

 Readers are invited to submit for publication items of general interest to the AFGLC/IFGLC membership to the editor at: bpalls@afglc.org. Contributions should be no longer than one page in length and typed in Word format (12 pt.). The Editorial Committee reserves the right to accept or reject an item depending on content and space available. The Committee also reserves the right to edit all articles and may opt to keep them for inclusion in a future issue of the Newsletter or Bulletin.