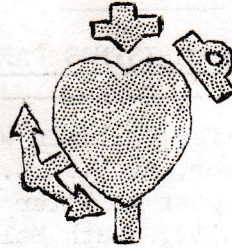


CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

THE CASTELLORIZIAN NEWSLETTER

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
CASTELLORIZIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

PRESIDENT:
STEVE ZOMBOS ,
VICE-PRESIDENTS:
NICK PATIONITIS
LEAH PAVLOU
SECRETARY:
CHRISTINA PAVLOU



TREASURER:
ZEFI BISAS
DIRECTORS:
CON ADGEMIS
JOHN B. SALVARIS
EDITOR:
JACK BISAS O.A.M.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

"REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST - PUBLICATION No. VBH 3850"

Castellorizian Newsletter No. 40 gives details of our Special General Meeting at which a new Board of Directors was elected on 16th November, 1986; Details of our Annual Children's Christmas Party to be held on Sunday, 14th December, 1986; Results of Elections held on Castellorizo; A report on the official opening of the Airport; Extract from the Ithacan Magazine "Ulysses", which is of interest to our older members; a Christmas Message from our New President, Mr. Steve Zombos; An article from the "Melbourne Sun" on one of our members.

Don't forget to post the acceptance for the Children's Christmas Party.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

As this is the last Newsletter for 1986 the President, Mr. Steve Zombos, on behalf of the Board of Directors, would like to wish members a very Happy Christmas and a safe and Healthy New Year.

He looks forward to a successful 1987 for our Society.

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

Held at Castellorizian House on Sunday, 16th November, 1986.

After the Reading of the Minutes of the A.G.M. the Retiring President, Mr. Michael Christopher, called for nominations for the Board of Directors.

The new system of electing the Board was used for the first time. This amendment to the Constitution was passed at the A.G.M. on 21st November, 1983, and reads as follows:

- "(A) That the present system of electing the Board and office-bearers be discontinued and that at all future elections the Members of the Society elect all office-bearers."

The result of the election was as follows:

President:	Mr. Steve Zombos
Vice-President:	Mr. Nick Patiniotis
Vice-President:	Miss Leah Pavlou
Treasurer:	Miss Zefi Bisas
Secretary:	Mrs. Christina Pavlou
Committee Members:	Mr. Con Adgemis, Mr. John B. Salvaris.

We welcome and congratulate the New Board of Directors and wish them well.

MOTION OF THANKS

A Motion by Mr. Steve Zombos was passed, thanking the Retiring Committee for their efforts on behalf of the Society.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The 1986 Christmas function for Children will be held at Cassie House on Sunday, 14th December, at 2.30 p.m. Please fill in the form in this Newsletter and post no later than the 7th December, 1986, to - "Xmas Party, Box 112, South Melbourne, 3205".

Don't forget - No later than the 7th December, 1986.

BENEFIT CONCERT

In Aid of Kalamata Earthquake Appeal

Many of our members attended this world-standard Concert held at Melba Hall, Melbourne University, on Sunday, 16th November, 1986. Guest Stars at the Concert were World-renowned Soprano - Jenny Drivala, Greek Baritone - John Modenos and Violinist, Spiros Rantos, Musical Director - Melbourne's John Apeitos.

WEDDING

At St. Constantine and Helen Church, Barry Street, South Yarra, Helen Karageorge will marry Arthur Bourandanis on 27th December, 1986.

Helen is the daughter of James and Eudoxie Karageorge and grandchild of Mrs. Elengo Lazarakis. Reception at "Leonda".

NEWS IN BRIEF

(From Kastellorizo)

The Kastellorizian Society has lost one of its elite members NIKO PALAIOS. The illustrious Niko was buried on Monday, July 7, 1986. The great teacher of the Santrapian School was born in 1908. With his gentle and kind personality, Niko Palaios cultivated in the souls of hundreds of students the principles of honor and justice. He brought the light of knowledge to many, helping his students follow the way of righteousness. Not only those who were once his students, but also every Kastellorizian grieves for the loss of NIKO PALAIOS. His life was centred around Kastellorizo. Even during his 42-year separation from our beloved island, he never forgot Kastellorizo. The much loved teacher of the Santrapian School of Kastellorizo was forced to leave the island in 1938. He taught in Alexandria, Egypt for 2 years where he found refuge and then in Cairo for 40 years. He never stopped striving for Kastellorizo's welfare, even though far away. NIKO PALAIOS was always a dear and sure friend. He was for all Kastellorizians, no matter where they resided. He returned to Greece in 1980.

During the months of July, August and September, our lovely island was visited by a great number of tourists. Those who enjoyed the hospitality of the Kastellorizians in July had an opportunity to participate in the celebration of Saint Elias Day for commemoration of the Great Prophet. On the eve of St. Elias Day (July 19th) a custom prevails in throwing everyone into the clear waters of Kastellorizo. This custom is attributed to the return of the self-exiled Kastellorizians to the island after the Revolution of 1821 against the Turks. The Kastellorizians had fled the island in fear of the Turkish reprisals, as they had participated in Greece's struggle for freedom. Only one person, a priest, had remained on the island. This was Father Paisios. Fortunately, he survived the Turkish occupational ordeal.

When he saw the Kastellorizian ships returning, he was so overwhelmed with joy that he could not wait for the ships to dock. He dove into the sea, swimming to meet the returning exiles. Seeing the priest in the water, the returnees started jumping into the sea themselves. As they jumped, they shouted "Ty ELIA - Ty MALA." It was the eve of SAINT ELIAS DAY. Since then, it became the occasion to not allow anyone to remain dry. The flights between Rhodes and Kastellorizo, since the opening of our airport last June, have been most enthusiastically received. The 20-seat airplane is always filled with passengers. The regularly scheduled flights depart from Rhodes for Kastellorizo on Thursdays and Sundays at 10 A.M. The one-way ticket is 3,000 drachmas per person. Flying time is 25 minutes. Results of the October 12th municipal election at Kastellorizo were as follows:

Elected Mayor - MICHAEL HONDROS - 140 Votes - 51.67%.

Opposition Leader JOHN AHLADIOTIS - 131 Votes - 48.33%.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL - HONDROS COUNCILLORS:

1. Georgios Lazarakis; 2. Nikos Karavelajis; 3. Georgios Karavelajis;
4. Kostas Tsabajis; 5. Nikos Panigyris; 6. Nikos Matsos;
7. Paraschos Magiafis.

AHLADIOTIS COUNCILLORS:

1. Evangelos Mavros; 2. Savvas Mavrothalassitis 3. Stavros Amygdalos;
4. Tasos Ahladiotis 5. Andreas Misomikes.

Flash! An announcement just received, as we were going to press, informed us of special news. On October 22nd, we are going to have the participation of the President of Greece, Mr. Christos Sarjetakis, in the formal ribbon-cutting of our recently opened airport.

President Sarjetaki's presence will be an historic honor and remembrance for Kastellorizo.

Ann Moyzak, M.D.

ON HOLIDAYS

In Melbourne - from Sydney: Mrs. Lily Peters, visiting her Mother, Mrs. Eva Koutsoukis.

In Brisbane - Dianne and Michael Spartels.

Back from Brisbane after visiting their daughter - Nick and Maria Patiniotis

Gold Coast - Con & Chrissie Adgemis, Kyriakos and Maria Miriklis.

GET WELL

Mrs. Daisy Mangos - Home after a stay in Hospital.

V A L E

The Society extends its deepest sympathy to the family of the late Mr. George Katris, who died in Melbourne on the 20th November, 1986.

Funeral at Greek Church, Knight Street, Clayton, and to Springvale Cemetery.

FINANCIAL MEMBERS

We would like to remind members that their Membership Fees for 1985-1986 are due from the 1st July, 1986.

If you are not financial, please renew your Membership as soon as possible.
Don't forget - \$5 per person.

REPRINTED FROM "SUNDAY PRESS" - Sunday, 23rd November, 1986

Over the years GEORGE SPARTELS has played a collection of villains on Australia's best television programs. Most recently he was a bank robber in the smash hit - "The Great Bookie Robbery".

But most keen viewers would remember his face from a string of appearances in shows like Cop Shop, Matlock Police and Homicide.

And, of course, there was a well known commercial in which George bragged about his wife washing his towel in a well known laundry softener.

So, he's no stranger to the tube.

However, his latest project is back in the theatre ... an environment in which he got his start and for which he still has great affection.

This time it's to star in the Ron Elisha play The Levine Comedy and George is delighted. He plays pessimist playwright, Asher Levine.

"You could say it's a Woody Allen type look at some unusual issues. Things like hope, medicine and religion", he says.

It's very funny, but the questions are still there. What the play says is that we should approach all those things with a healthy suspicion."

The part is certainly in contrast to his last two major projects, The Great Bookie Robbery and Mad Max Three.

"It looks at the way people hope for reprieve or survival", George says.

"Like the people who walked into the ovens in the concentration camps who were still hoping their captors really wouldn't kill them."

The Levine Comedy shows at the Russell St. Theatre until December 20.

George Spartels grew up in Carlton and played a few games many years ago for the Blues try-out team the fourths, but "I gave it away because I was pretty small and I got tired of being bashed around by the bigger players".

He's still an avid Carlton fan and has bad memories of this year's grand final, but unlike Asher Levine, he's optimistic about the Blues.

We print an Article from the "Melbourne Sun" - Thursday, 13th November, 1986.

"FROM CAFES TO FINE GREEK CUISINE"

It took Theo Conos more than a quarter of a century and many more than a quarter of a million cups of espresso and cappuccino coffee to realise his lifetime ambition of owning a Greek restaurant.

For 30 years, Mr. Conos, a roly-poly, smiling native Melburnian of ancestry as Greek as the Parthenon itself, had been in the food industry.

However, it wasn't the gentle, sophisticated side of the tucker business in which he was involved, but coffee shops and cafeterias that served fast food before most Australians had heard of Colonel Sanders or the Golden Arches.

Food had been a natural path for Theo Conos to tread; his father, Michael Conos, established what Theo believes was the first Greek cafe in Lonsdale St. It was the Omonia, which he says was the favorite haunt of Melbourne's bohemians.

With such a background, it would have been absolutely logical for Conos jun. to get in on the ground floor and establish a Greek restaurant to service Melbourne's spiralling Hellenic population; but no, his forte was fast food outlets.

Masses of people patronised the Conos coffee shops and cafeterias to such an extent that the original venture at Chadstone Shopping Centre mushroomed to 23 outlets.

That was success - in a business that knows a high attrition rate - of a magnitude most people never even dream of achieving.

Yes, Theo Conos could have sat back and comfortably and contentedly let time roll by on the strength of his fast food success.

But deep inside him gnawed the unfulfilled ambition to establish a restaurant that would serve the two styles of food dearest to his heart - Greek and seafood.

Two generations removed, there had been a link between the cuisines; his grandfather was harbor master of the island of Castellorizo in the Dodecanese group.

It's a safe bet that grand-poppa Conos (the family used the full Greek name then) either dropped a line himself or was the recipient of the odd fish or two from fishermen who moored in the Castellorizo harbor.

Three years ago, Theo Conos realised his dream of becoming a restaurateur when he secured three ramshackle shops opposite Carlton Gardens, on the city end of Lygon St., and converted them into Ilios Restaurant.

Ilios is the Greek word for sun, and Ilios Restaurant was the dawning of a new day for Mr. Conos.

The restoration was a labor of love. Theo Conos wanted stained glass windows, of his own design - and he got them.

They depict Greek scenes such as churches, villages, trees and the sun in modern stained glass. Symbolic, but not busy.

He also wanted pictures of Castellorizo to decorate the walls of Ilios, so who better than shutterbug son Michael to take them during a nostalgic visit to the land of his forebears?

(Nostalgia).

T/V SPECIAL - Saturday, 22nd November, 1986.

"Back to Variety".

I hope many viewers saw the T/V. Special on Channel 10 on Saturday, 22nd November, 1986, which featured many old programmes, including "Sunnyside Up". Many of the stars of "Sunnyside Up" were guests of Channel 10 for the evening, including Maria Lucas, who was one of the lead singers on the programme.

Maria is the wife of Luke Lucas and daughter of the late Nick and Christanti Koutsoukis.

We print the following article from the Ithacan Society's - "THE ULYSSES". We thank their President, Mr. Stathis Raftopoulos for permission to reprint.

The first article is of historical interest and tells the story of GEORGE FERGUSON BOWEN, who was appointed Governor of Queensland in 1858.

"The presence of Greeks in Australia dates back to August 1829 when a man named Damianos Giakas arrived on Australian soil.

It is a well-established fact that since those early days, the development of Australia has been assisted by Greek nationals who made their mark in the agricultural, fishing, fruit-retailing, restaurant and other vital industries. However, few probably realise that the first Governor of Queensland, Sir George Bowen, was a noted admirer of Greek culture and ethics, and even married a noblewoman from Ithaca, the Countess Diamantina Roma.

George Ferguson Bowen was born in Ireland in 1821. The earliest public event which he is said to remember was the battle of Navarino in 1827, which led to the independence of Greece.

His education was the good old-fashioned training of an English public school and university - where he gained an open scholarship in 1840. In 1846 he had some naval training, serving for sixteen days in the "Victory". In 1847-51 he was rector of the Ionian University at Corfu, and joined the Colonial Service as political secretary to the Government of the Ionian islands.

During his residence there he acquired a thorough knowledge of both the Italian and modern Greek languages, and made himself acquainted with Greece and the Greek provinces. He travelled widely and wrote several political pamphlets and three books: "Ithaca" (1850); "Mt. Athos, Thessaly and Epirus" (1852); "Handbook for Travellers in Greece" (1854) which contained essays on Greek archaeology, the Greek church and the history and language of modern Greece.

The manner in which he performed his duties at Corfu on his temporary mission there gained him the approval of the English government.

In 1856, while Secretary of Government in the Ionian islands, Sir George Bowen

married the Countess Diamantina Roma, daughter of His Highness Count Candiano Roma, G.C.M.G., President of the Senate of the Ionian islands - a nobleman of an ancient Venetian family, who possessed large estates on the island of Zante.

In 1856, Sir George Bowen was appointed to be the first Governor of the "new Colony of Queensland in Australia". On 10 December, Bowen was welcomed in Brisbane as a friendly tutor in the enjoyment of the fruits of separation from New South Wales. His influence was greater than that of the governors in other Australian colonies which already had responsible government.

His wife, Lady Bowen, by whom he had four sons and one daughter, became well known in the social and charitable life of the new colony, and left Queensland many memories of her stay there, after her death on 17th November, 1893.

It is interesting to note, as all Queensland residents should know, that Ithaca Shire, Roma Street (in Brisbane), the town of Roma and the Diamantina River are all named after this distinguished First Lady - which all serve to remind us of the participation of Greeks in Australia's early development.

I believe that the above biographical note on Sir George and Lady Bowen should provide us with many good examples.

For instance, Lord Bowen's extensive knowledge of the Greek language and culture should put many of us to shame, when considering that he was not even of Greek parents but of Irish descent. The fact that he married a Greek woman who became well known in the social and charitable life of Queensland and who left many memories of her stay there is very pleasant to read about.

Mr. Stathis Raftopoulos has written a Book of Verse, consisting of 630 verses. The book is available from P.O. Box 77, Doncaster, 3108, and its title is: "Song of Ithaca".

A SONG OF ITHACA

A Song for Ithaca is a travelling poem that consists of over 630 verses by the folk poet Stathis Raftopoulos, M.B.E. The poem takes the reader to each of the thirteen villages and the capital of the Island of Ithaca.

Each song is dedicated to a person who has excelled in one field or another from each particular village. The book has also many foot notes and photographs of each of the villages.

This work is the 6th book published in Australia by Mr. Raftopoulos, the first being published in Melbourne in 1943.

Although he has resided in Australia for over fifty years with no regrets and with much love and respect for this Gods Country, his love for the Historic Rock, where he was born, has never left his heart for a moment.

For him and for many others, Ithaca is not just another island of the many thousand in the world, Ithaca is an idea, an inspiration, for all people the dream of the long journey, to return there one day.

Any man with some Elementary education is unable to ignore Ithaca while able to ignore much larger islands and countries.

For three thousand years people have been talking about her, the Island made famous by Homer in the "Odessey". The forward of this book is by Costas Alexiades, a well-known Melbourne journalist.

A Memorial Service for the late JACK H. MIRIKLIS will be held at the Evangelimos Church, East Melbourne on December 7th 1986.

40.
1986

*** CHRISTMAS TREE FUNCTION 1986 ***

14TH DECEMBER AT 2.30 P.M. AT CASSIE HOUSE

Please fill in the list of your children up to the age of 10 years.

NAME

AGE

SEX

ADDRESS OF MEMBER

TO BE POSTED BACK TO BOX 112, SOUTH MELBOURNE 3205, NO LATER THAN:
7TH DECEMBER, 1986.

*** Don't forget - no later than the 7th December, 1986.