

PIB Supreme President's Message, March 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Big plans and happenings abounded this month all around the Pan-Icarian Brotherhood. Let us first start in Boston, where Philadelphia's ATHERAS Chapter has successfully worked out a contract with the Sheraton Boston. The Chapter looks forward to welcoming everyone for the Brotherhood's first-ever Supreme Convention in this great American city. So it is official, save the date - Labor Day 2013 - for a little lobster and Ikarian celebration in Beantown!

We move next to the Greek Independence Day celebrations in Toronto, Detroit, Cleveland, New York City, Philadelphia and Clearwater. On back-to-back weekends, members of these Chapters participated in their respective Greek parades followed by traditional after-parties and dances. Supporting these patriotic and cultural displays takes on more significance as the world is exposed daily to the fallout of our homeland's economic troubles. How important to remind not only others, but ourselves, of the courage and yearning for freedom that lies in the Greek heart.

Preserving the future of our heritage is equally as vital as honoring its past. During this last weekend, the LEFKAS Chapter had a great turnout as it hosted our 8th Annual Pan-Icarian Youth Conference. About twenty delegates gathered at Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel in Towson, Maryland. Thanks to the Officers and experienced members of the Chapter who planned their stay. Katina Mavrophilipos and her sister Hrisoula welcomed everyone on behalf of LEFKAS. The delegates included Saranto Tripoulas, Paul Saffos, Georgia Barlamas, Constance Barlamas, LEMONIA Mavrophilipos, Despina Costalas, Markis Katsaros, Vaso Katsaros, Elias Frangos, Georgia Frangos, Natalie Saffos, Fanourios Seindanis, Vasilios Mavrophilipos, Dionisi Daoularis, Nick Facas, and Filipos Houtras. All enjoyed a Friday night welcome reception that included appetizers, deserts and some Ikariotiko dancing. On Saturday, I had the opportunity to address the delegates on the structure of the Pan-Icarian Brotherhood and the Pan-Icarian Foundation. Together, we had a productive question and answer session that produced some ideas on ways to contribute to the organization and improve the Supreme Convention. I look forward to stronger participation from the Youth and ask that each Chapter of the Brotherhood do all they can to encourage them.

We are now about five months away from our 2012 Myrtle Beach gathering. The THERMA Chapter has sent everyone information on the planned events. To get ourselves ready, I would ask that all Chapters begin submitting their Per Capita membership in earnest to the Supreme Lodge. The District Governors will be contacting you shortly for updates on your progress.

I wish everyone a wonderful spring and a beautiful Easter season. Take care.

Regards,
Nikolaos J. Pasamihalis
Supreme President



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