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Pan-Icarian Brotherhood of America "ICAROS"

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Headquarters of the Supreme Lodge

August 23, 2013

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

I'm just back from Icaria (frescos) and bring greetings from our fellow islanders! The island, not with- standing the economic crisis, seems to be holding its own . The last several weeks showed signs of a resurgence in tourism. Hotels were full, rental cars impossible to find, parking spaces even harder. Also visiting at the same time were VP Terry Platis, Treasurer Damianos Skaros and Youth Governor Katerina Mavrophilipas. If we had a couple more Lodge members we could had a meeting and written the whole trip off! (Just kidding... you never know whose reading this...)

I had the opportunity to meet with the Mayor of the Island, Dr. Stavrenadese, who gave me a quick rundown on the following items:

Hospital: Good news... the Hospital remains open and by all accounts will remain open in its current capacity. Some have expressed the possibility of helping fund a kidney dialysis machine. The Mayor indicated to me that the Hospital is currently in the process of acquiring a machine... the bigger issue is finding a doctor to run the machine and provide care in that particular field. A search for a doctor is underway. The Mayor did however ask for our help in acquiring a CT scanner. He is open to whatever we can provide. We can bring this up at the convention.

Old Age Home: The old age home is closed (wink, wink!) but is still operating through the efforts of local volunteers and donations. There are currently 9 residents being cared for. Again, more discussion will be had at the convention as to future plans/strategies.

The Mayor also expressed thanks and gratitude for our efforts with the storm relief efforts in Kakinagri and with our fundraising for the Ikarian Philharmonic. (On that note, I met with the teacher and the director of the Philharmonic as well as the students who performed in Agios to commemorate the unveiling of the newest Nikos Ikarus sculpture, The Mermaid or Gorgona. Again, much appreciation for our gift which will go to provide additional instruments and instruction.)

In other news I hope to see everyone at the upcoming SOLD OUT Boston Convention. Great job Chapter Atheras! I'm sure it's going to be a great convention. And please, because rooms are at a premium, if you've made reservation but will not attend the convention, contact Chairman George Horiates so that he can grab those rooms and give them to a tardy but grateful Ikarian!

Also, while I know Boston will offer many venues for your perusal, come to the meeting and chime in on whatever topic you deem important. Boston is, after all, the place that representative democracy got it all started here in the colonies! See you soon!

Until next time...

George N. Koklanaris

Supreme President