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Pan-Icarian Brotherhood of America "ICAROS"

22236 Harlan, Grosse Ile, MI 48138

Headquarters of the Supreme Lodge

October 4, 2013

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this letter finds you, your families and friends well. I hope many of you had the opportunity to attend our 110th annual Convention in beautiful Boston. I sincerely wish to thank the Brothers and sisters of Chapter Atheras for hosting a memorable weekend. I especially would like to thank the chairs of the Convention, Past Supreme Presidents George Horiates and Nik Pasamihalis who toiled to put a great Convention together. Boston (the Convention) is an example of what can be accomplished by thinking and executing outside the proverbial box. Brothers George and Nik took some flack for taking the convention outside of their own hometown, Philadelphia. Some argued that logistically it would be tough, that nobody would show, that, in short we would have a challenging time... I think the Boston convention proved the naysayers wrong on all fronts. The Convention was well attended (rooms were sold out), the events were successful, and we all had a great time... oh yeah, they made money too! Bravo again Chapter Atheras. I hope your courage to expand our geographical locale encourages more Conventions in new locations! (Like Indianapolis, Seattle, New Orleans, Austin, Cincinnati, Las Vegas... Why maybe even Icaria! ... you get the picture.)

NEW FACES

I also would like to extend a "welcome" to our new Supreme Lodge governors. The Supreme Convention has brought to us a new Gov. for District 4 Gus Tsambis, a new Gov. for District 6, Nick Skaros, a new Gov. for District 5, Alexandra Katsas and a new Gov. for Dist. 2, Aspasia Elias. Our new counsel is the very capable (and one great dancer of the Kariotiko) Demosthenes Yiakas. Thank you all for volunteering your time for this great organization. And thank you to all the outgoing members of the Lodge, Charlotte Pardos, George Skaros, Cathy Pandeladis, Costa Frangos and Anthony Horaites for all your dedication and friendship. It was a pleasure serving with all of you and I hope that you continue to serve the brotherhood in a new capacity in the not too distant future. Thank you also to all the delegates of the convention for allowing myself and my fellow officers of the Supreme Lodge to return for a second term. It is my hope that we can continue to do good work on

behalf of the Brotherhood and Icarians everywhere.

I also extend a large welcome to our new magazine editor, Mary Deschamps. This coming issue will be Mary's debut! Mary takes over for our editor of the last decade, Niki Plutis Salame, who after a little breather, will hopefully continue to serve the Brotherhood in a new capacity.

Convention News

In other Convention news, our Foundation announced that we were able to award scholarships to all those who applied and were in good standing! (See the upcoming magazine issue for recipients of the scholarship) The Brotherhood also sent over \$15,000.00 to the Ikarian Philharmonic Orchestra and will soon be sending nearly \$50,000.00 to help those affected by the storms of two winters ago. These projects, together with our commitment to keep the hospital in Agios Kyricos operating, and our ongoing efforts to assist with the operations of the Old Age Home demonstrate that we can indeed make a difference, both in the lives of our members here in the States and Canada , and in our beloved Icaria.

In other news from the Convention, the good Brothers and Sisters of Chapter Icaros (Pittsburgh) were awarded the Convention for 2015. Thank you "Pittsipato" for stepping up to the plate (in true Pirates style!) and taking on this challenge. To quote that great prophet, the JGiles Band, "Ain't no Party like a Pittsburgh House Party!!!"

Upcoming Events

The Supreme Lodge will hold its first meeting of the new term in Baltimore this coming November. We then plan on meeting in California during the winter and will finish up in my hometown, Detroit, this coming spring. As always, I ask all of you to attend the meetings if possible. If your physical presence is problematic... send us your thoughts, suggestions and gripes via e-mail. We still have work to do on membership (up a little, but not enough) on Convention bids (Indiana... I'm waiting patiently) and increasing participation on the convention floor. But because Rome (and certainly not Raches) wasn't built in a day, I'm optimistic!

Speaking of Detroit... great job Brothers (and PSP's) John Lygizos and Nick Tsalis together with our Governor Maria Tsalis on hosting and resurrecting our annual Scholarship Golf Classic. Over 40 golfers, (including some really bad hackers) attended the event last Saturday. Many thanks to all our Past Supreme Presidents, Corporate Sponsors, and members of the Brotherhood who helped sponsor the outing. We netted approximately \$4,000.00!

Until next time...

George N. Koklanaris

Supreme President