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Pan-Icarian Brotherhood of America "ICAROS"

22236 Harlan, Grosse Ile, MI 48138

Headquarters of the Supreme Lodge

May 2, 2014

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

A belated "Christos Anesti" to all and thank God that spring has finally arrived! ... my apologies for the lag between letters however I have been swamped with what the great philosopher Zorba called the "complete catastrophe"... work, kids, home, wife (Ok, not my wife, ... she's my ormofoula!) more work... and more work. Again my apologies!

In keeping with our spring time theme... it's time for housekeeping!

Scholarship Applications

Most of you now should know that the scholarship applications were not in the last issue of the magazine. Our apologies. To remedy this problem the applications (updated for 2014) can be found on line at our website and will be published in the next addition of the magazine as well. More importantly, the deadline for this year, and this year only, has been extended to August 10, 2014. Our hard working scholarship chair, Georgia Pandeladis, has promised to put in some overtime to make this happen. As I have pointed out before MAKE SURE YOUR APPLICATIONS ARE COMPLETE! Tear stained letters begging for a second chance will do you no good... this includes all the well meaning yiayiathes as well. So please be thorough, cross all the t's and dot all the i's.

Chapter Dues Payments

Please begin to forward your chapter dues to our treasurer Damianos Skaros. I realize this puts some pressure on our chapter treasurers to collect those dues and forward them, but imagine poor Damianos, surrounded by hundreds of letter, which arrive at his doorstep in late August, just as he's getting ready to leave for Clearwater! Not a pretty picture. More importantly, he needs to forward any address changes and new membership info to the magazine editor to ensure smooth delivery of the magazine. So let us give him a break and send your dues in now!

Agenda Items for this Year's Convention

Also please remember to send in your agenda request to our Secretary, George Paralamos, by no later than early August. As indicated previously, and per the mandate of our last convention in Boston, we are going to try to have the Agenda for the upcoming convention in Clearwater established ahead of time. The purpose of this novel idea, (known to all groups but ours!) is to encourage participation on the convention floor by informing delegates ahead of time when items of particular interest will be discussed. I am aware that this idea is perhaps complete anathema to our particular Ikarian concept of time and space... but hey, you gotta try.

Fire Fighters Fund... Help Please!

We are still collecting money for those valiant but broke firefighters... Thank you to the Akron Chapter for your contribution and to Chicago for their upcoming fundraiser. (This Sunday May 4, 2014) I'm still waiting for our larger chapters to get involved! Note that any monies collected will be dispersed in a responsible manner and not used to fund someone's trip to Thailand... I promise! Time is short... I would like to spend the money by no later than June so that the fire crews have the equipment before start of the fire season.

Feeling Stressed????

Who isn't!!! What we all need is to sign up for Sister Argie Spethas – Miner's Odyssey Yoga Blue Tour. Argie will be holding class in beautiful Armenistis, Ikaria this September. For 6 days you will eat better, feel better, look better, certainly stretch better and probably loooove better than you ever have! Nomos Dai and Opa all rolled into one package! Contact Argie at yogabluetour.com or at (330) 608-6882.

Complimentary Greek Obituary service now included for all paid members

Starting on May 1, 2014, we have made available a complimentary Greek Obituary for our paid members. Similar to how we recognize our loved ones in our Ikaria Magazine, members will now be able to share their obituary notices online, complete with the ability to post guestbook comments, and optional sharing of the notice on Facebook too. This can save members hundreds of dollars when compared to major newspaper obituaries.

The notification will also be emailed to a Greek Obituary list for your state or region. You can opt-out of email notification, or sign up for more than one state list if you wish too. Simply email the obituary and photo to both greekobituary@gmail.com and Mary Deschamps - Ikaria Magazine Editor at IkariaMag@tampabay.rr.com. Greek Obituary is an obituary service provided by Baywalk Marketing, founded by Oinoe Chapter member Dean Tripodes. Dean also manages our national Pan-Icarian website.

Pittsburgh Memorial Day Golf Tournament and Dance

You should all have received your invitation to this year's Chapter Icaros annual Mini Convention Golf and Dance extravaganza... Please support this wonderful yearly event. Tee sponsorships, ad book contracts and tickets are all still available. Contact Anna Aivaliotis at annaca@pitt.edu for details.

Convention News

Ok, after you've completed your scholarship application, sent in your dues, sent me a check for the Fire Fighters, practiced your downward facing dog and chipping, and posted your obituary preference, leave some time to buy your ad book pages and make your reservations for Clearwater! Rooms are filling up and Clearwater need those ads! All information is in the magazine and online at our website.

Until next time...

George N. Koklanaris

Supreme President