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Pan-Icarian Brotherhood of America “ICAROS”

2745 N. Troy, Chicago, IL 60647

Headquarters of the Supreme Lodge

December 23, 2014

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

2014 is quickly coming to a close, and I wanted to give you a quick update on Brotherhood news:

Supreme Lodge Meeting

Thank you to the Pandiki chapter for hosting the Supreme Lodge and Foundation meetings on Saturday, November 15, and to all of the members of the Pandiki and Nea Ikaria chapters who attended the meetings. Following the Supreme Lodge meeting, the Pandiki chapter also hosted a loukoumades fundraiser for the 10-year-old boy from Agios Kirykos afflicted with a rare form of cancer. The fundraiser was very successful thanks to the generosity of those who attended. Throughout its history, the Pandiki chapter has demonstrated a commitment to philanthropy and I want to commend the chapter for continuing this commitment today.

While in New York, the Supreme Lodge and Foundation members also had a chance to tour the Sheraton in Manhattan, which will be the Convention hotel for 2016. The Sheraton is a beautiful hotel, recently having undergone a \$180 million renovation, situated within walking distance of Central Park and Times Square, and is sure to be the perfect venue for our Convention.

2015 Youth Conference

At the Supreme Lodge meeting, the Atheras chapter was chosen to host the 2015 Youth Conference. The Youth Conference will be held in Philadelphia the weekend of February 20-22, 2015. The Youth Conference is a wonderful opportunity for our Ikarian youth to come together to learn more about the Brotherhood, plan initiatives for the coming year and forge new ties with one another. The Supreme Lodge will pay for the lodging expenses for up to 2 delegates from each chapter. All other members between the ages of 18 and 35 are welcome to attend at their own expense. The Supreme Lodge strongly encourages all chapters to assist their delegates with travel expenses to the Youth Conference. January 20 is the deadline

to register as a delegate so register today for what is sure to be a rewarding and fun event!

Open Discovery Space Project

Calling all teachers! The Open Discovery Space (ODS) project, an education research project funded by the EU which seeks to build on-line communities of schools across Europe and beyond through innovative activities, seminars, webinars, workshops and the use of digital materials in the classroom, has recently approached the Brotherhood about a possible collaboration between our two organizations. In Greece the ODS project has managed to connect 335 schools and now would like to establish on-line connections that support learning and teaching in Ikaria. We are seeking members of the Brotherhood who are teachers and would be interested in connecting his/her class with a class in Ikaria, or who are researchers, academics, entrepreneurs, artists, etc. who might want to give a short webinar on what they do to a class in Ikaria. You can find more information about the proposed collaboration on the attached flyer. Please contact me if you are interested in participating in this exciting program!

Other Chapter Visits

Over the Thanksgiving holiday, I had the opportunity to visit the Pramne chapter in Youngstown, Ohio. Supreme Treasurer Cathy Pandeladis and Youth Governor George Karnavas joined me for a wonderful lunch with the members of the chapter. The chapter is small, but active, and has the distinction of being the very first chapter of the Brotherhood! Thanks to all of the members of Pramne for their hospitality, and a special thanks to District Governor Aspasia Elias for organizing the visit. Aspasia is currently the District Governor for District #2, and prior to that, she was the president of the Pramne chapter for more than 15 years.

Reminders

Sister Argie Manolis will be leading a trip for college students in Ikaria from May 26 - June 16, 2015. The course is entitled "Aging in Greece: Comparative Cultural Practices and Social Policy" and will include a service-learning project at the Old Age Home in Ikaria. This is a 4 credit college course offered through the University of Minnesota, Morris, but college students at other colleges/universities are welcome to participate. If you would like more information, or to apply for the class, please visit the following website: <http://umabroad.umn.edu/programs/europe/aging-greece/>. You can also contact Sister Argie directly at 320-589-6276 or manolis@morris.umn.edu for more information about the trip. Please spread the word to college students who may be interested!

Also, keep up on the latest Brotherhood news by liking the Brotherhood's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PanIcarian and following us on Twitter at twitter.com/PanIcarian.

Foundation

The end of the year is often a time when people have charitable donations on their mind. If you are able to make a charitable donation at this time, please consider making one to the Pan-Icarian Foundation, which is currently collecting donations for its year-end appeal. As a convenience, the Foundation included return envelopes in its special Christmas mailing as well as in the current issue of Ikaria magazine. Through the Foundation, Ikarians in the United States and Canada have been able to accomplish so much together – we have saved lives through surgeries and medical therapies, built

Ikaria's only hospital, built the Old Age Home in Ikaria and have given hundreds of scholarships to worthy students in the United States, Canada and Greece. Most recently, the Foundation has been raising money to help a young boy from Agios Kirykos with cancer and awarded 60 scholarships totaling \$111,000 this year alone, but the Foundation needs everyone's continued support in order to continue its philanthropic work. Many of you reading this have already made generous donations to the Foundation this year, and the Brotherhood is greatly appreciative for that, but if you are in a position to make a donation to the Foundation, please do so. Your donations to the Foundation are tax deductible.

On behalf of the Pan-Icarian Brotherhood, I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May your holidays be full of joy, laughter and the warmth of family and friends, and may your 2015 be full of good health, happiness and prosperity. Καλά Χριστούγεννα και Καλή Χρονιά!

Until 2015....

Fraternally yours,

E. Terry Platis

Supreme President