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Newsletter -

Winter, 2010

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Byron P. Palls



Dear Members and Friends of AFGLC/IFGLC,

The past two years have been exceptionally taxing: Charon dealt the Foundation a serious blow when he took from our midst three of the kindest, most dedicated, most ethical and most valuable visionaries. Although Dr. Demetrios Halkias, Dr. John Balis, and Dr. Bayzar Erkman-Balis are no longer with us, they left behind a good road map for us to follow as we move forward to achieve our goals. I am acutely aware of the enormous responsibilities that come with this office and shudder at the thought of trying to fill their shoes.

I believe that the most important thing we can do is to regroup, assess where we are, and move forward again. To this end, we had a successful Christmas party in early December, after a hiatus of four years, in the home of Mrs. Soula Jamoulis, attended by about 70 people. After overcoming my fear of injuring myself, I managed to do a credible job of carving the piglet, something that Dr. Halkias had done for years. Thanks to Ms. Jamoulis and Ms. Halkias, who organized this fundraising event, a good time was had by all.

The most important task at hand now is bringing to a successful conclusion our 16th annual Forum/Conference, scheduled to take place on February 25-26, 2011. This year's event has been dedicated to the memory of our recently fallen president, Dr. John U. Balis.

As with last year, the activities of the first day will take place at the University of South Florida and those of the second day at the St. Petersburg College—Tarpon Springs campus. The many presenters scheduled to speak (see Dr. Waugh's overview on p. 6, and an event-time schedule on p. 8) are sure to inform and engage us as we see their topics unfold within this year's theme: "*Greek Paideia Revisited: Ancient Remedies/Contemporary Ills.*" I am grateful to Ms. Kalliope Halkias, Ms. Ourania Stephanides, Ms. Alexandria Stubos, and Dr. Joanne Waugh, for their invaluable assistance with the planning of this Forum. As in years past, the *Hellenic Society* of USF and the *Levendia* of Tarpon Springs will regale us with authentic dances of Greece that will delight our senses and thrill our souls with their grace and elegance! Please, mark your calendars and plan to attend the activities of both days. Admission is open to the public and free of charge. Be sure to bring your family and friends with you, so that they, too, may enjoy the variety of the topics presented and learn another facet of our Hellenic contributions to the modern world.

I have it from a reliable source that the City of Tarpon (Cont'd on p. 2)

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President's Message (Cont'd from p. 1)

Springs will again proclaim Saturday, the 26th of February, "AFGLC DAY." For this, we are grateful!

The change of venue to St. Petersburg College-Tarpon Spring campus has necessitated a review of how we ascribe duties. With this in mind, I plan to propose that the Executive Committee create a mechanism by which SPC may work in tandem with USF and help with the execution of the program of Day Two of the Forum on its campus

In an effort to pursue Dr. Balis' dream to establish an AFGLC presence on the campus of SPC—a move long overdue—I recently approached the Administration and proposed to develop a Hellenic Studies program on the Tarpon campus. If accepted in principle, I'll ask the Executive Committee to review and approve a preliminary plan to offer two pilot courses (Modern Greek and Hellenic Culture/Civilization) to gauge student interest and see if they warrant inclusion in the SPC curriculum. The important ingredient here is funding for these courses, and I am guardedly optimistic that the money for this initial step will be found. I welcome donations, large and small.

Finally, I have promised Dr. Emmanuel Bechrakis, President of our Athens Chapter, that HQ will attempt to do a structural reorganization of our Foundation to streamline it and encourage funding by entities that are reluctant to help us, given our current setup. Such

a reorganization--a purely legal maneuver on paper— will in no way affect what we do.

I encourage you to continue to support our Foundation. Please, help us bring back those who have slowly drifted away. Our goal is to keep the flame of our forefathers alive and transmit our values and ideals to the younger generations. Despite the passing problems of Greece, its brilliance lives in millions of people around the globe and not only in Hellenes! Just remember that every time American, European, Asian and Latin American teachers and scholars teach Literature, the Arts, Philosophy, Medicine, Mathematics, Physics, and a dozen other disciplines, they pass the torch of the Hellenic flame of knowledge to their students and teach them the importance of Greece's many contributions to the World. This year's Forum will again celebrate these contributions! AFGLC's goal remains the same: have more and more colleges and universities engage in teaching the young about their spiritual roots. Let us keep the torch alive! Attend the Forum!

I wish you a healthful and productive 2011.



Byron P. Palls, PhD
bpalls@afglc.org



**New York Chapter
Dr. Stella Tsirka, President**



AFGLC/NY: Progress towards a Center of Hellenic Studies at Stony Brook University

The Chapter in NY was devastated, just as everybody else, by the untimely death of the AFGLC visionary, Dr John Balis, who had been a major force behind the creation of AFGLCNY, and was a strong supporter of our effort. We are more than committed to continue our work for the establishment of the Center of Hellenic Studies with an associated endowed Chair at Stony Brook University (SBU).

Towards this end, we had three events this past Fall 2010:

On October 16th celebrating the end of *τρύγος* (the grape harvesting season) Dr. Herodotus (Dan) Damianos generously donated the space and the wine at Duck Walk wineries, at the eastern end of Long Island, and several members of our communities provided hors-d'oeuvres for an evening both of fun and

re-ascertaining our desire to create the Center at SBU. The Associate Dean of SBU and Professor of Philosophy teaching Plato, Dr. Lee Miller, communicated once again the commitment of SBU to Hellenic Studies. Members of all the parishes of our county were present and encouraged our effort. Distinguished guests of our communities made sure the event was a success.

An additional event occurred the weekend after that, on October 24th, when AFGLCNY along with the Greek Orthodox Church of the Assumption in Port Jefferson hosted Mr. Nicholas Gage who talked about his work and autographed books for the audience.

Finally, through the generosity of Mr. Manolis Velivasakis of Minos Association, AFGLC/NY participated in/co-hosted a very successful presentation of Kazantzakis' masterpiece ZORBAS by the *Ierapetra Theater Group* on December 11.

(Cont'd on p. 3)



**Tampa Chapter
Ms. Kalliope Halkias, President**



Dear AFGLC Family,

I wish you a very Happy New Year 2011!
On December 5, 2010, after a hiatus of several years, we returned to an ADGLC tradition during this season and again held a Christmas Party under the leadership of Ms. Soula Jamoulis, a gracious hostess who offered to have this gathering of members and friends of AFGLC at the beautiful *Grande* Condominium clubhouse. We were surrounded by elegant and tasteful Christmas decorations and enjoyed a Luculean banquet of wonderful food and drink in the company of old friends and new.

A special "Thank You" goes to Mr. Dean Hampers, owner of Land & Sea Market who, once again, donated the sizeable piglet, and to Mr. Vassilis Sioutis, owner of the Gondolier Italian Restaurant who prepared and roasted the piglet to perfection. The party would not have been complete without singing traditional carols; we sang Greek as well as American Christmas carols to the accompaniment of Mr. Manos Mihalakis and Ms. Sally Donnor, both of whom played the piano to accompany those brave enough to sing.

We sincerely appreciate the donations that we received during this evening and we extend a warm welcome to those who became members of our Tampa Bay Chapter.

Many, many thanks again to Ms. Soula Jamoulis and her hard-working committee for this lovely event. We hope that she will continue to support us as we repeat this traditional celebration in 2011 and in the years to come.



New York Chapter (Cont'd from p. 2)

On the academic front, SBU has approved an Intensive Elementary Modern Greek course that was initiated in September of 2010. Fifteen students of different ethnic backgrounds enrolled in the course—which just concluded successfully. Additional curricula for courses are awaiting approval, so that we may establish a *continuum* of Modern Greek teaching at SBU.

As we add more events to our schedule and advance the Hellenic academic environment at SBU, we hope that eventually the financial support of members of our community, both from NY and elsewhere in the US, will allow us to fulfill our goal of reaching the \$1.5M that will make the Center of Hellenic Studies a reality.

Happy Holidays to all, and our kindest wishes for a happy and healthy 2011!



Athens Chapter
Dr. Emmanuel Bechrakis, President



(Editor's note:

Prof. Bechrakis held a general assembly of the Athens Chapter recently in which he presented a most touching testimonial to our deceased president, Dr. John U. Balis. Below, please find the Greek version of his presentation; the English version will be posted by Dr. Ul Balis on our website)

In Memoriam: John U. Balis, MD
AFGLC President and Founding Member
1932 - August 12, 2010

Γιάννης Μπαλής

«Καπνόν αποθρόσκοντα»

«ΑΥΤΑΡ ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ ΙΕΜΕΝΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΠΝΟΝ ΑΠΟΘΡΩΣΚΟΝΤΑ ΝΟΗΣΑΙ ΗΣ ΓΑΙΗΣ, ΘΑΝΕΙΝ ΙΜΕΙΡΕΤΑΙ...» (Οδύσσεια, α, στ. 57 κ.π.) [*αλλά ο Οδυσσεύς ποθεί να δει και μόνο καπνό να ανυψούται από τη γη της πατρίδας του κι ως πεθάνει...*]

Αγαπητοί φίλοι, φίλοι και μέλη του Ιδρύματός μας.

Η σημερινή μας συνάντηση είναι αφιερωμένη στη Μνήμη του ανεκτίμητου Προέδρου και ιδρυτικού μέλους του Ιδρύματός μας Γιάννη Μπαλή.

Η είδηση του απροσδόκητου και τραγικού θανάτου του Γιάννη στις 12 Αυγούστου 2010 κατά τη σύντομη επίσκεψη στην πατρίδα του έπληξε σαν κεραυνός τους συγγενείς αλλά και τους απανταχού στον κόσμο πολλούς και καλούς του φίλους. Η πρώτη έξοδος του δεν προκάλεσε μόνο πόνο αλλά και μας στέρησε τις πολυτίμες του υπηρεσίες αφήνοντας δυσαναπλήρωτο κενό. Υπήρξε από τους ελάχιστους εμπνευστές και συνιδρυτές του Ιδρύματός μας. Υπομονετικός και μετρίσιμος, άοκνος και επίμονος στις επιδιώξεις του αλλά και ισχυρός συνεκτικός και συναινετικός κρίκος όλων μας, ιδιαίτερα στους φίλους και συνεργάτες του στη δεύτερη του πατρίδα και πάντα αφοσιωμένος στους στόχους του Αμερικανικού Ιδρύματος για την Ελληνική Γλώσσα και Πολιτισμό και στο οποίο είχε δώσει κυριολεκτικά τις δυνάμεις και την ψυχή του. Έντιμος, πρώτα από όλα προς τον εαυτό του, δεν δεχόταν εύκολα παρεκκλίσεις, ανεχόταν αλλά όχι ανακόλουθες υποχωρήσεις.

Η ξενιτιά και η επιτυχία διαμόρφωσαν το μέταλλο του μέσα από τους σκληρούς αγώνες που

αυτές απαιτούν και οι οποίοι τελικά διδάσκουν κατά κανόνα να είναι αυστηροί πρώτα με τον εαυτό τους και καλοί με τους άλλους αλλά επιλεκτικοί με τους φίλους και συνεργάτες τους. Μόνο όποιος έχει ζήσει τις δυσκολίες και την ατομική μο-ναξιά επιβίωσης μιας μακρόχρονης ξενιτιάς, μπορεί να καταλάβει τις αρχικές τεράστιες και συνεχείς προσπάθειες που κρύβει ο επιτυχημένος μετανάστης ως ξενόφερτος και διακριτός, ιδιαίτερα με την αρχική γλωσσική του ανεπάρκεια συγκριτικά με τους ντόπιους σε έναν, μάλιστα, έτσι και αλλιώς σκληρό ανταγωνισμό μαζί τους. Πρέπει να υπερτερεις σαφώς για να είσαι ισότιμος, για να σου επιτρέψουν να είσαι ισότιμος. Και πρέπει να μάθεις να μάχεσαι, χωρίς να προκαλείς. Αυτό που κερδίζεις, δεν στο χαρίζουν, το αξίζεις πολλαπλά. Σε μετράνε όχι από αυτό που φαίνεσαι, αλλά από αυτό που παράγεις. Αυτό που παράγεις, δίνει τη θέση σου στην κοινωνία τους και η υπεροχή σου σπάει την κρυμμένη υπεροψία των λαών, που έφτιαξαν τον σύγχρονο πολιτισμό, για να σε επιβάλλει και να σε αποδεχθούν ισότιμοι τους. Ο Γιάννης τέτοιο τραχύ μακρύ δρόμο πέρασε και πέτυχε.

Ομότιμος καθηγητής της Παθολογοανατομίας και της Κυτταρικής Βιολογίας στο Πανεπιστήμιο της Νότια Φλόριδας γεννήθηκε τον Ιούλιο 1932 στην Καλαμάτα με πατέρα γνωστό επιχειρηματία--εξαγωγέα, τον Οδυσσέα Μπαλή. Στην γενέτειρά του πήρε τις εγκύκλιες σπουδές. Το 1950 ξεκίνησε να σπουδάσει Ιατρική στην Αθήνα μετά από εισαγωγικές εξετάσεις. Από τότε, το 1950, γινήκαμε φίλοι και η φιλία μας έμεινε ασυννέφιαστη 60 χρόνια μέχρι τον απρόσμενο χαμό του.

Την δεκαετία του 1950 τα πράγματα στην Ελλάδα ήταν δύσκολα. Οι ειδικευόμενοι μπουλούκια στριμωγμένοι στις κλινικές εργάζονταν χωρίς αμοιβή για 4-5 ώρες μέχρι το μεσημέρι, χωρίς εκπαιδευτικά προγράμματα, χωρίς σύστημα. Μαζί σχεδιάζαμε να φύγουμε για την Αμερική. Μετά το πτυχίο μας παρουσιάστηκαμε στο στρατό στην Κόρινθο στις 12 Απριλίου 1957. Ο Γιάννης κατάφερε και πήρε αναβολή. Έφυγε σχεδόν αμέσως για την Αμερική και άρχισε το οδοιπορικό του. Συμπλήρωσε τις Παθολογοανατομικές σπουδές του στις ΗΠΑ και τον Καναδά. Την ακαδημαϊκή καριέρα του άρχισε στο Department of Pathology of the University of Toronto, Canada, συνέχισε στο Loyola School of Medicine in Chicago και, από το 1978, στο University of South Florida College of Medicine μέχρι το (Cont'd on p. 5)

Athens Chapter (Cont'd from p. 4)

2004 όταν συνταξιοδοτήθηκε μετά από 40 χρόνια πολύ επιτυχημένης ακαδημαϊκής καριέρας. Συνενετέλεσε ουσιαστικά στην ανάπτυξη του Department of Pathology of University στο University of South Florida, διετέλεσε Acting Chair μεταξύ 1979 και 1982 και Director of Experimental Pathology and Research Laboratories, Medical Teaching, Electron Microscopy etc. Επίσης υπήρξε Πρόεδρος της Επιτροπής Ακαδημαϊκής Προαγωγής και Μονιμοποιήσεων του Πανεπιστημίου, όπως και το πρόσωπο κλειδί στην αναδιοργάνωση του Ιατρικού εκπαιδευτικού προγράμματος. Το ερευνητικό έργο του είναι εκτεταμένο και πολύ σημαντικό, ιδιαίτερα στην Πνευμονική Παθολογία και στο Πνευμονικό Surfactant System αλλά η λεπτομερής αναφορά του σε αυτό δεν ανήκει τη στιγμή αυτή εδώ.

Στο Toronto, Canada, γνώρισε την γυναίκα του, επίσης Παθολογοανατόμο Dr. Bayzar Erkman, αρμενικής καταγωγής εκ Κωνσταντινούπολης με την οποία απέκτησε το μοναδικό τους παιδί τον Ulysses Balis, ο οποίος συνεχίζοντας την οικογενειακή παράδοση, είναι καθηγητής παθολογοανατομίας at University of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Ο Γιάννης Μπαλής είναι ένας από τους 4 συνδημιουργούς του Αμερικανικού Ιδρύματος για την Ελληνική Γλώσσα και Πολιτισμό στην Τάμπα και η Ψυχή του. Πρώτα ως Αντιπρόεδρος 1992 μέχρι 2007 και από 2008 Πρόεδρος. Η Συμβολή του στην ανάπτυξη του Ιδρύματος είναι ανεκτίμητη και το κενό που αφήνει η απουσία του συγκλονιστική. Θέλω να πιστεύω πως το Ίδρυμα θα ξαναβρεί το αναγκαίο βηματισμό του.

Τώρα θα μου επιτρέψετε λίγα λόγια και για μια άλλη σημαντική συμβολή του Γιάννη για την πατρίδα. Όταν η κυβέρνηση της μεταπολίτευσης βρέθηκε εμπρός σε άθλιες γενικές συνθήκες και με τελείως ερειπωμένη επαρχία με τριτοκοσμικές συνθήκες ζωή και μου ανέθεσε την βαριά υποχρέωση να μελετήσω και να κάνω προτάσεις περιφερειακής ανάπτυξης και βελτίωσης των συνθηκών της περιθαλψής και ιατρικής εκπαίδευσης, μέσα στις πρώτες ενέργειες μου για την εκλογή άξιων ανθρώπων για να επανδρώσουν τις νέες Ιατρικές Σχολές που δημιουργήσαμε στην Πάτρα, τα Γιάννενα, την Αλεξανδρούπολη και την Κρήτη, ήταν να απευθυνθώ στον παλιό μου φίλο Γιάννη Μπαλή. Η συμβολή του ήταν τεράστια, διότι βοήθησε εξαιρετικά σημαντικά και στην ανεύρεση ανεπηρεάστων καθηγητών-κριτών από πολλά αμερικανικά Πανεπιστήμια. Και σε αυτή την υπόθεση έδωσε τον εαυτό του.

Ο Γιάννης ξενιτεύτηκε αλλά ποτέ δεν ξέχασε την πατρίδα του. Μετανάστες Ιατρός ξεκίνησε με

μια βάλιτσα.. Σήκωσε την πατρίδα του στον ώμο και την κουβάλισε παντού όπου και εάν πήγε!

Στην Αμερική βρήκε καινούργια πατρίδα, δουλειά, φίλους, αναγνώριση. Η νέα πατρίδα ήξερε να κρατάει όσους μοχθούσαν, όσους ήσαν τίμιοι. Τον έκανε δικό της, του έδωσε προνόμια και δικαιώματα αλλά και υποχρεώσεις. Ανταποκρίθηκε στις υποχρεώσεις της δεύτερης πατρίδας του. Και αυτή τον κάλυψε, μας τον κράτησε και δικό της παιδί και τελικά, όταν η ώρα ήλθε, τον σκέπασε στη στοργική αγκαλιά της. Αυτός δεν ξέχασε όμως την φτωχική πατρίδα του και άφησε την ψυχή του ως γιος του Καλαματιανού Οδυσσέα να κοιτάζει τον καπνόν αποθρόσκοντα της πατρικής γης.

Ο Σαββόπουλος κάπου λέει ότι "Το καλύτερο του Ελληνισμού κομμάτι έξω από την Ελλάδα ζει".

Καθηγητής Εμμανουήλ Μπεχράκης



WEBSITE REPORT Dr. Ulysses J. Balis, Director

Traffic on the AFGLC website continues to be brisk, with the volume of both hits and downloads remaining at a nearly constant level since our prior March 2010 peak activity. With the recent completion of large inventory project for my father's (John U. Balis, MD) AFGLC photographic archives, the website stands ready to showcase a new feature – an online album of images, covering the past decade of AFGLC events and accomplishments. There is quite a cache of video content as well, and this content similarly will be placed on the website, upon completion of the photograph archives project.

Respectfully submitted,
Ulysses J. Balis, MD

Our Athens Chapter reports that its members will celebrate the cutting of the traditional *Vasilopita* in a special gathering at the University. The President, Prof. Bechrakis, and the Vice-Presidents, Prof. Mikrogianakis and Prof. Charalampakis, will make brief remarks. Entertainment will be provided by the world-famous pianist Christos Papageorgiou and Xenia Manousaki.

This year's educational event is overflowing with quality presentations, sure will please you. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

For more information, please contact Ms. Stubos, the AFGLC Secretary, at: alexandria.stubos@afglc.org



**16th Annual AFGLC Forum/Conference:
An Overview of Scheduled Activities
Dr. Joanne Waugh, Program Chair**



The AFGLC/ICHS Conference and Forum, *Greek Paideia Revisited: Ancient Remedies/Contemporary Ills* will take place Friday, February 25 on the USF Tampa campus and February 26 at St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs. The sessions on Friday will include presentations from scholars from institutions from North America and Europe, including McGill University, the University of Maine, Clemson, Baylor, Hunter College of the City University of New York, as well as Duke and the University of Padua, Italy. These sessions will take place in the Manatee Room (3705) and the Tarpon Room (3704) of the Marshall Center. Friday's Plenary Session, featuring *the John Balis Memorial Lecture*, will be held in the TECO Room located in the USF Education building. This year's plenary speaker is Heinrich von Staden from the *Institute for Advanced Study*, Princeton, New Jersey. Dr. von Staden is recognized internationally for his expertise in the area of ancient medicine;

is quite simply no one more qualified than he to speak to this topic. The Saturday meeting at St. Petersburg College will be held in the Lyceum, room 156, and will include presentations from several faculty from St. Petersburg College, a presentation by Mr. Nicholas Karakas, President of the St. Louis AFGLC chapter, the *Dr. Demetrios Halkias Annual Lecture on Faith and Stewardship* by Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis of St. John's, Tampa, and a lecture from Dr. Alexander Mourelatos from the University of Texas. The afternoon session will feature a panel on Macedonian Identity with Dr. Christos Karatzios from McGill University and Mr. Marcus Templar from the US Department of State. The afternoon will conclude at St Petersburg College Fine Arts Complex with a Reception, an exhibition of original paintings by our own Dr. George Trimitsis at the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art, Greek folk dances by the *Levendia* group of Tarpon Springs, and a piano recital by the very talented Dr. Grigorios Zambaras of the University of Tampa.

Note: *Those who have never attended an AFGLC Forum/Conference should look for a set of maps that will be sent out during the week of this educational event; too, there will be signs directing the public where to go and park. The venues of this year's receptions have been changed; so has their time, allowing those who attend, an opportunity to explore either Tampa or Tarpon Spring at the end of the day's activities. It will become evident, however, that these changes will in no way compromise the integrity or quality of the presentations. We look forward to seeing you in this year's Forum/Conference to help us celebrate Hellenism.*



**Tri-State Chapter
Dr. Peter Yiannos, President**



(Note: The following have been excerpted from an article in a recent issue of Εθνικός Κήρυξ).

2010 Tri-State AFGLC Contribution to Stockton ICHS Center: Comments by Constantine Georgiou.

When Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence and the third President of the USA, founded the University of Virginia he placed a marble statue of the Greek poet Homer on the campus. In one of the University's buildings, he ordered that the following inscription be chiseled in large Greek Capital letters: ***Know the truth and the truth shall set you free.***

Jefferson's love of the classics, and in particular Homer, shaped him not only as a great statesman, but as a great Scholar. Jefferson read the Iliad and the Odyssey in the original Greek. In a letter to Dr. Joseph Priestly, an eminent classic scholar, he stated: "I enjoy Homer in his own language infinitely beyond Pope's translation." Jefferson found the Greek Language vigorous, rich and beautiful. He was so much impressed with Homer so even when his wife died, he placed on the tombstone a passage from Homer *Nay if even in the house of Hades the dead forget their dead, yet will I even be mindful of my dear comrade.*

It was his quest for the truth that led him to develop his mind and apply the ideals in the ... (Cont'd on p. 7)

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classics for the benefit of society. He understood the times in which he lived and used language and history to enlighten others. For this reason, he's probably one of the greatest Presidents our country ever had.

And so, he's the embodiment of classical education. Throughout his life, he showed what one could achieve through clear-thinking and rational thought. Liberty and Democracy were his most cherished ideals. Ideals **that he had learned by studying the ancient Greeks**. It's no wonder he's considered the main author of our country's most important document: the Declaration of Independence. After all, Jefferson knew that true freedom starts with an orderly and uncluttered mind.

This is what they are striving for at Stockton College, and *this is* why the AFGLC is committed to supporting their Classical Greek program.

To Dr. Constantelos, Dr. Papademetriou and their tremendous staff, we want to express our deep gratitude for all your efforts to make it a dynamic and thriving department. I also want to acknowledge my fellow members of the AFGLC financial committee: Dr. Peter Yiannos, Dr. James Fallor, Dr. George Vassilatos, Dean Pappas, and Petros Tsantes for helping to raise more than \$600,000 for the ICHS Center to date.

On behalf of the Tri-state AFGLC, I present you with a check for \$10,000 for the benefit of the ICHS Center. We want to thank you Mr. President for preserving the classical education at Stockton College so that its ideals catch fire in the young minds of your students who we hope will blaze a better future for all of us.

Constantine Georgiou.



Professor of Hellenic Language and Literature Dr. David Roessel introduces Dr. Yiannos and Mrs. Yiannos to be honored by The Friends for Stockton Organization at their annual meeting on November 7, 2010.

2010 HFS/ICHS Annual Meeting, Honoring of Dr. Peter and Stella Yiannos. Below are the response remarks by Dr. Yiannos:

Thank you, David, for the very generous introduction.

On behalf of both of us, we thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. We accept this honor with much personal humility and on behalf of all the members of the American Foundation of Greek Language and Culture, especially those from the Tri-State area who have been very closely involved in the formation of the Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies and in its annual support via the Forum of Hellenic Friends for Stockton.

It is an honor to be associated with Stockton College and its enlightened Administration under the wise and prudent leadership of our President Herman Saatkamp. Stockton was recently named one of the "Best in the Northeast" by *Review*. The ongoing expansion of facilities, including the *Seaview Resort* and the Student Center, are only a couple of indicators of the effort that will facilitate and improve the already excellent academic programs of the College. I have no doubt that the Hellenic Center will participate in the benefits from these added facilities. In fact, they are eagerly waited for, Mr. President!

It is an honor to be associated with the distinguished name Constantelos, the name of the Award with which, the Tri-State AFGLC is honored tonight through us. The name Constantelos is now very well known in his field internationally and makes all of us very proud.

It is an honor to have followed Provost David Carr, who was the first recipient of the Constantelos Award last year.

A few years ago, AFGLC saw an outstanding college with enlightened leadership, a good Hellenic academic infra-structure and a good Hellenic Friends for Stockton organization, our organizer and host for the evening. Thank you Ginny Kramvis for leading the Friends organization.

Since 2003, the year we all came together at Stockton, the Hellenic Center has grown to five professorships-Greek Language and Literature, Greek History, Greek Philosophy, Greek Culture, and Byzantine Civilization; and the Center operates in a vibrant and successful manner under the successive leadership of Fred Mench, who retired recently, and Tom Papademetriou, our current Director. Our appreciation also to the leaders of these professorships, David Rossel, Tom Papademetriou, Lucio Privitello, Edward Sיעienski, and Katherine Panagakos.

The center can further improve its spectrum by adding another professorship in Greek Art. After all, everything in Greek has been expressed via art ! I believe that this can happen in (Cont'd on p. 8)

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the foreseeable future ! We certainly hope so, and look forward to someone from the vicinity to rise to this golden opportunity and honor.

But what is the fuss about these Hellenic Studies bit ? I'll give you one example from history. The rediscovery of Hellenic Studies was the catalyst, and indeed the motive force, for getting the world out of the darkness of the Middle Ages. This is the triumph of modern man that allowed Humanities and Science to advance us to unimaginable heights that we all now enjoy.

However, the wisdom tree that made Renaissance possible is withering and needs both water and fertilizer. Otherwise, it will dry up and die ! Thus, the importance of strong Hellenic Studies in our colleges and universities, which reinforces the study of Classics and extends the continuum to the modern era.

Whether we appreciate it or not, Hellenic Studies may hold the key to bringing Renaissance and Reformation to the Middle East, just like it did some 500 years ago to the West. The Middle East and beyond have skipped the European Renaissance or have been loosely touching its peripheral; but it is not too late. This has the potential to bring a new understanding between West and the Muslim world and may be the key to lasting peace.

Hellenic Studies, even though it has become the orphan of our time, once its potential for a civilized and a peaceful world is further recognized, it will blossom to be the center piece of education again and will reshape the future of our society.

A modern society that professes to be democratic needs to have the Hellenic values as its cement to hold it together. This is especially true in the new

setting of globalization. It is through proper education that the student will understand what it took to arrive at the values that we enjoy today (Truth, Beauty, Excellence, Reason, Free Mind, and Individual Respect) and prepare him/her to become a worthy citizen with character. It is not sufficient to know these values by name, but we need to know them in depth and breadth. Παιδεία Άνευ Αρετής Πανουργία Εστί / which loosely translates that Education without Virtue can be cunning or even disastrous for the society.

TENOITO ! / Laboramus / Let us work to this end. Again, Stella and I, and all of us from AFGLC, thank you for the fine work that you are doing here at Stockton and the honor that you have bestowed on us today.

Thank you again!



The Tri-State AFGLC Financial Committee presents a \$10,000.00 check to Stockton President Herman Saatkamp for the benefit of The Inter-Disciplinary Center For Hellenic Studies (ICHS). From L to R: Director of the ICHS Dr. Tom Papademetriou, Dean of liberal Arts Dr. Robert Gregg, Tri-State AFGLC Treasurer Constantine Georgiou presenting the contribution, President Saatkamp, Tri-State AFGLC President Dr. Peter Yiannos and Mr. Dean Pappas. (not shown are: Dr. James Faller, Dr. George Vassiliatos and Mr. Petros Tsantes).

2011 FORUM / CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, February 25, 2011:
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

MARSHAL Center:

8:00 am-4:45 pm (all presentations)

Manatee Room MC 3705, and **Tarpon Room** MC 3704
(graduate student presentations)

TECO Room, Anchin Center:

PLENARY Session: 5:30 pm:

The John Balis Memorial Lecture, by Heinrich von Staden, *Institute for Advanced Study*, Princeton

RECEPTION: 6:30 pm

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY, February 26, 2011:
ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE-Tarpon Springs

LYCEUM: Room 156

8:00 am-4:45 pm (all presentations)

LEEPA-RATTNER Museum of Art:

RECEPTION: 4:45 pm

PAINTING EXHIBIT by Dr. George Trimitsis:

GREEK FORL DANCES by: *Levendia* Dancers

RECITAL by Dr. Grigorios Zamparas: 5:45 pm-6:30 pm

**AFGLC Scholarships: 2010
Ms. Kalliope Halkias, Chair**



The AFGLC/Peter & Sophia Kourmolis Scholarship.

There were ten \$1,000 Kourmolis scholarships awarded in 2010. As in years past, all those who received scholarships were members of Greek Orthodox communities either in Ohio (Akron, Canton and Missilon) or Florida (Tampa Bay).

OHIO:

St. Haralambos, Canton, OH: Ms. Sarah Michalos; Ms. Alyssa Diamant; Annunciation, Akron, OH: Ms. Alexa Livadas Miami University, Oxford, and Ms. Alexandra Constantinou Ohio State University, Columbus; St. George, Massilon, OH: Mr. Justin Haynes; Holy Trinity, Canton, OH: Ms. Amanda Memmer and Mr. Steven Stamoules.

FLORIDA:

St. Sophia, Winter Haven, FL: Mr. Patrick Christy, University of Florida Gainesville, FL, St. John, Tampa, FL: Ms. Alexandra Evans, New York Academy of Arts, NY, and Ms. Jenna Mingledorff, University of Tampa.

The AFGLC/Dr. Demetrios G. Halkias Scholarship.

Two scholarships were awarded this year, each for \$1,250; they were presented to the following students: St. Nicholas Cathedral Tarpon Springs, FL: Ms. Catherine Velardocchia, St. Petersburg College, Tarpon, and Ms. Marianna Karavokiros, University of Florida, Gainesville.

Each scholarship has its own criteria and applicants are judged by select committees. All communities in Ohio have their respective communities to decide who will receive a *Kourmolis Scholarship*. In Florida, an AFGLC committee reviews all applicants and makes selections based on established criteria; its members are: Ms. Kalliope Halkias (Chair), Dr. Marios Stephanides, and Dr. Byron P. Palls.

We are very proud of all the recipients and wish them *και εις ανώτερα!* Congratulations to all!!!!

Note: All AFGLC scholarships are established in perpetuity! Whenever a person makes a donation, the money is deposited into an interest-bearing account and the interest accrued annually is what is given out in scholarships which bear the name of the donor (i.e., *The AFGLC/Halkias Scholarship*). To the degree that no principal is ever used, only the interest, each established scholarship is awarded in perpetuity!



Dr. Marios Stephanides, Ms. Jenna Mingledorff,
Ms. Catherine Velardocchi, Ms. Mariana Karavokiros,
Ms. Kalliope Halkias, and Dr. Byron P. Palls.



Jenna, Alexandra, Catherine, and Marianna

Would *YOU* be interested in becoming the sponsor of a scholarship or in establishing a scholarship in the name of a loved one in your family? You would be helping a deserving but needy young man or woman pay part of the cost of tuition or books—both very high nowadays—and make it possible for that youngster to get an education and become a valuable member of the community and society! Simply drop us a line or pick up the telephone and let us know: bpalls@afglc.org; 727-449-9189



MEMBERSHIP DONATION FORM



The mission of the American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture is to preserve and promote Hellenism (our Language and Culture) through Centers for Hellenic Studies in American Universities. The suggested yearly membership donation is \$50 and all donations are tax-deductible. Donors receive:

1. An organizational pin depicting the logo of the Foundation.
2. A semi-annual Newsletter with AFGLC news pertaining to the Greek Language and Culture.
3. Periodic Bulletins with information on events which require immediate publication.

Please join us in this endeavor and send your check or money order in the amount of \$50 to: **

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Έντυπο Συνδρομής Μελών

Το Αμερικανικό Ίδρυμα για την Ελληνική Γλώσσα και τον Πολιτισμό έχει σκοπό την διάσωση και προώθηση του Ελληνισμού, της ελληνικής γλώσσας και παιδείας, μέσω πανεπιστημιακών Κέντρων Ελληνικών Σπουδών. Όλες οι συνδρομές είναι αφορολόγητες. Η ετήσια συνδρομή δωρεάς είναι \$50. Οι συνδρομητές λαμβάνουν:

1. Ένα έμβλημα με το σήμα του Ιδρύματος.
2. Μία εξαμηνιαία εγκύκλιο με νέα σχετικά με την Ελληνική Γλώσσα και Πολιτισμό.
3. Περιοδικά δελτία με πληροφορίες που απαιτούν άμεση δημοσίευση.

Σας παρακαλούμε, ενισχύσατε την προσπάθειά μας στέλνοντας προσωπική/ταχυδρομική επιταγή για \$50 στην παρακάτω διεύθυνση**:

ΟΝΟΜΑ: _____

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ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΟ: (_____) _____ E-MAIL: _____

**** AFGLC, Inc., 10413 Butia Place,
Tampa, FL 33618-4117**

AFGLC depends on the contributions of its members and friends to defray its operating expenses—which are many. In order to achieve its noble mission, it also depends on the generosity of philanthropists, Hellenes and Philhellenes for establishing Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHS) in various Universities. Please send your contributions directly to your local AFGLC Center. For those without local Centers and those residing in the Tampa Bay area, please send your contributions to the address shown above. **
We are grateful for your support!

Newsletter Editor: Dr. Byron P. Palls.

Editorial Board: Dr. Ulysses J. Balis, Dr. Harvey Glass, Ms. Kalliope Halkias, Rev. Dr. Stanley Harakas, Mr. John Krinos, Ms Ourania Stephanides, Dr. William Yotis.

Publication: Ms. Kalliope Halkias.

Contributors: All contributors are duly noted next to the titles of their respective contributions.

Readers are invited to submit news and items of interest to the AFGLC/IFGLC membership to the editor at: bpalls@afglc.org

The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit all articles submitted whenever there is limited space available.