

Dow CEO Liveris Gave Impassioned Speech About Helping Greece

TNH STAFF

NEW YORK - Andrew Liveris, President, Chairman, and CEO of Dow Chemical, received Capital Link's Leadership Award on the eve of that organization's "14th Annual Investor Forum - Greece" whose theme this year was "Building a New Greece."

He was also the event's keynote speaker and he presented an impassioned speech about what the Diaspora and philhellenes can do to help Greece. [Excerpts of the speech appear on page 12]

Although Liveris painted a picture of a brighter future, he also wanted his audience to focus on the suffering now occurring in Greece, saying, "Now, I think we can all agree that an immediate priority is providing immediate relief. Because Greece is not just in the midst of an economic crisis or a political crisis. The country is suffering from a humanitarian crisis, as well," he said, and addressed what can be done to help

Greece's most needy.

He also outlined what the Greek government is currently doing "to restructure the economy and to attract investment, but emphasized to the guests, "we are an untapped resource that can help fuel the rise of a new Greece," and said he was there to remind the members of the Diaspora, "that we need to do something, too."

The Leadership Award was presented to Liveris at the Forum's kickoff dinner at the Harvard Club on November 28, which was sponsored by Ernst & Young. Alexis Christoforou, News Anchor of CBS News was the Emcee and Panos Papanagoulou, Country Managing Partner Greece - CSE South Cluster Leader of Ernst & Young welcomed the guests.

Christos Panagopoulos, Ambassador of Greece to the United States, presented the Award to Liveris for his leadership role as a Founder of the Hellenic Initiative.

According to its website: "The Hellenic Initiative (THI) is a global, non-profit, non-governmental secular institution whose mission, through the generosity of the Greek diaspora and philhellene community, is to develop sustainable economic and business improvement programs to empower the Greek people toward long-term prosperity. Oli Mazi - All Together. Founded in 2012 by prominent leaders from the Greek global diaspora, THI is honored that President Bill Clinton has joined the effort as an honorary patron."

During his speech Liveris said "at THI, our goal is to spur sustainable social and business investment in the country we love... We have set the target of raising \$100 million."

Continued on page 4



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Andrew Liveris, President, Chairman, and CEO of Dow Chemical.

In a Discussion at Harvard, Dukakis, Papandreou Talk Politics of Greece, Europe

By Theodore Kalmoukos

BOSTON, MA - Former Massachusetts Governor and 1988 Democratic Presidential Nominee Michael Dukakis, and former Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou engaged in a political conversation at Harvard

University on December 3. Students from Harvard and other universities from the Boston area attended the discussion, which centered on Greece and Europe, and had a chance to ask questions at the conclusion.

Papandreou defended his decisions to put Greece in the IMF and the European mechanism of financial support. He said that "Greece is paying for past problems. But I wanted to go through more reform and less austerity," while he mentioned the avoidance of paying taxes, the pressures from the union groups, and the taxi drivers' strike.

Papandreou has not changed his mind for putting Greece into the austerity measures, although he admitted that it cost him politically. He said that "whether it cost me or not, my conscience tells me that I did right, because I did what must have been done." He also added that "these bailout programs are not for countries to continue their practice of the past, but it is an investment for the future. We need to make our political systems more democratic and more accountable."

Dukakis, who teaches political sciences today at Northeastern University in Boston, interjected in what appeared at times to have been a Papandreou's monologue, saying that "times of economic distress is a time when leaders can really step up and do something. I see the recession as a great time to change something," but he was quick to add that "austerity never got any country out of recession."

Papandreou said "these were tough reforms we had to make. I feel like we can get through it. If you live in Greece today, you feel the pain, but I feel optimistic. We will have a stronger Greece" and added that "sometimes you look at Greece like it's a fire in the kitchen, but then you look at Europe and it's a fire in the house," and "at Customs they cared more about my Harvard ID than my diplomatic

Continued on page 5

Historic Day: Philoptochos to Open New Center



TNH/COSTAS BEJ

Philoptochos realized a longstanding dream by purchasing a townhouse at 126 East 37 Street in Manhattan. Its new home will be called "Philoptochos Center of Philanthropy."

Buy Building in NYC to be "Center of Philanthropy"

TNH Staff

MANHATTAN - Through the efforts of the National Philoptochos Board, leadership at the Metropolis level, and Philoptochos Chapters and individuals nationwide, as the announcement said, the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society purchased a permanent home, to be known as the Philoptochos Center of Philanthropy, at 126 East 37 Street in New York City on November 27.

The purchase, which had the blessings of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios and the support of the members of the Holy Eparchial Synod, was also made possible by a challenge grant by Michael Jaharis in honor of his wife Mary, who is devoted to the Church's philanthropic organization. National Philoptochos President Aphrodite Skeadas told the Nation Herald that Jaharis matched the funds raised by each chapter, ultimately donating \$500,000 to the cause.

"This historic event culminates three years of planning and fundraising to ensure that Philoptochos, the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, secures its legacy for future generations, and allows Philoptochos to continue and expand efforts to help those in need. National Philoptochos President Aphrodite Skeadas stated.

"This is a significant day in the history of our venerable 81 year-old Society because the charge of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios 'to see National Philoptochos in its own home, ready and available to serve the community for generations to come' has come to fruition," according to a press release.

"The five story townhouse

Continued on page 4

Greeks Seek Answer in Prophetic Monk

By Gordon Fairclough

Wall Street Journal

SOUROTI, Greece - Legend has it that nearly three decades ago, a bearded Orthodox Christian mystic visiting here made an unsettling prediction: Greece in the future would experience a "great disruption and confusion," followed by hunger and political turmoil.

Believers say this grim vision of Elder Paisios, an ascetic monk who died in 1994, was actually a prescient glimpse of the upheaval now gripping this debt-racked country—helping fuel a

surge of interest in the Orthodox holy man by Greeks struggling to make sense of a brutal financial crisis.

Elder Paisios, who spent much of his adult life as a hermit on the monastic peninsula of Mount Athos in northeastern Greece, has become a popular sensation—with tales of his prognostications and miracles he is said to have performed posted online and recounted in popular books. On Saturdays, hundreds of pilgrims line up at Elder Paisios's gravesite here, waiting their turn to kneel, pray and kiss the wooden cross that

marks his final resting place. They ask for help finding jobs, paying bills and surviving a downturn that has upended their lives.

"Paisios predicted many things, and his prophecies are now coming true," said Costas Katsaounis, a 41-year-old military officer on a visit to the shrine. "He foresaw the crisis. But he also said it would get better, that we will overcome and prosperity will return. He's helped a lot of people."

Elder Paisios's fame in some

Continued on page 9

\$3 Million for Hellenic Studies at Stony Brook

By Constantine S. Sirigos

TNH Staff Writer

NEW YORK - Manhattan's famed Four Seasons Restaurant was the scene of a celebration of Stony Brook University's commitment to Hellenism. A dinner hosted by businessman George J. Tsunis on November 29 and attended by the University President Samuel Stanley, was held there in honor of the billionaire philanthropist James H. Simons, in appreciation of his financial support for Hellenic Studies at the University.

Because Tsunis is the other substantial contributor, the University will establish the George and Olga Tsunis Center for Hellenic Studies and the James and Eleni Tsunis, (his parents' names) Chair of Hellenic Studies. Each will be allotted \$1.5 million.

The endeavor began when the local Greek-American community raised \$250,000, including more than \$200,000 from the family of Peter and Despina

Continued on page 7



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Present at the dinner thanking James Simons for his generous gift in support of Hellenic studies at SUNY Stony Brook were: George Tsunis, the dinner's host who was also a substantial donor, Father Alexander Karloutsos, John Calamos, Dennis Mehiel, C. Dean Metropoulos, the University's president Samuel Stanley, Haralambos Yiannos, Dr. Peter Michalos, Beau Biden, and Antonis Diamataris.

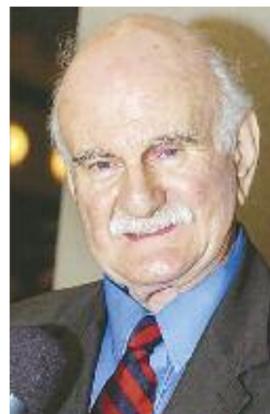
Parea: Timeless Friendships, Endless Good Times

By Harry Mark Petrakis

There is a Greek word, parea, that is difficult to translate. The word signifies a group or a gathering, but one distinguished by a special closeness sustained by enduring bonds. During a lifetime, one can have a series of pareas belonging to different periods and to various groups of people.

I was reminded of one parea recently when two cars carrying nine old friends made the drive from Chicago to visit my wife, Diana, and me in our Northwest Indiana home. Several entered still walking on their own, while others came in on walkers and canes. Among the half dozen pareas my wife and I have been associated with, this one dates back to grade school days in our church parish. One might say we were born with this parea.

When we gathered around the dining room table, there were eleven of us total - our



TNH ARCHIVES

Renowned Greek-American author Harry Mark Petrakis.

ages adding up to almost a 1000 years. We were living confirmation that there are no old people without aches and pains, and that only the early dead are

spared the ravages of aging. By common consent, we avoided discussing these ailments. Yet for all those natural diminutions that accompany aging, our parea still radiated an uncommon vitality - in their laughter and in the zest with which they told old stories. All of us have children and grandchildren in the Chicago area and around the country, and part of any conversation was to bring everyone up to date on the well-being of our offspring.

There was Dean Katsaros and his wife Bess, Dean's brother George and his wife Fran, and their sister Eunice Karambelas, 90 and a widow. There was Bess' sister Nora Retsinas, visiting with her husband Jim, a banker retired from the Bank of Arizona.

Ulysses and Rosette Backas were there as well. Ulysses, also ninety, is still a sturdy, loquacious man who completed his employment tenure with Ryer-

son Steel, and then stayed active in his retirement. He delivered Fed Ex packages on a motorcycle, still takes cross-country driving trips with his wife, and also spends time each week storytelling to grade school children.

Ulysses was my companion in mischief back in our Greek parochial school. Restlessly occupying seats side-by-side in the back of the classroom, we spent an unseemly amount of time snickering, laughing, telling jokes, much to the displeasure of our teachers who from time-to-time would call us up to take our beatings.

George Katsaros had been a pharmacist in Hyde Park for many years. Bushy-haired and bearded now, he retains the glowing Katsaros eyes. During the years when our children were small, George acted as our surrogate doctor, advising on medications prescribed by our

Continued on page 10

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"Hellenic Thread" Awards Highlight Archangel Michael Dinner Dance

TNH Staff

PORT WASHINGTON, NY – The Church of the Archangel Michael on the North Shore of Long Island honored three of the community's stalwarts at its annual dinner dance, which was held at the North Hempstead County Club on November 30.

People who have attended many of the Greek-American community's galas through the years know that an elegant setting does not always guarantee a warm and fun affair, but event co-chairs Georgia Galiatsatos-Kaparos and Alexandra Colombos and their committee took great care to create a special event and the perfect gateway into the holiday season.

The guests were greeted with holiday cheer by parishioners as soon as they walked through the door. The Club itself, resplendent with lights and decorations inside and out announced Christmas was coming, but the music and delicious food that greeted them when they stepped into the reception hall reminded all this was a Greek party.

A parish's spiritual and social warmth is partly a reflection of its leaders, the dedicated clergy – and their presbyteres – and the parish council members and officers. Protospesbyter Father Dennis Strouzos, who has been the pastor since 1984, and Presbyter Paula, were seen chatting with parishioners and other guests – a lot is happening, including the upcoming thyranixia – the formal grand opening of the parish's new sanctuary.

Father Strouzos, assisted by Deacon Nicholas Karloutsos, offered the invocation and called for God's blessings on the honorees, the parishioners and all

the guests.

Colombos introduced Parish Council President Chris Neocleous, who welcomed and thanked the guests. He also listed the year's highlights, including the parish's highly successful Greek Festival, and noted "these events don't happen by themselves," and thanked the organizers and the parish council. He also said "I would like to unofficially announce," that they plan for the thyranixia to be on Saturday, December 22, and noted that the completion of the gymnasium will soon follow.

The evening's highlight was the presentation of the community's 3rd Annual "Hellenic Thread Award" to Katina Athineas, and Andrew and Evangelia Cyprus. Anna Luparello, who has served as the church secretary for 25 years was also honored for her service.

Father Strouzos presented the beautiful engraved crystal awards. One of the themes, and the basis for honoring past contributions in the hopes that others will be inspired to great achievements, was "History repeats itself." Father Strouzos noted that the current building program manifested struggles similar to the parish's founding and produced analogous heroes.

He lauded Athineas' "drive and faith," and Mr. and Mrs. Cyprus for "constantly being involved in every activity and fundraising program this parish has had since 1980." Speaking of Mrs. Cyprus, he marveled at "this multi-talented multitasking woman...whatever she puts her mind to doing in is always a success."

Athineas' daughter Eleni was asked by Father Strouzos to speak, and she movingly shared some of her mother's life, noting



Andrew Cyprus thanks the Port Washington parish for honoring him and his wife, Evangelia. Behind him are fellow honoree Katina Athineas, Fr. Strouzos, and Chris Neocleous.

the loss of her husband in the early 70s, and her commitment to maintaining a home for her three children "where church and faith were a constant." Athineas followed by declaring "I want

to share this award with all of you, because we all have contributed to have what we have today," and filled in the details of the parish's struggles and triumphs.

Andrew Cyprus spoke briefly, expressing his and his wife's heartfelt gratitude with a most eloquent, "we thank you, thank you and thank you."

The award ceremony drew to a close with Father Strouzos honoring Luparello for her "25 years of dedicated service to the community." She thanked the

parish for embracing her and for "25 wonderful years."

The parish's story is inspirational. Residents of Long Island's North Shore who lived were equidistant and equally inconveniently far from a number of parishes sought a parish of their own as early as the 1960s. A nucleus formed around the auxiliary Greek school established in Manhasset by the Church of St. Nicholas of Flushing. In 1977 the Hellenic Women's Club of the North Shore was founded with cultural, philanthropic and social aims, further fueling the dream. Athineas was among the group that believed the dream could become a reality. She was among the leaders and spent many hours searching for the right property. The church she

found was perfect, but fundraising efforts fell short.

An emergency meeting was called by George Razis and Nick Petras. Athineas, "never one to give up," asked her friends "to pray for guidance." The meeting produced the idea that if 11 families could lend the church \$10,000 interest free for a year, the church could be purchased, and before it was adjourned the balance of the down payment was committed. The community took title of the church at 108 Warner Avenue in Roslyn Heights on October 30, 1980.

The parish website notes that the Hellenic Thread award is the community's "acknowledgment and celebration of the many and varied contributions of those first generations that

came with nothing other than the clothes they were wearing." They bore with them other threads however: "The desire to succeed in this great country of ours...threads of faith," and the threads of Hellenic values and culture," which they added to the American tapestry.

Kaparos, who was busy with her colleagues as the guests began to arrive, told TNH she was excited about the annual gala and added that the 600 family community is eagerly awaiting the thyranixia and the ordination to the priesthood of Deacon Nicholas Karloutsos. He and Dikonisa Meghan a nine-month old son named Thomas.

Koula Sophianou, the Consul General of Cyprus also attended, as did Nassau County Comptroller George Marangos. Among the guests were Spiros Voutsinas, President of Atlantic Bank, who agreed the gala was also good occasion for the celebration of last week's agreement between Greece and its creditors. He said the homeland was not out of the woods yet, but the crisis can now be turned into "an opportunity to build a new Greece."

Guests appreciated the fact that the honorees were people who were in the trenches with them when they were fighting to build a community. They gathered with the families of the honorees to dance their love for their Orthodox faith and Hellenic heritage, and for their friends. MC Mario Harris graciously did his best to move the event quickly from the speaking program to the music and dancing. Everyone poured onto the dance floor, fired up by Yanni Papastefanou and his orchestra, with Roula Vassos joining him on vocals.

Historic Day for Philoptochos: Headquarters Building Purchased in NYC

Continued from page 1

originally constructed in 1898 is located in the Murray Hill Historic District between Park and Lexington Avenues and consists of both professional space and residential units. The Murray Hill area is easily accessible through Grand Central station. The United Nations, several nonprofit organizations, universities and medical centers are within walking distance of the building," the release noted.

The building was purchased for \$3 million. Skeadas credits attorney Anita Kartalopoulos, Philoptochos' Legal Advisor, for the success of the intense negotiations.

Present at the signing was His Grace Bishop Sevastianos, National Philoptochos Spiritual Advisor, who kept lifting the spirits of Philoptochos officials whenever the project hit a snag by telling them "God will reveal the plan." Skeadas told TNH, adding that the endeavor was

new territory for the organization.

She said that after renting space for four years, it made sense to explore opportunities for their own building.

Also present were: Kartalopoulos, Arlene Siavelis, First Vice President; Maria Stavropoulos, Second Vice President; Elaine Cladis, Secretary; Joanne Kakoyiannis, Maria Skiadas, President Direct Archdiocesan District and Anastasia Michals, President of the Metropolis of

New Jersey Philoptochos; Helen Lavorata, Director, Vivian Siempos, Communications Manager, and attorney Mona Lao.

Skeadas, who is running in her third term as National President told TNH that "we went ahead with the support and dedication of all our chapters throughout the country, with the blessings of our Archbishop and the cooperation of our respected hierarchs. This project has been embraced by all the faithful of America and I am moved at this



TNH/COSTAS BEJ

After renting space in Manhattan for 4 years, Philoptochos looks forward to moving its operations to this East Side townhouse.

moment that I am saying this to you."

Skeadas spoke to TNH from the Miami airport shortly before the boarding on the airplane to Cuba with 80 Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate headed by Fr. Alex Karloutsos to be present at celebration of the feast of St. Nicholas at the St. Nicholas Church in Cuba, which was built a few years ago.

She said that "it is the first time that Philoptochos has acquired its own building. It is very nice building, humble. We are going to house our offices and service departments in order to do the work of our mission. It is something that we will have for ever so that the volunteers could come more freely to do sacred work of helping people in need."

She said that the purchase of the building "was necessary because we were paying rent." As to why they did not go to the Archdiocese or the Holy Trinity Cathedral she said "there is no space."

Skeadas noted, however, "Even though our esteemed National Board, hardworking stewards and very capable staff have been planning for this day, the real work lies ahead. It is what we will do in the months ahead that will define our efforts in order to expand our loving mission."

She also said that "we are not going to occupy the building immediately because there are tenants with leases until May. We also have a lease that runs out in May, so it is a fantastic coincidence."

Dow CEO Liveris Proudly Proclaims "I am a Greek"

Continued from page 1

As one of the world's leading industrialists, his optimism regarding Greece's economic potential is credible, as are his views about how the diaspora can contribute. Liveris believes that Hellenes can emulate the achievements and initiatives of the Jewish, Irish, Indian, and Chinese diasporas.

According to his official DOW biography "Liveris' 34-year DOW career has spanned manufacturing, engineering, sales, marketing, and business and general management. He has spent the bulk of his career in Asia, where he was general manager for the company's operations in Thailand, and later President of all Asia-Pacific operations. He began his Dow career in 1976 in Australia.

"He has been a member of Dow's Board of Directors since February 2004, CEO since November 2004 and was elected

as Chairman of the Board effective April 1, 2006.

"Liveris was born in Darwin, Australia and attended the University of Queensland in Brisbane, graduating with a bachelor's degree (first-class honors) in Chemical Engineering. He was awarded an honorary doctorate in science by his alma mater as well as being named Alumnus of the Year for 2005. He is a Chartered Engineer and a Fellow of The Institute of Chemical Engineers, as well as a Fellow of The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

"Liveris serves on the board of directors of IBM and Citigroup. Liveris is also a member of the Peterson Institute for International Economics, the American Australian Association, and the Detroit Economic Club, as well as a trustee of Tufts University. Liveris resides in Midland, Michigan. He and his wife Paula have three children."

"I pray thee, O God that I may be beautiful within"
Socrates

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