

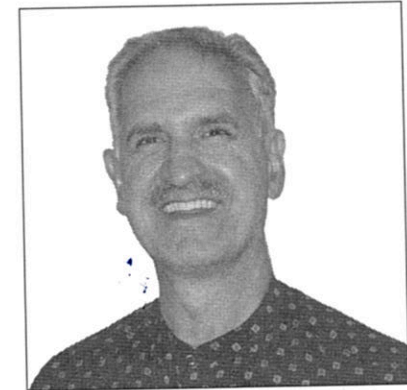
"KARYAE OR **ARAHOVA**,
TWO WORDS WITH
THE SAME MEANING,
PLACE OF THE WALNUT
TREES, IS SYNONYMOUS
WITH GRANDEUR AND
FAME, A PLACE OF
HISTORICAL EVOLUTION
AND ADMIRATION

SOCIETY OF ARAHOVITANS OF CHICAGO

50TH ANNIVERSARY AD BOOK 1956-2006



KAREAI SOCIETY ARAHOVITON



Dear Arahovitans and Friends:

On behalf of the officers and board of directors, I would like to welcome you to our fifty year anniversary celebration here at the beautiful Meridian Banquet hall. It is hard to believe that we are assembled here to celebrate fifty years of existence as an organization.

The main objectives of the Arahoviton Society have not changed since its inception: to ensure that our children know of their roots, know of their rich history, and the birthplace of their parents and grandparents. The one factor that has changed is that very few Arahovites are emigrating to the United States and Canada from our beloved village of Arahova. Therefore, it is imperative that we continue to support and preserve Greek organizations such as our Arahoviton Society to give our children the tools they need to perpetuate this legacy.

Accordingly, I invite all Arahovitans and their extended families to volunteer in any way they can to ensure the success of future events. We have an open door policy and

would welcome your participation. If you wish to be on the board or become an officer, please watch for notification of future meetings and join us.

In closing, I would like to extend a special thank you to Nick Vastis and Maria Vastis for volunteering many hours, as well as their creative input to produce the fifty year commemoration book. Many thanks also to our sponsors, for without them, this book would not be possible.

Finally, it is our hope that you will have a most enjoyable and memorable evening celebrating fifty years with us.

Sincerely,

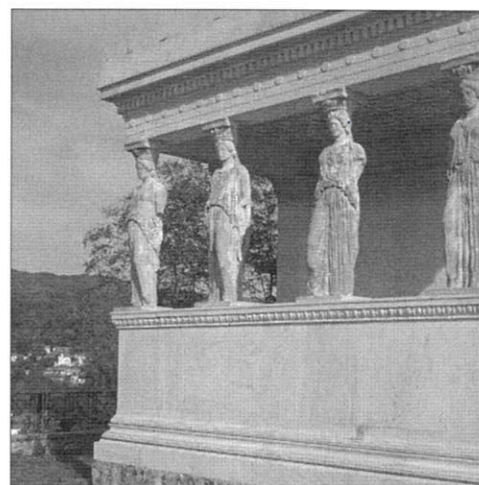
Chris A. Vastis

President

OUR HISTORY IN SHORT

By George Diamadouras and George Kakaris

Excerpted from KARYATIKA II



1200 b.c.

Karyae or Arahova, two words with the same meaning, place of the walnut trees, is synonymous with grandeur and fame, a place of historical evolution and admiration. The great Arahova which in ancient times was called Karyae, and which again, in 1932, through the efforts of its then president, George Th. Scuris, restored its ancient name of Karyae, is commemorated in many songs. It is situated in the western foothills of the Parnon at an altitude of about 3,000 ft. It is a beautiful town resting among the walnut trees and surrounded by mountain slopes, some of which are jagged with rocks and some others covered with wild oak trees. It is famed for its cool summer climate, its many natural springs of crystal clear water, its shady forests, and its joyful and magnificent festivals. Every foot of ground, every hill and valley, every grove and forest, every rock and rill, every river and mountain is connected with some historical or legendary event through its more than 3,000 years of recorded history. The student of history will

Copses		
ges as above, total Toronto results of Drive	5,450.00	
Sarnia, Ont.		
Harris	Pledge due \$800.00. Paid in	200.00
own (Sciuris)		25.00
Harakas		
al Pledges \$800.00. Paid in		225.00
London, Ont.		
Mandas		500.00
ife, Panagiota Mandas)		300.00
ughter, Dina and husband, L. Loupos)		200.00
r. Kerhoulas		500.00
Mandas		200.00
Mandas		100.00
Mandas		100.00
emas (Theodorakakis)		100.00
d Paid in		2,000.00
Chatham, Ont.		
n. Karry (Kiriazis)—		
pairs of Ag. Paraskevi		1,000.00

RECAPITULATION CANADA

Pledges due	\$ 500.00	Paid in	\$4,950.00	Grand Total	\$ 5,450.00
Pledges due	800.00	Paid in	225.00	Grand Total	1,025.00
Pledges due	None	Paid in	2,000.00	Grand Total	2,000.00
Pledges due	150.00	Paid in	1,250.00	Grand Total	1,400.00
s Pledges due	None	Paid in	100.00	Grand Total	100.00
ous Contributions		Paid in	180.00	Grand Total	180.00
Pledge Karyae	\$150.00	Paid in	\$8,705.00	Grand Total	\$10,155.00

Let us go back 3,172 years, or the year 1200 B.C. At this time we find Karyae has been developed into a strong and respected power. It is an integral part of the city-state of Sparta, and due to its location in the North central part of this domain between Sparta and Tegea of Arcadia, it must have been the bulwark of Sparta's defenses, and it must have exacted many rights of free living and development. Karyae was also respected as a sacred place because here Zeus, the greatest of all gods of ancient Greece, was worshipped and a temple dedicated to "Skotita Zeus" was erected. Another famed and well-known temple was erected to his daughter Artemis, the huntress goddess of chastity, the guardian of youths and maidens, moon goddess and protector of the beasts of the field.

Total pledges, \$120.00. Paid in		1,250.00
St. Thomas, Ont.		
G. K. Gettas (Gintzias)		
Peter G. Kerhoulas		100.00
Total Paid in		100.00
Miscellaneous		
Michael Brayan, Sarnia, Ont.		25.00
Peter Makris, Toronto, Ont.		100.00
Peter Bassel		50.00
Arthur Ginou		5.00
Total Paid in		180.00
Simcoe, Ont.		
G. Chas. Boukydis		
Montreal, Que.		
George J. Scures		
George Allison		
Kingsville, Ont.		
George J. Karrys (Kiriazis)		
Theo. J. Karrys (Kiriazis)		

Peter N. Kaperotou, San Francisco, Calif., 1945-
 Peter Karavos, San Francisco, Calif., 1945-
 Peter J. Mandanis, Spartanburg, S. C., 1945-
 James K. Pantazopoulos, Ecorse, Mich., 1945-
 Peter K. Pantazopoulos, Ecorse, Mich., 1945-
 Total members enrolled to date, 191.

ADELPHOTIS FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Andrew S. Trakas

As previously reported deposited in banks...
 Membership dues received as above...
 Collected from notes receivable account...

Cash and in banks...
 Notes receivable...
 U. S. Defense Bonds...
 Grand Total in Treasury...

MEMORIAL FUND ACCC

As previously announced in our Bulletin...
 New Donations

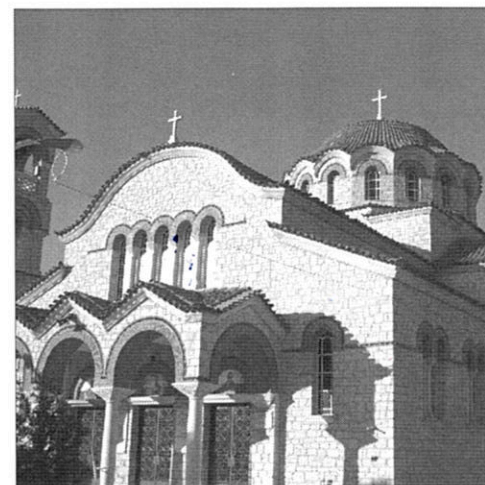
Andrew S. Pappas, Charlotte, N. C.
 Gus Phillis, Greenville, S. C.
 Nick Papadogiannis, Charleston, S. C.
 Peter J. Mandanis, Spartanburg, S. C.

Total Paid in

All evidence tends to prove that the temple of Artemis was situated where the church of "Panagia" is now situated. This temple was dedicated by the Karyatans in gratitude for her revelation to them that Dionysus had transformed Karyae, a nymph, into a tree to protect her from the other nymphs of the forest. We do not know whether this temple of Artemis was also an oracle to give advice, as other temples of Artemis were, but we do know that this was a sacred place where priestesses gave honors to the Goddesses, with the participation of virgin nymphs. Sparta respected the sacred power of the goddess, and for this reason Karyae as a place where her armies sacrificed before leaving for different expeditions. History distinctly tells us the Menelaus, the king of Sparta, ordered that his armies be assembled in Karyae where sacrifices were offered to the Goddess and festivities were held before leaving on their expedition to Troy to punish Paris for the abduction of his wife, the "beautiful Helen of Troy." It seems that his



175 b.c.



sacrifices were accepted from the Goddess, for legend tells us that, in commemoration of this event, Menelaus ordered that four maple trees be planted in the yard of the temple. Those maple trees, after 3,000 years, still stand there today, huge and magnificent.

In Karyae, another Spartan king, Leonidas, and his 300 brave Spartans assembled before leaving for Thermopylae, where by heroically sacrificing themselves in the face of insurmountable odd, brought fame and glory to themselves, Sparta, and the whole Greek race.

From many indications we gather that Karyae progressed and flourished as a center of art. In the second century before Christ, the famous tourist Pausanias, who toured all of ancient Greece, writes this about Karyae, which he visited in 175 B.C.: "The village goes by the name of the Goddess Artemis, and the Karyatans have erected her a statue. Here the Lacedaimonian maidens gather

and dance." It seems that this dance of the Lacedaimonian maidens was of such rhythmic excellence and expressive of the best in beauty, ideals and idylls, and the Karyatan maidens so lovely and beautiful and their home-made clothes of such fine art and texture, that ancient Greek sculptors and architects have made them immortal by adopting the form of a beautiful maiden and using it in columns adorning their most famous buildings. These beautiful columns they called Karyatides and they are still known by that name today. One of the most famous of these buildings was the Erechtheon on the Acropolis of Athens, which was adorned with six such columns. (Only five of these are now standing, the sixth having been taken to England by the infamous Englishmen Elgin). Erechtheon, along with the rest of the buildings and statues of Acropolis, was built during the time of Pericles and the construction was under the direction of one of the most famous of the Greek architects and sculptors, Phidias, assisted by the also



500 a.d.



famous Ictinus, Kallistrates, and Mnesicles.

The quarrels between the Spartans and Arcadians for the possession of the strategic location of Karyae resulted in the destruction of the village in 368 B.C. The destruction of Karyae was followed by invasions of Greek city-state and foreign armies. The people of Karyae were dispersed and later built different small communities in and around the location of ancient Karyae.

We do not hear anything of importance about Karyae until around 500 A.D. when the inhabitants embraced Christianity. From then on, the population began to decline due to invasions, people moving away and deaths. Byzantium, seeing that Lacedaimon was becoming deserted, sent people of Slavic origin to settle in this region. Some of these people settled in the location of ancient Karyae, where they were intermingled with the local inhabitants. The love of the Slavs for the people and location of their new habitat, which was abundant with

walnut trees, caused them to call this place with their Slavic name Arahova, which means a place of walnut trees, a name by which our hometown was known from the seventh century after Christ until today. And now, although the name has been changed again to Karyae since 1932, the town is better known by the name Arahova and its inhabitants as Arahovitai rather than more proper and official names of Karyae and Karyatai.

Around the nineteenth century A.D. this region where Arahova is located was overrun by the Franks, who ruled it for a long time and who have left indelible marks of their rule throughout the area in the form of castles. The ruins of such a castle are still found in the western approaches of Karyae and on the top of a hill to the right of the main road leading to the town. There are many legends connected with this castle, especially of how it was defended against many attackers.

1817 : 48v48 : 7906 : 28642v2

CONVENTION AND WAR MEMORIAL program



KALLITERA MIAS ORAS ELEFTHERI ZOI PARA SARANTA HRONIA SKLAVIA KAI FYLAKI

"One Hour of Liberty Is Worth More Than Forty Years of Life as a Slave."

"One Hour of Liberty Is Worth More Than Forty Years of Life as a Slave."

A National Hero of Greek Independence, 1875-1921

KILLED DURING ITALIAN CAMPAIGN
 DEMETRIAKIS PAPAIOORGHIU YASLICH TH. GRANTZAKIS
 PANOS G. ANGLEZIS DEMETRIOS I. ROUBINIS

And Scores of Seriously Wounded or Rendered Invaluable by Frey

KILLED OR EXECUTED DURING GERMAN RAID OF SEPT. 19, 1940

JOHN H. ORLANDER	JOHN A. G. PASCHKE	GEORGE THOMAS HARRIS
WILLIAM J. PAUL OF EPLAIS	GEORGE H. KLEINBERG	JOHANNIS G. LEBETZAKIS (Lead & Bomb)
FRANC J. SPOURDIS	KOSMA S. STIL LAMON	THEODORE PETRAKOS (A (Pri) w/ D)

EXECUTED AT DIMITRI LAKES BY GERMANS
ELIAS MELIKIS or MITKELIS PANGOS IOANNOU MELIKIS

EXECUTED AT LEVETSOVA BY GERMANS
CHRISTOS G. TH. LEVENTAKIS

EXECUTED AT TRIPOLIS BY THE GERMANS
IOANNIS KARKALATOS
EXECUTED OR BURNED ALIVE DURING RAID OF MARCH 14/15, 1941

JANNIE G. HARAKAS (Buried Alive)	GEO. F. DRAMATZIOPOULOS (Buried Alive)	NICHOLAS DARMOS
MICHAEL CHR. PITSIOS (Buried Alive)	GEORGE S. TRAKAS (Buried Alive)	DAMIANOS G. DARMOS
GEORGE D. VFLONIS (Buried Alive)	GEORGE M. BOUGIDIS	THEODORE M. PITTS

KILLED OR EXECUTED DURING RAID OF JUNE 24-JULY 8, 1944

ICHO LAI KYRIAZIS	GEORGIOS LIAPAKOS	DEMETRIOS G. PEFKIDES
ANON CH. KOPSIDATIS	MRS. GIANNIOLA G. MAVROUDI (Maid)	MRS. DEMETRO G. PEFKIDES PANCY F. THEANANTOGROS

PANOS STAVELOS PARTISANS KILLED NIKOLAOS P. MATTHEAS

EXILED TO GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS
EPSTEINACK KOSTALAS KOSTAS KARALATIS (Missing)
KONST. TH. THECHORAKAKIS

HOW 21 ABRAHOVITANS ESCAPED EXECUTION

Being a member of the International Red Cross Committee, as well as secretary in Tripoli, my constant duties was to visit the camps of our prisoners with supplies and food. This was forbidden to them after the German soldiers in Kayser, where their camp was, had taken away their money, and anything that had put in "for a minute" and Red Cross funds was not allowed to go there to assist them.

It had asked the entire population of the "Gemeinschaft zu bauen" (city with a kitchen, and September 15th, 1943, being a Sunday when the office was closed. I was notified by Mr. Trause, who happened to be nearby as we were going to Karger the following morning. I was indeed happy for this opportunity, little knowing then what had transpired in the poor beautiful town of Lueddheim, during that horrible night and on-going.

It seemed to me that the entire population of the town were killed on a deathly silence present in a very long time had passed on the way. We reached the square and several large stacks of German, with their own, soon were stacked there, somewhat covered but surprised at our intrusion.

The German major in command was heavily armed and covered from a side street, looking up and waiting to hear

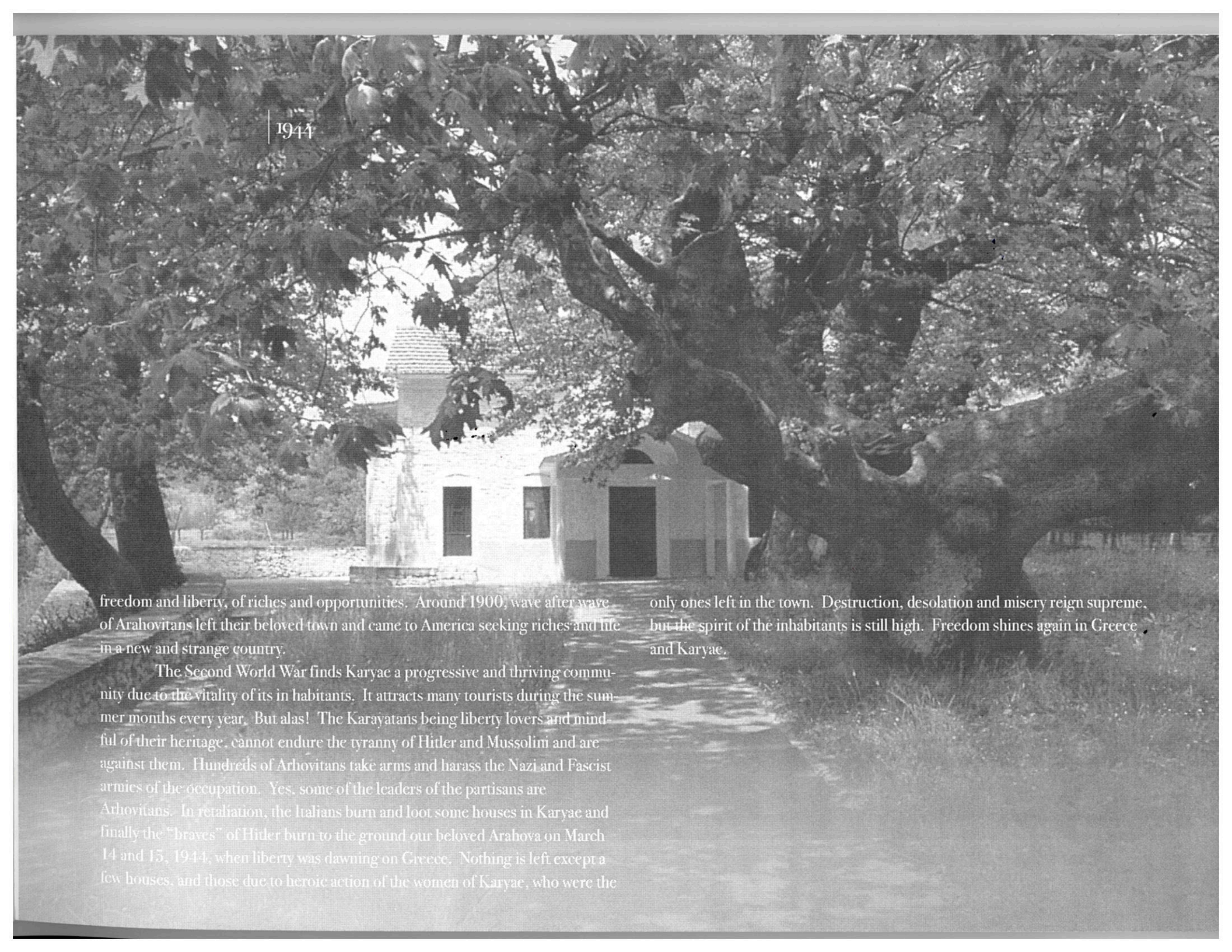
So, Mr. And Posing, the English representative, with what we wanted there. While Professor Posing and the



The rule of the Franks and the flourishing of the castles was followed by the Turkish invasion and the nearly four hundred years of yoke under their tyranny. Arahova, as the rest of Greece, suffered untold hardships and privations. In order to better protect themselves against the attacks of Turkish bandits and tax collectors, the inhabitants of the many small communities in and around the ancient Karyae concentrated into one big community where the town is located today. The new community was known as Arahova the great. (Megali Arahova). This must have taken place around the year 1700 A.D. Soon Arahova grew into a large village of four parishes, or mahalathes. In 1717 a church of Byzantine architecture, dedicated to St. Paraskevi, was built in the extreme southern of part of the "lower" Mahales. The church is still standing there today and the church services are held there every third Sunday. On St. Paraskevi's Day commemorated on July 26, great festivities were and are still held in Arahova.

Then came the war for the independence of Greece, which started in 1821. The Arahovitans were among the first to take the active part in it and we see Arahova burned to the ground on May 12, 1826, by the forces of the Ibrahim. The people of the town took refuge in the forests and in caves. After the liberation of Greece, the Arahovitans again built their town and strived with vigor and determination to develop it into one of the leading towns in the area.

Due to the fact that Arahova is located in the slopes of the mountain and the ground is not fertile enough to provide for the necessities, save the luxuries, of life of the inhabitants, they are forced to seek better opportunities elsewhere. Many leave for Russia, others for Bulgaria and Romania, and others for Athens and other parts of Greece, and to their credit, we are proud to say, that many of them prospered in their new homes. Around 1890 a few Arahovitans made their long journey – to far off America. They sent back glowing reports of the land of



1944

freedom and liberty, of riches and opportunities. Around 1900, wave after wave of Arahovitans left their beloved town and came to America seeking riches and life in a new and strange country.

The Second World War finds Karyae a progressive and thriving community due to the vitality of its inhabitants. It attracts many tourists during the summer months every year. But alas! The Karayatanis being liberty lovers and mindful of their heritage, cannot endure the tyranny of Hitler and Mussolini and are against them. Hundreds of Arhovitans take arms and harass the Nazi and Fascist armies of the occupation. Yes, some of the leaders of the partisans are Arhovitans. In retaliation, the Italians burn and loot some houses in Karyae and finally the "braves" of Hitler burn to the ground our beloved Arahova on March 14 and 15, 1944, when liberty was dawning on Greece. Nothing is left except a few houses, and those due to heroic action of the women of Karyae, who were the

only ones left in the town. Destruction, desolation and misery reign supreme, but the spirit of the inhabitants is still high. Freedom shines again in Greece and Karyae.



THE CHICAGO CHAPTER

History of the Arahovitan Society of Chicago

By Vaselios D. Koutsogeorgas

Excerpted from Karyatika Volume II

First elected officers of Society Arahoviton of Chicago, 1957

1st row: Gus P. Diamaduros, Secretary, Sam N. Vastis,
President, Evangelos P. Kerhulas, Vice-President.

2nd row: Zacharias C. Douvlis, Evangelos P. Harakas, Michael N. Kontalonis.

The first Arahovitan organization in the American continent was founded in Chicago on March 25, 1901. This was the beginning of the Society of Arahovitans in Chicago. Mr. Nicholas Kakares was its president and Mr. George Demetroulas was its secretary. The living conditions at the time and the constant struggle for something better contributed to the abandonment of the Society and its final dissolution.

In 1924 the Arahovitans of Chicago formed a society again, this time as a chapter of "Adelphotis Arahoviton KARYAE" with headquarters in Gastonia, N.C. President of this chapter was Mr. John G. Lambrakis; secretary, Mr. N. I. Papadogiannis; Vice-President, Mr. K. Ch Boukides; treasurer, Mr. Dem. I. Melehes; and members of the Board of Directors, Ioan D. Ardamis, Ch. G. Leventakis, James G. Leventakis, Const. Ch. Boukides, and Ioan. P. Gavaris. A new Board of Directors was elected in 1927. It

consisted of the following: Const. Ch. Boukides, President; George Mavraides, Vice-President; Chris G. Leventakis, Secretary; Paras. G. Pitsios, Executive Secretary; James Ioan. Melehes, Treasurer; and John A. Ardamis, George É. Melehes, John G. Lambrakis, James G. Leventakis, and George Voulgaris, Directors. This chapter of Chicago, as shown from the few archives that are found, was very active until 1930. From this time until the beginning of World War II activities decreased. What happened with the chapter of Chicago during the War and in the few years which followed is not clear, but it appears that it was dissolved and remained so until the year 1956.

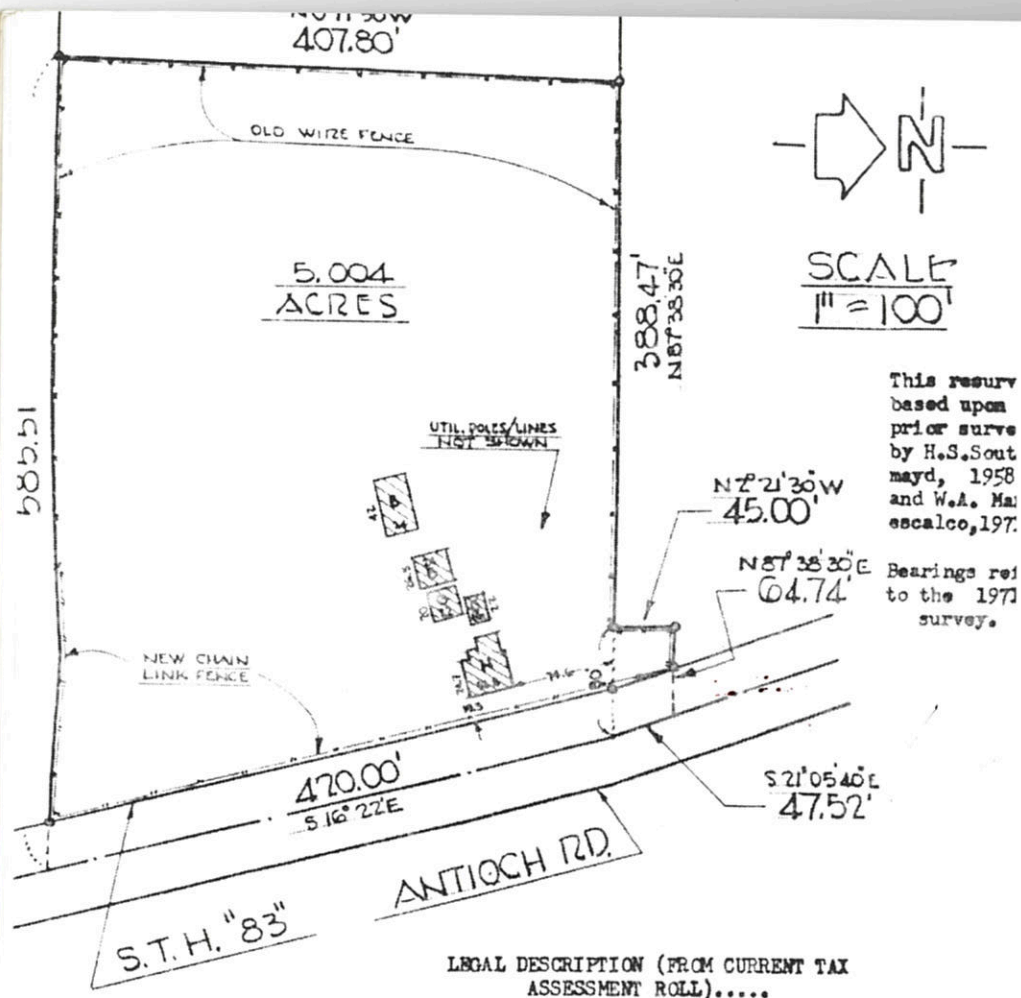
In October of 1956, under the leadership of the recently-arrived immigrants from Arahova and the cooperation of older patriotes, it was decided to form an independent Arahovitan society of Chicago. On the 31st of the same month the "Society of Arahovitans of Chicago" was formally founded.



Second elected officers of Society Arahoviton of Chicago, 1959

1st row: Andrew Boukides, Secretary, Constantine Diamaduros, Vice-President,
Michael Kontalonis, President, Peter Giannopoulos, Treasurer.

2nd row: Sam Maheras, Athanasios Diantzikis, and Gus Diamaduros, Board Members.



LEGAL DESCRIPTION (FROM CURRENT TAX ASSESSMENT ROLL).....

if the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10, Town 1 North, Range 20 East: Commencing 988.9 feet south and 5 feet east of the northwest corner of said quarter section; thence east 388.47 feet; thence north 45 feet; thence east 64.74 feet to the center of the highway; thence southeast on center of highway 47.52 feet to angle point; thence southeasterly on center of highway 10 feet; thence west 585.51 feet; thence north 407.8 feet to the point of beginning.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE
COURT HOUSE
KENOSHA, WIS.



I hereby certify that this property was resurveyed under my direction and this plat is a true representation thereof. Dated Dec. 11, 1964.

Reg. Land Surveyor

Plat of Resurvey of

5 ACRE PARCEL ON HWY. 83
for
SOCIETY ABRAHONIM
THE KAREAI

in NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 10-1-20

TOWN OF SALEM

KENOSHA COUNTY, WIS.

This society continues in existence today, in the same form. The first officers and founders of the Society were, John A. Harakas, Const. A. Karygiannis, George El. Hondros, Soterios N. Vastis, and Takis Par. Panousis.

In the first meeting of the newly-founded society, held on April 6, 1957, the following were designated as temporary officers: Pan. K. Kerhoulas, president; Takis Pan. Panousis, vice-president; George P. Kolovos, secretary; Nick Th. Koutsogeorgas, treasurer. Directors were A. P. Matalas, Const. Tourgiannis, Const. P. Diamaduros, James Seimenes, Michael L. Kontalonis, Soterios N. Vastis, A. Ch. Douvliis, and John A. Harakas.

At the elections of Sept. 7, 1957 the first regular Board of Directors was elected. It was comprised as follows: Soterios N. Vastis, president; Evangelos P. Kerhoulas, vice-president; Const. A. Karygiannis, treasurer; Const. P. Diamaduros, secretary; and Zacharias C. Douvliis, Evangelos P. Harakas, Michael N. Kontalonis, James G. Kaperonis, and Andrew P. Matalas, directors.

In September of 1959 the new Board of Directors was installed with the following officers: Michael N. Kontalonis, president; Const. P. Diamaduros, vice-president; Pan. Io. Giannopoulos, treasurer; Andrew P. Boukides, secretary; and George Io. Christopoulos, Sarantos St. Maheras, Athanasios Diantzikis, and Const. Boukides, directors.



1st row: Nick Karigiannes, Heido Karitsiotis, Andrew Matalas, Sam Vastis, Dena Dalakouras, Christos Dalakouras, Peter Giannopoulos.
2nd row; Bill Boukidis, Peter Colovos, Peter Trakas, Nick Trakas, John Zouras.

In September of 1961 the following were installed as Board of Directors: George Stathakis, president; Const. Toutogiannis, vice-president; Pan Io. Giannopoulos, treasurer; Vasileios D. Koutsogeorgas, and Pan. B. Hondropoulos, secretaries; and Athanasios Diatzikis, Phil Io. Giannopoulos, Pan N. Karagiannis, and James Seimenes, directors.

SUBSEQUENT BOARDS (Partial List)

1963

Pan. Io. Sciuris, later Peter Giannopoulos, Presidents
James Seimenes, Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos, Treasurer
Pan N. Kolovos, Nick Kaperonis, Secretaries
Vasilios D. Koutsogeorgas, Const. Par.
Pitsios, Phillip Giannopoulos, Andrew P. Boukidis, Efstr. Th. Koutsogeorgas, Directors

1965

Nick G. Kaperonis, President
Peter Io. Sciuris, Vice-President
George P. Kerhulas, Treasurer
Perry P. Matalas, Thotakis D. Diamantouras, Secretaries
Michael Kontaloni, Const. Pitsios, Andrew Boukides, Const. D. Koutsogeorgas, Directors

1969

Vasilios D. Koutsogeorgas, President
Ev. P. Kerhulas, 1st Vice-President
Stephen Mikos, 2nd Vice-President
Ev. Io. Karagiannis, Treasurer
Nick A. Karigiannis, Secretary
Nick G. Kaperonis, Andrew P. Boukides, Directors

1971

Nick Kaperonis, President
Bill Kakaris, Vice-President
Angelo Karagiannis, Treasurer
Stephen Mikos, Secretary
Pete Diantzikis, Chris Seimenis, Nick Dalakouras, Jim Boukides, George Panousis, Directors

1974

Andrew Matalas, President
Sam Vastis, Vice-President
Peter Skiouris, Treasurer
Maria Diandzikis and Pete Diandzikis, Secretaries
Directors:
Perry Matalas
Andrew Kerhulas
Stephen Mikos
Odysseus Skiouris
Nick Kaperonis
Ted Spanos
Bill Kakaris
Nick Dalakouras
George Panousis
Jim Boukides
Leo Theodorakakis

1976

George Stathakis, President
Andrew Matalas, Vice-President
George Boukides, Treasurer
Pete Thiantzikis, Secretary
Directors:
Sam Vastis
Mike Kontaloni
Jim Dalakouras
Pete Kakaris
Mike Hasapis
Chris Christopoulos
Jim Theodore
Nick Dalakouras
Pete Hondropoulos
Perry Matalas

1980

Andrew Matalas, President
Sam Vastis, Vice-President
Peter Colovos, Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos, Treasurer
Bill Boukides, Treasurer

Directors:
Takis Trakas
George Boukides
Chris Dalakouras
Nick Trakas
Takis Skiouris

1984

Sam Vastis, President
John Zouras, Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos, Treasurer
Heido Karitsiotis, Secretary

Directors:
Nick Karigiannis
Andrew Matalas
Chris Dalakouras
Dena Dalakouras
Bill Boukides
Peter Colovos
Peter Trakas
Nick Trakas

1986

Peter Kopsaftis, President
John Vastis, Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos, Treasurer
Athena Vastis, Secretary
Chris Seimenis, Assistant Secretary
Bill Boukides, Assistant Secretary

Directors:
Sam Vastis
Dena Dalakouras
Eleni Boutsikakis
Voula Kakaris
Kaliopi Siarris
George Kastanas

1988

Peter Giannopoulos, President
Andrew Polokefalos, Vice-President
Peter Kopsaftis, Treasurer
John G. Vastis, Secretary
Chris Vastis, Assistant Secretary

Directors:
Nick Dalakouras
James Hondropoulos
Peter Kakaris
Peter Karagiannis
George Kastanas

Peter Marafatsos
James Pouloukefalos
Peter Skiouris
Sam Vastis

1992

Chris Vastis: President
Sarantos Theodorakakis: Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos: Treasurer
Effie Papamihail: Recording Secretary
Andrew Boukides: Corresponding Secretary

Directors:
Eleni Boutsikakis
Dena Dalakouras
Jim Hondros
Nick Kalantzis
Peter Karagiannis
James Pouloukefalos
Olga Rizakos

1996

Andrew Voukidis: President
Sarantos Theodorakakis: Vice-President
Sam Vastis: Treasurer
Elizabeth Seimenis: Recording Secretary
Eleni Boutsikakis: Corresponding Secretary

Directors:
Chris Vastis
Louis Diandzikis
James Siarris
Kaliopi Siarris
Effie Papamihail
Eleni Skiouris
Nick Vastis
Chris Seimenis

1998

John Hasapis: President
Effie Papamihail: Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos: Treasurer
Elizabeth Seimenis: Recording Secretary
Chris Vastis: Corresponding Secretary
Eleni Skiouris: Corresponding Secretary

Directors:
Andrew Viukidis
Gus Vastis
Eleni Boutsikakis
Farm Committee:
Chris Seimenis
Chris Dalakouras
Andrew Theodorakakis
Sarantos Theodorakis

2000

Nick Vastis: President
Eleni Skiouris: Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos: Treasurer
Effie Papamihail: Recording Secretary
Elizabeth Seimenis: Recording Secretary
Eleni Kastanas: Corresponding Secretary
Andrew Voukidis: Corresponding Secretary

Directors:
Peter Giannopoulos
John Hasapis
Ted Kolantzianos
James Karafotias
Chris Seimenis
Sarantos Theodorakakis
Aleka Varlas
Athena Vastis

Farm Committee:
Chris Dalakouras

Peter Giannopoulos
John Hasapis
James Karafotias
Chris Seimenis
Sarantos Theodorakakis
Andrew Voukidis

2002

Eleni Skiouris: President
Chris Seimenis: Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos: Treasurer
Eleni Kastanas: Secretary

Directors:
Eleni Boutsikakis
Peter Giannopoulos
James Karafotias
Effie Papamihail
Elizabeth Seimenis
Kaliopi Siarris
Takis J. Skiouris
Sam G. Trakas

Auditors:
Nick Dalakouras
John Hasapis
James Siarris

Farm Committee:
Nick Dalakouras
Peter G. Giannopoulos
Petr J. Giannopoulos
John Hasapis
James Karafotias
Chris Seimenis
James Siarris
Takis J. Skiouris
Sarantos Theodorakakis
Sam G. Trakas
Nick Vastis

2004

Chris Vastis: President
Sam G. Trakas: Vice-President
Peter Giannopoulos: Treasurer
Elizabeth Seimenis: Recording Secretary
Eleni Kastanas: Corresponding Secretary

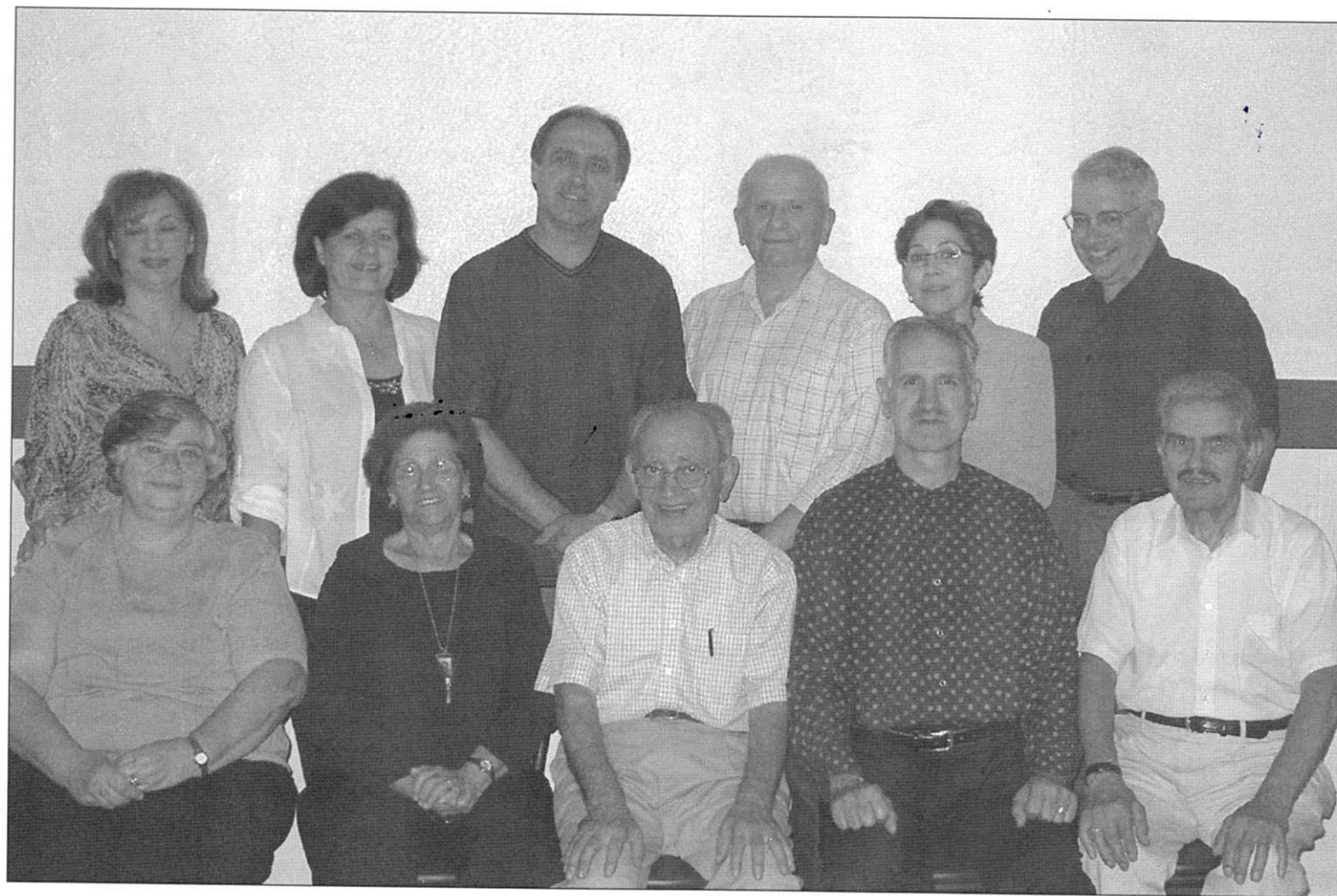
Directors:
Eleni Skiouris
Eleni Boutsikakis
James Karafotias
Effie Papamihail
Nick Vastis

Auditors:
Nick Dalakouras
John Hasapis
James Siarris

Farm Committee:
Nick Dalakouras
Peter J. Dalakouras
Peter G. Dalakouras
John Hasapis
James Siarris
James Karafotias
Chris Seimenis
Sarantos Theodorakakis
Chris Vastis
Nick Vastis

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2006 Board of Directors pictured at the Giordanos on Irving Park



PAST AND FUTURE

By Nick Vastis



In preparing this program, we returned again and again for source material and inspiration to *KARYATIKA*, Volumes I and II, published in 1950 and 1972. These beautiful histories of our birthplace demonstrate, with their breadth and eloquence, the uniqueness of Arahova and Arahovitans.

Employing essay, fable, illustration, photography, and family biography, these books chronicle the lives and dreams of an ambitious people who, while constantly striving for happiness and success, always take time to observe and ruminate on the joys and mysteries of their locality, their place. Arahova is rendered in detail in its houses, its trees, its churches, clocks, mountain views and winding roads, and the statues of its women.

These books also examine the quandary that immigrants have always faced: the tension, the divided loyalty to the Greece that they left behind and the America that was their destination. How much of their future life would be dictated by

Greek attitudes and traditions and how much would give way to New-World materialism and the English language? Would their children marry Greeks? What would happen to their Greek Orthodox religion? Would their childhood friendships and their sense of community be lost- victim of the demands of their careers, their obligations to their American families, the hectic pace of modern times? It is in this context that organizations such as ours are contemplated and understood.

Consider the extent of two world wars in shaping the decisions that emigrating Arahovitans made. It is a lesson in history to realize, for example, that the timing of these wars had so much to do with where Arahovitans would emigrate. Those who came to America after World War I were drawn to coal mining jobs in the South. Those who came after World War II were drawn to industrial and service-oriented jobs in the North. Whether they came North or South, they prospered.



1960's



They built homes and businesses. Just as important, they rebuilt Arahova, which itself was so devastated by those wars. The Karyatika volumes chronicle the extent to which Arahovitans in America turned their prosperity into acts of public works and charity. The prologue to Volume II, in a reference to a yet-earlier publication, the 1927 "HRISI VIVLI", notes that the Water Works for Karyae project was the principle cause for the founding of the Adelphotis. The essay on our own Society of Chicago details the various projects that it undertook in its early years, specifically, moneys donated to the village for water works, electricity, and the building of the Church of St. Andrew.

Another publication offers extraordinary insight into the significance of war and its aftermath in the lives of Arahovitans in the Twentieth Century. The Convention and War Memorial Program, published in 1947 on the occasion of that year's annual convention and picnic at Karyae Park in Gastonia, is a memento

of what is perhaps the high-water mark in the history of the Adelphotis Arahoviton. World War II had ravaged the village and civil war was ravaging it, then, but this did little to dampen the enthusiasm and optimism of this event. Indeed, the desire to memorialize those who had died just underscored the resolve for the future. A convention in every sense of the word, this gathering entailed more than just eating and dancing. It included seminars, ceremonies, services, and Olympic-fashioned games. It was a celebration of survival but more than that it was a dedication to the future and the unique importance that this organization would have in our lives. It was about the bonds that Arahovitans would continue to share.

Lamentably, the vitality of ethnic organizations such as ours will tend to wane, the inevitable result of the assimilation that they were meant to facilitate. Certainly in the 1950's and early 1960's, the Arahovitan Society of Chicago occu-



1970's



pied a more prominent place in the lives of its members. This was only natural because they were its founders and Arahova was their place of birth and it was their own friendships that they sought to maintain.

The resurgence that began in the mid-1970s, however, had much to do with their desire to preserve traditions for the benefit of their children. This began with the establishment of our own annual picnic, which was usually held in a county forest preserve or in the National Park in Zion, Illinois. It was followed by the return of the annual banquet. It was made complete in the fall of 1984 with the acquisition of our own Karyae Park, a beautiful five-acre farm in Salem, Wisconsin.

The Adelphotis of Chicago became the third Chapter to create a Karyae Park, following the lead of Gastonia and Toronto. Our park of course is unique in that it has never lost its character as a farm and that is how we continue to refer to it.

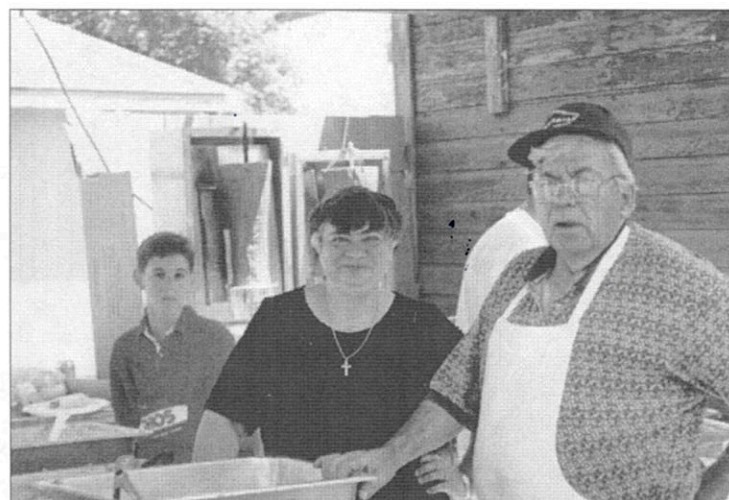
How gratifying it is that it has evolved organically, each building project serving only to enhance that essence of being a farm. And how fitting it is that, in its charm and in its scale, it symbolizes that village in Greece that it was meant to celebrate.

So it is that we celebrate fifty years of celebrating Arahova. But that quandary remains. Where will this organization be fifty years from today? Who will continue the legacy when we are two and three generations removed from the migration that brought us here?

Those of us American-born sons and daughters of Arahovitans who have chosen to participate in this organization will tell you that we do it not out of a mere desire to honor the memory and traditions of our parents. We do it because we enjoy it. We enjoy the opportunity to make our own new friendships and the opportunity to utilize our creativity.

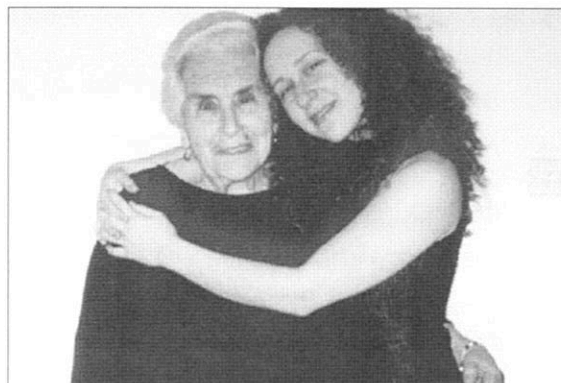


1990's



It is this sense of enjoyment that we must emphasize as we ask another generation to carry this organization forward. Invite your children not only to attend next year's picnic but also to hold their own picnics. That's why the farm is there. Suggest that they restore that sense of charity and public works that spurred the creation of the Adelphotis.

Above all, encourage them to get to know each other, in person and in cyberspace. Ask them to create an Adelphotis website. Allow them the satisfaction that is derived from producing and poring over publications such as KARYATIKA or this modest book you hold in your hands. Arahova is beautiful, in sight and in mind, and on the printed page. What is important is to inspire our children to be both Americans and Arahovitans and, as noted in the prologue of KARYATIKA II, to ensure that this organization remain something permanent and not ephemeral.



1956

Adelphotis Arahoviton <KARYAE> Gastonia, North Carolina 1923

Adelphotis Arahoviton <Ai Karyai> Toronto Toronto, Ontario, Canada 1954

Society of Arahovitans of Chicago <THE KAREAI> Chicago, Illinois October 31, 1956

Society of Arahovitans of New England Boston, Massachusetts 1958

Syndesmos of Arahovitans Everywhere Athens, Greece 1970

Association of Arahovitans of Melbourne Richmond Vic