



## KARYES 2015: SUMMER EVENTS REPORT

### A PLETHORIC CULTURAL SUMMER TOOK PLACE, ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR, IN KARYES

Despite the dramatic political and economic developments that we experienced this year in Greece, Karyes once again made a difference by organizing a series of cultural events. These events were organized thanks to the initiative of the local Community, the Municipality of Sparta, the Local Associations, but also of the private individuals. Across Laconia and Arcadia has become common knowledge that there is a **mountainous village that differs**. A place that although is not near the sea, is full of people during the summer time. A village that its expatriates and their children want to visit it every year, if this is possible. The Board of our Association bounds that it will do all it is possible in order to keep Karyes alive and flourishing.

### A GREAT CONCERT TRIBUTE TO COMPOSER MIKIS THEODORAKIS



After the concert at Sparta's Sainopouleio auditorium, the tribute concert to composer **Mikis Theodorakis** came to Karyes on **Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. The concert was under the auspices of the **Municipality of Sparta's Culture and the Environment Legal Entity** and the **Philharmonic Orchestra of the Municipality of Sparta**, for the 28<sup>th</sup> Cultural Summer 2015 in order to commemorate the **90 years since the birth of the great composer**.



The concert was free entry and all the inhabitants and many visitors from across the region attended a tribute with the most popular songs of the artist, having the chance to discover one of the world's most significant composer. Mikis Theodorakis, changed the course of the Greek music with its compositional work, creating the "artistic-pop" song type. The most famous songs of the great Greek composer's musical journey were sung by **Gina Veldeki** and **Spyros Koutsovasilis**. The Orchestra was directed by the conductor **Sarados Kanellakos**. At the concert were presented many popular songs of Theodorakis such as: "**Omorfi Poli/Beautiful City**", "**Margarita Margaro**", "**Aprili mou/my April**", "**Asma Asmaton/Song of Songs**", "**Gonia gonia/Corner-corner**", "**Antonis**", "**Tis Dikeosinis**

**helie/Justice Sun**", "**Ena to Chelidoni/One the swallow**", "**Otan sfigoun to heri/When they squeeze the hand**" etc.

### TWO DAY MUSIC FESTIVAL WITH GREEK AND FOREIGN MUSIC IN JULY 18<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup> AT THE "ARCHONTIKO TOY PARNONA"



All the residents and the vacationers of Karyes were positively surprised by the initiative of the hotel "ARCHONTIKO TOY PARNONA" to organize a two-day festival song at its new appropriately landscaped site.

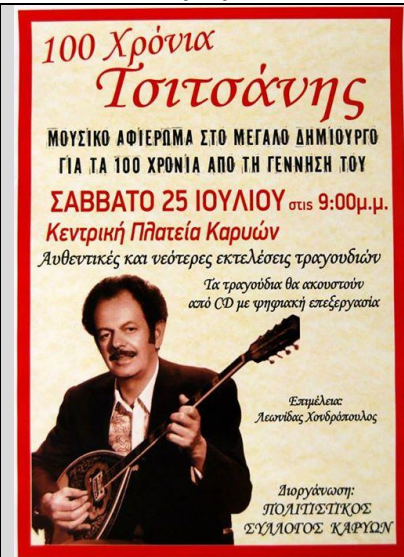
So on **Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>** and on **Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>** many Greek and Foreign songs were presented respectively in collaboration with the "**Melopioia Conservatory**" of Sparta, which celebrated its five years of operation with this festival.



It should be noted that during this event, the hotel's new cafeteria called «**BARNONAS**» was inaugurated. The bar offered a new entertainment place to the holidaymakers of beautiful Karyes during the summer time..

### A MUSIC NIGHT TRIBUTE IN VASSILIS TSITSANIS

On the Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Central Square, our compatriot and music producer **Leonidas Chondropoulos** presented a **musical tribute** to the Greek "laiko songs" composer **Vassilis Tsitsanis**. On the occasion of **100 years from his birth**, many original and newer versions of his songs have been listened on a nice summer evening. The event was under the auspices of the Karyes Cultural Association



AT WWW.KARYES.GR



FOR THE ELDERLY TO REMEMBER AND FOR THE YOUNG TO LEARN



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**OUR VILLAGE'S PANIGIRIA WERE SUCCESSFUL ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR. THEY WERE UNTUCKED BY THE CRISIS!**



Despite once again the poor forecasts, our village's traditional festivals (panigiria) took place, as every year, with great success. Given the postponement of almost all of the cultural events and festivals in Laconia in July because of the known problems (capital controls), this year the turnout was **the largest in recent years!** Residents and vacationers of Karyes from Greece and abroad, along with hundreds of visitors from Sparta, Tripoli and the neighboring villages, came to have fun and to spend two nights in our beautiful village. So on **Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup> on the square of Rachi at the Feast of Agia Paraskevi, and on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at the Festival of Saint Panteleimon at the Central Square** crowds flooded the squares, confirming once again their title as two of the best in the Peloponnese.



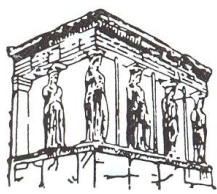
### "KRONION PASSAGE" A LONG DISTANCE RACE AT THE MOUNTAIN OF TITAN KRONOS



This year "The Karyateia" Semi-Marathon race did not take place, but the long-distance race "KRONION PASSAGE" was successfully held again this year on **Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. The long-distance race with start and finish in Agios Petros of Arcadia, covered a circular route of 70km.



Specifically, the race started at the village of **Agios Petros** and headed towards the shelter of Mt. Parnonas, passing through the villages of **Vamvakou, Varvitsa, Karyes, Vourvoura** and finished again in Agios Petros. Crossing an infinite natural beauty, passing under fir trees and pines, the runners run for most of the route in the shade. It was a good opportunity for a last training test of the runners that will run on the Feidippideio Road or the **Spartathlon** in September and those runners who just want to take part in a race of 70km.



ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ

### CHILDREN PARTY AT KARYES LACONIA

### KARYES CULTURAL CLUB



The beginning of the party with the indian tepees.

After last year's great success of the children's party, the event for the children of Karyes was held this year on the **Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. This year's party theme of the "Train of Joy" entertainment team was "**The Indian Village**" and the event took place in Karyes' central square. Over 50 children enjoyed playing team games, singing and dancing beside the fire of the Indian tepees. The event was organized on the initiative of the Karyates Association, the Karyes Cultural Club and with the support of the Municipality of Sparta.



Stories and songs around the fire

### AUGUST 9<sup>th</sup>: LIVE GREEK MUSIC NIGHT AT "ARCHONTIKO TOY PARNONA"



Photo of the event

The hotel continued its musical events in August. So on **Friday night, August 9<sup>th</sup>**, a musical event with live Greek music (folk, rebetika and traditional) was organised in the hotel's courtyard. Almost all **residents**, holiday makers and many people from the neighboring villages had fun until the morning.



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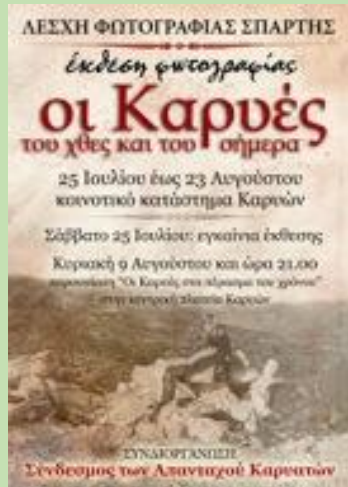
ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ



## OUR ANNUAL RECEPTION TO THE EXPATRIATES

THE EVENT OF OUR ASSOCIATION WAS SUCCESSFUL THIS YEAR TOO

### KARYES HISTORIC PHOTOS EXHIBITION



On **Saturday, July 25th** at 21:00 the inauguration of the **photographic exhibition** entitled "**Karyes of yesterday and today**" took place in Karyes.

The exhibition was housed **until the 23th of August** in the ground floor hall of the Karyes Community building. It was co-organized by our **Association** and the **Photography Club of Sparta**.

It consisted of 30 photos from our Association's members, but also of unpublished photographic documents from Karyes of 20th century. The exhibition was a journey through time, reflecting the daily life of Karyes, from the Second World War until today.



The hall was full of people during the presentation

Along with the exhibition on **Sunday August 9th** at 21:00 at the same place took place a photo and video presentation by the Sparta Photo Club members and our Association on the theme: "**Karyes over time: a tour through the streets and history of Karyes with the time as a vehicle**".

In that presentation who was attended by almost the whole village (*permanent Residents and visitors*) were retrieved memories and became touching descriptions.

The exhibition admittedly was successful and served as a spark for the collection of many more old photographs of drawers and trunks, so as next year to be repeated with much richer material.

On the afternoon of **Saturday, August 8th** the annual event in honor of our expatriates was held in the ground hall of the Karyes Community building. Our Association, as the institution which unites all compatriots and associations worldwide, wanted to welcome once again and honor our expatriates who came to spend their summer in their place of origin.

Greetings addressed by the President of our Association **Mr. Repoulis** who welcomed the attendees. After the presentation of the current activities of the Karyates Association, the rest of the representatives from the institutions of Karyes presented in turn their activities report. The presentation was followed by an exchange of views and proposals about the problems of the village.

### WELCOME SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT OF KARYES LOCAL COMMUNITY MR. GEOGIOS NTEVEKOS

Dear countrymen and countrywomen!

I welcome you to our beautiful village that generations before us **worked hard** and offered money, time and sweat to make this gem of Parnonas and Greece.

I congratulate the Karyates Association which organized this annual meeting, in order to see each other and exchange views and thoughts for the best of our village.

As President I thank all the expatriates who came this year from the ends of the world to see their family homes and friends and all Arachovites, locals or not, and I wish them to have a beautiful time and remember the years they lived in Greece and in their place of origin. The difficult moments going through our country, due to the prolonged economic crisis that began in 2010 and continues to this day, make the help and the solidarity of Karyates Diaspora to our village even more needed. I, myself, with the assistance of the Municipality of Sparta guarantee three things:

1. To provide plenty of drinking water for all residents and we have succeeded it.
2. To provide plenty of water to irrigate the gardens and we have succeeded it.
3. To provide neatness in our village, as far as we are able to do it.

Beyond that, if there is financial capability to make micro-projects, we will demand them to be done.

If some compatriot clubs in Greece or abroad are able to finance the works, we are willing to recommend them a few and allow them to perform with unlimited transparency.

Thank you all for your presence and I hope this meeting will be useful and creative for our village and you should know that I personally and the members of the Local Council will be the connecting link of the village with all Arachovites.

The president of Karyes Local Community



Photos of the event

### A MUSICAL EVENT

#### AT THE GROVE OF "ROLOI" (COMMUNITY CLOCK - SAINT JOHN CHURCH)

Grace at the initiative of the Karyes Cultural Club at **Friday night, on August 21st**, a musical event was organized in this beautiful area of Karyes, which has not seen a similar event for decades.

Under the sound of live Greek music played by the band "**LAIKES NOTES**" with **Vanna** and **Kostas Angelopoulos**, several young people from Karyes and the surrounding villages came and were entertained under the moon light.



**KARYES  
CULTURAL  
CLUB**



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### FRIDAY AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup>: WORLDWIDE KARYATES ASSOCIATION SUMMER DANCE



As in recent years, the Association organized its annual summer dance at the Grove of the "Agia Paraskevi Church - Elementary School". Although this year the dance was coincided with the eve of the Assumption celebration fest, the Board Members **decided** its conduct to fulfill the wish of many of compatriots. Indeed, in a very beautiful and warm evening, several compatriots honored the event with their presence and came to have a joyful evening. The band 'CHOES' from Sparta with live artistic program, rebetika and folk music accompanied the event until midnight and then our compatriot and known music producer, **Leonidas Chondropoulos**, undertook the "kefi" with a traditional folk music program until late.

### SPEECH - GREETING OF THE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBER MRS EVANGELIA KOPSIIFTI



Grace at the initiative of the Board members, our Association had **honorary** awarded **Mr. Nikolaos Doulos** who has served along with his late wife and teacher **Konstantina Kolovos-Doulos** as Teachers in Karyes' Elementary School for 14 years (1962-1975).

Dear compatriots we welcome you to this special place and I wish everyone to spend a nice evening!

This area is special because in this precinct are included two sacred: Religion and Education.

Most of us have gone through the door of Agia Paraskevi church, both in joys and in sorrows, but also many of us we have passed and the school door while learning our first letters.

So mixed feelings of joy and sadness that pervades my soul tonight!

Joy because tonight with us are our close relatives, friends and patriots from faraway Australia, Canada, America, Crete, Chios, Athens, Tripoli and Sparta "in spite of the times." We did it! And since we were able to make this meeting, imagine what we can do together in harmony and mutual love.

The School and Agia Paraskevi church are creations of love and brotherhood of all Patriots.

But, dear compatriots, the great joy and the emotions that I feel tonight are because among us in this great gathering is a great man and teacher **Mr. Nikolaos Doulos**. This teacher in the distant past, along with his late wife and our teacher **Konstantina Kolovos-Doulos** and with our other great teachers, as our compatriot beautiful and sweet **Mrs. Sophia Konti-Gita** and the sisters **Anna** and **Athanasia Papanikolaou**, placed the most important building block of our basic education and literacy.

They contributed greatly to the shaping our character in order to become parents, good people, professionals, scientists, each one in its field, both in our village, our country and abroad.

We, the pupils of the Karyes primary school, have felt for many years the need to say a great "thank you" from our hearts to our wonderful and holy teacher and his late wife and also teacher who for 14 years (1962- 1975) served with eagerness and love our school.

The memories of those years are many and deeply engraved in our memory! Who forgets the morning bell, the prayer, the raising of the flag, the National Anthem, the breaks, the blackboard, the paintings, the handicraft exhibitions, the dances, the theatrical and gymnastic demonstrations and the celebrations of the anniversaries with poems? These wonderful teachers were there to teach us, encourage us, admire us and compliment us! They were there and during the difficult years of immigration to reluctantly bid farewell to the children who were leaving and console us who were staying! They were there along with the memorable, tireless, respected and dear aunt **Annio Velonis**, in cold winter, rain and snow serving with class breakfast milk and lunch. He was always there!! We regret that tonight, in this unique time, that our emigrated classmates are not among us and others that the circumstances did not allow them to be with us. We wish them the better wherever they are!

As the years flow like water, let us keep in our hearts, the sweet and beautiful memories of our childhood and forget about the 'Zacharias' that we all tasted and lets welcome after so many years here in the courtyard the teacher of our school, Mr. Nicholas Doulos, and together we say what once said by Alexander the Great: "I owe to my parents my life and to my teachers my well-being".

But we all owe a big "thank you" and to all our compatriots teachers for their important educational work: To **Kyriazis Panagiotis**, **Devekos Georgios**, **Kostas Constantinos**, **Ardami Helena**, **Darmos Demetrios** and **Sdrali Sophia**.

### THE CELEBRATION OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY



The Divine Liturgy under the planes



The Central Square full of people



Under the "platanos"

Our village was literally flooded by our compatriots at the weekend (**August 15th**) of the Virgin Mary Assumption ("Kimis tis Theotokou"). After the celebration of the Divine Liturgy in the Church of the Assumption (Panagia) under the plane trees of Menelaus, the people came to the central square for the traditional coffee. Around noon, the taverns were also filled with people as a lot decided to eat there with their families. The weather was perfect, as the sun was hiding under the clouds for long **periods of time**, limiting the midday heat. In the afternoon a storm came at 18:00, which lasted about an hour and provided more dew.





The building after its restoration

## OUR ASSOCIATION'S BUILDINGS AT THE KARYES CENTRAL SQUARE: THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PROJECT COMPLETED

### THE WORK PROGRESS IS APPARENT

The first phase of reconstruction has been successfully completed at the **buildings'** complex owned by the "Karyates Association".

This phase included the exterior and interior repair of the building of the "Former Police Station", as well as the internal work related to the functional integration of all buildings. So now the external image of a building is almost completed (except from the paint and the exterior lighting), while internally the procedures for the gradual delivery of the ground floor premises for use were initiated.

### A LOTTERY WAS LAUNCHED IN ORDER TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE WORKS TO CONTINUE

### IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FROM OUR FELLOW EXPATRIATES

Our Association wants once again to thank all of our compatriots who sustained financial offers, and with their active participation in the lottery gave to us hope in these difficult times so as to believe that the way is now open for the implementation of the "**KARYES FOLKLORE CENTER**".

Our Association's board decided that the price of the lottery ticket is set in the amount of € 5- and that the prize sum is of € 1.000- or a trip of equal value. The winner will be the one that the number of the lottery will coincide with the four (4) last winning digits of the lucky-lottery draw of the National Popular Lottery of **November 24<sup>th</sup>**. Board members wish publicly thank the sponsors of the lottery, **Stavros Mermingas, Nikos Koutsogiorgas, Sotiris Koutsogiorgas** and **Michael Binis**, who offered each of them the sum of € 200-.

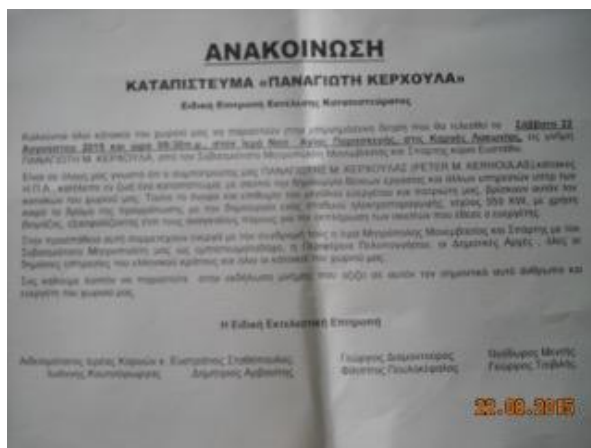
### OBJECTIVE: TO IMMEDIATELY START THE PREPARATION OF THE FINAL ARCHITECTURE STUDY AND THE WORKS SECOND PHASE

In August, in order not to create problems in the cafes and restaurants of Karyes's square., the works were temporarily interrupted, but with the entry of autumn, they restarted in order to complete the exterior of the former police station's building. The next goal is to develop the final design of the entire complex (three buildings) in order to determine the use of spaces and the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, air conditioning etc. specifications. After the preparation of this architecture study, the repair work can be continued in all buildings.



Night View

## A COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF PANAGIOTIS M. KERCHOULAS (PETER M. KERHOULAS)



A commemoration took place on Saturday, August 22nd, in memory of the benefactor **Panagiotis (Peter) M. Kerchoulas**, at the Agia Paraskevi church by the honor Metropolitan of Monemvasia and Sparta Efstathios. **It was on the initiative of the members of the Special Execution Trust Committee** consisting of Reverend Karyes priest Mr. **Efstratios Stathopoulos**, Mr. **Georgios Tsilivis**, Mr. **Georgios Diamandouros**, Mr. **Theodoros Mentis**, Mr. **Ioannis Koutsogiorgas**, Mr. **Dimitrios Arvanitis** and Mr. **Philippos Pouloukefalos**.

*As it was mentioned in the communication-call of the committee: "It is widely known that the compatriot **Panagiotis M. Kerchoulas (Peter M. Kerhoulas)**, a resident of the U.S., left a legacy that a trust will be given in order to create jobs and other services for residents of our village. That dream and desire of the great benefactor and our patriot, find its final succession by creating a power plant (power of **550KW**), using biomass, thereby ensuring the necessary resources to fulfill the goals set by the benefactor.*

*In this effort the Peloponnese Region, the Municipal Authorities, all public services of the Greek State and our village actively participate with the assistance of **the honor Metropolitan of Monemvasia and Sparta as a trustee**. Therefore we invite you to attend the commemorative event that is worth to this important man and benefactor of our village."*

In the commemoration our Association was represented by a delegation of the Members Board headed by Chairman Mr. Michael Repoulis.

## SOCIAL NEWS

According to the Karyes Local Parish:

### They died and buried in Karyes:

- On May 4<sup>th</sup> 2015, **George Trakas** at the age of 94 years.
- On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 **Georgia Bakou** at the age of 90 years.
- On July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 **George Karagiannis** at the age of 81 years.
- On August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 **Sofia Kokkinou** at the age of 88.
- On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 **Aglaiia Rozaniti** at the age of 99 years.
- On September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 **Despina Panousi** at the age of 76 years.

### The following marriages took place in Karyes:

- On July 4<sup>th</sup> 2015, **Peter Katsis** from Sparta married **Constantina Spir. Karygiannis** from Karyes.
- On July 8<sup>th</sup> 2015, **Constantine Koniaris** from Sparta married **Argyro Karachaliou** from Karyes.
- On August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015, **Gregory Tsironis** from Arta married **Helen Lassos** from Karyes.
- On September 27<sup>th</sup> 2015, **Emmanuel Papapamanolakis** from Candila Arcadia married **Panagiota (Betty) Ardamis** from Karyes.



**ORGANISATION FOR THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF MOUNT PARNON AND MOUSTOS WETLAND  
COMPLETION OF THE MEETING FOR THE NATURAL WEALTH OF THE PROTECTED AREA IN KARYES**



This meeting was organized on the occasion of **World Environment Day**, which is celebrated every year on **June 5th** with the aim to inform the world's public awareness of the environmental problems of our planet and focus on the natural resources of the protected area, the **utilization** and **potential of sustainable use** by the local population through **alternative activities**. The meeting was attended by the **Deputy Director of Forestry in Laconia Mr. Elias Kontakos** representing the **Decentralized Administration of Peloponnese-Western Greece-Ionian**, the **Regional Director of Laconia Mr. Panagiotis Karras** from the **Peloponnese Region Authorities** and finally the **President of the Local Karyes Community Mr. George Devekos**. The conference began with a welcome by the **Chairman of the Body Mr. Dimitris Miliou**.



Then followed the speeches of the rapporteurs, who responded the call of the Management Body. The presentation order of rapporteurs speeches was:

- Mr. **George Tryfonopoulos**, PhD Biologist, Head of Protection and Management of the Management Body on "**The natural wealth of the protected area - sustainable use and exploitation of this**".
- Mr. **Constantine Karygiannis**, Developer, and Mr. **George Manginas**, cofounder of the Grek Gid company, on "**Alternative Tourism in Kynouria - The example of Leonidio Climbers Park**".
- Mr. **Elias Kontakos**, Deputy Director of Forestry in Laconia on "**Natural resources - Management and Mount Parnonas forest complex Protection**".
- Mr. **George Portokaloglou**, Vice president of SP.EL.E.O. Association (Hellenic Speleological Expeditionary Group) on "**The Caves as alternative tourism**".
- Mr. **Eleftherios Kalpoutzakis**, Agronomist, PhD Pharmacist, on "**The floristic diversity of Mt Parnonas - Possibilities of exploitation**".

After the presentations completion a discussion was established between the participants and the speakers responded to their various queries.

The Management Body of the "**Organisation for the Protection and Management of Mount Parnon and Moustos Wetland**" warmly thanked the participants and the residents of Karyes for their presence and their comments on the issues presented by the speakers. It would also like to thank the President of the Karyes Local Community **Mr. George Devekos** who provide the hall of the Local Community, where the Conference was successfully held.

**Sources: Management Body of the "Organisation for the Protection and Management of Mount Parnon and Moustos Wetland", [Karyes.blogspot.gr](http://Karyes.blogspot.gr).**

**THE 75TH PANHELLENIC MOUNTAINEERING MEETING HELD IN MOUNT PARNON**



On **Saturday 18th and Sunday, July 19th, 2015** the mountaineering clubs of Greece set an appointment on mountain Parnonas. The organization of the **75th Pan-Hellenic Mountaineering Meeting** was organized by the **Greek Mountaineering Club of Sparta (E.O.O.A.)**. Nearly **500** climbers from 33 collective missions and individual participations of all ages, from every corner of Greece and Cyprus, gathered in mountain Parnonas.

According to the press release: "*On Saturday night, they enjoyed the wonderful bean soup cooked by chef Costas Laganas, they danced and their songs traveled through the starry sky with the stunning "uranography" of N. Tremoulis. Dawn Sunday their marches began toward the top and Kampos plateau. Due to the strong wind they exchanged greetings and sang the national anthem on a slope of the plateau with the wish "always high"!*

*The E.O.O.A. expressed heartfelt thanks to those who helped in the organization and realization of the 75th Pan-Hellenic Mountaineering Meeting and to all who attended it."*

The pictures below were published in EOOA profile a social networking website.



**REQUEST**

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**E-mail: [info@karyes.gr](mailto:info@karyes.gr)**



ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ

***The Board members of our Association wish to all our compatriots  
HAPPY AUTUMN!***

**BULLETIN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF KARYATES WORLDWIDE  
QUARTERLY PUBLICATION**

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