

ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ

KARYES

Lakonia



The Central square in a sunny winter day

News Bulletin

Number 16

Spring 2018

Triennial Review 2014-2017

By Mr. Michalis Repoulis, President of S.A. K.

Dear friends and compatriots, I would like to welcome you to this meeting, a very special one as three important events are taking place tonight; the presentation of the three – year report, the elections as well as the New Year's Pita - Cutting.

I am very pleased to see all of you Arachovites and Karyates present here today, despite all odds, namely the closed main roads due to the national rally for Macedonia. You have defied the obstacles, thus showing your love for the Association and our village. At this point, I would like to say that the actions of the Association over the past three years are familiar to most; therefore, tonight, I will only give you a brief summary of the main points to update those who for some reason have not been informed:

The Caryatids Monument

An iron flag pole with the Greek flag is flying has been placed on the site of the monument with an endowment provided by the late Kyriakos Theodoridis.

While there have been two studies for the restoration of the monument and we have decided on the special conservator who will undertake the repairs for the price of approximately €7,500, we have not yet managed to find a sponsor the project. Thus, we have opened a bank account at the National Bank of Greece in the name of the Association, the proceeds of which will be used exclusively for the monument. The bank account number has been posted on our website www.karyes.gr, Facebook, and every issue of the Association newspaper for your convenience. The amount deposited so far sums up to approximately €750, which is roughly 10% of the total amount. We reached out to the directorate of the Region of the Peloponnese through their Deputy Chief to financially support the project, but we have received no response yet. We plead with you to help and also spread the word as we will all feel responsible when the monument collapses.

The Karyes website

We are using the website www.karyes.gr , which belonged to the former Community of Karyes, and we keep it up to date with news from our village, under the auspices of Ms. Martzi Konstnatopoulos, our secretary's Haris Konstantopoulos' sister.

-see page 2-

The elections of our Association's new Board of Directors and a new Audit Committee



On Sunday, February 4, 2018, the General Assembly of our Association took place in the Hall of Events of Matalaion Foundation at 11 am. There were 52 cash members present.

The President of the Assembly was elected by Mr. Nikolaos Vas. Trakas and Secretary of the Assembly Mrs Dimitra Repoulis (daughter of John kakaris). Then the president of the outgoing Board of Directors. Mr. Michalis Repoulis presented the "Report of the Board of Directors".

The presentation of the "Revenue and Expense Report" by the Treasurer Mr. Konstantinos Dimitroulas and the "Report of the Audit Committee" by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Michalis Binis, followed.

Upon completion of the above, the General Meeting approved the Discharge of the Board of Directors from all responsibility, followed by the election of the Election Committee.

According to the announcement of the Election Commission, consisting of its President Mr. Nikolaos Vas. Trakas and as members Mrs Paraskevi Tourogianni and Dimitra Kakari-Repoulis, they are elected in a series of successes:

For the Board of Directors

A. REGULAR MEMBERS

D DEDLITY MEMBEDS			
9.	MATALAS GREGORIOS		
8.	PREKEZES CHRISTOS		
7.	PREKEZES-GLEKA ANNITA		
6.	KOPSIAFTIS-GIONIS EVANGELIA		
5.	LATSIS LEFKOTHEA		
4.	KONSTANTOPOULOS CHARALAMPOS		
3.	MERMIGHA DEMETRA		
2.	TRAKAS NIKOLAOS		
1.	REPOULIS MICHAEL		

B. DEPOTT IVILIVIBERS		
1.	KIRIAZIS DEMETRIOS	
2.	MAHERAS-PANOPOULOU HELENE	
3	ΔΤΗΔΝΔΕΙ Ος ΔΝΔςΤΔΟΙΟς	

For the Audit Committee

A. REGULAR MEMBERS

1.	CHRISTOPOULOS PARASKEVAS
2.	BINIS MICHAEL
3.	KARDARAS VASSILIOS

B. DEPUTY MEMBERS

1.	PAPADOPOULOS THOMAS
2.	PAPASPYROY DEMETRA

On 2-28-2018 the elected members met in order to form the new Board of Directors of the Association. According to a relative vote, it's new form is

CONTENTS

The news of our Association <u>Page 3</u>: The news of our Association The news of the Brotherhood of Canada Trips to MT. Parnon <u>Page 6:</u> Social News Local News

President: Michael Repoulis **A' Vice-president**: Annita Gleka-Prekeze B' Vice-President: Dimitra Prekezes **Gen. Secretary**: Charalampos Konstantopoulos Treasurer: Evangelia Kopsiaftis-Gionis Member - Public Relation officer: Lefkothea Latsis

> Member: Nikolaos G. Trakas **Member**: Christos Prekezes **Member**: Gregorios Matalas

Good luck to everyone!

The members of the Board of Directors Of our Association and the editorial team of our Bulletin Wish to all our compatriots

"CHRISTOS ANESTI"



Triennial Review 2014-2017 (By Mr. Michalis Repoulis, President of S.A.K.)

-from page 1-

The newspaper "Karyes and the villages of the municipality of Oinounta" is also posted there. This is admittedly a very important project.

The Association Newspaper

We continue to publish our informative newsletter, which has replaced the newspaper that was published by the Vice-President Annita Prezeze, with the help and support of our secretary Harry Konstantopoulos and his sister Martzi. Our goal is to publish the newsletter four times a year in both Greek and English languages and mail it to all the members of the Association. All the remarkable news of our village is being posted there. We have copies of the latest issue available here for you today. The newspaper has also been posted on our website www.karyes.gr. You are kindly requested to inform us of any social event you are aware of via email, post, or through a telephone call to any member of the Executive Council.



The Primary School of Karyes

We have and will continue to financially support the students' annual trip.

Trips

On the initiative of Ms. Evangelia Kopsiafti, member of the Executive Council, we planned and organized two trips to the new Archaeological Museum of Tegea and the Folklore Museum for the friends of our village as well as all Karyates and Arachovites who were interested. The trips were followed by a visit to Karyes which included a guided tour and a meal.

Social Events

On November 30th, as every year, we celebrated St. Andrew's Feast. Coffee and sweets were served to our guests at the community café after the church service. We were honored once again by the presence of the Metropolitan of Sparta Mr. Eustathios, several MPs, the Mayor of Sparta, representatives of the Regional Directorate as well as the Regional Governor.

We have successfully organized annual events, namely the New Year's Pita – Cutting which took place in Athens, the Summer Ball as well as the Reception in Honor of the Expatriates in Karyes. During the Summer Ball, we gave recognition to the University graduates from Karyes and awarded them with a copy of the book "Karyes" by G. Pitsiou. We kindly ask that we get informed of the new list of this year's graduates.

During summer, we organized various events, namely a children's party called "The Train of Joy", several Shadow Theater performances in collaboration with the Municipality of Sparta as well as the "Exhibition of Old and Modern Photographs from Karyes" in collaboration with the Photographic Club of Sparta, which has greatly touched the hearts of the elderly and has awakened many memories from the past. The photos were reproduced in 100 DVD copies which we have put on sale to support our Association's revenues. We also organized the "Wine and Spirit" musical event which featured the screening of a video on wine, with the participation of a number of wine producers and an amateur local female dance group from Karyes. The event was a huge success and was financially supported by the Municipality of Sparta and the brothers Nikos and Sotiris Koutsogiorgas.

The Museum Building

The two engineers from the Iliopoulos family, the two brothers, made a study, based on which we launched a tender for the structure of the exterior and partial structure of the interior of the former police building. The contractor Mr. Dimitrios Arfanis, who undertook the project with the collaboration of our compatriot Mr. Dimitrios Leventakis and the carpenter Mr. Dimitrios Lavatzis completed the work within the time frame while the outcome is absolutely stunning. The outdoor night lighting, in particular, is amazing.

Later, because the brothers were not available to carry out the final study for the building, we appointed Mr. Ioannis Karachalios, our compatriot, and Mr. Ioannis Dimakis, a mechanic from Sparta, to complete the project, which they did with great success.

The Executive Council's goal for the three years to follow is to collect the amount of approximately €50,000 (€20,000 plus €30,000) to complete the ground floor repair works and to make the two presently vacant shops fully operational in order to be leased. We welcome new ideas on this project.

The Assets of our Association

The rental income from the offices located on Stadiou Street as well as the cafe in the village is used to pay the income tax and EN.F.I.A. During the three – year time frame we have leased one of the three offices (two in total), while the third one (10 m_2) is available to be used as head offices by a business or association/club. The offices are located in an uninhabited part on Stadiou Street, while there are problems with the management, use and renovation of the building and its premises. We, on behalf of the association, have helped to resolve these problems and we can say that there has been some progress.

Other Issues

We are in the process of placing tourist information road signs in different parts of the village; the project will be accomplished before summer. At the same time, we have been renting our piano to Ms. Areti Koutsogiorga at an annual fee of €50.

At this point, I would like to extend a big thank you to all the members of the Executive Council for their excellent cooperation and their support to me personally. Moreover, I would like to thank all Karyates for their support and help they offered to the Association.

WWW.KARYES.GR NEWSPAPER DIGITAL ARCHIVES



1986-2010

The "cutting of Vassilopita" of the Karyates Association

Along with the election, on **Sunday, February 4, 2018**, the cutting of our Association's New Year's **Vassilopita** took place at the Matalaion Foundation Hall.

All our present compatriots wished to the new elected Board a happy new year full of success.



The members of the previous Board of Directors and the Audit Committee. From the left: Harris Konstantopoulos, Demetra Mermigha, Michael Repoulis, Michael Binis, Annita Glecka-Prekezes, Lefki Latsi, Nick. G. Trakas, Evangelia Kopsiaftis-Gkionis, Paraskevas Christopoulos and Con. Demetroulas.

Laconian Products Exhibition



A delegation of the our Association's Board of Directors made a visit to the Metropolitan Railway Station Exhibition Center at Syntagma Square on the occasion of the Laconic Products Exhibition.

The delegation visited all the kiosks so as to organise in the near future a kiosk for the products of Karyes



ANNOUNCEMENT

The Karyates Association announces its intention to

exploit the ground floor of commercial stores

in its property building, located at Karyes Central Square, which will house the Karyes Center for the Memory and Culture.

We invite anyone interested in leasing the property to please contact us either by e-mail at info@karyes.gr, or by calling +30 6944 784563, +30 6974 720909.

The Board of Members

The annual spring dance of our Association was successfully organized.

The Caryates of Athens with many friends of our beautiful village and of our Association met on Sunday, March 11, 2018, at the music tavern "THE MYSTIC" in Hymettos Athens. The guests enjoyed a rich menu in a wonderful music room that reminded old "rembedico music hall" and with live music.











A nice surprise awaited the attendants aw several Araochovites-Karyates danced a series of traditional dances of our village, grace at the initiative of the member of the Board of Directors Ms. Evangelia Kopsiafti. We should mention that these dances are also taught in a Athens traditional dance group!

Mr. Eug. Valiotis, the Mayor of Sparta, also attended our dance and gave a brief greeting to all our guests.









The Brotherhood of Canada

The Toronto, Canada Brotherhood's Carnival (macaronada) was successfully held on Saturday, February 17, at the Crystal Fountain Music Hall. Several were our compatriots who, together with his families, found the opportunity to meet and enjoy themselves. The photos we publish are posted online.







At the same time, the 2018 events Program was announced.

Sunday, May 27Spring Opening of Karyes Park (lunch and divine operation).

Saturday, 28 July and Sunday, 29 July Annual Fair in Karyes Park.

Sunday, September 16Autumn Feast of Corn in the Park of Karyes.

Sunday, December 2 Christmas Dance (in a place to be announced).





A WINTER VIEW OF OUR PARK

THE CELEBRATION OF THE GREEK NATIONAL INDEPEDENCE DAY (MARCH 25th) IN TORONTO THE PARTICIPATION OF THE KARYATES BROTHERHOOD







TRIPS TO MT. PARNONAS

Karyes – Aghios Petros – Monastery of Panagia Malevi – Aghios Ioannis – Orini Meligou – Waterfalls of Lepida – Sitaina – Kastantitsa – Old Refuge – Vamvakou – Varvitsa – Karyes

There are many visitors who wish to combine their visit to beautiful Karyes with a day trip to the magnificent Mount Parnonas. This will be our first attempt to recommend a trip that will satisfy even the most demanding visitor. The trip begins at Karyes and continues towards the village of **Aghios Petros** through the wonderful forest of Karyes. After a distance of eight kilometers, we reach Aghios Petros, a well known village that all of us have visited. Then, as we follow the road to Astros we pass by the famous Monastery of the Assumption of Virgin





Aghios Petros

The name *Malevi* is related to the local name of the highest peak of Mount Parnonas, Malevos. According to tradition, the first monastery was founded in the beginning of the 8th century, at a different location. It was relocated in 1320, as we can detect from a golden decree "chrysobull" by emperor Andronikos II Palaiologos. A few years later, the miraculous, exuding Holy Myrrh icon of the Assumption of Virgin Mary which is considered to be the work of Evangelist Luke, was silver plated. In 1609 the Turkish authorities gave their permission to reconstruct a

ruined church at the site of Platanos, which gives us p roof that the monastery was operating at the beginning of the 17th century. The monastery was relocated for a second time in 1616, according to an inscription of the abbot Joseph Karatzas. Later, Aghios Neilos the Myrrh-streamer, whose secular name was Nikolaos Terzakis became a monk here before practicing

asceticism at Mount Athos.





On May 8, 1786, the Turks, in order to avenge their defeat by the Greek troops led by Zacharias and those from Aghios Petros, the most prominent ones being Thanasis Karabelas and Antonakis Alevizos, burned the monastery.

During the years of the Greek Revolution of 1821, the abbot of the monastery Kallinikos Tsiamouris, became a member of Filiki Eteria or "Society of Friends" and he offered his services as a doctor to many fighters as well as Dimitrios Ypsilantis. In 1826, Ibrahim Pasha vandalized the monastery. Years later, during the German occupation, the Germans bombarded the monastery because it was operating as medical center for the wounded soldiers as well as refuge for the forces of the resistance in Parnonas.

The central temple, the catholic, of the monastery has been constructed in the architectural form of crossed-dome churches while its interior has been recently decorated with wall paintings of saints. At the top part of the yard, a Byzantine temple dedicated to Virgin Mary has recently been built. There are several newly built and renovated cells as well as other ancillary spaces, and the chapels of Aghios Neilos, Aghios Nektarios, and Aghios Georgios in the area around the central temple.

Aghios Charalampos in Korakovouni is metochion of the Monastery of Panagia Malevi. The monastery became a nunnery in 1949, while 14 nuns live there today. The Feast of the Assumption of Virgin Mary is celebrated on **August 23**rd every year.





Aghios Ioannis

As we continue our trip, the landscape becomes delightful and after crossing a plateau the road begins to descend and we come across two villages, Aghios Ioannis and Orini Meligou, both of them built on slopes with beautiful views. A few kilometers later, we come to a junction. The road straight down leads to Astros, while two roads on the right lead to Kastanista; one of them passes through the village of Charadros, the other bypasses it. It is up to the visitor to decide which road to take, but both of them meet later in the distance.



Orini Meligou

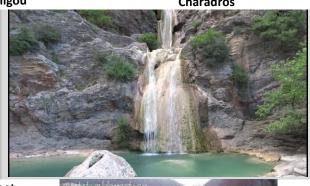
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Charadros



Now, the landscape becomes forested. We go through a narrow valley at the end of which there is a bridge that takes us across to the other slope. After a few kilometers, on our right there is a dirt road that will lead us to a secret well kept, the **Waterfalls of Lepida**! The large waterfall is 70 meters high, while the height of the small one is 45 meters. The waterfalls of Lepida are considered to be amongst the most beautiful, yet unexplored wonders of the nature on Parnonas. The rocks around the waterfalls are ash gray in color and the water, falling with such a great force on them, creates several small lakes.

The visitors who want to bypass the dirt road, but not miss the waterfalls do not need to worry; the next stop at the **village of Platanos**, a diamond hidden in the thick foliage of Eastern Parnonas, is compensating. The village is surrounded by many plane trees hundreds of years old, hence the name. It reminds us of an island with its narrow streets that no cars are allowed to enter. The residents of the village claim that their heritage is from an island, most probably the island of Aegina. The village has been characterized as traditional settlement. The Vrasiatis river is flowing through the alleys in the village, forming waterfalls and fountains. There are plenty of hostels and restaurants in the area to accommodate the visitors.





TRIPS TO MT. PARNONAS



Unfolding, the road passes by the village of **Sitaina**. The village has traditional stone-built houses, well reserved trail roads where mules used to carry people and goods, picturesque threshing stone floors, and wells. It is built on the sides of the green ravine of the river, which separates it into two neighborhoods; Manzana, covered by fir trees under the green mountain Zipounias, and Galatas, at the foot of the imposing mountain Plakias.

Our next station, **Kastanista**, another gem on the slopes of Parnonas, is a picturesque, white-washed village at an altitude of 900 meters, surrounded by beautiful forests of chestnut, fir, and plane trees. Kastanista is considered one of the most beautiful traditional settlements in the Peloponnese. Old-fashioned, white stone houses, many of which are towers over 300 years old, with their roofs made from slate extracted from the slopes of Parnonas, and their bright color windows and flower-filled courtyards, give, along with the white-washed paved streets, an idyllic, cheerful, and at the same time Aegean note on the village.

Sitena

The view from the hill and the castle at the top of the settlement as well as the renovated main square of the village is excellent. Kastanista was famous for the production of quicklime, hence the color of the village, as well as the produce of chestnuts, hence the name. The large, chestnut forest that surrounds it expands in an area of 4,500 acres. In the past, the chestnut produce exceeded 400 tons, while thirty traditional lime kilns were constantly working to produce quicklime.

Kastanista is one of the oldest mountainous villages in Kynouria, built on the slopes of Parnonas and according to written sources it is the oldest *Tsakonochori*, mentioned for the first time in historical documents in 1293. At that time, the emperor of Byzantium Andronikos II Palaiologos issued a golden decree "chrysobull" granting new privileges to various Episcopal churches, among which he refers to Kastanista as "Komi the so-called Constantza".







View of Kastanitsa



Vamvakou

The trip back to Karyes, crossing the heart of Parnonas through the dense fir-forest and going uphill towards **Vamvakou**, is in itself a delightful experience. On the road from Vamvakou to Aghios Petros, we turn left towards Vamvakou, where we can make another stop at the old refuge of Parnonas that is on our way, about 150 meters away from the junction. A water spring with drinking water to quench our thirst is waiting for us there.

The final part of the return trip takes us through the villages of Vamvakou and **Varvitsa**

Πηγές: arcadia.ceid.upatras.gr, WIKIPEDIA.ORG



The Varvitsas' square

A photo to treasure!

A photo from a meeting that took place 70 years ago has recently been posted on the internet! It was an annual meeting of the Karyates (Arachovites) of Laconia, who lived in Athens. The photo was taken in **February 1950** on the beach of Flisvos in Palaio Faliro (Piraiki Peninsula is faintly visible in the background)!



SOCIAL NEWS

THEY PASSED AWAY

On February 10, 2018 in the U.S.A.

Anastasia John Koutsogeorgas-Couchell daughter of Panagiotis Drougas

died at the age of 105

Mr Vassilios (Bill) Koutsogeorgas her nephew, wrote:

"On February 10, 2018 our big Koutsogeorgas family got deeply suddened and poorer. A very special member, the very last of "the mohigans"/ our parent's generation, left us!

Thea Tasia(Anastasia) john Koutsogeorgas - Couchell, at the age of 105 years old!!, joined her beloved daughter Emily and husband John in greener pastures, in the company of Angels. We will miss her and pray to God to welcome her and forgive her sins.

She was the daughter of Panagiotis and Paraskevi Drougas from Arahova lakonias. Was born in 1913 in Wilmette, illinois USA. Grew up and got her schooling in Arahova where she married theo Gianni Pan. Koutsogeorga and where she gave birth to her four children:Pete(Takis), Emily, George and Vivian (Paraskevi).In 1949 the family migrated to Canada at first, and in 1951 to the United States (Charlotte N.C) to this date.

Thea Tasia was blessed with a loving family: 4 children, 10 grand children, 17 great grand children and one great-great grand child!!! and rightly so, because throughout her entire life she was a good Christian, a loving mother and grand mother, a caring and supportive wife, a smiling, warm and sincerely caring relative.

We, the 21 still alive first nephews and nieces of yours, along with our wives / husbands, wish to say goodbuy to you Thea Tasia and promise never to forget you.

With love and respect, your nephew Vasilis Koutsogeorgas"

On February 28, 2018 in Athens

Aristotelis (Telis) Efstratios Costalas died at the age of 87

His Funeral took place at Karyes on Saturday March 3, 2018

His son, Mr. Efstratios (Statos) Costalas wrote:

"Yesterday was a day that for the rest of my life I will remember with sorrow.

Without any warning my father, Aristotelis Costalas, left this

I still can not believe that I will not be able any more to hug him, kiss him and listen to one of his life stories. His main characteristics were:

- He was a great father. Whatever we needed before we even needed it he would have it at our disposal. And by "need" I mean EVERYTHING, including and but not limited to his advice when we really would need it...
- He was a great husband. He loved mom as few men love their wife's and throughout his life he made sure he offered her whatever she wanted even before she asked for it.
- More importantly he was a great human being.... Let's
 but it this way. There are people who if they had two
 shirts and you asked for one they would say yes. My
 father was one of those few that if they he you needed a
 shirt he would give you his only shirt so that he may help
 you...

He had a full life (87 years) but the truth is we would had wanted him to be around us for many more years...
He survived a world war where after his father was imprisoned for two years in German concentration camps he supported his mother and four brothers...

For most of his life he drove all kind of tank trucks, vans and trucks on all type of roads and during all kind of weather conditions.

But he always had a smile of his face, a hug for his grandchildren and great grandchild, something positive to tell his children and a kiss for his wife...

Goodbye Pop and thank you for everything.

I, as well as all of us, will miss you even though you will always be in my heart..."

On **January 22, 2018** in Melbourne Australia

George Harakas died at the age of 85

He was the first Karyatian immigrant to the distant continent in 1953!

His funeral took place in the Aghios Efstathios church in Melbourne.

He leaves behind his wife Patroula and his children Theodoros, Vassiliki and Nikolaos.

Source: karyes.blogspot.com

On **February 12, 2018** in Sydney Australia

Panaghiotis (Takis) Kolovos died at the age of 76

Born in 1942 and raised in Karyes, son of John and Konstantina Kolovos.

After the end of his military service, he emigrated to Sydney, where he stayed the rest of his life between his family, his wife Maria and his children John, Constantine and Thalia.

Source: karyes.blogspot.com



On March 4, 2018 in Corinth Demetrios (Mimis) Theodorakakis

died at the age of 84

Mimis was dear to everyone in the village.

He leaves behind his wife Basilica their three children Georgia, Christina and Giannis and many grandchildren ..

According to Bishop of Karyes Father Eustratios:

- On **December 17, 2017**, **Glykeria Mahaira** died at the age of 90.
- On December 21, 2017, Ioannis Prekezes died at the age of 99.
- On **January 13, 2018** at Charlotte N.C. **Konstantinos Pouloukefalos**, died at the age of 88. His funeral was held in Karyes on February 14, 2018
- On January 21, 2018, Dimitra Drakopoulos died at the age of 92.
- On February 22, 2018, Efstratios Kolovos died at the age of 88.

The Board of Directors of the Karyates Association expresses their warm condolences to their relatives.

Baptisms

On January 21, at the church of Aghios Andreas in Karyes Andreas Grivas and his wife Anna Hatzi (both police officers) baptized both their twin girls. Their names Artemis and Andriana.

LOCAL NEWS

The celebration of the Greek Independence Day at Karyes



As every year, the 25th of March Greek Independence day was celebrated in our beautiful village. At the morning at the St. Andreas' church the divine liturgy took place. Afterwards, the village's children read their poems. All the children of the Primary School of Karyes were dressed in their traditional uniforms.

The celebration ended by the deposition of wreaths in Heroes Tomb.



The project of the reconstruction of the roof of St. Andrew's Church

Father Efstratios, the priest of Karyes, informed us that at the meeting of the Regional Council of Peloponnese that took place at January 9th 2018, in the Lakonian Administration Hall, with the presence of Deputy Regional Governor Ms Adamantia Tzaneteas, the project of the reconstruction of the roof of



St. Andrew's Church in our village was included in the public investment program 2018 with the amount of € 150,000-

REQUEST

Those who wish to receive this news bulletin via e-mail, please inform us by sending your e-mail address at

E-mail: info@karyes.gr

KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS BULLETIN ABROAD QUARTERLY RUBLICATION

For information **E-mail:** info@karyes.gr