



ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ

# KARYYES

Lakonia



The "Karyatis Sports Club" and "Karyes Cultural Club" building

## News Bulletin

Issue Number 21

Summer 2019

### THE VILLAGE OF KARYES IS LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOME RELATIVES AND FRIENDS TO A LIVELY AND ENTERTAINING SUMMER

#### 19-21 July 19 – 21 Beer Festival – Musical Nights



The summer festivities will begin on the weekend of July 19 – 21 with the beer festival. Plenty of beer will be offered to the visitors throughout the weekend courtesy of the Lakonian brewery "SPARTAN BEER".

The Opening of the Art Exhibition "A Painting by our Artists" with works of local artists will take place on Saturday, July 20, 8:00 p.m. Faithful to its cultural mission, our Association has invited our compatriots to present their artwork. Accepting the invitation, the icon painter **Andriana Parisi**, the artists **Ioannis Goudes**, **Stefanos Melehes**, and the **Sioutou family** will participate in the exhibition. The Syrian painter **Sayer El Nazar** will also present his paintings of Karyes landscape. The exhibition will be open to visitors throughout the summer. A musical program will follow offered by the village's young musicians.



The events will culminate on the evening of Sunday, July 21 with a traditional dance performance by the folk dance group of Skala, Lakonia.

#### July 26 – 28 "Arachovitika Paniyiria" Festivals – Reception hosted by our Association "SAK"

Two of the most famous festivals in the Peloponnese are coming up next weekend. The Feast of Aghia Paraskevi will take place on Friday, July 26 in Rachi and it will be followed by the Feast of Aghios Panteleimonas, which will take place on Saturday, July 27 at the main square in Karyes. The annual reception of the Association of Karyates, which will be held on Sunday, July 28, 8:00 p.m. in the Community Hall, will bring closure to this weekend's events.

#### August 9 – 10 Festival of the Karyes Cultural Club – Children's Party



A children's party will be held for our little friends with a performance by the fairy-tale-teller and playwright of educational theatrical plays, Ms. **Eleni Kouskourlou**.

The Festival of the Karyes Cultural Club will take place in the evening of August 10 at the Stadium of the "Karyatis" Sports Club", where visitors will enjoy roasted pork, wine, drinks and great live music

#### August 16 - Annual Dance of SAK at Aghia Paraskevi

The summer festivities will conclude with the annual dance of SAK, which will be held at the school courtyard in the Grove at Aghia Paraskevi.



Please check our website [WWW.KARYES.GR](http://WWW.KARYES.GR) for the calendar of events. Updates are posted directly.

### WORSHIPPERS VENERATE THE SACRED RELICS OF AGHIA PARASKEVI AT KARYES



The Association of Karyates would like to announce that a part of the sacred relics of Aghia Paraskevi, which is kept at the Metropolis of Monemvasia and Sparta, will be transferred to Karyes, Lakonia and will be available for public veneration at the Holy Church of Aghia Paraskevi.

The reception of the sacred relics on Wednesday, July 31, 2019, 7:30 p.m. will be followed by a service conducted

by the Metropolitan of Sparta and Monemvasia, **Mr. Eustathios**. A sermon will also be conducted and sanctified bread will be distributed to the congregation in the church.

A late night "orthros" service and a sermon will take place on Thursday, August 1, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

### DONATIONS FOR THE CARYATIDES MONYMENT



Our compatriots donations for the works concerning the renovation of the monument's enclosure continue. We thank them and publish their names

- Sofia Konti € 50.
- Grigorios Theofilopoulos € 20.

### The summer programme divine liturgy at the Karyes chapels

According to **Father Eustratios**, during the summer season the following Divine Liturgies will take place in the chapels of the Karyes Parish:

- on June 17<sup>th</sup> (on the day of the Holy Spirit's feast) at the Aghia Varvara chapel,
- on July 1<sup>st</sup> at the Aghioi Anargyroi chapel,
- on July 7<sup>th</sup> at the Aghia Kyriaki chapel,
- on August 15<sup>th</sup> at the Panaghia (Dormition of Our Lady -Virgin Mary) chapel,
- on August 29<sup>th</sup> at the St. John chapel at the Community Clock and
- on September 8<sup>th</sup> at the chapel of the Birth of Virgin Mary at the "Fotinou" settlement.

All the other Sundays, the Divine Liturgies will take place in the church of Aghios Andreas (St. Andrew) or Aghia Paraskevi.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF PANAGIOTIS KERCHOULAS TRUST

After 33 years the donation of the assets in KERCHOULAS Legacy, which amount to **US\$ 1,507,955.60**, was finally granted to its beneficiaries, the residents of Karyes, giving them the opportunity to develop their hometown in the way their noble late expatriate benefactor, Panagiotis Kerchoulas, had envisioned and always longed for deep in his soul. Generation after generation, the Karyates will always honor him and other great benefactors and donors together with our compatriots who sacrificed their lives so that we can enjoy our freedom.

This advancement is the result of the motivation of Karyes society as well as the management of the committee that was elected by the residents at the historic General Meeting on October 22, 2017, where the following decisions were unanimously made:

1. The sustainable exploitation and management of the aquatic resources of Karyes is of vital importance and was agreed by everyone.
2. The implementation of smaller scale projects in the sectors of Tourism and Culture.
3. The support of local producers under established rules and regulations.
4. The utilization of the remaining funds according to the resolutions of a General Meeting in the future
5. Resolutions on the return of the stolen Karyatid and the exposure of Karyes as the birthplace of the Karyatids.
6. The mission of the elected committee to select and establish the most appropriate legal scheme for the management of the Legacy and the preparation of a programmatic commitment with the Holy Metropolis of Monemvasia and Sparta.

-continue in page 5-



**Αποκριάτικες Εκδηλώσεις στις ΚΑΡΥΕΣ**

**ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ 9/03/2019 - ΩΡΑ 21:00**  
 Λαϊκή Βραδιά με το μουσικό σκίμα "En Tékni"  
 Κωστής Κωστόπουλος (κιθάρα/φωνή)  
 Δημήτρης Βοϊράς (βιολί/τραβέρνα)  
 Σπύρος Αρροβίτης (φωνή)  
 Κώστας Μπαλαβάνος (μπασόν/τραβέρνα)

**ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 10/03/2019 - ΩΡΑ 18:00**  
 ΑΠΟΚΡΙΑΤΙΚΟ ΓΛΕΝΤΙ - (γεννητική μνήμη της Καρυάς)  
 ΑΚΑΜΑ ΦΟΤΙΑΣ - ΜΟΥΣΙΚΗ (Ούζι) - ΧΟΡΟΣ - ΑΕΡΟΣΤΑΤΑ  
 ΣΟΥΒΛΑΚΙΑ, ΚΡΑΣΙ ΚΑΙ ΤΣΙΠΟΥΡΟ (ΑΦΡΕΑΚ)  
 και για τους μικρούς μας φίλους:  
 FACE PAINTING, ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙ ΚΑΤΑΣΚΕΥΗΣ ΑΕΡΟΣΤΑΤΩΝ και ΠΟΛΛΕΣ ΔΙΧΟΣΙΑΙΕΣ

**ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ 11/03/2019 - ΩΡΑ 10:30**  
 ΚΟΥΛΟΥΜΑ (γεννητική μνήμη Καρυάς)  
 ΠΑΡΑΒΟΣΙΑΚΗ ΦΑΝΤΑΣΙΑ και ΣΑΡΑΒΟΣΙΑΚΑ ΕΛΕΓΜΑΤΑ,  
 ΚΡΑΣΙ ΚΑΙ ΤΣΙΠΟΥΡΟ (ΑΦΡΕΑΚ) - ΜΟΥΣΙΚΗ (Ούζι)  
 και για τους μικρούς μας φίλους:  
 FACE PAINTING, ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙ ΚΑΤΑΣΚΕΥΗΣ ΚΑΡΤΑΕΤΩΝ και ΠΟΛΛΕΣ ΔΙΧΟΣΙΑΙΕΣ

**ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΚΑΡΥΩΝ - Α.Ε. "Ο ΚΑΡΥΑΤΗΣ"**  
 ΕΥΝΔΕΙΣΜΟΣ ΑΝΤΙΣΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ  
 ΝΟΜΙΚΟ ΠΡΟΤΥΠΟ ΠΟΛΙΤΕΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΠΕΡΙΒΑΛΛΟΝΤΟΣ ΔΗΜΟΥ ΣΠΑΡΤΗΣ

**“APOKRIES” CARNIVAL AND CLEAN MONDAY**

The nice weather that followed a very cold winter was the spark that brought many visitors to Karyes to attend the festivities of the three-day celebration of “Apokries” and Clean Monday. Numerous events were organized by the Karyes Cultural Club, the “Karyatis” Sports Club, the Association of Karyates –S.A.K., the professional business people of Karyes, and the Municipality of Sparta.

They began on **Saturday, March 9, 2019** at Savas Café-bar with live folk music by the “In Art” music band. The café was filled with people who were having a great time and danced until late at night.

In the early afternoon of **Sunday, March 10, 2019**, a big fire was lit at the main square to celebrate the Carnival. Many people came to attend the event while there were plenty of treats, souvlakia, wine, tsipouro, dance and music. The custom of handmade hot air balloons flying in the night sky of Karyes, which has become popular in the recent years, revived once again. The show was really spectacular as you can see in pictures. Congratulations to the members of the associations and to those talented individuals who took the time to make the hot air balloons.

ΛΑΙΚΗ ΒΡΑΔΙΑ ΜΕ ΤΟ ΜΟΥΣΙΚΟ ΣΧΗΜΑ "En Tékni"  
 ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ 9/3/2019 - ΩΡΑ 21:00  
 SAVAS CAFE-BAR-SNACK  
 ΚΑΡΥΕΣ-ΝΑΚΟΝΙΑΣ  
 τηλ. 27310-95553

Κωστής Κωστόπουλος κιθάρα/φωνή  
 Δημήτρης Βοϊράς βιολί/τραβέρνα  
 Σπύρος Αρροβίτης φωνή  
 Κώστας Μπαλαβάνος μπασόν/τραβέρνα

**SAVAS**  
 CAFE - BAR - SNACK



At the night of the last Sunday of “Apokries” at the Central Square



**Clean Monday, March 11, 2019** was celebrated at the stadium, where young and older people flew their kites high up in the sky.

A feast was set up at the main square around noon time. A fire was lit again and there was plenty of music, fasting treats, and the spectacle of the hot air balloons was again to be admired.



Flying kites at the stadium

“Clean Monday’s” morning at the Central Square

**THE WINTER NEVER WANTED TO LEAVE THIS YEAR**

In our previous issue we had informed you about the heavy snow on New Year’s Day and the heavy winter with snowfalls and rain that afflicted our village in the months of January and February 2019.



Nevertheless, nobody expected that after the three-day weekend of Apokries and Clean Monday when the weather was so very springy and we all enjoyed the beautiful nature and the festivities, a new snowfall would hit only two days later. The contrast is so obvious in the pictures we published. Luckily, the crazy weather did not last long and spring came to stay.



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS TO PROMOTE THE VILLAGE OF KARYES FROM THE KARYES CULTURAL CLUB**

The Karyes Cultural Club has made the following announcement:

*“Our Club has decided to promote the history, the natural beauty, the varied tradition of our village and its cultural elements with a series of actions and activities aiming at upgrading the qualitative aspects of tourism and attracting more visitors.*

*We will make a documentary about our village, which will record all the historical and cultural elements, events, and daily routines of the villagers throughout the year.*

*At the same time, we will enhance our participation in the social networks, e.g. Facebook, etc., where we will post events and festivals live. Moreover, the businesses of our village will also be promoted there.*

*We would like to extend a sincere thank you to the family of our late compatriot, Panos Kostalas, and his children Stratos and Vivian, who funded this endeavor in his memory. We would also like to thank Ms. Litsa Floris for her invaluable help as well as Ms. Chrysiida Gazi for her editing services.”*

So far, several events have been posted and may be viewed on Facebook under the Karyes Cultural Club profile.



**Commemoration of Aghios Konstantinos and Aghia Eleni in Karyes**

On **May 21**, the Greek Orthodox Church celebrates the commemoration of Aghios Konstantinos and Aghia Eleni and as every year, all Karyates went up the verdant hill to attend the Divine Liturgy at the holy church that is dedicated to the two Saints. In the beautiful pine forest, Father Efstiratos conducted the Liturgy. At the end of the service, treats were offered to the congregation compliments of the Ecclesiastical Council.





EASTER 2019

The spring weather contributed to a big turnout of visitors in Karyes this year. Along with many Karyates who live in Athens and other cities in Greece, many visitors selected this beautiful village of Parnonas to spend the holy days of Easter, filling up the hotels for the season.



The Central square adorned with black ribbons

Meanwhile, since the beginning of the Holy Week all the lighting poles in the main road and the squares of the village were adorned with black ribbons of mourning. The Epitaph, during the Divine Liturgy and along the procession across the village, was accompanied by the altar boys and six girls nicely dressed in tunics.

The rituals of the Epitaph and the procession were streamed live on our website and Facebook, but were also videotaped and are still available for viewing. A special thank you goes to **Ms. Litsa Flori** who was in charge of the decorations and to **Ms. Lefki Latsi** (member of the Executive Council of the Karyates Association-S.A.K.) who took care of the costumes of the boys and girls who accompanied the Epitaph.

Consequently, the Church of Aghios Andreas was full on **Holy Thursday** at the Liturgies of the Crucifixion and the 12 Apostles.

On **Good Friday** at noon time, the Epitaph was decorated at the church of Aghios Andreas and in the evening it was carried across the village followed by many people to the Holy Church of Aghia Paraskevi. This year, like every year that ends in an odd number, the Resurrection took place in Rachi.

The members of the Ecclesiastical Council and the Cultural Club had taken care both of the impressive decoration of the Epitaph and the decoration of the path with grand lights that created a "luminous path of devoutness."



The beautiful Epitaph



Moments from the Good Friday's Divine Liturgy in the St. Andrew Church



The Epitaph arrives at the Church of Aghia Paraskevi

The Resurrection Liturgy was attended by many people at the Holy Church of Aghia Paraskevi. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ was celebrated at the beautiful courtyard of the church, where the worshippers exchanged "Christos Anesti" wishes and enjoyed a spectacle of impressive fireworks in the night sky.

On **Easter Sunday**, families and friends gathered in their backyards to celebrate with the traditional roasting of lamb.

Moreover, **May Day** which was celebrated on Easter Wednesday, was the reason for many people to extend their stay at Karyes until Sunday after Easter, when our church celebrates the Epiphany of Apostle Thomas. Some took extra vacation days to enjoy the beautiful spring weather and nature.

It is worth mentioning that the beauty of our village, the easy access, the liveliness, and the plethora of cafés, taverns, and shopping stores attract many visitors to Karyes on a daily basis. During the Holy Week and the week after Easter, many visitors came from the nearby villages to Karyes to enjoy a cup of coffee or have dinner and walk around the village to see the sights. Every evening, the shops were crowded.

Commemoration of Aghios Georgios

On **Easter Monday**, the Karyates gathered at the Holy Church of Aghios Georgios in "Kamos" to celebrate in honor of the Saint. The warm weather added a positive note to the festivities. The members of the Ecclesiastical Council offered sanctified bread, treats, and red eggs to the attendees, while a fundraiser lottery with great prizes was organized to raise money to continue and expand the work of the Council.

Despite the fact that a feast was not organized this year, many families had made their own arrangements for barbeque picnics under the shade of the trees and enjoyed their time until late in the afternoon.



The members of the Church/Ecclesiastical Council share traditional treats



Commemoration of Zoodochos Pigi

The church of "Theotokos" Virgin Mary belongs to the village of Varvitsa, nonetheless every **Easter Friday**, many Karyates and visitors take the road "down" to attend the service and celebrate in honor of **Zoodochos Pigi**. The Divine Liturgy was conducted, as it has always been in the most recent years, by Father Efstratios.



One can recall countless memories from the past and especially those times in the 80s when soccer between Karyes – Skoura/Varvitsa at the church courtyard was the favorite thing after the service.





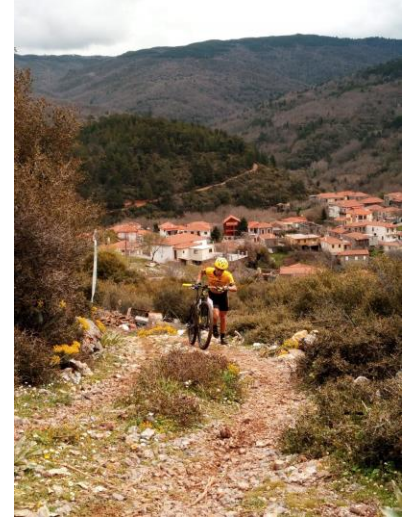
INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BIKE RACES IN KARYES



After an absence of several years, the sport of mountain bike racing came back to Karyes again on April 7, 2019. The races were held under the auspices of the **Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI)** and were approved to award points that qualify for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Consequently, a great number of athletes from many countries across the world participated in the races. More specifically, we had athletes from **Greece, Russia, Japan, Czech Republic, Romania, Georgia, France, Italy, Bulgaria, and Lebanon**. The Municipality of Sparta, the Athletic Association of the Municipality, the Gymnastics Club of Sparta, the **Karyes Cultural Club**, and Alterbiketours were co-organizers of the event.

The big winner of the races was the Greek champion **Periklis Ilias**, who won the gold medal and ranked 1st in the general classification. He stood in the middle of the podium with **Sergey Nikolaev** from Russia, silver medal, on his right, and **Aleksandar Aleksiev** from Bulgaria, bronze medal, on his left.

The spectators who attended the event were impressed by the beauty of the landscape and the hospitality of the residents.



A young Karyatis in the winners



It was a great moment for our compatriots to see a young man from Karyes winning the second place and standing in the podium.



**Stamatis Englezos**, son of Stevi Vlachou and the grandchild of Spyros Vlachos and Eleni Kardaras, won the second place in his category. For the most part of the race he was in the first place, but an unfortunate damage to the gears of his bike caused him to delay and lose his victory.

Congratulations! May you always be successful!

PALAIIOLOGIA 2019



The 566<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fall of Constantinople was honored with great festivities at the **Castle Town of Mystras** with the presence of the President of the Hellenic Republic, **Mr. Prokopis Pavlopoulos**. The Karyates Association-S.A.K. was represented by **Ms. Evangelia Kopsiifti**, member of the Executive Boards and Head of Public Relations. **Father Efstrations** attended the ceremonies as well.

All the previous news bulletin are at your disposal in digital form at **WWW.KARYES.GR**



The Board Members of our Association and the editorial team of the News Bulletin wishes to all compatriots

AN ENJOYABLE SUMMER !

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**

At the WEB SITE **WWW.KARYES.GR** NEWSPAPER DIGITAL ARCHIVES 1986-2010





THE FESTIVALS IN KARYES IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

Summer is here and our compatriots are looking forward to our traditional festivals that take place every year in Karyes. The famous fests in Arachova are a tradition with roots that disappear down the centuries. We are all, more or less, aware of the modern way of celebrations with the morning church service followed by a feast in the main square of the village in the evening. But what was the traditional way our ancestors celebrated in the old times and especially before the village got access to electricity in the 1950s?

If we look at the old descriptions that can be found in publications about the village of Karyes, we can collect a lot of information on the theme. As mentioned in the folklore study "KARYAI (Arachova) LAKEDAIMONOS" by the late professor Mr. Konstantinos M. Pitsios, the festivals were scheduled at the time of the year when practically "the harvesting of crops operations were completed and the farmers, rested now, were looking forward to the festivals not only to show their appreciation to God for allowing them to have yet another successful year but to also reward themselves with the ancient sacrifice to God Dionysus-Bacchus and the joy of dance that continues the centuries-old tradition of the worship of Artemis Karyatis."

## 26 July – Festival of Aghia Paraskevi

The houses were cleaned several days before the celebration and everything was ready on July 26, the day of the commemoration of Aghia Paraskevi. In the morning, after attending church service, the people went in groups to the square of Rachi, where everything was set up for the celebration and the dance. The band sat at the center of the square and the lute player started playing the song that signaled the opening of the festival:

*"In the chapel of Aghia Paraskevi  
the young girl is sleeping alone.  
She is sleeping and dreaming  
that she is getting engaged."*

The musicians took shifts so that the dance could continue non-stop until the following day at noon time, when everyone left to go home and have some rest.

The dance started again in the afternoon and continued until dusk, when the best dancers gathered in a circle to dance and sing the local Arachovitiko dance. Then, people greeted each other, left from the square and the dance carried on in their houses until late at night.

## 27 July – Festival of Aghios Panteleimonas

The following day, the service took place at the Holy Church of Aghios Ioannis at Roloï, where the icon of Aghios Panteleimonas was kept. A similar celebration took place at the nearby Charakeiko Aloni.

At noon, the dance stopped for a while to continue later at Aghios Andreas square until dusk.

As the icon is now kept at the Holy Church of Aghios Andreas, the morning service takes place there as well.

## OTHER CELEBRATIONS DURING THE YEAR

Except for the famous festivals, there were other celebrations and festivities that took place during the year, where the Karyates had the chance to take a break from their daily duties and enjoy themselves

## "Apokries" Carnival

After the last Sunday of "Apokries", on Clean Monday, the "alevromoutzouroma" or "flour war", an old custom took place where young and older people blackened their faces with ashes or threw flour at each other.



"Alevromoutzouroma" 1954



Easter Tuesday at the "Rachi Square"

August 15<sup>th</sup>: The Assumption Of Virgin Mary

On the day of the Assumption of Virgin Mary, the Karyates gathered at Aghios Andreas square to celebrate after the service at the church of the Assumption at the ancient planes was over.



15 August at the old Central Square

## Easter

Up until the 1950s, for the first two days after Easter, it was the custom of the Arachovites to gather and dance at the two main squares of the village. On Easter Monday, they gathered at "Central Square" (upper village) and on Easter Tuesday at the "Rachi Square" (lower village).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE  
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF  
PANAGIOTIS KERCHOULAS TRUST

-continue from page 1-

The most appropriate legal scheme was selected and established on **September 8, 2018**. It was comprised of 180 founding members. The legalization procedures were completed towards the end of the year 2018.

The members of the Executive Board as well as the members of the Audit Committee were elected at the elections held at the First General Meeting of the Association, on **March 24, 2019**. All members are distinguished individuals for their intellectual poise, professionalism, status, responsibility, knowledge and capabilities, as well as their ethos and diverse accumulated collective experience that comes from over 300 years of duty. These personality traits won them the unconditional trust of the noble expatriate benefactor Grandpa Panos Kopsiaftis, who guaranteed the total assets of the trust, and the Honorable Metropolitan of the Holy Metropolis of Monemvasia and Sparta, **Mr. Efstathios**, who after managing to bring the total amount of money in Greece several years ago, he then transferred it to the bank account of the Association.

We are at the disposal of anyone who would like to be further informed about all that has taken place over the last five years and especially during the period between the General Meeting of the residents of Karyes on **October 22, 2017** and now.

May the below mentioned set an example and be an inspiration to us all:

- The noble act of the late Panagiotis Kerchoulas to donate all his life savings in order to create opportunities for the young people of Karyes to stay in their homeland.
- The exemplary life attitude of the generous Grandpa Panos Kopsiaftis to ensure that the Karyates are not deprived either of the most precious thing in life, water, or the opportunities created by the Kerchoulas Trust.
- The motivation of the society of Karyes to claim its rights to possession of the property, thus confirming the effectiveness of collaborative actions.
- The collective voluntary effort of all members, including those who managed to achieve the assignment of the Kerchoula Trust, to overcome the obstacles and ensure targeted results, mainly because of their unwavering commitment to the mission they undertook on behalf of the residents of Karyes.

## A prominent Karyatis died: Dimetrios Ioan. Prekezes



Dimos Prekezes drew his last breath on May 21, 2019 at his house in Kifissia at the age of 92.

He was born in **1927** at Karyes, Lakonia, and he was the second of the four children in the family of Giannis and Chrysoula Prekeze. His good parents, with their hard work, helped their children to complete their first years of education at the school in the village and then at the High School of Sparta and their reward was to see them both doctors.

Dimos excelled as a student both at school and the Medical School of the University of Athens, and he was an exemplary young man. Unfortunately, the destructive war, the German occupation, and the civil war ruined his life and his dreams and our country overall.

Chasing his dream for a better life, he went to America, where he settled in Chicago and he was a distinguished surgeon that practiced his skill for forty years. Handsome in appearance and with a kind soul, he offered his medical services to the people, often for free, staying faithful to the Hippocratic Oath during his whole life.

He got married to an exceptional Greek ex-patriate, **Kalliopi Doriza**, who became an excellent wife and a mother of four children. She raised her children with the Greek ideals, taught them the Greek language and inspired them with her love for Greece and her homeland, Patmos island. Dimos was very respectful to his parents and supported and assisted them to overcome the difficulties in their lives. Dimos and Kalliopi provided for their children to continue their studies and become respectable members of Chicago community, the city where they live. His two daughters, Irene and Ioanna, took care of him during the last years of his life and said the last goodbye to him at the Cemetery of Kifissia.

*Rest in Peace.*

As many relatives and friends wished to deposit wreaths in Dimos' memory, **his family suggested that they should make a donation to the Karyates Association –S.A.K.**, of which Dimos was a member, instead. The donations will go towards a Folklore Museum that is to be built in his beloved village, Karyes, Lakonia. The offers will be posted in the newspaper of the Association, which is mailed to Greece and abroad.

The following people donated money to SAK in place of a wreath in Dimos' memory, on the day of his funeral.

**Annita Prekeze € 50**  
**Ioannis B. Prekezes € 50**  
**Elina – Prekez Boulouta € 50**  
**Dimitra Prekeze - Korosopoulou € 50**  
**Stylianios Prekezes € 20**  
**Dimitrios P. Gklekas € 20**  
**Ioannis Georgantas € 30**  
**Nikos and Voula Traka € 50**  
**Dimitris and Evdokia Gkleka € 50**  
**Eirini D. Prekeze € 50**  
**Ioanna D. Prekeze € 50**

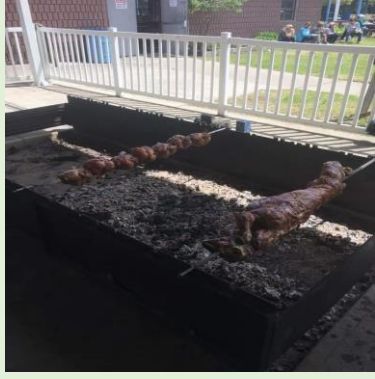


# THE KARYATES GATHER ABROAD



## Canada: The annual spring opening of Karyes Park

The Karyates in Canada, like every year, celebrated the opening of Karyes Park with a nice event that took place on **Sunday, May 26**. It was an opportunity to meet and enjoy the spring sunshine and the tasteful roasts that the volunteers prepared.



## An exceptional Karyatis celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday!



**Dimitroula Diamantourou** and her family along with the expatriate Karyates of Canada celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We wish her many more happy years to come!

## “Makaronada Dance”



The annual Makaronada Dance was held on Saturday, **March 2**. The Karyates celebrated Apokries with music and dance. Congratulations to the members of the Executive Board and the volunteers who keep the traditions of their homeland alive for the new generations.



The boarding members of the Canadian Karyes Brotherhood posing with the 100 years old “yiyia Dimitrioula”.

## Australia: Karyates gathering in Melbourne, Fall 2019

The Karyates of Melbourne enjoyed a beautiful evening at their annual fall gathering, as they are in the south hemisphere. It was very gratifying to see people of all three generations at the gathering. These events have become very popular and people, especially the first generation of Karyates, are very much looking forward to them. The next gathering will take place in October.



Source: [KARYES/BLOGSPOT.COM](http://KARYES/BLOGSPOT.COM)



## The “Association of Attica Lacedaemonians” awarded Ms. Annita Gkleka – Prekeze



On Saturday, **February 23, 2019**, the Association of Attica Lacedaemonians celebrated the New Year with the Pitta-cutting at the Grand Bretagne Hotel in Syntagma Square, Athens.

More than 200 Lacedaemonians and friends of the Association enjoyed the fine service of the hotel and the company of each other. The president, **Mr. Dimitrios Kastanis**, extended a warm welcome to the Deputy Head of the Division of Lakonia, **Ms. Tzanetea**, the members of the parliament, the mayors, and all the attendees, and proceeded to announce the program of the ceremony. Reverend **Georgios Blathras** gave his blessings on behalf of the Metropolitan of Sparta and Monemvasia, Mr. Efstathios.



The 40-member choir and the orchestra of Sparta “**Taygeti**”, which was founded and directed by the exceptional musician **Ms. Foteini Saketa – Dimakou**, gave an outstanding performance. The president, Mr. Kastanis, presented the awards to two High School graduates with an average grade of EXCELLENT and three College and University graduates.

Then, the president awarded the vice president of the **Karyates Association-S.A.K.**, **Ms. Annita Gkleka–Prekeze**, who has also served as president of the Association for several years, with the “**Certificate of Honorary Distinction**” and the “**Lacedaemon Medal**.” He made a remarkable speech that referred with honor to the late professor and director of the Central Public Library of Sparta, Georgios Gklekas, to his family and his daughter’s Annita career.

Evidently moved, Ms Annita Gkleka–Prekeze thanked the president of the Executive Board of the Association for the unanimous decision to award her with these honorary distinctions. With a brief speech, she concluded that the honor belongs equally to her father and teacher, her late teachers at the Female High School of Sparta who provided their students with invaluable skills for life under the direction of their unforgettable principal, Mr. Panagiotis Sarris.

The fun that followed was really unparalleled and unprecedented. The performance of the choir and the orchestra of Sparta, and the selection of the songs by the commendable conductor not only enthralled the audience but they carried them away into an emotional and cheerful hug that is hard to find these days.

God bless them all!

## SOCIAL NEWS: THEY PASSED AWAY

On March 10, 2019  
**Christos Parask. Kollantzianos**  
died at Karyes at the age of 97.  
His funeral took place on Tuesday, March 12 at the St. Paraskevi Chapel at Karyes

On March 18, 2019  
**Asimina widow Vas. Dalakouras**  
died in Thessaloniki at the age of 92.  
Her funeral took place on Wednesday, March 20 at the St. Andrew Chapel at Karyes

On March 22, 2019  
**Paraskevas Pantazopoulos**  
died in Athens at the age of 87.  
His funeral took place on March 26 at the St. Andrew Chapel at Karyes

On May 29, 2019  
**Panagiotis Dalakouras**  
died at Korydallos, Athens at the age of 83.  
His funeral took place at Korydallos

Our sincere condolences.

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