



KARYES

Laconia



KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS BULETTIN

Issue Number 31

Winter 2021 - 2022

The construction works for the creation of the Karyes Memory and Culture Centre continue

All the permanent residents of Karyes, but also those who were able to visit our beautiful settlement during the last months, were able to witness the rapid progress of the building complex construction works in the Central Square

Thanks to the continuous and tireless efforts of the Karyates Association's board members, this great project becomes day by day a reality. The Chairman of the Board **Mr. Michael Repoulis** stayed at Karyes during autumn in order to monitor closely the project's progress.



Meanwhile, the financial contribution of our compatriots, but also of the friends of Karyes is touching. Almost every week there are deposits in Association account at the National Bank of Greece dedicated exclusively for the completion of the project.

The account number is:

(IBAN) **GR 5601106620000066200228709**

SYNDESMOS TON APANTAHOU KARYATON

SWIFT (BIC) ETHNGRAA / NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE

Extension of the lottery

At the same time, the Karyates Association decided, due to the ongoing pandemic, to **transfer the lottery draw for February 19, 2022.**

The money raised from the lottery is dedicated **exclusively** to the creation of the Karyes Memory and Culture Centre. As the building complex is slowly being constructed, everyone can contribute to a Centre honoring our ancestors.

We remind you that the cost per lottery is 5 € or 6 \$ and the amount can be deposited immediately by anyone who is willing to contribute in the Karyes Association bank account mentioned above.

ATTENTION: In the deposit of the amounts, your **name is necessary.** Immediately after the payment, you will be informed **by phone or via e-mail** the lottery numbers that you bought and with which you will participate in the draw.



Although the repair works of the building infrastructure are in progress through the program of financing cultural projects by ANAPTYXIAKI PARNONA SA, the Association is trying to raise the necessary capital **to complete the museum part** of the Memory and Culture Centre, with the implementation of the necessary **Museological Study.**

So this Lottery will contribute to the financing of the next stage of the project.

The Karyes Centre of Memory and Culture acquired a website

The vision of creating a Memory and Culture Center is beginning to take shape. A place dedicated to tell the history of the place, to promote the culture, to preserve the memory and to strengthen the ties with the Caryatians/Arahovitans around the world. At the initiative of the Association and the valuable voluntary help of Margie Konstantopoulou, the progress of the project, as well as the studies, are available on the official website of the Karyes Center of Memory and Culture hosted at: <http://www.karyes.gr/kmpk>

Offers for the Memory and Culture Center

November 2021 Ms. **Nitsa Melechis** € 500-

03 December 2021 **Anonymous donor** € 500-

We thank them from the bottom of our hearts and we hope that they will become an example for all of us!

The feast of the patron saint of Karyes, Apostle Andrew



With the participation of monks from the monastery of Agios Anargyros and the Karyes priest **Father Leontios** a Doxology and Divine Liturgy took place in the memory of the Saint with splendor in the Agios Andreas Church. However due to the bad weather conditions, the holy icon litany did not take place outside the temple.

The Deputy Regional Governor of Laconia, **Mr. Theodoros Veroutis**, also attended the Liturgy. Afterwards, the mountain tea and rakomelo had their place of honor in the village cafes.

This was followed by a dinner organized by the President of the **Karyates Association Mr. Michael Repoulis** attending by the **Karyes Local Council President Mr. Georgios Devekos** in honor of the **Mayor of Sparta Mr. Petros Doukas** and other representatives of the Municipality of Sparta.

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



REQUEST

Those who wish to receive this news bulletin via e-mail, please inform us by sending your e-mail address at E-mail: karyates.association@karyes.gr

ANNOUNCEMENT

Do you deal with the arts (art, painting, music-song, dance, theater, photography, video, floristry, crafts)?

The Karyates Association invites you to contact us in order to present your work to our compatriots and to the visitors of our village in the summer, either through an exhibition of your creations, or through a cultural action.

Contact now at the email address of our village info@karyes.gr, or at the phones 6944-784563, 6974-720909.

At the WEB SITE WWW.KARYES.GR
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Contact us at 0030-6974-720909

or at the email: karyates.association@karyes.gr

2021: Religious Holidays in the chapels of Karyes

With the gradual lifting of the measures due to the pandemic, the life of the village returned to its usual rhythms. So, the Karyates began to honor their saints in the chapels again. We publish photos from the religious celebrations of the whole past year and we thank Mr. Panagiotis Spanos, Mich. Repoulis and Evangelia Schina-Kardaras for the photos.

On Easter Friday, on **May 7** at the feast of **Zoodochos Pigi**, many village residents visited the Virgin Mary Chapel (Theotokos) at the border with Varvitsa village to attend the liturgy.



The Chapel is situated under walnuts and chestnuts. On the left the Holy Icon



This was followed by the celebration of **Saints Constantine and Helen** in the Church dedicated to them on the hill above Karyes on **May 21**.

On the left, the priest George Blathras at the entrance of the Chapel.



This was followed by the **Holy Spirit** celebration on **June 21**, whereas the established Divine Liturgy took place in **Saint Barbara** Chapel at the forest entrance above Vergatsoula neighborhood.



The Karyates gathered a few days later to honor the memory of **Saints Anargyroi** on **July 1** at the Chapel dedicated to them shortly before the entrance of the village.

It should be noted that the basic works of restoration of the Chapel were completed grace at the initiative of the **Voluntary Group** -which now took their name-, as we have presented in detail in the previous issues.



On **Sunday, August 29**, residents and visitors went up to the Holy Temple of **St. John** in Roloj (Municipal Clock), where the memory of the Saint's beheading was honored. The congregation prayed in a religious atmosphere, with the voice of Father Leontios covering the sound of the cool morning air in the fir trees.



Afterwards with the initiative of Father Leontios, the congregation offered money for the purposes of the **Karyes Fire Protection Department**.

Despite the bad weather and the bitter cold, the Karyates honored the memory of **Agios Demetrios** in the Chapel dedicated to the Saint on **October 26**. The Divine Liturgy was performed by Father Leontios, and after the ceremony, bread and sweets were distributed by the Parish Council.



On **Wednesday, September 8**, the Karyates went to the **Fotinou** settlement where they celebrated in the Holy Temple dedicated to the **Birthday of the Virgin Mary**.



On **November 8**, on the feast of **Brigadiers Michael and Gabriel**, the compatriots honored them in the Holy Temple dedicated to their memory at the entrance of the village.



World's basketball legend Panagiotis Giannakis and other international veteran Greek basketball players in Karyes to honor the memory of Barba Giannis Kostalas

Led by world sports legend **Panagiotis Giannakis**, many veteran basketball players and people of the Greek Basketball visited his birthplace for the two memorials that took place on Sunday, November 7 at Saint Andrew Church and on Sunday, November 21 at Saint Paraskevi Church. As they said it was the least, they could do to honor the offer of Barba-Yannis. Among them, a number many well-known journalists -like the heads of the basketball department of Greek Public Radiotelevision (ERT) **Mr. Papathanassiou** and **Mr. Ioannou**.

The veterans and the journalists were welcomed by a delegation of the Karyates Association and the "Karyatis" Sports Club headed by their chairmen Mr. Michael Repoulis and Theodoros Mentis.



On the left, the secretary of the Association, **Mr. Harris Konstantopoulos**, who accompanied them to the Karyes Monuments (Caryatids, Clock and Temple of Virgin Mary/Panaghia) quoting historical facts about the beautiful settlement with the World's basketball legend **Mr. Panagiotis Giannakis**

On the right, the niece of the deceased, professor at the American College, **Mrs. Costalas**, says farewell on behalf of the family to Barba Giannis.



At the Agia Paraskevi chapel from the left the former international Greek Basketball players Ian Vougioukas, David Stergakos and Nikos Filippou

At the "ARETI" tavern the Former International Greek player mr Nikos Linardos on the left and mr. Pamaghiotis Giannakis both European Champions with Mr. Stavros Mermigas and Theodoros Mentis.

The news of the Lambraki water drilling

Regarding the issue of water drilling at Karvelo site, the Geological Engineer **Mr. Athanasios Kaplanis**, collaborator of the contractor **Mr. Spyridon Sellis** predicted the exact results of the drilling (quantitative, qualitative, point and depth of drilling), hence the zero cost condition for the Kerchoulas Trust in case of drilling failure.

This drilling and test pumping took place in mid-August 2021. Given the dry season and the drought, the measurements of cubic meters of water supply per hour are considered safe, with the drilling having more than doubled the amount of water in a hydrological year. From the graphs of the test pump measurements it appears that the "critical" pump supply amounts to 45 km / h and it is proposed not to pump at this limit.



Based on the Karyes population in peak periods (about 1,100 people), with daily needs per person about 175 liters of water, the needs of the village amount to about 200 km/day and if network losses and other uses are taken into account (garden watering) this amount can be > 250 km/day.

Taking also into account various parameters (existing performance of springs and the Kodiavti drilling in operation, the avoidance of over-pumping, the duration of the peak period, the utilization of the Sakali Fountain for livestock and cultivation needs, terms of use depending on the population, etc.) all the needs for water are covered by the drilling in a few hours.

The designer's suggestion is to pump 20-25 km/h for the hours that will be needed.

These are expressed in terms of quantitative data. In terms of quality data, there is the analysis of water from a private certified laboratory and from this analysis it appears that the water is of excellent quality! At the same time, it has been sent to Sparta's Municipality Water Public Enterprise (D.E.Y.A.S.) sample for analysis.

The other two parts of the drilling are related firstly to the electromechanical installation at the drilling point (submersible pumping, power transmission and panel installation, hut construction, protective wall construction, mechanical equipment, etc.), and the second to the promotion of water to the main water tank of the village (study, drilling for pipeline installation, construction works, etc.). This study is being prepared with no additional cost for the Kerchoulas Trust, by the above scientist who has many years of relevant experience. That is going to be evaluated by another expert Ms. Georgia Leventaki voluntarily and by D.E.Y.A.S.



The Bod of the Karyates Association wishes to all the compatriots

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The "Karyatis" Sports Club creates an indoor sports complex



The "Karyatis" continues its effort to transform the warehouse of the former Agricultural Cooperative into a multi-purpose gym, sports and events hall. Based on that effort, the chairman of the Sports Club issued the following update.



Dear members and friends of "Karyatis",
The summer is over, the holidays are over, but the Club continues the steps that will lead to the change of use of the warehouse and the licensing of a multipurpose (sports and event) hall. Of course, for ten days in August, the Club did not go against the enthusiasm of the children and let boys and girls to enjoy table tennis. However, due to some Covid-19 cases in the village, our Club was forced to close the room for obvious reasons.

Let everyone be sure that, when the Hal will be completed and open again, those who will enjoy it will be especially the permanent residents of our village. So be patient!

Theodoros Mentis

AUTUMN IN KARYES

Finally, Karyes is now established as a destination with a Pan-Hellenic impact

We are very pleased with the transformation of our beautiful village into a Touristic place known throughout Greece. The efforts of many years from the various Clubs and Associations of the beautiful village seem to accomplish their target. During the fall weekends Karyes was full of life as many visitors decided to spend a weekend in this beautiful place, or even to visit the place for a day trip. The options are many: paths and cycling routes in beautiful nature, beautiful cultural, historical and religious monuments, hospitable hostels, cafes and restaurants in the two squares of Karyes now satisfy even the most demanding visitor.

Excursions of mountaineering clubs

Several mountaineering clubs, but also individual walkers visited Karyes to enjoy the beautiful autumn nature of Parnonas and to walk through the paths established by the financial support of the Kerhulas Trust. The beginning was made with the **"National Mountaineering Club of Kalamata"**, the **"Mountaineering Association of Pyrgos, Heleas"** and the action group **"We Walk Together and Exercise Together"** on October 17. Three different groups were found on the paths of Karyes and meet each other. The joy of all of us for the beautiful words of the leaders of the club members for our paths and the hospitality of our village is unlimited. This was followed on Sunday, November 7, by the **"Athens Hiking Club"** and on December 5, by the **"Association of Friends of Mountain Activities"**.



The celebration of the National Day of October 28



The people of Karyes honored the fighters of the WW2 On October 28, 2021, commemorating the "OHI". In the morning, a solemn Divine Liturgy was celebrated in the Church of Agios Andreas for the feast of Agia Skepi with the participation of the young pupils of the Karyes Primary School, their teacher Mr. **Georgios Diamantouros** and many residents.

After the liturgy, poems were recited and then wreaths were laid at the monument of Freedom honored the fighters and the deceased Karyates who had scarify their lives in favor of our Homeland's Freedom.



AUTUMN IN KARYES

Greek's National Television (E.R.T.) music show "The salt of the Earth" in Karyes

The "Salt of the Earth" is a series of shows for the Greek music tradition and is broadcast by the TV Channel ERT 1 and ERT WORLD. Its goal is to record and promote to the general public the richness, the variety and the expressiveness of our musical heritage, through local musical idioms.



On the initiative of the Panaghiotis Kerhoulas Trust, on Thursday, November 11, 2021, the creators of the series met in Karyes and successfully completed the shooting, which was attended by representatives of other villages in northern Laconia. The show was aired on national broadcast on Sunday, December 19, 2021 and is available for viewing on the ERTFLIX platform.



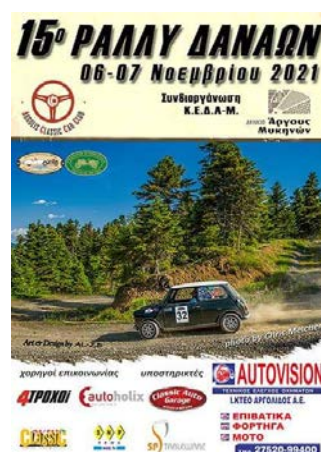
World Mountain Biking Championship Race

The international mountain biking competitions in Karyes, Laconia, were completed on Sunday, October 10, with great organizational success. The races were included in the program of the **World Cycling Federation**, with co-organizers the **Municipality of Sparta Sports Organization**, the **"Spartiatikos" Gymnastic Club** and were supported by the **Alter Bike Tours**. Furthermore there was a strong support by the Karyes Local Community and the Karyes Cultural Club which along with many volunteers contributed to the success of the event.



Cyclists from **France, Italy, Israel, Colombia, Mexico, Spain, Switzerland, Cyprus, North Macedonia** and **Greece** took part in the event, but several countries were absent because of the travel visa difficulties due to restrictive measures against Covid-19.

On Friday October 8 a category C1 race was held and on Sunday October 10 a category C2 race too. The start and finish took place in Karyes main square and the routes included forest roads and paths around the village. The cyclists on both days literally fought with the mud, due to the heavy rain, but this did not stop them from offering a rich spectacle, on a very difficult and demanding track. Karyes is suitable for cycling routes in a beautiful natural environment that has important tourist infrastructure. That is why the World Cycling Federation evaluates the event positively every year. On Sunday, October 10, the awards were attended by, among others, the **mayor of Sparta Mr. Petros Doukas**, the **president of the Sports Organization Mr. Stavros Pergantis**, the **former mayor of Sparta Mr. Evangelos Valiotis**, municipal councilors and the **president of the Spartiatikos Gymnastic Club Mr. Panagiotis Pristouris**.



Antique cars Rally

The 15th **"Danaos Rally"** passed at noon on November 6 from Karyes. Only antique cars made up to 1991 had the right to participate in the event. The race had as emblem the Lions Gate which is the main entrance of the citadel of Mycenae. It has been running continuously for 15 years and is one of the most important events of "historic" vehicle rallies.

It had started in the morning from Argolis and after passing through Mylos, Kiveri, Astros, Kastanitsa, Vamvakou and Varvitsa, it arrived in Karyes at 13:00. This was followed by a return via Kastro, Ag. Petros and Astros in Nea Kio, to finish the 1st day at the same point that the start had taken place, in order to restart of the next day with routes to Corinthia.



Congratulations for the 30 issues of the Karyates News Bulletin. It has succeeded its purpose to connect all Karyates with their past and present and to make us dream for a prosperous future for our homeland.

With honor

Ardamis Vasilios / Ardamis Traditional Guesthouse / Monemvasia Castle Greece

Efstratios Arist. Kostalas passed away suddenly on 11.25.2021 in Moscow at the age of 66



No one would have expected that just a few days after the memorial service which was held in memory of his uncle and mentor Barba Giannis Kostalas, we would gather again in Karyes to say goodbye to his nephew Stratos.

However a few days later the bad news arrived and no one believed it: the former manager of many teams in the Greek Basket League, such as Panathinaikos, PAOK, Panionios GSS, Aris Thessaloniki, Herakles Thessaloniki and last resident of Russia in the service of women's basketball, passed away suddenly on 11.25.2021.

Stratos was a great figure in Greek Professional Sports, since with Panathinaikos he participated in 3 Final Fours of the Euroleague Basketball, winning the trophy in Paris for the first time with a Greek team, while with Aris Thessaloniki he won the Eurocup. Although in recent years he was a resident of Moscow, he regularly visited his homeland, while he was also one of the founding members of the leading Greek basketball magazine "All Star Basket", where he wrote articles since November 2005. According to the team of the magazine: "words do not come out Words are difficult to spell. Especially when you say goodbye to one of your own. Like us in the All Star Basket who unfortunately have to say goodbye to Stratos Kostalas so early. A man with a long journey in so many posts in Greek and European basketball. Coach, team manager, player manager, journalist. He had been stationed in Russia for many years now, as the GM of Spartak Moscow region, which with his help and guidance the team had become a superpower of European women's basketball. He has won the Women's Euroleague 4 times, won a Euro cup, 4 European Super Caps and 2 Russian championships, while he has worked as a coach in three different Women's National teams of Russia (U16, U18 and U19). You rushed, Stratos, to go and meet your uncle Barba Giannis Courage to your children and to those who loved you in this life. GOODBYE pal.....".



Mr. Ssountis



Mr. Karydas



Mr. Mentis

His funeral took place in his beloved Karyes on Wednesday 08.12.2021. Once again, leading personalities of Greek Basketball visited the birthplace of the Kostalas family, to honor and say goodbye to a great personality of the Sport. It is characteristic that the heads of the Basketball Sports Departments of the two largest Sports Television Networks of Greece, the top journalists Mr. **Vasselis Skountis** (Cosmote TV) and **Demetris Karydas** (Novasport TV) delivered a farewell. The president of the "Karyatis" Sports Club, Mr. **Theodoros Mentis**, said goodbye to Stratos from our village.

Our heartfelt condolences to his wife Oxana, to his children Alexandra, Maria and Alexandros, to his mother Alexandra and to the rest of the Kostalas family.

They passed away

Ioannis Leonidas Hondropoulos died in Karyes on December 12, 2021 at the age of 95

The funeral took place on December 13 at the Aghia Paraskevi graveyard.

Ioannis (John) Kaponikolos Died in Melbourne Vic. Australia On December 18, 2021 At the age of 85



His funeral took place at the Springvale Botanica graveyard, while the liturgy took place at the Apostle Andrew Church.

Our compatriot created a big, beautiful family which will remember him with love.

He left behind his wife Eleftheria, his children Demetrios and Maria wife of Athanasios, his grandchildren Ioannis-Antonia, Panagiotis-Stefania, Irene and Constantina and his great-grandchildren Demetrios and Fotene, along with his brother Theodoros (Australia resident) and his sister Vasiliki, Greek resident.

Nikolaos Macheras died in Karyes on December 16, 2021



OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

Distinction for a compatriot visual artist

Maria Matala, visual artist, after the successful presentation of her Art Book "Apollonia and Dionysian Ecstasy", which was presented and supported on e-Voula, successfully participated with her collection in the competition for the Visual Art Works inspired by the Greek Culture of the **Greek Organization for the Management and Development of Cultural Resources**.



Her engraving work "**Dance of Satyrs I**" is sold in all the shops of the Greek Public Museums, which recently opened their doors again to the public. It depicts the frantic dance of three satyrs, a work freely designed and engraved by her. The work comes from a detail of an archaic Attic black-figure vase mentioned in J D Beazley's book, Attic black-figure vase-painters, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1956.

The vine is hers addition. She transfers the timeless Greek painting of the utilitarian vase to a modern engraving composition. With respect to the archaic artists, she adapts the archaic form to the engraving art, modifies the writing, but keeps their thinking. The artist highlights the timeless creation of the ancient Greeks through the austerity and abstraction of lines and attempts a contemporary dialogue, which can be attributed to contemporary engravings, beyond the well-known copies of the black-figure and red-figure anthropocentric vessels. Finally, throughout her collection, she chose vessels located outside Greece for the purpose of silent protest and the need to make them known to the general public.

The well-known engraver Rena Anousi - Helias wrote about this work: "**Maria Matala was inspired by Greek mythology and made a soul deposit, with her personal characteristic work. Dancing the chisel, she conquers the material and, flooded by the magic of Apollonian music, she creates spiritual compositions with mastery and confidence**".

Research of the Athens Agricultural University for plane trees and oaks

On September 17 and 18, 2021, on the initiative of Mrs. Pitsa Vagena from the "Agiou Anargyroi" Karyes Church Preserve Club, a scientific team from the University paid a visit to study the perennial plane trees of the east (*Platanus orientalis*) and fluffy oak (*Quercus pubescens*) in Karyes. With the surveillance of the professors **Andreas Papadopoulos** and **Anastasia Pantera**. Specifically, the research focused on the "plane trees of Menelaos" in the church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary or otherwise "Panagia" and the oaks that are located in agroforestry paths that are part of the hiking trails of the network "Caryatides Trails" (a small group of 3 -4 centuries-old located on the hiking route No. 2 - "shepherds' path" and another with the name of oak of "Ai Thanasis", on the hiking route No. 7 - "oak path").

According to the autopsy report, the health condition of the trees is visually good for their age and their external configuration shows that they do not need special interventions. Some trees may require limited cleaning and partial shaping of the crown, always with special care and use of meticulously disinfected logging tools to avoid the transmission of diseases and especially **metachromatic ulcers** of the plane tree (a disease that threatens the necrosis of the plane tree in many parts of Greece. including the Peloponnese with the first symptom the sudden withering and drying of a part of the leafage). This requires a special monitoring of these centuries-old plane trees and newer ones that are located around the church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and immediate information of the Forest Service.

The special dendrometric characteristics, the estimated very old age of the above centuries-old plane tree and oak trees, but also their connection with the history of the place, give great monumental value to them, which in combination with their location on hiking trails gives them an added value and for this purpose the study proposes their promotion through the declaration of some of them as monuments of nature.