



KARYYES LACONIA



Karyates Association's News Bulletin

Issue number 48

Spring 2026

The annual meeting of the Karyates Association in Athens

A different event was held by the Karyates Association in early 2026. Instead of the established dance evening that it had organized for many years, this year the members of the Board of Directors proposed something different to the compatriots. In this context, on **Sunday, January 25**, they invited Karyates and the friends of the village of Karyes/Arachova who live in Athens to the amphitheater of the **Municipality of Athens Cultural Center** for an event that had everything:

First of all, culture and tradition, since the author Mr. **Nikos Koufos**, originally from the village of Vassaras, who has been involved for many years with the folklore and history of the villages of Laconian Parnon, made a beautiful presentation of the customs of the "Dodecaimeros" (i.e. the holidays of Christmas, New Year and Lights/Baptism of the Lord) that the residents of the region observed and followed for many years.



Through a very beautiful and vivid presentation, which was accompanied by audiovisual material, the attendees traveled back in time, experiencing in a way the atmosphere of the Holidays as they were experienced by our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents.

This was followed by a presentation of the book "**Karyes (Arachova) Laconia History and People 1700-1940**" by the secretary of the Association, Mr. **Charalampos (Harris) Konstantopoulos**. The book was published in the summer of 2025, and its initial presentation took place in Karyes last August.



The event was followed by dancing and tradition, as the attendees danced traditional local and Asia Minor dances to the sounds of the musical band.

Then, the **chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Michalis Repoulis, together with members of the Board of Directors**, cut the Association's New Year's cake (vasilopita) and sent New Year's wishes to all those present.

Finally, as always, the members, friends and volunteers of the Association had provided a rich table with treats for all the attendees.



HAVE WE PAYED OUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP?

Dear compatriot,

The **Karyates Association** has served its purposes for over half a century thanks to your love and support. To achieve its goals, the only thing that asks from you is the annual membership fee of

€ 5.00 or US\$ 5.00

Anyone may pay that small fee, "digitally" through internet banking.

The bank account number (IBAN) is:

GR 560110 662 00000 66200 228709

SYNDESMOS TON APANTAHOU KARYATON SWIFT (BIC) ETHNGRAA / NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE

The same account is available to anyone for donations and any financial support desired for the purposes of the Association. Regarding the Newsletter, although the cost of postage is high, it will be sent **FREE OF CHARGE**. However, every contribution helps us cover the costs and gives us strength to keep going.

With Patriotic greetings,

The Karyates Association Board of Directors

Municipality of Sparta: The K.A.P.I. (Elderly Open Care Center) branch in Karyes is on track to reopen

The Municipality of Sparta is proceeding with the reopening of the Branch of the Elderly Open Care Center (K.A.P.I.) in the Community of Karyes, with the aim of creating a place of entertainment and protection for the elderly residents.

Registrations have already begun and beneficiaries/registered members will enjoy the same **right to participate** in the actions and events of the central K.A.P.I. of Sparta, including excursions (with the payment of a corresponding participation fee), while at the same time they will be able to participate in actions of local interest in collaboration with other bodies. Members must pay their **annual subscription upon registration, which amounts to € 12.00**. Members of the K.A.P.I. register individuals **aged 58 years and over**, men and women, residing in the area where each K.A.P.I. operates. In case of retirement at a younger age, the interested party must present the decision or pension slip.

Regarding the general registration documents, the following are required: **application, two (2) photographs, photocopy of Police ID, payment of annual subscription, tax return form (E1), while in the case of a disabled person, a valid K.E.P.A. decision is required.**

Logging

According to relevant information from the President of the Karyes Local Community, Mr. Panagiotis Mentis, due to the lack of a management study for the Karyes Forest, logging this winter was done by woods provided from the clearing of the roads.

A winter without snow but with lots of rain



The winter of 2025-26 was special for Karyes and Southern Greece. Snowfall was relatively scarce, especially in the first days of the year. And while everyone was worried about the water supply in the summer, **February** came, which held a surprise for us: heavy irrigation rains for several days, quenched the thirst of the place, filled the wells and revived the rivers, such as that of the Diros River in Panagia.

Cleaning Services

The Local Community of Karyes and the Municipality of Sparta joined in the clean-up operations. For example, the Diros Riverbed in the Panagia area was cleaned, forest roads were cleared of vegetation, and the flower beds in the Central Square were cleaned too (see photos).



Carnival in Karyes 60 years ago



A nice photo was posted online of carnival residents of Kares in the early 1960s.

According to the comments, *"The carnival float was set up on a self-propelled milling machine, and the happy group of masquerades began their tour of the village. They passed through every alley and yard, with songs and jokes that made young and old laugh. The wine flowed, the jokes were given and taken and for a while the whole village became a big party. The building behind the chariot is in Central square. Dinos Petroulias' shop is the current cafe of "Pota Trakas/Kafecoption", and the one next door, right behind the chariot, was Sdralas' barbershop. The stone wall on the right is the current arch. The person on the far right is Antonis Darmos and the third from the right is Panos Christopoulos. For the old people, those were simple times, full of joy, laughter and human warmth. Times that remained engraved in the memory and in the heart... unforgettable."*

Students from Georgetown University enjoy the hospitality of Karyes/Arachova

At the initiative of the Greek American Karyatis **Ms Ioanna Kopsiaftis**, a group of students from the internationally renowned American University in the U.S.A. visited Karyes in March. The students followed in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul, starting from Philippi to Kavala, where the "Apostle to the Nations" disembarked, followed by Thessaloniki, Vergina, Olympus, Meteora and Athens.



The group then went down to the Peloponnese, with their first stop being Corinth. From there, the compatriot brought them to Karyes, where she had prepared a picnic for them as a surprise at Panagia. As she described it herself, *"It was a beautiful day because Giannis Leventakis had prepared everything for me and we spent the afternoon at Panagia. The children play in the trees; we eat and drink and then we go to the square where I treat them to coffee and loukoumades."* After this surprise, the program included a return to Athens, a visit to the Acropolis Museum and the Temple of Perthenon, as well as the Areopagus where the Apostle Paul spoke to the Athenians.

Ioanna will bring people to our beautiful village whenever she can, she will have another university on April 11th and will have another picnic at Panagia. As she told us: *"Anyone who wants is invited. Come and meet them and eat and drink together. It would be my great pleasure."* Congratulations.

CARNIVAL 2026

Karyes celebrated the last Sunday of Carnival and Clean Monday with joy, dancing and singing. With the kind sponsorship of the Municipality of Sparta, the Local Community of Karyes, together with the volunteers, prepared a wonderful two-day event.

It all started on Sunday afternoon, when the fire was lit in the central square and the music began. Despite the cold, all the residents and visitors came by and sat for a long or short time, depending on each person's stamina, drinking wine and tsipouro and eating souvlaki that were grilled and offered by the volunteer residents.



The next day, Clean Monday, which marks the beginning of the Lenten fast, again in the Central Square, from morning until late afternoon the volunteer ladies of the village had prepared a rich table with fasting dishes. The weather this time was on their side, as the bright sunshine significantly raised the temperature and everyone sat outside enjoying their coffee and the delicious traditional dishes of the day.

ΑΠΟΚΡΙΕΣ 2026

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 22 ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ 2026
 19:30 ☉ Κεντρική Πλατεία Καρυών
 Άναμμα φωτιάς
 Σουβλάκια • Κρασί • Τσίπουρο
 • Χυμοί
 Αερόστατα για τους μικρούς μας φίλους

ΚΑΘΑΡΑ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ 23 ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ 2026
 10:30 π.μ. ☉ Κεντρική Πλατεία Καρυών
 Παραδοσιακή φασολάδα
 Λαγάνες & Σαρακοσιτιανά εδεσμάτα
 Με την ευγενική χορηγία
ΔΗΜΟΣ ΣΠΑΡΤΗΣ



The Celebration of March 25th at the Karyes Kindergarten

With great joy, after a two-year period of closed schools in Karyes, the **National Day of the Greek Revolution of 1821** was celebrated at the school and specifically at the **Karyes Kindergarten** which reopened this year.

The children proudly recited their poems in the presence of their parents and the villagers.

Happy Birthday to Greece!



TRIBUTE: THE NEW DIGITAL KARYES ARCHIVE

Work and copyright protection

The project of creating a digital archive with sources concerning the historical site of Karyes (Arachova) Laconia is a venture that essentially began in 2014 with the digitization of the Newspaper **"Karyes, Arachova Laconias and the villages of the former Municipality of Oinountos" (1986-2010)**, which was the personal vision and passion of **Mrs. Annita Gleka-Prekeze** and was published continuously for 24 years. Mrs. Annita Gleka-Prekeze gave her permission and thus became the first digital archive created. The digital archive was available through the old Karyes website and was the essential impetus for the creation of the digital archive of Karyes.



Since then, a methodical process of collecting material, both printed and non-printed, began, which could form part of a future digital archive. This material came either from personal collection and sorting of published material on the internet, or from people who sent me these sources in the past and in turn contributed to building this collection. I have personally thanked these people and all the people of Karyes thank them for this. The result of this effort is presented in detail today for the first time to the public.

At this point we must also mention the very important issue of copyright which protects books and material and without the consent of the author it is not possible to digitize and make it available to the public. According to the current legal framework in Greece and the European Union, **copyright protects the author of a work for a period of 70 years after his/her death**. During this period, any reproduction, digitization or exploitation of the work requires the permission of the rightsholder. After 70 years, the work passes into the so-called "public domain", which means that it can be used freely by anyone, without restrictions. In the case of newspapers and collective works, where the author is unknown, the duration of protection is often calculated from the date of publication.

Therefore, material contained as a source in the digital hub but without digitization of its content, may not yet constitute a public good so that it can be digitized.

At this point I would also like to mention, in order to avoid misunderstandings, that **this material does not belong to me**, but as **public good** it has been now offered to everyone in an organized way from one point. My only concern is limited to **collecting, organizing and posting** it on the website and **managing** it through it.

Contents of the digital archive of Karyes, Laconia

In the digital archive of Karyes, one can find the following:

Fully digitized:

- All issues of the newspaper **"Karyes, Arachova Laconia and the villages of the former Municipality of Oinountos"** (1986-2010)
- All **"BULLETINS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE KARYATES ASSOCIATION"**, IN GREEK AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE, (2014-present)
- Five (5) bulletins **"ΑΙ ΚΑΡΥΑΙ of the Association of the People in Athens"** (1954-1955)
- Four (4) issues of the publication **"Karyatika"** Karyes Local Community Edition (1962-1963)
- Official Greek State Gazette with the changes in the administration of the Community (1836-1997)
- Tributes to Karyes and the associations.
- All publications of the website **"Karyes.gr"** (2015-2025)
- All publications of the new website **«karyeslakonias.gr»** (2025-present)
- Historical Documents such as club statutes, topographic maps, etc.

Not digitized but with reference as sources:

- Book Details
- Printed Publications

Official presentation

Next summer, there is a desire to hold an **official presentation** of the digital archive to the public of Karyes, where the format of the archive, its contents, the ways of accessing and reading the material will be presented, and needs and suggestions for improvement will be heard from the very public to which it is addressed.

Need for donations and sponsorship

However, the archive does not end here as there are still many printed publications that require digitization, but the cost so far has exceeded my own financial limits. For this reason, **I appeal to anyone who wishes to contribute to this cause**, by adopting the digitization of a book, with their contribution being officially made public.

Also, if anyone has material in their archive that is not included in the sources already posted and wishes to offer it to be digitized and returned, I would kindly ask them to do so, so that the archive can be enriched and grown. Therefore, anyone who wishes to contribute in any way can send an email to **archives@karyes.gr**

Ψηφιακές συλλογές



Δελτία Συνδέσμου Απανταχού Καρυατών



Εφημερίδα Καρυές



Βιβλία & Έντυπες Εκδόσεις



Δελτία Αι Καρυαί

Ενημερωτικά Δελτία

Σύνδεσμος Απανταχού Καρυατών

Τα ενημερωτικά δελτία του Συνδέσμου των Απανταχού Καρυατών εκδίδονται ανά τρίμηνο από το 2014 μέχρι σήμερα. Αποστέλλονται σε πάνω από 600 συνδρομητές μέσω e-mail ή ταχυδρομείου σε όλο τον κόσμο. Είναι διαθέσιμα σε:

- ✓ Έλληνική Έκδοση
- ✓ Αγγλική Έκδοση

Δελτία στα Ελληνικά

Bulletins in English

Skiouris Foundation: The annual memorial service of the benefactor

At the Church of St. Andrew **On Sunday, February 1, 2026**, the annual memorial service for the repose of the soul of the late **George Th. Skiouris** was held. All the members of the Board of Directors of the **Skiouris Foundation**, which has been established and has operated for several years from the money of the testator's will, were present. We have written several times in the past about the actions and assistance that it has offered over time to the residents. That assistance was given especially to the young children of the village through student awards, as well as in the operation of the Sports Association "Karyatis", of which the benefactor was a founding member and for several years a member of its Administration.



After the memorial service, the **President of the Foundation and President of the Karyes Local Community, Mr. Panagiotis Mentis**, delivered the following greeting:

"Dear compatriots.

*Today, as every year on this day, we commemorate a worthy son of Karyes: the **Benefactor George Th. Skiouris**.*

*A man who emigrated, like so many other compatriots of his generation, but never forgot his place of origin. For this reason, he ensured that after his passing from this life, a significant portion of the wealth he had managed to acquire would continue to promote education and sports for the young men and women of our village. With the Foundation created by his will, dozens of young Karyates have been educated through the awarding of outstanding graduates of the Primary School, while the Karyatis Sports Club maintains and continuously improves its privately owned facilities over time. The current **Board of Directors of the Foundation, almost entirely renewed** in the last two years, was called upon to **continue the work of the previous administrations**. However, at the same time, it was forced to face the closure of the school and the general decrease in the youth population, which has resulted, among other things, in the inability to regularly organize Athletic events.*

*In this context, the new Board of Directors acted **promptly and responsibly**, preparing and submitting to the competent Supervisory Service of the Region **a plan to amend the Statute and the methods of financing the Foundation's objectives**. Always **with respect to the wishes of the Testator and with the aim of the good of Karyes**. Also, regarding the Foundation's property, with appropriate actions and taking advantage of the good economic situation, the current Administration achieved an **increase in rental income of 20% to 50% in the current two-year period**.*

*All of these were not easy at all and required a lot of effort in time and money (since property maintenance is a difficult and demanding exercise), while several bureaucratic procedures are also required since the Foundation is subject **to strict control by the competent state services**.*

*For the above, we are at **anyone's disposal for any clarification on any questions**.*

*We want to assure all Patriots that the Foundation will continue its work even more **dynamically** and act for **the good of the place and the young people of our village, thus honoring the memory of Benefactor Georgios Skiouris**.*

May his memory be eternal".

According to a relevant announcement, the **new Board of Directors of the Foundation** is composed of:

- President, Panagiotis Mentis** (ex officio as President of the Local Community)
- Vice-President, Panagiotis Macheras**
- Secretary, Achilleas Sioutos**
- Treasurer, Charalambos Konstantopoulos**
- Member, Ioannis Mentis** (ex officio as President of the "Karyatis Sports Club")
- Member, Panagiotis Kolantzianos**

the Annual General Meeting of the P. Kerchulas Trust Management

On **Saturday, March 21, 2026**, the Annual General Meeting of the Kerchulas Trust Management took place in the event hall of the Community Branch with topics:



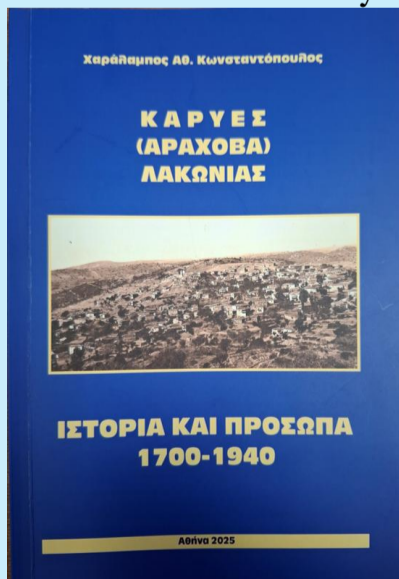
- the Action Report for the period October-December 2025,
- the approval of the balance sheet for the period 2025, as well as the Financial Report for the period October-December 2025,
- the approval of the Audit Committee and
- the approval of the budget action program for the current year 2026.

Before the General Meeting a holy memorial service and been held in the Church of St. Andrew for the repose of the souls of **Panos and Voula Kopsiaftis**.



BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THE KARYATES ASSOCIATION

Availability of Charalambos Konstantopoulos' book "Karyes (Arachova) Laconia History and People 1700-1940"



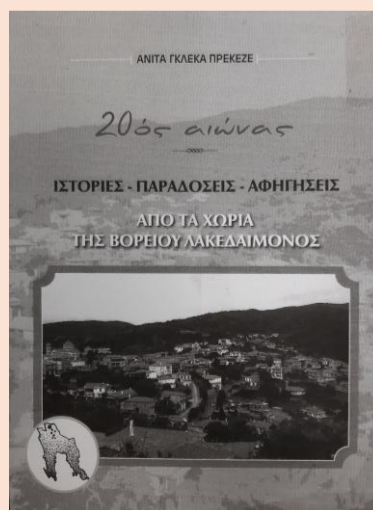
The book by the Secretary of the Karyates Association Haris Konstantopoulos, published this summer, was embraced by all patriots and not only. Its pages present the entire history of Karyes as well as the personalities who, with their work and contributions, marked the place.

The first edition is almost sold out, and all proceeds go to the Association's purposes.

Copies of this important book can be obtained from all members of the Association's Board of Directors.

For more information, please call **6974-720909** or email karyates.association@karyes.gr

Availability of Annita Gleka-Prekeze's book "20th century, Stories, Traditions, Narratives from the villages of North Lacedaemon"



This book, which was published two years ago, with the kind sponsorship of the Municipality of Sparta and our expatriates Panos and Voula Kopsiaftis, is the work of the well-known author Anita V. Prekeze (née Glekas). The author dedicated this book to the Karyates Association, whose she has been a key supporter for many years.

The first edition was sold out, since the books became literally rapturous and well-loved. The Association proceeded to a second edition.

Copies of this important book can be obtained from all members of the Board of the Association.

More information at tel. **0030-6985-120559**, or at karyates.association@karyes.gr

Pete Couchel: A distinguished Karyatian has passed away



Panagiotis Ioannis Koutsoyorgas (Pete J. Couchel) passed away peacefully at his home in **Charlotte, North Carolina**, at the age of **90**, surrounded by his loving family, on Monday, October 6, 2025. He was born in Arachova (Karyes), Laconia, on **June 4, 1935**, to the late Ioannis **Panagiotis Koutsoyorgas and Anastasia née Druga**.

Childhood in Karyes

Having a strong entrepreneurial spirit from a young age, working with his parents in the family tavern, he was always looking for opportunities. So, at the age of just five he set up a table and sold combs and other trinkets at the fair. In 1940, at the age of six, when his father was called up to the army to fight against the Italians in Albania, Panagiotis vowed to reopen the family tavern in case his father did not return. After the German invasion and the capitulation of Greece, as soon as he heard that his father would return home, he and his best friend, Theodore Karygiannis (Ted Cares), went to the tavern to clean and prepare it for his arrival. During the Italian and subsequent German occupation, he and his family suffered many hardships.

In 1943, at the age of just eight, Panagiotis and all the villagers were lined up in the central square in front of a German firing squad and were only saved at the last minute thanks to the intervention of Swedish doctor Alex Persson from the Red Cross brought by compatriot Paraskevas Meydanis from Tripoli. However, after the end of the Occupation, the Greek Civil War began and brought more dangers. His father, Ioannis, was elected president of the village, but his life was threatened and in 1947 the family moved to Sparta.

Immigration to North America and the first difficult years

In this climate, the family made the decision to immigrate to the province of **Ontario in Canada** in 1949. There, Panagiotis became Pet and initially worked in his uncle's restaurant washing dishes after school and then in a neighboring soft drink store.

Two years later, in 1951, at the age of 16, the family moved to **Charlotte, North Carolina in the U.S.** for better opportunities, where there was and is a thriving Karyatic/Arachovitan Community and they were able to reunite with many of their family and friends. There, he continued his entrepreneurial journey, working hard at a car wash, grocery store, and restaurant until his parents were able to open Johnny's Grill on Monroe Street. At just 17 years old, Peter took over the management. Thanks to his enthusiasm, innate entrepreneurial talent, and innovative ideas, he successfully developed the business over the years, until it was sold in 1959. At the same time, with the support of his family, he also served honorably in the United States Army Reserves from 1956 to 1964.

Successful business activity and the beautiful family

At the age of 25, he began to engage in his own business by founding and operating a food and beverage vending company, Charlotte Vending Service, for forty (40) years, until he sold it in 1948. During this period, in 1973, Peter met and married **Diana Faye Pope**, from North Carolina, who had been born and raised in the small rural town of Holsboro. Together, they founded **Couchell Investment Company**, which develops, owns and leases shopping centers and real estate in the Charlotte area. They raised a beautiful family, having five children:

- **John**, with his daughters Maria and Diana and his wife Stavroula,
- **Anneta** with her husband Petros Petrou,
- **Christopher** with his wife Jacqueline and their children Catherine, Panagiotis, Elisabeth, Francis, Genevieve and Gregory,
- **Emilia** (Sister Emily at the monastery of the Holy Monastery of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary) and
- **Stephanie**.

His siblings were always close to him and also raised beautiful families:

- **Emilia**, wife of Ioannis Krampis (died 1985/2023 respectively) with their two daughters Anna Sistare (died 2018) and Presbyter Kondylia (Lia) Tsachakis,
- **George** with his wife Helen and his son Johny George (with his wife Krista) and
- **Vivian** with her husband, Father Nikolaos G. Bakalis, with their two daughters Katrina Kellen and Anastasia Stownstreet.

As family was the most important thing to him, he always looked for opportunities to be with his extended family at Sunday dinners at Valentino's and at holidays and festive gatherings at his home. Having a very close relationship with his siblings, he took the role of big brother to heart. He also loved all his nieces and nephews dearly. At the same time, he was a very generous person and philanthropist, helping those in need. He was always open, warm and ready to welcome friends, relatives and strangers into his home to share a meal and company. His friends and family appreciated him for the true expression of authentic Greek hospitality.

Love for Homeland

The trip back to Greece to visit his family and friends brought him great joy. His most important work is that he and Faye instilled a love of Greece in their children through their annual summer trips. In fact, as he grew older, he enjoyed spending more time there each year at his family home in Karyes and his seaside home in Ermioni in Argolis region. He enjoyed the time he spent with his family (32 first cousins!) and always looked forward to the next trip.

Serving the Greek Community

One of the most important things in Pet's life was his church, his Orthodox faith, and his Greek heritage. He, his wife, and their children were active members of both Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church and St. Nektarios in Charlotte. No matter how hard he worked during the week, he and Faye always made sure their family was in church every Sunday. He was actively involved in the life of the church and served as President of the Parish Council several times, helped develop the "Yeia sou" Greek Festival, was a master of the Order of St. Andrew, and worked on many projects for the Metropolis of Atlanta. Peter and Faye played a key role in the development of the Chapel of the Virgin Mary at the Diakonia Senior Care Center, the Omni Montessori School, and the Socrates Academy.

The offer in Karyes

Having served as **President of the Adelphotis of Arachovites "AI KARYAE"** for several years and an almost permanent member of the Board of Directors, it is no exaggeration to say that he was one of the **main supporters of all the projects of the Adelphotis over the last 50 years both in the U.S.A. and in Greece**. Everyone has stories to tell about his willingness to help financially wherever he could. Among many other things, he and his family were one of the **main financiers of the great project of the Karyates Association, this Monument of the Caryatids and the renovation (revelation of the stone masonry) of the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Panagia)**.

The members of the Karyates Association and all his fellow compatriots at the village, in Greece and all around the world express their warm condolences to the entire family of the deceased and wish that **the love for his village will serve as a shining example for all of us**.

Our sincere condolences

**WOULD YOU WISH TO BE
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IN OUR NEWSPAPER?**

Contact us at 0030-6974-720909
or at the email:
karyates.association@karyes.gr

ANNOUNCEMENT / INVITATION

Are you involved in the arts (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 Karyates Association email address karyates.association@karyes.gr,
or at the phones (+30) 6944-784563, 6974-720909.



Konstantinos Pouloukefalos (Gas Sam Poulos) passed away on January 23, 2026, in Chester, South Carolina at the age of 85.

He was born on **November 5, 1940**, in the same city and was the son of Karyatians immigrants **Sam K. and Efthymia D. Pouloukefalos**. He grew up on his family's farm in western Chester County, where he spent his childhood helping his father raise cattle, sheep, horses and other animals. Gus attended Wilksburg Grammar School and later Chester High School, where he played on the varsity baseball team. He graduated from Chester High School in 1959 and enlisted in the United States Army National Guard Reserves in 1963.

In 1969, Gus and his brother, **Pete**, started the Poulos Sportsman Club, a deer and turkey hunting club on the family property in Chester. Hunters from across South Carolina, North Carolina, and beyond came for hunting, fellowship, and to enjoy the outdoors. The club grew into a successful, thriving business that has operated for 57 years and continues today. Gus and Pete also owned and operated the Poulos Pool Room in Lockhart, South Carolina, an establishment with a bar, billiards, and a liquor store. Anyone who knew Gus well has likely heard one of the many fun and exciting stories from his Pool Room days that he loved to tell. They also occasionally engaged in other business activities such as Poulos Motors in the late 1970s and Broad River Mart, a Texaco gas station and convenience store in Lockhart, South Carolina. This store served the community for 25 years until their retirement in August 2017, (it is still in operation).

On May 2, 1976, Gus married **Cathy Contos** of Atlanta, Georgia. They later welcomed two children – their daughter **Timi** and their son **Spiro**. He was a hardworking and dedicated businessman and a good family man with an excellent sense of humor and was politically active. He was an active member of the Local Community and in fact from 1970 to 1974 was elected to the Chester County Board of Directors, where he served from 1970 to 1974. He served as Vice-Chairman from 1971-1972. During his tenure, being youngest on the Board, he quickly distinguished himself as a bold, independent thinker. Gus was a Mason and Shriner. He was a Charter Member of the Chester Shrine Club, which he served as vice-president from 1970-1972, as well as a member of the Lockhart Masonic Lodge. He was also a member of the Union Shrine Club and Elks Club. He was a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Charlotte, North Carolina, and the **Adelphotis Arahoviton Karyae**. He and Cathy were active in numerous social and dance clubs over the years, including the Chester Cotillion Club, Chester Assembly, Union Ballroom Dance Club in Union, South Carolina, and Shamrock Dance Club in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Gus is survived by his beloved wife of 49 years, Cathy Contos Poulos; his daughter, Timi Poulos Clack (Alan) of Chester, SC; his son, Spiro G. Poulos (Drewid) of Chester, SC; his three granddaughters, Katerina Poulos, Mia Catherine Clack, and Penelope Poulos; and three step-grandchildren, Whugray Clack, Darby Clack, and Jewells Clack. He is also survived by his sister, Helen Poulos Diamaduros of Union, SC; his sister, Bessie Poulos Vastis of Chester, SC, his brother and life-long best friend and business partner, Pete S. Poulos (Cathy) of Chester, SC, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Sam K. Poulos and Efthymia D. Poulos; and his brothers-in-law, Ted G. Contos, George N. Vastis, and Gus P. Diamaduros.

Our sincere condolences to his family

A FAREWELL LETTER



On 13.09.2025, our beloved brother **Konstantinos Latsis**, aged 85, left for heaven.

He was a special person full of kindness and light. He will always remain alive in our hearts.

He left behind love, smiles and beautiful memories that will never fade. His presence was a gift in our lives, and his absence leaves us poorer, but also richer in memories.

GOOD HEAVEN BROTHER
George - Lefki

On **December 12, 2025**, in Karyes, **Apostolos Prevezanos** passed away at the age of **78**.

He was a pleasant and beloved man, with a strong presence in the village.

The following is a farewell message from his wife Eleni (Neli) Kardara:

"Apostolos came into my life and generously offered me love and happiness. He loved and respected my children and loved my village as his own. I will always remember him with boundless gratitude.

Goodbye.
Eleni Kardara"

Our warmest condolences



Donations to the Karyates Association

They deposited for the purposes of our Association:

- on 15-10-2025 **Ms. Konstantina Roussou-Vastis** the amount of **€ 200.00** and
- on 15-01-2026 **Mr. Anastasios Athanailos** the amount of **€ 100.00**.

We thank them from the bottom of our hearts!!

REQUEST

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

karyates.association@karyes.gr

THE NEWS OF THE KARYATES CLUB OVERSEAS



Canadian "Adelphotis"

On **Saturday, March 7, 2026**, the Canadian "Adelphotis" (Brotherhood) of Arachovites/Karyates held its "Makaronada" carnival dance.

The participation was great as always with Greek music and lots of dancing.

In the left photo, the members of the Board of Directors from left: **John Diamandouros, Helen Dix and John Theodorakakis** and standing: **Efthymios Diamandouros**. And below we publish photos from the event.

Congratulations to the administration and the volunteer friends of the Brotherhood.

We wish all compatriots a Happy Easter!



KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS BULLETIN QUARTERLY PUBLICATION / For information E-mail: karyates.association@karyes.gr