



The KYTHERIAN

The Newsletter of the Kytherian Association of Australia
PO Box A203, Sydney South NSW 1235
www.kytherianassociation.com.au

MARCH 2007

Aroney Awards Function

*We are inviting Students of Kytherian descent to submit their Year 2006
HSC Results and UAI scores to the
Kytherian Association of Australia for the
Nicholas Anthony Aroney Encouragement Awards
which are presented on behalf of the
Nicholas Anthony Aroney Trust
at the Awards Dinner, to be held on
Saturday 10th March, 2007
at the *Twin Reception Centre* at 7.00pm
560 Botany Street Alexandria
\$45 Adults \$25 Children*

*Results (Copy of UAI and Higher School Certificate marks) to reach
the below address by 14th February, 2007.*

*Nicholas Anthony Aroney
Encouragement Awards
c/- The Kytherian Association of Australia
PO Box A203
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235*

*Any enquiries should be addressed to:
Victor Kepreotis on 0408 216 108.*

***Bookings** please call Kathy Samios on 9349 1849*

KYTHERIAN BALL 2007

DATE: 26th May 2007
VENUE: STAR CITY BALLROOM
DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN APRIL NEWSLETTER
Enquiries and bookings:
Esther Calligeros on 9344 0298
Kathy Samios on 9349 1849



KYTHO CALENDAR**FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY -****FRIDAY 30TH MARCH**

Weekly dancing lessons for Term 1.

SATURDAY 10TH MARCH

Aroney Awards Function

Twin Reception Centre, Alexandria
(see front page).**SUNDAY 25TH MARCH**

Greek Independence Day

Wreath laying at Martin Place.

WEDNESDAY 28TH MARCHLadies Auxiliary AGM &
Elections (see page 9)**SUNDAY 8TH APRIL**

Greek Orthodox Easter Sunday

13TH, 14TH & 15TH APRIL4WD Turon Gates Weekend Away
(details on page 12)**Editor's Note**

February was an emotionally charged month for my family as my mother underwent major back surgery and to date is still struggling to recuperate.

Having spent the past five weeks pacing the corridors of two hospitals, it is amazing how removed you feel from the outside world. Sadly, you witness other people's suffering and that of their families. It is a great reality check that makes you put things into perspective and spend less time obsessing over trivial matters.

However, it is also interesting to observe how differently people deal with crises. Some do not cope very well while others are philosophical, take whatever comes their way and just deal with it. My parents' generation seem to fall into the latter group and I think that it's their strong religious faith and resilience that empowers them to be that way.

My mother for example, despite her intense pain, continues to astound us with her strength of character and sense of humour. She is now in rehab. (no, not for drugs or alcohol) and making an extremely slow and painful recovery. Despite this, she remains strong and is fiercely determined to get well and come home.

Meanwhile, in my mother's absence, my father deals with his stress as best he can. We have been surprised and impressed by how independent he really is. He is quite capable of looking after himself and has been able to showcase his culinary skills by cooking great steaks and delicious apple pies for his grandchildren.

He typifies those daring young men and women who came to Australia before the war and overcame great obstacles to make a life for themselves and build the foundations for their future families. They dealt with adversity and it made them stronger. We have a lot to thank them for and perhaps we too can learn to deal with our own trials and tribulations with the same courage and dignity.

P.S. Wishing our good friend Mary Moutzouris "Perastika".

MUMS & BUBS

"Mums and Bubs" outings are held on the last Friday of each month, for babies and children up to 5 years, for more information please call Erenie on 0410 318 053.

THE BERRY WINE FESTIVAL SCHEDULED FOR 31ST MARCH HAS UNFORTUNATELY BEEN CANCELLED.

Kythera-Family.net

for the world-wide Kytherian Community



Multilingual

search

Go

"Those Who Never Returned"

My friend and veteran Kythera-Family.net contributor Spyro Calocerinos has come up with a great idea. He pointed out that there are lots of life stories on the site about people who had made the big time, but neglected were many of their parents who made their daughter's and son's success possible by working hard and often sacrificing their own desires in favour of their children's education and happiness. My grandfather Dimitri for one worked from six in the morning till eleven at night in the cafe in Holbrook, and never had a holiday or even saw a movie despite the fact that the "picture theatre" was across the road. My grandmother Eleni was at least as industrious as well. At the same time they sent their children to private schools and made sure they never went wanting. On the day that Papou Dimitri finally sold his cafe, after 40 years of ceaseless work, he suffered a heart attack and never made it to the new home purchased for his family in Sydney, never mind returning to the island he had left in 1911.

Perhaps you have a story about a relative who never made it back? If so, put in in our People/Life Stories section (or just sent it to me if you don't think you can handle the uploading, easy though it is...). The prize for the best entry is the wonderful "Greece from the Air" edition. In May I'll announce the winner.

James Prineas, james@kythera-family.net



Galacatos Family, submitted by Vikki Vrettos Fraioli

Lost for 94 Years...

by Gaye Hegeman

We always knew that our grandfather Theo Andronicos had an older brother, Emmanuel, who had lived and worked somewhere in New South Wales early last century. Because grandfather died in 1948, many years before my interest in family history began, all of this vital information literally went with him to the grave.

My mother Rene (formerly Andronicos) remembered place names in association with her uncle, Casino, Kyogle and Coonamble, but nothing came of our enquiries with the respective local councils of these towns. A search of the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages followed but revealed nothing. There seemed to be so many dead ends. Nevertheless we followed every clue.

Etched clearly in my mother's memory was the day she met her uncle, and even to this day she can describe his appearance, the clothes he wore down to the detail of the bow-tie at his neck. Her memory is usually very reliable. His visit occurred, she said sometime in the early 1930s when my mother was a young teenager.

Almost thirty years have elapsed since our search began and what seemed like a impossible task ended in success when his details were eventually found in the Pioneers Index. The Pioneers Index provided a registration number which then enabled me to send away for his death certificate. Australian death certificates provide a lot of information.

From the certificate we learned that our Uncle Emmanuel Andronicos had lived and worked in Coonamble, a country town in New South Wales, and that he was in business as a fruiterer and confectioner. His death occurred on the 5th August 1910 and not in the 1930s as we had thought. He was still young, only thirty-three years old and unmarried. He died of a pulmonary tuberculosis haemorrhage in the Coonamble District Hospital. All other details matched those of my grandfather; born on Cerigo, parents George Andronicos, tobacconist and Panagiotitsa Panaretto. Grandfather who also resided in Coonamble was the informant on the certificate.

A search of the New South Wales Post Office directories listed his business for the years 1907 to 1912 under the name of E. Andronicos.

So many things went through my mind. It is hard to explain the depth of sadness I felt as I took in this information. The uncle I had never met had died in the prime of his life and had lain in the Church of England Cemetery at Coonamble for almost one-hundred years - temporarily lost but certainly not forgotten.

There is still one thing that puzzles me though. Who was the Uncle Emmanuel who visited the family at Number 10 Craig Street, Red Hill in Brisbane in the 1930's?

by Gaye Hegeman, Queensland.

You are the authors! Kythera-Family.net - the online cultural archive for Kythera - aims to preserve and reflect the rich heritage of a wonderful island. Members of the community are actively invited to submit their family collection of Kytherian stories, photographs, recipes, oral histories, and home remedies etc. to the site. Uploading directly to the site is easy and free. Thus we can help make available valuable and interesting material for current and future generations, and inspire young Kytherians to learn more about their fascinating heritage.



Cartoonist: Rocco Fazzari

THE KYTHERIAN ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA CONGRATULATES OUR FELLOW KYTHERIAN, MR GEORGE MILLER ON BEING AWARDED THE BAFTA AND ACADEMY AWARDS FOR HIS FILM, "HAPPY FEET". IT WAS THE "BEST ANIMATED FEATURE FILM".

The following photos were provided by The Courier Mail (via George Vardas) and the Internet (via George Poulos).



THE FIRST KYTHERIAN WOMAN DOWN UNDER.

By PETER VANGES (SYDNEY 2006)

The logical sequence to my research on the "First Kytherian" [man] to arrive in Australia, is the endeavour, to furnish the answer to the question of who was the first "woman" to undertake the long journey down under.

Anyone involved in research of this nature knows that the task is time consuming and not always rewarding, as names are in many instances illegible, often misspelt and most disappointingly, in the early days, only an entry of the number of passengers was considered sufficient. The gender and the Christian names are also at times not recorded.¹ As we know, the first Kytherian to arrive in Australia was Emmanuel Kritharis,⁶ who never married and as records indicate, for many years only men undertook the long journey to this far away continent. My research began with the idea that the first woman to leave Kythera had to be, either a wife or a sister of a Kytherian who had managed to become financially secure and comfortable in the thought that, he was going to stay for long time in this country.

We know that the early pioneers came mainly from the Ionian or some other Aegean islands, with the Kytherians spearheading the early chain migration that commence in the 1890s.⁵ If statements made are to be believed, only a very small number of women from Greece was recorded in the Victorian census of 1871, but their names remain unknown.⁴ As it has been proven, the first Kytherian to arrive in Australia, was Emmanuel George Kritharis in 1854 and was followed by Miltiades Vizanis in 1860 [if he was Kytherian as claimed] and Athanasios Kominos in 1873. Ioannis Kominos came in 1884 and his brothers Dimitrios in 1888, Nikolaos in 1891, Kosmas in 1892 as well as their brother-in-law Georgios Lianos in 1898.¹

Other early Kytherians are, Panagiotis Fatseas 1889, Emmanuel Strategos 1890, Victor Panaretos with Menas Kominos in 1892, Ioannis and Spyridon Panaretos and Efstathios Arones in 1895.² A number of other Kytherians arrived in Australia in the 1890s, with only some of them selecting to be naturalised as did Dimitrios Kominos in 1898.³

Dimitrios decided to undertake a short visit to Kythera and his brother-in-law, Georgios Lianos, took the opportunity in asking Dimitrios to accompany Georgios' wife Agapi and their daughter Stavroula to Australia. By this time Georgios Lianos had managed to repay all his debts as well as to keep sending money to his parents and most importantly to his wife Agapi and daughter Stavroula, whom he left back on the island some years previously.³

Dimitrios' trip to Kythera only lasted a few months.⁹ The visit to his beloved village of Perlegianika brought back old memories of good times and bad, happy stories and sad, like the one about the Byzantine city of Agios Dimitrios known as Paliohora, which was not far from his village and was ransacked by Barbarossa with thousands of its inhabitants slaughtered. He also relived happy moments of the good old simple way of life that had taught him so much.

When the time came for Dimitrios to return to Australia, as he had promised his brother-in-law, he brought back with him Georgios' wife Agapi and daughter Stavroula, as no name of a Kytherian woman was found in any of the earlier records, this had to be the appropriate time. Details of Greek women arriving in Australia⁷ are known, but the name of the first Kytherian woman to arrive in this country was never determined. It seemed to me that there was no better opportunity, or reason, for any Kytherian woman to leave her family and the island until now. Therefore, Agapi had to be the one. Everything fitted the puzzle perfectly. What was more understandable than for a woman to take the hard decision to leave everything behind and to endure such a long trip in order to be reunited with her husband, especially as she would have been escorted on the long journey ahead, by her brother? Having cross-referenced all the available information [see also, Hugh Gilchrist, - *Australians and Greeks* - Vol II, pages 195-199], I was convinced that Agapi had to be the one. The research continued, looking specifically for Agapi and Stavroula Lianos as the most probable candidates to be the first Kytherian women to arrive in Australia. Unfortunately no entry under "Lianos" was found. Gilchrist, however, was clear that Agapi and Stavroula left the island for Australia with Dimitrios who was back in Sydney in 1902. Convinced that I had missed Dimitrios' name I returned to the year 1902. Dimitrios was an Australian citizen and his name, I was convinced, had to be registered.

The lists of every ship arriving were carefully re-read. Special attention was given to the arrivals of November 1902 as that was the month that Dimitrios was supposed to have returned to Sydney. He was definitely not amongst the arrivals of that month.

Having already spent many hours searching for Agapi or Dimitrios I was not about to give up. The possibility of a mistake was always there, so, I continued with the research. Suddenly out of the blue the name “Barbarossa” was staring at me. There I was looking at details of a ship by the name “Barbarossa” that left the German port of Bremen and had sailed into Sydney on 10th of December 1902.¹ The calligraphy [see below] at the top of the page, as well as the legible writing of the names on the list, made it easy for me to continue, smiling at the irony of the possibility that Dimitrios, Agapi and Stavroula could have travelled all the way to Australia aboard a ship that bore the name, “Barbarossa”.

Half way down the second page, I noticed next to the names of five passengers, [see next page] the notation “Tourists”. Tourists? Tourists to Australia in 1902? Not only that, but, all five names looked and sounded to me, at first, as Italian. Underneath the first two entries of *Mr and Mrs Panaretto*, a name that read like *Sometri Caminos* [read Dimitri Kominos] appeared. To my pleasant surprise, the very next name was that of *Agapi Cominos*. Was this the Agapi that I was searching for? After a second look I was convinced that I had found her at last. Under the name *Sometri Caminos*, the name *Agapi* was easily recognised. Now, another problem emerged. I was searching for one only, as the first Kytherian woman and there I was, looking at the names of not one, but three women who arrived together in Sydney on 10th of December 1902, aboard a ship named “Barbarossa” and their names were, in the order and as they were written:

As if all previously encountered difficulties were not enough, it was necessary to determine, which Panaretos had returned to Australia and the name of his wife. All indications pointed to Victor and Mary [Marouli nee Arones] Panaretos.

For me and as far as the written researched records will permitt me to be sure, I can now claim that Mrs Mary Panaretos, Mrs Agapi Lianos *nee* Kominos [Comino] and Miss Stavroula Lianos [the daughter of George and Agapi Lianos] were the first three Kytherian women to arrive in Australia, together, in 1902. As to which of these three women set foot first on Sydney soil, I am afraid we will never know.

Sources and bibliography:

- 1]State and Commonwealth Government Records 1895-1902.
- 2]"I Zoe en Afstralia" Sydney 1916.
- 3]"Australians and the Greeks" Hugh Gilchrist, Vol II. 1997.
- 4]"The Australian People" James Jupp 2001.
- 5]"Kythera. A history" P Vanges 1993.
- 6]"The First Kytherian Question" P. Vanges. Kythera-Fainily.net.
- 7]Sydney Press of 1890s.
- 8]"Greek-Australians" L. Janiszewski and E. Alexakis 1989.
- 9]Peter Tsicalas. Kythera-Family.net.

KYTHERIAN LADIES AUXILIARY A.G.M. & ELECTIONS

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 28TH MARCH, 2007

**VENUE: CASTELLORIZIAN CLUB,
448 ANZAC PARADE, KINGSFORD**

TIME: 7.30PM

Financial members of the Kytherian Association willing to assist in the Ladies Auxiliary are welcome to attend.

Social News

Births

Congratulations to **Anthony & Anna Notaras** on the birth of their daughter **Elizabeth**, a sister for **Nicholas**. Proud grand-parents are **Angelo & Mary Notaras** and **Nick & Maria Sallos**.



Christenings

Lachlan Thomas Reading & Julia Marie Anderson were christened at St Michael's Greek Orthodox Church Crows Nest. **Lachlan** is the 3rd son of **Stephen & Veronica Reading** and **Julia** is the first child of **Martin & Annette Anderson**. **Lachlan** was christened by **Anna Malanos** and **Julia** was christened by **Veronica Reading**. A beautiful luncheon was held at the Northbridge Golf Club to celebrate the double christening of the two first cousins. **Lachlan's** proud grandparents are **Deanna & John Voutos** and **Joan & the late Bill Reading** and **Julia's** proud grandparents are **Deanna & John Voutos** and **Enid & Max Sawley**. Also the very proud great-grandmother on the day was **Koula Fardouly**.



Birthdays

Congratulations to **Paraskevi Antzoulatos** who celebrated her 21st birthday with a party held at the Belrose Bowling Club. **Paraskevi** is the second daughter of **Peter & Joy Antzoulatos** of Allambie Heights.

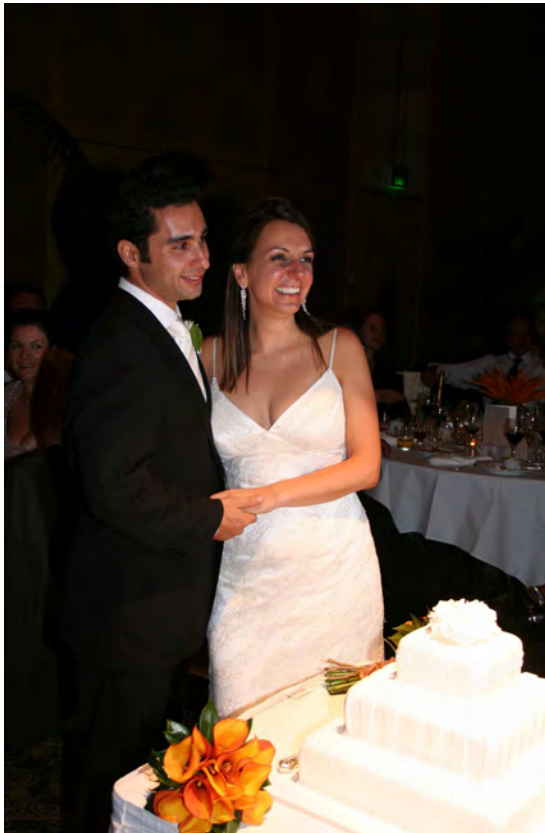
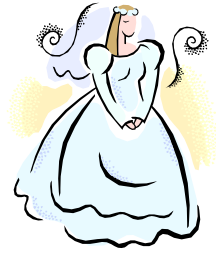
Engagements

Congratulations to **George Notaras**, youngest son of **John** and the late **Olympia** of Merrylands, as he has announced his engagement to **Despina Caldis**, daughter of **Stephen & Maria** of Wentworthville.



Congratulations to **William Summers & Emma Rose** on their recent engagement. **William & Emma** met at law school, and specifically at a law conference (ALSA - Perth, 2005), whilst representing their university, the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS). **William** completed the Bachelor of Law (LLB) degree at UTS in 2006 with an honours grading and is a registered legal practitioner in NSW (solicitor member) and a CPA. **Emma** will complete her law studies at UTS in 2007 and is a current student member on the UTS law faculty board. **William** is the son of **Mr Paul Summers** of Randwick & the late **Mrs Georgia Summers**.

Weddings



The Wedding ceremony of **Kerrie Vlandis** to **Victor Stellios** was celebrated at St Spyridon Church, Kingsford. An afternoon tea followed by the reception was held in the ballroom of the Sofitel Hotel, Sydney. It was a very happy occasion and was enjoyed by all who attended. **Kerrie** is the daughter of **Peter & Chrissa Vlandis** of Yowie Bay and Victor is the son of **Anthony & Katina Stellios** of Canberra. The happy couple honeymooned in Phuket and will settle in Canberra.

George Zantey & Ivanna Scasserra chose St. Spyridon Church Kingsford to celebrate their marriage, with a reception held afterwards at The Grand Roxy, Brighton-Le-Sands. Koumbaro was **Brett Cominos**. **George** is the eldest son of **Harry & Maria** of Greystanes, and **Ivanna** is the only child of **Roberto & Marbel** of Hillsdale.



To both couples, **Na zisete!**



Kytherian 4WD & Recreation Club Club Kotsobolyo (News)

Upcoming Event

Turon Gates Weekend Away Camping or Cabin Accommodation 13th, 14th, and 15th April 2007

It's on again. Come along and join us for what is a great weekend away. Great fun for all the family. You do not need a 4WD to be part of the fun.

For anyone who has thought about going camping but didn't feel confident this is your chance to try something different.

Our committee are there to help out if needed.

Here is your chance, just do it, your kids will love it and so will you !!!!!

This trip has been run for the last 7 years and has been a fantastic success every time. Come and join us in October 2006.

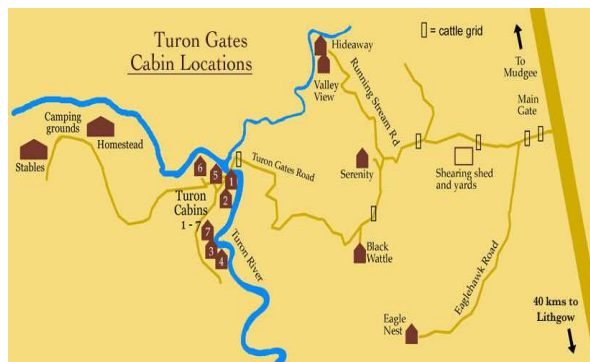
Website: www.turongates.com

Telephone: (02) 6359 0142, Cabin Bookings (02) 9969 3818

Address: Turon River, Capertee, New South Wales, 2846

How to get to Turon Gates:

At Lithgow turn right towards Mudgee. Turn off to the left just past Capertee. Refer Map below; Travel time is around 3 hours and can be travelled by conventional vehicles.



Camping: \$22 per car per night.

Additional \$6 per trailer.

Cabins: Minimum Charge per Cabin

\$360 - \$480 minimum charge.

Cabins must be booked in advance.

Cabins to be booked and paid for directly on phone (02) 9969 3818. No booking required for camping however first get the best spots.

Please contact any of the committee members below if you are coming.

Committee Contacts

Peter Tzannes 0419 993 000, Gina Ambele 0408 429 042,

Tina Economy 0421 310 150, Victor Alfieris 0417 230 743,

Spiro Coolentianos 0418 213 990 and Peter Poulos 0409 666 238.

Books & CD's for sale -
can be purchased from the
Kytherian Association of Australia:

- *History of Kythera* by Peter Vanges **\$30**
- *The Greeks in Queensland-A History from 1859 to 1945* by Denis A Conomos (RRP \$49.95)
- *Ta Tessera Spitia* by Jim Saltis **\$20**
 [Jim Saltis 47 Market Street Randwick 2031]
 email saltisjim@optusnet.com.au
 phone (02) 93999767
- *Katsehamos and the Great Idea*
 by Peter Prineas **\$35** available Plateia Press
 32 Calder Road, Darlington NSW 2008
 email plateia@ozemail.com.au
 phone: (02) 9319 1513 mobile: 0429 322 857
- *Expectations and Achievements*
 by Peter Haniotis **\$39.50**
 [Peter Haniotis 40 Eastern Ave,
 Kingsford NSW 2032]
- *By George*, Harris George. Life stories by
 Harris Tzortzopoulos, parents born Karavas,
 Kythera. Naval Officer later prominent solicitor
 in Maryland, USA.
 Available George Poulos \$35
- *A Touch of Greece. The Greek Café Owners of
 Junction St., Nowra* by Robyn Florance.
 phone: 4429 3564 (BH)
 email: rflorance@shoalnet.au
 \$17.50 including handling & postage.

Please forward any items you wish to be
 included in our Newsletter to
 The EDITOR
 PO Box A203
 SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235

or

kaanewsletter@optusnet.com.au

Please Note:

Those submitting articles to this
 Newsletter are advised that these
 articles may appear on the
Kythera-Family.net website.

**The deadline for articles is the 23rd of
 each month.**

Greek Dancing **Classes**

TERM 1 Friday Nights
9/2/07 - 30/3/07

Matraville High School cnr
 Anzac Pde & Franklin Sts,
 Matraville.

Class Times:

Infants	7.00pm-
7.45pm	
Primary	7.45pm-
8.30pm	
Junior High School	8.30pm-
9.15pm	

CULTURAL ARCHIVE **WEBSITE FOR KYTHERA**

Kythera-Family.net
<http://www.kythera-family.net>

Donations can be sent directly to:

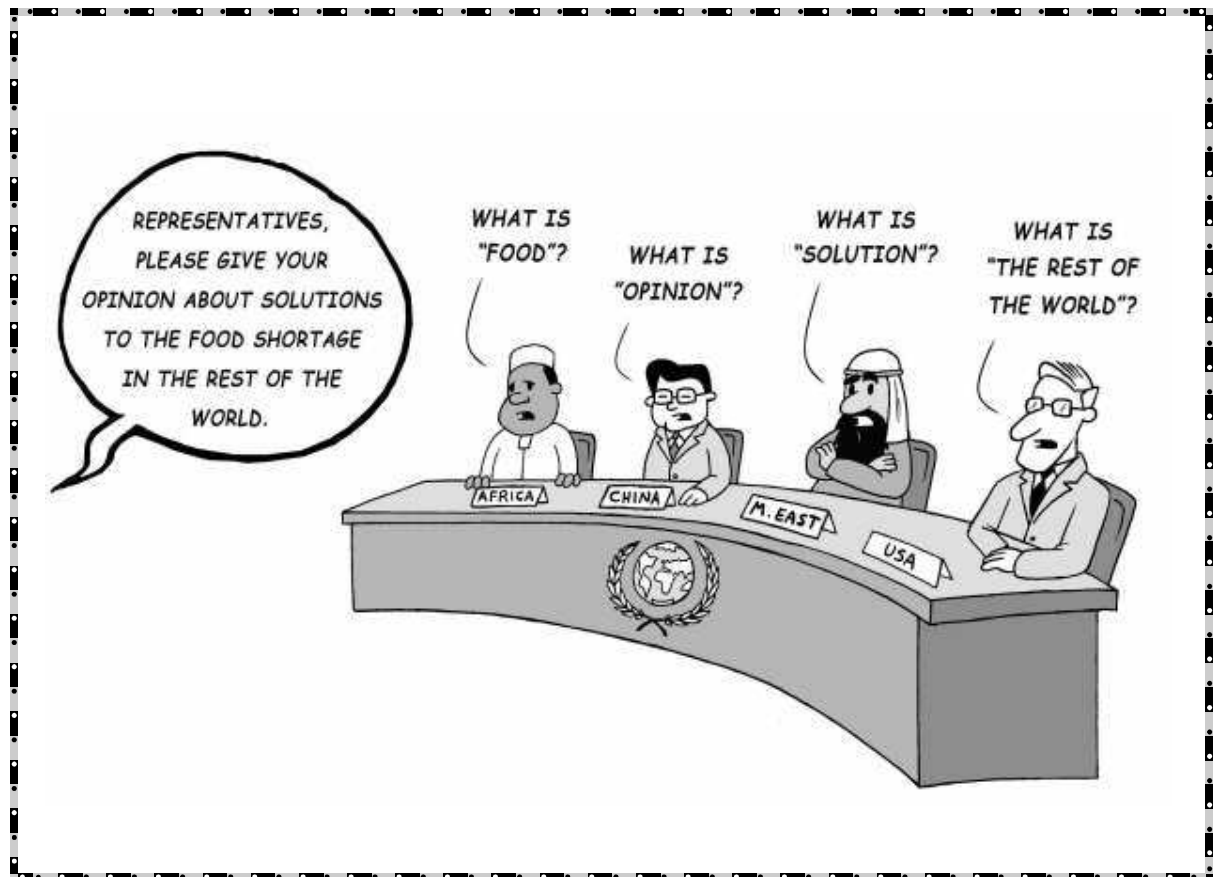
The Treasurer
Kytherian Association of Australia
PO Box A203
Sydney South NSW 1235

Cheques should be made out to:
Kytherian Association of Australia -
Kythera Family Website Account

More information about sponsorship can
 also be obtained by contacting:

George C Poulos
 Ph: 02 9388 8320
 Email: transoz@bigpond.net.au

Angelo Notaras
 Ph: 02 9810 0194



The following request comes from a fellow Kytherian.

I was wondering if there had been a story published in an old edition of the Kytherian Society magazine on the Denman cafe (information on Harry Flaskas and family). Is there any way to find this out? Believe it mentioned the Denman cafe started by Harry Flaskas and continued by his two daughters and niece Koula Castrisos.

Also is there any information on a Chris Castrission, who was President of the Kytherian Association in 1967?

Thanks, both of these families are related to me.

Peter Trearchis (age 16)
Dracut, MA