



The KYTHERIAN

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

OCTOBER 2007

THE KYTHERIAN LADIES' AUXILIARY

takes pleasure in inviting you to a

MELBOURNE CUP FASHION LUNCHEON

Tuesday, 6th November 2007

11.30 am

SWISS GRAND HOTEL

"The Ballroom"

***Cnr Campbell Parade and Beach Road, Bondi Beach
(parking available at a nominal rate)***

A parade of exclusive fashions by Anthea Crawford

A sumptuous lunch

An array of Lucky Door and Raffle Prizes

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

<i>Please contact:</i>	<i>Helen Kanaris</i>	<i>9349 8113</i>
	<i>Mary Moutzouris</i>	<i>9310 0420</i>
	<i>Kathy Samios</i>	<i>9349 1849</i>
	<i>Kyrranne Thomas</i>	<i>9764 6636</i>

RSVP: Wednesday, 31st October 2007

*We look forward to seeing you there –
and don't forget to wear your favourite hat!*

"MEN ARE MOST WELCOME"

THE KYTHERIAN ASSOCIATION of AUSTRALIA

presents

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PICNIC

SUNDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 2007

(details in next month's newsletter)

KYTHO CALENDAR

**FRIDAY 19TH OCTOBER -
FRIDAY 21ST DECEMBER**

Weekly dancing lessons for Term 4.

SUNDAY 28TH OCTOBER

Wreath Laying at Archdiocese in honour of OXI Day (see below).

TUESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

Melbourne Cup Fashion Luncheon (see front page for details).

SUNDAY 2ND DECEMBER

Children's Christmas Picnic (details in next month's newsletter)

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.

SUNDAY 28TH OCTOBER

OXI Day Ceremony at the Archdiocese, Cleveland Street, Redfern. The wreath laying will occur after the liturgy, in the Cathedral grounds. All welcome.

Editor's Note

Everyone will tell you how sad it is for parents when their child goes to school for the first time.

However, no one warns you about the roller coaster ride of emotions that you go through when that child finishes high school. Those thirteen years seem to have flown by and suddenly that cute little kid who survived that minefield called adolescence (along with his parents) is transformed into a mature young adult.

The last day of school for our son was an extremely emotional one for all of us. He was leaving a school that had provided him with a happy and nurturing environment, allowing him to be true to himself and grow as a person. His teachers who had played such a major role in his development, now sadly farewelled him... not just as a student but as a friend.

As we were driving home, we reflected on all those years... the camps, excursions, sports, competitions, musicals, Greek plays, etc. etc, etc and agreed that it had indeed been an amazing adventure! As a parent, I was fortunate enough to have been able to participate in many of the school's activities and for that I will always be grateful. Many of his memories are also mine. Hopefully, these wonderful experiences will hold him in good stead as he embarks on the next leg of his life's journey.

He, like other year 12 students are in their final preparations for the Higher School Certificate which begins in a few weeks. I wish all those students who are sitting for their exams the very best of luck!

Keep in mind that despite how overwhelming everything may seem to you right now, this stressful time will pass. Someone once said (as usual...I have no idea who it was) "Feed your mind with great thoughts. Belief in great things makes for greatness".



ANNUAL DEBUTANTE BALL

31st May, 2008

Those young ladies, turning 16 years of age or older, wishing to make their debut next year, please contact Mrs. Esther Calligeros on 9344 0298.

Kythera-Family.net

for the world-wide Kytherian Community



Multilingual

search

Go

Cemetery Work

I've met some nice people through the site – distant relatives, old friends of the family, enthusiastic Diaspora Kytherians. It is also a special pleasure to come into contact with "foreigners" in the Kytherian sense – i.e. those who have no blood ties to the island – who love the island as much as I do. One such person is Margaret Tuite, who hails from Ireland, works in Brussels, and spends her summer holidays at Panagia Despina, not far from Karavas. While on this year's holiday with her family, she volunteered to photograph gravestones on the island – continuing the work our team did at the beginning of the year. Margaret managed to photograph no less than SEVEN cemeteries. 2 cemeteries at Alexandrathes, Ag. Anastasia, Gerakari, Keramoto, Livathi and Pitsinianika. In making those pictures available for family research, she will have helped thousands of Diaspora Kytherians around the world. Thanks Margaret! The physical work has thus been done – now we need volunteers to help us translate and upload the pictures to the site. If you're interested, please contact me and I will give you download details of the pictures.

James Prineas email: james@kythera-family.net

Nimble Fingers

As a child I was intrigued by the intricate work... her crochet hook worked quickly, and seemingly with a rhythm of its own. She seemed to barely look at her hands, all the while holding a conversation with one of her family or a friend who may be visiting. She used no patterns, and yet each piece seemed to be quite different from the last. While she was this engrossed, she always seemed so content, as if the repetition had a pulse of its own, that calmed her... gave her an escape from her daily chores.

To a small child, watching my Nona crochet was something magical. I longed to be able to create as she did, but I was told I was too little. I watched carefully as a ball of cotton thread became a doily or perhaps a cloth for the tea tray. It was by her mother's side, as a child on Kythera, that my Nona learned to crochet. Like so many Greek women, it was considered essential that she pass on the knowledge to her daughters so that they, too, could carry on the tradition of crocheting, and embroidering for their prika, which broadly speaking, means dowry or trousseau. I was too young to ask my grandmother what she had brought from Greece. I just knew that she had quite a collection of cloths and doilies, tablecloths and a few quilts, or paploma.

The women of the villages would often gather to exchange ideas and compare their handiwork, but mostly simply to enjoy each other's company as they worked. Some of the early quilts were filled with raw cotton. I don't know if my grandmother actually made her quilts, though she was adept at sewing and skilled at transforming old clothes into something useable. Often, quilts in Greece would be made by the village quilt maker, usually a male, who would be called to the house to assemble and quilt a bedcover for a newly engaged young girl. Though these quilts were always filled with cotton, I do recall one of my Nona's quilts being filled with feathers... it was so cosy and my brother and I loved to snuggle under it. Even more fun was to shake it to resettle the feathers... it made a lovely soft, whooshing sound as it fell back on the bed.

My grandmother was proud of the weaving that she had done as a young girl and it is only recently that I have been given a cotton rug that she had made. The colours are vibrant still and make me wonder how old she was... how long it took her to make. I have a few other pieces of her work... such fine embroidery, intricate lace... was it from her I inherited my love of embroidery and the skills that led me to becoming an embroidery teacher for some years? As most Greek women didn't work outside the home, they took great pride in creating beautiful pieces for their home... practical, yes, but always created with such care. I love the traditional patterns used for generations, like the Greek key design. I'm fascinated by the depiction of ancient mythology on woven cotton bags, mostly in the beautiful blue and white that signifies Greek tradition. Many of the figures or emblems used in the embroidery can also be seen on urns or ceramics.

As I grew older, an Aunt taught me to crochet a little, though I never did achieve the elegant intricacies of my grandmother's work. She tatted, embroidered, wove, crocheted... all with such finesse and all with such nimble fingers.

Crissouli ©2007 email: crissouli@kythera-family.net

IMPORTANT NOTICE

An exhibition is being arranged of the photographic work of Panayoti Fatseas, who took most of his portraits on Kythera between 1920 and 1950. Many of his glass plates have been recovered but an unfortunate number were lost. If you have a portrait from Kythera from that period with Fatseas' stamp or signature on it, please contact George Poulos in Sydney on 02.9388 83 20.

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.

Soccer Team falls at penultimate hurdle

After winning the minor premiership, the Kytherians headed into the semi finals with confidence. Rain caused a number of cancellations forcing the Eastern Suburbs Football Association to restrict the semi finals format to just one week and the Kytherians lost the double chance privilege normally reserved for the Minor Premiers.

In the sudden death semi final with the Lions, the Kytherians ultimately lost only their third game of the season. A depleted team took the field and in conjunction with some bad luck, the Kytherians lost the game 1-0. In the end, Locomotiv Cove (a Soccer Club comprising of Sydney FC fans) beat the Lions 1-0 in the Grand Final leaving the Kytherians to rue what "might have been". This year the Kytherians beat the eventual Grand Final winner on both occasions and didn't concede a goal.

Despite the disappointment, the Kytherians look back to a successful year. It was only the second time that the team won the minor premiership, that for the purists, is the true championship. Indeed the Association, which is comprised of many Britons who don't like our finals tradition, awarded the Kytherians their "League Champion" medals at a presentation night attended by clubs, officials and of course, local politicians.

Some of the highlights this year include:

- The fantastic efforts of **George Roins** and **Paul Raissis** who scored 15 goals each and made them the most threatening attacking pair in the league.
 - The most impressive goal keeping performance the team has ever seen with **Kon Nakousis** playing an enormous role in conceding only 16 goals in the 19 games the Kytherians played this year (a defensive club record)
- Sons of prior players joining the team and having a great season such as **Peter and Charles Tzannes** (sons of **Spiro and John Tzannes** respectively). Their fathers were founding members of the team way back in 1978!!!!

2007 Awards

Players' Player – **Kon Nakousis**

Most Improved/Rookie of the Year – **Peter Tzannes**

Most Valuable Player – **Paul Raissis**

Of course no season is complete until the final match of the year - the Allstars (the current team) vs the Legends (past players + a couple of older members of the current team). This was one of the most memorable games in the 10 year history of the supreme sporting event of the Kytherian calendar.

The Allstars took the lead with a lightning shot from young **George Vergis**. But the Legends turned on some retro magic and before long, **John Venetoulis** was smashing the ball into Allstars net and the Legends took a 2-1 lead into half time. The Allstars didn't miss the invitation and equalised late in the second half. Referee **Spiro Coolentianos** promptly blew the full time whistle and could have left the score line at the politically correct 2-2 draw with the players retiring to enjoy the BBQ and drinks. But that wasn't going to satisfy the expectators who wanted to see a winner.

So it was left to penalty shots to decide the better team. It was decided not to put one of the best goalkeepers of the regular competition, Kon Nakousis to defend but Sacha Kepreotis against Greg Comino. Well with some quick reflexes from the Allstars midfielder and some valiant efforts by the Legends goalkeeper, the record books will show a win to the Allstars, 4-1 on penalties.

The team would like to take the opportunity to thank all their supporters this year. In particular we'd like to thank the following people –

John Venetoulis, proprietor of **Maroubra Family Pharmacy**, our Major Sponsor who's generosity made it possible for the team to return to our traditional Sky Blue Colours.

The Kytherian Association and the Kytherian 4WD & Recreation Club for their continued support.

Mrs Athina Roins who week after week ensured that we had the cleanest, most pleasantly fragrant jerseys in the competition. She has selflessly performed team management responsibilities for the better part of 10 years..... and makes the best post game paximadia and coffee this side of Potamo!!!

And finally the Wives, Girlfriends, Mothers (and Fathers) who, especially this year, had to support us with countless ice packs, groans, moans and medical centre visits on Sunday afternoons.

Next year we will celebrate the 30TH Anniversary from the first time the Kytherians marched onto a soccer field here in Sydney. We hope to see you at the various testimonial events we plan for this fantastic milestone.



A call for the loan of original Fatseas postcards & prints.

I am writing to see whether you can help us gather together some of Panayioti Fatseas' original prints, now in the hands of Kytherians in Australia, as loans for the big Fatseas exhibition, to be held at the prestigious Benaki Museum, Athens. As you know, the archive consists exclusively of negatives, and unfortunately a very large proportion of these are either badly damaged or unusable. We have access to very few original prints, for the simple reason that nearly all of them were sent out to family and friends in Australia and the USA. Also, many of the prints surviving on Kythera have suffered from damp and from poor storage conditions.

However, it is important to include a good number of originals in the exhibition as well as the various publications, both because they will inevitably include images otherwise unavailable to us, but also because they will show how Fatseas himself printed and presented his photographs. An obvious way to do this is to ask the current owners of original prints whether they would be willing to loan them for the duration of the exhibition.. Potential lenders in Australia can either -

A) Send them by courier or registered mail to my address on Kythera,

John Stathatos, Chora, Kythera 80100, Greece

or

B) Send them to **Mr George C Poulos**, 42 Eastern Avenue,
Dover Heights NSW 2030 and he can forward them to me.

Obviously, they should be sent unframed in order to avoid breakages.

Any loans will be acknowledged in writing, curated, mounted and framed by the Benaki museum's highly efficient and reliable in-house studios, and will be returned, again by courier, when the exhibition is broken up (remember we also hope to tour it after the Athens showing). We will also provide the lenders with a high-quality scan of their photograph.

John Stathatos.

Kythera.

Photograph: Details:

Panayotis Fatseas: studio portrait of Andreas Kalokairinos (Valentis) and his wife Diamanda (nee Tzanne) with their children Emmanouil, Minas and Theodoros and their daughter-in-law Aikaterini.

Vintage toned silver print, 12.3x16.7 cm. Ref. Number KPA 00114.

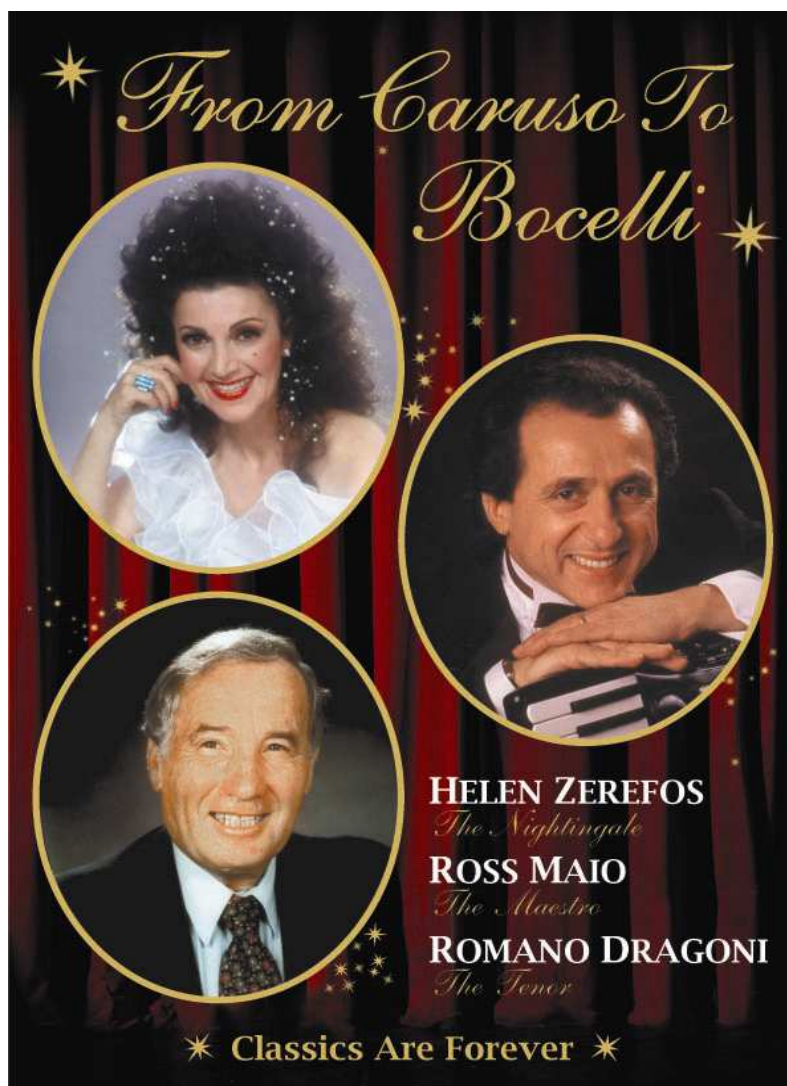
Original in the possession of Andreas Kalokairinos



Other photographs in the Fatseas collection can viewed at:

<http://kythera-family.net/index.php?nav=71-76>

HELEN ZEREFOS



Recently, a group of us attended a concert performed by our own beautiful **Helen Zerefos**. A full house was thoroughly entertained by her wonderful rendition of many famous songs from the period of Caruso through to recent times with Andrea Bocelli.

We all enjoyed ourselves immensely and felt honoured that we were later able to have coffee with **Helen** who is as charming as she is beautiful!

On 28th August, **Helen** attended the “Mo” Awards Presentation Ceremony, where she was awarded the Best Classical/Opera Performer Award. Everyone had been asked to dress as their favourite character. Ironically, there were two Cleopatras at the packed event, one being our own **Helen** and the other being the presenter of the very award that she won. Consequently, one Cleopatra gave the award to the other Cleopatra! Congratulations **Helen**!

For those who missed a wonderful show they can experienced a trip down memory lane with a fantastic show on Saturday, 22nd December 2007 at Souths Juniors Leagues Club.



Social News

Births

Congratulations to **Joanna & Ruben Castro** on the birth of their first child **Jeremy (Gerasimos)** on 24th May. He is the first grandchild for **Mike & Margaret Micos**.



George Michael Samios was born on 21st of August 2007. He is the third child of **Michael & Anastasia Samios** of Brisbane, the fifth grandchild of **Emmanuel & Matina Samios** of Bronte, and the fourth grandchild of **Rose and the late George Anastas** of Brisbane.

Congratulations to **Arthur & Vicky Frilingos** on the birth of their twins, **George and Tia**. Brother and sister to **Anastasia** and grandchildren for **George & Georgina Frilingos** of Kogarah and **Theo & Anastasia Dedes** of Kingsgrove.

Congratulations to **Martin & Annette Anderson** on the birth of their second child, a gorgeous, baby boy, **Richard Dean**, a beautiful brother for **Julia**. **Richard** is the newest grandchild for **Enid & Max Sawley** and the fourth grandson for **Deanna & John Voutos**. **Richard** is also the 14th great grand child for **Koula Fardouly** who is absolutely delighted with the arrival of the newest family member.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Mrs Lexie Cassimaty** who has been invited to attend Grafton's 73rd Jacaranda Festival as Celebrity Guest. **Lexie**, eldest daughter of the late **Nick & Koula Langley**, grew up in Grafton, on the NSW North Coast.

Grafton is famous for its Jacaranda Festival and in 1957, at the age of 18, **Lexie** was chosen as Jacaranda Queen. This was a great honour and a major achievement in the 1950's.

So to celebrate **Lexie's** Golden Anniversary, the event's organisers gave her the unique honour of being the only former Queen to be invited back as Celebrity Guest. While there is always a Guest of Honour (last year's was **George Castrissios**), there has only ever been one other Celebrity Guest.

Congratulations **Lexie** and we hope that you thoroughly enjoy the festival!

Engagements



Congratulations to **Mark Macarounas & Erini Kontrafouris** on their recent engagement. **Mark** is the son of the late **Coula Macarounas** of Randwick and the late **Emanuel Macarounas**. **Erini** is the daughter of **Jim & Helen Kontrafouris** of Kingsford.

Best wishes to them both for their future!

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Helen Jancev (nee Cominos) & Nick Jancev** for winning the Randwick City Business Excellence Awards for Outstanding New Business - for **Focus Driving School**.

Rose & Jim Cominos (Tsigli) who are currently holidaying in Kythera are extremely proud of their daughter and son-in-law for achieving this award.

Focus Driving School has also been selected as a finalist for the 2007 New South Wales & ACT Small Business Champion Awards.

The winners for the New Business category will be announced at the inaugural presentation evening to be held at The Westin, Sydney on Saturday 13th October. Good luck **Helen & Nick!**

Focus Driving School
www.focusdrivingschool.com.au



Congratulations

The Hon. John Della Bosca, NSW Minister for Education recently awarded **Seva Omeros** with the **2007 MINISTER'S AWARD for EXCELLENCE in STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**.

This article was written in the "TORCH" newspaper on the 19th September 2007.

*I am very proud, that **Seva Omeros**, is our grand-daughter and congratulate her for her hard work and achievements.*

*In the photo below, she receives her award from Mr. Della Bosca and in the next photo, with her sister **Popandi** who last year was "DUX" at the same school.*

SPIRO CALOCERINOS

Seva Omeros of East Hills Girls High School, was one of 38 students who won the prestigious award, which recognises EXCELLENCE in public school students.

"These students have been recognised for their outstanding academic, sporting and cultural achievements, as well as their leadership and contribution to the school community," said Mr. Della Bosca

Miss Omeros' nomination, described her as a quiet achiever with an impressive and outstanding academic record, who contributed widely to both East Hills Girls High School and the wider community.

Mr. Della Bosca said, the Schools had been an integral part in the success of the students, providing a supportive and enriching learning environment that helped them to learn and achieve.

"I'm confident, that these students will go on to achieve in the future and represent NSW Schools as providers of quality education," he said.



OVERSEAS CONNECTION

Recently, George Poulos, Secretary of KAA, travelled overseas and visited fellow Kytherians in California, USA. The following report was written by Vikki Vrettos Fraioli, Secretary of the Kytherian Association of California.

We had two wonderful gatherings. The first was in Oakland at the home of my sister and brother-in-law, Evonne and Nikos Yfantis. There we gathered with about 40 members of the [Kytherian Society of California](#) for a wonderful afternoon of friendship and fellowship. I'd like to thank ALL the members who worked hard on this event by bringing the delicious food, and I'd especially like to thank our BBQ chefs; my husband Tom Fraioli, and brothers-in law Nikos Yfantis, and Fawaz Khanachet. The salmon was superb!

From Modesto, we continued our tour to Southern California via the scenic coastal drive down Highway 1....Monterey, 17 Mile Drive, Pebble Beach, Big Sur, and San Simeon where we found sea lions lazily lying on the beach. Of course it was there that we ran into Greeks as well. Several Greeks from Athens and France were riding Harley-Davidsons motorcycles up Hwy 1. George spotted a perfect photo opportunity in the parking lot when he noticed a Greek flag attached to the back of a motorcycle. He quickly rummaged through his suitcase in the trunk of the car, to pull out his Papou's large Greek flag. Soon the other Greeks had returned and helped him stretch open the flag as they all chanted, *ZITO H ELLAS!* The other Greeks shot photos and video footage of the gathering as well.

Later we stopped in Templeton to visit Kytherian, Polyxene McClory (nee Souris), who we became acquainted with through Kythera-famiy.net. She had graciously invited us to her home for dinner and shared her old photographs of relatives from Kythera. George vowed to try to reconnect her with her Souris relatives from Karava. The next day we took in Pismo Beach and the tiny Danish town of Solvang before going on to Santa Barbara where we would meet team leader Terry Chlentos.

That evening we were invited to the home of Kytherian, Alex Morelli (Feros) where a large family gathering was taking place to celebrate two birthdays of family members. To all of our amazement, George recognized most of the people in the old photographs of Alex's photo albums, as people very close to his family. Included was an old photo of none other than our own KFN Team Leader James Prineas who she referred to in her photo album as "*Dimitri the Aussie*", who helped them when they first arrived in Kythera because the "cabby" couldn't understand English.

The next morning we left Santa Barbara for Ventura to have coffee with Connie Pappas Hillman. Connie prepared the most wonderful coffee and Greek sweets for us to munch on in her beautiful home with panoramic views of the California coast. Connie was the former manager for Elton John and is a good friend of Terry Chlentos. Go to <http://kythera-family.net/index.php?nav=64&hits=20&searchword=Chris%20Hillman117-118&did=13932-1&searchResult=searchResult>, to see a photo of [George posing with his new bud, Connie's husband, Chris Hillman](#), formerly of the 70's rock band the BYRDS. Thank you Terry for arranging those two gatherings!

From Ventura it was on to Malibu, to have lunch at Taverna Tony's and to see the exhibit of the *Greeks on the Black Sea* at the [Getty Villa](#). Terry drove the scenic route taking us down Sunset Blvd, past Rodeo Drive, and on to Pasadena.

The following day we had our *Southern California Kytherian Gathering*, held at *Wahib's Middle East Restaurant*. Fourteen Kytherians gathered, most of whom had never met, for a wonderful afternoon of friendship and sharing. Hopefully, this gathering was the impetus for the beginnings of a **Southern California Kytherian Society**.

Georgia Pine (Aronis) took the initiative to launch a [Southern California Kytherian Society Website](#), in hopes of recruiting more interested people.

Newfound friendships were formed at that gathering which led to a evening out in Old Town Pasadena. Cynthia Cavalenes-Jarvis, her husband Ron, and Pete Bellessis, joined KFN team members Terry, George and me, as we had meze and drinks at [Café Santorini](#), a Greek restaurant of course, that we just happened to come upon in old town.

The following day, the group visited [St. Sophia Cathedral](#) in Los Angeles, and cruised through Papa Christo's famous Deli-Restaurant across the street from the Cathedral in the Byzantine-Latino district of Los Angeles. Cynthia again offered her assistance by navigating her way through the Hollywood Hills so George could take a photograph of the Hollywood sign. She drove us past the Paramount Pictures Studios, where she worked for several years, three of which she worked as the personal assistant to Shelley Long, on the set of "Cheers".

After one last lunch at *El Cholo Mexican Restaurant*, we said our goodbyes.

Terry took George on one last tour through [Venice Beach](#) before dropping him off at LAX for the long plane ride home. After Cynthia dropped me at the Burbank airport, we each headed back to our own destinations.

Thanks again George for a wonderful visit! We look forward to seeing you again soon!



(LA) From left to right:

Nicholas Samios
Terry Chlentos Keramaris
Pete Clentzos Jr.
Eunice Alkman
Cynthia Cavalenes*-Jarvis (*Other family-name spellings include Kavalini & Cavallini)
Ron Jarvis
Vikki Vrettos Fraioli
Peter Kosmas Bellessis
George Poulos
Pan Coukoulis
Bob Constant
Connie Constant, special guest and author of [Austin Lunch](#)
Bessie Gianakos (Zantiotis)
Georgia Pine (Aronis)



(Oakland) Left to Right seated:

Teddi Carvounnis; Sophie Cominos; Evonne Yfantis; Stamatoula Chlentos; Tikey Zes; Nicholas Cominos; John Calligeros; Fawaz Khanachet
Row one: Elaine Moulos, president; Nicole Sofios; Andrew Saffis; Niki Saffas;
Teddi Zes, Treasurer; Vikki Vrettos Fraioli, Secretary; Terry Calligeros; Connie Khanachet; Cathy Zamenes; Nikos Yfantis
Row Two: John Carvounnis; John Sofios; Kay Sofios; Chrysanthé Conomos, Board Advisor; Andreas Kotakis; Joan Cominos; Ted Zamenes
Row Three: George Poulos; Jim Argyros; Jeannie Argyros; Eve Cominos; Paula Kotakis

The Kytherian Society of California consists of people who are predominantly from Northern California. In an effort to unite Kytherians from the southern part of the state, a gathering was organized to coincide with the visit from George Poulos.

All who attended had a wonderful time sharing their thoughts and connections to Kythera. Hopefully, this was the start of a Kytherian Society of Southern California.

PIRATES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

Part II

By Luke Kepreotis

Nick the Adonis lowered his sunglasses and glanced at the tedious landscape.

‘I don’t feel anything,’ he grunted.

This time Leo bypassed kicking the camera case and went straight for the throat. Not a moment later a teenage figure was prying the two men apart, separating the strangle session like a farmer with a bucket of water.

‘Hey! Hey!! What do you two psychos think you are doing?’ said the woman, brushing her fringe back behind her ear.

Leo ran a hand through his shock of white hair. ‘What do you want, Desi?’

Desi Dimakis was a local girl who had the amazing fortune of being cast alongside her small-screen idol, Nick, as his torrid love-interest. Leo’s budget, as limited as it is, could only stretch so far. And, having spent most of it hiring Nick Scorthos, all the other actors were collected from somewhat less prestigious backgrounds. Desi lived in Pitsinianika, and grew up with dreams of stardom, and so, when she told her family about starring alongside the celebrity pin-up, they went through a series of emotions. After laughing, then crying, then laughing again, they finally decided to take Desi seriously. She has since become a local hero, proof that even in The Pits your dreams can come true.

‘I want the both of you to stop fighting,’ she said, with every ounce of audacity needed to lecture the director. ‘Lately you two seem to be doing it at every chance you get, and I have problems of my own. So if I have to suck it in and play by the rules, I think it’s only fair that the star attraction should follow suit.’

Leo and Nick fell silent. It was more of a psychological response more than anything else because when a Greek woman is yelling at you, you better listen or risk losing a limb.

Leo calmed himself as best he could, although inside his gut he was walking the razor’s edge.

‘Desi,’ he began, ‘you have to understand that Nick is my drawcard. He is the lure. He is what is selling this movie. He is what ensures this film makes it to every cinema in Greece, and maybe even to Cannes! And when he refuses to act, I can’t help but get a little emotional. Now what is your problem, hmm?’

‘Well for starters, Nick is meant to be my co-star and he doesn’t even look at me. All he can do is sit there and mope about the mainland. I’m telling you it’s making me sick!’

The Adonis heard his name and sat up in his makeshift sun chair. ‘Well, maybe if this slave-driver of a director here would give me some motivation, then we could finish this movie and I could be sunbaking in Santorini instead of sitting *here*!’

Leo could feel it. It felt hot. It felt hot and it was bubbling. It was his temper. He tried to keep it bolted down. He knew it had gotten him in hot water before, but now... He was getting older and he was losing his self-control.

‘I am the *director*,’ said Leo, furiously. ‘Have people forgotten? I give the directions and *you* act them out. We get it all on film and hey presto, we have a movie! It’s a proven formula!’ He turned to Nick. ‘Now, do you want motivation?’

The Adonis took a moment to respond but nodded.

‘And Desi, do you want Nick to notice you more?’

She nodded, vehemently.

Leo drew a Swiss army knife from his pants pocket. 'Fine!'

Both of the actors recoiled instantly.

'Hey, Leo, what do you think you're doing?' said Desi.

The irate director ignored her and selected an especially sharp blade and swung, cutting the top button from her blouse and revealing her ample cleavage. Almost instantly the sunglasses fell from Nick's face, drawing his eye like a moth to a flame.

Leo pocketed his knife and adjusted his jacket.

'Nick Scorthos, please meet your co-star, Desi Dimakis. Desi Dimakis, please meet Nick Scorthos. I hear he's in a particularly receptive mood today. Is everybody happy now?'

Nick was silent, preoccupied.

Desi was silent, horrified.

Leo turned around and began to make his way back to his trailer. 'I'll take that as a yes,' he said, over his shoulder.

A stage-hand appeared seemingly out of nowhere and delivered the director a copy of the script. He thumbed through it as he walked, barking orders with each step.

'Take five and memorise the lines for Scene Thirty-Two. We have a movie to make, people. Time is money.'

According to a small peasant boy who was rounding up his father's goats on the night of the heist, three strange men all with strange shapes, lumbered out of the shadows, lugging a very large crate down the side of a hill.

The first said, 'Man, this is heavy!'

The second said, 'Quit complaining and lift with your legs!'

And the third said, 'Hey, I think I can see my house from here.'

The trio shuffled crabwise down the stony slope, carrying the iron crate under their combined strength. Their path was marked by a carpet of rocks, as if a school of crabs had suddenly decided to migrate to the middle of the road.

Navigating the incline was awkward at best, even with the aid of sunlight. And although the mastermind of the heist was cultured and well-read, he was not an avid fan of mathematics. Had he been, then things may have turned out quite differently, because anyone with half a brain would have been able to calculate the equation that rugged terrain plus the dead of night plus a trio of bumbling crims equals disaster.

It didn't take long for the inevitable to happen. One of the men tripped and landed face first onto the ground. The crate slipped from the hands of the other two and fell with a resounding thud!

The first said, 'I can't believe it! You dropped the crate!'

The second said, 'Did you become clumsy on your own or did you take lessons?'

And the third said, 'It wasn't my fault! I tripped on a rock. It could have happened to anyone!'

The clumsiest of the trio cowered briefly, expecting his comrades to shower him with blows. When the onslaught didn't come, he looked around warily, only to see a deep trail where the crate used to be.

The trio went livid as they watched their loot slide away down the slope.

The first said, 'Bugger.'

The second said, 'Bugger.'

And the third said, 'I bet I'll get blamed for this.'

To be continued.....



In October 2004 the PARTHENON PROJECT hits Sydney. For the latest news on the New Acropolis Museum, the ongoing restoration efforts on the Parthenon and the continuing debate for the return of cultural artefacts, Sydney University will be the venue for a series of important lectures, activities and presentations. Do not miss out.

The Parthenon Restoration Project

On Wednesday **24 October 2007** at 7.00pm at MacLaurin Hall at the University of Sydney [Nikolaos Toganidis](#), the architect responsible for the project, will discuss the historical phases of the Parthenon from 447BC to 2007 and the main restoration efforts on this masterpiece of Greek classical art. [Maria Ioannidou](#), Director of the Acropolis Restoration Service, will also be speaking about the restoration projects being carried out in the Parthenon, the Propylaia ceilings and in the temple of Athena Nike.

Cost: \$40 Bookings: 9351 7940; Enquiries: 9351 2686

The Parthenon: Who owns Cultural Heritage?

As part of the Parthenon Project hosted by The University of Sydney, a panel of Greek and Australian experts will use the example of the Parthenon marbles to raise the broader issues of who owns cultural heritage. Come and debate this issue with the experts on Sunday **28 October 2007**, 4.00pm at the Seymour Theatre Centre.

Cost: \$20/\$15 concession; Bookings: 9351 7940

Family Day at the Nicholson Museum

On Sunday **28 October 2007** come to the Nicholson Museum at Sydney University from 10.00am-4.00pm to hear specialist talks and handle contemporary Greek archaeological material. Children's activities are also scheduled.

Public lecture: The New Acropolis Museum in Athens

On Tuesday **30 October 2007**, 6.30pm at the Nicholson Museum [Professor Dimitrios Pandermalis](#), President of the Organization for the Construction of the New Acropolis Museum, will deliver an important lecture on the soon-to-be-opened museum and what it means for Greece and the campaign to return the Parthenon Sculptures.

Cost: \$25 (\$20 Friends of the Nicholson Museum)

Bookings & Enquiries: 02 9351 2812 - **Booking essential.**

Parthenon Restoration Exhibition

Between **12 October - 14 December 2007** you can visit the Parthenon Restoration Exhibition at the Nicholson Museum, The University of Sydney. Enquiries: 9351 2812.

**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
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phone (02) 9319 1513 Mobile: 0429 322 857
- *Aphrodite and The Mixed Grill . Greek Cafes in Twentieth-Century Australia*
by Toni Risson 130 Woodend Road,
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email : s131107@uq.edu.au -\$49.95 plus
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- *By George* , Harris George. Life stories by
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- *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.
- *Journey to Kythera* CD-ROM for Apple Mac
ActionPoints@hotmail.com or 0417 590 194

Greek Dancing Classes

**TERM 4 Fridays
19th Oct. - 21st Dec.2007**

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

Senior Group 9.15pm-

10.15pm

Please note that all need to have cur-

CULTURAL ARCHIVE WEBSITE FOR KYTHERA

Kythera-Family.net

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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
- Kytherian World Heritage Fund.***

More information about sponsorship
can also be obtained by contacting:

George C Poulos

Ph: 02 9388 8320

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or

Angelo Notaras

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www.kytherianassociation.com.au

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Logon now & tell us what you think:
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Please Note:

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