



PAN MACEDONIAN STUDIES CENTER, INC. KENTRO MAKEDONIKON ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ

A Non-profit 501(c)(3) Organization
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10th International
Convention and 63rd
Pan-Macedonian USA
Convention

Pan Macedonian Studies Center E-Newspaper

April 2009, Volume 1, Issue 1



Alexandreion Building
in Dion, Pieria
July 9-13, 2009

Highlights:

- Academic Symposium on "MACEDONIA"
- Excursion and tour on the archeological sites of the Prefecture of Pella.
- The Pan-Macedonian Youth will perform our traditional dances by the waterfalls of Edessa.

CONTENTS:

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- *"Blatant propaganda on Greek TV"*, by **Dr. Christos Karatzios**
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- **Dr. Miller's** letter to Archaeology magazine
- **Nina Gatzoulis**, the "Iron Lady" of the Pan Macedonian Association was honored in Thessaloniki, on March 18th 2009, by the Prefecture of Thessaloniki .

Our goal was and remains to create a Studies Center which will offer educational programs and a well organized library including a resource center which will entice our youth and ensure the future of the Pan Macedonian Studies Center.

It is our sincere hope that we will attract and appoint youth representatives to our board.

Board of Directors



Dear members and friends of the Pan Macedonian Studies Center,

Spring has sprung and Easter is a few days away. We wish you and your loved ones every blessing for a joyful Spring, Happy Easter and all of the joy only love can bring.

Our next lecture will take place on April 9th at the Hellenic Cultural Center of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America (2709 Crescent St, Long Island City, NY 11102-3142) at 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Vassiliki Tsigas Fotini will give a lecture on "Illusions versus Reality in our Daily Lives", featuring the film Plato's Cave narrated by Orson Wells. The event is co-organized by the Athenian Society of New York and the Pan Macedonian Studies Center.

From April 16th till end of May 2009 we will be organizing lectures and open forums on Thursdays, mostly in the English language with a Greek synopsis. Details will be announced shortly.

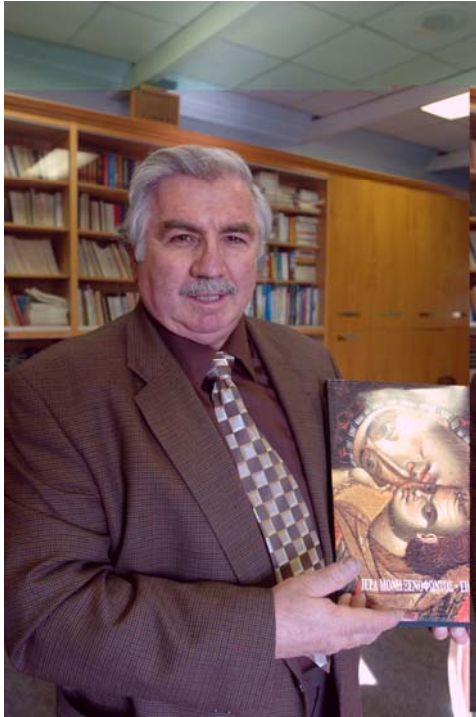
Please note that our 63rd Pan-Macedonian U.S. Annual and the 10th International Pan-Macedonian Convention will take place in Dion, Pieria-Greece. You are all welcome!

Kali Anastasi & Hronia Polla

Athanasia (Nancy) Birka, President

Archie Agelarakis, Treasurer

OUR PROGRAMS AND GOALS SUPPORT US TO REALIZE THEM



Mr. Ilias Neofytidis, founder and past president of the Pan Macedonian Studies Center, has worked tirelessly for thirteen years with dedication and determination toward the establishment of this center.

Currently, as honorary president of the center, he remains an active member and contributor, using his experience in facilitating the center's operation.



We are currently in the process of developing several programs/ projects at the Pan Macedonian Studies Center. The following is a proposal outlining our scope of work planned for the Center for this year. We trust that you will have a few moments to reflect upon these.

Your support, financial or otherwise, will be greatly appreciated, as we strive to bring these projects to fruition.

We are looking ahead to 2009, hoping to establish several programs and changes to our Center. The following is our proposal, initial outline and budget for several projects.

It is important to note that our goal is to create a Studies Center which will offer educational programs and a well organized library including a resource center which will entice our youth and ensure the future of the Pan Macedonian Studies Center. It is our sincere hope that we will attract and appoint youth representatives to our board.

Project 1:

The re-organization and renovation of the basement into a library and computer center which can be used by its members and other interested parties. The library is rich in materials for those interested in Greek History and particularly in Macedonian History.

The library will consist of books already at the center which are of great value, and are currently being documented and cataloged in a computerized database by Paris Xirogiannis.

Once this database has been completed, the list will be accessible online through various websites. Long term goals will include the digitizing of those books referring to Macedonian Studies.

Budget: \$12,000.00

Project 2:

Establishment of the website of the Pan Macedonian Studies Center

Budget \$4,000.00

Project 3:

Monthly lectures on Hellenic related issues reaching all states with large Greek populations. Lectures on the Macedonian history will be given either by the Pan Macedonian Association or Academicians as Guest Lecturers.

Budget \$12,000.00 (which will include a stipend for guest lecturers' travel and expenses)

Project 4:

Educational Programs that will include studies of the Greek language, art, dance, and general studies to be designed around the needs of our members.

Our goal will be to recruit our youth, and to offer weekly programs. Long term, we hope to establish groups which may perform at events.

Budget \$5,000.00

Project 5:

Purchase of new computers (approximately 4), a scanner, printer, fax machine, projector, and installation of video conferencing equipment. In addition to computers being used in the library, we propose to offer computer workshops in computer graphics, basics skills and internet use (including adult programs).

Budget \$8,000.00.

**OUR PROGRAMS AND GOALS
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Special thanks to:

Bill Gatzoulis for his very generous donation of the screen and projector (total value \$1,200.00) as well as for the installation of the screen and the tutorial. This will not only enable our center to hold lectures in our conference area, but will also serve as an educational aid in promoting and supporting our youth programs.

Nicholas Vachicuras for his kind offer to build the first part of our library. Mr. Vachicuras is a member of the Board of Directors and has served the Center for many years.

Thanasis Liambas for his long service, working side by side, with Elias Neofytides.

Dimitris Vozirikides for his services and his continuous financial support.

Costas Hatzistefanides for his valuable services.

Ioannis P. Gloumis, our legal advisor

We thank all our members and everyone who has helped the center to become what it is today.

Last but not least, the president of the Pan Macedonian Association, USA **Nina Gatzoulis** who inspires us all.

We welcome on our board, **Nick Kousmanides** who has been appointed as the new **Vice President** of the Center!

Project 6:

The Pan Macedonian Studies Center as a Publications Resource For 2009, the Center has already/ or will sponsor the following titles:

1. Print -"Before the Silence" by Sophia Kostos \$15,000.00
2. Reprint -George Horton's book "The Greeks of Today, 1907" by the Hellenic Electronic Center \$ 3,500.00
3. Reprint in English - "The Heroes of 1940 Await" by the first Vice President of the Hellenic Parliament, Mr. Georgios Sourlas \$ 6,000.00

These books will be distributed to Congress, Greek American Schools and Charter Schools of Greek Interest.

The book's authors will present their work in lectures at the center, at which time these books may be purchased and proceeds may benefit the Center's future publications.

Project 7:

To hire a professional consultant to develop our studies and educational programs and to search/apply for city, state and federal grants.

All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. All donors will receive updates on the project's progress. Donors funding any of these projects in its entirety will have the honor of naming the said project.

Our target group will be our youth, providing them along with all of our members and community, with quality programs of interest, to enlighten, educate and inform.

Membership fee to the Pan Macedonian Studies Center is a suggested \$20.00 per individual. If you wish to make a donation toward any of the projects proposed please send a check payable to the Pan Macedonian Studies Center and indicate the project.

We are looking forward to your response and active participation for the perpetuation of our Hellenic values of history and culture to generations to come and to the American community at large.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Nina Gatzoulis honored in special ceremony in Thessaloniki

Relevant Videos: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_uliASioWw
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5JW1jPLER04>



"Nina Gatzoulis received her award from the minister of Macedonia-Thrace"

The president of the Pan Macedonian Association was honored, among other expatriate women in Thessaloniki, on March 18th, in a special ceremony hosted by the Prefecture of Thessaloniki in cooperation with the World Council of Hellenes Abroad (SAE).

Nina Gatzoulis, who received her award from the minister of Macedonia-Thrace, underlined that

being honored in Macedonia has a great symbolic value, adding that the award honors all the women from Macedonia who live in America and the organization that gives a fight since 1947 to defend and promote historical truth.

Professor in the Classical Studies Department, University of New Hampshire, Gatzoulis

stressed that the FYROM name issue is not closed for the Pan-Macedonian Associations around the world and that they are against the use of the term "Macedonia" in a future FYROM name.

Source: www.sae.gr

Blatant propaganda on Greek TV

Encouraging message by P. Voskopoulos for "Macedonian" minority action in Greece

By Dr. Christos Karatzios

Please see video broadcasted at ALTER's Atheatos Kosmos and the way our national issue is handled; the video is long but it is of utmost interest: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=684809060174481007>

"Do not fear! Lift your heads high, we can do this very well!", is the message that the representative of the so-called "Macedonian" minority, Pavlos Voskopoulos, promoted in a sly manner to the inconspicuous participants of the televised program "Atheatos Kosmos", on March 10, 2009 on the Greek television station ALTER. During the program representatives of the political party "Rainbow", Greek politicians, historians, and journalists discussed the recent United Nations report by Ms. Gay MacDougall, on the "minority" issue in Greece.

In particular, towards the end of the broadcast, Mr. Voskopoulos, openly addressing the supposedly oppressed "Macedonian minority", which he calls "Makedonski", said: "Dosta veќе da se plašete, gorno glavata, možno e, mnogu dobro." When asked to translate into Greek what he had said, he replied falsely: "this is a matter of pride for us." Mr. Voskopoulos virtually called for an uprising by members of his political faction in Greece.

We welcome the initiative of ALTER channel to address the critical Macedonian issue. However, expressing the historical concerns of the Diaspora, the Macedonian Studies Center and the Pan-Macedonian Associations of U.S. and Canada, we wish to inform the Greek public about certain inaccuracies during the broadcast.

First, the amiable journalist Mr. Hardavelas, referred to Nicodemus Tsarknias of the sectarian and self-called "Macedonian" Church in Aridaia, Greece saying that the building is incomplete, "as if no one wants to see it." This statement was unfortunate. The Tsarknias church building was not built back then because it lacked sufficient funds for its completion (and virtually no support from the alleged minority that it was allegedly serving!). Mr. Tsarknias is the one who sent an inflammatory letter to the legitimate Bishops of Kastoria, Florina and Thessaloniki, demanding the keys to their churches, because he believes Greece has occupied "Macedonia" since 1912! During the program it was said that people who make frequent visits are from the FYROM and its Diaspora (Toronto and Australia). Where are the "ethnic Macedonians" from Greece? Unfortunately there was no mention about it during the broadcast.

Continues next page

Blatant propaganda on Greek TV

The “deported Aegean Macedonians” declared to the young journalists, who were sent to FYROM to interview them that they have been grouped into an organization that lists 50,000 people! What kind of organization has 50,000 as members and why is this organization not known throughout the world? The repeated question of the journalists: “Do you feel Greek?” prompted them to declare: “No, I am Macedonian”. Then, they claimed that their ancestors were the owners of properties that were left behind when they fled Greece. They proclaim that the Greek government does not permit them entry to Greece after the Greek Civil War.

During the broadcast a member of the Greek Communist Party (KKE) during the 1940s and then a NOF fighter, who took arms against the Greek government during the Greek Civil War, made certain statements. She concluded that the Greek authorities did not allow her to return to Greece! Her statement was interesting in that her only wish is “to come back in Greece,” in order to see the grave of her mother. A few seconds later, negating her own words, she said that she has already visited Edessa and Florina!

The vast majority of NOF “fighters” initially took weapons against Greece and served Bulgarian interests, under the command of Axis Bulgarian army officers, such as Anton Kaltseff. In the summer of 1944, when the Germans were preparing to retreat from Greece, they were transformed from Bulgarians to “Macedonians”, enlisted in SNOF (Slavomacedonian EAM, or Slavomacedonian National Liberation Front), and fought along side ELAS (Greek People’s Liberation Army) hoping to avoid punishment for their treason against Greece during the Axis occupation of Nazi Germany, Italy, and Bulgaria. In October 1944, after they broke away from ELAS, they left Greek territory and went to Yugoslavia, where they joined Tito’s partisans, bearing the name “The Aegean Shock Brigade.” In the summer of 1946 they returned to the mountains of Greece as NOF (Slavomacedonian National Liberation Front) to fight alongside the communist “Democratic Army of Greece” (DSE), and to exploit Greek divisions during the Greek Civil War. In the summer of 1949, some before and others after the final defeat of the DSE again left Greek territory and eventually settled in Skopje and adopted Slavic names. Many among them including the leaders of the KKE (Communist Party of Greece) returned to Greece. Others did not return, or chose to return only on condition that Greece will accept their changed names, recognizing them as “Macedonians.” Still others did not return, or chose to return only on condition that Greece will recognize them as “fighters of the “Macedonian” Iliden Revolution”.

We should all know about the 28,000 Greek children who were sent to Iron Curtain countries by the communists for “education”, the majority of whom are now middle aged and have been taught that they were expelled. Also, we must have in mind the numerous UN resolutions calling for the return of these children from the Communist countries, especially from former Yugoslavia (UN Resolutions 382 (1950), 517 (1952) and 618 (1952)).

Furthermore, in another interview with a representative of the “ethnic Macedonian minority” from the village of Meliti, Greece there was again an unfortunate mention that “the only wish all these people have is to find work” and one father even claimed that he is “forced” to take care of his adult children (one of his children is 31 years old) because they can not find work in Greece, simply because they are “Macedonian”! In an era where many immigrants (legal and illegal) can find jobs and make a living in Greece, this claim is ludicrous.

It is crucial that Greek TV invites historians and politicians who are knowledgeable in this issue, so that they can rebut the historical inaccuracies, distortions and propaganda. It is also important that individuals who know the language spoken in the FYROM, and the Slavonic idiom used in some Greek border areas (the two are different), be present during such broadcasts, so that Greek television does not promote messages against our national interests.

We also understand the progressive and humanitarian ideas of some of the guests. In addition, we, the Macedonians of the Diaspora, want friendly relations with Greece’s neighbour and wish for an equitable solution to the issue. However, friendship and progressiveness cannot be promoted by ignorance and misrepresentation of historical facts, especially at a time when negotiations for the name of Greece’s northern neighbour are ongoing. This is especially true when intolerant and irredentist behavior of the FYROM against Greece is ever escalating.

“SAE and the Seven Defenders of the Greek MFA’s Incompetence”

By Marcus A. Templar

Members of the Coordinating Council of the S.A.E. – America as Aliko Andrews, Constantine Economides, Michael Galanakis, Spyridon Garyfallis, Gus Karalekas, Efthalia Katos, and Rev. Fr. Nikolaos Kyritses expressed their conviction without offering any evidence and proof that Mr. Spyropoulos has violated the Greek law #3480, regarding the operation of SAE. To my knowledge this law is so vague that even sneezing could be considered as violation.

On a personal level, I welcome any opinion regardless of source. However, by nature and by profession, I mistrust statements and accusations that derive from any source without credible specifics and simultaneously at a time the Hellenic Diaspora and the Greek MFA are divided on the matter of the name of the FYROM, which the Eurorep I. Varvitsiotis admitted the Greek MFA mishandled in the past three and a half years.

I am not naive and don’t believe that the reaction of the seven has to do only with the disagreement to the name of the FYROM, but certainly has something to do with it. Because I am involved in the matter of the FYROM name dispute, I am compelled to express my thoughts on the issue.

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Marcus A. Templar is a polyglot retired U.S. Army intelligence officer and a recognized Balkan expert.

He holds a Bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University (Macomb, IL) in history and foreign languages, a Master's degree from Northeastern Illinois University (Chicago, IL) in Human Resource Development, and a second Master's degree in Strategic Intelligence from the National Defense Intelligence College (Washington, DC).

Answers to Professor Victor Friedman's allegations on Macedonia

Victor Friedman, a Linguistics professor and Balkan Studies scholar from the University of Chicago, in his interview on Balkananalysis.com (12/14/2008) portrays Greece as a most undemocratic and oppressive nation, from ancient to present time, and places the role of Greece in the Balkans in a most negative light.

The **Hellenic Electronics Center (HEC)** coordinated an effort from their Hellenic Professors list of over 5000 members from all parts of the globe to produce a response to Friedman's unfounded unhistorical claims. The response which was co-signed by many academicians of the HEC list is available at:

http://www.greece.org:8080/opencms/opencms/HEC_Projects/Media/Macedonia_Now/English_Version

Mr. Theodore Spyropoulos, U.S.A. S.A.E. Coordinator assisted by **Marcus A. Templar**-Balkans Expert also responded to Friedman's atrocious distortions as can be seen at:

http://www.hellotia.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3060&Itemid=96

"SAE and the Seven Defenders of the Greek MFA's Incompetence"

Since the dispute on the name of Skopje began 18 years ago, the opinion of all Macedonians in Greece and abroad, organized or not, was totally ignored not only by successive Greek governments, but from all the former leaders of S.A.E. The more we advance into the dispute, the more the positions of the Macedonians are vindicated, but it is still ignored by the non-Macedonians of S.A.E. and the successive governments of Greece. The worst of all, successive governments of Greece similarly behave toward 80% of the Greek people. Being a Macedonian by birth, I cannot in good conscience forgive nor forget the systematic sellout of my homeland, and I cannot comprehend anyone's thinking that keeps them voting for people that have at best reached dereliction of duty to their motherland. Moreover, the Church, which in theory also represents the Diaspora, has turned its back on us, the Macedonians.

Archbishop Demetrios, a compatriot of mine, expressed his disagreement with the U.S. State Department for its recognition of Skopje as "Macedonia," but he is now suspiciously very silent on the issue. An indication of the Church's involvement in the subject is the fact that one of the "protesters" against Mr. Spyropoulos is a priest.

It is no coincidence that these representatives of the archdiocese agree in all matters, acting as opposition to the Diaspora! It is a fact that during the recent stormy meeting of the relevant committees and the leadership of S.A.E. regarding the vote of the Greek Diaspora, deputies of PASOK shared with the Greek parliament copies of the letter of the «seven»! It was a sad political exploitation in order to reinforce and support their opposition to the bill!

A few years back, I met a man from Louisiana at O'Hare International Airport heading for Thessaloniki in order to participate in S.A.E.'s elections. From the conversation I realized that the man, who admittedly was sent by his church, did not know what SAE was all about, but neither did he know anything on the Macedonian name dispute; he did, however, know whom he was going to vote for! Thus I have no choice, but to question the role of the Church in the sellout of the land of my birth.

I find it amazing that the seven people who selectively fight for the law and order against the only person that supports the issues of the Pan-Macedonian Association, Mr. Spyropoulos, were absolutely silent when, at the order of the Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Kassimis, the World S.A.E. President, Mr. Tamvakis, was violating the Constitution of Greece in a grand manner. To be more specific, Mr. Tamvakis was supplying the Greek MFA with his own personal opinion on the matter of Macedonia, instead of the opinion of the Greek Diaspora. Our brethren in Europe had revolted against Mr. Tamvakis' behavior as did the Greek-Australians, the Greek-Canadians and Greek-Americans. The Pan-Macedonian Association had sent letters to all directions protesting Mr. Tamvakis' action. Where were the same seven "law and order" fighters then?

I cannot express an opinion for all the Greeks of the Diaspora, but I can express my own. If Mr. Spyropoulos is ousted under ANY excuse, it will be only natural for all the Pan-Macedonian Associations of the World to withdraw from SAE encouraging other "Pan-whatever" Associations to do the same. All Greeks have to realize that today is Macedonia, tomorrow will be Thrace, then the Aegean, the next will be Epirus and the list will grow to include Crete.

The Macedonians have the right and the obligation to withdraw from an organization that does not represent their views just as much as these seven people defenders of the selective law and order have the right to express their opinion.

Dr. Stephen Miller's letter to Magazine Archeology

Dear Sir,

I opened the January/February issue of Archaeology today and eagerly turned to "A Letter from Macedonia" only to discover that it was actually a letter from ancient Paionia – the land north of Mt. Barmous and Mt. Orbelos. Livy's account of the creation of the Roman province of Macedonia (45.29.7 and 12) makes clear that the Paionians lived north of those mountains (which form today the geographically natural northern limits of Greece) and south of the Dardanians who were in today's Kosovo. Strabo (7. frag 4) is even more succinct in saying that Paionia was north of Macedonia and the only connection from one to the other was (and is today) through the narrow gorge of the Axios (or Vardar) River.

Continues next page

Dr. Stephen Miller's letter to Magazine Archeology



While it is true that those people were subdued by Philip II, father of Alexander, in 359 B.C. (Diodorus Siculus 16.4.2), they were never Macedonians and never lived in Macedonia. Indeed, Demosthenes (Olynthian 1.23) tells us that they were “enslaved” by the Macedonian Philip and clearly, therefore, not Macedonians.

Isokrates (5.23) makes the same point. Likewise, for example, the Egyptians who were subdued by Alexander may have been ruled by Macedonians, including the famous Cleopatra, but they were never Macedonians themselves, and Egypt was never called Macedonia (and so far as I can tell does not seek that name today).

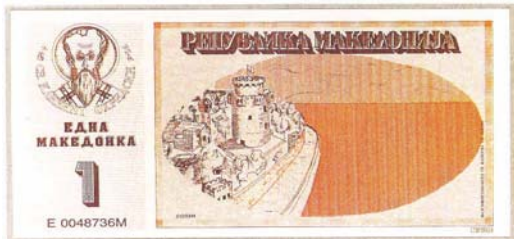
Certainly, as Thucydides (2.99) tells us, the Macedonians had taken over “a narrow strip of Paionia extending along the Axios river from the interior to Pella and the sea”. One might therefore understand if the people in the modern republic centered at Skopje called themselves Paionians and claimed as theirs the land described by Thucydides.

But why, instead, would the modern people of ancient Paionia try to call themselves Macedonians and their land Macedonia? Mr. Brunwasser (p. 55) touches on the Greek claims “that it implies ambitions over Greek territory” and he notes that “the northern province of Greece is also called Macedonia.”

Leaving aside the fact that the area of that northern province of modern Greece has been called Macedonia for more than 2,500 years (see, inter alios, Herodotus 5.17; 7.128, et alibi), more recent history shows that the Greek concerns are legitimate. For example, a map produced in Skopje in 1992 shows clearly the claim that Macedonia extends from there to Mt. Olympus in the south; that is, combining the ancient regions of Paionia and Macedonia into a single entity.



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The same claim is explicit on a pseudo-bank note of the Republic of Macedonia which shows, as one of its monuments, the White Tower of Thessalonike, in Greece. There are many more examples of calendars, Christmas cards, bumper-stickers, etc., that all make the same claim.

Further, Mr. Brunwasser has reported with approval (International Herald Tribune 10/1/08) the work of the "Macedonian Institute for Strategic Research 16:9", the name of which refers "to Acts 16:9, a verse in the New Testament in which a Macedonian man appears to the Apostle Paul begging him: 'Come over into Macedonia, and help us.'" But where did Paul go in Macedonia? Neapolis (Kavala), Philippi, Amphipolis, Apollonia, Thessaloniki, and Veroia (Acts 16:11- 17:10) all of which are in the historic Macedonia, none in Paionia.

What claim is being made by an Institute based in Skopje that names itself for a trip through what was Macedonia in antiquity and what is the northern province of Greece today?

I wonder what we would conclude if a certain large island off the southeast coast of the United States started to call itself Florida, and emblazoned its currency with images of Disney World and distributed maps showing the Greater Florida.

Certainly there was no doubt of the underlying point of "Macedonia" in the mind of U.S. Secretary of State Edward Stettinius on December 26, 1944, when he wrote:

"The Department [of State] has noted with considerable apprehension increasing propaganda rumors and semi-official statements in favor of an autonomous Macedonia, emanating principally from Bulgaria, but also from Yugoslav Partisan and other sources, with the implication that Greek territory would be included in the projected state.

This government considers talk of Macedonian "nation", Macedonian "Fatherland", or Macedonian "national consciousness" to be unjustified demagoguery representing no ethnic nor political reality, and sees in its present revival a possible cloak for aggressive intentions against Greece." [Source: U.S. State Department, *Foreign Relations vol VIII, Washington, D.C., Circular Airgram (868.014/26Dec1944)*]

Mr. Brunwasser (a resident of Bulgaria), however, goes on to state, with apparent distain, that Greece claims "Alexander III of Macedon (Alexander the Great) . . . as Greek." This attitude mystifies me. What is there to "claim"?

Alexander's greatgreat-great grandfather, Alexander I, was certified as Greek at Olympia and, in the words of the father of history "I happen to know that [the forefathers of Alexander] are Greek" (Herodotus 5.22). Alexander's father, Philip, won several equestrian victories at Olympia and Delphi (Plutarch, Alexander 4.9; Moralia 105A), the two most Hellenic of all the sanctuaries in ancient Greece where non-Greeks were not allowed to compete. If Philip was Greek, wasn't his son also Greek?

When Euripides – who died and was buried in Macedonia (Thucydides apud Pal. Anth. 7.45; Pausanias 1.2.2; Diodorus Siculus 13.103) – wrote his play Archelaos in honor of the great-uncle of Alexander, did he write it in Slavic? When he wrote the Bacchae while at the court of Archelaos did he not write it in Greek even as it has survived to us? Or should we imagine that Euripides was a "Macedonian" who wrote in Slavic (at a date when that language is not attested) which was translated into Greek?

What was the language of instruction when Aristotle taught Alexander?

What language was carried by Alexander with him on his expedition to the East?

Why do we have ancient inscriptions in Greek in settlements established by Alexander as far away as Afghanistan, and none in Slavic? Why did Greek become the lingua franca in Alexander's empire if he was actually a "Macedonian"?

Why was the New Testament written in Greek rather than Slavic?

On page 57 of the so-called "Letter from Macedonia" there is a photograph of the author standing "before a bronze statue of Alexander the Great in the city of Prilep." The statue is patently modern, but the question is whether the real historic Alexander could have read the Slavic inscription beneath his feet. Given the known historic posterity of Slavic to Greek, the answer is obvious.

While Mr. Brunwasser's reporting of the archaeological work in Paionia is welcome, his adoption and promotion of the modern political stance of its people about the use of the name Macedonia is not only unwelcome, it is a disservice to the readers of Archaeology who are, I imagine, interested in historic fact. But then, the decision to propagate this historical nonsense by Archaeology – a publication of the Archaeological Institute of America - is a disservice to its own reputation.

Let it be said once more: the region of ancient Paionia was a part of the Macedonian empire. So were Ephesos and Tyre and Palestine and Memphis and Babylon and Taxila and dozens more. They may thus have become "Macedonian" temporarily, but none was ever "Macedonia".

Allow me to end this exegesis by making a suggestion to resolve the question of the modern use of the name "Macedonia." Greece should annex Paionia – that is what Philip II did in 359 B.C. And that would appear to be acceptable to the modern residents of that area since they claim to be Greek by appropriating the name Macedonia and its most famous man. Then the modern people of this new Greek province could work on learning to speak and read and write Greek, hopefully even as well as Alexander did.

Sincerely,
Stephen G. Miller
Professor Emeritus,
University of California, Berkeley

PS: For a more complete examination of the ancient evidence regarding Paionia, see I. L. Merker, "The Ancient Kingdom of Paionia," *Balkan Studies* 6 (1965) 35-54

*The letter was addressed to the Editor, Archaeology Magazine
36-36 33rd Street
Long Island City, NY 11106
U.S.A.*

*cc: C. Brian Rose, President, Archaeological Institute of America
Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State of the United States of America
Dora Bakoyiannis, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece
Antonis Samaras, Minister of Culture of Greece
Olli Rehn, European Commissioner for Enlargement
Erik Meijer, Member, European Parliament*

Dr. Stephen Miller in Nemea: "Homage to Macedonia"



On Sunday March 22, 2009 the Pan-Macedonian Supreme President, Nina Gatzoulis, visited the site of Ancient Nemea in the Peloponnese in an upland valley in the modern Greek province of Korinthia, and in the eastern foothills of the Arkadian mountains, to pay tribute to Dr. Stephen G. Miller who had written a letter recently in rebuttal to pseudo-historic Skopjian views regarding Macedonia that had been printed in Archeology Magazine.

The visit was arranged by the Hellenic Electronics Center (HEC) Executive Director, Captain Evangelos Rigos with the support of the Order of AHEPA Athens Chapter as part of a "Homage to Macedonia" seminar. At the seminar Dr. Miller spoke on the role of the Macedonians with respect to the Nemean Games, President Gatzoulis spoke on the modern politics regarding the name issue with the Skopjians, and Captain Rigos gave an explanation of the HEC network and how it functions to bring Hellenes together from all over the world to discuss Hellenic issues and then write letters and send them to the United Nations, the Greek Parliament, the European Parliament and others.



The University of California, Berkeley, has promoted research at the site of Ancient Nemea for 35 years and Dr. Stephen G. Miller served as Professor of Classical Archaeology and Director of the Nemea Excavations from the summer of 1973 until his retirement in 2004. During his tenure, two full programs of excavations took place as well as short-term projects; a museum was built and frequently updated; reconstruction of a number of columns of the Temple of Zeus was initiated; the modern Nemea Games were organized; and several volumes were published presenting the results of excavations. With his retirement, the Department founded the Nemea Center for Classical Archaeology to continue research and teaching in Nemea and the vicinity.



Dr. Miller, who proudly displays his Greek identification card as proof of his Greek citizenship that was granted to him by the President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Karolos Papoulias, guided a group of well over 100 people through the museum and the excavation sites. Of particular interest was the fact that the Nemean Games were halted and then restarted after a number of years, and as Dr. Miller stated, the only person that had the power and the purpose to restart them at that particular time was King Phillip who wanted to excite and organize all the Hellenes to avenge the Persians for their earlier attacks on Greece. In addition, numerous artifacts and Macedonian coins were found in particular areas on the slopes of the stadium that indicate where the Macedonians would have sat during the games. Dr. Miller has no doubt of a clear connection of the Macedonians and the rest of the Hellenes.

For further information on Nemea please visit: www.nemea.org

Customs and Traditions of Apokrea Lecture Inspiring By Catherine Tsounis



Members of the Pan Macedonian Studies Center, Litothorian Society with Board Members Board of the Federation of Greek American Teachers at the Prospect Hall.

"Our pre-Lenten Festivities known as Apokries (Mardi Gras) have their roots in the customs of the ancient Greeks," said Athanasia Nancy Biska. "The Apokries are connected with February, that is the end of winter. It is a time of happiness and satire that were associated with the Dionysian rites in Ancient Greece."

This exciting lecture was presented by the Federation of Greek American Educators, Hellenic American Educators Association, Hellenic Educators Association of NJ and St Basil's Academy Teachers' College Alumnae Association. The lecture/dinner was hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Halkias at their establishment of the Grand Prospect Hall, in Brooklyn, New York in March. Mrs. Athanasia Nancy, President of the Pan Macedonian Studies Center, topic was "The customs and Traditions of Apokrea today rooted in ancient Greece"

"Apokries, in the Orthodox tradition, means literally saying goodbye to meat," said the speaker. "During the three weeks of Apokries, all dress in disguises and masks. It culminates in the carnival during the final week with masked balls, dances and parties. The origins of Carnival can be traced back to the Greek celebration honoring the God of Wine, Dionysus."

This festival influenced the creation of Bacchanalia, a tribute to Bacchus, the Roman equivalent to Dionysus. All of these festivities contribute to the present day event we know as Carnival, a yearly celebration of the joy of life. Christianity could not destroy the pagan practices. They were incorporated into the religion." The generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Halkias contributed to the success of the free event.

Directions to the Pan Macedonian Studies Center

DIRECTIONS

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| <p>... from the Bronx, New Jersey, Upstate New York and Canada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take I-95 North [Cross Bronx Expressway] to I-678 South [Whitestone Bridge] towards Queens Continue on I-678 South for 1.1 mile Merge onto Cross Island Parkway South via the Cross Island South exit towards Eastern Long Island and go for 0.3 miles Take the 14 Avenue exit 35 At the traffic light turn left onto 14th Avenue Proceed for 500 feet The Center is on your right | <p>... from Connecticut and New England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take I-95 South [Cross Bronx Expressway] to I-678 South [Whitestone Bridge] towards Queens Continue on I-678 South for 1.1 mile Merge onto Cross Island Parkway South via the Cross Island South exit towards Eastern Long Island and go for 0.3 miles Take the 14 Avenue exit 35 At the traffic light turn left onto 14th Avenue Proceed for 500 feet The Center is on your right |
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| <p>... from Astoria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take I-278 West [Grand Central Parkway] towards La Guardia Airport / Eastern Long Island Take the I-678 exit 9 East and bear left Merge onto I-678 North [Whitestone Expressway] and bear left Merge onto Cross Island South via the Cross Island Parkway South exit 16 Take the 14 Avenue exit 35 At the traffic light turn left onto 14th Avenue Proceed 500 feet The Center is on your right | <p>... from NYC, Brooklyn and Staten Island</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take I-495 East [Long Island Expressway] Take the Van Wyck Expressway North [I-678] exit 22A-E Merge onto I-678 North and go for 3.1 miles Bear left and merge onto Cross Island South via the Cross Island exit 16 Take the 14 Avenue exit 35 At the traffic light turn left onto 14th Avenue Proceed 500 feet The Center is on your right | <p>... from Long Island</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take the Cross Island Parkway North towards Whitestone Bridge Take the Utopia Parkway exit 34 and go for 0.3 miles Turn left at Utopia Parkway (second traffic light) Make a quick right turn on Cross Island Parkway service road and go for 1.1 mile Turn right at 14th Avenue The Center is on your right |
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Dear Members and friends,

We hope everyone is doing well and ready to travel to Greece for our 10th International Convention and 63rd Pan-Macedonian USA Convention!!!

Preparations for the 10th International Convention and 63rd Pan-Macedonian USA Annual Convention in our Alexandreion Building in Dion, Pieria are under way. We are expecting each and every one of you to attend so that we may meet again and renew our relationships, but mostly to pay our respect to the place of our origins, Macedonia!! The dates are July 9-13, 2009

We vie for a Convention that would include a little of everything: fun, education, work and travel. Please see tentative program attached. With this communication however, we would like to inform you about hotel rooms and prices, so that you may make your reservations early to secure the special prices the hotels are offering us.

We have reserved rooms in two hotels: DION PALACE in Litohoro, Pieria-tel: 011-302-3520-61431, FAX: 011-302-3520-61435, email: info@dionplace.com OLYMPIAN BAY, in Leptokaria, Pieria-tel: 011-302-3520-31311-4, FAX: 011-302-3520-33516 email: info@olympianbay.com web-site: www.reahotels.com Both hotels are near the water!!

The cost for rooms is: 73 euros for single and 96 euros for double rooms. The price includes breakfast. Deadline for reserving rooms: June 20, 2009.

Everyone has to participate in this very important gathering of the Macedonians, right in our Macedonia!!

Nina Gatzoulis

More info on our website
<http://www.panmacedonian.info/>

TENTATIVE 10TH INTERNATIONAL AND 63^R CONVENTION PROGRAM

Tentative 10th International and 63rd Convention Program; a more detailed schedule will be available, as we are trying to work out all the details.

-Thursday evening July 9: 8:00 pm. Opening of the 10th International Convention-Greetings by Dignitaries-Evening Reception

FRIDAY JULY 10, 2009: 9:00 am-2:00 pm 63rd Convention Business. Lunch and afternoon rest.
-Friday afternoon: 6:00-7:30 pm Tour in Dion
-Friday evening: 9:00 pm entertainment

SATURDAY JULY 11: 9:00 am-3:00 pm: 63rd Convention Business (break for lunch).
-Saturday afternoon 6:00-7:30 pm: Academic Symposium – Theme MACEDONIA
Saturday evening 9:00 pm: Banquet (Greetings by Dignitaries)

SUNDAY, JULY 12: Church and swear in the new Supreme Council of the Pan-Macedonian Associations
-Sunday afternoon 6:00 pm: the 10th International Convention of the Pan-Macedonian Associations regarding the International Foundation of Alexander the Great. Elections of the new Board of the Highest Authority of the Alexander the Great Foundation. Dinner at the beautiful restaurant Nefelli in Panorama, Thessaloniki (We have been invited by the Cappadocia Association in Thessaloniki, where we will be serenaded by the lyrical group LECHRITES - cantades).

MONDAY JULY 13: Excursion of the members to Edessa. We are invited by the Prefect of Pella, for a daily excursion and tour on the archeological sites of the Prefecture of Pella. The Pan-Macedonian Youth will perform our traditional dances in the beautiful ground of the restaurant which is located by the waterfalls of Edessa.

Νίνα Γκατζούλις
Υδάτη Πρόεδρος

Φώτης Γερασιώπουλος
Επιτ. Συνεδρίου

Ιωάννης Κατσαρός
Επιτ. Συνεδρίου

Νίνα Περαϊοπούλου
Επιτ. Συνεδρίου