



# A.H.P.S. News in Brief

April 2009

Issue # 12

**Dear Hellenes and Philhellenes,**

We hope you've noticed our new logo, now appearing on almost all communications! It was designed by our former President, Shirley Peters, during the final portion of her 4-year term.

Please contact me with any ideas you may have for improving this newsletter or our website at AHPS.org, by phone at 916-966-7070, or via email at [tom\\_j\\_adams@yahoo.com](mailto:tom_j_adams@yahoo.com).

**Tom Adams, President**

## **New Membership Directory:**

The AHPS Directory was last published two years ago. Many changes have occurred since then. As you remit your 2009 dues, please be sure to fill out the Renewal Form completely as these data will be the basis for our revisions. We will also incorporate the recent amendment to the AHPS Constitution in the revised Directory, so you will have a complete copy. We plan to publish this new Membership Directory sometime this summer. **To be listed in the 2009 version, you must be a member in good standing (2009 dues paid).** Therefore, I urge you to remit your dues for 2009 as soon as possible, to be sure you are included.

Dues notices were mailed earlier this year. However, a number of notices were returned to AHPS because the address labels were missing; if you did not receive your dues notice for 2009, please contact Helen Paras at (916) 481-5782.

## **Recent Joint CSUS-AHPS Events:**

On March 12, **Dr. Sotiris Mousouris**, former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations, spoke on *Greece: Between East and West*.

**Mehri Yazdani**, a noted local artist who has exhibited in many countries, mounted an exhibition of her paintings entitled *Hellenism and the Elements: Water, Earth, Air, and Fire* at the CSUS Library Art Gallery. She describes herself as an abstractionist with Greek and Persian influences. The exhibit of her 21 paintings opened to the general public on Sunday, March 15. On that date she gave a talk on inspirations for her artwork, *The Seed: The Creation of the Elements*. On the following Friday, March 20, **Professor Apostolos Athanassakis** of the University

of California, Santa Barbara spoke on *The Influence of the Elements in Ancient Greek Poetry*.

Rounding out the presentations given in conjunction with Mehri's art exhibit, the next speaker will be **Speros Vryonis, Jr.**, who is arguably the greatest Greek-American scholar this country ever produced. His speech is entitled *Hellenic Conceptions of Cosmogony and the Paintings of Mehri Yazdani*. Look for the CSUS postcard invitation to the event on Thursday, April 23, as it contains your parking pass. A coffee-dessert reception will accompany the presentation from 6:30 PM until 9:00 PM. The presentation, beginning at 7 PM, will be in the CSUS Library Gallery, while the reception will be in the back portion of the Gallery.

Please note that this will be your last opportunity to view Mehri's paintings at this CSUS exhibit.

## **Our Next Speaker, William J. Douros:**

Bill Douros, the son of one of our former speakers, Basil Douros, is the West Coast Regional Director of the Department of Commerce's National Marine Sanctuary Program. He is responsible for review and operation of five west coast marine sanctuaries, which include over 12,000 square miles of coastal and marine waters. Bill's presentation is entitled, *The Ocean, National Marine Sanctuaries, and You*, and will include visuals. As Bill states, "Oceans are critical to life on Earth. They are the life-support system. It is essential that all communities, large and small, assess how they use the ocean – both locally and globally."

**Be sure to review the enclosed flyer for details regarding this vital presentation on Sunday, May 3, at the Luau Garden Restaurant near Arden Fair.**

### **Greek Independence Day Celebration:**

Greek Independence Day (1821) was celebrated at noon on March 25 at the Capitol. The event was planned by AHEPA, and its President, Demos Papadopoulos, with the cooperation of AHPS and other Hellenic organizations. A sponsored luncheon, held prior to the inspiring flag-raising ceremony, was included. Many notable guests attended. Be sure to make plans to attend this Capitol event next year!

### **Modern Greek Language Instruction at SCC:**

Eleni Morgan, an AHPS Board Member, has been working to establish a Modern Greek language course at Sacramento City College. It is now a reality! Greek 401 will make its debut for the fall 2009 semester. Held on the SCC Freeport Boulevard campus, it will be from 6:45 PM – 8:50 PM on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. If interested, log on to the college website at [scc.losrios.edu](http://scc.losrios.edu) or call them for information.

### **AHPS Scholarships:**

AHPS offers a scholarship annually for qualifying students. See our website at **AHPS.org** for all the details on requirements and deadlines.

### **Former AHPS speaker, Stavros Stavridis:**

An article in the Saturday, March 28, 2009, *National Herald*, on page 5, "Author Examines Role of Australian Press During Greek-Turkish War" is a review of Stavros Stavridis' recently published book, *The Greek-Turkish War 1919-23: An Australian Press*

*Perspective*. To obtain a copy of the review, contact Terry Steve at [raybrook007@yahoo.com](mailto:raybrook007@yahoo.com), and ask for his pdf file of the book review.

### **Greek Hell, Courtesy of Jerry Pavlatos:**

A man dies and goes to hell. He finds there is a different hell for each country. At the German hell he asks, "What happens here?" He learns: "First they put you in an electric chair for an hour. Then they lay you on a bed of nails for another hour. Then the German devil comes in and whips you for the rest of the day." Terrified, he moves on. He checks out the American and Russian hells and many more, and discovers that all are very much like the German hell. At the Greek hell there is a long line of people of all nationalities waiting to get in. Amazed, he asks: "What do they do here?" "First they put you in an electric chair for an hour. Then they lay you on a bed of nails for another hour. Then the Greek devil comes in and whips you for the rest of the day." "I don't get it. That's the same as all the other hells." "Not really. That's because the maintenance crew is always on strike, there is no electricity so the electric chair doesn't work, and Albanians have stolen all the nails from the bed. The Greek devil is a former Greek government employee, so he comes in, signs the register and then goes out to have his *kafethaki* and eat *kouramiethes* all day."

### **SPECIAL REQUEST:**

**Please humor us!** We want the new AHPS directory to have up-to-date data on our members, so please carefully **fill out this form** and mail it in *EVEN if you already paid your 2009 dues*. **Thanks!**

