



Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce

AUTUMN 2003

A Memo from the President



Welcome back from summer vacation! As we return to business refreshed and invigorated, I wish everyone the best of health and prosperity in the months ahead.

Our Chamber's success continues, thanks to the efforts of our members. We are achieving our goals and maintaining the high standards set out for the Chamber. I am confident that, working together, we will continue that success, further reinforcing community pride in our organization.

Person of the Year 2003
In October, our 55th Annual Dinner Dance will honor the Mayor of the City of Athens, Ms. Dora Bakoyianni ... the first woman ever to hold that office in a city whose history dates back over 2,500 years. Ms. Bakoyianni has been lauded as a model of positive political power, and is greatly admired in international political and diplomatic circles. She will represent the citizens of Athens when she welcomes the world to Greece as host of

the 2004 Olympic Summer Games, making all of us very proud of our Greek origin.

Chamber Events

A full program of events will include a comprehensive Real Estate Conference -- with a roster of distinguished speakers -- on November 17th. Also in November, we'll have Greek Wines and Food Tasting and, in early December, our Christmas Party. The Celebration of Greek Letters -- with an Exhibition of Books on Greece -- will take place in January.

In February, the Shipping Conference attracts worldwide guests and speakers; and we will celebrate Greek Independence Day in March. A Real Estate event will take place in May and we will conclude the year with the Annual Membership Meeting in June.

I want to express my gratitude to our Board and Committee members for their commitment to the work of the Chamber; and I especially commend Mr. Stamatis Gikas, our executive secretary, for his excellent work. Thank you all for your support and your valuable time. I am looking forward to seeing you at our events.

Bobby P. Mitropoulos,
President

Dora

Bakoyianni

Mayor of Athens ~ Hellenic-American Person of the Year 2003

Dora Bakoyianni, chosen by the Board of Directors of the Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce to receive the *Person of the Year Award* for 2003, is a woman of many 'firsts.' Not least among her myriad accomplishments was her election on October 20, 2002 as Mayor of Athens.

Ms. Bakoyianni, the first woman ever elected to lead Europe's oldest Capital, was chosen by 61 per cent of voters ... a greater majority than for any Athens Mayor in the history of modern Greece.

That achievement was not lightly earned. Throughout her political career, Ms. Bakoyianni's tireless efforts to effect positive change have won her a special place in the hearts of many.

Ms. Bakoyianni has overcome enormous personal tragedy. Born in Athens in 1954 into the politically prominent family of Constantine Mitsotakis and Marika Yannoukou, Dora and her family fled to Paris in 1967 to escape the military dictatorship that ruled Greece for seven years.

The Mitsotakis family returned to Athens in



1974 when military rule collapsed. Dora married noted journalist and politician Pavlos Bakoyianni and bore him two children, Alexia and Kostas.

Emerging Political Career

Not surprisingly, given her family background, Ms. Bakoyianni soon embarked on a career of public service, beginning with positions in the Ministry of Economic Coordination, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and as Chief of Staff to her father when he was elected leader of the New Democracy Party.

Tragedy struck in 1989 when members of the Greek terrorist group 'November 17' gunned down Pavlos Bakoyianni, then a deputy in the Greek parliament.

Ms. Bakoyianni's remarkable strength and resilience shone through when she ran for -- and won -- her late husband's seat in the mountainous region of Evrytania. Ms. Bakoyianni was re-elected three times as deputy from Evrytania

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A Message from the Chairman



It is with great pleasure that I greet members of the Chamber for another season of business activities, after an eventful summer.

Our Chamber continues to grow in membership and prestige, and we are looking forward with excitement to the fall schedule, culminating in the 55th Annual Dinner Dance honoring Mayor of Athens Dora Bakoyianni. Ms. Bakoyianni is a star of the Greek political stage and next year she and Athens will be on the world stage as hosts of the Summer Olympics. Her selection as 2003 Person of the Year is well-timed following her historic election last year and the upcoming focus on Athens. We are also pleased to have Senator Olympia Snowe of Maine as the Honorary Chairwoman of the Dinner Dance. Her record of achievement in the U.S. Senate is a symbol of pride to all Hellenic Americans.

In addition to the Dinner Dance, our new President Bobby Mitropoulos and the board of directors have a full schedule of activities planned for the Fall, and I hope to see our members and friends at these events. Many of our events, including the Wine Tasting, Real Estate Conference and Christmas Party have become staples of the community calendar, and we receive many inquiries about them.

I encourage you all to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Chamber to help enhance the economic and cultural ties between the U.S. and Greece, and to develop and maintain long term relationships among businesses and individuals.

William Ioannides
Chairman

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EDITORIAL BOARD

William Ioannides, Chairman • Bobby Mitropoulos, President
Andre Gregory • John Stratakis • Stamatias Gikas



Pictured (from left): Bobby Mitropoulos, Andre Gregory, Consul General Philippou, John Stratakis, Mrs Philippou, William Ioannides and George Kapetanakos.

Farewell Dinner for Consul General of the Republic of Cyprus

Earlier this year, the Executive Board of the Hellenic-American Chamber hosted a dinner in honor of Consul General Vasilios Philippou of the Republic of Cyprus, and his wife, who returned to Cyprus.

The board expressed appreciation for the close association the chamber enjoys with the Consulate General of Cyprus, and extended all good wishes to Mr. And Ms. Philippou on his next assignment.



Senator Olympia Snowe of Maine Honorary Chairwoman of the 2003 Dinner Dance.

We are proud, indeed, that US Senator Olympia Snowe will serve as Honorary Chairwoman of our upcoming Dinner Dance.

Senator Snowe is the daughter of the late George Bouchles of Mytilene and the late Georgia Goranites Bouchles, whose parents

emigrated from Sparta.

Senator Snowe, a member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, is the Ranking Member of its Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere and Fisheries, which oversees the U.S. Coast Guard.

Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting

At our Annual Meeting on June 3, 2003 at Avra Restaurant, members attended to hear the annual reports by the President and Treasurer.

Affirming the excellent performance of the chamber for the preceding year, the Nominating Committee proceeded to the business of election of members to the board.

Bobby Mitropoulos was elected President, to succeed William Ioannides who had chosen not to run for a third term as President and was elected Chairman. In addition, the following officers were elected:

- ™ Andre Gregory, Executive Vice President
- ™ Michael Theodorobeakos, Vice President
- ™ John C. Stratakis, Treasurer
- ™ LeRoy Lambert, Secretary

Also re-elected were the following directors:

- ™ Nicos Katsoulis, Atlantic Bank of New York
- ™ Emmanuel Caravanos, Atlantic Steamers Supply
- ™ Zaharo Sofianou, Bank of Cyprus
- ™ Constantine Ioannou, Constantine D&B Ltd.
- ™ LeRoy Lambert, Healy & Baillie LLP
- ™ Paul Stathoulopoulos, Marathon National Bank of New York



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (from left) John Stratakis • Michael Theodorobeakos • Andre Gregory • Bobby Mitropoulos • William Ioannides • LeRoy Lambert



Bobby Mitropoulos and Bill Ioannides seek the wisdom and good counsel of the Chamber's first President, Mr. Peter Kourides



NACC General Manager Inger Tallaksen and HACC Secretary LeRoy Lambert present a follow-up report on the joint Hellenic/Norwegian shipping conference.

Bobby Mitropoulos Elected President



Bobby P. Mitropoulos

Bobby P. Mitropoulos, President of Compass Maritime Services LLC, is the newly-elected President of the Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Mitropoulos earned a B.Sc. in Marine Engineering from the Merchant Marine Academy in Greece, before serving as an officer in the Greek Navy. He later continued his studies in

Shipping and Finance in London, where he graduated in 1986.

Returning to Greece, Mr. Mitropoulos pursued a career as Vice President of a shipping company, involved with the sale, purchase, management and operation of ships.

From 1993 - 2000, Mr. Mitropoulos further developed his business acumen in the US as Vice President at A.L. Burbank (Shipbrokers) Ltd., one of the world's leading ship brokerage companies.

In 2000, with his partners, Mr. Mitropoulos formed Compass Maritime Services LLC. The firm serves the shipping industry worldwide in the sale and purchase of vessels, finance, demolition, new-buildings and consultancy.

Mr. Mitropoulos also is a member of the Hellenic Shipbrokers Association.

Hellenic-American Conferences, Trade and Cultural Events

™ Antonios Diamataris, The National Herald

™ Donald Franchilli, UBS

™ Michael Xylas, Xylas & Associates.

The Board and Committees of the Chamber make every effort to arrange events and activities of interest and value to members, and with the potential to expand the body of knowledge on developments in members' businesses. On special occasions, we offer events of cultural significance to the Hellenic community. Recent events have included the following:

Real Estate

May 15, 2003 at the New York Athletic Club ~ The Real Estate Committee of the Chamber hosted prominent New York developer William C. Rudin, to speak about current topics in real estate.

In addition to leading the family business, Rudin Management Co., Bill Rudin is the chairman of the Association for a Better New York, a community improvement organization. The event featured fourteen sponsors, including longtime sponsor Atlantic Bank of New York and first time sponsor Citigroup.

Mr. Rudin's mother-in-law, Mrs. Mariya Papachristidis, attended together with her daughter and granddaughter, to add a family touch, and a Greek aspect as well.

Real Estate Committee Chairman George T. Constantin, a managing director of Helmsley Spear Inc. was pleased at the turnout and reception for Mr. Rudin. An enthusiastic question and answer pe-

riod followed his address, with Mr. Rudin cheerfully offering that New York real estate remains a excellent investment opportunity. He foresees a vibrant downtown real estate market, especially as the development of Ground Zero takes shape.

This fall, the Real Estate Committee plans a conference for November, to focus on investments in Greek real estate.

Tax & Retirement

April 2, 2003 at The Iridium Room of the St. Regis Hotel HACC and The Hellenic-American Womens Council sponsored a seminar on *International Tax Planning and Retirement Plans* featuring speakers from the accounting firm of M.R. Weiser and from the financial firm of Salomon Smith Barney.

Investment Opportunities in the European Union

Monday, March 31, 2003 at the Harvard Club of New York City ~ The Hellenic-American Chamber and the SAE Business Forum sponsored a Luncheon in honor of H.E. Ioannis Magriotis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, who spoke on "Investment Opportunities within the EU."

Commemoration of Greek Independence

March 27, 2003 at the Holy Trinity Cathedral Center ~ The Annual Commemoration of Greek Independence included a lecture by H.E. Loucas Tsilas, Executive Director of The Alex-



From left: George Kapetanakos, Samantha Rudin, Ophelia Rudin, William C. Rudin, Mariya Papachristidis, William Ioannides, George T. Constantin.



H.E. Loucas Tsilas, Executive Director of The Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation (USA), addresses members at Holy Trinity Cathedral Center during 25th of March celebrations. At left: John Stratakis



H.E. Ioannis Magriotis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece (center) with George Kapetanakos (l) and William Ioannides at The Harvard Club discussion on Investment Opportunities within the European Union.

Hellenic-American Conferences, Trade and Cultural Events



HACC Executive Committee extends a warm welcome to new Greek Trade Officer. Pictured from left: Michael Theodorobeakos • Constantine Ioannou • George Kapetanakos • Katingo Kontoudis, Host (Bank of New York) • Hon. Dimitris Platis • Spyros Ampatzopoulos, Consul-Economic & Trade Affairs • Andre Gregory • William Ioannides • John Stratakis • George Constantin • Manolis Saridakis



November 21 Real Estate Conference "The New Bottom Line in a Volatile Market Place - Topics of Concern to Real Estate Investors and to Lenders."



At the annual dinner dance, the Man of the Year Award is presented to James Gianopoulos, Chairman of Fox Filmed Entertainment. Pictured (from left) William Ioannides, James Gianopoulos, George Kapetanakos and Andre Gregory

ander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation (USA). Ambassador Tsilas' lecture was entitled *Hellenism: A World Civilization*.

Our Christmas Party
December 10, 2002 at The Sky Club ~ Our Christmas Party attracted 175 members and guests.

Real Estate ~ The New Bottom Line

November 21, 2002 The Real Estate Committee presented a conference entitled "The New Bottom Line in a Volatile Market Place - Topics of Concern to Real Estate Investors and to Lenders." Sponsors were:
• Atlantic Bank • M & N Management • Marathon National Bank • Mortgage World Inc. • Poles, Tublin, Patestides & Stratakis • Xylas & Associates.

Greek Wines and Foods Tasting

November 13, 2002 at Holy Trinity Cathedral Center. 450 members and guests enjoyed the culinary specialties of major Greek restaurants, purveyors and winesellers.

Hellenic Medical Society of New York

October 3, 2002 at Avra Restaurant members joined a Reception for the Hellenic Medical Society of New York.

Annual Dinner Dance

October 18, 2002 at The Metropolitan Club of New York Our 54th Annual Dinner Dance, with 250 members and guests present, honored James N. Gianopoulos, Chairman of Fox Filmed Entertainment.

Member News

Princeton-based **Mistras Holdings Group** has acquired Conam Inspection Company of Chicago, further extending the group's global reach in technologies for nondestructive testing maintenance.

General Maritime Corp. added 19 tankers to its fleet, taking delivery of the vessels from Metrostar Management Corp. General Maritime has become the second largest mid-sized tanker owner and operator in the world with a fleet of 46 tankers.

Longtime member Poles, Tublin, Patestides & Stratakis, a maritime and real estate law firm, merged in June with the New Jersey real estate law firm Gonzalez & Weichert. The new firm, **Poles, Tublin, Stratakis, Gonzalez & Weichert LLP**, will maintain offices in downtown Manhattan and in Livingston, New Jersey. John C. Stratakis, treasurer of the Chamber, is a partner in the firm.

Peter T. Kourides, a founding member, former president and longest-serving director of the Chamber, was a featured speaker at the 92nd birthday celebration for retired Archbishop Iakovos, held at the Westchester Country Club in August. Mr. Kourides, a partner at Seward, Raphael & Kourides, also served as legal adviser to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America during Iakovos' tenure.

Atlantic Bank of New York, a major supporter of the Chamber, announced that its net income for the first six months of 2003 increased 12.4% of the same period last year. Nicos Katsoulis represents Atlantic Bank on the Chamber's board of directors.

Member News

Bank of Cyprus, a member and reliable supporter of the Chamber, moved its offices to 80 Broad Street in downtown Manhattan, after years in midtown. Zaharo Sofianou, the chief representative of the bank, serves on the Chamber's board of directors and has chaired several committees. Meanwhile, the bank's parent company reported an increase in core profits of 22% for the first half of 2003 compared with the comparable prior year period.

Nicholas Bouras, president of Bouras Industries, Inc., was honored with the Holy Trinity Award at the Cathedral Ball of the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. The Ball, held at the Pierre Hotel in New York, was a tremendous success and set records for fund-raising. Mr. Bouras is also known as a generous philanthropist and is a supporter of the Chamber.

Fuller and Fuller, an immigration law firm partnered by Lee Fuller and Scott Fuller, has moved to 845 Third Avenue. The practice will continue to specialize in immigration, on which Messrs. Fuller have addressed the Chamber.

Faith Makriplis, a real estate broker, has become an associate with East Coast Realty in Bayside, Queens. Her focus is on single family homes in northeastern Queens. Ms. Makriplis previously was based in Manhattan.

Dr. James Doundoulakis, a leading prosthetic dentist, was honored for his work as one of the dentists who helped to identify victims of the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

Safeguarding Shipping in Uncertain Times



AT THE SHIPPING CONFERENCE NETWORKING RECEPTION SPONSORED BY HEALY & BAILLIE LLP and JACQ. PIEROT JR., & SONS, INC. From left: RADM Robert North, USCG (Ret.); LeRoy Lambert-HACC Director and Partner, Healy & Baillie LLP ~ RADM Richard Bennis, Office of Maritime and Land Security, Transportation and Security Administration ~ Hon. Dimitris Platis, Consul General of Greece ~ Blaine Collins, NACC Director and Head of Det Norske Veritas Americas ~ William Ioannides - HACC Chairman and Manager of Sigma Coatings, Inc.

Annual Shipping Conference

Now in its ninth year, our shipping conference has come to be regarded as one of the industry's most important events.

Arranged jointly with the Norwegian-American Chamber, our conference has built a reputation for excellence that enables us to attract high level speakers from firms and professional organizations at the forefront of the shipping business.

This year, expert panel presentations / discussions focused on Security, Insurance, and Finance.

US Coast Guard

RADM Larry Hereth, Director of Port Security for the U.S. Coast Guard, opened the conference with a highly informative overview of the new *ISPS Code Guidelines*.

The late RADM Richard Bennis, in a luncheon address, outlined activities

at the U.S. Transportation Security Administration.

Security

The panel on *Security* was moderated by Christopher Koch, President and Chief Executive Officer of the World Shipping Council in Washington, D.C. Panelists on security were:

- ™ Dan Conaton, Wallenius Wilhelmsen Lines
- ™ Kevin Coyne, General Maritime Corporation
- ™ Robert G. Shaw, Navios Corp.
- ™ Bob Moore, Atlantic Container Line
- ™ Patrick Morin, Halterm Halifax
- ™ Capt. Howard Newhoff, Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises
- ™ Chris Austen, Maritime & Underwater Security Consult.

Finance

Peter Evensen, JP Morgan Securities, moderated a panel on finance entitled *Public Shipping Equities: Are you a Buyer or a Seller?* Panelists:

- ™ Anthony Argyropoulos, Jefferies & company
- ™ Jim Dolphin, American Marine Advisors

- ™ Jill Evans, JPMorgan Securities
- ™ Jeff Pribor, Den norske Bank

Insurance

Insurance touches upon every aspect of shipping, and the panel assembled for this topic was moderated by David Martin-Clark, consultant and former Chairman of Thomas Miller & Company. Panelists were:

- ™ Arthur Pilkington, Skuld
- ™ Joseph E.M. Hughes, The American Club
- ™ Stephen Martin, Steamship Insurance Management Svc.
- ™ Michael Moschos, Levant Maritime
- ™ Dr. William Moore, GARD
- ™ Fred Robertie, American Hull Insurance Syndicate
- ™ Vincent Liotta, Arch Insurance Group
- ™ Kenneth Engstrom, Int'l Shipping Partners

LeRoy Lambert and Olav Rakkenes, conference chairmen, expressed both chambers' gratitude to the speakers, sponsors and delegates for their participation. The next conference will be held in February, 2004.



In 1998 Dora Bakoyianni married businessman Isidoros Kouvelos. She is pictured here with Mr. Kouvelos and her son, Kostas Bakoyiannis.

◀1 *Dora Bakoyianni*

Ms. Bakoyianni later shifted to a district in central Athens, where she was elected by a sweeping margin.

When her father Constantine Mitsotakis was elected Prime Minister, Ms. Bakoyianni served first as an undersecretary of state and then as Minister of Culture.

A Central Figure in the New Democracy Party

Ms. Bakoyianni sought and won a seat on the Central Committee of the New Democracy Party, from which the new party leader, Mr. Kostas Karamanlis, appointed her Shadow Foreign and Defense Minister.

A Leading Advocate of Anti-Terrorist Legislation

While in Parliament, Ms. Bakoyianni advocated strong anti-terrorist legislation that culminated in a bill to strengthen the fight against Greek terrorists, especially 'November 17.'

A series of arrests has thus far netted 17 individuals, three of whom claim to have participated

in the murder of Pavlos Bakoyiannis.

New Democracy Party Sets Sights on Athens

In the summer of 2002, Mr. Karamanlis urged Dora Bakoyianni to go after the biggest prize in local elections – Athens. Clearly demonstrating her party's growing strength against the ruling Socialists, Ms. Bakoyianni led a large field of candidates in the first round of elections before trouncing her Socialist opponent in a runoff.

Distinguished Reputation in European Politics

Upon the invitation of Mr. Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission, Ms. Bakoyianni joined a group of high-level personalities in January 2003 as a member of the prestigious Round Table, "A Sustainable Project for European Society."

Scholar, Politician

Dora Bakoyianni, fluent in English, French and German, studied Political Science and Public Law at the University of Athens and Politics and Communication in Munich.

NEW MEMBERS

The following firms and individuals have joined the Hellenic-American Chamber. Welcome to all!

~ CORPORATE MEMBERS ~

BANCO POPULAR NORTH AMERICA
Joseph Fradelos

CLEVELAND TANKERS SHIP MANAGEMENT INC.
Gerry Grammenos

GENERAL MARITIME CORP.
John Mortsakis

GREEK AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL
PUBLIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC.
HELLENIC PUBLIC RADIO, COSMOS FM
Yiannis Simonides

INTERNATIONAL HELLENIC TRIBUNE- HELLAS FM
Nick Fillas

INTERNATIONAL REGISTRIES, INC.
Guy Edison Clay Maitland

INTERNETWORK CONSULTANTS, LLC.
Stamatis Xylas

METRO YORK ELECTRICAL, INC.
Hercules Argyriou

THE CITIGROUP PRIVATE BANK
Constantine C. Psaltis

~ INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS ~

CHALOS, GEORGE, ESQ., Foler, Rodriguez & Chalos
DIAMANTOPOULOS, JOHN, SR., Coldwell Banker

DOUROS, PETER, Citibank- Commercial Markets Group
DROUGOS, KONSTANTINE, Americus

ECONOMOU, THOMAS G., Sterling National Bank
ELIOPOULOS, ELIAS, McDermott, Will & Emery

FRANGOS, ANGELA, Franser Shipping
GIAPOUTZIS, JOHN, Merrill Lynch

HATZIKIRIAKOU, VASILIS, V.H. Development Corp.
INTZIDES, ANGELIKI
LOUIS, DOMINIQUE

LOUIZOS, JOHN J., Curtis, Brinckerhoff & Barrett, P.C.
MARGARONIS, GEORGIOS, Atlantic Bank Of N.Y.

MAVRAKIS, GEORGE, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
MAVRIDES, DEAN, Degaetano, Mavrides & Moyal, LLP

MAVRIDES, MICHEAL F. ESQ., Bryan Cave LLP.
MORAITIS, SIMONE, ARC Apollo Realty Company

PANGALOS, HELENE, ESQ.

POLITOPOULOS, MICHEAL, GP Chemicals

PRODROMOU, LOIZOS M., New England Financial – Burns F/P
SKARVELIS, CONSTANTINE N., Thacher Proffitt & Wood

SKARVELIS, KIM NICOLE, Amereal, Inc.

SKARVELIS, NICHOLAS T.K., Veritas Ship Agency, Inc.
STATHOPOULOS, ARIS

TIBORIS, PETER E., Northwestern Mutual
VITHOULKAS, ALEX, Lyons Mortgage Services
XIDIAS, EFFIE

Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce

Calendar of Events ~ 2003 - 2004

~~ October ~~

55th Annual Dinner Dance

~~ November ~~

Greek Wine Tasting
Real Estate Conference

~~ December ~~

Christmas Party

~~ January ~~

Celebration of Greek Letters ~ Exhibition of Books

~~ February ~~

10th Annual Shipping Conference

~~ March ~~

Celebration of Greek Independence

~~ May ~~

Real Estate Reception

For information, please call the Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce at 212 629 6380



**THE HELLENIC-AMERICAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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*For information about
membership, events,
services, activities*

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