

Triglian Roots and Heritage

ASSOCIATION OF ALL TRIGLIANS WORLDWIDE



ISSUED BY THE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL AND LOCAL BRANCH OF NEA TRIGLIA

OUR NEWSLETTER

Our Association makes a significant step forward in creating this e-newsletter to report on its activities. In line with our original mission, our objective is to share our common history, culture and traditions with younger Triglians and those of us who live abroad. Technology – we hope – will help us reach for your support and participation.

The newsletter will be sent by e-mail as well as be posted on the website www.triglianoi.gr managed by our compatriot, Mr. Panagiotis Strouvelis.

Do not hesitate to send us friends' or family members' e-mail addresses if they are interested in receiving our news; in turn, we are keen on receiving your feedback, texts and pictures at sat1961@ymail.com
Vassilis Sakellarides

PURCHASE OF THE PANTOVASSILISSA CHURCH OF TRIGLIA



Triglians welcomed with great emotion the purchase of the land of Triglia of Bithynia where the historical Pantovassilissa Church stands, as well as the adjacent building. The money was raised by Greek donators who regretfully are not Triglians. The purchase became a reality thanks to the initiative of the new Metropolitane of Bursa (Turkey), Mr. Elpidophoros. A cost estimate is already underway to evaluate the cost of the refurbishment. This iconic move is expected to reinforce the links between Triglians and their beloved homeland.

On the picture above, one can see the inside of the Church during the mass held by Pope Theodose Sepetsis of Nea Triglia.

TRIGLIA OF BITHYNIA



Triglia of Bithynia is a small town near the sea of Marmara in the North West region of Asia Minor. Its history dates back to Antiquity. Indeed, according to scholars, the name refers to an antique city in the area – Vrilio (5th century BC). The current town is the result of the reunion of the lands that used to surround the local monasteries (Pantovassilissa, Midikios, Pelekitis and Hinolakos). These thrived during the iconoclastic period. Nowadays, Triglia is known as the birth place of Saint Chrisostomos of Smyrna. In 1922, Triglians were chased by the Turks and found shelter in Soufflar (Nea Triglia), Halkidiki, and Rafina, Attica, in Continental Greece.

The first generation of those Triglians founded our Association in 1961 and headquartered it in Thessaloniki, with local branches in Nea Triglia and Rafina. Their objective was to keep the memory of their homeland and share the culture and traditions of their ancestors.

Despina Paraskeva-Kranis

CELEBRATION OF THE 'KLIDONA' IN NEA TRIGLIA



Nea Triglia's Committee revived the traditional custom of the 'Klidona' at the local cultural centre. The 'Klidona' was a token for young women looking for a husband. Playing the role of the elder daughter was young Theodora

ELECTION OF THE NEW METROPOLITE OF BURSA, TURKEY



The ordination of the new Metropolitan of Bursa, Mr. Elpidophoros, took place in March 2011. The ceremony was held at the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, Turkey. The Metropolitan is also Abbot of the Monastery of the Saint Trinity in Halkis, Princes' Islands, Turkey, as well as a theology professor at the University of Thessaloniki, Greece.

Our Association wished him all the best in his new role. On the picture, Mr. Elpidophoros is surrounded by representatives of the Association visiting the Patriarchate in June 2011.

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION'S BOARD

After the elections of March 2012, the new board of the Association is represented by:

Vassilis Sakellaridis (President)
Alexandros Kokkinidis (Vice President)
Katerina Mastroianni (General Secretary)
Niki Gikoglou (Treasurer)
Dimitris Dimitriadis (Public Relations)
Despina Kokkala
Costas Karamanlis

Members of the Board of the Nea Triglia branch include:

Despina Paraskeva-Kranis (President)
Hariklia Koufoudi-Varenes (Vice President)
Stavros Kalpakis (Secretary)
Panagiota Spandonis (Treasurer)
Evi Mitsou-Kapetanou
Chrissoula Babarouxi
Eleni Gikoglou

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The Association of Triglians Worldwide holds the account Nr. 86196310, IBAN: GR88 0120 5340 0000 0008 6196 310, BIC: EMPOGRAA at the Commercial Bank of Greece. You may contribute your yearly membership of 10 Euros and whatever donation you wish to make, by asking the bank to list your name and details of your transfer payment.

Thank you in advance for supporting our Association!

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION ON CONSTANTINOPLE



The president of the Photographic Museum of Kalamaria, Thessaloniki, Mr. Christos Kalemkeris (who by the way is of Triglian origin), put at our disposal his photographic collection 'Constantinople in 1900' by British photographer T. Wild.

The exhibition was organized by the Museum with the support of the local Committee in the cultural centre of Nea Triglia and attracted many visitors, amongst which a lot of students. Much appraisal was heard from all with regards to the contents and organization of the exhibition.

NEA TRIGLIA LOCAL BRANCH CELEBRATES MOTHER'S DAY



On May 14, the local branch of Nea Triglia celebrated Mother's Day in a fully packed room filled with intense emotions. The speaker, Ms. Haris Dimitriakoudis, cheerfully depicted the beloved character of the Mother. Children recited poems and the ladies of the Committee sang in honour of Mothers. The celebration was concluded by the Nea Triglia Choir with traditional songs. In the end, the Committee offered flowers to all mothers present who were deeply touched by the gift.

Contributors to the present issue: Vassilis Sakellaridis, Despina Paraskeva-Kranis, Hariklia Koufoudi-Varenes.
English translation by Nathalie Varenes.