

Morias Quarterly



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Federation Members:

- Corinthian Society
- Kalavrita Society
- Elion Society "The Olympic Flame" of SA
- Messinian Association of SA
- Laconian Society of SA "Leonidas"
- Panarcadian Association of SA "Kolokotronis"
- Argo-Nafpliakos Association of SA "To Palamidi"

The Olympic Torch and Hellenic Unity in South Australia

Two major events on Saturday the 15th of July 2000 have made this day significant for Hellenism in South Australia.

First, the passage of the Olympic torch relay through the streets of Adelaide on its way to Sydney for the 2000 Olympic Games. The euphoria and emotion will remain unforgettable to all South Australians who crammed the streets to witness the proud and privileged bearers parade this global symbol of unity and peace for all to see. To those of Hellenic background, the flame serves as a reminder of their proud and resilient heritage which has withstood the test of time for thousands of years.

Second, this day will be remembered, in particular by the Greeks in South Australia, for the inauguration of the unification of Hellenism in South Australia. A function at the Renaissance Function Centre in Rundle Mall attended by about 500 guests served as the formal launch of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Pan-Macedonian Association of SA and the Peloponnesian Federation of SA. The objective of the MOA is to expand the annual Dimitria festival beyond its proud Greek Macedonian foundation to also include Peloponnesian representation.

In doing so the Dimitria festival will become a prominent symbol of Greek unity within South Australia. It was therefore fitting that the launch of this major new direction for Hellenism in South Australia be made on the day which saw the State embrace the true Olympic spirit through the torch as it made its journey from the ancient site of Olympia on its way to Stadium Australia in Homebush NSW.



Phil Smyth, coach of the Thirty Sixers, proudly bearing the torch

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Presidents of Pan Macedonian and Peloponnesian Federations Stress the Need for Unity

At the formal launch of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Pan Macedonian Association and Peloponnesian Federation of South Australia on Saturday the 15th of July at the Renaissance Function Centre (see cover story), the presidents of both organisations stressed the need for unification to ensure the preservation of Hellenism for future generations in South Australia.

Anna Vollis – the president of the Pan-Macedonian Association of SA – highlighted in her address, that in the

spirit of the Olympic flame which South Australians were privileged to witness today, with great delight the Pan-Macedonian Association has accepted the Peloponnesian Federation of SA as partners in the Dimitria festival. She declared that in order to reflect this partnership, the Dimitria festival will now be formally known as the "Dimitria Greek Festival". She also stressed that the Dimitria Greek Festival is an ally to the Glendi Festival, where it seeks to rein-

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(Continued from page 1) **The Olympic Torch and Hellenic Unity in SA**



Greek Australian youngsters, Adam and Victoria Malavazos holding the torch with Basketball Olympian, Rachel Sporn

For some time it has been recognised by both associations that the key for Hellenism to remain as a strong entity of multiculturalism in South Australia is for the ideals and objects of these two largest Greek associations in this State to be reinforced and strengthened through unification. As a result of this recognition, both associations undertook to establish and commit to the MOA which was signed on the 11th of April this year. To publicise this commitment, both associations organised this joint function to proclaim their commitment to Hellenic unity for ensuring that Hellenism remains a key component within multiculturalism in South Australia.

The evening was hosted by the ladies of Vergina of the Pan-Macedonian Association headed by Mary Duvlos and by the Peloponnesian Federation board members Despina Karagiannis, Kathy Rozaklis and Kathy Tsorvas.



The friendly faces of the hosts of the evening, cutting tickets at the door.

The organisation skills of these hard working and committed ladies in organising the venue, seating and smooth running of various other events during the

evening were highly appreciated by all those who attended and in particular the board members of each association.



The unique Pan Hellenic Dance Group

The Master of Ceremony for the evening was Mr Steve Georganas, ALP member for Hindmarsh. The president of the Pan-Macedonian Association, Ms Anna Vollis, and the president of the Peloponnesian Federation, Mr Jim Tsagouris both addressed the evening highlighting and supporting the need for this initiative of unification (see article commencing on page 1).

A special floor show of traditional Greek dancing was performed by the Pan Hellenic dance group, who as always had the guests in awe by their unique and athletic dance choreography.

Greek singer Nikos Karagiannis from Perth, sponsored by Athan's World Travel, entertained the crowd with some of the latest songs from Greece.



Nikos Karagiannis entertaining the crowd

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The large crowd dancing



The large crowd dancing zembekiko



Another view of the crowd dancing



Mr George Genimahaliotis (right) with his para

(Continued from page 1) **Presidents Stress the Need for Unity** force the ideals of the Glendi festival by celebrating Hellenism through the celebration of Agios Dimitris, not only for Greek Macedonia in which the Cathedral of Agios Dimitris resides, but for all of Greece and every Greek.



Anna Vollis: "Dimitria Festival is now the Dimitria Greek Festival – for all Greeks not just Greek Macedonians"

Similarly, Jim Tsagouris – president of the Peloponnesian Federation of SA – also reinforced the need for this unification and highlighted the honor bestowed on the Peloponnesian Federation of SA in the partnership it has now established with the Pan-Macedonian Association. In his speech, Jim Tsagouris stressed that this much needed unification amongst Greeks could only be effectively achieved through the cooperation of the two largest Greek representative bodies in this state. Therefore, he noted, "...this partnership has in effect

brought together 16 separate Greek societies and associations in this state, something never achieved before".



Jim Tsagouris: Stressing the bringing together of 16 Greek societies and associations

Jim highlighted that. "...the new Dimitria Greek Festival will always reinforce and strongly support the Glendi Greek Festival, one of Australia's most widely known and respected festivals...". In closing, Jim pointed out that this unification will lead to a stronger political voice to assist in delivering the preservation of Hellenic values, culture and language in this state. Also, it will provide a key avenue for support to all Greeks from the General Secretariat for Greeks Abroad within the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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Articles for future Newsletters

This newsletter is produced and published by the Peloponnesian Federation of SA on a quarterly basis for the purpose of disseminating news and information on the various initiatives the federation and its member societies undertake to fulfill the federation's constitutional objectives. Therefore all members are invited to submit to the secretary, Michael Malavazos, any articles which address such initiatives for inclusion in future issues.

Federation Web Page

A web page for the federation is currently under development.

On one of the pages, historical details of each federation member society will be provided. To assist in this could each member society provide Michael Malavazos with such details.

Peloponnesian Federation Launches into the New Millineum: Harry's Vision Lives On

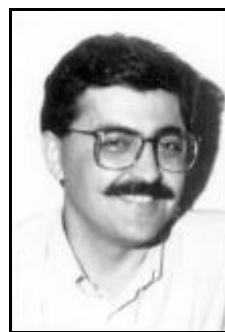
On the 18th of March 2000, the Peloponnesian Federation held a function at the Corinthian Club, Welland Ave Welland, to reinforce its objectives and plans for the year 2000 and beyond. The evening was attended by over 200 guests, special guests from state and federal politics and cultural and media organisations. The evening was addressed by two key speakers, Dr Michael Tsanikas from the Greek Chair at Flinders University of SA and Professor Anastasios Tamis from the LaTrobe University Victoria. Both spoke of various aspects of Greek migration and its impacts on both Greece and their countries of destination, in particular Australia. Professor Tamis gave an emotional address which captivated the guests, where he spoke about extraordinary discrimination faced by pre world war two Greek migrants in Australia. Citing cases where Australian farmers were refused bank loans by state banking institutions if they employed Greek or Italian labourers. The professor's research had shown that Greek migrants in Australia only began to become accepted and welcomed by Australian citizens and Australian public and private institutions subsequent to WWII when diggers returned and gave accounts of the heroism shown by Greeks in protecting the lives of the defeated Australian troops.

Professor Tamis stressed the need to preserve Hellenic values, culture and language in Australia, as statistics are showing that within the next decade the number of first generation Greeks will have diminished down to less than 10% of the total number of all Australians with Greek background. Also the number of second generation Australians will be less than 20% of the total. This diminishment – as is the case currently in the USA – will be reflected by a reduction in the use and knowledge of Greek language and culture.

One way for counteracting this he stressed, is through strengthening Greek organisations such as the Peloponnesian Federation and adequately resourcing these organisations to deliver events and programs which maintain interest and enthusiasm in Hellenic values and culture.

Professor Tamis also used the evening as an opportunity to launch the second volume of his book on the history of Greek migration in Australia which was well received as indicated by the extraordinary sales by the end of the night.

Jim Tsagouris, the president of the Federation used the evening as an opportunity to reiterate the objectives of the federation and to announce the commencement of the joint Pan-Macedonian Association and Peloponnesian Federation Dimitria festival initiative. Jim also took the opportunity to acknowledge the vision and ground breaking work that the late Harry Zacharoyiannis facilitated to establish the foundations of the federation back in 1992. It is upon these foundations and Harry's vision of Hellenic unity that the federation will prosper as it moves forward into the new Millineum.



Harry Zacharoyiannis: 1953-1996,
Vision of Hellenic Unity

Olympic Hellenic Tribute: Federation Contributes

In acknowledgement that the cultural heritage of a large number of Australians originates from Greece, the birth place of the Olympic Games, the NSW Government through the Olympic Coordination Authority (OCA) in collaboration with the Hellenic Tribute incorporated, commissioned an independently funded permanent monument at the Olympic site at Homebush. This Tribute by the Hellenic people of Australia is part of a trilogy of Olympic tributes being organised and erected by Hellenic people worldwide. The first of these Tributes was erected by the American Greeks at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games and the third and final will be erected at the site of the ancient

games at Olympia in Greece in time for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

Therefore in keeping with the spirit of this Hellenic Tribute, the Federation in November 1999 decided to contribute \$1,000 towards the construction and erection of the monument. The Federation will be acknowledged of its support through inscription on a plaque at the Homebush site.