# II EADER

LEADERSHIP 100
LOOKS TO 25 YEARS

**SUMMER ISSUE** 

PETE PETERSON IN THE NEWS



LEADERSHIP **1**00

Olympic Tower, 645 Fifth Avenue, Suite 906 New York, NY 10022

### GEORGE P. KOKALIS AT 98 AND COUNTING

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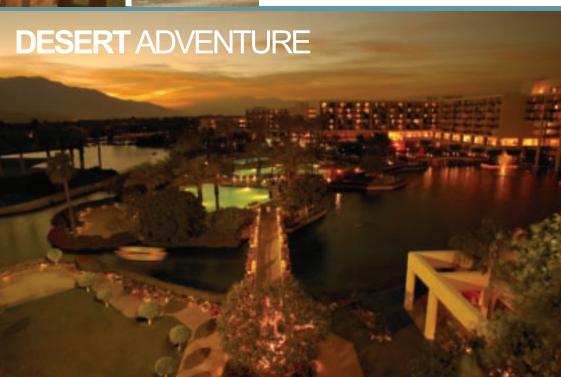
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# GEORGE P. KOKALIS AT 98 AND COUNTING

George P. Kokalis, Founding Member and former Chairman of Leadership 100, celebrated his 98th birthday on July 20, 2007. Looking forward to the 25th Anniversary of Leadership 100 in 2009, he is counting not his years but the new members to fill his prophetic vision for the organization he holds in his heart.

When an 11-year-old George P. Kokalis left his native village of Kalavitra in Greece for America, he left behind the sheep and goats he had to count but did not leave behind the faith and values that were to make him a successful businessman and exemplary philanthropist. Upon his arrival in New York, he was detained at Ellis Island until a brother-in-law went to court to get him released. The pair then went to Chicago where Kokalis began his American journey.

The bright young immigrant picked up English at play waiting to go to school. But he didn't wait long to begin working, learning the produce business and going into business for himself at 15, when he completed the eighth grade. He went on to high school where he met his future wife, Evelyn. After achieving success through the 1920s by organizing a produce cooperative of 50 to 255 members, he married her in 1931. He later started his own supermarket chain, Sure Safe.

The story would end there, much like so many other immigrant stories, except that George P. Kokalis could never forget his roots and his responsibility to his community, his Church and his fellow human beings. When he sold his supermarket chain in 1961, he established the first library in the Greek Community in America at St. Demetrios Church in Chicago, consecrated by Archbishop lakovos, another pioneer in Greek America. And when he moved with his family to Phoenix, Arizona afterwards, he became a full-fledged philanthropist, now counting the goodness he could impart. He donated his own funds but challenged others, always counting higher to raise the money to acquire prime real estate and build Holy Trinity Church and Community Center, which became Holy Trinity Cathedral in 1988.



Serving on the Archdiocesan Council for a record 34 years, George's journey was not always smooth. He lost his beloved wife, Evelyn. Later he married again, to Stephanie Pappas, and guided his growing family. Always alert to financial need for a growing community and Church, he was stunned to find an Archdiocese that couldn't pay its grocery bills. He went to work for his faith and his heritage as never before, serving on the Archdiocese Finance Committee, and together with a small group of founders in 1984, supported the vision of Archbishop lakovos in establishing Leadership 100. The counting began in earnest – 100 members at \$100,000 each. The result was a truly national Greek Orthodox Church, a more visible Greek American Community and a new vehicle for Greek American leaders.

Ever since, he has goaded Leadership 100 into becoming a dynamic force funding the ministries of the Church, perpetuating Orthodoxy and Hellenism, and "creating" in his own words, "new possibilities and new realities." When he served as Chairman of Leadership 100, from 1996 to 2000, the organization had grown to triple its size, but he was not satisfied. He urged whole families to join and chaired the effort to fulfill pledges, which brought the number to 300. He enlisted four fulfilled members of his own family.

Testimonials and awards abound in George P. Kokalis' life. Next to support of his beloved Church is his unstinting support of Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology. And next to that is his support of the Banner Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Phoenix, where he established the Good Samaritan Chapel and endowed the Clinical Pastoral Education Chaplaincy Program for all faiths.

### GEORGE P. KOKALIS AT ANDCOUNTIN

When Leadership 100 doubled its membership in 2004 to 600, the former Chairman was still counting the number of Greek Americans and their families able to join. And when Leadership 100 set new goals to reach 1,000 members and \$100 million in endowment funds by its 25th Anniversary in 2009, George asked for 3,000 members and \$300 million. "They are out there," he says.

Where did all this counting start? According to George P. Kokalis, it all started in Kalavitra, where his father welcomed every stranger and made sure that he left with a bag of wheat and corn. Now the recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and a Doctorate of Humanity from Holy Cross, he still describes himself as a simple man who followed the faith and values instilled in him. He believes that philanthropy is part of spiritual growth, that giving comes back fivefold, tenfold in blessings. "You can't count high enough," he says.





George P. Kokalis with the more than 100-year-old cane that his father found as the shoot of a tree and tied and wired until it grew.

#### **BIRTHDAY**Interview

Paulette Poulos - George, we have known each other for many years, and I am privileged to be with you on the occasion of your 98th birthday. "Chronia polla" from our Leadership 100 Chairman, George Behrakis, our entire Board of Trustees and our membership. I thought it a good idea for you to share with our members your perspective on the organization that has been so dear to you.

What do you think of Leadership 100?

George P. Kokalis - It is the finest organization the Church has ever had and probably ever will have. I personally feel that I'm part of it. Because of His Eminence Archbishop lakovos, I felt that way. I think I saw the organization a little further on than anybody else. I thought I saw that in the future it would be a great organization and I wanted to be there.

**Paulette** - What were the reasons for beginning Leadership 100 in 1984?

George - We needed money. The Church was having a lot of financial problems. We started this new program of stewardship because the need wasn't being communicated properly; we weren't educating as to the need properly, to the priests, to the hierarchs and to the people.

Paulette - We now have grown to 725 members with an

endowment fund exceeding 65 million dollars and total assets exceeding 82 million. Our 25th Anniversary Fund was launched at the last conference with the goal of reaching 1,000 members and \$100 million in the endowment fund. Can we do it?

**George** - I felt that we could have 3,000 members because they are out there – not only each potential member, but his family, his wife, his sons, his daughters – they can be members. I have myself four fulfilled members in my family. That's what I'd like to see for Leadership 100.

Paulette - The purpose of Leadership 100 is not only to



Paulette interviewing George P. Kokalis.

support the National Ministries of our Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, but to perpetuate Orthodoxy and Hellenism. How does it fulfill that role?

**George** - Because it is going to be forever the organization the Church can depend on, not for operating the Archdiocese, but for the programs that need to be energized financially.

**Paulette** - As you said, four generations of the Kokalis family have fulfilled their pledges to Leadership 100. Once again you have led us into the future. We have started a new program – L100 Partners, for younger members to join at different financial levels as they progress in their careers. What do you want to tell our Leadership 100 members about faith, heritage, youth and family?

George - Anything Leadership 100 does to entice young people, to show them that this is a real organization to preserve our Greek heritage and our Greek Orthodox Church - that would be the best thing that could ever happen, if they support it.

Paulette - We are celebrating your 98th birthday and Leadership 100 will celebrate its 25th birthday in just two years from now. What does that mean to you?

**George** - I think maybe He has something in mind. Every ounce of my heart, my whole body, my whole life is my belief in this organization. I stayed for four years as Chairman. I could have stayed for six or eight but I wanted to see someone feel and believe as I do come forward. I am not an educated man, just a simple, ordinary man. The Lord has made me successful. My life is full. I have no regrets.

# A **TRIBUTE** TO GEORGE P. KOKALIS

On a hot summer night in mid-July in Phoenix, Arizona, the heat didn't diminish the enthusiasm of the nearly 80 guests who attended a celebration in honor of George P. Kokalis' 98th birthday. Every guest was greeted by George's customary hug, strong handshake, and heartfelt tears of joy. Friends and family from Arizona, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan and New York joined together to honor someone who has touched the lives of countless individuals.

As a long-time friend of George and Stephanie Kokalis, I was honored to begin the program with a retrospective on what has occurred in the world during George's lifetime, noting that George, having been born July 20, 1909, witnessed the development of many modern-day conveniences, historic world events, and 17 different men serving as President of the United States. George's birthday in 1969 was also shared with another historic event, for it was on July 20, 1969 that Neil Armstrong was the first man to walk on the moon!

Paulette Poulos, Executive Director (Interim) of Leadership 100, began her remarks by quoting Abraham Lincoln, "It is not the number of years that one lives but rather the way in which one lives his life." Paulette recalled the words of the late Archbishop lakovos. founder of Leadership 100, who called George a "courageous and faithful churchman who was never afraid to stand up for what he believed in and to fight the good fight for worthy causes and ministries of the Church."

George Marcus of San Francisco, a member of the Leadership 100 Executive Committee, attended with his wife, Judy. He said he was encouraged to get involved with Leadership 100 by George Kokalis and that he considers him a mentor and role model by virtue of his long-term commitment to the Church and his vision to begin important initiatives such as Leadership 100. He commented that when people would come forward with a contribution, George would encourage them not just to "give" but to "give more".

Also paying tribute to George Kokalis was Fr. Nicholas Triantafilou, President of Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology, and Presvytera Diane, new members of Leadership 100. Fr. Nick has known of George's personal philanthropy not only to the Archdiocese and Leadership 100, but also through his generosity to the school.

His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos offered a moving tribute to George, referring to him as a "true friend" to Archbishop lakovos, but more importantly, a "true friend" to the Church, never turning his back and never saying "no" when there was a need.



Paulette Poulos with George and Judy Marcus.

# L100 LOOKS TO 25 years

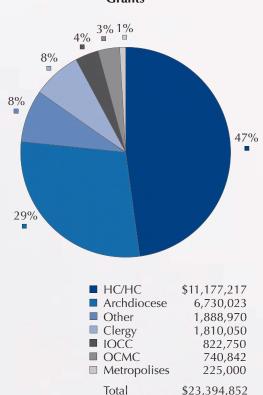
Leadership 100 has moved to a new level of dynamic growth as it approaches its 25th Anniversary in 2009 - 725 firm and committed members, an investment portfolio exceeding \$65 million and more than \$23 million given out in grants since its inception.

New purpose and meaning in the mission and membership of Leadership 100 has matched this dramatic advance. We are addressing the challenge of transferring not only the philanthropic responsibility but the spiritual and cultural resources of our faith and heritage to the next generation. We have begun to see results with the creation of Leadership 100 Partners, young professionals who are joining Leadership 100 at significant but affordable levels appropriate to their age.

"We are addressing the challenge of transferring not only the philanthropic responsibility but the spiritual and cultural resources of our faith and heritage to the next generation." George D. Behrakis

Many of our members have witnessed the growth of Leadership 100 through various stages, from its visionary founding in 1984 by Archbishop lakovos, through the organization of a formal fund-raising

#### **Grants**





Chairman Behrakis presides a meeting in L100 offices in the Olympic Tower. Seated (I to r) John Sitilides, Chairman of Grant Committee, George Safiol, Chairman of Audit Committee, and Stephen G. Yeonas, L100 Vice Chairman.

campaign in 2000 which doubled its membership, to the move to the Olympic Tower in 2005, which visibly demonstrated our primary mission of promoting both Orthodoxy and Hellenism in the preeminent venue of world Hellenism in New York City.

Now is the time to go beyond the winning and intuitive strategies of the past with a calculated great leap forward. With "the pursuit of excellence" our credo for the new century, we are launching The 25th Anniversary Fund:

To increase membership to 1,000, fulfilled members to 500, the endowment to \$100 million, and annual grants to \$5 million by 2009, The 25th Anniversary of Leadership 100.

The grants tell the real story of Leadership 100, which began its journey of faith more than 20 years ago, demonstrating care and support for humanity in manifesting its central purpose of advancing Orthodoxy and Hellenism. Through days of celebration and crisis in our national life, Leadership 100 was there, and will continue to be there as it marks its 25th Anniversary and carries its legacy to future generations in the decades ahead.

# L100 Partners ON THE MOVE



Gregory Pappas, Michael Bapis, Alexander Christon, Altug Ozturk



Alexi Yiannas with Ion Tsakonis



Stella Moniaros, Carlene Soumas, Altug Ozturk, Penny Manis, Connie Lappas, Paul Stamas, Ion Tsakonas



Ion Tsakonas, Angela Giannopoulos, Irene Vamvolakis, Alexi Yannas



Paul Stamas, Ion Tsakonas, Michael Bapis, L100 Partner Chairman, Michael Jaharis, L100 Founding Member



Byran Ferro, Stephanie Harovas, Penny Manis, Connie Lappas, George Demos



Altug Ozturk, Stella Moniaros, Alexander Christon, Penny Manis, Connie Lappas, George Demos



Paul Stamas presents a membership check to Paulette Poulos and Michael Bapis

L100 Partners continued to attract young professionals with its second major event April 25, 2007 in the Atrium of the Olympic Tower. Michael Bapis, Chairman of the group, addressed some 50 guests, including many newcomers. Paulette Poulos, Executive Director (Interim) of Leadership 100, was joined by Michael Jaharis, Vice Chairman of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and a Founding Member of Leadership 100, and Peter A. Vlachos, member of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Leadership 100 Investment Committee. Peter's daughter, Zoe Vlachos, a partner in his firm, Austin Investment Management, Inc., who became the first new member of Leadership 100 in 2007, also attended.

Bapis said he plans other events and will soon inaugurate the L100 Partners section of the Leadership 100 website. He said six partners joined in 2006 and 10 joined in 2007 to date, for a total of 16. He said he anticipated more members before the end of 2007 with a major membership thrust beginning with the Leadership 100 Annual Conference in February of 2008.



# **PETE**PETERSON in the NEWS

"Pete Peterson", if not a household name, has certainly been

a boardroom name in American business and political circles for

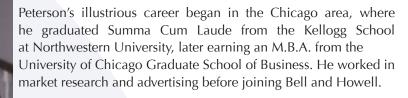
over half a century and at least since the early 60s, when he rose to the presidency of Bell and Howell Corporation before he was 35 (becoming Chairman and CEO from 1963 to 1971). This son of Greek immigrant parents, born Peter G. Peterson in Kearney, Nebraska, trailblazed his way from the Midwest to the most powerful inner circles of New York and Washington and in the capitals of the world.

"My father was a Greek immigrant and small businessman who taught me to value thrift, stewardship, individual responsibility and compassion for the poor."

Today he is in the news as Senior Chairman and Co-Founder of The Blackstone Group, the nation's largest private equity firm and a leading global asset manager that went public in June, generating comments and criticism in the worldwide media over issues of profit-taking and taxation. No stranger to controversy, Peterson and his firm were quick to set the record straight as he has done in numerous books on government and the economy.

Best known as President Nixon's Secretary of Commerce (1972), after having served as Assistant to the President for International Economic Affairs, and as long-time Chairman of the Council on Foreign Relations, Peterson has held a startling array of business and government positions. Among them, he was Chairman and CEO of Lehman Brothers (1973-1977) and Lehman Brothers, Kuhn, Loeb, Inc. (1977-1984) and Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (2000 to 2004). He is the Founding Chairman of the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

His public service has extended from chairing a Commission on Foundations and Private Philanthropy, Nixon's National Commission on Productivity and the U.S. - Soviet Commercial Commission to becoming Founding President of the Concord Coalition, a bipartisan citizens' group that advocates reduction of the federal budget deficit. He was also a member of President Clinton's Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement and Tax Reform.



His books reflect his life-long convictions on individual responsibility, political irresponsibility, the role of government and the dangers of debt. They include Running on Empty: How the Democratic and Republican Parties Are Bankrupting Our Future and What Americans Can Do About It; Gray Dawn: How the Coming Age Wave Will Transform America – and the World; Will America Grow Up Before It Grows Old?; and Facing Up: How to Rescue the Economy from Crushing Debt and Restore the American Dream.

Peterson's contributions have not gone unnoticed. He has been awarded honorary Ph.D. degrees by Colgate University, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Northwestern University, New School University, the University of Nebraska, the University of Rochester, and Southampton College of Long Island University.

Peterson married Joan Ganz Cooney, founder of Children's Television Workshop, in 1980. He has five children from a previous marriage.

Throughout his career, journalists have noted Pete Peterson's Greek heritage, some not so kindly. Peterson himself, a member of Leadership 100 since 2005, has always expressed pride in his origins and that has been reflected in his philanthropy and his values. He linked his heritage with his outlook on the world in the following observation:

"My father was a Greek immigrant and small businessman who taught me to value thrift, stewardship, individual responsibility and compassion for the poor. He started out as a railroad dishwasher who slept in a caboose to save on rent. He settled in Kearney, Nebraska, and used his savings to start the inevitable Greek restaurant. With the help of my mother, he ran it 24/7 for twenty-five years so that my brother and I could 'get the best education money could buy.' Meanwhile, if an unemployed person came to the back door of the Central Café asking to be fed – and during the Great Depression there were countless numbers – none went hungry as long as they were willing to do some honest labor."

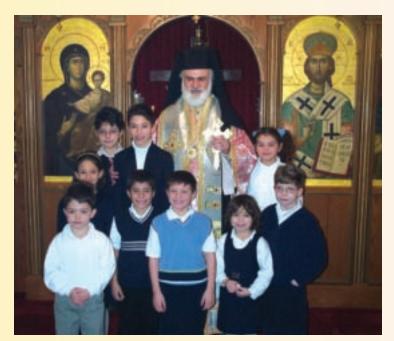
"These values were reinforced when I arrived at the University of Chicago and learned from its famed economists about the virtues of open markets, the hazards of too much government, and of course the importance of fiscal responsibility."

With these sentiments, no one can question that Pete Peterson's life has been an open book - of analysis and acclamation for his ancestral values, his American experience and for the workings of a complex world.

His Eminence Metropolitan Maximos of Pittsburgh became the first hierarch of the Greek Orthodox Church in America to join Leadership 100, receiving his Icon with 40 other new members at the 16th Annual Leadership 100 Conference in Naples, Florida last February. The prominent theologian and ecumenist, who has served the Metropolis of Pittsburgh as Bishop and Metropolitan for 28 years, was ordained to the priesthood 48 years ago in his native Chios, Greece.

Metropolitan Maximos, who holds a degree in Orthodox Theology from the Patriarchal Theological School of Halki and a Doctor of Theology degree from the University of Louvain in Belgium, has had a distinguished academic career in addition to his role as pastoral and ecumenical leader. He has served as professor of Systematic Theology and Academic Dean at the Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts, as Professor of Systematic Theology at Christ the Savior Theological Seminary in Johnstown, Pennsylvania and as a trustee of St. Vladimir's School of Theology in Crestwood, New York.

His Eminence has been most prominent in representing the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Orthodox Church in dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church over three decades, counting among his friends Pope Benedict XVI, whom he came to know when he served as Observer Delegate of the Orthodox Church during the Second Vatican Council. Benedict was then Theological Consultant of the Roman Church. He has also participated in panels



Metropolitan Maximos with children from parishes of the Metropolis of Pittsburgh.



Chairman Behrakis and Archbishop Demetrios present Icon to Metropolitan Maximos in recognition of his joining Leadership 100.

and missions of the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) and the World Council of Churches (WCC) in the Middle East, China, Russia and the former Soviet Union and Latin America.

Meanwhile in Pittsburgh, His Eminence is occupied shepherding 52 parishes in Pennsylvania (29), Ohio (17) and West Virginia (6), working with youth, his special emphasis, and encouraging religious education, spiritual life and renewal and monasticism – one monastery for men and two for women have been established under his leadership.

This outstanding leader has not only authored numerous publications but has done so in the languages in which he is fluent, English and Greek, French and Italian.

In joining Leadership 100, Metropolitan Maximos has given a vote of confidence to an organization that shares his goals in promoting Orthodoxy and Hellenism and supports the ministries of the Orthodox Church, which he has so nobly and effectively represented for over almost half a century.

# DESERT

#### **PALM DESERT**

Palm Desert, California, the site of the 17th Annual Leadership 100 Conference, February 14-17, 2008, located just 10 miles from Palm Springs, is home to many of the world's finest Golf Courses and Tournaments (Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, Frank Sinatra Celebrity Invitational) and the "Rodeo Drive of the Desert" - the fabulous El Paseo Shopping District with more than 300 world-class shops. clothing boutiques, art galleries, jewelers, extraordinary day spas and beauty salons, and restaurants.

In Palm Desert, you will find streets named after Frank Sinatra, Dinah Shore and Fred Waring. Palm Desert was the first city in Riverside

> County to create a public art program requiring developers to contribute to the artistic harmony between buildings and open spaces, and is now the Coachella Valley's retail, education and cultural epicenter.







Cultural attractions include the Holocaust Museum, the Living Desert Reserve (1,200 acres of desert plants, water hogs, Arabian oryxes, desert unicorns, mountain lions, cheetahs, Mexican wolves and bighorn sheep) and The McCallum Theatre for the Performing Arts. The city is also home to the College of the Desert and California State University, San Bernardino, Palm Desert Campus.

During El Paseo Art Walk, 20 internationally acclaimed art galleries showcase their wide selection of art - from sculpture to antiquities, masters to contemporary, and everything in between. From October through May art lovers can experience the Art Walk and stroll from gallery to gallery and meet the artists in person, garnering expert advice while enjoying great art and refreshments.

The Leadership 100 family will meet at The Desert Springs JW Marriott Resort & Spa in Palm Desert, situated on 450 acres of lushly landscaped grounds and lagoons, a sprawling oasis in remarkable contrast to the stark beauty of the desert. The Four Star, Four Diamond, award-winning property opened in February 1987, and is one of the largest resort and convention complexes in the southwestern United States. The resort's guest rooms and suites are located in five-to-eight-story wings surrounding swimming pools, lakes, verdant fairways, lush English gardens, and manicured lawns. From the moment guests enter the resort's breathtaking



atrium lobby, they begin a journey into a world of relaxed elegance, singular amenities, and exemplary service.

The resort's famous Venetian-like waterways literally begin in the lobby. Gondolas wait to transport guests to dinner and on afternoon tours. No matter where the destination – an afternoon tour of the impressive grounds, or an evening of dining and dancing at one the resort's many restaurants and night clubs it's easy to fall under the spell of this resort, as the gondola slowly drifts past cascading waterfalls and the calls of exotic birds fill the air.

At the 17th Annual Leadership 100 Conference

#### **GUEST ROOMS AND SUITES**

Desert Springs Resort & Spa features 884 deluxe accommodations, including 51 suites, ranging from 900-square-foot hospitality suites to two 3,150-square-foot Chairman's suites. Each guest room is spacious and includes a private bath with separate tub and shower, mini-bar, a Sony CD player and alarm, hair dryer, private balcony, golf and tennis magazines, upgraded amenities, in-room safe, iron, and ironing board.



#### RECREATION

The resort's superb recreation facilities include: two Ted Robinson-designed 18-hole championship golf courses (see below); a unique 18-hole putting course; 20 tennis courts: 15 hard courts (six lighted), 3 clay and 2 grass courts; a day spa featuring a gym, exercise classes, a Spa Shop, complete with clothing, fitness accessories and hair, skin and body treatment products; the Oasis Pool area which includes three swimming pools; basketball courts; lawn croquet; biking on regular bikes or e-bikes; 13 restaurants and lounges; and more. For families traveling with children, the kid's program provides supervised activities for guests aged 4 to 12 years, and child-sitting services are also available.

#### THE GOLF ADVENTURE

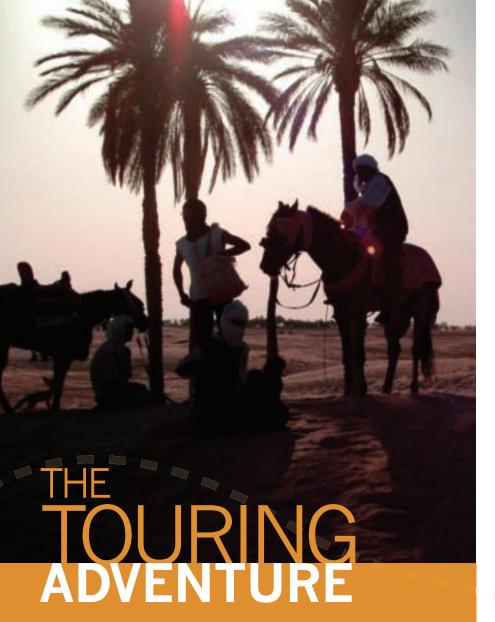
Two Ted Robinson-designed championship 18-hole golf courses situated in the midst of paradise surround the Desert Springs JW Marriott Resort & Spa. Within these two award-winning golf courses, The Valley and The Palms, Robinson incorporated innovative water features which integrate more than 35 acres of sparkling streams, lagoons, and crystalline water cascades into these extremely challenging courses.

The golf courses at Marriott's Desert Springs offer four sets of tees measuring from 6,761 to 5,492 yards, and good club selection and relative accuracy are well rewarded.

A choice of tees guarantees golfers of varying levels of skill and strength will enjoy playing at Marriott's Desert Springs. Pars range from relatively easy par fives, including the 17th hole at The Valley Course, to precarious and challenging par threes, such as the 12th hole at The Valley Course.

For golfers unfamiliar with the courses at Marriott's Desert Springs Resort & Spa, the GPS System (Global Positioning System) has been installed in each golf cart. The GPS features a digital readout that shows how many yards between the golfer and the pin. Guests may also order lunch or a snack for the back-nine right from their cart through this GPS system. The PGA staff is on hand and there is a new Golf Shop.





Tour by Hummer, Jeep or by Aerial Tram, or by horseback and covered wagon or go on foot. Tour through canyons, mountains, valleys, deserts, oases or wildlife habitats or to "Little Hollywood" – all in Palm Desert and Palm Springs.

The sheer variety of adventures is astounding in these unique cities. Leadership 100 families can make all the arrangements necessary at the Desert Springs JW Marriott Resort & Spa.

Open-Air Hummers suitable for all ages pick up passengers at the hotel and take them on an old goldmine trail to the third largest palm oasis in the world and over the San Andreas Fault in the Colorado Desert or into the Mojave Desert in Joshua Tree National Park.

Classic Jeep Scramblers or naturalist-guided hiking tours will also take travelers to miles of pristine desert, natural palm oases and steep-walled canyons or to a recreated Cahuilla Indian Village.

The world's largest rotating tramcars at Palm Springs Aerial Tramway climb to the 8,516, high Mountain Station and traverse Mt. Jacinto State Park and Wilderness Area, offering unique views, museum, theatre and restaurant.

Horseback rides through the historic Agua Caliente Indian Canyons offer 150 miles of riding trails and covered wagon tours simulate the Old West as they rumble through the Coachella Valley.

Living Desert tours introduce young people to desert ecology and wildlife, including giraffes, wild cats, howling wolves and breathtaking botanical gardens.

Then there is "Little Hollywood" with tours of historic and beautiful movie colony neighborhoods and homes of the stars such as Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley, Bob Hope, Clark Gable, Frank Sinatra and many more.



DESERT

# THE **WILDLIFE** ADVENTURE

The Living Desert (www.livingdesert.org) in Palm Desert, Indian Wells showcases the desert as an interesting ecosystem with remarkable plants, animals, places and natural phenomena. This vast enterprise includes a zoo and endangered species conservation center, botanical gardens, natural history museum, wilderness park, nature preserve and education center.

Several animals and plants at the Living Desert are threatened species or in danger of extinction. Many of them are reproducing under carefully managed programs.

The Living Desert is also one of the most successful zoological parks in the country and offers visitors the most complete introduction to the natural desert. The organization is dedicated to preserving not only plant and animal life of deserts from around the world but also educating the public through interpretive exhibits, programs and publications.

The name of the "local" desert, Colorado, comes from the Colorado River, which is its eastern boundary. Just north in this location – the Coachella Valley – is the Mojave Desert. Average elevation of the Colorado Desert is about 1,000 feet; the Mojave has an elevation of 2,000 to 4,000 feet.

The Living Desert provides an introduction to desert ecology to more than 4,000 schoolchildren each year through its on-site and outreach programs. Youth tours include storytelling, small animal encounters, Wildlife Wonders Show, Village WaTuTu, hands-on Discovery Room and a desert playland -Gecko Gulch.

The site of the Leadership 100 Conference – The Desert Springs JW Marriott Resort & Spa - is also home to an abundant wildlife population, including an extensive avian collection, many of which are only one or two generations away from their jungle ancestors.

Gracing the 23 acres of lakes and waterways surrounding Desert Springs Resort & Spa is a range of water fowl. Undoubtedly, the most beautiful are the thirty-two Chilean Flamingos, whose distinctive





pink coloring is derived from their consumption of algae, shrimp, mollusks, and insect larvae. These Flamingos are fed a diet to keep them healthy and radiant. Nine black swans and four white swans are given free range of the property, but prefer to stay close to the water.

Amid the flamingos and swans is the ever increasing population of ducks, which includes six species ranging from ringed neck teals to black-billed whistlers.

Swimming contentedly below the surface of the water is a community of Koi, Comet, Large Mouth Bass and Channel Cat fish.



Word of Desert Spring's animal-friendly reputation has apparently spread throughout the migrating bird population. Each year Canadian Geese, Coots, Egrets, and Green Heron use the resort's grounds as a resting stop along their annual migration. And naturally, the resort is only too happy to accommodate these weary world travelers (one snow goose has taken residence)!

Desert Springs Resort & Spa is also home to the largest saltwater aquarium in the Coachella Valley. All the fish are tropical, warm water varieties that thrive on a diet of shrimp, krill or lettuce. Some of the more exotic Denizens of the deep include a Dog Faced Puffer, Squirrel Fish, Lunare Wrasse, Unicorn Tang, Zebra Eel, and a Nurse Shark.

# NEWS of L100 MEMBERS

#### Frank and Athena Sarris

Endow Transplant Research At Pittsburgh Medical Center

While Frank and Athena Sarris are well-known to the Leadership 100 family for their gifts of those ubiquitous Sarris Candy red boxes that have graced the tables of every annual conference since they joined in 2000, the extent of their philanthropy will come as a surprise. The couple have set up The Frank and Athena Sarris Clinical Endowment with a \$5 million gift to the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, and named the Frank Sarris Outpatient Clinic.

Frank started Sarris Candies in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania in 1959, teaching himself candy making in his basement. The family-run company now has more than 350 employees and nearly \$26 million in sales and includes Athena, their son, Bill, daughter, Sophia, and grand-daughters Candace and Athena, in its management.



The story of the gift for transplantation research goes to an episode in 2002, when Frank was in need of a kidney which was provided by his godson, George Pihakis, and subsequently Frank had a successful kidney transplant at the Pittsburgh facility. Ever since, Frank has been a representative of the transplant community, speaking to anxious transplant patients before their operations.

Frank and Athena are also generous supporters of All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Canonsburg, the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, the Washington County 4-H and the Washington County Humane Society.



#### **Gus Giviskos Joins** As Fulfilled Member

Constantine "Gus" Giviskos of Mataloking, NJ, a financial consultant, joined Leadership 100, fulfilling his pledge.
A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he earned his BS at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio

and received an MBA from New York University in 1970. His wife, Mary Lynne, is a native of Kensington, Pennsylvania. "Gus" and "Lynne" have two daughters, Anne and Christine Giviskos.

A certified financial planner, Giviskos served as Vice President of A.G. Edwards and Sons, Inc. He was also associated with the American Bankers Association, Young Presidents' Organization and served as an analyst at E. I. Du Pont Investment Fund.

#### **George K. Hasiotis of Boston** Promoted to Managing Director

Promoted to Managing Director At Cambridge Associates, LLC

George K. Hasiotis, the grandson of Leadership 100 Founding Member George K. Chimples, and son of Eugenia and Dr. George A. Hasiotis of Boston, has been made a Managing Director of Cambridge Associates LLC, which specializes in asset management for nonprofits. Eugenia, or "Evie", is a member of the Leadership 100 Board of Trustees.

George has been a member of Leadership 100 since 1996. In recent years, he has associated himself with Leadership 100 Partners in order to encourage other young professionals to participate in philanthropic support of Orthodoxy and Hellenism in America.

#### **Dr. John Psarouthakis** Prominent Business Leader Reactivates Membership

Dr. John Psarouthakis of Ann Arbor, Michigan, an engineer and industrialist involved in the early days of the U.S. Space Program, decided to reactivate his membership in Leadership 100 in memory of its founder, Archbishop lakovos.



Dr. Psarouthakis, who was recently married to Antigoni Kefalogiannis, was born in Chania, Crete, Greece. After a high school education in science there, he came to the U.S., earning a BSc. and MSc. in Mechanical Engineering at MIT, a Ph.D. in Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering at the University of Maryland and PFE from the Graduate School of Industrial Management at Carnegie-Mellon University.

After an early career in the U.S. Space Program, he went on to manage technology centers and founded and chaired JP Industries, an industrial group that became a Fortune 500 Company and, later, JPEnterprises, which was bought by a private equity fund.

Dr. Psarouthakis became an expert in corporate strategy and business development and advised the government of Greece, U.S. government and state government of Michigan. He established an MBA degree program for Greece and Southeast Europe at Anatolia College in Thessaloniki, Greece. He has lectured at U.S. and European universities and has authored some six books and 100 scientific, management and economic development publications.

Active in fund raising at MIT and other schools, he established various scholarship programs for qualified students of Greek origin at MIT and Carnegie-Mellon, as well as for outstanding technology and economically disadvantaged students in Crete.

Recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, he has received honorary Ph.D.s from Eastern Michigan and Cleary Universities.

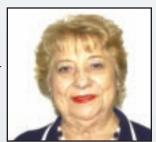


Archbishop Demetrios meets with members of the Executive Committee. Seated (I to r) Bert Moyar, John Catsimatidis, Gus Caras and Michael Jaharis.



#### **Irene Ladas** Awarded Ellis Island Medal of Honor

Irene Ladas of New York, a member of Leadership 100 since 2002 and a recognized philanthropist and business leader, has been awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.



Born in Messinia, Greece, she and her family experienced the hardships of the Greek Civil War. However, relatives from the United States took the young Irene with them back to America where she graduated from high school and the University of Washington and worked for the Boeing Corporation in the Seattle, Washington area.

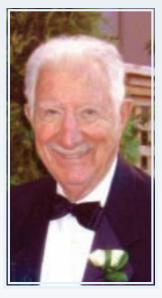
Irene moved with her family to the New York area in 1974, where she founded her own real estate office, Aegean Real Estate in Astoria. Throughout her successful career, she has devoted herself to the Greek Orthodox Church and numerous Hellenic organizations, establishing educational scholarships for deserving students.

Irene has never forgotten those trying and fearful years during World War II and the Greek Civil War – remaining grateful to her adopted country. She also remains a fervent supporter of American democracy and promoter of her Hellenic heritage and Orthodox faith.



Paulette Poulos meets with Dr. Ioannis Efthymiopoulos, Archdiocese Director of Greek Education, to discuss a recent L100 grant to his department. LEADER 13

### REMEMBERING THOMAS D. DEMERY DEDICATED TRUSTEE AND CHURCHMAN



THE LEADERSHIP 100 FAMILY WAS SADDENED BY THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF THOMAS D. DEMERY OF FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN, LONG-TIME MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND MEMBER OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE. A PROMINENT FINANCIAL ADVISOR AND PHILANTHROPIST, HE WAS AN ACTIVE LEADER IN THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH AND THE METROPOLIS OF DETROIT.

TOM DIED AUGUST 8 AT BEAUMONT HOSPITAL IN ROYAL OAK. MICHIGAN DUE TO COMPLICATIONS FOLLOWING HEART SURGERY. HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS OF AMERICA, WHO OFFICIATED AT HIS FUNERAL SERVICE AT ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH IN TROY, MICHIGAN, CALLED HIM "A GENUINE AND TRUE HUMAN BEING". HE WAS JOINED IN THE SERVICE BY HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN NICHOLAS OF DETROIT.

PAULETTE POULOS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (INTERIM), REPRESENTED LEADERSHIP 100.

BORN DECEMBER 25, 1919 IN AEGINA, GREECE, TOM IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE OF 60 YEARS, BECK, TWO SONS, TOM AND JASON, AND A DAUGHTER, CINDY CROSSON, EIGHT GRANDCHILDREN AND TWO GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN.

A VETERAN OF WWII, TOM BEGAN HIS PROFESSIONAL CAREER AS A PARTNER AT PLANTE MORAN BEFORE FOUNDING DEMERY SEED CAPITAL FUND. HE WAS A DIRECTOR OF CARHARTT, INC. AND CHAIRMAN OF COLLEGE PARK INDUSTRIES.

AN ARCHON OF THE ORDER OF ST. ANDREW AND AVID SUPPORTER OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE, TOM SERVED HIS CHURCH AT MANY LEVELS, INCLUDING PRESIDENT OF ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH. BOARD MEMBER OF THE METROPOLIS OF DETROIT AND MEMBER OF THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN MISSION CENTER.

### **NEW & FULFILLED**

**MEMBERS** 

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

since last issue of THE LEADER, Spring 2007

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#### **Metropolis of Boston**

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#### **Metropolis of Denver**

George P. Mitchell The Woodlands, TX Vasilios Priskos Salt Lake City, UT

#### Metropolis of Atlanta

Helen A, Carlos Atlanta, GA

#### **Metropolis of Detroit**

Fr. Andrew and Presvytera Sophia Walsh Springfield, OH

#### **Metropolis of New Jersey**

Gus and Lynne Giviskos Mataloking, NJ

#### Metropolis of San Francisco

His Eminence Metropolitan Nikitas of Dardanelles Berkeley, CA Nicholas M. Halikis, MD Hermosa Beach, CA George H. and Georgene Mitsanas Palos Verdes Estates, CA

#### **FULFILLED MEMBERS**

since last issue of THE LEADER, Spring 2007

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#### Metropolis of Chicago

Frank and Damvra Kamberos Skokie, IL In Memory of Parents Sotirios and Demetra Kamberos

#### Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Westlake, OH Lee and Ageleke Zapis

#### **Metropolis of New Jersey**

Theodore J. and Rachel Georgelas McLean, VA Gus and Lynne Giviskos Mataloking, NJ

#### Metropolis of San Francisco

George P. and Michelle Kokalis Scottsdale, AZ



#### IN MEMORIAM OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS GO TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF

OUR BELOVED MEMBERS

Thomas D. Demery – Franklin, MI 8/8/2007

John P. Kavooras – Palm Beach Gardens,FL 9/10/2007

> George N. Kontos – Warren, OH 6/23/2007

John P. Trebellas - Chicago, IL 9/2/2007

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL

# MATCHING GRANT GOES TO FAMILY WELLNESS CENTER IN SAN FRANCISCO

Leadership 100 awarded a \$100,000 matching grant to launch a new Family Wellness Center in the Metropolis of San Francisco. The Center will encompass programs to strengthen marriages and families, provide youth development services, and will work to gain a clear understanding of the needs of the clergy and laity in the Metropolis. The objective is to develop relevant programming for people of all ages and at all stages in life, incorporating Orthodox theology and teachings.

"Families, both clergy and lay, should be able to turn to their parish and to the wider Church for real guidance and real services," said His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco. "Throughout its history, the Orthodox Church has offered members and anyone who seeks Her out, places for learning, prayer, and reflection and healing."

The Center will seek to strengthen the marriages and family lives of clergy and faithful alike utilizing both the resources of the time-honored Patristic and Biblical traditions and contemporary scientific research. The aim is to create programs suitable to address the issues and concerns which are faced by today's Orthodox Christians.

In the first two years of operation, the Center will focus on strengthening marriages, providing youth development services, and gaining a clear understanding of the faithful's needs so as to develop relevant programming.

Long-term, the Center will develop sustainable programs addressing the most pressing needs of clergy and laity - emotionally, physically, and spiritually - and ongoing training and development programs for their facilitators and to equip the laity with the ability to confront their daily secular struggles with an Orthodox perspective.

"Families, both clergy and lay, should be able to turn to their parish or to the wider Church for real guidance and real services." Metropolitan Gerasimos

His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos first shared his vision for the establishment of the Family Wellness Center at his enthronement in April 2005. In addition to his extensive theological studies at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, MA, Metropolitan Gerasimos also received Masters and Doctoral degrees in Counseling and School Psychology from the prestigious Boston College.



### Kristen Bruskas APPOINTED Executive Director

risten Bruskas was appointed as Executive Director of the Metropolis of San Francisco Family Wellness Center in April 2007. She will be responsible for the overall administration and implementation of the Center, including creating an infrastructure, developing a philanthropic support base, and facilitating a comprehensive communications program between all the ministries of the Metropolis and the community at large.

Ms. Bruskas has attended the parishes of All Saints in Joliet, IL, St. George in Albuquerque, NM, and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Phoenix, AZ, where she served as music director for 20 years. She has been a board member for the Metropolis of San Francisco Church Music Federation (serving as president for nine years) and a member of the Metropolis Council for five years.

Her previous positions included Director of Marketing and Communications with Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley; Development Manager with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Scottsdale; and Director of Corporate Development with the Arizona Opera. She holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Voice Performance from Arizona State University and is a classically trained vocalist and pianist.

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