

The Hellenic Tribute

HHF celebrates the return of the Olympic Games to Athens, Greece with grand Fundraising Gala - "Nikn - An Olympic Celebration"

Over the years, our Annual Fundraising Gala has proven to be one of the most creative, innovative and entertaining events in Toronto's Greek community.

After the success of last year's event, we knew it would be a challenge to create a grander gala this year but we have succeeded!

Our 2004 Fundraising Gala, entitled *Nikn - An Olympic Celebration*, highlights the return of the Olympic Games to its birthplace of Athens, Greece in a truly majestic fashion.

You will awaken your senses with an Olympian meal, delightful wine, exquisite silent auction items and a truly stunning entertainment program.

It is with excitement that we welcome back Dr. Draw for one of his famously

energy filled performances along with acrobats and other talented athletes.

The return of the Olympic Games to Greece for the first time since 1896, this is an extraordinary year, which deserves special sensation.

To commemorate this momentous occasion, we are honouring our Olympic athletes and are proud to announce the representation of our Olympic and Special Olympics teams.

"I am thrilled to be part of such an exciting project", said John Dagonas, President of HHF. "Naming the event after Nikn, the Goddess of Victory,

personifies strength and courage - the very same qualities which have enabled HHF to achieve some remarkable objectives."

HHF is hosting *Nikn - An Olympic Celebration* at the historic Fairmont Royal York in downtown Toronto on Saturday, June 12, 2004.

Tickets to the event are \$250 or \$2,500 for a Table of 10. Tickets are selling quickly, so don't miss out on this extraordinary event - order yours today!

The success of events like this greatly depends on the generosity of our supporters, through Silent Auction donations, ticket sales and sponsorships. We are offering tremendous sponsorship packages this year and we look to the support of everyone in Toronto as we celebrate the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

Our sponsorship opportunities are listed on our website (www.hhf.ca).

Call us at 416-447-7107 to order tickets and sponsorships.



Design courtesy Katerina Alexakis

Third Party Events assist in our fundraising campaign - Help us support our supporters

Spondi Wines hosted an intimate wine tasting reception featuring four Greek winemakers (Gaia Winery, Harlaftis Winery, InterVino and Kir-Yianni) at Ampeli Grill & Cafe in Toronto on February 13, 2004. Reception guests had the opportunity to taste some exquisite Greek boutique wines while also learning about modern day wine production in Greece. In support of our current fundraising campaign, all proceeds from this event were donated to HHF. We thank Spondi Wines for their belief in our organization and for their generous donation.

Spondi Wine's donation has inspired other companies to arrange special fundraising offers for HHF's benefit.

Yiannis Paraskevopoulos of **Gaia Winery** has generously offered to donate \$10.00 from every case of Notios (white and red) sold in Ontario during the months of April, May and June to HHF. Notios red retails at \$202/case of 12 and Notios white retails at \$172/case of 12. If you are in the market for a top quality wine, Notios is well worth a try.

Athenian Brewery, producer of Alfa Beer, has similarly offered to donate \$2.00 from every case of Alfa Beer sold in Ontario during the months of April and May. The retail price for a case of Alfa Beer is \$38.00.

Thank you to Gaia Winery and Athenian Brewery for their generosity. Support our cause while also supporting two worthy Greek companies in their efforts to assist us in meeting our targets.

For more information about either product, please visit www.spondi.com or contact Spondi Wines at 416-410-0889.



Searching for the fountain of youth on ATV's in Aruba

HHF's Annual Escape to the Sun

Every January, HHF organizes a group voyage to a southern destination in order to increase business contacts and strengthen relationships while escaping Canada's harsh winter climate.

Our Winter Getaway has become a highly popular event, attracting a large number of travelers each year.

Due to the large number of travelers, our group rates are always spectacular and it pleases us to pass on the savings to our loyal and generous supporters.

Don't miss out on this event next year, when we will take you on an historic adventure to the Mayan Riviera!

Goat dinners, fish lunches and Greek music - Aruba or Greece?

It is 5:30 in the morning on Sunday, January 18, 2004. The sun has not even conceived of the notion of rising but that does not dampen the mood of the 50 travelers waiting to check in at the Skyservice desk at Toronto's International Airport.

In a few short hours these early risers will be stepping off the plane onto a hot tarmac in beautiful Aruba where they will frolic with their fellow Hellenic Heritage Foundation sun worshippers for seven splendid days!

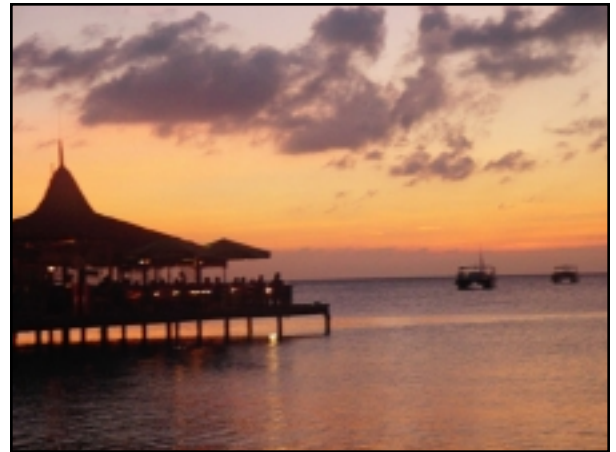
Our annual Winter Getaway has received a very loyal following over the years, creating strong friendships and unforgettable memories.

"George [Seretis] and I fed the fish," said Eva Nasiopoulos when asked about her deep-sea fishing experience. "We spent hours out on the ocean and although we managed to bring back several fish, the big one got away!"

Once back on dry land, the fishing crew managed to convince the resort's kitchen staff to clean and prepare the fish for a delicious HHF luncheon on the beach. As the old saying goes, food does taste better when you had to work for it!

On Wednesday evening, a Greek night was arranged by HHF to give the travelers a chance to get better acquainted and to celebrate their temporary escape from the mundane.

After breaking bread together during a leisurely and private dinner



Beach volleyball serves up stunning sunsets

in the courtyard, the entire group moved into the hotel lounge for some drinks and dancing.

Initial worries of being berated by the other hotel guests quickly vanished when they joined in, trying to learn the Greek dance moves. The group commandeered the lounge and the DJ booth, playing Greek music until closing, introducing everyone to our amazing traditions.

**"George and I fed the fish....
but the big one got away!"**

The hotel DJ was heard telling one of the guests that in all of his years of playing at carnivals and festivals all over the world, he had never experienced a party like ours!

One day was spent exploring the island on ATV's (All Terrain Vehicles), an activity that will keep everyone young at heart!

The days were spent parasailing, seadooring, scuba diving and fishing. The sun's last rays each evening illuminated the nightly beach volleyball competition. Ah..if only there was more light!

Aruba offers many adventures and surprises as some of our golfers found out as they found themselves sharing the green with Bill Gates and his guests.



How lovely! A private pool reserved especially for HHF!



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Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair in Hellenic Studies to introduce comprehensive graduate program in 2004.

York University history professor Thomas Gallant delivered the inaugural address entitled "Toward a Social History of the Greks", marking the establishment of the Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair in Modern Greek Studies at York University on Friday, January 16, 2004.

His lecture examined the challenges that confront historians attempting to write a social history of Greek peoples living around the world, including Canada and the United States.



Prof. Gallant
Photo: Thomas Gallant

"The Greeks have transcended their national borders and have made major contributions to cultural, political, economic and everyday life in many countries. The story of Greek society can only be told on a global scale." said Gallant. "In addition," he noted, "the history of the development of Greek society in Greece cannot be properly understood without taking into account the role of the numerous and diverse communities of the diaspora."

Under Prof. Gallant's direction, the Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair in Hellenic Studies has blossomed beyond anyone's expectations.

Program registrations continually reach their maximum capacity and we are thrilled to announce that the interest in Hellenic studies is on a

constant rise within the non-Greek student population at York University. Among the activities undertaken by Gallant as Chair thus far, are three international conferences; a new comprehensive degree program in Hellenic Studies commencing September 2004; and the York Hellenic Studies summer field school program held in Greece for fourth year students.

Other speakers included Steve Mirkopoulos, Past President of HHF and Prof. Marlene Shore, York University History Department Chair.

"Thanks to the generous support of the local Greek community", said Shore, "the establishment of the Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair will enable students...to study Greek history, language and culture."

The Hellenic Heritage Foundation endowed the chair with \$2 million, of which York University contributed \$500,000.



Steve Mirkopoulos
Photo: Thomas Gallant

Brighten someone's day with an HHF Greeting Card

To achieve our fundraising efforts, we are introducing several new donation avenues and fundraising opportunities in 2004.

To increase awareness for HHF in Toronto, we are constantly searching for new communication tools to better communicate our objectives.

We have therefore improved our website to be more user friendly. Please visit www.hhf.ca often for updates about our achievements and events.

We are also introducing several new ways for people to get involved and help us reach our fundraising goals.

Besides supporting our events through attendance and sponsorships, we encourage individuals and companies to host a Third Party Event, donating any or all proceeds to HHF.

We are also introducing a Greeting Card campaign. Brighten someone's day by making a donation to HHF in their name to mark their birthday, anniversary, product launch or other special occasion. Once your donation is received, a greeting card is mailed to the specified recipient.

Easter Greetings

George Seretis and Family



Mark your calendar for our 9th Annual Golf Classic!

Last September we welcomed 246 golfers to Glen Eagle Golf Club in Bolton for an incredible day on the greens, raising \$112,000 towards our goal of \$1.5 million!

We have already started planning for our **9th Annual Golf Classic** and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another successful event, so please mark the date - **Wednesday, September 8, 2004.**

Location and times will be available on our website closer to the event.

We are currently looking for a Tournament Sponsor and we ask anyone interested in supporting this incredible event to contact us.

About the Hellenic Heritage Foundation

The Hellenic Heritage Foundation is a charitable, non-profit organization established in Toronto in 1996 to raise funds dedicated to the preservation, promotion and advancement of Hellenic education, culture and heritage in Canada.

The organization was originally founded by a group of professional business people of Hellenic descent who agreed to invest time and funds to establish the Hellenic Heritage Foundation, and provide leadership and vision in its early stages of growth.

Since its inception, the Hellenic Heritage Foundation has grown to become a highly respected, professionally managed foundation that has earned a reputation for successful events and consistently fulfilling its charitable goals.

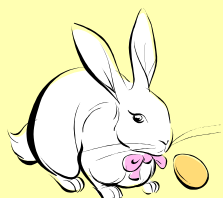
The Hellenic Heritage Foundation is a firm believer in strong family values and understands the importance of providing the Greek community's youth with the proper tools to fully understand and appreciate their glorious Hellenic culture and heritage and give them the means to share this understanding and experience with others, both in the Hellenic Canadian and the broader Canadian communities.

We are currently raising \$1.5 million towards our three major targets:

1. Build a new *Centre for the Performing Arts* in Toronto
2. Assist the *Hellenic Home for the Aged* with their new 128-bed long-term facility at Kennedy & Lawrence
3. Support the *Hellenic Youth Summer Camps* in Kingston, ON, a location chosen for the accessibility for children in Ontario and Quebec.

The Hellenic Heritage Foundation takes pride in and acknowledges the fantastic and loyal support of Toronto's Greek community, its Directors, Members, Friends and Sponsors as all funds raised to this point have derived from private donations, pledges and funds raised through events.

Your support make the Hellenic Heritage Foundation's visions a reality!



The Hellenic Heritage Foundation's Board of Directors and Staff wish everyone a Happy and Safe Easter

ADVERTISE WITH US...

The Hellenic Tribute is distributed three times per year, Summer, Winter and Spring, with a circulation of 1,000 in hard copy form. The main distribution list consists of HHF Board of Directors, Members, Sponsors, Contributors and Event Guests, a list that includes some of Toronto's top business executives. The Hellenic Tribute is also available on www.hhf.ca and is distributed electronically through other Hellenic organizations. If you are looking for a way to reach a target-rich audience to expand your business and make new contacts, advertise with The Hellenic Tribute!

Visit www.hhf.ca/news.shtml for a complete Advertising Rate Sheet or contact the HHF office and they will be happy to send you information concerning advertising opportunities in The Hellenic Tribute.



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