



MARTYRIA

Women’s Board Hosts “A Classical Evening” Medea at UC-Berkeley’s Greek Theatre Highlights Evening

Warm and festive described the “Classical Evening” hosted by the PAOI Women’s Board on September 21. A record-setting temperature Sunday afternoon made the cool and relaxed atmosphere of the International House Auditorium of the University California – Berkeley a welcome space to prepare for *Medea* performed by The National Theatre of Greece.

About 135 people gathered for an informative and helpful presentation by California State University, Fresno professor Dr. David Berkey. He put the play in its historical setting, raised some of the issues that the play explores, and challenged the audience to wrestle with them as did the original audiences nearly 2,500 years ago. A wonderful rack of lamb dinner followed, including wine donated by Alex and Faye Spanos and *koulourakia* from Andrea Pandazi, founder of YaYa’s Cookie’s.

Following dinner, the group walked the two blocks to the University of California Greek Theatre for a stunning and intense performance of *Medea* performed by The National Theatre of Greece. The National Theatre was in Berkeley to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of “The Greek” an open-air theatre modeled after the great theatre at Epidauros Greece.

The chairs of “A Classical Evening” were Dorothy Milton and Kris Natsues of the Women’s Board. Other Board members assisting were Mary Chicos, flowers and decoration, Joy Tamaras, reservations, Gayle Maduros, publicity.
(cont’d on p. 2)



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Did You Know...

That many of the camp counselors at St. Nicholas Ranch this summer were members of UC-Berkeley OCF?

A Campus Ministry program began at the Institute in 1991?

The Institute library regularly receives 150 journals in Orthodox Theology and Byzantine Studies, from all over the world?



*Phil and Nancy Economopoulos and their guests (left).
(Below) Helen Ernst and Ethel Davies at International House.*



and Ethel Davies.

The event was underwritten by Sotiris and Matina Kolokotronis, Chris and Demetra Vrame of Sacramento, Philip and Nancy Economopoulos, Dimitri and Sophia Magganas, Charles and Helen Ernst, John and Pat Georgiou, Mary Maletis, Irene Mullin, Ron and Mickey Radakovich. Initial receipts indicate the event earned approximately \$23,000, which will go to support the programs and ministries of the PAOI.

Women's Board and Southern California Auxiliary

Southern California Auxiliary Hosts “Enchanted Evening”



On October 5, the Southern California Auxiliary held its fall fundraiser, “Enchanted Evening,” at the beautiful San Marino home of member Stephanie Duncan and her husband, Dr. Jan Duncan.

Following cocktails and dinner, Bebe Paul, President of the Auxiliary, welcomed guests and introduced Institute Director, Dr. Anton Vrame, who shared recent events at the PAOI. He then presented Helen Lambros, Co-chairman of the PAOI Board, who introduced the highlight of the evening, mezzo-soprano Eleni Nicole Gianulis.

Ms. Gianulis (left) is a native of San Diego, Class of 2000 graduate from USC with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance. Her extensive training includes Verona, Italy, where she studied voice. She has appeared as Guenivere in “Camelot,” Aldonza in “The Man of La Mancha,” and Hodel in “Fiddler on the Roof.” (go to p. 4)

Electra Venetsanos Names PAOI in Her Will

Electra Venetsanos, of Contra Costa county, California, passed away in February 2003. To the pleasant surprise and joy of the Institute, we learned that she has left us a portion of her estate, which we will receive at some point in the future.

According to her sister-in-law, Hildegard Venet, Electra was born in Hoboken, New Jersey in 1909 to immigrant Greek parents. During World War Two, she joined UNRRA and served in Egypt and Greece. Following the War, she worked for the United Nations until her retirement in 1972, when she relocated to California. During her retirement years she was very active and belonged to various boards, including the St. Demetrios Church in Concord. According to Mrs. Venet, "the Church was always a central part of her life and I know she was proud and happy to be able to leave you this last bequest."



Peter N. Kujachich Establishes Scholarship Fund

Peter N. Kujachich of Walnut Creek, California, completed a three-year pledge to establish at the PAOI a scholarship fund which bears his name. The scholarship will go to a student of the Serbian Orthodox faith who attends either the University of California - Berkeley or the Graduate Theological Union.

Peter Kujachich is a 1941 graduate of the University of California and is an active member of the Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church, Moraga, California. He is an active alum of Berkeley, establishing the Kujachich Lectures in Serbian and Montenegrin Studies.

Ways You Can Support the PAOI's Mission

The Institute is an independent center. It depends on the sustained financial support from the community to operate and offer educational programs. The PAOI receives occasional financial support from the Orthodox jurisdictions in the United States. Parishes and parish groups offer occasional support as well. The Institute receives *no* support from either the University of California or the Graduate Theological Union.

While receiving a generous check is greatly appreciated, you can also support the programs and ministries of the Institute in other ways.

- You can donate appreciated stock to the PAOI.
- You can name the PAOI as a beneficiary in a life insurance policy.
- You can name the PAOI as a beneficiary in your will.
- You can establish a charitable remainder trust, benefiting the PAOI.
- You can donate a piece of real estate to the PAOI.
- You can make a long-term pledge to establish an endowment supporting scholarships, publishing, or any of the Institute programs.

For more information about these ways you can support the PAOI, call us and we'll be happy to guide you. Also, you should consult your tax advisor before making any major gifts.

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Enchanted Evening, from p. 2

The theme of Ms. Gianulis' recital, "Heroines in Song," paid tribute to women in opera, jazz, and musical theatre. Her enchanting performance was enjoyed by all. The proceeds from the evening will go to refurbishing Contos Hall.

Stephanie Duncan, whose lovely home was the setting for the Southern California Auxiliary's "Enchanted Evening" with Dr. Anton Vrame, Director of PAOI, Bebe Paul, President of the Auxiliary, and Helen Lambros, Co-chairman of the PAOI Board of Trustees.

Paul Manolis Publishes

History of the Greek Orthodox Church of America in Acts and Documents

Ambelos Press has published a documentary history of the Greek Orthodox Church in America prepared by Paul Manolis, President of PAOI. The massive three volume set chronicles the early years of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in America, from its creation in 1922 by Archbishop Meletios Metaxakis to the election of Archbishop Athenagoras in 1930. The book contains documents from Manolis' extensive research in the archives of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Church of Greece, the Greek Foreign Ministry, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, as well as other sources. The documents depict the turbulent life of the Church in that period and the involvement of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Church of Greece, and the Greek Government in the affairs of the church in America.



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