# THE OWL

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS



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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

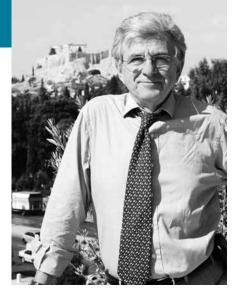
he Fall 2016 semester at CYA started with a bang. In the first week of October the Forum on Education Abroad held its 3rd European Conference in Athens, hosted by CYA. Nearly 400 US-based study abroad professionals and faculty as well as directors of European programs of American colleges and universities assembled in Athens to discuss"Living Change: Education Abroad in 21st Century Europe". The conference explored how US education abroad defines Europe to visiting US students so they can appreciate the past, understand the present, and anticipate the future of the most popular education abroad destination. Present European conditions, the economic crisis in the South, the cataclysmic onslaught of refugees, the governance deficit in the E.U., Brexit, the terrorist threat, the advances of the extreme right, all these compose a new landscape in which study abroad students in Europe must learn to navigate.

For CYA this was a superb opportunity to demonstrate the quality education it provides. A large number of study abroad directors were invited by CYA to spend a couple of days prior to the conference on a site visit. They met our faculty and staff, audited classes, went on thematic walks led by our instructors. They were thrilled by the experience and much impressed by the courses we offer, the quality of our instructors, and the smooth operation. Above all, they were amazed to realize how much CYA uses the city of Athens as a textbook. We believe that this exposure

will have beneficial impact on enrollments, which by the way show a modest upward trend recently. Apparently the publicity that Greece is receiving, that demonstrates the resilience of a nation in the face of seven years of acute economic hardship, is also acting as an incentive to study in Greece.

In 2017 CYA will celebrate its 55th anniversary. Over these years it has turned out about 10,000 alumni, of whom about 200 are active academics in the US and Canada on subjects related to ancient or modern Greece, having been bitten, so to speak, by the bug of Hellenism and Greek studies while at CYA. Many others, who are not academics, are successful in different walks of life. All seem to look back at their time at CYA as a pivotal transformative experience in their lives. Our alumni are our main resource as we chart our course for the next twenty years and beyond and we look at them for inspiration and support.

The mission of the institution has not changed much from its formative years but the academic scope has expanded since then. CYA remains loyal to classical studies while the numbers of students in the classics and in the humanities in general are declining in the USA, a fact which is appreciated by our partners. So a student today can have a very in depth exposure to the classics at CYA, for instance one can participate in archaeological practicums in the J-term and in summer, or be coached in ancient languages by Greek graduate students, or study epigraphy as of the Fall



of 2017. Similarly in the social sciences there is a much greater variety of courses than ever before, with new disciplines, Economics, Environmental Studies, Urban Development, Sustainability, Communications, available at CYA for the benefit of the many students who do not have a classical studies background. Now a certain, still small, number of our students have the benefit of living with Greek families, while others enjoy the many opportunities that CYA offers in volunteer community service and internships. It is all aimed toward acquainting them with Greek culture and helping them achieve proficiency in intercultural understanding. CYA complements the liberal arts education of its students infusing them with sensitivity for Greece, international sophistication, and ultimately critical thinking, the latter so necessary for any undertaking in their future careers.

ALEXIS PHYLACTOPOULOS, President

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# A MEMORIAL FOR HAL EVJEN

n June 29 CYA held a memorial for Harold (Hal) Evjen who passed away in late March. Hal Evjen had taught ancient Greek athletics and ancient Greek history at CYA in 1994-95 and again from 1999 to 2002.

The event was well attended by old friends of Hal and of CYA, who came to honor their long-time friend and share their memories of him. President Alexis Phylactopoulos opened the event with a heartfelt speech about Hal Evjen's longterm relationship with CYA.

Hal Evjen's widow, professor Hara Tzavella-Evjen gave a touching account of her first meeting with her future husband and their long life together, and read excerpts of letters sent to him by students through the years. Mrs. Tzavella-Evjen also recited a poem that she had written and dedicated to her late husband.

Professor Nanno Marinatos gave an emotional account of her acquaintance, as a young student from Greece, with the Evjens who took her under their wing and helped her grow as a person and as a professional. Her recount of various events in the long years of her friendship with the Evjens, painted a most vivid picture of the wonderful man that Hal Evjen was.

The memorial was followed by a reception at the CYA rooftop where old friends and acquaintances had the opportunity to reminisce and raise a glass to the memory of Hal Evjen.

Professor Hara Tzavella-Evjen has graciously established an annual scholarship at CYA in memory of her late husband.



Hara Tzavella-Evjen



Nanno Marinatos

# IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL!

IRAN CYA Alumna Tina Hill (CYA Fall '85) and CYA Alumnus, and member of the Board of Trustees, Jack Hermansen (CYA) '71) met a few weeks ago on a trip with the New York Metropolitan Museum touring Iran. Both were shocked and pleasantly surprised to discover they were both CYA Alums!



Jack & Tina at the Susa and Persepolis; visiting the palaces that Darius and Xerxes retired to after leaving Greece.

NEW YORK CITY Jake Hays (CYA Fall '04) and **Alexander Callen** (CYA Spring '08) met one another this summer while they were both working at Goodwin Law Firm in NYC. Alex has worked at the firm in the Financial Industry, Banking and Consumer Financial Services practice area since 2014 and Jake will be joining the firm next year as an Associate in the Corporate Law Department, with an interest in the Technology and Life Sciences practice area. They enjoyed reminiscing about their time spent abroad and fondness for the CYA Program.

# **CORNELIA (NEA) HERZFELD RETIRES**



After 42 years of outstanding service to CYA, Cornelia Mayer Herzfeld (CYA '66) retired in July from her full time role of Vice President and Bursar. CYA is ever grateful for Nea's dedication and work. She will continue on in the role of Recording Secretary of the Board of Trustees and Special Consultant to the President of CYA and may be reached at cherzfeld@ cyathens.org.



# **CYA LECTURE SERIES, SPRING 2016**



Diazoma

n March 8, a panel of representatives from DIAZOMA discussed volunteerism and presented the volunteer opportunities that CYA students may explore through their organization. DIAZOMA is a non-profit organization whose focus and aim is the enhancement of ancient theaters and wherever feasible, their inclusion in people's daily lives. In close cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and the local authorities, DIAZOMA contributes to the restoration and preservation of more than 50 theaters, it encourages the involvement of local communities to the maintenance of these beautiful monuments and pursues efforts for the contribution of these monuments to the regional economy and sustainable development.

n May 13, renowned underwater archaeology photographer and CYA alumna, Susannah H. Snowden-Smith (CYA Spring '94), gave a fascinating talk entitled 2,700 Years Under the Sea: Underwater Archaeology Photography about her work as a photographer and excavator of a 2,700 year old Phoenician shipwreck off the coast of Spain. Susannah spoke mostly about her role as an underwater photographer on the excavation and how she became an underwater archaeology photographer, and reflected on her time at CYA. Her work has been featured on the cover of the May/June 2016 issue of the *Archaeology* magazine, the prestigious publication of the Archaeological Institute of America and this year she has won the monthly "Wrecks of the World" contest twice: in May (for propeller) and in November (for stern). You can learn more about Susannah and view her exquisite photos on her website at http://www.susannahphotography.com/index.



Susannah H. Snowden-Smith

# **VOULA EXCAVATION STUDENT CONFERENCE**

n March 29, 2016 CYA students who had attended CYA's Voula Excavation course (taught by John Karavas at the site of Aixonidai Halai) presented on their preliminary results from their January excavation session. Their presentations detailed individual trenches/areas of excavations and our students' observations or interpretations of the findings. The students were joined by the Director of the excavation, Eftychia Lygouri, and the rest of the team from the Piraeus Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities.



Voula students with Archaelogists Mary Giamalidi (far right); Ilia Daifa (2nd from right); Anna-Maria Anagnostopoulou (3rd from right), and several Greek Archaeology students from the University of Athens who were working at the dig with the CYA students.

# THE ATHENS MARATHON



Congratulations to the CYA students who participated in the Athens Marathon on November 13, 2016. We had a record number of runners and as always, a number of volunteers.

Marathon Runners (42km): 10k Runners:

Hannah Barnes Michael Kelley **Justin Brendel** Kathryn Thamann

Mia Dana

Nicole Derby 5k Runners: Elizabeth Donlon Keanu Hallowell

Hannah Hoover Nicole Petrow Rachel Shafer Helen Hope Weston Liefer Annabelle Zhuno

Lauren Montieth **Judith Pickering** 

# A CYA ALUMNUS RETURNS TO TEACH

his fall, CYA was very pleased to welcome back our own Alumnus, **Alan Shapiro** (CYA '69), to teach as a visiting faculty member. His course was "Greek Vase Painting: Gods, Heroes and Monsters". Alan says it was a course taught by Tessa Dinsmoor that set him on the path that would define his scholarly career, including studies of the iconography of Greek vases that would fill several books, dozens of articles, and three exhibition catalogs. His career has taken him to many parts of the world for periods of teaching and research and to various universities, most recently Johns Hopkins, where he retired from the Classics Department in 2015. Of his semester teaching in Athens, Alan said, "this semester has allowed me to come back to CYA, where it all started, and share some of my love of Greek vases with a new generation of students who might one day follow a path like mine".



# IN RECOGNITION



In 2016, CYA bid a fond farewell to Mr. Lazaros Christophorides, who retired from the position of Financial Consultant. Here he is pictured with his wife, Fofo, and CYA President Alexis Phylactopoulos, being presented with a plaque to commemorate his 20 years of impeccable and productive collaboration.

# A LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE

By Nun Theoterpi, née Christina McFall (CYA Spring '06), Grinnell College

y Modern Greek professor, Lida Triantafillidou, was always a master at finding interesting topics on which to engage her tongue-tied students in conversation around the margins of class time. One day, she asked me slowly and clearly: "Εσύ θά γίνεις καλόγρια;" ("Are you going to become a nun?") My response: "Τί σημαίνει «καλόγρια»; ("What does 'nun' mean?").

She provided me with the lexical equivalent for "καλόγρια", but in the same way that what I knew as "feta" was actually not equivalent to "φέτα" and my generic understanding of "sea" had very little to do with "θάλασσα," I had a limited conception of what it meant to be a "nun" in the Orthodox Christian sense, especially its Greek expression, and I couldn't imagine what about me or my behavior could possibly have given her such an idea.

That said, the portrayals of monasticism in The Sayings of the Desert Fathers, The Ladder of Divine Ascent and other texts we read in a course on the Orthodox Church, tempted one to wonder if perhaps that tradition were still alive out there somewhere. On free weekends I visited a couple of monasteries, in which guests were given the opportunity to attend church services and were periodically fed, but otherwise left to use their time in their cells as they wished.

Thanks to the combination of communicating in Modern Greek and reading The Birds for class, I was soon able to catch some phrases from the hymnography, enough to be impressed at the terms in which the Orthodox dared to pray. Where I was coming from (rural Kansas and liberal Protestantism), we didn't talk much about things like "sin" (άμαρτία), "obedience" (ὑπακοή), "repentance" (μετάνοια), "mercy" (ἔλεος), "chastity" (σωφροσύνη), "longing" (πόθος), etc. Intrigued, I began to try to parse such words' in situ significance.

At that stage, an acquaintance recommended that I visit a certain monastery high on a mountain, where the nuns came from many different countries and supported themselves by organic gardening, animal husbandry and cheesemaking: St. John the Forerunner near Anatoli, above Agia. My first stay lasted only a couple of days, just long enough to observe the milking, weed a little, attend Divine Liturgy, be



Sr. Theoterpi (right) with Gerontissa Theodekti

struck by the beauty of everything from the chanting to the stone floors, and have a frank conversation with the abbess, Gerontissa Theodekti, who gave her blessing for me to come back for the whole summer.

Working alongside the nuns, experiencing the church services, eating the monastery's own food, etc. created ideal conditions for living my way into the language and mentality of which I had become such a fervent admirer. It was the ideal extension of my time at CYA, in that all my coursework came to life in the context of the monastery's day-to-day reality. For example, I had read about the relationship between environmental ethics and the Orthodox doctrines of the Trinity and the Incarnation, but I could not have imagined how productively this theory could be yoked to practice. And there is no better place to learn experientially what is meant by the theological and ascetic literature of the Orthodox Church than in the midst of a healthy monastic community.

It turned out that Lida's hunch was correct: having soon realized that I had no wish to be anywhere else, I returned to the monastery to stay right after graduating from college. Many thanks to everyone who makes CYA what it is, for pushing me past my preconceptions and putting me in the position not to just observe, but to participate in Greece's living spiritual heritage.

# **PUTTING MY SEMESTER INTO** WORDS.....

By Joel Green (CYA '92-'93)

What to write about??? A story about my CYA Greek experience. Some things I remember... How about finding a pregnant figurine in the "Cave of Fertility" as mentioned by Homer with Professor Nanno Marinatos or kicking over one of the original fragments of the upper frieze of the Temple of Olympian Zeus or having a nervous breakdown while taking a final for professor Judith Binder and ended up writing a short story about the feral cats of the National Park. Or I could even write about rowing a trireme or possibly about my many night time adventures at the Café Bazaar? I know, I'll write about meeting the once president of Egypt Hosni Mubarak in the Temple of Karnack or having a cup of apple tea with some Bedouins in an ancient home in the city of Petra in Jordan, or crawling under the old foundations of Mary Magdalen's "house" in Ephesus Turkey. No, I should write about how absolutely wonderful the Greeks are that took care of me while I lived in their city, towns, Islands and neighborhoods. That was truly a Greek experience to be adopted by the people as family. I'm sure there is a story in that? No, that's not good enough! I'll write about something like sitting on King Minos' throne in Knossos Crete, now that is a story. I know... how about being one of the first students to climb down in a Macedonian tomb in a farmer's field before it has been photographed and known to the scientific community. We experienced seeing first hand the small piles of ashes in niches of long forgotten ancient soldiers. Maybe I should write a story about food? Tzatziki? No... that would be too short of a story and it would make me hungry! Oh and what's up with putting dill in tzatziki? Who does that anyway? I digress, off topic. I guess I don't have a story after all. Hashtag sad face.

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Bank of America, ABA 026009593 100 Federal Street Boston, MA 02109 Acct: 0000501-69735 (College Year in Athens, Inc.) \*Please notify development@cyathens.org when you have made the transfer.

Three more ways to make a taxdeductible contribution to CYA

# 1. Gifts of stock

By transferring appreciated stock to College Year in Athens, you may be eligible for a tax deduction equal to full fair market value of the stock, avoiding the capital gains tax on the stock's increased value. In order for your gift to be acknowledged, it is important to notify CYA of the type and amount of stock you will be giving. You may do this either personally or through your agent or broker.

# 2. Matching Gifts

Your employer may match your charitable donations, multiplying the impact of your gift. To learn if your organization participates, please contact your human resources office.

# 3. Named scholarships

What better way to support a deserving CYA student than through a named scholarship! You can honor a special person and give the incredible experience of College Year in Athens to an academically qualified student who would not otherwise be able to attend.

# **CYA HOSTS EDUCATION ABROAD CONFERENCE**

For 3 days in October 2016, CYA was delighted to host The Forum on Education Abroad's 3rd European Conference. The conference theme, "Living Change: Education Abroad in 21st Century Europe," focused on the transformation Europe is going through and the perceptions and expectations of American students abroad; an important topic at a crucial time for Greece and Europe! We welcomed to Athens close to 400 Education Abroad administrators and faculty from across Europe and the U.S. This was a great opportunity for CYA to show to the Education Abroad field the benefits of studying abroad in Greece with CYA and, more generally, to engage in productive discussion with colleagues about studying abroad in Europe.









Prior to the conference, about 30 Study Abroad Directors attended CYA's pre-conference Site Visit. Site Visit participants had the privilege of participating in on-site classes, thematic walks of Athens organized and led by CYA faculty (such as "The City Beneath the City", "A Byzantine Walk of Athens" and "The Food Walk"), apartment tours, food tastings, and even Survival Modern Greek Class tailor-made for them by professor **Marinetta Papahimona**! The Site Visit concluded with sunset drinks at the CYA Academic Center and a relaxing dinner at the Athens Tennis Club.









During the conference, we were thrilled to welcome back 4 alumni who had come full circle: **Daphne (Pezaris) Maramaldi, Zoe Kontes**, Tom Gallant, and Sam Holzman. Daphne Maramaldi (CYA'91; Alumna Trustee) is the Assistant Director of the Harvard University Office of International Studies. Zoe Kontes (CYA'95) is an Associate Professor of Classics at Kenyon College and a 2016 recipient of The Whiting Public Engagement Fellowship, which "celebrates and supports faculty in the humanities who embrace public engagement as part of the scholarly vocation." Tom Gallant (CYA '76, Member, CYA Board of Advisors) is a Professor and Nicholas Family Endowed Chair in Modern Greek History at the University of California San Diego. Sam Holzman (CYA'10; Alumnus Trustee), a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Pennsylvania, is working on his dissertation as the Gorham Phillips Stevens Fellow in the History of Architecture at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.



Daphne (Pezaris) Maramaldi and Jennifer Ewald of Fairfield University



Mary and Tom Gallant



Alan Shapiro and Sam Holzman



CYA staff, along with the conference attendees, were honored to hear the keynote speech given by former Education Minister Anna Diamantopoulou. CYA President Alexis Phylactopoulos introduced Diamantopoulou's speech, which focused on the importance of studying abroad in Europe for American students to determine a future of global peace, stability, and growth. Diamantopoulou is a civil engineer by training and was a Fisher family Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School, where she lectured on European Affairs. She served as EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities and is famous for pushing a reform effort in education that attracted a historically unprecedented majority of votes in Greek parliament, known as 'Diamantopoulou Act'. She is now heading a think tank, DIKTIO-Network for Reforms in Greece, and is a Fellow at the Robert Bosch Academy in Berlin.

Another highlight of the conference was a session presented by our very own Executive Director of Student Affairs, Nadia Meliniotis, and CYA Professors, Drs. Aimee Placas and Angeliki Dimitriadi, who discussed the specific contemporary ethical concerns with expanding the responsibilities of service learning and volunteerism programs within the realm of study abroad. Each brought a unique perspective: respectively, they drew on their experiences with student affairs and extracurricular engagement, service learning, and the refugee crisis.

To learn more about The Forum on Education Abroad, please visit www.forumea.org.



CYA President Alexis Phylactopoulos pictured with Anna Diamantopoulou, Head of DIKTIO-Network for Reforms in Greece and Brian Whalen, President and CEO of The Forum on Education Abroad

### 10 YEARS LATER: SOME UPDATES FROM SPRING '06 ALUMNI

After her semester at CYA, Bernadette Bolan spent the summer in Megiddo, Israel where she attended field school. She received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from George Washington University, in Archaeology and Anthropology, with a focus in Museum Studies. After graduate school, Bernadette moved home to Los Angeles. She later attended the two-year J.D. program at Southwestern Law School. Through Southwestern's Amicus Project, she wrote an amicus brief that was accepted by the Supreme Court of the United States in early 2015. She now practices law in California state and federal courts. Her legal areas of interest include intellectual property, cultural property, appellate advocacy, and contracts law.

**Ariel Farrar** — I got my masters in Library Science and moved to New Orleans about 8 years ago. In case you're wondering, I totally love the weather here basically every day. Right now it's 100 degrees with some absurd humidity, and it'll probably rain and drop 15 degrees for a little while, but then slowly climb back up. I love it, and my mainly air-conditioned existence. Anyway, I worked my way up the ranks of the New Orleans Public Library, and now I buy all the books for adults for the whole system (!) — (Adult Acquisitions Librarian), including eBooks. It's great! Best job ever! I just bought a house last year, and painted the four rooms what are essentially the Google colors (...I afterwards realized). Also, I painted my bathroom black, like the Chanel-inspired badass that I am. I dye my hair lots of crazy colors as a hobby, write and read my humorous semi-autobiographical essays with a writer's group every other Wednesday for the last 4 years, and... well... read a lot of books, duh. I am considering getting pet rats, but I don't think I am home consistently enough to be responsible like that. And I love to travel. I'm going to Costa Rica in the fall for a week, and this year I traveled to both Denver and Chicago, and of course California, where my family still resides. I do a fair bit of yoga, and I like riding my bike and recreational dating, and I still drink lots of alcohol (particularly Negronis this summer), despite not living literally right above a wine shop like I did in Athens.

After returning from CYA's Spring '06 semester, Chris Frascella got his BA in Classical Civilizations and Philosophy

from Fordham University. He went on to get an MA in Philosophy and Social Policy from American University and interned at several education policy organizations in DC before joining Social Solutions, a Baltimore-based software company that develops case management software to help nonprofits and government agencies collect and analyze program outcomes data. After Social Solutions got acquired, he moved to Jersey City and changed jobs to work for Velaro, a live chat software provider. He's an active volunteer with United Rescue and CASA in Jersey City, and still enjoys horror movies, board games, and all things sci-fi. Don't be shy if you'd like to reconnect!

Jackie Hurwitz recently launched a virtual reality production company, Third Wish Media, in New York City. She has spent most of her career producing documentary series for CNN, OWN, and Showtime. She led trips in Greece for several years after CYA, and dreams of one day absconding to the Mediterranean.

Ryan Kolegas — my time at College Year Athens was fun, educational, and truly inspiring. CYA helped spark my adventure bug, which has led to many great experiences since. Immediately following college I cycled across the United States meeting people in 22 states on a 6500 mile ride that would last 110 days. We filmed webisodes of the adventure that can be seen at www. bikingthestates.com. Following the bike adventure, I worked on the west side of Chicago for three years teaching underserved youth media and sports broadcasting in the HoopsHIGH program with Free Spirit Media.

After that, I moved on to teach English in Bolivia and create a mini documentary about two Methodist missionaries in Copacabana; thus beginning my freelance film career. I landed back in Chicago in December 2012 and have been working in the freelance video world ever since. I was nominated for two midwestern Emmy's for a show I worked on with the Chicago Board of Tourism, Beyond the Loop. Life has been an adventure, and I can't thank CYA enough for being part of it. Next step... marriage. I am engaged to be married in May 2017, and we went back to Greece this fall! See you soon CYA!

**Matt Nickel** — I'm currently living in Washington, D.C. and am now a licensed architect working at Cooper Carry in Alexandria, VA. Enjoying work and also getting married this October. Life has been busy but good so far.

Kenny Pearce graduated from Penn in 2007. In 2008, he married Lauren Wozniak Pearce and the pair moved to Los Angeles where they both pursued graduate study. Kenny completed his PhD in philosophy at the University of Southern California in 2014. In August 2016, he moved to Dublin, Ireland where he is Ussher Assistant Professor in Berkeley Studies (Early Modern Philosophy) at Trinity College. He recently received the 2016 Marc Sanders Prize in Philosophy of Religion. His first monograph, Language and the Structure of Berkeley's World, is being published by Oxford University Press and is expected to be available in the spring of 2017. Lauren completed her PhD in physics at UCLA, also in 2014, and is currently in the final year of a postdoc at the Fine Theoretical Physics Institute at the University of Minnesota.

# TO REQUEST A TRANSCRIPT

To request a transcript, download the order form available on the CYA website in order to print it, complete it and mail it to our North American Office along with a check to cover the charges. Include any labels or transcript request forms that need to be attached to the transcript(s) with your check. Transcripts are \$5.00 each; checks should be made out to College Year in Athens. Because transcripts are issued in Athens and then mailed to Cambridge, please allow 3 weeks from the time of request for a transcript to reach its final destination. For express delivery, which cuts the processing time down to approximately one week, add \$35.00 to the amount due.

To expedite the process, you may notify CYA by e-mail (info@cyathens.org) that you are sending your signed request and payment. In your e-mail, please include your full name and date of birth, whether or not you are paying for expedited delivery, and the number of transcripts requested. Transcripts will not be mailed out until payment has been received. Please note: Transcript requests will not be processed for students with "HOLDS" on their accounts.

### RUINS, RELICS, REMNANTS, AND BEAUTIFUL BEACHES



By Alyssa Tayrien (CYA Fall '16)

hile sitting on the shoreline at Matala, Crete, a little girl of about 5 years old walked up next to me. Without a word, we smiled at each other and began playing in the sand together. After a few minutes, she promptly stood up and just as quickly as she sat down, she ran to join her sister out in the waves... What a thing to grow up in a place like Crete: surrounded by such naturally beautiful landscape and a people shaped by a complex history. Filled with ruins, relics and remnants of ancient and modern occupations, Crete is an island with a rich identity and a proud people.

This past weekend, all CYA students embarked on an archaeological adventure with various CYA professors to Crete: a place that provides ample opportunity to appreciate both nature and history. We spent a total of 4 full days visiting monuments, museums, coffee shops and coastlines. We surveyed 3 different ancient Minoan settlements, comparing semi-reconstructed sites (like the Palace of Knossoss) to sites left"as is" (like the Palace of Phaistos). We discussed empires and lives, which used to flourish in areas that now consist of half torn walls, empty pithoi and lots of rocks. (For the record, they're really cool rocks.) We spent time on the island of Spinalonga, which has served as a place for everything from a Venetian stronghold, to Ottoman occupied territory, to a Grecian leper colony. We climbed castle walls at the Fortezza of Rethymno, to experience the intensity of the ancient fortress and, of course, to snap photos of breathtaking views. We stopped to tour the Arkadi Monastery, with its magnificent church and important historical significance in Cretan rebellion. By the end of day 3, we made it to the old port town of Chania for dinner.

Old Chania is by far one of the most charming places I've had the pleasure of exploring. This somewhat touristy area provides plenty of small shops with fun trinkets, cafes with views of the water, and delicious restaurants. The freshly caught fish did not disappoint, and the free Raki is always a hit. Old Chania purports the pervasive Grecian take-your-time atmosphere, which exudes from every corner of the port. The people are friendly (albeit somewhat pushy to get you into their restaurants) and the view of the harbor is outstanding, whether seen by moonlight or sunlight. While Crete features fantastic seascapes, its interior is just as beautiful. Our last day on the island included a guide-led hike through the Gorge of Imbros. This downhill trek let us see a different side of Crete and was lovely for someone like myself, who enjoys hiking. (Warning: I heard the



Panoramic of Chania



Students hike through the Imbros Gorge during their Fall 2016 trip to Crete with CYA.

journey becomes significantly more difficult without tennis shoes.)

The jam-packed weekend left us with a significant sleep deficit, but it was well worth such an amazing experience. It is a place full of ruins, relics, remnants and beautiful beaches; I'd move to Crete in a heartbeat.

Alyssa Tayrien is pursuing a degree in Communications and Ancient Mediterranean Studies from Trinity University and is an official Fall 2016 CYA blogger!

### **ALUMNI BOOK ENTRIES**

"I am so happy to finally be back in Greece after an amazing summer as a CYA student in 2007. I am most grateful for the phenomenal experiences and education I enjoyed that summer, and think of Greece often! After my time at CYA I finished my Classics degree at the University of Colorado, and attended Law School. I'm now an attorney in Los Angeles and enjoying a beautiful trip to Greece with my mother and sister. Thanks CYA for the knowledge and passion for travel you inspired in me!"

Sarah Abelson (CYA Summer '07). The University of Colorado at Boulder

"Dear CYA- I stopped by to say hi to everyone before I go on to Cairo. There I plan on studying papyrology with Professor Cornelia Romer and I think the discipline will remain on of my main concentrations throughout my career. At NYU, I have made some discoveries which will no doubt benefit the study of Classics. These discoveries have been in my after concentration-break Philosophy and Mathematics. My time at CYA was crucial to these developments. Therefore I would like to thank you for all your help! See you next time I come around."

Lonnie Alexander (CYA Fall '06), University of Montana



"I have returned to Greece after a long hiatus of 2015-2016. Visiting CYA and spending time with my extraordinary homestay family has brought back wonderful memories. The compassion, hospitality and courage of the Greek people in the midst of crisis continue to confound me. I can't stress enough how my year has shaped my future plans. I will be taking the Foreign Service Exam in October and am about to embark as a Fulbright teaching English/American Studies in Constantia Romania. Thanks to Greece for shaping so deeply my goals and direction and for CYA for helping to facilitate it".

David Jimenez (CYA '14-'15), Bowdoin College

"My dear CYA friends, coming back to Greece now for the 3rd time is yet again a development for my soul. Of course I love Greek food, language, history, sites, culture, but the people make Greece the corner of the Earth that smiles at me. I now do social work and love to see the good CYA develops in students to intermingle with local people and learn how simple interactions can mean so much. I have such a love for my time in 2001, 2010 and now 2016 for my Greece. Thank you to Nadia for helping me grow as I absorbed my CYA experience. Cheers to all my CYA people!"

Jennifer Kreft (CYA Fall '01), Kalamazoo College



"Dear CYA- I was a member of the 2002 class and it was one of the transformative experiences of my life. I keep coming back to Greece as I have made life-long friends here and I always stop by the school to see and say hi to the amazing professors and administrators that helped make my experience here awesome and unforgettable. This school and this country will always have a piece of my heart."

Mike Pavel (CYA Spring '02), DePaul University

# **IN MEMORIAM**

CYA was saddened to hear of the death on July 11 of Congressman John Brademas, long-time friend and member of CYA's Board of Advisors. Stephen John Brademas, Jr. was a politician (Majority Whip of the US House of Representatives for the Democratic Party from 1977 to 1981 after 20 years in the House) and was the 13th President of NYU. He later served on various Boards, including the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the New York Stock Exchange. To learn more about his amazing life, visit http://nyti.ms/29KM3So.



CYA President Phylactopoulos with John Brademas who visited CYA in 2006

Please Note: Fall students are denoted with an "A", spring students with a "B", full year with an "AB", and summer with an "S".

If you are interested in keeping up with the latest at CYA and in serving as the connecting hub between your classmates, learn more about the Class Agent role by contacting Erica Huffman at: alumni@cyathens.org.

# 2014 - 2015

Class Agents: FALL Colleen Nugent nugentc@union.edu **SPRING** Mariela Martinez mariela.martinez@laverne.edu

Hannah Howard (B) accepted a job at the end of September with The Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER) and started work in October. She took a month long intensive Greek language course as well.

Alexandra Magnani (B) misses CYA and Athens dearly! After her graduation from Tufts she has spent 5 weeks this summer in Crete with the Gournia Archaeological project! In the fall she will attend graduate school for a masters in Classical Archaeology at Oxford University! Alexandra said: "I am so excited to continue pursuing my love of Greek Archaeology that CYA fostered in England, and will come to my second home of Athens as often as I can."



# 2013 - 2014

Class Agents: FALL Oliver Ayer oayer@villanova.edu Camen Piho camen\_piho@brown.edu **SPRING** Chris Lasek chrislasek@gmail.com

# 2012 - 2013

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

Nikita Taniparti (A) writes: "I am at The John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University working on a Master of Public Administration in International Development degree and hope to travel back to Athens next summer."

# 2011-2012

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

Ashley Wich (B) was a Fulbright Scholar -Teaching Fellow at Athens College (2015-16) and gave a very well-received speech at the Fulbright reception at the US Ambassador's residence in Athens in June.

# 2010 - 2011

Class Agent: Hannah Ringheim hlringheim@gmail.com

# 2009 - 2010

Class Agents: FALL Will Eberle will.eberle13@gmail.com **SPRING** Andreas Glimenakis glimenakis.andreas@gmail.com **SPRING** Ethan Baron ethanrbaron@gmail.com

# 2008 - 2009

Class Agent: Ariel Perkins ariel.perkins@gmail.com

# 2007 - 2008

Class Agents:

FALL Amy Hoeg amy.hoeg@gmail.com **SPRING** Aubrie Boersen aubrie.boersen@gmail.com **SPRING** Terence O'Neill terence.oneill23@gmail.com

# 2006 - 2007

Class Agent: Catherine (Hibben) Silvo hsilvo@gmail.com

Lance Piantaggini (AB) writes: "I've just published the first Latin poetry novella written for students in the first or second year of Latin! In my experience teaching Latin, it's been clear that most students

don't even see dactylic hexameter until years 3 or 4 of high school. For those who stick around, the level of Latin literature is way beyond what most students can read fluently anyway. Piso Ille Poetulus is my solution—a novella written with 108 unique Latin words, and includes 22 original lines of dactylic hexameter. It's available on Amazon. The accompanying audio album is on both Amazon and iTunes." magisterp.com (Teaching Latin & other languages with Compelling CI) lpvisual.com (Marching Artistry)

Colleen Walter Puterbaugh (B) and her husband Lee welcomed their baby girl, Emalee Esther, on August 31, 2016 weighing 7 lbs 4 oz.

Zoe Tillman (A) and Schuyler Null (A), who met at CYA in the Fall 2007 semester. were married on August 6. Natalie Pitcher and Samantha Sher, also from the Fall 2007 semester, were there to celebrate with them!



2005 - 2006

Class Agents: FALL Erin Meyers erin12m@gmail.com **SPRING** Bernadette Bolan bernsb@gmail.com

\*See our special feature: TENYEARS LATER, Where are they now, on page 13\*

# 2004 - 2005

Class Agent: Lucianna Ravasio lucianna.ravasio@gmail.com

# 2003 - 2004

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

# 2002 - 2003

Class Agent:

Adam Fletcher adamfletcher@yahoo.com

# 2001 - 2002

Class Agent: Jennifer Kreft Potts jennypotts6907@gmail.com

Nitzia (Embiricos) Logothetis (AB, Alumna Trustee) was honored as "Person of the Year", by the Hellenic American Chamber of Commerce, during its 68th Annual Dinner Dance on October 21, 2016 in the Pierre Hotel in New York City. To see her interview and a wonderful video, please visit http://usa.greekreporter. com/2016/10/22/hellenic-american-chamber-of-commerce-honors-nitzia-logothetis-of-seleni/

# 2000 - 2001

Class Agents: Dan Leon dleon@illinois.edu Anthony Platis agplatis@yahoo.com



Mark Adams (A) writes: "I was in the Fall 1999 class, and it was the best semester of my college experience, hands down. It is now 17 years later, but I still think of my experiences during that semester frequently. I am Greek American myself (my mother is Greek - Papou from Elefsina, Yiayia from Sparti). Currently I work as an orthopaedic surgeon in New Jersey. I was lucky enough to meet my wife Roselyn 4 years ago, and we were married in December 2014. We now have a beautiful six month old girl named Alexandra."

Stefanie Cardillo Daly (S) writes: "I live in Eastchester, NY, outside of New York City with my husband, Jack, and daughter, Nora, born in July 2016. I am a CPA and currently work for NYC's utility company, Con Edison. I spent some of my time during the CYA program feeding the stray dogs and cats in Greece. Now I volunteer for a local rescue group, Pet Rescue."

Kimberlee (Williamson) Keith (B) writes:

"I'm a self-published author and my first novel, Solstice: Book I of the Alessandra Legacy Trilogy, has won a Readers Favorite award in the Romance-Sizzle category! It's a juicy plot-rich story chock



full of references to the classics and it's perfect for smart readers who love a sexy. intricate tale!! Website is www.kwkeith. com! My husband, Justin, and I also have two young children (above) with Ancient Greek inspired names - Alexander, 2, and Theodore, 1."

**Anthony Platis (S)** writes: "the summer of 2000, on the island of Paros, was one of the best experiences I have had. I sure miss K. Papahimona, K. Dimitra and Stella!! I currently reside in the greater Chicago area with my wife, Elpida, and two children, Georgia and Yianni. I work for Abbott in the medical device field and, in keeping close ties with my Greek roots, I teach



Greek competitive folk dancing from all areas of Greece. We are currently learning dances from Naxos and Serifos and will exhibit those at a national competition in Winston-Salem, NC in January! Would love to keep in touch with CYA and alumni!"

Tim Simandl (S) writes: "Since autumn 2012, I have been a part time student here at Kent State University; I have spent most of my time bringing my architectural drafting skills up to date by means of enrolling in computer-generated architectural drafting classes. I have also enrolled in wood working and construction classes. As my undergraduate and graduate degrees were centered about Greco-Roman architectural history and structural engineering, my current studies are well in keeping with my previous academic endeavors. ... During the last four years, I also finally acquired full Canadian citizenship. By this coming May, I plan on leaving the U.S. for good — and removing to my father's native province, Ontario. You may rest assured that I eagerly embrace the splendid opportunities that will await me once I have finally set foot on Canadian soil. God save the Queen!"

# 1999 - 2000

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

# 1998 - 1999

Class Agent:

Ryan Tipps ryan.tipps@d3sports.com

Maya Kilmer (B) writes: "My husband and I live on Whidbey Island in Washington. We both teach high school. I teach English and he teaches robotics. We happily don't have children, and we enjoy the outdoors, art, and technology. I have the life I've always wanted."

**Ryan Tipps (B)** writes: "Nearly 10 years of living on a small farm in Virginia helped springboard me into a new career this year: I became the editor of AGDAILY.com, a news website dedicated to agriculture and rural lifestyle. I'm traveling a lot more and am meeting people all around the country - in short, I love my new job. It's also giving me more flexibility to spend time with my awesome wife and two young kids."

# 1997 - 1998

Class Agents: **FALL** Maro Sevastopoulos marorose@yahoo.com SPRING Jocelyn D. Martindale jmartindale@pressganey.com

Ed Brzytwa (B) writes: "My wife and I became parents of a beautiful baby girl, Lila Brzytwa, on Dec. 30, 2014. She's almost two, so this news is a bit stale but still noteworthy! And she's amazing in all respects. Also, I shifted my career from the federal government to the private sector. At the end of July 2015 I joined the Information Technology Industry Council in Washington DC and am now a global advocate for the technology and innovation sector. Official title is Director of Global Policy for Localization, Trade, and Multilateral Affairs. This means I fly all over the world to advocate for our members companies on critical technology and trade policy issues. Since joining ITI, I've been to Tokyo, Cebu, Geneva, Istanbul, Beijing, Lima, Brussels, and New Delhi. And in less than two weeks I am going to Jakarta, Singapore, and Hanoi."

# 1996 - 1997

Class Agent: Steve Maselunas smaselunas@charter.net

# 1995 - 1996

Class Agent: Vasilios Roussos vasilios@gmail.com

# 1994 - 1995

Class Agent: Laura Ament Taylor tidndutch@bigpond.com

# 1993 - 1994

Class Agent: Susannah Snowden-Smith susannah\_snowden@hotmail.com

Brandie Sellers (A) writes: "I went to Greece summer 2015 to celebrate being done with cancer treatment. I went to Santorini, Rhodes and Athens. The Rhodes museum is incredible. It was my 3rd time to Greece, and it seems to get better every time! This spring I began studying for an

MS in Counseling at SMU so that I can work with oncology patients and mental health."

Renee Street (AB) writes: "I'm living on a small island in Indonesia (Gili Air) teaching Scuba Diving. I'd love to see any CYA alums and introduce them to the underwater world!"

# 1992 - 1993

Class Agent:

Joel Green joel@joelgreenstudios.com

Keyne Cheshire (A) writes: "I'm still a classics professor at Davidson College, with a translation of Sophocles' Trachiniae just out in 2015, under the title Murder at Jagged Rock. (Yes, it's set in a mythic wild west.) Last fall, what I like to call my"transmigration" of Aristophanes' Birds (The Birds: A Cock and Gull Story, not yet published) enjoyed a five-day run at the college, including family weekend. Yes, Hillary and Donald were both there, as were Anthony Weiner (duh!), Katy Perry, an ICE agent, Stephen Hawking and many others. I guess it would be a different play now, post-election, but then most Aristophanic comedies tend to be bound to their respective years. Why not the translations, too? I still do work on Callimachus; a piece on Callisto in his Hymn 1 (to Zeus) just came out this month in Resemblance and Reality in Greek Thought, edited by Arum Park. In other news, my family lived in Amman for four months this past spring, but have now returned to small-town Davidson life. Alyssa has taken up tutoring dyslexic children in Charlotte's Title I schools, and daughter Earle — now 12 — got to press the SUBMIT button in my voter's booth for the first woman president of the USA. She was absolutely elated. Life offers lessons at every turn."

Madalyn McGovern Suits (A) writes"I currently live in Atlanta, GA with my husband Jeff and 4 kids. I have sold residential real estate for the past 19 years and run a large team called The Suits Team with Keller Williams Realty. I am limited on my travel adventures with work and my family. I take an annual girls trip with my DePauw college friends. If ever in Atlanta or need

real estate needs in and outside of the US would love to hear from you. thesuitsteam.com or madalynsuits@gmail.com."

# 1991 - 1992

Class Agent: Kelly McCutcheon Adams kamcc71@yahoo.com

Kelly McCutcheon Adams (B) writes: "Johanna Walker Utterback (B) and I got together in Chicago for a weekend in October. She flew in from Alaska and I flew in from Vermont. A photo is attached at Cloud Gate. Johanna lives in Anchorage with her husband and two children and works as a high school guidance counselor. I live in Vermont with my husband and two children and I continue to telecommute to Massachusetts as a Director for the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. This month I am traveling to Australia to teach for a few days."



Class of '92: please note that Johanna and Kelly and their families will not be meeting up in Athens in 2017 as hoped (to celebrate 25 years); hopefully others will take up the charge.

# 1990 - 1991

Class Agent: Daphne Pezaris Maramaldi dmaramal@fas.harvard.edu

# 1989 - 1990

Class Agent: Steve Gratwick steve.gratwick@gmail.com

# 1988 - 1989

Class Agent: Joe Garnjobst joseph.garnjobst@hillsdale.edu

# 1987 - 1988

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

# 1986 - 1987

Class Agent:

Tina Sorokie tsorokie@yahoo.com

# 1985 - 1986

Class Agent:

Margaret Miller

mmillerod@vahoo.com

# 1984 - 1985

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

# 1983 - 1984

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

# 1982 - 1983

Class Agent:

Zoe Sakellaropoulo zoesak@gmail.com

# 1981 - 1982

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

# 1980 - 1981

Class Agents:

Kimberle Grav kimberle g@vahoo.com Scott Dreher scott@dreherlawfirm.com

# 1979 - 1980

Class Agent:

Valentine Talland vtalland@mac.com

# 1978 - 1979

Class Agent:

Anastasia Sarantos

anastasiastaskin@aol.com

Kathleen Akselrad (AB) writes: "I am still working as an ER nurse. My husband and I moved to Tennessee a few years ago to start an organic farm & live off the grid. Looking forward to retirement once we finish the cabin we're building. Kids living all over the world which is wonderful they are all having wonderful experiences. We are overjoyed to announce our first grandchild! Beautiful Josephine born this November in Toronto which is a great city to visit - often! Hope all my old friends are well and happy!"

Margaret Beck (AB) writes: "I settled in the San Francisco area after grad school and have had a long and varied career here. Currently I head up marketing strategy and analytics for Williams-Sonoma, Inc. It's a role in which I get to combine my love of anthropology (why do consumers behave the way they do?) and numbers. I live in a nearby suburb with my husband and cat. We spend time doing the usual things that bay area couples do like eat a lot, drink a lot of wine, and work out so we can eat and drink. We believe we live in paradise but we travel every chance we can. Looking forward to retirement when travel can become a bigger priority. I would love to see any classmates who are passing through or who would like to visit!" Beckml@aol.com

### Anastasia Sarantos Tasin (AB) writes:

"my husband Cengiz and I reside in Manhattan. I established a law practice in criminal law, business immigration and asylum/refugee matters and advise businesses in their strategic planning, approaches to eliminating bias and human rights violations. In addition, I have a mediation practice negotiating family business succession planning and execution, commercial transactions including buy/sell of businesses and community conflicts. I have really enjoyed co-facilitating dialogues between police officers and citizens in Harlem organized by the Federal Court in NY to address the stop and frisk regulation. Our Dad is 91 and lives in North Andover, Massachusetts where we go most weekends. Would truly enjoy meeting up with classmates in NYC!"

# 1977 - 1978

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

# 1976 - 1977

Class Agent:

Helen Tangires htangires@verizon.net

# 1975 - 1976

Class Agent:

Susan Sampliner ssampliner@aol.com

# 1974 - 1975

Class Agent:

Rick Neville rickneville@comcast.net

# 1973 - 1974

Class Agent:

Ann Marie Taliercio herelocal 150@igc.org

Keith Adams (AB) visited Athens and told Nadia: he has been doing archaeology both in the States and in Turkey. More recently he has been the Director of the Archaeological Materials Lab of a local engineering company. Before that he taught archaeology at Sweet Briar College and split his time between US colonial sites and a Bronze Age site in Turkey. He has many good memories of CYA. His wife continues to teach and Sweet Briar lives on...to send more to CYA and to continue the tradition.

# 1972 - 1973

Class Agent:

Don Lippincott dflipp3@gmail.com

# 1971 - 1972

Class Agent:

Mary Clark maryec5276@gmail.com

Timothy Burleigh (B) writes that "the DePauw Mediterranean Semester"study abroad group that was with CYA in spring '72 is planning a 45 year Reunion in Scottsdale, Arizona March 28-30, 2017." You can contact Timothy at timburleigh@ yahoo.com. Also, here is a link to a '72 Retrospective, created by **Bob Meyer (B)**: https://vimeo.com/190341540.

# Mary Clark (AB) and Brian Joseph (AB)

write: "we are now the delighted grandparents of a 1 year old boy and his 2 1/2 year old sister. We continue to travel a lot--this year, together, to Portugal, Tahiti, Israel/ Jordan, Crete/Hungary/Austria/Czech Republic, and Poland. Brian is working a slightly reduced load for OSU, and I continue to be happily retired. We humbly count our many blessings!"

# Mary Lynn Schaffer Poole (A) writes: "here in Southern Indiana. My son Ryan and I took a Christmas River Cruise with AMA Waterways in November of 2014; great weather and a great trip. So MANY

castles and monasteries. We had an amazing time."

Marilyn Sizer (AB) writes: "I left Signal Mountain, TN (my home) in August 2009 to go to Earlham School of Religion in Richmond, Indiana for three years to obtain the Masters of Divinity degree with a focus in pastoral care so that I could answer the call to be a Chaplain. Through much Grace, tutelage and committed work, I graduated in 2012 with that degree; pursued more training in an internship and then a residency through Ascension Health in Nashville, TN and finally began work as a full-time Hospice Chaplain in 2104. I am currently working with Amedisys Hospice in Chattanooga, TN. Along the Way, I was blessed to teach a lecture course (History of American Domestic Architecture) as an adjunct professor at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga which enabled me to return to Athens in 2008 for 5 days. My love and connection for Greece and its people is part of my life and heart and the learning gleaned at CYA and then when I returned the following January to live and work there has made an indelible addition to who I am. I fell in love with early Christian/Byzantine art and architecture (taught by Mary Burns) in 1971-72 and who knew what that would lead me to! I am an endorsed (ordained) Minister in the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) now and worship with and am overlooked by Chattanooga Friends (unprogrammed worship) Meeting. I would love to hear news of other 71-72 CYA'ers and I always read the CYA publication with great interest. Greece (and other parts of our world) is undergoing great trial and suffering and it rends my heart to know of it. I also know the indomitable spirit of the Greek people and pray for relief, Peace and prosperity."

# 1970 - 1971

Class Agent: Steven Schultz sgsmozart@gmail.com

# 1969 - 1970

Class Agent: J. Mara DelliPriscoli jmara@travelearning.com

Wyncia (Thenebe) Clute (AB) writes "right now, my passion is painting, lots of plein air painting and winter in the

studio. The steady challenge of color, brush, paint, drawing, and composition is delicious. Painting outdoors is a grand adventure of sun, wind, heat, and equipment. Gotta love it."

J Mara DelliPriscoli (AB) writes: publishing my travel portrait photos commercially now —"In the pursuit of visual authenticity" -- good to know those hundreds of shots in Greece 47 years ago were the spark of this passion. Visioning new horizons for the Educational Travel Consortium — at the crossroads of lifelong learning through travel. Sadly my husband passed some years back but I'm still living in and loving Montana and Mandorla Ranch (also a summer B&B!)."

Molly (Meredith) Dickinson (AB) writes: "I still love — most of the time — running, (single-handed), my beautiful B&B in the mountains of the French Pyrenees. I am always exchanging with different nationalities; wonderful, but I regret I never have had a Greek guest. I am passionate about rock climbing, high mountain treks and alpine ski touring. Can I lure any of you? There are more high mountain lakes in the Haute Ariege (my territory), than in any part of France, including the Alps, but don't be frightened, my house is at only 900M. Ask Frederica Hermansen Graham (AB), she has visited twice.

Where is **Ann Betteridge (AB)**; where is Barbara Stetson (AB)??

Jo-Ann (Miller) Ecker (AB) writes: "Still in Vermont. Norm is doing okay...age and a car accident almost 4 years ago has really changed our lives. No Europe travel since then...so what I am doing....loving my photography...have had some published... kayaking still with my group of friends...we have been doing this for the past 15 years... love my bird watching and of course my garden....my place of solitude and getting myself centered when things are rough."

# Frederica (Hermansen) Graham (AB)

writes:"I am currently enjoying living in Vermont, teaching French to small groups at home, and dreaming about my grandchildren. They are living in the Republic

of Georgia (Ellie, 4, and Sebastian, 9 mos) and in Holland (Feyona, 3, and Eileen, 2). My youngest son, who finished an M.A. in Environmental Science, is living with me while seeking a job. Moving to VT in 2004 was one of the best choices I've made. I do miss Greece, but these days I make annual trips to the above-mentioned countries. On my bucket list is going to Lesbos to help with the refugees."

James Rustigan (AB) writes: "I'm still verbally alive, but just barely. Just barely because I had the common experience of completing a novel (this one is about Mediterranean travel, Greece included,) but unable to find an agent to represent me to publishers. I'll keep trying."

Donna Sadler (AB) writes: "Writing my third book entitled Touching Heaven: Seeing the Late Medieval Altarpiece through the Eyes of Faith and retiring from thirty years of teaching at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, GA. Still inspired by Greece and the experience I had there oh so long ago!"

# 1968 - 1969

Class Agents: Hetty Jardine hetty.jardine@gmail.com Kelly Cullins tkcullins@gmail.com

Kathy Bangerter (AB) writes: "Laurie Prencipe (AB) and I, both retired, continue to be great friends and often speak fondly of our year at CYA. I travel several times a year to Athens to visit my Greek friends there, some of whom are members of Korali Krokodeilou's extended family. Also, I enjoy being tutored twice a week in Modern Greek, with a focus on reading contemporary Greek literature."

Kelly (Knapp) Culllins (A) writes: "It's been a busy and stimulating year helping to organize my husband's art retrospective, renewing the joy of playing the piano, relishing weekly overnights with our grandson, finally taking the mother/ daughter safari to magical Tanzania last June, and then relishing Greece in our nine weeks on Kea. I've had to close my efforts to write a book on my husband's hijacking

out of the old Athens airport to Beirut in the 1985s due to revived traumatic stress, even after all these thirty years. I've been in contact with my CYA roommate, Susan Spencer (AB), and may join my daughter in the Woman's March in DC in January and visit Susan again. She visited me on Kea several years ago. The joys of CYA are never ending!

Cathy Freebairn (AB) writes: "I remember our class/symposium with Dr. Kitto who referred to us as 'the guys' (Laurie Prencipe, Linda Hillman, myself, and Alan **Shapiro**) because he had never taught women before coming to CYA...and Dr. Young who always corrected us when we used 'also' or 'in-addition' in our translations and told us the phrase' to boot' was the correct translation. What a special year that was — personally, emotionally and intellectually. Instructive and pleasant memories. I have just finished a 6-year'tour of duty' on the Paradise Lake Improvement Board which oversees the health of the lake I live on (aka Carp Lake MI) and the presidency of the Mackinaw Woman's Club, in order to prepare for the Presidency of the Mackinaw Area Historical Society for the next two years, an organization that is trying to preserve buildings from 1880 through 1917 that reflect the community life in the Straits of Mackinac area during that time period. Not exactly ancient history but fascinating nevertheless. We are especially interested in trying to tell the story of the Anishinaable people, who have lived in this area for thousands of years, during this period of transition for the natives and the European settlers, to boot. I live in a 105 year old house with two labradoodles - all keep me busy in terms of maintenance and exercise. I am enjoying watching my niece growing into young adulthood (she studied sharks in South Africa during her junior year). Looking forward to a January 2017 trip to California to catch up with family and friends there. Trying to stay grounded in these times of change..."

**Hetty Jardine (AB)** writes: "I am really enjoying retirement. After 2 years of active travel - Australia, Hawaii, Holland, and a few stateside locations, I have started a

part-time job at our local public library in the genealogy dept. I'm learning LOADS! It's not only fun to help folks locate family members, there are an amazing array of interesting historical materials about the Southeast. I leave soon to visit Kitty Hawk, NC - after reading David McCullough's The Wright Brothers - I really felt the need to see the place; plus I've always wanted to visit the Outer Banks!"

Liz Knebli (AB) writes: "We visited Athens and CYA a couple of years ago. It was hard for me to keep my jaw from dropping at the wonderful new facility the students have. How we would have loved the library, not to mention the cafeteria. I remember, sometimes fondly, our lunches and dinners on Dienokratous; nevertheless, I still can't eat okra because for a while it seems that we had it for breakfast-lunch-dinner when it was in season. I have been delightfully retired now for 4 years. I spend my time going to yoga and aquafit, lectures at one of the local universities, planning and actually going on lots of trips. In the last few years we have taken a cruise down the Rhine/ Danube from Amsterdam to Budapest, trip to Greece and a cruise around some of the islands - visit to Asia Minor (finally got to see Epheses & Pergamun) and Istanbul: a safari to Kenya-Tanzania-South Africa. We just returned from Asia where we went for the wedding of my partner Joe's son in Seoul. From there we went to Angkor Wat (somewhere I have been wanting to go since I was 10), a cruise down the Mekong River to Saigon, to Japan where we visited Tokyo, Nikko, Kyoto and Nara. Later I write up our trip journals which I'annotate' with photos and build albums. Looking into the future, maybe when I'm 95 yrs old and in a nursing home when maybe I can't work a computer, I will be able to look at the photos and relive some wonderful memories. I remember fondly that wonderful year (68-69) which in many ways changed my life. I remember having my history classes in various bars with Peter Green, visiting the many wonderful sites with the class, picnics of bread/olives/tomatoes/cheese. I especially remember our trip to Delphi where I decided to drive rather than take the school bus. It snowed overnight and I was without chains/winter tires. The road

was closed so I had to drive to Itea and take the ferry across the Gulf of Corinth and drive the long way back to Athens. And, of course, one can't forget our good friend, **Fred Olthuis (AB)**, who was taken from us too early."

Alan Shapiro (AB) writes: "I am happy to tell those who didn't already know this that I am teaching at CYA this semester. You wouldn't believe how different it is from in our time - very posh offices next to the Marble Stadium, with a big library, offices, seminar room, lecture hall, the "Ismene" lunch room, and a huge portrait of Mrs. Phyl that I walk by every day: 82 students (1/3 male!), a dozen or more faculty (all terrific), and many administrators. Still, the spirit of the place is not so different, nor are the students in their love for Greece. It is great to see how CYA is thriving almost 50 years on.

Susan Spencer (AB) via Hetty Jardine: Susan is still living in Washington, DC, where she has been for the last 21 years. She works as an editor for various organizations and companies, and enjoys all the cultural, political, and international interests that DC has to offer. She can be reached at spencersm20@gmail.com.

# 1967 - 1968

Class Agent: Danielle Fitzpatrick daniellefitzpatrick@me.com

# 1966 - 1967

Class Agent: Susan Blake

# 1965 - 1966

Class Agent: Jennie Tucker jtucker@oregonwireless.net

# 1964 - 1965

Class Agent: Peter Allen pallen@ric.edu

# 1963 - 1964

Now Accepting Class Agent Volunteers!

# 1962 - 1963

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# **A CYA BAPTISM**



Chris Lasek (CYA Spring'14), returned to Greece to be baptized Greek Orthodox at a famous monastery, Panagheia Tourliani in Mykonos, on May 15th. Our own Nadia Meliniotis was his godmother and he was baptized by the Abbott of the monastery. Here is his story:

A significant reason why I decided to study in Athens was to explore my Christian faith. I do not feel this is a common reason why most students study in Greece, but my exposure to Greek Orthodoxy through studying at CYA shaped me. My initial curiosity with Greek Orthodoxy began prior to studying abroad. I was traveling through the Mediterranean, and I had a profound experience in a monastery on one of the Greek islands. I never experienced anything quite like the way I felt the day I visited my first Orthodox monastery. I knew from my first trip that I needed to return to Greece and seriously investigate the Orthodox Church.

I became quite passionate about my studies when I took Despina Iosif's class about the Orthodox Church. Each of her lectures truly inspired me, and I would spend my weekends traveling all over Greece to enrich my experiences. Naturally, I spent a lot of time visiting churches and monastic communities. I went to places such as Meteora and Mount Athos, and on longer weekends I traveled to Turkey and Israel. During Holy Week, I returned to the first monastery I visited years ago, and I was invited to stay at the monastery. The Abbot said if it was truly my desire to become Orthodox, then they would be willing to baptize me.

The time I spent at CYA in 2014 motivated my decision, but my conversion was not an overnight process. I started attending the Greek Orthodox Church after I graduated college. The Church typically requires a period for the convert to learn, practice, and reflect before they join. I arranged to be baptized this past May, and I asked my dear friend, Nadia Melinioti, to be my Godmother. I feel like my journey has just begun, but I am so thankful for all that CYA has done for me.

# **COOKING CORNER**

# **BAKLAVA RECIPE**

# **Ingredients:**

1 package of phyllo dough (Kroustas (thin) style). 250 Grams of fresh unsalted butter (melted)

# For the stuffing:

4 cups walnuts and almonds combined (you can use pistachios too)

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup olive oil
- 1 Tbs cinnamon
- 1 Tbs ground cloves

# For the syrup:

- 4 1/2 cups sugar
- 4 cups water
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 2 lemon slices

# Preparation:

# Make the stuffing:

Mix together the nuts, 1 cup of sugar, 1 cup of olive oil, 1 tbs cinnamon, and 1 tbs ground cloves. Set aside.

# Then:

Butter the pan (it should be smaller than the size of the phyllo, so that the phyllo covers the sides as well) you will make the baklava in. Regular or glass pan works.

Use 4 of the phyllo sheets for the bottom of the pan. Each sheet gets brushed with butter before the next sheet is layered on top of it.

Then place some stuffing over the four buttered sheets. You have the choice to put some of the stuffing on top of the bottom four sheets, add another buttered fillo sheet, add some more stuffing, another buttered fillo sheet, and then the rest of the stuffing on top of that before adding the remaining 4 or 5 fillo sheets (also buttered before layered) on top.

Make sure to also butter the top (and final) sheet of the baklava, and sprinkle it with a bit of water before placing it in the oven.

Bake at 375 degrees F (180 degrees C) for about 40-45 minutes. The trick with baklava is to check it frequently. If it browns right away, cover it with a sheet of aluminum foil for a bit until the inside of the baklava has had a chance to cook. You will know it is cooked when you shake the pan and the baklava comes away from the sides of the pan.

While the baklava is baking make the syrup. To make the syrup combine and boil all syrup ingredients for 10 minutes, stirring only at the beginning for a minute or two. Then let it boil on its own. Set the syrup aside.

When the baklava is done, take it out and pour the syrup on top immediately.

Let the baklava stand with the syrup on it for at least 4 hours before serving it, and preferably overnight for the best consistency.

Date			
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NEWS AND COMMENTS

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# **COLLEGE YEAR IN ATHENS ALUMNI/AE NEWS & INFORMATION**

NAME	CYA CLASS*
ADDRESS (if different from label)	
TEL DayEvening	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
If the above is a temporary address, please indicate how long you expect permanent address or telephone through which you can be found:	
*Our system is to list fall semester and spring semester students as belowed in fall 1990 and spring 1991 both belong to the class of '91). Summer	
UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE & MAJOR(s)	
ADDITIONAL EDUCATION	
CURRENT OCCUPATION	
WORK ADDRESS	

 $\hfill \square$  I WOULD LIKE CYA TO CONTACT ME ABOUT A POSSIBLE MAJOR GIFT.