Since our last newsletter, donations were made in honor or memory of the following people:


SPECIAL THANKS: We wish to also acknowledge a special donation by William Saliba in memory of his parents, Mollie & Morris, and an exceedingly generous donation by Radia Marc, Angel of Shneath Israel in honor of our President, Marvin Marcus.

A special thank you to the Baisa Family for their generous donation of a new chabad and bema cover in memory and honor of their beloved father of Yanniotes:

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Isaac Gabrilides

Passings

It is with sadness that we note the passing of our esteemed member, Dora Gessula, who passed away on June 25th, 2007. She was a beloved and respected member of our community, and her loss will be deeply felt by all who knew her. She will be missed by all who were fortunate to have known her.

Recipe for Watermelon Rind Dessert

We had many, many responses for our request for watermelon rind recipes, printed in our last issue of The Romanioite. It is our pleasure to offer the family recipe of Jeff Mordos, mother, Madhu Mordos of Blessed Memory, as given to us by his wife, Audrey. This recipe is from Persezi. Mollie Cohen (past President of The Sisterhood of Janina) is offering her traditional Yanniote recipe too long to possibly reproduce here! and for those who want an additional watermelon rind recipe, please contact Mollie directly at 631-544-5432.

Watermelon Rind Dessert (Karpouzi Glyko):

For Syrup

1. watermelon
2. 2 cups water
3. 3 cloves
4. 2 drops red food coloring
5. 3 cups sugar

Cut off all red watermelon from the rind. You will not be using any of the flesh. Carefully peel (or cut) off all of the green skin from the rind, leaving as much rind intact as possible. Cut rind into approximately 3˝ by 1.5˝ pieces. Rinse and drain all of the rind. Set aside.

To make syrup: Add 2 cups of water in two tablespoons of lime. Add the rind. You will not be using any of the lime. Set aside.

For Syrup

Put in pot and boil until tender, but not soft. Drain and set aside. Also, rinse and dry jar for later use.

To make syrup: Add 2 cups of water to 3 cups sugar. Cover and boil. Add 3 cloves and 2 drops of red food coloring to sugar water. Cool in pot. Remove cloves. Put in glass jars and fill jars with syrup. If there is not enough syrup, make more using proportions above. Set for at least 12 hours. Can now be served. Keep remainder in glass jars filled with syrup for future serving. Does not require refrigeration.

As we approach the High Holidays, I would like to note some of the wonderful events we have experienced this year. I would also like to thank those who have honored the life and tried to keep the memory of former president and spiritual leader Hy Geve.

In May we rededicated our synagogue, and in June we celebrated the 80th anniversary of the Kehila and the Bar Mitzvah of Seth Kofinos, the son of Chaim and Suzanne Haddad and the grandson of Sol and Kouda Kofinos. The synagogue was overflowing with love and emotion.

Jewish life and tradition continue to thrive in our synagogues on the Lower East Side. Our partnership with the Lower East Side Conservancy preceded a religious and cultural event which we are ready to celebrate.

The取暖室 of Greece, Sophia Vesves and Holly Kaye of the Lower East Side Conservancy preceded an exciting celebration of our synagogues led by Rabbi Nissim Elencar during the International Sephardic Leadership Council and Marty Geen, son of Hy Geve of Blessed Memory, with the official unveiling of our Landmark Plaque by Holly Kaye and Leonard Colchamiro.

Message from our President

Dear Friends,

As we approach the High Holidays, I would like to note some of the wonderful events we have experienced this year. We have celebrated the 80th anniversary of the Kehila and the Bar Mitzvah of Seth Kofinos, the son of Chaim and Suzanne Haddad and the grandson of Sol and Kouda Kofinos. The synagogue was overflowing with love and emotion. Also in June we had a baby naming for Mia Chana, daughter of Jill and Howard Stein and granddaughter of Anna Saba Ullman and Jonathan Ullman. September 8th, we will have the baby naming of Rebecca Ariella Solomon, the second daughter of Paul and Aliza and their second daughter to be named in KJ.

We grow with the efforts of many individuals who give their all to help continue the Romanioite culture and tradition. To them I extend my gratitude. We look forward to one day hosting a wedding at the Kehila.

I would like to wish U. Shana Tovah to the Board of Directors, Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Pashas, and all the friends and families of Kehila Kedosha Janina. I hope and pray that in the coming year our synagogue will continue to be a source of spiritual renewal for all those who seek it. Please join us this holiday season.

Xronia Polla,

Rabbi Steven M. Matza

Brotherhood

Chaim Kofinas

Sisterhood

Rose Eskomtos

Esther Benjamin

Association of Friends of Greek Jewry

Marcia Haddad Inonomopolous

In honor of memory

Ten years ago, the world was ready to write us off even our own people were questioning whether we should close our doors and go the way of so many other synagogues on the Lower East Side. Our perseverance and commitment to the ‘little Greek synagogue on Broome Street’ have been rewarded. Not only are we a part of the recent renaissance on the Lower East Side, but we are in the forefront. Our recent rededication (May 20th) of the Kehila Kedosha Janina Synagogue and Museum saw Broome Street between Eldridge and Allen closed to traffic as the crowds gathered to celebrate our triumphs. Greek, Israeli and American flags flew from our façade. Speeches by our President, Marvin Marcus, our Museum Director, Marcia Haddad Inonomopolous, our architect, Leonard Colchamiro, the Consul of Greece, Sophia Vesves and Holly Kaye of the Lower East Side Conservancy preceded an exciting celebration of our synagogues led by Rabbi Nissim Elencar during the International Sephardic Leadership Council and Marty Geen, son of Hy Geve of Blessed Memory, with the official unveiling of our Landmark Plaque by Holly Kaye and Leonard Colchamiro.

Reci Pe fo R WaTeRmelon  R ind  desse RT

Syrup

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the green skin from the rind, leaving as

much rind intact as possible. Cut rind

into approximately 3˝ by 1.5˝ pieces.

Rinse and drain all of the rind. Set

aside.

3. Fill the 2 qt. jar halfway with water.

Mix in two tablespoons of lime. Add

the rind. Add more water to fill the

jar to the top. If all of the rind doesn’t

fit into one jar, make a second jar

with the same amount of lime and

water. Soak overnight. Rinse each

piece of rind very well the next day.

Put in pot and boil until tender, but not

too soft. Drain and set aside. Also, rinse

and dry jar for later use.

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To make syrup: Add 2 cups of water

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280 Broome Street • NYC 10002 • 212-431-1619

www.kkjsm.org or e-mail at kehila_kedosha_janina@netzero.net

Edition 11, Fall 2007
The Museum played host to two very moving family gatherings; the first on March 18th of the Colchamiros, and the second of the Aser Family, participating in May 27th. These events serve many purposes other than the obvious one of enabling the family to gather together and share their common heritage. They also serve as a means of having our people, many of whom have become disconnected over the years, reconnect with the synagogue and, most important, bring in the next generation, our future.

Over 150 descendents of Jessoula and Shalom Galanis Colchamiros, representing 8 of the 11 branches of the family, gathered for a day of celebration and remembrance. A special exhibit was created in the Museum in honor of the event. Though the exhibit was only on display through the end of June, our website will continue to tell the story of the Colchamiros. In telling the story of this remarkable family, the Museum told the narrative of so many other Yanniat families, both in Ioannina before they relocated to the United States and Greek Jews in the New World as they struggled to survive and confront a culture that was foreign to absorb them. The Museum exhibit had far-reaching consequences.

One of the branches (that of Dinoula and Gaika Galanis Bakola) was completely destroyed in the Holocaust.

One of the most moving messages I received was from Emily Bakola, born in Greece, a great-grandchild of Dinoula, whose work with Holocaust survivors has been instrumental in enabling the restoration of Kehila Kadisha Janina and worked pro bono, refusing any compensative for her tireless work.

Over the next generation, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Sisterhood in consensual with their membership, will continue to perpetuate what our founders envisioned 72 years ago. Contact our First Vice President, a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Sisterhood.

The Saved of the Jews of Zakynthos (below)

Jeff’s family immigrated to the USA in 1951, first settling in Coney Island and then moving to 61 Delancy Street. He was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1957 and named after his maternal grandfather, Jessoula Cohen, who attended PS 42, PS 110, BHS 96, Brooklyn Tech before receiving his BS from SUNY at Stony Brook and his MFA from Cal State Sacramento. Jeff’s early education was supplemented by attending Talmud Torah on Rivington Street in Manhattan.

Jeff married Audrey in 1988 and is the proud father of Elise (16) and Todd (14). Since 1994, he has worked for a New York advertising agency, developing strategies and commitment to discovering new markets. As part of our continuing endeavor to build our membership and to share the story of our people both in Greece and in the diaspora, we have, with the approval of the New Board, compiled by Vincent Giordano made a gala five-way anniversary historic event this past June, we

In this Diamond Jubilee year of the Sisterhood, culminating in the saving of the Jews of Zakynthos (below) we

As part of our continuing endeavor to pursue our mission of philanthropy, we are planning to restore our communal room to a kafenion room and a multimedia center, facilitating on-site genealogical and Holocaust research.

We have “our man in Ioannina,” Isaac Dutis, Vice President of the Association, and we will be in Ioannina many months out of the year. If you want Isaac to research birth records in the municipal archives and get copies of birth records for you, contact us.

The following day, Chrysostomos reported to Litt and told him to destroy the list immediately and to take us, and we will share their fate.” Litt, who had his orders, “he had his orders.” The Bishop then asked you take the Jews of Zakynthos, you must have a favor of Litt. He wanted to be given the money to build it and contributed the stained-glass windows and the church bells.

The feared earthquake came in 1953, leveling the Synagogue and the synagogue and the Jewish quarter. One of the few buildings to survive was the church of Agios Ioannikios. The first ship to arrive with help for the devastated islands was from Israel with the message the Jews of Zakynthos will never forget their Bishop and their Mayor. Both Chrysostomos and Mayor Carrer are honored at Yad Vashem and, in 1998, monuments in memory of their Mayor, Carrer and the islanders [see “The Saving of the Jews of Zakynthos” below].

Zakynthos, one of the seven islands in the Ionian Sea, is a small, mountainous island, but the most enduring influence was the long period of Venetian occupation (over 400 years). It was during this time that Jews lived on the island, like all Jews living on Venetian islands, they did not have a Synagogue. The Jewish population on the island was always small and Romanote (Greeko-Speaking) throughout, with the exception of a small group of Spanish-speaking Jews who settled on the island. The Synagogue was called “Kolymbaris” and was called “Kolymbaris” in 1492, were absorbed into the indigenous population.

Chrysostomos, the Bishop of Zakynthos, was born in Crossostomos, Prveza and his late father (Elias Mordos) in Zakynthos. Cohen Mordos) was born in Preveza and his late father (Elias Mordos) in Zakynthos.

 municipal of Jewish Communities and Zakynthos Jews and Greek School at St. Barbara’s Greek School at St. Barbara’s High School, attending Talmud Torah on Rivington Street in Manhattan.

Jeff has completed 45 marathons in 35 states, including the last 11 to 50 national and City Marathons.

Year Group

Special Thanks to Major Benefactors

We wish to thank the late Frances Siegelbaum for the exceptionally generous bequest that enabled the completion of our recent interior renovation. This sizeable donation is unprecedented in our history and for that we owe her a lifelong gratitude and appreciation of amount of gratitude.

In addition, we received a generous donation from the Genee Family, in honor of Hy Genee of Blessed Memory, that will be applied towards the next stage of our interior restoration.

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A very special thanks to Amy Attas Shapiro and her husband, Steven, who have generously donated the cost of the restoration of this building. As a result, we are able to keep it ‘in the family’ for four generations. As Amy so beautifully phrased it, the Aser Family has continued to be ‘responsible for the light at Kehila Kadisha Janina.’