Late Commander remembered as Order Fulfills its Library Pledge
Ahepa Receives Athenagoras Award

The Order's late Commander Emeritus, Dr. Anthony Borden was remembered, as National Commander of the Order of St. Andrew of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Dr. Chris Philip announced that the Archons had fulfilled their pledge and have completed their pledged $100,000 contribution to the Archbishop Iakovos Library. Standing side by side with His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos, Dr. Philip, Ahepa's Supreme President Dr. Spiro Macris accepted the coveted Athenagoras Humanitarian Award in the name of his organization. It was a moving moment for a capacity-filled Waldorf-Astoria Ballroom, with hundreds of members of both the Order of St. Andrew and Ahepa applauding the event. Daughters of Penelope Grand President Mary Verges also participated in the acceptance of the award.

Unable to attend from the start, New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani arrived at 9 p.m. and was warmly applauded. In his speech, he acknowledged the Hellenes of New York as an important and integral part of his city and praised His Eminence for whom he has great admiration and respect. The Archbishop responded accordingly, calling the mayor a great person who has achieved very much for the city. Just before the award presentation, Dr. Chris Philip held the one-and-a-half foot tall silver bust of the late Ecumenical Patriarch, high above the head for everyone to see. The award was presented during the Order's Banquet, an annual event that heralds the Sunday of Orthodoxy which culminates with the Hierarchical Liturgy at the Holy Trinity Cathedral next day. While the Archon Candidates are introduced one by one to the Banquet attendance on Saturday evening, it is Archbishop Iakovos in His authority as an Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate who invests them into the Order on Sunday at the Cathedral. The investiture of the Archon Candidates is an ancient ritual of the Byzantine era, which is observed annually, followed by the procession of the Icons held by the Archons.

Taking a passage from the program's A.H.E.P.A. historical account, both His Eminence as well as the Consul General of Greece Charalampos Rocanas touched on the fact that the fourth letter in the organization's acronym, P for Progressive now also stands for Philanthropy. Mr. Rocanas in fact, read most of the chronography, in which lies the reason why the organization was founded in Atlanta in 1922, was worthy of the Humanitarian award. The Order bestows the Athenagoras award to an individual or an organization which has been in the forefront of the struggle for Human Rights and Religious Freedom. Ahepa's deeds in the last fifty years are living proof of its worthiness. In the past ten years, the recipients of the award are His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos, former U.S. Presi-

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Order spotlighted at Congress with Procession at Liturgy and Breakfast

The driving rain which fell on the faithful who attended the Central Park Divine Liturgy did not deter the Archons from participating at this opening event of the 33rd Clergy-Laity Congress on Sunday, June 30th. A large contingent of Archons—many of them members of the National Council and all wearing the Cross of the Order and their insignia—led by their National Commander, Archon Megas Aktoparios Dr. Chris Philip and Vice-Commander, Megas Archon Denu-tato Anastasios Manessis gathered early in the morning at the designated post near the Band Shell. They joined the thousands of faithful from over sixty parishes across the nation, a 300-voice strong choir, a 70-member male Byzantine group, a large number of Priests, Psaltes, Altar Boys, Myrophores and contingents of Boy Scouts charged with keeping the order.

The Band Shell where the Liturgy was held had been decorated with icons

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COUNCIL OF ARCHONS

ANTHONY G. BORDEN, M.D.,* Commander Emeritus
Megas Aktouarios

CHRIS PHILIP, D.D.S.
National Commander
Megas Aktouarios

KIMON A. DOUKAS, PH.D.
1st Vice Commander
Megas Protektodok

ANASTASIOS E. MANESSIS
Vice-Commander
Megas Deputatos

ANTHONY J. LIMBERAKIS, M.D.
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JOHN M. MAVROUDIS
Legal Counselor
Notarios

PROF. DENO J. GEANAKOPOLOS
Historian
Didaskalos Oth Genous

STEVE E. ALEXANDER
Deputatos

ANDREW A. ATHENS
Maestor

THOMAS H. BARTZOS
Ekiikos

NICHOLAS J. BOURAS
Deputatos

ANDREAS D. COMODROMOS
Dikaiophylaks

GREGORY G. DEMETRAKAS
Deputatos

THEODORE D. DEMETRIOU
Exarcho

NIKTAS DRAKOTOS
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PETER N. FISFIS
Deputatos

JAMES C. FONTAS
Deputatos

JOHN HALECKY JR.
Ekiikos

KIRK P. KALEMERIS, M.D.
Aktouarios

GEORGE C. KIRIAKOPOULOS, D.D.S.
Aktouarios

HARRY MAGAFAN
Deputatos

JOHN N. PANAS
Deputatos

JEAN P. PAPPS, M.D.
Aktouarios

JOHN C. RAKKOU
Deputatos

MIMIS THERY
Deputatos

COSTAS N. TRATAROS
Notarios

HON. NICHOLAS TSOUCALAS
Hortotikoi

CONSTANTINE L. VELLIOS
Deputatos

Late Commander Remembered
(Continued from Page 1)

With the banner of the Order in the background, His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos and His Honor, the Mayor of New York, Rudy Giuliani, share a smile during the latter's introduction to the capacity gathering.

Maryland, Paul Sarbanes, and the former Secretary of Veterans Affairs Ed Derwinski.

The National Council's Treasurer, architect Steven Papadatos signaled the beginning of the event by reading the names of the V.I.P.'s on the dias, which included His Excellency, Bishop Silas of New Jersey, His Grace, Bishop Philotheos of Meloa and Alexios of Trous, Rabbi Arthur Schneider, His Excellencies Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations Nikos Aghathokleous, Consul General Charalambos Rocanas and His Excellency, Metropolitan Silas of N.J. (left to right, lower tier) listen intently. Listening intently in the upper tier are Archon Nick Smyrnis, the Rev. Dr. Robert Stephanopoulos, Archon George Kokalis, Fr. Dimitrios Anokas and the Order's Treasurer, Stephen Papadatos.

was followed by the Order's Vice Commander, Archon Megas Deputatos Anastasios Manessis, the Chairman of the Banquet, with his welcoming remarks. Archon Manessis spoke of Turkey's latest actions and called for an end of her expansionist plans. Turning to the Archon Iakovos during the Banquet.

The following is the National Commander's speech hailing the retiring Archbishop Iakovos,

"Every so often, a man appears on the human scene with such exceptional intellect, visionary acumen and unselfish dedication that he is destined to make a mark in history. Such a man is our beloved spiritual leader, Archbishop Iakovos, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in the Americas and Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

A servant of the Lord who has continuously promoted Orthodox and Christian unity in the Western Hemisphere. His achievements are well documented and the many accolades he has received are richly deserved.

As Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, we have attempted to follow his example, by being a voice of reason, a voice of respect and a voice of compassion. The responsibilities that accompany our special status as Defenders of the Faith are clearly dictated in our sacred oath.

It is for this reason that we must assume the mantle of leadership and work diligently to advance unity and harmony as one voice, as one body; ever mindful to be responsive to change. Success in a time of change comes from flexibility, a willingness to learn, to maintain an open mind and the ability to create a guiding vision. With the intellectual resources and commitment we have, our goals heed no horizons. His Eminence, is and will always be the wind beneath our wings."

EIS POLLAX ETI, THESEPTA!
bishop, he said he was deeply saddened by His Eminence's impending retirement, remarking that his departure will turn us into orphans. At this point, John Plumides, former A.H.E.P.A. Supreme President assumed his duties as the Master of Ceremonies.

After the Consul General Rocanas' remarks, Archon Andrew Athens rose to speak of what A.H.E.P.A. stands for. He said that it is dedicated in the support of Orthodoxy and Hellenism. Then the Order's National Commander, taking the podium said that it was "a triumphant day", crediting committee chairman Manessis with the success of the event. He then proceeded to thank by name all the individuals that contributed to the success of the affair. The reaction to Senator Sarbanes' story about the newspaper whose derogatory letter prompted him a stern answer drew a favorable applause from the mayor.

In accepting the award, A.H.E.P.A.'s Dr. Macris who himself was an Archon Candidate thanked the Order and said "we can be Americans and we can be Greeks. We can be Orthodox, and both our organizations together will work to build a great Church.

In His remarks, His Eminence recalled the events from the life of the Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras when he visited His flock throughout the United States as the then Archbishop. He spoke greatly of A.H.E.P.A. as a very deserving recipient of the Athenagoras award.

Earlier on, during the Archon's General meeting preceding the banquet, Ernest Villas, former Executive Director of the Order, was so deeply touched by emotion, that he asked those in attendance to begin singing "Ti Ipermaho". His Eminence made his entrance at that key moment, and upon hearing one hundred Archons chanting in unison one of his most favorite "troperia", was visibly moved by the spontaneity of their action.
Order receives plaque at groundbreaking for contribution to the Library Fund

National Commander of the Order, Archon Megas Auktarios Dr. Chris Philip and Vice-Commander, Archon Megas Depoutatos Anastasios Manessis were the official representatives of the Order at the Ground Breaking ceremony for the Archbishop Iakovos Library on April 1st. Balmy weather and a sizeable turnout blessed the auspicious event and the many eloquent speakers — including His Eminence's former parishioner, former Massachusetts Governor and Presidential candidate Michael Dukakis, made it an exceptional one.

The event coincided with the 37th anniversary of the Archbishop's enthronement and began with a Presanctified Liturgy and Doxology at the Holy Cross chapel, the groundbreaking for the Archbishop Iakovos Library and Learning Resource Center took place with the Rev. Nicholas Triantafilou, Archdiocesan Chancellor as the Master of Ceremonies.

The 27,000 square ft. structure will have three levels and a special five thousand square ft. area which will contain the Archbishop Iakovos archives. It will also contain 152,000 volumes and will seat 312. Its location is on the incline between the existing Library of the school and the Administration building.

After the official groundbreaking, guests participated in an afternoon luncheon at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel of Boston, where the Library's major contributors who provided more than 80% of the $6 million price tag were singled-out and honored. Archon Megas Logothetis Panayotis Angelopoulos was among the million dollar contributors which declares him a Great Benefactor. So was Archon Depoutatos Vaseleos Colevas with a $1 million contribution. Also honored for a $1 million contribution was the Leadership 100, being represented by Archon George Kokalis.

National Commander, Archon Megas Auktarios, Dr. Chris Philip on behalf of the Order which contributed $100,000 to the fund, received a plaque from His Eminence. Additional Archons to receive commemorative plaques of appreciation for $100,000 contributions were Archon & Mrs. John Georgias, Archon & Mrs. George Comnontaros, Archon & Mrs. George Chimpiles and Archon & Mrs. Peter Dion.

For $50,000 contributions the following Archons and spouses were recognized: Arthur Anton and Charles Poulos. For contributions under $50,000 Archon & Mrs. Michael Chakeres, Archon & Mrs. Constantine Cassis, and Archon & Mrs. Nicholas Athans were recognized.

Former Governor Michael Dukakis served as Master of Ceremonies for the luncheon. He reminded everyone that His Eminence was his Parish priest when he was growing up in Boston. A number of dignitaries and clergy of other denominations were present during both the ceremony and the luncheon.

“The Library is my living testament to you,” said the Archbishop responding to the greetings from Great Benefactor Panayotis Angelopoulos who could not be there but sent his namesake grandson. His Eminence exhorted his audience to “grow, excel and reach for the highest, loftiest ideals in this country”, while maintaining their Hellenic and Orthodox Heritage.
Ecumenical Patriarch is attacked by Turkish National Newspaper

Days after His Holiness, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I hosted the 16-member delegation of EuroDeputies at His Phanar headquarters, a Turkish daily carried banner headlines criticizing this action.

Turkiye, the pro-Islamic/nationalist daily accused the leader of the world’s Orthodoxy of “spewing hatred” while speaking at a “secret meeting” with the EuroDeputies. The delegation, headed by former Belgian Prime Minister Wilfred Martens belongs to the European Peoples Party (EPP). The Turkish language newspaper claimed that the delegation held an “organized dialogue” with high-ranking Ecumenical Patriarchate officials, on issues “concerning human values and human rights,” environmental protection, social policy and the role of the Orthodox Church in greater Europe.

Turkiye alleges that His Holiness, referring to human rights in Turkey stated that “unfortunately they do not give guarantees for political equality and democratic administration.” The same newspaper printed the Patriarch’s photo, with a caption alleging that “while speaking at a secret meeting” the terminology used by the Islamic daily for the talk, the Patriarch allegedly said that “human rights in Turkey is a separate important issue.” It is alleged by the same newspaper that the EuroDeputies called on the Patriarch to exercise his influence to persuade Athens not to obstruct application of a customs union between Turkey and EU.

A Chapter from the Book of Patriarchs of Tourkokratia

Professor Dono J. Geanakoplos, Bradford Durfee Em. Professor of Byzantine, Orthodox Church history, and Italian Renaissance history at Yale University and official historian of the Archons of St. Andrew, on March 2, on the Feast Day of the Sunday of Orthodoxy, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York, addressed the Archons of St. Andrew, both older and newly installed Archons, on “The Two Most Dynamic Patriarchs of the Tourkokratia period (1453-1821): Jeremiah II the Formidable (Ho Tranos) and the Protestant-Leaning Cyril Loukaris.”

The address constitutes a chapter in the book on the history of The Patriarchate of Constantinople that Prof. Geanakoplos is writing for the Archons of St. Andrew.

The address, which was riveting, was delivered to a crowded, enthusiastic assembly of Archons who, at the conclusion, gave the speaker a standing ovation and sang the moving Orthodox hymn, Ti Ipermacho.

Among the many accomplishments of Patriarch Jeremiah was his journey to Muscovy where he presided over the creation of a new patriarchate, that of Moscow, ranked immediately after the five of the “Pentarchy.” Jeremiah also reorganized the Patriarchal School in Constantinople and wrote the famous letter rejecting a proposed accommodation with the new Lutheran Church. Point by point Jeremiah showed how many of the Lutheran dogmatic beliefs and practices were incompatible with Orthodoxy. For his dynamism and great contribution to Orthodoxy in a time of crisis for the Orthodox church, he has been named Ho Tranos (the Formidable) by the Church.

Cyril Lukaris, a Cretan theologian and Patriarch of Constantinople in the late 16th and early 17th century, was very attracted to Protestant Calvinist beliefs. He especially liked the Calvinist emphasis on the Greek Fathers of the early Apostolic and Patristic Age. Like the Calvinists, he believed that the church of Rome had deviated from true Christian beliefs and practices. In Geneva, Switzerland, Calvinist theologians printed, in Greek and Latin, a confession of faith very Calvinist in dogma and beliefs, and attributed it to Cyril. Patriarch Cyril never condemned the confession. Nor did he ever affirm his authorship of it. The confession of faith, however, caused a furor among the Orthodox, Greeks and Slavs. Finally, under the great Patriarch of Jerusalem Dositheos, in 1678 a (local) synod was convened which severely condemned as heresy the confession of faith attributed to Cyril. It did not, however, condemn Cyril. Cyril was a strong-minded patriarch who, in a time of great danger to Orthodoxy, had to steer a course under the Turkish Sultan in Constantinople between the aggressive tactics of the Catholic Jesuit Order which sought to bring the Orthodox faithful under the jurisdiction of the Pope, and, on the other hand, the Calvinist representatives of England and Holland in Constantinople, who strove to push Cyril further away from the Pope in Rome.

Cyril has been accused of being a crypto-Calvinist. But he probably did what he felt he had to do in order, in a period of grave danger for the Orthodox church, to preserve the existence and integrity of the Orthodox church and Patriarchate of Constantinople. He is considered a great Patriarch.

Archon Fooskas Dies at Age 68

An Archon of the Order of St. Andrew of the Ecumenical Patriarchate for 20 years, Christopher Fooskas of Philadelphia died March 27, 1996, after a long illness. He was 68.

Born on Christmas Day 1927 in Southern Philadelphia, Archon Fooskas graduated at the top of his High School Class, receiving a scholarship to study at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He also earned a Master in Business Administration from Drexel University and became a Certified Public Accountant.

He worked for the firm of Peaty, Warwick, Mitchell and Co., and in 1966 he accepted a position with Beneficial Household Finance of Wilmington, Del., where he worked as the Director of the National Inspection until 1983 and as a Director of Report Review until 1990 in the Philadelphia Office of Lavenholth and Howard. His diagnosis with cancer shortly thereafter, brought his retirement from the firm of Friedlander and Dunn.

Archon Fooskas is survived by his wife Sophia (nee Lebaris) and daughters Stephanie Albertson and Christina Lukens.

Pan Gregorian’s Banquet sets aside Funds for the Archbishop Library Fund

Close to eight hundred guests filled the Crystal Palace's Grand Ballroom to witness the Pan Gregorian Enterprises of Metro N.Y. & L.I. Fund's First Academic Awards banquet. It was held Sunday, January 21, 1996 at the Crystal Palace and was attended by Bishop Philotheos of Melos and members of the clergy. Among the institutions to receive a contribution during the proceedings was the Archbishop Inkoveros Library at Hellenic College. An $8,000 check presented by Pan Gregorian Enterprises' President and Vice Commander of the Order, Archon Megas Depotatoas Anastasios Manessis along with Mike Panayatos, First V.P. and Anastasios Katechis, Treasurer.

Several Greek American schools with acute need for funding as well as excelling graduate students from a number of schools were the recipients of funds from the proceeds.
Order Spotlighted At Congress
(Continued from Page 1)

Painted on banners in addition to the floral arrangements donated by the National Council’s Archon Deputatos Konstantine Velios.

At the appropriate time, the Archons, filing two-abreast, stepped into the procession ahead of officiating clergy, the twenty Bishops and eight Seminarians to the base of the Band Shell. This was the official spot where they watched His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos officiate in the Hierarchical Doxology. The Exarchs of the Patriarchate, Archbishop Stylianos and Metropolitan Kyriilos were among the prominent guests, along with dignitaries representing other faiths. After the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, the Archons provided an honor guard of eight Archons for His Eminence as he left the Band Shell.

The Order made a contribution of $10,000 towards the expense for the Liturgy. The proceeds from the tray contributions will go towards several philanthropic projects.

The Order also held a reception that same evening at the Regent Palace of the New York Hilton, the headquarters of the 33rd Clergy-Laity Congress. Attended by a large number from their ranks, the event brought New York-based Archons in touch with their out-of-town counterparts.

The scheduled Breakfast/Meeting event slated for Wednesday, July 3rd in the Sutton North Suite of the Hilton was crowned with success. More than one hundred and fifty Archons filled the room to capacity, coming to break bread with their fellow-Archons, to greet visiting Exarchs of the Patriarchate, Archbishop Stylianos and Metropolitan Kyriilos, and to hear perhaps the Archbishop speak to them collectively for the last time before his retirement.

During the Breakfast, the Order’s National Commander, Archon Megas Aktourarios Dr. Chris Philip presented the retiring Hierarch, our beloved Archbishop Iakovos with a Gold Cross as a lasting momento of the Archons’ love and affection for their leader. The Cross was handcrafted by the firm of Lalainou. In making the presentation, the National Commander spoke outlining the future course that the Order should follow to successfully enter the 21st Century. He touched on the visibility of the Order, asserting that it should be international in scope. “Our public relations program,” he said, “should be more creative and all encompassing.”

“An all out effort,” he continued, “must be exercised in selecting worthy candidates in areas where the concentration of Archons is minimal. Moreover, Regional and State Commanders must be willing to assume a greater role in their capacity of spreading the message.” Dr. Philip also presented the representatives of the Patriarch with a $10,000 check, a traditional gift from the Archons to the Phanar.

Following the presentation, His Eminence addressed the Archons with love and warmth, directing them to continue the work they started under His leadership and to go on ever stronger. He also suggested that there be a closer bond with the Order of Archons of the Panmakaristos in Greece for a more effective and concerted effort towards the Order’s goal.

In concluding his speech and before departing from the room, His Eminence said that though he will no longer be “guiding you officially, I will always be standing by you.” He then said that he was letting the Archons spend more time with the two Hierarchs who represented Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I.

Following the departure of the Archbishop, Archon Didaskalos Tou Genous, Professor Deno Geanakoplos spoke to the capacity gathering.
Six Archons receive Ellis Island Medal

Out of the twelve Hellene and Cypriot Americans who were selected and received the 1996 Ellis Island Medal of Honor during the Awards Gala held Sunday, May 19th, 1996 at Ellis Island, New York, six were Archons of the Order of Saint Andrew of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. The six Archons who received the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor are the following: A. Steve Betzlos of Chicago, IL, President of Sunset Companies and a Past Supreme President of the Order of Ahepa; Dr. Antoine C. Harovas of New York, a cardiologist and Internal Medicine specialist and Past President of the Hellenic Medical Society of N.Y.; Spiros Milonas of New York, President of Ionian Transport; James H. Moschovitis of Bethesda, MD, founder and President of Marshall Enterprises of Washington, D.C.; Harry L. Pappas of California, Chairman of California Produce, Inc.; John A. Payiavlas of Warren, OH, Chairman and President of AVI Food Systems, and Andreas D. Comodromos of New Jersey, President of Comodromos Associates P.A., Certified Public Accountants and Past President of the Cyprus Federation of America.

The Hellenic Committee of the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations (NECO) which makes the selection for its corresponding ethnicity candidates is composed of James Scofield of Florida, its Chairman and co-chairmen John A. Catsimatidis and James F. Demos, both of New York.

Philanthropy Teachings of Ecumenical Patriarchs subject of Order’s Lecture

Patriarchs of Constantinople and their Philanthropic Teaching and Practices was the name of the Order’s Spring lecture, held Thursday, May 30th at 7 p.m., at the Cathedral Cultural Center, 337 East 74th Street. The Reverend Demetrios J. Constantelos, Charles Cooper Townsend Senior, distinguished Professor of History and Religious Studies at the Richard Stockton College, Pomona, N.J., delivered the lecture. He was introduced to the audience of Archons, their families and friends by the official Historian of the Order, Professor Deno J. Geanakoplos, Bradford Durfee Professor Emeritus, Byzantine and Church History at Yale University.

The Professor, who took the podium after the Order’s National Commander introduced His Grace Bishop Philotheos of Meloa who gave the invocation, gave the audience of more than seventy-five Archons and friends a brief preview of the lecture’s contents. “Despite the interference of the Islamic conquerors,” he said, “the Orthodox yearn of Liturgy at Hagia Sophia.” “Fantasy,” he clarified, “but even the wildest fantasy becomes flesh and bones.”

Fr. Constantelos expanded into the life of the Ecumenical Patriarchs in the days of the Ottoman rule and their teachings and principles on Philanthropy. “Philanthropy, Eros, Agape,” he related as deeds that have a definite connection. He then proceeded to introduce Basil the Great who set the best example for the teachings. He spoke of how this great man responsible for the Divine Liturgy as we know it in the Orthodox Church, distributed his worldly possessions and wealth among the poor, before devoting his life in Christ’s work.

He touched on Thoreau, and how the French philosopher felt that philanthropy is the only virtue. “As a concept,” Fr. Constantelos said, “philanthropy is not an American product.” He then expanded into Aeschylus, and how he described Prometheus’ love for Humankind as Philanthropy. “Humanity without philanthropia,” he reflected, “becomes Theriokratia or Beastly domain.”

He treated the subject matter with great mastery and the audience found it both very informative as well as entertaining.

Refreshments were served immediately following an extensive question and answer period at the conclusion of the lecture.

An annual social event of the Order, the Spring Lecture is dedicated to the remembrance of the Fall of Constantinople.

Archon Youssis to participate in Icon exhibit held at Bergen Museum

The efforts of Greek American ladies from a number of communities in the metropolitan area can take all the credit for the materialization of Byzantium: Imagery in Faith, a Byzantine Icon exhibit to open at the Bergen Museum of Art & Science on Saturday, November 2, 1996. The exhibit, coordinated by the Museum’s curator, David Messer in conjunction with the committee of Greek American ladies who spearheaded the effort, including the National Commander’s wife, Irene Philip, will be on view for a full nine weeks. Participating as an exhibitor with a collection of icons from the contemporary school of Byzantine art is iconographer, Archon Depoutatos Constantine Youssis.

Organized under the initiative of Gloria Duzoglou who also chairs it, the group intends to bring not only to the Greek American community but the public at large, a unique cultural event that promotes awareness for the Byzantine art, a form of art which has been largely ignored by the West ever since the Fall of Byzantium. To such an extent has this noble and rich in tradition form of art been ignored, as to prompt Lord John Julius Norwich to call it in his new book, Byzantium, the “Conspiracy of Silence”. There has been however a surge of interest in this style and the icons associated with it, as to generate enough exhibits, one of which is upcoming at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, next year.

Items to be exhibited at the Bergen Museum of Art & Science, coming from outstanding collections of individuals are icons of authentic Christian art, many of them dating from the Fifteenth and Sixteenth century, most offered to the public for the first time. Their art is diversified and includes samples of Hellenic, Russian and Romanian art. A series of lectures on the subject is planned in concurrence with the exhibit. Archon Christo Daphnides is expected to speak during this event.

The word Icon derives from the Hellenic word EI-CON, denoting “image”, one that reflects an idealized vision of a holy personage through form and color. The type that Archon Youssis will be exhibiting is that which can be found today in our churches. The Bergen Museum of Art & Science is located at 327 Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus, N.J., and the telephone number is 201-265-1248.