



WallStreetNorth Communications Newsletter, October 23, 2023

Boston's Alpha Omega Council Honors Hellenic-American Trailblazers



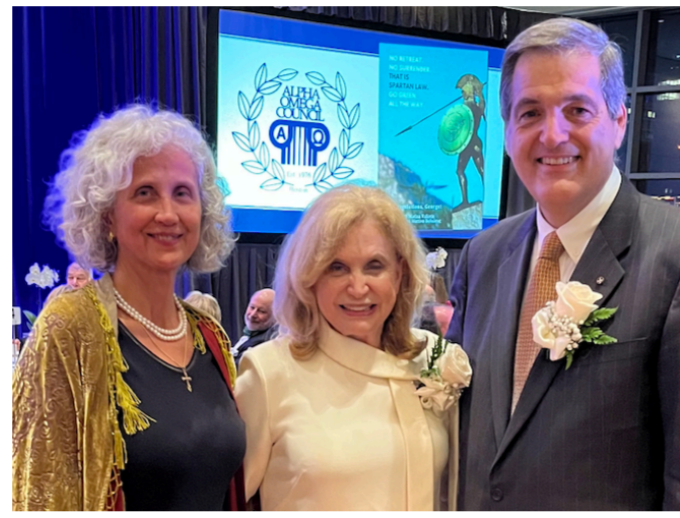
Honorees George and Cathy Sakellaris



John & Eirini Metaxas with Gov. Dukakis

The **Alpha-Omega Council** held its **2023 Honors Gala** in Boston this past weekend, at which I was privileged to serve as master of ceremonies. Boston's preeminent Hellenic-American organization gave its Lifetime Achievement Award to **George P. Sakellaris**, a leader and pioneer in clean energy with Ameresco, Inc.; its Philhellene Award to the **Hon. Carolyn B. Maloney**, the co founder of the Hellenic Caucus of the U.S. House of Representatives; and its Emerging Leader Award to **Dr. Vanessa Farsadaki**, a space medicine expert and futurist who is on track to be Greece's first-ever astronaut.

The **Hon. John Sarbanes**, U.S. House of Representatives from Maryland, presented the Lifetime Achievement Award, and the **Hon. Michael Dukakis**, former Governor of Massachusetts, was feted on the occasion of his 90th birthday. With more than 400 people in attendance, my wife Eirini and I were thrilled at the opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones.



With the Hon. Carolyn Maloney and...



Dr. Vanessa Farsadaki and her fiancé, Karlton D. Johnson (Colonel, United States Air Force-Retired)

The evening also included an event close to my heart, the awarding of the **Peter Agris Memorial Journalism Scholarships** to six promising Greek-American students who are pursuing studies in journalism and communications. The scholarships honor the memory of **Peter Agris**, the founder of Alpha Omega and the publisher of *The Hellenic Chronicle*, which was for 50 years the premier Greek-American national English-language weekly newspaper in the United States. At a time when the support of journalism is more important than ever, the scholarships have nurtured a generation of Greek-American journalism students for 36 years.

Alpha Omega's mission is to cultivate the ideals of Hellenism, recognize leaders who impact the world and improve our community, and unite Hellenes and Philhellenes in fellowship and philanthropy. Founded in 1976, the Council has raised and donated more than \$2.5 million directly to charitable and philanthropic causes.

Since 1984, the Council has promoted the Hellenic roots of the Boston Marathon by hosting the **Greek Consul General of Boston's Annual Wreath Ceremony**, a tradition initiated through Council efforts, at which the wreaths to crown the winners of the Marathon are presented to the Boston Athletic Association.

In the wake of the 2013 bombings at the Boston Marathon, the Council developed and launched educational programming for middle school educators and students, including essay contests, classics lectures, and tours of the Museum of Fine Arts and State House, to promote appreciation of the traditions of civic responsibility and defense of liberty that the ancient Greeks demonstrated at the Battle of Marathon.



And a special thanks to Alpha Omega...



for acknowledging the MC.

We've published the latest episode of *The Sidley Podcast*



My work as **Executive Producer** of *The Sidley Podcast*, for the international law firm **Sidley Austin**, continues with the publication of episode 35. Sidley partners **Sonia Gupta Barros**, **Colleen Theresa Brown** and **Sam Gandhi** analyze the SEC's new cybersecurity rules, which take effect at the end of this year. Over the past four years, *The Sidley Podcast* has given business professionals and other listeners insight into cutting edge issues in the law, and served as an effective marketing tool for Sidley. Our upcoming episode will analyze the monumental cases slated to be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court this term.

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