The NHS vision started with the supposition that there are many disenchanted highly successful people of Greek descent that are disconnected from their heritage and Greek identity. We wanted to create something special in terms of a modern day organization that would attract and bring together the best of the best — individuals that can change the course of our heritage in America.

We share something truly unique and powerful yet untapped for the most part. The Hellenic identity within us is fulfilling yet lacks an outlet to express itself. We built an organization comprised of achievers, doers and people that one finds up-lifting. Our legacy calls upon us to aim for the stars as Homer bade us: “Ever to Excel”.

By virtue of you being a Heritage Greece alumni makes you are part of the NHS family. You are the individuals that shall pass on the torch of our heritage, culture and legacy as the Olympic flame is passed on from generation to generation. NHS is committed to continue to play a role in your lives and assist you in fulfilling your potential. We will cheer you on and proactively assist where we can. NHS’ objective is to keep you engaged in what we do, give you a voice and together advance our mission. Especially with expand the reach and growth of Heritage Greece.

Coupled with your help, NHS is uniquely positioned to accomplish great things—you are of a paramount example of just that and we are grateful to have you serve as NHS’ ambassador of Hellenic heritage.

By: Fanis Economidis - Program Committee Chair: National Hellenic Society
What’s New?

If you would like to be featured in future newsletters please click to email the National Chairs.

- **James Bistolarides** (2011 Alum): Began pediatric residency at the University of Chicago

- **Bryant Yavorski** (2011 Alum): Started his 2nd year teaching with Teach for America in Houston, TX

- **Liz Parker** (2011 Alum): Works at SALA Architects in Minneapolis, MN

- **Alexandra Zigouras** (2011 Alum): Pursing a Masters in speech-language pathology at George Washington University

- **Alex Oberheide** (2011 Alum): Residing in Los Angeles, CA, working in software sales for Neogov

- **Prokopios Pantos** (2011 Alum): Completed his CPA & works at Liberty Mutual in Boston, MA

- **Christina Batsi** (2011 Alum): Started her Masters in HR & works at BNY Mellon

- **Andrea Yavarow** (2011 Alum): Paralegal for Grossman & Associates, Ltd. in Newton, MA

- **Christopher Howell** (2010 Alum): Married his wife, Mary Carol in 2013. Currently, a PhD student at Duke University studying American Religion, and earned his Masters of Theological Studies at Duke in 2015

- **Noël Giglio** (2010 Alum): Graduated from UNC Law in 2013 and passed the bar in MA. Legal counsel for Olympus in the Greater Boston Area

NHS Spotlight

**Constantine (Costa) Sideridis** is President and CEO of Ferro-Ceramic Grinding Inc., Wilmington, MA. He received a BS in Ceramic Engineering and a BA in Economics from Rutgers University in 1992 along with EIT/FE certification for the Fundamentals in Engineering.

Ferro-Ceramic was started back in 1966 as a vision to provide technical ceramics to industry. Mr. Sideridis joined the firm in 1996 to assume responsibility of the sales group. Through an equity buy out in 2000, he became president and sole owner of Ferro-Ceramic Grinding. Dedicated to constant improvement and committed to being a world class organization, Ferro-Ceramic has grown to be the largest ceramic grinding company in the North East moving to a new 50K sq. ft. facility in Wilmington, MA in 2012.

Having over 23 years of experience in the technical ceramic field his organizational involvement include: past Chair of the New England Section of the American Ceramic Society along with the FH Norton Distinguished New England Ceramist award in 2000. He is a board of trustee member of the Brain Science Foundation, a partner at Bridgemedica LLC and a founder of the New England CEO Network.

Currently residing in Salem, MA, Costa was born in Montreal and is son of Niko Sideridis and Despina Arseniou, both professionals from Constantinople. He is an ardent supporter of Greek heritage and culture by being a fulfilled member of Leadership 100, a member of The Alpha Omega Council, regional co-chair of the National Hellenic Society and a member of AHEPA.

Upon meeting and marrying Allyson Aucone of Lynn, Costa has been a proud and continuous member of the St. George community since 1998 and is currently serving his first term on the parish council as chairman of the Stewardship committee.

He is the proud father of 2 boys, Nicholas and Alex.

Costa Sideridis - President & CEO Ferro-Ceramic Grinding Inc.
Regional Co-Chair: National Hellenic Society (Boston)
Projects:

To volunteer for existing project or suggest a new project please click here.

- HG/NHS Mentor Program: Austin Cooke, Noel Giglio and Lexy Prodromos
- HG Alumni Directory: Maddie Hailer
- The Agora Newsletter: Alex Andreadis
- Google Grant: Nicole Vournazos
- Website Redesign: Thalia Dimopoulos and Paul Markakis
- HG/NHS Information Presentation: Jason Ioannides
- Oral History - In Conjunction with National Hellenic Museum

Keep an eye out for updates.

Events:

For more information or to add events added please click here.

National:
- More to come

Regional:
- Washington D.C. - Greekend November 12-15
- Washington D.C. - NHS + OXI Foundation October 27
- New York - NHS Luncheon at Trattoria II Mulino November 18 click to RSVP
- Boston - Zorba the Greek Screening November 5 - contact Art for details

Op-Ed: A Note From the Class of 2015

“It's going to change your life.” Those are the words Art Dimopoulos, the Executive Director of the National Hellenic Society, said to me when I talked to him on the phone after my acceptance to the Heritage Greece program. I had no idea how true his words would prove to be. The Heritage Greece trip was truly the most amazing two weeks of my life. While every day was filled with excitement and adventure, one that was particularly extraordinary was the day we took a boat trip around Halkidiki. The breathtaking views, jumping off the boat into crystal blue water, and Greek dancing on the ship deck made the day feel like a dream.

It's no secret that food is an essential component of Greek culture and Heritage Greece certainly affirmed that. Experiencing authentic Greek cuisine forever changed my standards for what good food tastes like. From pastitsio to spanakopita to gyros, the meals on the trip were better than anything I could have imagined.

Although we only spent a few weeks together, at the end of the trip I felt closer and more connected to my fellow “HGers” than I felt to people I had known my entire life. The whole trip, we would often turn to each other and ask, “How in the world did we get so lucky?” While my Greek culture has always been an essential part of my identity, by allowing me to learn the Greek language through classes at the American College of Greece and embrace the unparalleled beauty of the land my ancestors created history upon, Heritage Greece only strengthened the love I have for my roots and my desire to further connect with my culture.

By: Lexi Nikolopoulos - Heritage Greece 2015
Op-Ed: A Message for ACG Alum Class of 2010

It's almost 5 years since Heritage Greece and when I think of it I miss the time we spent together. This program happened at a time when I was at a crossroad. I had finished my undergrad in Communications and Sociology at Deree College and I was getting ready to apply to the University of St Andrews in the UK. It was a great time because it gave me the opportunity of expanding my perspective on life, studies, and decisions about the future. Since that time, I've been studying at the University of St. Andrews.

I completed my Litt in International Political Theory and now I’m finishing my PhD in International relations. It has been a great time but also, it has been a time with great challenges. Now, being close to the end of my studies, I am applying for jobs in the UK and abroad. I aspire to work for the House of Parliament in the UK—which relates to my thesis and putting to practice the knowledge I gained from my studies. The experience I got from Heritage Greece has been a great influence in making all the decisions that brought me here. Meeting all these wonderful people and sharing their international perspective on life, has shaped mine too. I miss the time we spent together and I hope we meet again the future and share our stories.

By:  Andreas Aktoudianakis - ACG 2010

Op-Ed: What is the HG Alumni Network?

We are thrilled to be serving as the National Co-Chairs for the inaugural year of the Heritage Greece Alumni Network! As Fannis Economidis mentioned in his article NHS members are passing the torch of our heritage, culture, and legacy through various programs such as Heritage Greece and the Alumni Network. Thus, as leaders, it is our job to carry the torch and further the mission of NHS, “...to create a lasting network of Greek Americans that will preserve heritage...”

With more than 100 Heritage Greece Alum, we are now working to build a sustainable framework to encourage interactions between NHS members and HG Alum by opening channels of communication and attending mutual events in an effort to further preserve our heritage. The Alumni Network will build off of the existing NHS framework and spearhead projects to achieve these goals.

The Alumni Network consists of two National Co-Chairs and several Regional Chairs, based on the existing NHS chapters. The National Co-Chairs will serve as liaison between NHS and HG alumni by communicating to the NHS Co-Chairs, overseeing the development of various programs and initiatives and providing feedback to the NHS Program Committee. The Regional Chairs will assist NHS Chapter Co-Chairs with promoting Heritage Greece and other NHS programs, coordinate local events, survey HG alumni for feedback and further the mentorship program regionally.

This is a great opportunity to give back to the organization that has given so much to each of us. We welcome any all offers to help so please do not hesitate to contact us at anytime by clicking here.

Sincerely,
Austin Cooke and Noël Giglio - HG Alumni Network National Co-Chairs