

The **INTERNATIONAL**  **PROPELLER CLUB**
of the United States
INTERNATIONAL PORT OF PIRAEUS, GREECE

The International Propeller Club of the U.S., International Port of Piraeus, held its traditional Annual Pitta-Cake-Cutting for 2017 at the Grande Bretagne Hotel in Athens, Greece, on Sunday the 22nd January 2017.

The event, which symbolizes with the Pitta-Cake-Cutting and the blessing received from the Greek Orthodox Church, the good luck for the new year, and during which, scholarships by Propeller Piraeus to meritorious students of maritime academies, as well as to students of universities and colleges pursuing maritime studies were awarded, in conjunction to donations extended to elected charities, was very well attended by over 190 distinguished guests.

The President Mr. George Xiradakis and the members of the BOG welcomed the representative of the U.S. Embassy, Mr. Brian Hoyt Economic Officer, the Greek Minister of Shipping and Island Policy Mr. Panagiotis Kouroumplis, Cpt. Stamatios Raptis Commandant of the Hellenic Coast Guard, Vice Admiral, the former Presidents of the International Propeller Club, Mr. George Basis, Mr. Savvas Kalafatides, Mr. Argyris Skondras and Mr. Markos Foros, former Governors of the Club, Pateras Damaskinos representative from the Archbishop of Athens, distinguished Members of the Shipping Community, as Cpt. Panagiotis Tsakos, Cpt. Nikolaos Soutos, Press, friends and members of the Club.

The Greek Minister of Shipping and Island Policy Mr. Panagiotis Kouroumplis stressed that he is determined to support Greek Shipping and together with the Government they are ready to cooperate closely with everyone involved. At the end of his speech he expressed the great love that he has for the Port of Piraeus and he revealed his hope for better days to come despite the difficult financial situation of our country.

Referring to two donations President Mr Xiradakis called to the podium Cpt. Evangelos Kouzilos, President of the LIBERTY SHIP CLUB who referred to the distinguished role that LIBERTY vessels played during the World War II and the HELLAS Liberty Museum, at Akti Vassileiadou. Propeller Club being an active member of the LIBERTY SHIP CLUB supported and replaced the projector for the needs of the ship museum.

Mr. Xiradakis also referred to the donation made to the PHILARMONIC ORCHESTRA OF THE HELLENIC COAST GUARD and with their director Mr. Evangelos Kasfikis, by covering the costs by placing sound insulation for noise reduction.

Donations were extended to 'ELEPAP' and 'TO XAMOGELO TOU PAIDIOU'. Mr. Christos Timagenis received the donation on behalf of the President of 'ELEPAP', Mrs. Marianna Moschou. Mr. Kostas Kotsilinis, Vice President of the Foundation 'TO XAMOGELO TOU PAIDIOU' received the relevant donation and addressed a short speech presenting the aim of the foundation and thanking the Propeller Club for its contribution.

'MARIA P. TSAKOS' scholarship was given to the best graduate of Livaneion Lykeio of Kardamyla, Chios, Mr. Adamantios Tsatiris.

The annual 'SEVASMIA REGKOS' scholarship was given to the best graduate of the University of Piraeus, Mr. Alkiviadis Kyriakakis by Mr. Konstantinos Regkos in memory of his mother.

Propeller Club Scholarship for the American College of Greece was given to the best performing student Mrs. Elena Grigoriou.

Propeller Club Endowed Scholarship for the American College of Greece was given to Mrs. Manessi Evaggelia Miranda.

Mrs. Eleni Irimi Kolokythia received the Propeller Club scholarship as the best performed graduate of the University of the Aegean.

Mrs. Christina Paraskevopoulos, Executive of the Financial Department of the FULBRIGHT Foundation received the scholarship on its behalf.

The father who happens to be a Cpt. of the Merchant Navy, the daughter and the mother of Mr. Lekodimitris Ioannis, graduate of Merchant Marine Academy of Aspropyrgos received the scholarship of 2016. Cpt. Panayiotis Tsakos addressing the audience noted that 'he holds in high regards the mother of a shipping family for the difficult role that she has to play'.

Also, Mrs. Xatzina Christina, graduate of Merchant Marine Academy of Aspropyrgos at the year 2014 received the Propeller Club scholarship.

On behalf of the American Farm School of Thessaloniki, Dr. Paschalis Harizanis, Graduate of the School and Professor at the Agronomy University of Athens received the scholarship thanking the Propeller Club of its contribution and referred to the latest achievements of the School.

Professor Mrs. Fani Sakelariadou, Head of the Department of the Shipping Studies at the University of Piraeus, referring to the participants thanked the Propeller Club for its goodwill of supporting the University and expressed the wish for future cooperation.

The Governors currently in office that attended the event were: Mr. Costas Kontes, Mr. Dimitris Patrikios, Mr. John Belousis, Mr. Gregory Timagenis, Dr. Konstantinos Rokkos, Mr. Vassilacos Dimitri, Mrs. Zoe Lappa-Papamatthaiou, Mrs. Despina Foros Tsirozidis, and Mr. Costas Constantinou.

Traditional Greek Folk Dances from the Dancing Group of the Pierce College under the guidance of the Dancing Professor Mrs. Katerina Tsioufi were presented in front of a lively and applauding audience, with a reception following the most successful event.

**The International Propeller Club of the United States,
International Port of Piraeus**

**'To promote Maritime Relations, Commerce, Goodwill and Cultural relations between
citizens of Greece, the U.S. and all other countries represented by their members'**

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