

# SOWER



American  
Farm School

Thessaloniki  
Greece

Summer 1980

Number 100



GRADUATION 1980



# Graduation 1980

Graduation at the Farm School was a very special occasion this year as the first students of the new programs were graduated. On May 17, forty boys and girls of the new three year Lyceum and twenty-five boys of the new two year Scholi were recognized for their achievements by the School's staff, its Trustees and many prominent guests during a sun-filled graduation ceremony in the auditorium of Rochester Hall.

The processional of graduating students was followed by a prayer offered by Bishop Prokopios of Neas Krinis/Kalamaria. Welcoming speeches made by three leading graduates were followed by the awarding of prizes and school pins. Chairman of the Board Dina McCabe, Vice Chairmen Paul Concellis and Henry Labouisse, other Trustees and special guests took part in the award ceremonies. Among the guests were Mayor and Mrs. Michael Papadopoulos; Mr.



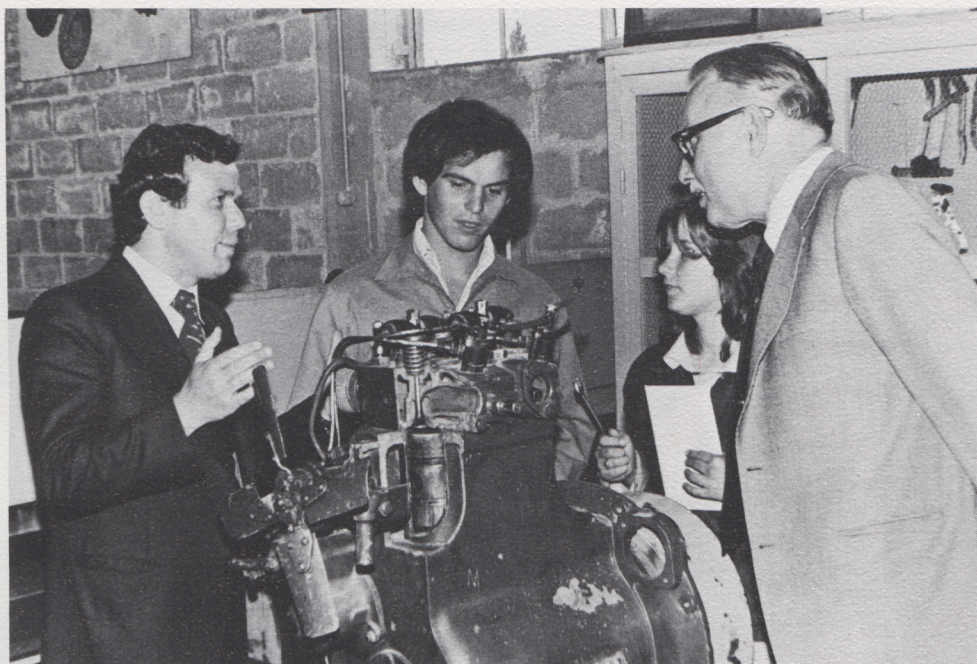
Lyceum graduate Olga Antinou receives her diploma from her father, also a Farm School graduate. Looking on are Dean of Studies Panayotis Rotsios and Director Bruce Lansdale.

Apostolos Michaelopolous, Inspectorate of Agriculture; Mr. Stylianos Kliafas, Director of Land Reclamation Services; Constantinos Zorthoumis, General Inspector of Veterinary Services of Northern Greece.

The featured guest speaker was Mr. Athanasios Kokkonis, Director of Agriculture in the Ministry of Agriculture. Mr. Kokkonis congratulated the

students on their fine work at the Farm School and encouraged them to take the knowledge and the spirit of the Farm School back to the villages and help shape Greece's future in the Common Market.

Director Bruce Lansdale addressed the graduates and guests by noting that the spirit of the founder John Henry House remains very much alive at the Farm School. He complimented the students, the faculty and the staff for their dedication to this spirit. The ceremony closed with the Farm School hymn and the singing of both the American and Greek national anthems. Everyone then toured the educational and production departments of the Farm School and joined in the dedication of the new Philip A. and Hazel G. Constantinides Farm Machinery Laboratory. Mrs. Lulu Stavropoulou and Mrs. Helen Diamandides, nieces of the Constantinides, represented the family at the dedication which recognized the largest single bequest in the School's history.



Among those who visited the new Constantinides Farm Machinery Laboratory after graduation were George Papadopoulos, teacher of agriculture, with Stephanos Simperis and Evanthis Chronopoulou, both second year Lyceum students, and Trustee Constantine Capsaskis.

The American Farm School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the School.

**COVER:** Top left: Chairman Dina McCabe awards a School pin to graduating student Panayiota Kouriotou. Top right: Anathasios Manoloudes winning the Folsom prize — a calf made possible by a gift from Mr. Robert Folsom — as the ideal student. Bottom: Members of the Scholi graduating class singing the School hymn.



# Senior Lansdales Leave Greece

The Lansdale family has a long tradition of ties with Greece. Bruce's father Herbert P. Lansdale, Jr., now 82, first went to Greece in 1925 and since then has served the people there through the YMCA and the State Department, which included a close association with the Greek Orthodox Church. The American Farm School has always been a central part of Herb's life in Greece. Since 1973 he and his wife Jessie have lived in Athens volunteering their services as representatives of the Farm School. Through the following article, we join the many others who have recently paid tribute to Jessie and Herb for their selfless service in Greece.

The last week of May was reminiscent of the verse in Ecclesiastes "for everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven." For Herb and Jessie it was a time for rejoicing and a time for poignant farewells. There was rejoicing for the last 7 years in Greece filled with warm friendships, opportunities for service, for sharing their special wisdom, and then the sad moment that comes with the inevitable parting. It was a time for laughter and tears for those of us who stood proudly by and watched as accolades were heaped upon them.

At the May Board Meeting at the Farm School the Trustees passed a resolution recognizing and thanking Herb for all his fund raising efforts for the School, and making him and Jessie honorary graduates of the Farm School. There was not a dry eye as these two white-haired "graduates" walked slowly and solemnly in the Pomp and Circumstance procession, arm in arm with a boy and girl from the Senior Class to receive their diplomas at the graduation ceremonies.

In Athens laughter and tears flowed again at the huge, beautiful reception held in their honor at the Residence by Ambassador and Mrs. Robert McCloskey. In a long speech extolling Herb's many achievements,



Chairman Dina McCabe thanking Herb Lansdale for his many years of service to the School and congratulating him on his graduation with the class of 1980.

the Ambassador said, "I know of no other American citizen who has contributed more to the cause of friendship between Greeks and Americans." He was presented with a citation and a pair of cuff links with the Presidential seal. In his acceptance speech Herb compared his arrival in Greece to that of Cavafy's barbarians in that he had come to teach and conquer but had been taught and conquered by the Greeks. He brought down the house with his story of the old scoundrel who died. At the funeral there were so many eulogies that his wife turned to her son and said, "Sonny, go look in that coffin and see if it's really your daddy."

One of the many newspaper articles written about the Lansdales'

departure remarked: "There are stories and stories written about this much-eulogized man, feted all this week as a prelude to his move to sunny California. However, it takes a very successful wife to make a successful man, and Jessie Lansdale is just that kind of woman. We needn't add anything more to the words of praise that flowed this week, except that in addition to everything else, Herbert and Jessie Lansdale are two entirely loveable human beings."

There is a lonely feeling in Greece without Herbie and Jessie, but most of their friends take comfort in knowing that just as there was a time for them to go to California, there'll be a time for them to come back again to their Grecian roots and the Farm School.



## TRUSTEES MEET ON CAMPUS



Associate Director for Education Andoni Stambolides and students welcome Chairman of the Board Dina McCabe to the School.

The May meeting of the Board of Trustees was held this year on the campus of the Farm School. Coming from the United States and throughout Greece, the Trustees arrived in Thessaloniki for a full week of meetings and for the graduation ceremonies on May 17.

The busy and informative visit was shared by Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. McCabe and their children, Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Labouisse, Mr. and Mrs. Spyros Papalexious and Mr. John Moscahlaidis, all of New York. Coming the greatest distance for the meetings were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lowrey of San Francisco. In addition, the campus was graced with the following members of the Resident Trustee Committee in Greece: Mr. Paul Condellis, Mr. Constantine Capsaskis, Mr. George Lëgakis, Mr. Stavros Constantinides and Mr. Dimitri Zannas.

The Trustees stayed in the guest cottage, Cincinnati Hall, and were entertained by staff on campus and by Mr. and Mrs. Seferdji and Mr. and Mrs. Zannas in Thessaloniki. The

Trustees had a first-hand look at the educational and production aspects of the Farm School as well as participating fully in the graduation festivities.

## YASSOU, PAST GSers

GS '80 left on June 19 for their weeks of work and travel similar to what each of you experienced. Since its inception in 1969, GREEK SUMMER has provided a way for nearly 500 of you to share the beauty of Greece and to benefit from the challenges of the program.

Thanks to a generous gift by Honorary Trustee Denison B. Hull, who has a keen interest in the GREEK SUMMER program, each GS alum is eligible to receive a free copy of the book *Metamorphosis* that includes Bruce Lansdale's poetry and Robert McCabe's photography of Greece. Nearly half of you have already received the book by responding to Bruce's letter sent last fall. For those who somehow missed out then and would like a copy of *Metamorphosis* now, simply drop a line to the New York office.

Many of you have expressed an interest in participating in some form of GS alumni organization. We hope to give some shape to these ideas in the fall and we welcome additional ideas from you.



Vice Chairman of the Board Henry R. Labouisse joins students Hristodoulos Bles, Stelios Manikas and Salomi Athanasiadou for lunch in Princeton Hall.



## Rochester Hosts Farm School Taverna

*The following article was written for the **Sower** by members of the Rochester Committee for the American Farm School, chaired by James P. Atwater. Rochester is a leading example of those American communities which provide support for the work of the Farm School.*

In recognition of the School's official 75th year serving the youth of Greece, an Anniversary Party was held by the Rochester Committee on Sunday, November 4th, 1979 at The International Museum of Photography in Rochester, N.Y.

The purpose of this celebration was to express appreciation to those faithful friends whose continuing support has been so critical to the School's success. Following a business meeting held in the Dryden Theater, including a report by Bruce Lansdale, comments by Phil Geier of the Greek Summer Program and Tessa Martin upon her recent visit to the School, the 150 guests moved into the main ballroom of The George Eastman House where they were greeted by John Vangellos and Cally Chilas dressed in traditional costumes of Greece. The two hour party that followed was highlighted by a bountiful variety of Greek food and wine consumed to the strains of lively Greek music accompanying the terpsichorean grace of agile dancers clad in authentic native costumes. Four copies of Bruce Lansdale's and Bob McCabe's captivating work "Metamorphosis" were distributed as door prizes, while unique and original bottle openers acquired in Greece by Tessa Martin were available as favors.

This joyful occasion provided the opportunity for several of the 36 former Greek Summer students from the Rochester area to meet and renew old friendships. However, many older friends were present whose relationship pre-dates the Greek Summer Program which was 10 years old in 1979.



Among the guests at the Rochester taverna were (left to right): Marion Allyn, Trustee David Allyn, Harriet and J. Edward Gramlich, and Mrs. Carol Wolfe.

Eitsa Petsos and Tessa Martin arranged for the food and drink. A lavish table laden with Greek pastries, baklava, kourambides, homemade bread, Feta cheese and olives nicely complimented the piquant selection of beverages, Ret-sina, Ouzo, Mavrodaphne and other Greek White wines. These delicacies were prepared by Anna and Terry Terezi, Jan and Nick Nickson, Elaine Vangellos and Leona Pappas. Greek music was provided by Peter Anthony and Taso Karanikas while Katherine and George Gerakos demonstrated some unique Greek dancing steps and coaxed many of

the revellers to join in with the indefatigable Bruce Lansdale.

It was an altogether enchanting evening and perfect way to express our thanks to all of those friends who have and continue to take such a deep interest in the School and its mission.

### Georgiana F. Sibley 1887-1980

Mrs. Harper Sibley, member of the American Farm School's National Committee, died on June 10, 1980 at the age of 93. Mrs. Sibley was a generous and deeply religious woman who brought energy and dedication to the causes for which she worked.

A long time resident of Rochester, New York, Mrs. Sibley dedicated her life to improving social conditions throughout the world. She maintained a lively interest in world fellowship, religious cooperation, scientific farming and the status of women. She was the widow of Harper Sibley, a former president of the United States Chamber of Commerce and also a Trustee of the Farm School. Mr. and Mrs. Sibley first visited the Farm School in 1928.

The Trustees of the American Farm School express their appreciation to those who have contributed to the School in Mrs. Sibley's memory.



Shown on the balcony of the main ballroom of the George Eastman House in Rochester are Bruce Lansdale, a GREEK SUMMER '79 participant Tracy Hamlin, and John Vangellos dressed in a traditional Greek costume.



## CLASSIFIEDS

### ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT NEEDS

Athletic balls — especially soccer, volleyball and basket.

### WANTED FOR PHYSICS LAB

Wave motion apparatus, electricity kit, optics set and any basic books or pamphlets. Please call our N.Y. office at 212-490-8745.

### LODGING OFFERED

Travelling to Greece? Come see the Farm School and be our guest at Cincinnati Hall, the guest cottage with a view of Mount Olympus. Write for information.

### SUMMER WORK/TRAVEL

The popular GREEK SUMMER program for American high school students fills quickly. Any interested sophomores, juniors or seniors should write the Program Coordinator soon: Kathryn Stimson, American Farm School, 380 Madison Avenue, N.Y., N.Y. 10017.

### AUDIO-VISUAL INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT SOUGHT

35 MM Camera and film for field trips. Projectors; slide viewers; tripod; cassette recorders; wall screen; slide album pages and slide labels. Pocket calculators for better management skills and record-keeping training.

### TOOLS

Hand tools for carpentry, machine shop and automotive repair shop. Drop off or send to N.Y. office.

### MAGAZINES

Boys and girls at the Farm School learn from American magazines. Give a subscription or send old issues by inexpensive printed matter surface rate to American Farm School, P.O. Box 140, Thessaloniki, Greece. Particularly sought are: National Geographics and magazines on athletics, popular music, news, popular mechanics, photography, motorcycling and, of course, agriculture. Even old comic books.

## A Message from Bruce Lansdale

Dear Friends:

During the past year and thanks to the Rockefeller Foundation, the Cabot Trust and the Trustees of the Farm School, Tad and I took a three month sabbatical visiting and studying a wide range of agricultural centers which have given us new insights into the important role of the farmer in tomorrow's world. We travelled about 20,000 miles and visited 46 agricultural schools and research centers in 8 countries. We

can report that the Farm School measures up well to what is being done elsewhere.

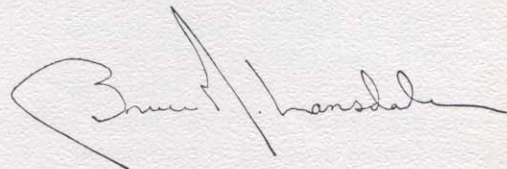
In Ireland they define management for the Farm Family as doing "what you want with what you have." They speak of improved management not only in terms of their standard of living, but their quality of living as well.

Today the Farm School is dedicated to integrating quality as well as higher standards among the new young leaders just as it was John

Henry House's dream to tie in the spiritual with the practical 76 years ago.

We do thank you for helping us to make it all possible.

Sincerely,



# SOWER

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