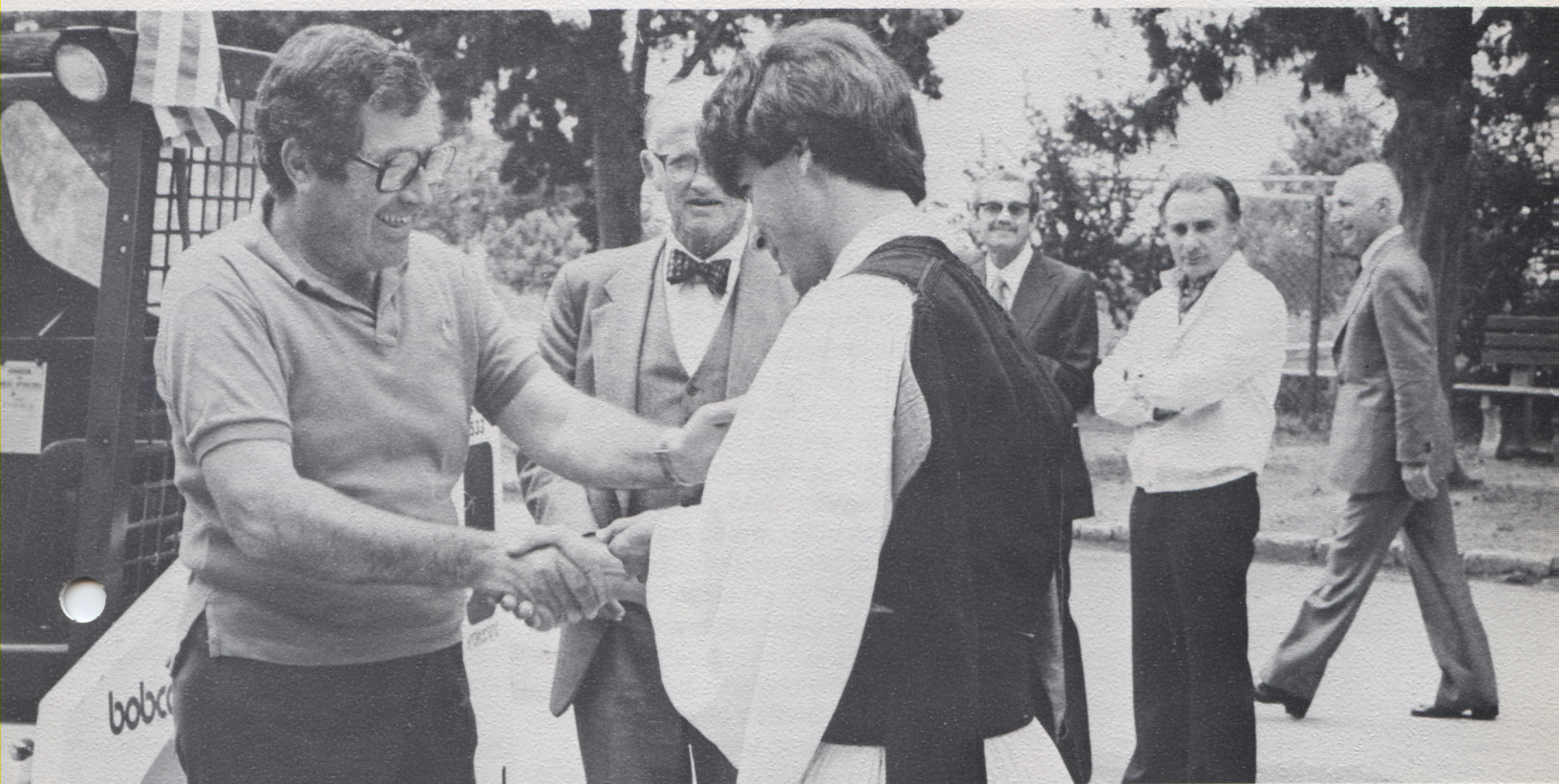


# SOWER



American  
Farm School  
Thessaloniki  
Greece  
Summer 1981  
Number 104





# GRADUATION 1981



**Mr. Henry R. Labouisse, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, awards a graduation pin to senior Nicos Coronas. Nicos' father is a Farm School graduate as well.**

*The Farm School's Graduation Exercises were held on the campus on May 22 and our students put on a pageant in eight scenes, each one reflecting one aspect of their life and training — a gigantic parade of all our farm machinery and livestock; a variety of forms of gymnastics and athletics; recreation, arts and crafts; the rural woman in the year 2001; the technical training of boys and girls in welding, plumbing, machine-shop work and electricity; the importance of Greek Orthodoxy as a foundation in their lives; a rural wedding indicative of the importance of rural traditions; and a finale with the students holding flags from all nations.*

*The commencement address which follows was given in English by graduating student Sophia Bogthani.*

"We came to this School, some of us two years ago and others three years ago, each of us because of different reasons. All of us came with the desire and the hope that we would gain the necessary knowledge and skills for our future life. And we weren't disappointed.

During these years, we have been taught theoretically but we also learned through practical training all we need to establish ourselves professionally. Thus, today, we are ready, some of us to go on to higher studies and some others to begin a successful career.

However, we haven't learned only these things. We have also learned how to live together, that is, how to help each other to deal with our problems together and to solve our problems together and to solve our problems for the good of everyone. These are lessons which will certainly help us to live as responsible citizens.

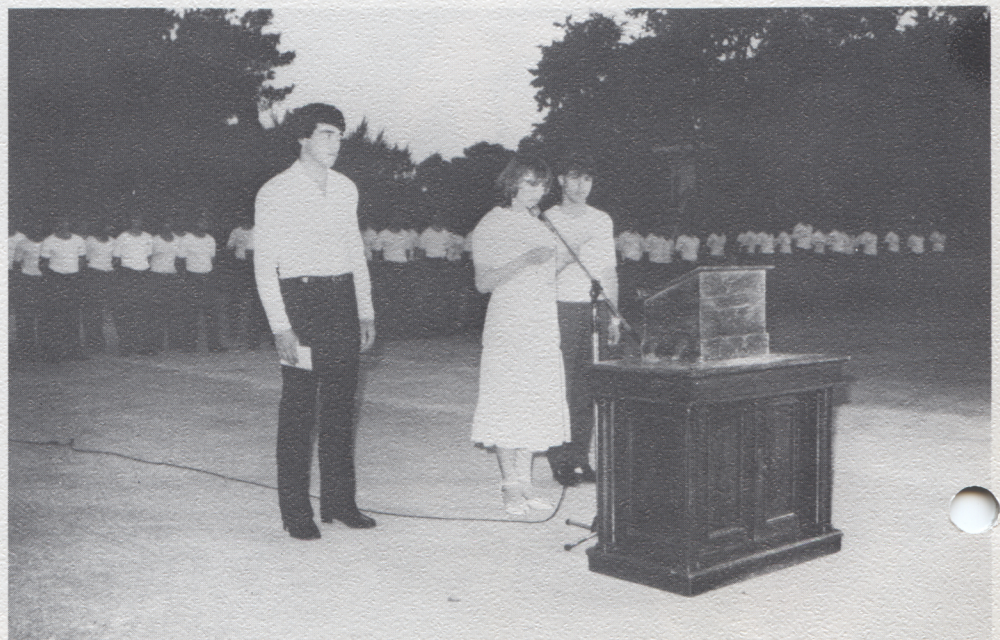
But the years have passed. This is certainly an important day in our lives. Because from tomorrow each of us won't be simply a member of a school class, where the responsibili-

ties are very few. Instead, we will be a single individual in the larger society, to which we will have many obligations and duties. We must fulfill these in the correct way in order to make a positive contribution to society's improvement.

At this special moment, I would like to thank on behalf of all my fellow students all of those who have contributed to a more correct and complete education; that is, our respected directors, our teachers and all of the School's staff. We also thank the Ministries of Education and Agriculture, as well as all the other public agencies and organizations for the help they have given to complete our education.

Finally we thank, from the bottom of our hearts, the donors and friends of the School, in Greece as well as in America, and especially our beloved parents who with so many sacrifices have sent us here to prepare ourselves to deal with the difficulties of life.

To all of you who have been our guides and helpers during the years of our stay at the School, we promise to fulfill your expectations of us."



**COVER Top: Vice Chairman Paul Condellis presenting the keys to the new Bobcat to Farm School student Yiannis Bantis. Bottom: Students Vaya Mitraka and Yiannis Hiannousis atop Farm School equipment as part of graduation parade.**



# Lansdale Lauds Zannas Family at Dedication

On May 21, 1981, the American Farm School dedicated a 50 student dormitory wing in memory of Costa Zannas, long time friend of the School and the first Greek to serve on the Board of Trustees. Director Bruce M. Lansdale described Costa Zannas as a "humanist," as a man "always dedicated to his fellow man, always in service of mankind. He was always filled with faith, and hope, and love."

The dormitory wing was added to the southern tip of the Charles and Ann House dormitory. The wing was financed by a grant from the Agency for International Development (AID). It will provide rooms for 50 additional students, allowing the School to increase enrollment to 250 students by the fall of 1984. The rooms are equipped with fan coil heating units which, in cooperation with BP Hellas, will allow the AFS to experiment with solar heating. In addition, plans call for solar hot water collectors to be installed on the backside of the building, units which will provide the hot water needs for the wing.

Costa Zannas's son, Dimitri, a long standing member of the AFS Board of Trustees, was joined by his wife, Rhea, an active member of the Group for Student Services, at the dedication ceremony. Following Mr. Lansdale's speech, Rhea Zannas cut the ribbon to the front door of the new wing before she and her husband led the student body and assembled guests on a tour of the interior.

The dormitory wing also houses the new 3,000 volume AFS library in its basement.

In addition, the Zannas family has given the AFS a 200 acre farm, which the school plans to develop as a training center. The land is on the south side of Thessaloniki, on the Axios River.

Bruce Lansdale's dedication address follows:

"Sixty-five years ago Charles Lucias House arrived at the American Farm School. The first thing he needed to do was find an advisor: someone who was Greek someone who loved his fellow man someone who understood the peasants someone who understood education.

He found all of these in one person who became his best friend, his advisor, and the first Greek Trustee of the American Farm School.

Thirty years later, when I arrived, Mr. House took me the first day to call on two people — the first was the Bishop of Thessaloniki, the second was Costa Zannas.

Who was this man? What made him so special? Why do we honor him today?

First, he was *always* at the side of Charles House. And today we join these two families, naming this building next to the Charles and Ann House dormitory in memory of Costa Zannas. There is no greater joy than this for Ann House — there were tears in her eyes when she heard these buildings would be joined.

Second, just as this building will embrace young people from all over Greece, so Costa Zannas embraced young people: Young people of all ages, of all backgrounds, of all nationalities. Costa Zannas loved his fellow man not because of the man's family, not because of the man's wealth, not because of where the man came from, but because he was a man. For Costa that was enough.

As this building is light and airy, so Costa Zannas enjoyed life and enjoyed people, from his close friend Elefthenos Venizelos (one of Greece's greatest statesmen) to the villager from Olympos, Livadi. Costa was happiest when others enjoyed themselves. And he had sound foundations (like the foundations of

this building): he was a person on whom you could count for support.

Finally, like the library in this building, he was a man who sought varied knowledge. He was always interested in learning, and he wanted others to learn as well.

But most of all, Costa Zannas was a humanist. He was always dedicated to his fellow man, always in the service of mankind. He was always filled with faith, and hope, and love. And just as St. Paul believed, so Costa Zannas believed, that the greatest of these is love."



Mr. and Mrs. Dimitri Zannas cut the ribbon at the dedication of the Costas Zannas dormitory wing.



# FARM NOTES



## APPLICANTS DOUBLE

This spring and summer the Farm School received twice as many applications as there were places in the incoming Lyceum and Scholi classes. Associate Director Antonios Stambolides attributes this increased interest in the School to the curriculum, its accreditation, and the extensive extracurricular boarding program.

In reviewing the Farm School's admissions policy, Mr. Stambolides emphasizes the basic requirements that AFS students should come from villages and have farm land to return to upon graduation and must demonstrate an interest in the School through a strong interview and come highly recommended.



## FARM SCHOOL STUDENTS SHARE THEIR BLESSINGS

This past May, the Farm School hosted a group of handicapped children from Thessaloniki. It was a chance for our students, themselves the recipients of so much goodwill, to help others, and they responded warmly by escorting the disabled children around the Farm grounds. After lunch together, the students then entertained their guests by performing village dances and folk songs.



## A BUCK FOR A BOBCAT

Who would want to rent a Bobcat for \$1.00 a year? The Farm School, of course. The School jumped at the chance when the Clark Equipment Company offered a Clark "Bobcat" at the gift rate of \$1.00 per year. The machine, a small tractor with a scoop shovel, is usually used by companies in Greece in warehouses to load and carry large crates or boxes. The Farm School has created a new use for the Bobcat: it can shovel manure in the cow barns, a job that has been done with shovel and hose until now. The Bobcat does the job quickly, with less mess, and the manure stays concentrated because little water is used to dilute it.



## LAMB ON A SPIT FOR AHEPA

Supreme President of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), Nick Smyrnis, and some other AHEPA officials and their wives joined the Farm School staff and friends for a May-Day celebration at the home of Associate Director for Education Antonios Stambolides. Following a roast lamb dinner and traditional Greek folk dancing, Mr. Smyrnis presented Director Bruce Lansdale with a check on behalf of the AHEPAs and expressed his admiration for and support of the Farm School's mission. Mr. Smyrnis and company received a full tour of the campus and farm before departing to visit one of many AHEPA hospitals in Greece.



# Paul Condellis: A Trustee's Story

Mr. Paul J. Condellis, General Manager of P.J. Condellis S.A. and Trustee of the Farm School tells of his first contacts with the Farm School:

"A lot of people get involved with the AFS either because they visited the School and were impressed by what they saw or because a friend talked to them about this unique institution and they felt it was worthwhile to be involved and help.

My personal involvement was somehow different since my first contact with the School was from the other end, the final product, the graduates. My business is agricultural machinery, and during the fifties and early sixties I was traveling very extensively around Greece to sell tractors, appoint dealers and promote farm mechanization.

During my travels I soon found out that in many villages there were one or two farmers who were different than the rest of the farmers. They could talk and understand machinery much better, they knew their crops and machinery needs and they were not just buying an expensive tractor to "keep up with

the Jones'." If they owned a tractor it was the best maintained tractor in the village. They were "homesteaders" and they were using their heads.

Well, all of these "special" farmers had one thing in common. They were graduates of the American Farm School.

One day, I think it was 1962, our dealer in Katerini asked me if he could sell a tractor to a farmer who did not have the down payment which we were requiring. I refused the sale, even when he told me that the farmer was a poor, but very honest and progressive man. But when he told me he was a graduate of the AFS, I let him sell the tractor.

After that incident I decided to visit the School to find out what it was that makes the people who go there so different and so special. It did not take me long to realize that it was the special people who were running the School who were able to produce such wonderful results: the Graduates.

Ever since then, I have been involved with the School and I am happy and proud of this privilege."



Paul Condellis with graduating Lyceum student, Stephanos Stamatopoulos.



*Dear Friends of the Trimis family:*

*If ever there was a young girl who celebrated in her life a whole generation of creative Greek children it was Marina Trimis. Tall and beautiful, with a radiant smile, she made everyone she met, young and old, feel better about being alive. On July 1st, while driving with her mother, Eli, and sister, Antigone, to their seaside home at Ouranopolis, Marina died in a tragic accident when the car skidded and went over a 50-foot bank.*

*Marina, who was a few days short of being twelve, spent most of her life at the Farm School where her father, Tony, worked for nineteen years rising to be Associate Director and Director. She loved nature and turned that love into poems, paintings, and improvised music. She was due to enter Anatolia College in September. We grieve with her family over the loss of such a bright and promising child, but rejoice that Antigone, who underwent surgery in New York following the accident, is making a complete recovery.*

*George Post, former Chairman*



## CLASSIFIEDS

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### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

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The English Department would be happy to receive grammar books and simplified readers; "how-to" and general encyclopedias; cassettes and records of songs based on building English grammar; cassette recorder/players; printed lyrics of current popular songs.

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### MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Boys and girls at the Farm School learn from American and Greek magazines. Give a subscription or send old issues from the U.S.A. by inexpensive printed-matter surface rate to: American Farm School, P.O. Box 140, Thessaloniki, Greece. Particularly sought are *National Geographic*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, and various women's and travel magazines.

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### GUEST COTTAGE

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The Farm School welcomes you to Cincinnati Hall, which has guest rooms and a view of Mount Olympus over the Bay of Thessaloniki. To make it a better place, we need 20 standard pillow cases and wash cloths.

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### SPORTS AND RECREATION

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Nets for volleyball, basketball and soccer. Javelins, shot-puts, discuses. Soccer balls, basketballs and volleyballs. Duffle bags. Gym mats. Weights. Stereo set. Reel-to-reel tape recorder for traditional dance group.

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### SUMMER WORK/TRAVEL

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GREEK SUMMER, a program for American high school students, and the Summer Work Activities Program (SWAP) for American college students, both accept limited numbers of participants. Anyone interested should write to American Farm School, 380 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10017, as soon as possible.

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### PHOTO AND INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT

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35mm camera and lenses. Public address system. Portable video recorder, VHS type, plus blank T-120 video tapes. Carousel-type slide projector. Pocket calculators.



**COMMUNITY COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT THE USA ASSIST THE FARM SCHOOL:** Pictured at an organizational dinner are Farm School supporters from Richmond, Virginia. L to R: Mrs. Stuart Sanders II, Mr. Perkins Wilson, Mrs. Clay Wheless, Director Bruce Lansdale, and Mr. Charles Zeanah.

# SOVER

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