

SOWER



American
Farm School

Thessaloniki
Greece

Summer 1979

Number 96



Eleni Pavlou acquires new
skills at AFS/ page 3

75th Anniversary Felicitations

During this 75th anniversary year, the American Farm School received many congratulatory messages from friends and associates throughout Greece and around the world. One of many compliments came from Mr. Robert S. McNamara, President of the World Bank:

THE WORLD BANK
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

Office of the President

March 14, 1979

Dear Mr. Lansdale:

Please accept my warm congratulations on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Thessalonica Agricultural and Industrial Institute.

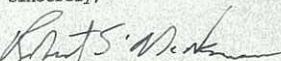
The World Bank is pleased to be associated with the work of the school through our lending for agricultural education in Greece.

Rural development is a key issue throughout the developing world, and the need for practical vocational training and effective agricultural extension that can, at low cost and with assured results, assist the small farmer and his family to become more productive is of immense importance.

The school's contribution in this field can serve as a model not only throughout Greece itself but in many other countries that are dealing with these same critical tasks.

Please convey to your Board of Trustees, to the faculty, and to the students themselves my very best wishes for the school's continued success in the future.

Sincerely,


Robert S. McNamara

Mr. Bruce M. Lansdale
Director
Thessalonica Agricultural and Industrial Institute
Post Office Box 140
Thessaloniki, Greece

Raptelis Endowed Scholarship Helps People of Lesbos

Each year, thanks to a very generous endowed gift from a gentleman named Demosthenes Raptelis, the American Farm School is able to offer full scholarship support to a couple of deserving students from the island of Lesbos.

Apostoles Bondakes and Taxiarchoula Sakke were the lucky Raptelis Scholarship recipients this year.

The Demosthenes Raptelis Scholarship is only one of a number of endowed scholarships provided by good friends of the School over the years. These scholarships help deserving students acquire the skills and knowledge needed to serve an ever-changing Greece.

The late Mr. Raptelis emigrated to the United States in the early 1900's, but Greece remained close to his heart. He was a modest man from the island of Lesbos who worked hard, and when the Lord blessed his efforts he worked much harder to find the best way to give his property away so that it would bring the maximum possible good to the place where he was born.

He believed that as Greece made heroic efforts toward modernization what was needed most was the development of her most valuable physical resource, her people. Moreover, he felt that it was important to maintain a sense of continuity as modernization occurred. Thus he bequeathed 15% of the income from the Demosthenes Raptelis Foundation to provide select boys and girls from Lesbos with the opportunity to study at the American Farm School, where exposure to the contemporary world and the progressive spirit from America would strengthen their own resources.

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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.

Students Assess Coeducation Benefits

"We're like brothers and sisters in a big family," says Eleni Pavlou, second year lyceum student from Drama, of her life at the American Farm School.

She enjoys living away from home, but is fortunate in that one of her roommates is a girl from the same village. She finds that she generally keeps company with other girls because the student monitors frown on too much association with the boys outside regular supervised activities.

Eleni came to the Farm School because she is able to receive practical training in addition to the academic lessons offered in other schools. She has really enjoyed her project garden work and learning practical skills such as welding, tractor driving and milking.

Upon graduation Eleni plans to continue her education at the KATE technical junior college, and she eventually wants to work with small children.

Thomas Papadopoulos explains, "As I'm in the technical 'scholi,' I don't have girls in my lessons, but I enjoy having them living on campus. It gives me someone to talk to and pass the time with. We only have permission to leave campus on Thursday afternoons and occasionally on Saturdays and Sundays so most of our recreation programs take place on campus. It's nice to have some girls here at School for company now and again."

Thomas says he would like his twin sister to come to the School also. She's presently following the lyceum program in their village Giannitsa and may come as a transfer student next year.

His mother was especially interested in his enrolling at the School as he would be supervised more closely and would be able to spend more of his actual day studying.

Thomas is sold on the School. He sees his lessons as being very in-



Thomas Papadopoulos and Eleni Pavlou enjoying lunch in the cafeteria.

teresting, especially the work projects. He's learning a lot about farm machinery and about farming in general. After he graduates he

would like to get a franchise for a farm machinery company or open a farm machinery store in his village.



Early planning breeds success say the organizers of a Farm School celebration in Washington, D.C. scheduled for next October. Highlights of the affair will include a reception at the Greek Embassy with two round trip airplane tickets to Greece as the door prize. Two more round trip tickets to Greece will be given away through a national lottery that will begin this summer. The Washington Committee pictured above include: (front row left to right) Louise McCoy, Ruth Resnick, Anna Lea, Nicole Alexandrakis, Louise Keeley, Trudy Davis and (back row left to right) Dania Brewster, Jane Coony, Marie Gaarder, Barbara Westebbee, Louise Wheeler, Andrea Ross. They invite your participation in Washington on October 19th. For further details, contact the Farm School's Office of the Trustees in New York. Committee members not shown: Nina Hall, Carol Zachary, Susie Tanguy.



Farm Machinery classes are taught by Farm School graduate, Kyriakos Tzivanopoulos (right)

In 1960 the Farm School hired two of its graduates, Kyriakos Tzivanopoulos and Costas Evangelou, who have become two of its most valuable pillars eighteen years later.

Kyriakos graduated from the Farm School in 1956 but he didn't leave the campus even then. Immediately after graduation he began working in the maintenance division until it was time for his military service. He returned in 1960 to accept full time employment and he is now responsible for all Farm Machinery classes at the School.

Kyriakos' wife, Evlalis, is also a Farm School graduate from the girls division. They were married in 1960 with Dimitri Pantazis, yet another grad and Farm School employee, as their best man.

Through a grant from AID, Kyriakos attended California

Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo from 1965-1970 where he received a Bachelors of Science degree in agricultural engineering. Subsequently he has completed work for his Master's degree at the University of Thessaloniki.

The biggest advantage he sees with the new vocational lyceum program at the School is that graduates now have full government recognition and will receive equal treatment with graduates from other schools throughout Greece.

A 1952 graduate, Costas Evangelou rejoined the School after working for an agricultural cooperative and the Ministry of Agriculture and after completing his army service. He is now in charge

School Graduates Become Exemplary Teachers



Costas Evangelou (right) instructs student in field crops management.

of the Field Crops division and is responsible, among other things, for the big stately corn fields each summer.

Costas also attended Cal Poly with help from an AID grant from 1962-65 and again from 1969-72, where he completed his B.S. degree in Field Crops Production.

Costas, his wife Aleca, and their two sons live on campus and feel that life at the School is totally different from that found anywhere else. They wouldn't change it for anything.

As graduates of the School and now employees for nearly 20 years, Costas and Kyriakos feel deeply that the Farm School is a very special and precious place in Greece.

Profitable Projects Provide Practice

Student projects continue to be one of the most effective methods of practical training. Based on 4-H techniques, the student projects put emphasis on enterprise planning, record-keeping, and evaluation.

All students this year were involved in gardening projects. In addition, 8 lyceum students raised 1500 broilers, 12 lyceum students raised 4 sows (2 with litters) and 3

SEGE boys raised 10 feeder pigs. Financial summaries and a detailed report for each project including purpose, skills developed, names of students and hours worked were prepared and are a matter of record.

"Learn by doing," a motto which has characterized the School since its founding, continues to be its creed today.



Maria Koloni and Mary Garoufalidou water their project gardens.



Lyceum students, Vangelis Bloukos and Voula Kilimtsidou pack their class project chickens for market.



Mary Garoufalidou, Panos Misirlis and Maria Pisticoudi admire one of the 24 pigs that were recent births in their lyceum class project.

SEGE Boys Graduate

On Saturday, May 19th, 40 boys from the middle-level technical program (SEGE) graduated from the American Farm School signaling the end of this program at the School. The SEGE program has been replaced by the new "lyceum" and "scholi" courses which began last fall.

The President of the student body, Apostoles Bondakis from

Lesbos, welcomed the guests. Student commencement speakers then described in English and in Greek their three years of school life.

Mr. Tsakonas, the Nomarch of Thessaloniki, was the keynote speaker. He said that he had heard for many years about the outstanding work of the American Farm School. But no matter how much he had heard, it just did not, in any way, compare with what he had seen himself. He spoke of the prac-

tical training, the theoretical background and the spirit of the School which he had sensed so deeply among both the staff and the students.

In closing his address to the graduates, he spoke of the love which had inspired the founding of the School and was so clearly a part of the institution today. "Carry this love where you go," he said, "for it will be the best guide throughout your lives."

American Friends Honor The School's 75th Anniversary

Most people think of the Farm School as being in Thessaloniki, Greece, but a significant part of its effectiveness lies in the involvement and concern of friends throughout the United States. As well as donating time and love for the School, these friends also contribute over \$350,000 yearly to support the School's operations.

Visiting with these friends was the high point of a March tour made by the School's Director, Bruce Lansdale, and his wife Tad as a part of the School's 75th anniversary celebration. They crisscrossed the country from Boston to Monterey and were welcomed by friends who sponsored a variety of lunches, dinners and receptions.

The people who attended were as diverse as the variety of gatherings. Some were Greek Summer alumni and their parents, others were prospective campers. Many were former visitors to the School while others were planning a future trip. There were old friends, new friends, and trustees as well as former staff and students and even a family of Thessaloniki residents.

An evening in Cincinnati was a memorial to three special Farm School friends: Aletheia Pattison, who first came to the School in 1923; Iphigene Bettman, former Trustee; and Craig Duff, a pioneer member of the Greek Summer program. In New York, a reception given by Mr. and Mrs. John Moscahlaidis was highlighted by the presence of Archbishop Iakovos and Ambassador and Mrs. Menelas Alexandrakis. Ambassador Alexandrakis joined the Farm School entourage again two nights later by warmly introducing Bruce at the home of Trustee Sperry and Anna Lea in Washington, D.C.

The Worcester lunch was a reminder of the strong support of the Morgan family and the Alden Trust which gave the first combine to the School in 1937. Princeton was an

opportunity for a reunion with Ann House. Chicago brought together "old Greek hands" including National Committee member William Hardy McNeill whose latest book, *The Metamorphosis of Greece Since World War II* was recently published.

At the home of the Hubert Howsons in Hartford, the Jim Hardys in Louisville and Frank Strassburger in Cambridge interest centered on Greek Summer. The party in San Francisco hosted by Trustee Betty Hume included four Trustees, a variety of Greek Summer parents going back over 7 years, and David Acker, a former Farm School staff member who is continuing his studies at UC Davis.

Monterey-Carmel friends gathered as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kakis and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stanton. They stretched as far back

as 1952 in the person of Mrs. Arthur Stewart, widow of former Ambassador John Peurifoy, a Farm School enthusiast. The Scangas family in Boston provided insights into dairy management.

Ithaca included meetings with faculty and students at Cornell, while a dinner in Montclair, N.J. at the William Larsons brought together members of the Princeton Class of '39 who are visiting the School this summer. Dinner at Dippy Bartow's in Tuxedo Park, N.Y. was a reunion of old friends and sponsors who have been providing scholarships for 25 years.

Everyone seemed to have one thing in common — a sense of satisfaction from knowing that their American support is not only appreciated by the Greek people but is also being paralleled by Greek contributions of time and money.



Pictured at a 75th anniversary reception for the School hosted by Mr. & Mrs. John Moscahlaidis are from left to right: Ambassador and Mrs. Menelas Alexandrakis, Irene Moscahlaidis, Dina McCabe, Chairman of the Board, and John Moscahlaidis, Trustee.

Phil Geier Joins Staff



The Trustees of the Farm School are pleased to announce the appointment of Philip O. Geier to the position of Associate Director for Trustees Affairs, based in New York City.

Phil comes to the School from Syracuse University where he was an instructor of History. Prior to that he taught at Dickinson College and was a Fulbright Junior Lecturer at the University of Paris.

His enthusiastic and energetic presence fit right in with the Farm School spirit. As we say in Greek, "se kalosorezoume" (we welcome you!)

Raptelis Scholarships

(continued from page 2)

Apostoles Bondakis graduated this year from the SEGE program. He has been an excellent student as well as president of the student body.

Taxiarhoula Sakke is one of the first girls to be admitted to the vocational lyceum program. Her father is a Farm School graduate and encouraged her to come. In Lesbos she never had time to learn to drive a tractor or plant a garden, which are just a few of the skills she has learned at the School this year.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Two Interns: 1 male, 1 female with 4-H background/experience to spend 16 mos. at FS working with students & projects. Interested parties contact Mel Thompson, National 4-H Council, 7100 Conn. Ave., Wash. DC 20015

SCHOOL NEEDS

Hand tools for carpentry, machine shop, automotive repair shop. Tired of tools in your shop? Send them to us.

35mm camera for use in academic department. Keep us in the picture.

35mm film to go with the camera. Click. Click.

Magazine subscriptions for the library. Send directly to Greece. *Popular Mechanics*, etc.

Athletic balls — volley, soccer, basket. We keep bouncing along.

Pocket Calculators for department heads. Farm School = Success.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Only 30 places left for GREEK SUMMER 1980; program for high school sophomores, juniors & seniors. Details available through Office of the Trustees (212/490-8745). Don't wait or you'll be sorry.

FREE

Overnight lodging in FS guest house and a tour of the American Farm School. Visitors welcome. Y'all come.



Mr. Nicos Adamides, shop instructor, demonstrates a welding technique to Taxoula Sakke from Lesbos.

MERCHANDISE SOUGHT

30 standard-sized white pillow covers. Good quality. For Cincinnati Hall guest house. Come sleep on 'em.

18 white terry cloth wash cloths. Come use these too.

Garden seeds. All varieties. Help students help themselves.

Used or new tennis rackets. Keep the summer program swinging.

METAMORPHOSIS, or, Why I Love Greece, Bruce Lansdale's lovely and inspiring poem about his relationship with Greece and the Greek people, and Robert McCabe's beautiful and stirring photographs have recently been published.

Bruce, who grew up in Thessaloniki, has been the Director of the American Farm School for the past 24 years. Bob, husband of Farm School Chairman, Dina McCabe, has been a regular friend and visitor to Greece since 1954.

The book represents not only a beautiful record of the country both Bruce and Bob have adopted, but also her people and the change they have undergone from the destruction of WW II to the prosperity of our times.

Printing of the book was made possible largely through a gift from the Helena Rubinstein Foundation. The authors have donated the proceeds and royalties from the sale of the book to the Scholarship Fund of the American Farm School. Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of *METAMORPHOSIS, or Why I Love Greece* may write the AFS Office of the Trustees, 380 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10017.



The Dutch Connection

Panos Misirlis, a 2nd year lyceum student had a pleasant surprise during Easter vacation when two Dutch girls came to his home to visit him. Karine and Marianne Smeets called on Panos because they had just learned that he would be spending the summer of 1979 as a member of their family in Holland.

As a part of their Farm School training, students of the lyceum program take part each summer in practical work experiences. For the past few years a select group of outstanding students have traveled to England or Holland as part of an exchange program to live and work with English and Dutch farm families. For the past four summers the Smeets have hosted Farm School students and this summer Panos will be their Greek "son."

The Smeets' attachment to the Farm School has been strong despite their distance from Greece. In 1978 Karine Smeets, one of seven children, came to the Farm School to participate in the Agricultural Development Center program. For Easter vacation this year she and her sister Marianne returned to visit their Greek friends.

The Smeets have a herd of 75 dairy cattle and about 30 acres of land which they use to grow corn and for grazing. As part of his practical training, Panos will start every day with a 6:30 a.m. milking and stop for breakfast when the milking is over at about 9:00 a.m. After breakfast the typical farm chores associated with 75 cows and 30 acres begin: fertilizing the fields, cutting the grass, building hay silos, servicing farm equipment, etc. with time out for lunch and dinner. Then comes evening milking until about 9:00 p.m. The night hours bring time for music and discussion or a trip to the village.

The things that makes practical training with the Smeets different from practical training with some of the other families is the Smeets' love for Greece, Greek food, Greek folk dances, and Greek music.

In order to give the Greek students as good an introduction to Holland as possible, the Smeets children help arrange excursions to local places of interest, trips to nearby cities, and a boat trip on the inland sea during the students' free days.

And Mrs. Smeets becomes the boys' mother for their summer away from home. The universal description of her and of her large loving family is "They are always smiling — always happy."

This is exactly the environment in which our boys flourish best, and the American Farm School says THANK YOU, FAMILY SMEETS, and best wishes for the summer of 1979, Panos.



Karine and Marianne Smeets

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