

## news

Vol. XVII, No. 1 - Spring 2009

#### THE HELLENIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY of Northeastern Ohio

### HPS Launches its Web Site: www.hpsneo.org

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that its new web site is now available for viewing <a href="https://www.hpsneo.org">www.hpsneo.org</a> (The HPS web site home page is displayed)

Our special thanks to John Paul Boukis for his work on the design and final implementation of the site. Board member Peter Boukis led this effort and worked closely with John Paul on the content. All of the HPS Committee Chairpersons are to be acknowledged for their support.

Upon visiting the site you will see the upcoming HPS sponsored events, some items from our Collection, information on becoming a member of HPS and other activities we continue to support as well as links to the four greater Cleveland Greek Orthodox Churches.



#### HOME MEMBERSHIP EVENTS PROGRAMS

The site is new and still growing. Our plans are to continue to add to and update the site. Let us know what you think, not only of the content but also suggestions of other information you would like to see included. Simply contact Pete Boukis via e-mail at <a href="mailto:pete120@aol.com">pete120@aol.com</a>, your suggestions are welcomed.

Be certain to share our new site address <u>www.hpsneo.org</u>, with your family and friends.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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#### e-mail HPS YOUR e-mail ADDRESS

To assist HPS with more timely communications, we are positioning ourselves to start using e-mail. It is even now more relevant with the introduction of the HPS web site. This will not eliminate our Newsletter, flyers or invitations to events, but will become one more communication tool that can be used to keep you informed of our current events. So please, e-mail us your e-mail address using: atc101@roadrunner.com

Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Churc

St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

#### Welcome New HPS Members

The Board of HPS welcomes the following new members:

Michael and Mala Augoustidis

#### Join us on May 2, for the HPS Distinguished Speaker Lecture Featuring Dr. Nicholas Kokonis

The Hellenic Preservation Society Distinguished Speakers Lecture Series will present Nicholas D. Kokonis, Ph.D, author of "Arcadia, My Arcadia", on Saturday May 2, 2009 at 2:00 pm at Sts. Constantine and Helen Geek Orthodox Cathedral.

Dr. Kokonis' topic is "Arcadia, My Arcadia: The Book, Its Values and the Immigrant Marvel". He will also share with us his insight on the 2007 fires in Greece.

The lecture is free and will be followed by a book signing. Refreshments will be provided.

#### The Sixth AnnualCollis Lecture Is Scheduled Save the Date

#### Save the Date Sunday September 27, 2009

The Sixth Annual Collis Lecture will be held at the Cleveland Museum of Art on Sunday, September 27, 2009 at 2:00 pm. The Guest speaker ,Professor Robin Cormack, Professor Emeritus in the History of Art, University of London; Fellow and Research Associate, Courtauld Institute of Art, will present: "Visions of Byzantium: Looking at Royal Academy Exhibition Byzantium 330-1453."

Detailed information on the event will be mailed in advance of the September 27 date. Mark your calendar now in order to take advantage of this educational program.

# The Technology of Greek Bronze Statuary was Presented at the Fifth Annual Collis Lecture

By Eleni Papouras-Jenks

On October 5, a wonderful Cleveland tradition, the John and Helen Collis Lecture, celebrated its fifth year. The annual lecture is devoted to (and alternates between) Ancient Greek and Byzantine Art and is hosted by the Cleveland Museum of Art. This year's topic, "Greek Bronze Statuary: The Birth of the Classical Style," was presented in an engaging talk and slide show by Carol C. Mattusch, Mathy Professor of Art History at George Mason University of Fairfax, Virginia. HPS (The Hellenic Preservation Society) hosted a lovely reception after the lecture.

Ms. Mattusch first presented the history of sculpture, which goes back to the 10<sup>th</sup> century BC with very primitive stick figures. In the 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries BC, statues were mostly marble. But from the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC on, bronze became the most popular medium. By the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC innovation was making statues for private owners.

The main reason for this was the benefits of bronze. It is flexible and light-weight, and artists could fix any pose) although initially they were still lim-



Professor Carol Mattusch

ited by stone models.) The stimulus for needing flexibility was the popular use of athletic statues at Olympiads, resulting in a need for more "mobile" statues. Bronze was seen as "enlarging reality' as most public statues were larger than life-size.

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Dr. John Collis, Professor Carol Mattusch, Helen Collis, and Michael Bennett, curator of Ancient Art, CMA

#### Ready all...ROW!

We are currently organizing an adult (21 and over) Greek rowing team right here in Cleveland on the Cuyahoga River. This program is through the Cleveland Rowing Foundation and is a one day a week commitment over the summer months (May-Aug). We are seeking 12-14 ambitious people to join our inaugural Greek rowing team.

In ancient times, Greeks often rowed across the Mediterranean. Galleys had advantages over sailing ships because they were easier to maneuver, quicker in sprints, and able to move independent of the wind. Galleys continued in use in the Mediterranean until the advent of steam engine.

The summer rowing program consists of weekly practice throughout the summer. It's fine if you can't make it every week as teams are designed with summer vacations in mind. In



addition to weekly practices, 3 race days, an end of the season party and racing t-shirts will be provided.

If you enjoy the outdoors, a good cardio workout, working together as part of a team, participating in friendly races and meeting new people you are likely to enjoy rowing in Cleveland. Space is very limit, so please reply

promptly if interested. The team will be mixed with half men and women. Some costs are involved.

Contact Pete Boukis (216) 382-0992 or <u>pete120@aol.com</u> if interested. Signup deadline April 10<sup>th</sup> 2009. You can find additional rowing information at: <u>www.wrra.cc</u> or <u>www.clevelandrows.org</u>

#### 2009 Annual Membership Drive

The 2009 HPS Annual membership drive is underway. Through the generous support of its members, HPS can continue with many of its projects; providing guest speakers presenting topics of interest to the Hellenic Community and support for the Collis Lecture held annually at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Your support provides the funds necessary to continue to document and preserve the 300 objects in our collection and HPS will be able to continue to sponsor the Hellenic Stars soccer team, continue with the maintenance of the Greek Cultural Garden, and maintain publication of The HPS News, newsletter.

Existing members will be receiving their renewal notification in the mail. If you are not currently a member, please use the enclosed membership envelope to become a member.

I hope that we can count on you to support HPS.

#### Collis Lecture continued

The original bronze statues, furthermore, also had a natural, supple look, like real people. Their gleaming surfaces appeared like an intense suntan, and other materials were used to complete the effect: copper for lips and nipples, bone for eyes and teeth, and silver for fingernails.

She then touched on different technological methods of bronze statue making. Larger, older bronze works employed by an Egyptian technique, which had a specific formula for human forms, by hammering sheet metal into simplistic, rounded forms, of which there were only a few left. The Greeks translated this formula into the rigidly standing kouros. But by the 6<sup>th</sup> century, the old technique was replaced by the so-called Lost Wax method.

First a model was made in clay. If it was to be a large statue, several pieces would be cast. The pieces were hollow and about ¼ inch thick, except

for pieces with details, like hair, that needed to be thicker. The clay molds were lined with wax and then the wax was made into models. The melted bronze was poured into the molds, melting the wax. Pieces were then assembled either by jointing, welding, or soldering with a bronze alloy.

The historian Pliny describes many artworks and artists. We hear that Daedalus (as in, Icarus' father) made the first open-eyed statue. Another excellent example shown was the existing statue of Iniohos (Charioteer) of Delphi, made in 417 BC at a cost of 14,000 drachmas. (As a frame of reference, 1 drachma equaled 1 day's work.) But Ms. Mattusch stated that it's hard to determine if statues are originals or copies. However, she noted that one of the best examples of existing bronze statuary is Praxiteles' "Apollo Sauroktonos", which part of the Cleveland Museum of Art's permanent collection.

#### Spring Clean-Up at the Greek Cultural Garden

Spring is just around the corner which marks the season to begin the annual cleanup. If you are interested in helping please contact Andy Chakalis at 216-397-0494 or at atc101@roadrunner.com



#### Note Cards for Sale

The Greek Cultural Garden entrance in full bloom has been captured in a color photograph which has been reproduced on a note card. The blank note cards are 4 ½ x 6 "and are for sale in packages of 10 (with envelopes) at \$12.00 per package.

The Greek Cultural Garden replanting and renovation has been an on-going project of HPS.

To obtain the note cards mail your check payable to HPS at PO Box 5028, Cleveland, OH 44101-0028. include a mailing address to receive your order.

#### From the HPS Collection

#### Ceramic Bowl with Lid

Diameter 5", Height 2.8" Greek museum reproduction, 20th Century.

Inscribed on bottom:

"Museum copy Corinthian period 550BC union of Greek Ceramists" **Anonymous Gift (HPS 99.77)** 

The outside bowl surface has a repeated geometric pattern The top surface of the lid has a thumb handle and is decorated with ducks, roosters and flowers.



03-09/2200

that will promote the Greek experience through education, collection and preservation. The mission of the Hellenic Preservation Society is to present a unitied voice of the Hellenes in Northeastern Ohio

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