

## Reflections on 2018

Dear Kalamiotas and friends of Kalamos,

With great pleasure we would like to share with you today the summary of our work during 2018. It was a year with a summer season full of activities, surprises, good meetings, lots of work and great memories.

### Interventional work and Projects

Building on our existing work, last year we focused our efforts on improving the image of our village by cleanings, and small interventional work. With the support and donation of N. Brelas we managed to construct a second space for rubbish bins near the Aghia Paraskevi church. The cost of this work for the Syllogos was 180€.

In the beginning of the summer season, within a few days we cleaned sections of the beachfront and the streets of Kalamos and Kalogria from weeds and branches. We also removed two damaged palm trees from the main street. Once again, some areas were cleaned near the “Megali Lefka” and car parking slots were created. The cost of this was covered by the Syllogos. In detail the following were done:

- Clearing of weeds and gravel at the “Megali Lefka” and creation of parking spots in the shade
- Clearing of weeds at the second spring fount
- Clearing of weeds and gravel around the rubbish area and opposite the second spring fount
- Clearing of weeds on the street leading to Aktaion Hotel and creation of few car parking spots
- Clearing of old cement blocks and rubbish from the Kalogria beach
- Clearing of weeds and rubbish at the location of the phone booth in Kalogria
- Partial clearing of the street running within the river to Kalogria

The cost of the works described above for the Syllogos was 430€. The Municipality of South Pelion contributed to these clearings as well as in the improvement of the road to Aktaion hotel by laying grit.

K. Nempis granted the Syllogos a part of his beachfront land. The piece of land was cleaned from rocks, weeds and branches and a car parking area was defined. The cost of this for the Syllogos was 150€.

We also tried to make drives slow down their speed on the main street by painting signs on the road surface.

Finally, Jens with help from Ms. Menia constructed a wooden ramp for better access to the Aghia Paraskevi church. A special thank you to Jens for his offer!

## Activities

The year's activities and meetings started with a traditional Vasilopita serving after many year of having a similar event. We aimed at gathering 40-50 Kalamiotas to celebrate the new year. The response to this event was amazing, with more than 60 people attending. This filled us with pleasure and courage to continue our work and create a full schedule of activities for the summer season. Within 1 month we organised a total of 15 events:

- 5 meetings for coffee and tsipouro at Aktaion, Deon and Symmetron
- 2 hikes for local herb gathering from Kalamos to Argalasti. Jens, with pleasure took over this event and shared his knowledge and passion for local herbs. About 20 people attended these events
- 2 amazing "Sundays of Greek Cinema Comedy" at the wonderful space of the restored Olive Oil Mill of D. Solinis with attendance of 160+ people over the 2 events
- 2 "Fairy Tale Evenings" with Ms. Angeliki Thanou, Ms. Maria Kapani and Mr. Panos Katsiklis at the Olive Oil Mill with attendance of 120 people
- 1 musical night and lecture devoted to the work of M. Theodorakis presented by Giannis Kostis
- 1 information session on fire safety issues, precautionary measures against fires from the manager of the Fire Brigade station of Argalasti
- The traditional Beach Volleyball tournament

At this point we would like to mention a special thanks to the Kalamiotas who crafted and cooked food and desserts for the above events which took place last summer. This was a very generous gesture and it was very much appreciated by everyone!

## Financials

The Syllogos' financials are improving. We have now set a yearly budget of approximately 1200€. This will be used to cover:

- Infrastructure works (i.e. signs, minor construction works like the rubbish areas etc...)
- Cleaning and maintenance of the beachfront, the streets (including consumable materials for these)
- Events' associated costs (flyers, internet hosting charges etc...)

The income from the events are fed back into the budget and put toward the infrastructure and maintenance works. None of the 2018 events had negative impact on the financials and all of them helped with our running costs. The income from the annual subscriptions are also used towards the above budgeting.

The income from the sales of Syllogos' related items (calendars, t-shirts, stickers, hats etc...) are used to cover debt associated with previous years' infrastructure and maintenance work.

In more detail:

Balance (01/01/2018):	820 €
Expenses (31/12/2018):	1730 €
Income from events & subscriptions (31/12/2018):	1470 €
Income from sales and donations:	360 €
<b>Current Syllogos Balance:</b>	<b>920 €</b>

The results of 2018 fill us with confidence and help us to do a better job at the scheduling of works and events.

The only disappointment in the financial matters was reduced number of annual subscriptions paid. Unfortunately, from the 130 members, only 34 have paid their annual subscription. We are putting in a lot of effort to improve the image of our village and also to organise quality events to offer something extra and different to our summer holidays. The annual subscriptions are vital for the work we are doing.

### **2019 Schedule**

The 2019 schedule is currently being developed. We will continue to organise events for everyone as every year and try to do different things when we can. The first event for 2019 was another traditional Vasilopita serving. The next meeting will be the "Update on works, activities and events for 2019". It will take place on 29/04/2019 in Kalamos.

Once again, a big Thank You from all of us at the board for your contributions, ideas and criticism. Everything helps us to offer something better every year.

The members of the Board

Nikos Anagnostou

Giannis Solinis

Alexandros Rakis

Peter Thorpe

Xenofon Kalogeropoulos

Alexandros Kostakis

Iordanis Econimidis