



American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association

AHEPACanada.org 

**Order of AHEPA Polikos Aster Chapter CJ8
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada**

December 5, 2009



N. Boutroucas

C. Katopodis G. Mavridis

Winnipeg AHEPA Chapter, District #24 – Initiation of 7 new members; December 2, 2009

Initiation of New Members

Initiating new members is a significant event for any AHEPA Chapter. It is easy to recognize how important membership is to any organization and AHEPA is no exception. It is a continuous effort by AHEPA HQ, AHEPA Canada, Districts and Chapters. Not surprisingly membership was the major theme at the District Governors Seminar, September 12, 2009, in Washington, D.C. Interestingly, information presented at this Seminar indicated that District #7 in the USA and District #24 in Canada were the only two Districts with an increase in membership last year. It was with great pleasure then that as District #24 Governor, I gave the oath to 7 new members of the Winnipeg AHEPA Chapter. Kudos to President, George Mavridis and the Chapter executive. Congratulations to Nick Boutroucas for signing-up 6 of the 7 new members, who are:

Paul Castalanos, Chris Jensen,
Larry Licharson, Petros Manousos,
Dimitrios Matheos, George Papageorgiou,
and Eleftherios Ted Vailas

Visit by Canadian Ambassador to Greece

The Winnipeg AHEPA Family jointly with St. Demetrios Church and the Greek Professional Association of Manitoba hosted a special reception on November 18, 2009. The reception was for the Canadian Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic and High Commissioner to Cyprus Renata Wielgosz (see photos from this event in the next page). Winnipeg was the only city in Western Canada in her itinerary. She provided informative remarks, answered questions and spent time with many participants. It was interesting that the Ambassador prefaced her remarks by saying that she made a point of visiting Winnipeg to meet with its Hellenic Community. She expected a dynamic community based on the impressions she had from individuals she met at a reception in her honour at the AHEPA Supreme Convention in Athens (July 2008). She recalled presentations made by myself as District Governor and Winnipeg Chapter delegate Paul Kostas. Specifically, she was referring to the Canadian Museum on Human Rights, a National Canadian project supported by the Winnipeg AHEPA Chapter (now under construction in Winnipeg), and conversations we had about Winnipeg AHEPA Family activities such as the Scholarship Program. She offered to let students from Greece and Cyprus know that if they plan to study in a Manitoba University there are two AHEPA scholarships they may apply for; one for Hellenic Studies and one for those of Hellenic heritage for any study program.

2010 District #24 Convention

The AHEPA Family District #24 Convention is scheduled for June 4-6, 2010 in Winnipeg. Meetings and some activities will take place at the new Manitoba Hellenic Cultural Centre which the Winnipeg AHEPA Family help built (it is connected to the St. Demetrios Church). A Friday night reception, Saturday meetings and banquet, and a golf tournament on Sunday are planned. A more detailed program will be available later.

Best wishes to all for the Holiday Season, a very Merry Christmas with health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year, 2010.

The AHEPA Family is looking forward to welcoming one and all at the District #24 Convention celebrating of 80 years in Winnipeg!

**ΚΑΛΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ!
MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**ΚΑΛΗ ΧΡΟΝΙΑ!
HAPPY NEW YEAR**



Christos Katopodis, P.Eng.
AHEPA Governor, District #24 (MB, SK, AB)
Winnipeg, MB, CANADA

**Visit of Canadian Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic
and High Commissioner to Cyprus Renata Wielgosz
to Winnipeg's Hellenic Community; Nov. 18, 2009**

**Hosted by St. Demetrios Church, the Winnipeg AHEPA Family
and the Greek Professional Association of Manitoba**



(L to R): Christos Katopodis, AHEPA District #24 Governor (MB, SK, AB); C.(Takis) Iacovidis, President, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Community; Amb. Wielgosz; Dr. Angelo Macrodimitis, President, Greek Professional Association; George Mavridis, President, Winnipeg AHEPA Chapter; Kyriacos Hatzipanayis, President, Cypriot Association (mike); Aris Economou, MC.



Ambassador Wielgosz with C. Katopodis; C. Iacovidis, Amb. Wielgosz, and A. Macrodimitis