



AFICS – Cyprus NewsLetter

Number 002 July 2014

THE SECOND ASSEMBLY OF AFICS – CYPRUS



AFICS held its second Assembly on 12 March 2014. 27 members who had paid their dues attended and five members were represented. The meeting was held at the UNFICYP Headquarters in the UNPA and, as always, the support provided by UNFICYP's CMS and his staff was excellent and contributed greatly to a successful meeting.

After the yearly report of the President, the Assembly proceeded to elect two new members to the Executive Committee, which is now made up of seven members: Ioannis Antoniadis (President), Gert Schmidt (Deputy President and Secretary), Michael Voniatis (Treasurer), Gianfranco Longo (Webmaster), Fredy Galatopoulou (Social Activities Coordinator), Miriam Pericleous (NewsLetter Editor) and Klaus Hoechtl (Member).

The Assembly took note of last year's accounts, with an income amounting to €1.770,18. The expenditure totalled €921,34 leaving a surplus of €848,84.

The Assembly approved the 2014 budget with an estimated income of €4.020,00 for that year and a proposed expenditure of €3.050,00.

The Assembly ended early and gave way to a UNJSPF presentation where 42 retirees/future retirees attended. The presentation was made by Mr. Aliamane Bacar-Said, who kept the audience captive throughout.



EDITORIAL

The Executive Committee continues to work hard on behalf of the members of AFICS. In this second newsletter, we mention briefly the visit by Gert Schmidt who represented our Association at the 43rd Session of the FAFICS Council which was held in Rome between 7 and 9 July 2014. As you will all appreciate, it is most important for AFICS to be represented at such events, especially in these days of financial constraints. Once approved, the 43rd Council Report shall be posted on our website for your information and will be included as an Agenda item for the next AFICS-Cyprus Assembly Session.

Since our last Assembly, four new members have joined AFICS – one still in full time employment. Another member has already paid for a lifetime membership! We now have a total of 84 members, 64 of whom have paid their dues. A final reminder will be sent out soon to those with outstanding accounts.

We hope you will all attend the functions organised by Social Activities Coordinator Fredy Galatopoulou, as relaxing in a friendly environment whilst getting to know each other better can only help to improve already existing good relations.

As stated in our first newsletter, the Executive Committee will be very happy to receive comments from our members and any suggestions will be most welcome.

We wish you a happy summer and hope to see you all at the next Assembly.

Miriam Pericleous
NewsLetter Editor

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MID-YEAR FINANCES

The Association's finances are in good shape. As at 30 June 2014, the Association collected €4.354,81 from its members and spent €864,18. In mid-year, the Association had an amount of €4.339,47 in its account with the Hellenic Bank.

REGISTRATION OF AFICS WITH THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

Good news! The registration of AFICS-Cyprus was finally approved by the Ministry of Interior on 23 May 2014. The registration number is 4095.

You will find the registration certificate and the final statutes in Greek and English on the AFICS website.

EMERGENCY FUND

For your information, an "Emergency Fund", maintained by UNJSPF, was established in July 1973 to help retirees and other beneficiaries alleviate financial hardship due to illness, infirmities of old age, or similar causes, which may arise for recipients of small pensions, by providing aid in individual cases of proven emergency.

The Emergency Fund is not intended as a source for supplementing pensions considered inadequate by recipients, and does not provide loans or serve as a substitute for medical insurance. At the next Assembly, this issue will be raised and discussed. Details of the "Emergency Fund" can be found at the Pension Fund's website at: www.unjspf.org.

EXCURSION TO CURIUM

On 3 April, 15 AFICS members enjoyed an excursion in the Limassol area organized by Colin Garland.

The tour started at Kolossi Castle where Colin's knowledgeable friend, Geoff Fryatt, explained the history of the castle, with particular reference to the production by the Knights Templar of Commandaria, the famous Cypriot wine. It was perhaps therefore appropriate that the next site was the Cyprus Wine Museum at nearby Erimi. This was followed by a short journey to the Temple of Apollo, where Geoff informed



all about the worship of Apollo Hylates and the significance of the site. The last visit was to nearby Curium where Colin gave a vivid account of the site's history with particular reference to the "teatro". Finally, the tour, which was thoroughly appreciated by all, ended with an excellent lunch at the Sunshine Taverna on nearby Curium Beach.

VISIT TO THE LEVENTIS "PINACOTHEQUE"

Social Activities Coordinator Fredy Galatopoulou arranged a visit on 16 June to the newly opened Leventis Gallery. Twelve people attended and had a tour of the marvellous selection of unique paintings and other exhibits in three sections: Europe, Greece and Cyprus.

This is a remarkable museum in a building among the best designed in the world, and is also equipped with a café/restaurant on the ground floor for refreshments. All details about the gallery are posted on its website: <http://www.leventisgallery.org/>.

ENQUIRY CONCERNING HOMES FOR THE AGED

A few weeks ago, an ex-UN colleague informed AFICS-Cyprus that he was interested in the availability of old persons' care homes in European countries with an agreeable climate and requested our assistance. Enquiries were made and the following two places of interest, which are available for AFICS members, were located.

The first, "**P.A.SY.DY Home for Pensioners**", is situated in Aglantzia, Nicosia, and was opened one year ago. The home offers nutritionally complete, balanced meals (food can be adapted to meet special dietary needs and preferences). Care is available by trained nursing staff with medical coverage provided by an in-house specialist physician. Laundry facilities exist on site, and there is an agreement with a local pharmacy for a 15%-30% discount on medicines. Their website will soon be accessible, but for now, details on room availability and prices can be obtained from Mr. Yiannis Vourakis, Financial Manager, Hectoros 5, Aglantzia, 2123 Nicosia, Cyprus: e-mail: pasydy.stegi.ioannis@cytanet.com.cy. Tel: +357 22 108692; Mobile: +357 96 467744.

The second home, the "**Privilege Centre of Living**", has many amenities and is not far from Larnaca where the main international airport of Cyprus is situated. It has a very well-designed website which can be found at www.privillege.com.cy. Contact can be made as follows: Privilege Centre of Living Ltd, 52 Ammochostou Avenue, 7104 Aradippou, Cyprus. Tel: +357 24 400980/+357 24 400985; Fax: +357 24 400986; e-mail: info@privillege.com.cy.

Both homes recommend the first contact to be made by telephone, either in English or Greek.

EXCURSION TO LARNACA

A visit to various places of interest in and near the Larnaca district is being organised for **Thursday 20 November 2014**.

This is a particularly poignant event as we shall be celebrating the founding of AFICS-Cyprus on this date. Details will be posted on the website.

ANNOUNCEMENT/REMINDER

The first AFICS Annual Dinner will take place on **Tuesday 7 October 2014**, commencing at 8.00 pm. The restaurant chosen for this function is "**Magirisses**", 110 Archbishop Makarios III Avenue, Lakatamia 2323, Nicosia, telephone: 22381822. Family and friends are most welcome.

Details will be posted on the website, but take note and **reserve your night as of now!**

OBITUARY

It is with the deepest regret that we learned of the death on 2 June 2014 of Honorary Secretary Anders Tholle, who was Secretary of FAFICS from 2002 to 2010 and a founding member of AFICS-Cyprus. His funeral took place in Montreux, Switzerland, on 10 June in the presence of family, friends, former colleagues and many members of the wider FAFICS family.