



# HELLENIC SOCIETY NEWS

Newsletter of the Hellenic Society of Maine

the Hellenic Society of Maine is a tax exempt non-profit public charitable organization

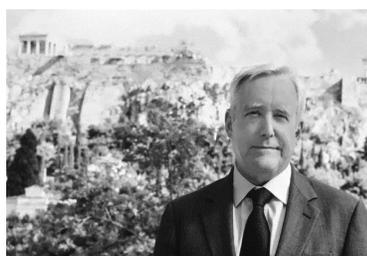
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**Website:** [www.hellenicsocietyofmaine.org](http://www.hellenicsocietyofmaine.org) **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/hellenicsocietyofmaine](http://www.facebook.com/hellenicsocietyofmaine)

## Fall Lecture I: David Pearce Ambassador to Greece 2013-2016 “Why Diplomacy Matters”

5:30 p.m. Friday, September 21, Room 102 Wishcamper Center, USM Portland

Ambassador Pearce will discuss why U.S. engagement abroad matters, drawing on over four decades of experience of living and working overseas, as a journalist and diplomat. He will also provide practical examples of diplomacy at work, from his time as Ambassador to Greece from 2013-2016, and his many years of work in the Middle East.



In his diplomatic and journalistic career this Maine native has always done the hard things in the hard places. As a wire service reporter, he covered revolution in Lisbon, civil war in Beirut, and political and economic change in the Arab world. He met his wife, Leyla, while serving in Lebanon as United Press International's Chief Middle East Correspondent, and both of their children were born in Beirut. As a writer-editor with National Geographic's book service, he traveled with a photographer to Southeast China and authored a chapter of the 1982 NGS book, *Journey Into China*.

Joining the U.S. Department of State next, Pearce learned Arabic and served over three decades in 11 overseas posts throughout Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia. He was political section chief in Kuwait when Iraq invaded, and deputy chief of mission in Syria for four years during which time the embassy was attacked by mobs twice. He was Consul General in Dubai, Consul General and Chief of Mission in Jerusalem, Assistant Chief of Mission in Afghanistan (an ambassador-level assignment), and Ambassador to both Algeria and Greece. In addition, Pearce held senior-level positions at the State Department in Washington, with responsibility for Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan. After three years of service as Ambassador in Athens, Pearce retired in November 2016 from the U.S. Department of State as a Career Minister, the second-highest rank attainable in the Foreign Service.

An avid and self-taught watercolor artist, he designed and built a website to showcase his work done overseas in Algeria, Afghanistan and Greece, as well as in Maine and California. Go to [www.daviddpearce.com](http://www.daviddpearce.com)

## Fall Lecture II: Cynthia Shelmerdine “Mycenaean Iklaina Up to Date” 6:30 p.m. Thursday, October 18 Room 205 Wishcamper Center, USM Portland

Professor Shelmerdine returns!!! Last year Cynthia spoke about the ancient people of Pylos and the kingdom of Nestor. Special attention was given to the site of Iklaina, in Messenia where she works as a pottery expert. Ongoing excavations are providing exciting information about that town and its interactions with the palatial center at Pylos and the fascinating early Greek world of the Mycenaeans.



In this talk she will provide new information about the chronology of the site and how study of ancient pottery adds to our understanding of historical developments.

Cynthia W. Shelmerdine is the Robert M. Armstrong Centennial Professor of Classics, *emerita* at the University of Texas at Austin, and Research Associate in Classics at Bowdoin. She was educated at Bryn Mawr College, Cambridge University and Harvard University (Ph.D.) She has worked as a ceramic expert at several Greek sites and has published extensively on Mycenaean culture and history, and is editor of the *Cambridge Companion to the Aegean Bronze Age*.

## IXNOS

### An exhibition about migration on Lesbos 7th Floor Reading Room, Glickman Library, USM October 5 to December 14, 2018

Opening reception Saturday Oct. 6 from 5 – 6:45 p.m.  
*Supported by HSoM in collaboration with Peregrine Press*

Other related events: *Documentary Film Screening* - 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, Luther Bonney Hall, USM; and an *Artists' Panel Discussion* - 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Nov. 7, Room 423/4 Glickman Library, USM

Lesbos Island found itself the center of the historic wave of migration to Europe that began in earnest in April 2015. That year alone more than 500,000 migrants and refugees landed on its shores, an impact still felt three years later, as many migrants are stuck in camps there, and more continue to arrive.

Two board members of HSoM, Judith Allen-Efstathiou and Mary Snell, are curating IXNOS, an exhibit that highlights the issues surrounding migration on Lesbos, and the international connection between the two cities -- Portland



(Con't. on p.3)

Fourteenth Annual - Fall 2018  
**GREEK FILM SERIES**  
 Contemporary & Classic Films about Greece  
 presented by  
**Hellenic Society of Maine**

**Greek Migration Then and Now**

*Sunday, October 7, 3 PM, USM Portland Campus, Talbot Auditorium, Luther Bonney Hall*



Pontian refugees arriving on Lesbos from Asia minor. Circa 1922.

In conjunction with the exhibit "IXNOS" (opening October 6 in the 7th floor Reading Room at the USM library), this presentation considers a selection of short films and documentaries about refugees and migrants leaving Asia Minor for Greece, now and in the past. Possible inclusions: **4.1 Miles** (2017 Oscar Nominee); **National Geographic: 1922 The Greek Genocide** (in Greek with English sub-titles. Can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Oelm-zzFUI>) and possible other films.



Raft landing at Molivos, north-east Lesbos, from Turkey. October 2015.

**"Z" Dir.: Costa-Gavras French, 1969**

*Sunday, November 4, 3 PM, USM Portland Campus, Talbot Auditorium, Luther Bonney Hall*

Previously shown in the first Hellenic Society Film Series 14 years ago! A landmark political thriller, this film won an Academy Award for Best Foreign Film in 1969. Costa-Gavras gives us a top-class, fast paced directed film which hasn't aged. The movie tells the true story of the investigation into the seemingly accidental death of a Greek pacifist leader. It uncovers a web of violence and terrorism that implicates an entire government in its conspiracy to murder an honest man. "...one of the fastest, most exciting melodramas ever made...never loses emotional contact with the audience" (Pauline Kael, The New Yorker). Starring Jean-Louis Trintignant, Jacques Perrin, Yves Montand and Irene Papas. *In French with English subtitles. 127 minutes.*



**"Ο Φαντασμένος" (The Imagined) Dir.: Dinos Dimopoulos, Greece, 1973**

*Sunday, December 2, 3 PM, USM Portland Campus, Talbot Auditorium, Luther Bonney Hall*



Though the 1970's was not the height of Greece's Finos Films productions, that studio's top actor, Lambros Konstandaras, is still in top comedic form in this lesser known comedy. An outstanding performance is also turned in by Betty Arvaniti, as the secretary. Once again, Konstandaras plays the rich father of a strong-willed daughter while at the same time, holding together his imagined empire. Konstandaras (1913 - 1985) was one of the great actors of Greek theatre and cinema, excellent both in comedy and drama. With an ancestry from Istanbul, he was born and raised in Kolonaki, a wealthy part of Athens. He served the Greek theatre for 40 years, acting in 191 plays. People still enjoy him through his films — more than 75, mostly comedies. He excelled in roles of mature, rich womanizers, or "fathers" of several well-known stars of the era. *In Color. Greek w/English sub-titles. 93 minutes.*

**LESVOS HOSPITAL AID PROJECT**

The final gift of funds donated to the Lesbos Hospital Aid project was completed this summer. In 2016 HSoM shipped a 40' container of medical supplies and equipment to the Mytilene General Hospital on Lesbos. Approximately \$4,000 remained after paying for that initial shipment. This June HSoM board members Irwin Novak and Mary Snell met with Chief Medical Officer Dr. Efthimios Ziogas, and Hospital Director Mrs. Anna Zervou to discuss the purchase of infusion pumps for the surgical suites with that money. We thank all the people who made this project successful, particularly Vassilis Mouzalas in Mytilene. As the former hospital director, he agreed to the donation of supplies. Then, even though he left that position, he continued to offer his assistance.

**No more donations will be accepted for LHA.**



*Pictured left to right are: Dr. Efthimios Ziogas, Chief Medical Officer; Mrs. Anna Zervou, Hospital Director; Mary Snell and Irwin Novak, co-secretaries of HSoM*

# Hellenic Society of Maine

P. O. Box 8007

Portland Maine 04104-8007

a tax exempt non-profit public  
charitable organization

[www.hellenicsocietyofmaine.org](http://www.hellenicsocietyofmaine.org)

## Board of Directors for 2018-2019

Judith Allen-Efstathiou, Portland

Anastasia Antonacos, Portland

Janice Antonacos, Biddeford

Christos Gianopoulos, Greene

*co-president*

Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, Orono

Irwin Novak, Gorham

*co-secretary*

Marina Schneller, Portland

*treasurer*

Mary Snell, Gorham *co-secretary*

George Spatoulas, Scarborough,

*vice president*

Taxia Paras, Scarborough (*on leave*)

Miltiades Zacas, Orono

Chris Ziagos, Portland

*co-president*

**NOTE: New mailing address**

**For more information on HSoM  
go to the Hellenic Society of  
Maine website (see above) or  
"like" the HSoM Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/  
hellenicsocietyofmaine](http://www.facebook.com/hellenicsocietyofmaine)**

**IXNOS** (*Con't. from p.1*) and Mytilene, Lesvos are Sister Cities.

The curators responded to a call by the curators of a Maine College of Art exhibit "Making Migration Visible/Traces, Tracks & Pathways" opening this fall who urged artists to create parallel exhibitions and events. More than 75 organizations responded.

IXNOS (which means "trace" in Greek) will focus on Lesvos, one of the most significant locations involved in the current worldwide crisis of movement of migrants and refugees. The island is also a major world center for bird migration, which will be incorporated. The exhibit will consist of photographs, art work, portfolio books, texts and artifacts relating to these paths of migration through the island.

In addition to work by Allen-Efstathiou and Snell, featured will be photographs by Michael Honegger of Nice, France; maps by Dr. Irwin Novak, plus work by Ambassador David Pearce, Jeff and Lydia Badger, and members of Peregrine Press -- Jessyca Broekman, Kate Chappell, Delphine Sherin, Kit Browne Pike, Susan Amons, Debbie Schmitt, Kate Katomski and others. Both curators spend part of the year in Greece. Judith Allen-Efstathiou is a professional artist and printmaker and has taught in the USM Art Department, at Maine College of Art, and in Athens, Greece. She has exhibited widely here and in Europe, and recently was granted a commission by the State of Maine to create work for the Statehouse. Mary Snell has spent the last 30 summers on Lesvos. A writer, poet, and photographer, she is a former journalist and theater critic.

## **Sister City Relationship Marks 15th Anniversary**

In October 2003 a delegation from Mytilene, Lesvos Greece arrived in Portland to formalize a Sister City relationship. There were meetings, speeches, tours, dinners, and an exhibit by Greek weaver Sophia Tata. In 2004 a reciprocal delegation from Portland went to Lesvos. There were meetings, speeches, tours, dinners, and a performance by pianist Anastasia Antonacos.

To date our main projects for the Sister City relationship have been:

**Culture Through Books** - In 2007: 80 books in English, all donated by members and friends, were shipped to the Mytilene Library.

**Portes** - In 2012: 50 works on paper by 50 artists from Greater Portland had a week-long exhibit in the Municipal Gallery. *Portes* was curated by Jeff Badger.

**Sister City Display Case** - In 2012: donors contributed to the cost of the construction of an oak display case placed in the main foyer in Portland City Hall.

**Lesvos Hospital Aid** - In 2016: we sent a 40' container of medical supplies and equipment to the Mytilene General Hospital; additional donations of supplies and equipment were made in 2017 and 2018.

## **YOU CAN NOW JOIN THROUGH OUR WEBSITE**

**Our dues cover the period of July 1 to June 30 each year, NOT a calendar year. If you want to become a member, or renew through our website, go to: [www.hellenicsocietyofmaine.org](http://www.hellenicsocietyofmaine.org) and use the "Donate" button to pay through PayPal or Credit Card, and indicate "For Membership" - OR fill out the form below and mail it in.**

*✂ Cut Out and Return!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**For July 1, 2018 ~June 30, 2019:** Renewal / New member (<— circle one)

\_\_\_\_ \$19.75 (*date of Greek constitution*) Annual Full Member (grants the right to vote on policy issues)

\_\_\_\_ \$12.50 (*BC date of Trojan War*) Annual Associate Member

\_\_\_\_ Number of Memberships

I can't join now or, I want to give more!  
Enclosed is my donation of \_\_\_\_\_  
in support of your efforts.

Make check or money order payable to:  
Hellenic Society of Maine  
Send to: Marina Schneller, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 8007  
Portland, ME 04104-8007

## Quick Calendar Summary

All held at USM, Portland campus

**Sept. 21 - Lecture: David Pearce**, former US Ambassador to Greece, "Why Diplomacy Matters," 5:30 p.m. 102 Wishcamper Center

**Oct. 6 - Opening Reception for IXNOS:** An exhibit about migration on Lesbos, 5-6:45 p.m. 7th Floor Reading Room, Glickman Library,

**Oct. 7 - Films: *Greek Migration Then and Now***, documentaries on migration, 3 p.m. Talbot Auditorium, Luther Bonney Hall

**Oct. 18 - Lecture: Cynthia Shelmerdine** "Mycenaean Iklaina Up to Date," 7 p.m., 205 Wishcamper Center

**Nov. 4 - Film: "Z,"** 3 p.m. Talbot Auditorium, Luther Bonney Hall

**Nov. 7 - Artists Panel Discussion: IXNOS** 5:30 p.m. Rm. 423/4, Glickman Library,

**Dec. 2 - Film: "The Imagined"** 3 p.m. Talbot Aud., Luther Bonney Hall

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### Storm cancellation?

In the case of bad weather, on weekdays call the USM Storm Line 780-4800. (If the USM campus is closed, HSoM events there are cancelled too.) On weekends call 892-9831 or 775-3607.

✂️Clip and Save!✂️

Hellenic Initiatives  
c/o Irwin Novak  
University of Southern Maine  
37 College Ave.  
Gorham, ME 04038

## Two Greek Tables!

### Greek Language Table

Do you want to improve your conversational Greek? Well, join us once a month for Greek Table. We usually meet in Portland at noon on a Friday for one hour to converse IN GREEK ONLY. No pressure for perfection, just make an effort at whatever your level of fluency – it's free and it's fun! If you are interested in being on the contact list for the next meeting, email Marina at [marinaschneller@yahoo.com](mailto:marinaschneller@yahoo.com) or Mary at [msnell@maine.edu](mailto:msnell@maine.edu)

### "My Greek Table" with Diane Kochilas - on PBS

Greece — birthplace of the Mediterranean Diet, and of a wisdom embracing environmental, physical, and emotional well-being — is the backdrop for this unique 13-part tapestry of culture, travel, food and lifestyle. Diane Kochilas guides viewers in search of authentic ingredients and traditions that are part of the Greek kitchen—easy, delicious, healthy recipes, any cook at any skill level can make." *Unfortunately*, the series is not shown on Maine PBS as part of its regular programming.



You can link to the series if you have the Maine Passport option—gotten by having donated \$60 or more for the year. But you can watch some of them online. A link to one of the programs filmed on Lesbos can found at: <http://www.pbs.org/video/episode-107-the-lesvos-spirit-7j2y7b/>  
From there you can search around for other episodes at [PBS.org](http://www.pbs.org).

### Do We Have Your Latest Mail / E-mail Contact Information?

We want to keep our lists up-to-date. If you've changed your address or email please send a note to: [Irwin Novak at novak@maine.edu](mailto:Irwin.Novak@maine.edu).

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