



CHIOS MARINE CLUB
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CHIOS MARINE CLUB'S 2024 PITA CUTTING Event – Press Release

The cutting of the traditional Greek New Year's Vassilopita of our Club took place on 24 January 2024 in Athens' Marriott Hotel. A great number of members and friends of our Club attended.

The event was dedicated to the awarding three exceptional personalities of the Island of Chios: Prof. Stamatios Krimizis (Aerospace scientist, Nasa Astrophysicist and Academic / President of Athens' Academy, Greece), Capt. Panagiotis N. Tsakos (Tsakos Group of Companies) and Mr. Simos Palios (Diana Shipping Services S.A.). They were nominated for their exceptional contribution to our Island of Chios and Greece in general.

The event kick-started with the General Secretary of the Chios Marine Club Miss Maria Tripoliti welcoming the guests and referring to the event's proceedings. Then the President of the CMC, Capt. Antonis Pitsilos took the podium welcoming the honorees and all participants. He presented the review of the Club's 2023 activities and referred to the actual scope and social work of the Club. He emphasized the successful edition of the Calendar/desk diary 2024 which was printed for the 14th consecutive year and same was distributed free-of-charge to Members, Member Shipping Companies and Businesses related entities to the wider shipping industry. He also thanked all Sponsors of the event for their donations and their support to our Club. He finally wished all present, a Prosperous New Year, full of Success and Good Health.

The Metropolitan Markos of Chios, Oinousses and Psara officiated and blessed the Vassilopita!

Following his speech the event continued by awarding honorary plaques to: Prof. Stamatios Krimizis for his unique contribution to Astrophysics, Capt. Panagiotis Tsakos and Mr. Simos Palios for their unique contribution to the Greek Shipping Industry. Their lives and achievements were presented by the distinguished journalist Mr. Minas Tsamopoulos. The USA Ambassador in Greece Mr. George J. Tsunis presented the Award to Prof. Krimizis. Ms. Domna Michailidou, Minister of Labor for Greece, presented the Award to Capt. Panagiotis Tsakos. Finally, Mr. Simos Palios received his Award from Mr. Christos Stylianidis, Minister of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy of Greece. Afterwards, a reception followed with light food and drinks.

Moreover, the following honored the event with their presence:

Semiramis S. Paliou (President of Helmepe), Leonidas Manolakos (Deputy Governor of Attika/ Alternate Prefect of Political protection and Coast Guard Policy), Notis Mitarakis (elected member of Hellenic Parliament for ND of the Prefecture of Chios), Stavros Michailidis (elected member of Hellenic Parliament for PASOK-KINAL of the Prefecture of Chios), Pantelis Bournias (Deputy Governor of North Aegean Islands), Fani Palli Petralia (former Minister of the Hellenic Parliament), Radm (HCG) Georgios Skandalis (Director general of Shipping Directorate), Captain (HCG) Doumanis Antonios (Director of Seafarers' Training Directorate), Radm Rt (HCG) Dimitrios Tsiadis, Stelios Kostalas Radm (Rt) of the Hellenic Navy, Konstantinos Katagas Radm (Rt) of the Hellenic Navy, Georgios Daniil (Mayor of Oinousses Island), Prof. Seraphim Kapros (Chairman of the Department of Shipping & Business Studies of the

University of the Aegean – Director of the MBA in Shipping), Markella Varoni (President of Chian Accossiation in Attika), Costis J. Frangoulis (President of International Propeller Club, Port of Piraeus), Danae Bezantakou (A' Vice President of International Propeller Club, Port of Piraeus), Panagiotis Gigis (President of PEPEN), Charalampos Sarantitis (President of LAEN), Ilias Hatziefrimidis (President of WIMA), Andreas Karagiorgis (President of Psara Island's Brotherhood) and Ioannis Gialas (President of Union of Vrontadoussians in Attika - EVAT).

Finally, the President Capt. Antonis Pitsilos and the Board of Directors warmly thanked all guests, sponsors, members and friends for the honor by being present, wishing them all a year full of Health and Progress!