The Honorable Alvaro de Soto, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General on Cyprus, came to The American College of Thessaloniki May 27-28 under the auspices of the Michael S. Dukakis Chair in Public Policy and Service.

Mr. de Soto first conducted a master class in diplomacy and negotiation for ACT students and alumni and students from the University of Macedonia and Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. The ACT contingent included students from Greece, the U.S., Canada, Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Serbia, many of whom had previously participated in Model United Nations simulations at ACT. Discussion ranged from Mr. de Soto’s experience on behalf of the United Nations in El Salvador and in Myanmar to UN missions in Haiti, Kosovo, Rwanda, and elsewhere.

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Mr. de Soto met with members of the Greek press over lunch and conducted a formal press conference on recent developments in Cyprus. In the evening Mr. de Soto gave a lecture to some 400 visitors in the Bissell Library open air amphitheater, followed by a question-and-answer session moderated by David Wisner, Chair of ACT’s Department of International Relations.

While Mr. de Soto made clear his disappointment that the Annan plan was not approved by the Greek Cypriots, he said that the voice of the people had to be respected. He also held out the hope that with what he called the “capillary effect” of the influence of the European Union on Cyprus, the day of reconciliation between the still divided sides of the island would eventually come.

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Bissell was only one of three foreigners and the only American to be named to the New Year’s honors list by President Stephanopoulos. He accepted the award with characteristic modesty and shied away from being the center of attention. "There are so many who deserve it more than I."

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George Bissell Awarded Silver Cross of the Phoenix

By Joanna James

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Michalis Styllas 92 was a member of the first Greek expedition to reach the top of Mt. Everest, raising the Greek and Olympic flags on the 29,028 foot summit on May 16, 2004. Full coverage in our Fall issue!
New Development Team Joins Anatolia

Richard J. Donovan Ed. D. and Tina Papadopoulos have recently joined the Office of the Trustees of Boston as the fundraising officers for Anatolia College and The American College of Thessaloniki. As Executive Director of Development, Dick Donovan comes to Anatolia with a record of fundraising success in academic medical centers, scientific institutes and liberal arts colleges. Some of Donovan’s professional fundraising experience has involved positions with Ketchum, Inc., Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, The Schepens Eye Research Institute and Harvard Medical School.

Tina Papadopoulos joined Anatolia in January as Associate Director of Development. A graduate of Bentley College, she has been very active in Hellenic volunteer and charitable activities in New England and beyond. She is a founder and former Executive Director of the Hellenic Business Network of Boston. She is President of the Boston Chapter of the Hellenic American Women’s Council and is on the board of the Federation of Hellenic-American Societies of New England. A native of Newburyport, MA, she now lives in Boston and maintains a family home with her father in the Mikrolimano section of Piraeus.

Dick and Tina have been busy visiting with Anatolia constituents and making plans to engage new sources of support for the school. A special focus now underway is a concentration on the High School as a prime fundraising target for 2004. Another recent initiative involves the creation of a charitable gift annuity program so that U.S. donors can make important gifts to Anatolia and maintain a lifetime income interest.

In order to take Anatolia fundraising to a new level, Dick and Tina are committed to finding individuals with the vision to help Anatolia realize its historic mission in the 21st century. "We have so many fine opportunities for alumni and friends to invest in the physical and programmatic life of Anatolia," said Donovan recently. "We are looking forward to conversations with alumni and friends about how they might participate in the life of the school.”

Please contact Dick or Tina for any information about how you might become involved as a volunteer or supporter of Anatolia. They look forward to meeting with you in the near future.

Save the Date!

Continued from Page 1

on at the MFA from July 21 through November 28 in conjunction with the celebration of the Athens 2004 Summer Olympic Games. The reception has been made possible through the efforts of Ms. Betty Georgaklis, a longtime friend of Anatolia and a volunteer for the MFA. The reception will include a tour of the exhibit by Dr. Christine Kondoleon and John Hermann, who are curators of the MFA’s Greek and Roman art of the ancient world.

Betty Georgaklis is looking for volunteers to help her make this a special evening for Anatolia. "We are privileged to be able to invite the larger Greek-American community and interested friends to join us for this memorable evening," notes Ms. Georgaklis. Further information on the event can be obtained from Dick Donovan or Tina Papadopoulos in the Anatolia Development Office at (617) 742-7992 or donovan@anatolia-act.org. The fall issue of the Anatolian will feature full coverage of the event. See you there!

Alumni, Let’s Get Organized!

Organizing efforts are underway to create a functioning Anatolia Alumni Association in the U.S. With the encouragement and efforts of John C. Ziambras ’84 and Effie P. Cochran ’60, both from New York City, initial steps have been taken to collect updated information on alumni whereabouts and to organize volunteers for an upcoming event. John will be contacting all U.S. alumni by letter in the near future. Alumni, please respond!

One goal is to assure that we have accurate contact information for each Anatolia alumnus and alumna and to recruit interested volunteers to serve as regional representatives on a national committee. Effie is already leading an effort to staff Anatolia’s booth at the New York Clergy-Laity Congress (July 26 through 29) with alumni volunteers. We aim to assure that Anatolia graduates attending college in the U.S. are assimilated into the local alumni network. If you are interested in helping develop the Alumni Association please contact John at his e-mail address: jziambras@hotmail.com. Any updates to your address or contact information should be sent to Tina Papadopoulos: tpapadopoulos@anatolia-act.org.

Also coming soon to these pages: a class notes column for Anatolia/ACT alumni residing in the U.S. Send your news and keep your ties to fellow Anatolians alive.

Alumni…and Friends!

Before there were alumni of Anatolia, there were friends, and there still are friends – many of them, including the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and numerous other trustees and supporters of the school. Most of the readers of this newsletter are friends, not alumni. Anatolia and the American College of Thessaloniki owe their existence in large part to the generosity of such friends.

People become friends of Anatolia simply by caring about its mission of service to education and of building closer ties between the United States and Greece. Those who wish to perform acts of friendship for the school go one step further and support it through annual or capital giving. They are not only philhellenic and philanthropic, they’re phil-Anatolian. Please join them if you haven’t yet done so!

Our New Look

Anatolia is a colorful place, and we thought that The Anatolian should reflect its true colors. We hope you like our new look. Our aim, as always, is to enable you to stay in touch with the life of the school and follow the latest developments. We also encourage you to visit the Anatolia website at www.anatolia.edu.gr for the most up to date news about Anatolia and ACT and to learn further details on stories that are published here.

Because The Anatolian is published for your benefit, we welcome suggestions as to how we might better serve you. What would you like to see or read about? We look forward to hearing from you.
A Banner Year for U.S. College Admissions

Nine members of the class of 2004, and one from 2003, have accepted offers of admission to top American colleges and universities. Seven of the ten are enrolled in Anatolia’s International Baccalaureate Program, and the remaining students have taken the Greek lyceum program. Eight of the ten applied for and received scholarships, including four full scholarships.

Ioannis Avramidis will be attending Princeton University; Apostolos Evertiades, Beloit College; Galinos Giaglis, the University of Pennsylvania; John Giannopoulos, Stanford University; Pheobe Holland, Barnard College; Olga Karagiardis, Dartmouth College; Roxanne Krystalli, Harvard University; Ioannis Loukakis, Grinnell College; Maria Maracinescu, Brown University; and Tassos Varellas, Babson College. “What this means,” comments Anatolia college counselor Eva Kanellis, “is that U.S. colleges and universities recognize the high caliber of an Anatolia education and the contributions that our students are in a position to make to American campus communities.”

Anatolia Delegation at Harvard MUN - and All Over Town

It’s become a regular thing — except for the participants, for whom it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. “It” is the Harvard Model United Nations Conference (HMUN), held each year in December, to which Anatolia has been sending delegations for each of the past seven years (the one exception being 2001). Trustees have generously covered expenses in Boston, making the trip possible for some of Anatolia’s finest internationally-minded students and the rotating club advisor.

This past December a group of nine Anatolians led by philologue Xenia Dolopoulou participated in the 51st HMUN session, a four-day simulation of the United Nations, held at Harvard University and Boston’s Park Plaza Hotel. The Anatolia delegation, chosen to represent the Democratic Republic of Congo, was one of only two delegations from Greece and one of nearly two hundred delegations of over two thousand high school students from around the world at the conference.

The delegates were: Ioanna Kapageridou, Olga Karagiardis, Thanos Lagazalis, Ioannis Avramidis, Penny Dalaboura, Nataza Papaki, Anna Kaxira, Maria-Christina Antoniou and Tais Jost. The students, all seniors, came both from Anatolia’s International Baccalaureate Program and its Greek lyceums.

Each school represented a member nation of the United Nations and engaged in debate on the most pressing issues on the international agenda. Delegates sit on committees varying in size from General Assembly committees of more than 180 member states to the Security Council, limited to 15 states. Participants must quickly discern the facts of the issues at hand as well as the opinions of their fellow delegates, and then convincingly portray the interests of their country in both formal speeches and informal negotiations. As they work to create a resolution or directive, delegates learn the necessity for compromise and consensus in international diplomacy.

Besides participating in the conference, the Anatolia students also got a taste of the cultural life of Boston. Along with trustee Stella Gogou ’71 and the staff of the Office of Trustees, they toured the campuses of Harvard University and MIT, visited the Boston Museum of Science and the Kennedy Library, and took in both a Boston Celtics NBA game and the Boston Ballet’s sparkling production of “The Nutcracker.” They also gained first-hand experience of New England weather, including one of the biggest early December snowstorms on record.

The Anatolians also had a chance to meet and chat with the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. George Bissell, and the Honorable Michael Dukakis. During a visit to the State House they met with a representative of Governor Mitt Romney, and at Hellenic College and the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, they were welcomed by Dean Lily Macrakis and Reverend Philip, who gave them a tour of the Maliotis Cultural Center. The students were interviewed by WNTN journalist and Anatolia alumnus Athanasios Viglasopolos ’50 for a radio show. A regular thing, maybe, but an exceptional experience for all concerned!

A Marathon Weekend For Godley Prize Winners

Mrs. Elizabeth Godley, a friend of Anatolia from Athens and Morris, New York, had an idea. She wanted Greek students to realize the close cooperation that has existed between the American and Greek people such as she had observed it in her own family history. Her father was an American engineer and architect who designed and built the Marathon Dam in Greece in the 1920s, the only marble-faced dam in the world. She also wanted to promote the learning of the English language in Greece.

The solution: to give four 3rd form Anatolia scholarship students – Athanasia Pechlivanidou, Eva Tsivaliou, Sarah Kaidatzi, and Dimitra Vartzoka – the chance to spend a weekend in Athens, visit the dam, and speak English, and only English, with their escorts — teachers Alice Eppinga and Toula Kafetzaki — for three straight days. The students were selected on the basis of their achievement in English at Anatolia. It is fair to say they had the time of their lives: at the dam, out to Cape Sounion, to the Acropolis above and the metro below, to the Benaki Museum and to the Museum of Cycladic Art, where they had lunch with Mrs. Godley, a Museum trustee. She offered to speak Greek to them — and was politely, in good English, turned down. Mission accomplished, with thanks.
Anatolia senior Roxanne Krystalli led the team that represented Greece at the 16th World Schools Debating Championship held in Stuttgart, Germany, from February 11 – 21, 2004. Against stiff competition from teams from 29 countries, the Greek team finished in 3rd place, the highest position ever achieved by a team from a country where English is not an official language. Anatolia English teacher Helen Koliais, one of the team’s head coaches, guided their preparation and accompanied the five team members to the tournament.

The goals of the WSD Championships are to achieve excellence in debating, to encourage debating throughout the world, to promote international understanding and to promote free speech.

Each team competes in the eight preliminary rounds, then the top 16 teams engage in knock-out debates. During the preliminaries, Team Greece had decisive victories over New Zealand and Scotland, which have both won past tournaments. Greece then went on to beat Wales in the octo-finals and Peru in the quarter-finals, narrowly losing only to South Africa in the semi-finals. The winner of the Championships was Australia. But the word on the street was: “Beware the Greeks!”

World Class: Greek Debate Team Takes International Honors

Our Olympic Mathlete?

Junior Achilleas Porphyriades has added two more medals to his collection from Greek and Balkan mathematics competitions. In February of this year he received the silver medal in the 21st Greek Mathematics Olympiad, and in May he took the bronze in the Balkan Olympiad. This is the fourth straight year he has “medaled” in the Greek national competition, and the second time he has won Balkan honors. Achilleas’ family moved to Thessaloniki from Georgia in the former Soviet Union when he was a child. He is holder of the Antigone Raphael Scholarship at Anatolia, and not surprisingly, he also excels at… chess.
A year after the introduction of its first graduate program, Anatolia has begun operation of an elementary school. The former Rigas Feraios Elementary School, adjacent to the Anatolia/ACT campus, has now become the Anatolia Elementary School. The new school began operations in December under the leadership of Mr. Nikolaos Arnaoutis. The organization headed by Anatolia Trustee Dr. Fanis Varvoglis ’71 as President.

Anatolia will be building on the strong legacy of former owner and School Head, Mr. Asterios Pyrros, to ensure the highest academic standards, as well as a warm family environment, at the new school. Anatolia’s longstanding philosophy of academic excellence, transparency, individual development, emphasis on the English language, and community service will be extended to the Elementary School. One immediate effect of the new association has been a sharp increase in applications for admission to the elementary school. One longer-term effect could be this: to begin one’s Anatolia education in kindergarten and leave – some years later! – with an MBA.

Many Anatolia students get involved in student drama productions. This year, first formers – 25 of them – put on skits in the First Form Forensics evening. Fifty more students worked in pairs to enact scenes from plays in the Forensics event called Duet Acting. The Drama Club put on a musical this year it was “Mamma Mia!”, with a run of five shows over two weekends. The Greek Theater Club presented Poioh’s comedy “Wake Up, Vassili!” and the Multimedia Club staged an original production around songs of Manos Hadjidakis. All of these activities are led by foreign and Greek faculty who volunteer their time and pass on their passion for the stage to their students.

The poet (Sideris Nanoudis) holds forth in “Wake Up, Vassili!”

Elena Pissioti and the cast of “Mamma Mia!” belt out an Abba song

Georgia Latsinoglou, Anna Loukidou
Bissell Library Co-Hosts Videoconference on Digital Library Best Practices

The magic is in the "co-hosts." The other host, the New York Public Library, was seven time zones away. Fortunately, the digital video signal that linked the two libraries was travelling at the speed of light. It may have been 5 p.m. on the ACT campus in Thessaloniki and mid-morning in mid-town New York, but communication was as close and immediate as if the participants had been in the same room.

"Digital Library Best Practices," a videoconference whose target audience was librarians, was held on April 30, 2004 in the Stavros S. Niarchos Technology Center in the Bissell Library of the American College of Thessaloniki and in the Langston Hughes Auditorium in the Schomburg Center of the New York Public Library. Over 100 librarians and other interested persons attended, with the Thessaloniki site filled to capacity. Participants at both sites deemed the event a success, both for the timely and relevant content and for the demonstration of the practicality of the technology for the sharing of ideas and expertise.

Providing access to electronic resources is an issue that concerns librarians worldwide. Because of the huge quantity of information available and the costs involved in organizing and providing access to it, libraries must seek new methods of collaboration. The videoconference was conceived as a way of communicating to a large and international audience those best practices used in both Greece and the United States to make digital information available to a wide range of library users. The conference brought together librarians from private institutions such as ACT as well as those from the public institutions who are members of HEAL-Link (Hellenic Academic Libraries Link) and provided a forum for discussions concerning the possible sharing of resources.

Funded by a generous grant from the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation, the videoconference was jointly planned by Bissell Library Director Karen Bohrer and the staff of the New York Public Library, a leader in digital library collections and services. Karen Bohrer introduced the conference and Heike Kordish of the New York Public Library gave the closing remarks. James Briggs Murray of NYPL’s Schomburg Center served as moderator and President Richard Jackson and Provost Stephanos Gialamas of ACT also welcomed the participants.
A Journey to Greece and Anatolia

By Dr. Dickran Kouymjian

A remarkable Greek-American-Armenian adventure began in December 2002 when Fresno State University's Armenian Studies Department called to a meeting with Richard Jackson, President of the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), Greece. It was President Jackson's second visit to our campus and, as I found out, our President, John Welty, had already visited ACT in Thessaloniki along with the head of our University exchange programs.

The remarkable aspect of that meeting was discovering that ACT had its roots as Anatolia College in Marsovan, Turkey. My mother had always told me and my brother Armen that her father, Dikran Calusdian, after whom I was named, had been a teacher at Marsovan College. A packet of material, some of it in Armenian, on ACT offered to us by President Jackson had in it a photocopy of a picture of some former Anatolia College faculty with Xs marking those who had been killed during the genocide. Spotting one young professor with a closely cropped full beard, I exclaimed, "That looks like my grandfather!" And so it proved to be. He was killed during the first weeks of the Genocide of 1915.

President Jackson's visit led to my visiting ACT as a Michael Dukakis Fellow. The twelve day adventure was full of surprises and lots of work. I gave my first guest lecture to combined Modern History classes on "Armenia and Armenians in Modern Historical Perspective." I tried to compare modern Armenian history with modern Greek history and spent some time explaining the Armenian Genocide and its consequences.

Later, there was a reception for us at the President's house with members of the Armenian community of Thessaloniki. We were told there are some 2,000-3,000 Armenians in the city, with many newcomers recently arrived from Armenia. We visited the Armenian church in the center of town, and after a weekend touring the monasteries of the Meteora, I lectured to an art history class on early Armenian architecture in comparison to the early Byzantine architecture of Thessaloniki. I also presented a paper to the Liberal Arts Faculty Colloquium on the subject "When Does a Genocide End? The Armenian Case." The two-hour affair also included a lively discussion session.

The next day I led a class of Anatolia College seventh graders in a discussion of William Saroyan. Someone had heard that I had known the writer, and coincidentally the class was reading his wonderful story "The Miraculous Phonomograph Record," included in their English reader with notes for students studying English.

That afternoon, one of the more unusual episodes of my stay unfolded around an old manuscript. Shortly upon our arrival, we were told about a rare medieval Armenian Bible kept in a safe on campus. I was asked if I would look at it and provide more information than the school had, and of course I was delighted to oblige. I finally got to see the book and immediately reported that it was a Gospel book, not of the 11th-12th century as believed, but certainly of the 17th century or slightly later. I made a formal presentation of the manuscript to a group of Armenian students, adults and interested faculty, and used the occasion to give those present an illustrated lecture on how early Christian Gospels were copied, organized, and illustrated. After the slide show we all huddled in the conference room around the manuscript (with a modern red leather binding) and I started turning the pages one by one, explaining section by section the work and its illustrations.

In the evening we were taken to the new Byzantine Museum for a lecture jointly sponsored by the Museum, ACT, and the local Armenian Hamaskaine Cultural Association. I gave a slide presentation on the miniatures of the Armenian version of the History of Alexander the Great and the origins of its iconography.

We had come with high expectations and we left with joy in our hearts, excited that I too had taught in the same institution that I had always believed my maternal grandfather had been a teacher in. Anatolia is a wonderful place. The graciousness of the administration and faculty, the beauty of the campus, its long academic tradition and its fine facilities, the open friendliness of the Greeks and the Mediterranean lifestyle, make ACT a perfect institution for our CSUF students interested in studying abroad or for our Fresno State faculty to visit and lecture at. To my hosts, I can only say, warmly, thank you!

Kanellis, Georgiadou Assume Top Spots

Two experienced Anatolia administrators are assuming new duties: current Senior Vice-President Dr. Panos Kanellis has been appointed Executive Vice-President and Chief Operations Officer of the institution, and Ms. Toula Georgiadou, who retired as Dean of the A' Lykeion at the end of last year, will be returning in September on an interim basis as Vice President for Secondary Education, replacing the departing Phaedon Zodiates.

Dr. Kanellis is a 1966 graduate of Anatolia with a doctorate in Bio-Organic Chemistry. He will oversee the operations of the high school, ACT, the Anatolia Elementary School, the Anatolia School of Management Assistants, and other programs. Ms. Georgiadou served Anatolia for 36 years as a Dean and philologue with a special interest in Byzantine history before her one-year retirement. "Anatolia is very fortunate to have such fine and committed individuals in positions of leadership at the school," commented President Richard Jackson.

George Bissell Awarded Silver Cross of the Phoenix

I accept it on behalf of all Americans who have a philhellenic heart."

Consul General Bikas stressed the ardor for Greek culture Bissell carries in his heart and raised a question often asked of Bissell — how a non-Greek has formed such a strong relationship with Greece and Anatolia. "Greece has given so much to the world that I feel privileged to have been able to give something back to Greece," Bissell answered.

Every year President Stephanopoulos honors a select number of Greek citizens who have excelled in fields such as public administration or the arts and sciences. A still fewer number of foreigners who have promoted Greece's stature abroad or made other contributions to the country are also chosen for awards. Judging from the attendance of guests at the ceremony at the Consulate, all swarming around Bissell to thank him and have a few words with the guest of honor, the award was rightfully bestowed. One of the attendees, Michael Dukakis, took a few moments to thank Bissell for the special relationship he has with Anatolia, "one of commitment, love, and dedication." Bissell could not avoid the limelight when receiving the award and was caught by surprise by Bikas, who led the room in singing "Happy Birthday" to the honoree.
"The Love of Man" is a Gift to All

Parents will often sacrifice a great deal to see that their child gets the best education possible. It is part of their natural desire to provide for their family’s success. But would you sacrifice to help another family’s child get the best in education? Demetrios Theodore was a man to whom family was of central importance. However, he took the meaning of the word to a new level, recognizing “family” in a global way, giving aid to those whom he had not, and would not, ever meet personally.

A member of the class of 1929 at Anatolia College, Demetri (as he preferred to be called) believed strongly in the literal translation of the Greek term “philanthropy,” the love of man. This benevolence toward the whole human family led Demetri to endow the Demetri Scholarship for children whose family financial situations would not allow study at Anatolia.

In the essay below, one of Demetri’s sons, Eustace, tells the story of his father’s life and the legacy that he so graciously laid out. Through this story he invites all who are so moved to join in furthering the vision of the Demetri Scholarship.

THE GIFT

In the early part of the last century, in what would later become known euphemistically as an act of “ethnic cleansing,” the Greek population of small villages in northern Turkey suffered horribly. Men were killed, and women and children were sent on a long death march toward the Greek border. In the little village of Garnish Maden, a young Greek schoolboy was caught up in the fog of war. His school, Anatolia College, was devoted to educating children of rural Greek villagers living in Turkey and to helping these children find a way out of the grinding force of agricultural poverty. When the Greek population was expelled from Turkey in 1922, many refugees resettled in Thessalonica. Anatolia College itself was forced to relocate and rebuild in order to continue to fulfill its mission of providing education to enable young men and women to grow and develop their talents.

The boy from Garnish Maden, Demetrios, survived the long march out of Turkey, graduated from Anatolia College, receiving the equivalent of a 12th grade education, and emigrated to the United States. He was helped in this journey by his older brother, Savas, who had blazed the trail to America a few years earlier.

When Demetrios arrived he vowed that if and when he could, he would help others come to this land of opportunity, just as his brother had helped him.

Over the next decade Demetrios received a bachelor’s degree from Northeastern University and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Economics from Boston University. Throughout a long and distinguished career in education, he taught at several liberal arts colleges and large state universities, retiring ultimately from Cleveland State. After retirement he extended his teaching career for a few more years, serving as a distinguished visiting professor during the founding years of the University of North Carolina, Charlotte. Throughout those years, not only did Demetrios help countless students grow and develop in ways that only a teacher can, he fulfilled his promise to help others come to find fortune here in the United States. At the time of this departure from Cleveland for Charlotte, his extended family—all those he helped bring to America plus those that were born Americans as a result of his efforts—honored him with a joyous farewell party. The crowd was so large that no one knew if the group—a church hall was booked for the occasion.

The combination of his late start in a career—he was over 40 when he finally received his doctorate, giving up his job in a restaurant the day before graduation—and the pressures of supporting a family on a professional salary meant there was little opportunity to build financial wealth. At retirement he was grateful for the solid income provided by TIAA/CREF, the professorial retirement fund. He also enjoyed the security of home ownership in a community just across from the University of Charlotte campus.

As Demetrios reflected on his life and the small sum he had been able to save, he realized that were it not for the impact of Anatolia College, he would have lived and died in a small village in northern Greece. Rather than being an educator, he would have scratched out a living raising Turkish tobacco or some other crop common to that region. He also realized that his two sons would not have been born Americans, but rather worked beside him in the hills outside Thessalonica. Indeed, all those that he had helped come to the United States would have lived and died in the circumstances of their birth, as would their children and their children’s children.

At that moment Demetrios reached a clear decision, though one not easily taken. Given his desire to provide what he could to ensure comfort for his wife and himself in retirement, he confronted the dilemma faced by all those who think about a sacrificial gift—a gift that truly lives up to the meaning of philanthropy, “the love of man.” But as “thought is father of the act,” once he began to think about what he might do, he knew what he must do. He divided his accumulated wealth in half and established with that sacrificial gift of half of all he had a scholarship at Anatolia College.

He stipulated that the scholarship should provide an income stream to ensure a perpetual scholarship for a boy or a girl of promise, but without the means to attend Anatolia—a boy or a girl much like the boy he was over six decades earlier. Though his gift was small in dollar terms, the fact that it was half of what he had, the reality that it was more than he could possibly afford, created a powerful impact with lasting effect. After his death just a few years later, members of his extended family decided to honor him with annual contributions on his birthday to the scholarship fund he started, the Demetri Scholarship at Anatolia College.

Though the fund is now far greater than Demetrios could ever have imagined, there is a more important impact of his gift than the dollars raised, more important even than all of the Greek students his philanthropy has assisted. This single demonstrative act—his sacrificial gift—taught many others the true meaning of philanthropy, to love others enough to give them a chance to be what they can be. I will always be grateful to my father for that lesson.

Eustace D. Theodore
Washington, DC

Demetrios’ belief in helping youth reach their potential lives on in the Theodore Family, as Eustace takes over annual scholarship fundraising efforts this year from his mother, Nicoletta. This year’s solicitation, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Demetri’s birth, has enjoyed a number of new donors and would gladly welcome more.

If Anatolia has played a part in creating a better life for you or a loved one, please consider offering a donation towards scholarship funds. What better way to say thank you than to help provide a similar opportunity to others? If you would like to further Demetri’s vision of “global family,” either by contributing a single gift or by personally sponsoring a scholarship student, please contact the Executive Director of Development, Richard Donovan, at Anatolia’s Boston Office by phone at (617) 742-7992, or by email at rdonovan@anatolia-act.org.