

OBJECT ID	2011.6.18
OBJECT NAME	Plaque
DATE CREATED	1965
OBJECT ENTITIES	Karalis, Elena (is related to)

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

A plaque for Ahepan of the Year to Demetrius N. Karalis. It is on the a piece of wood and is bolted in the wood with four screws in the corners. The top two and bottom left screw have a top on but the bottom right is missing the top. In the top left corner there is an eagle with a crown over its head and underneath there is the cross with two swords crossing through it. Under the cross there is a sunrise/set and an olive branch. The top right corner says, "The Supreme Lodge of the Order of Ahepa." In the middle it says, "Ahepan of the year Chapter award for 1965 to D. N. Karalis Demosthemes Chapter No.66, Minneapolis, Minnesota." On the bottom left corner there is a yellow seal and on the right side it is signed by the Supreme President and Chapter President.

ORIGIN

The donors grandfather, Gus Gianakopulos, came to America with 200 youths from the Sparta area around the time of 1881. Mr.Chaconas was in charge of the trip and when they arrived in Chicago all 200 of them were put in one room together and bought each one of them a push wagon. The group of people would sell one product a day using their push wagons. In 1893 the Gus became a US citizen and was working in the fruit and vegetable wholesale business. He later went back to Greece to visit but called the US his country. In 1900 a few men went back to Greece to get married and on their way back they brought the donors grandmother, Georgia, to Chicago, where her father and brother were. Gus and Georgia got married in December 1901 at the Holy Trinity Church and they invited all Greeks and the story is that there were 98 carriages that attended the reception. They had several children, first a boy then a girl named dasiy, then the donor's mother Pauline, next were two sisters, Virgina and Eleanor, and last was John. The Spartans in the area started a church in a building on South Water Street, but the priest had decided to go back to Greece. In 1908-1909 they built what is now the Annunciation Cathedral on LaSalle Street and in 1910 the church was completed. This church is where the whole family was baptized, married, and burried. The family lived on the north side of Chicago so any Greek schools were too far away for them to attend so a greek teacher came in Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 25 years. The donors mother, Pauline went to Forest Academy to studied dress design and not much after that she met her

husband and moved to Minneapolis in 1929. The two worked and helped out the church they were members of quite a bit. They traveled a lot and often went to Greece but in 1970 he passed away. They had two children, George and Elena and after her husband passed away Pauline and Elena went on many different trips around the world.

CITATION

Plaque, 1965, *National Hellenic Museum*, https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/. Accessed 11/10/26.