

'Tis the weekend to be bazaar shopping

Buy holiday gifts and support a variety of good causes

BY JULIA PANAYOTOU

This might be the busiest weekend for Athens bazaar shoppers. In the weeks leading up to Christmas and New Year's, local nonprofits raise funds for their causes by way of bashes that give visitors a family-friendly, inexpensive way to find otherwise hard-to-get gifts and specialties for the holiday table. This period is also a good time to donate new and gently used goods, or to donate some time to make homemade sweets and handcrafted gifts. The following are the bazaars taking place just this weekend (December 4-6):

Athens's longest-running bazaar is the **Greater Athens Anglican Chaplaincy Christmas Bazaar**. Since 1953, it has offered an array of UK imports and home-baked goods. It is taking place at Zappeio Hall from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The stalls will be selling decorations and gifts, toys, books, jams and chutneys, homemade pies and cakes and English-recipe sweets as well as stationary, diaries and calendars from the UK. Little ones can whisper their Christmas wishes to Santa while having their photo taken, while (non-driving) fathers can gather to soothe any holiday stress away at the bar. E-mail Anglican@otenet.gr for information.

The annual bazaar organized by **Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), Greece** will be selling homemade jams, holiday decorations, jewelry and a number of other gift items at O Horos (63 Sevastoupoleos, Ambelokipi). There will also be an opportunity for teachers to sit in on two professional workshops given by Efthichis Kantarakis and Danae Kozanoglou. For more information, call 210.778.8411 or visit www.tesolgreece.org.

For US candy and more, the annual holiday bazaar of **ACS Athens** is on Friday, from 3 p.m. at 129 Aghias Paraskevis Street in Halandri. Shop for gifts from the many vendors and peruse the used-book sale. Children can have their picture taken with Santa and visit the kids' crafts corner. There will also be homemade goods and American staples, such as hot dogs, hamburgers and nachos. Decorated cookie houses,



Annual tradition

The Greater Athens Anglican Chaplaincy Christmas bazaar dates back to 1953

es, an annual tradition for ACS mothers, will also be on sale as well. This year the school is working with the US Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program and all new, wrapped gifts collected by the foundation will be donated to underprivileged children in Greece. Visit www.acs.gr and www.toysfortots.org.

Up north in Thessaloniki, the Hellenic Literary and Historical Archive (ELIA) is having its Christmas bazaar at the **Hellenic Literary and Historical Archive bookstore** on Friday and Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 3 p.m. Books will be the highlight, on sale at discounts of up to 50 percent. There will also be ornaments, cards, 2010 diaries and prints. Call 2310.288.036 for details.

Support efforts to care for Athens's many strays. The **Volunteers for the Care of Stray Animals (EPAZ)** is having its second weekend bazaar on Saturday and Sunday from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., at 7 Saronidas Avenue in Saronida. There will be gifts, decora-

tions, wine baskets, cards, homemade sweets, books, jams and crafts. Call 6972.866.535 to learn more.

An international food stall, a chocolate fountain and mulled wine are sure to be popular at the **Society for the Protection of Stray Animals (SPA2)** Christmas bazaar on Saturday and Sunday at the corner of Aghiou Ioanni and Nafsikas streets in Voula. Children can play on a bouncy castle and have their faces painted, while adults can purchase handcrafted gifts and decorations as well as secondhand books, a white elephant sale and a raffle. After having worked up a shopper's appetite, head to the Blue Parrot, which will be serving freshly fried English-style fish and chips from 3 till 9 p.m. nearby at 18 Poseidonos Avenue in Voula. Call 210.895.6744 or 6988.690.493 for more.

An eco-conscious Christmas festivity is taking place Friday to Sunday at the **Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage**. From 11 a.m. to 8 a.m. in Plaka (28 Tripodon, near the Acropolis metro station), you can choose from a wide selection of environmentally friendly items on sale, from handmade Christmas decorations, toys and clothes for all sizes and ages to homemade sweets and organic foods from throughout Greece. The silk scarves and handcrafted jewelry on sale make for pretty gifts. Visitors can also browse through used clothes. Call 210.322.5245 if you have any questions.

For Alsatian delicacies as well as mulled wine, hot chocolate, spiced cakes, gifts and more, head to a bazaar organized by the **Association of Alsatians and Friends of Alsatians in Greece**. The bazaar will be on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at 4B in the Skaramanga Arcade, Ambelokipi.

Universities tie learning with service

International symposium focuses on civic responsibility

Over 60 universities from 11 countries were in Athens last month to participate in the Third International Symposium on Service Learning that focused on higher education.

"Education is the most honored profession under the sun," China's Ambassador to Greece Luo Linquan told the participants at the symposium, which took place on November 22-24 and was attended by higher education institutions such as Cornell, Georgetown, Rhodes University, the University of Pretoria in South Africa, University of Cumbria in the UK, Universität Duisburg-Essen in Germany and Ningbo Institute of Technology of Zhejiang University in China.

The three days saw academics discussing ways to integrate community service with instruction and show ways the synthesis could enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility and



Vasilis J. Botopoulos (l), UIndy vice president and Athens campus chancellor, and Symposium Chair Phylis Lan Lin (c) with China's Ambassador to Greece Luo Linquan.

encourage lifelong civic engagement.

"If we consider service learning as a social movement or social reform in higher education, we must address a number of pertinent questions so that service learning can be rooted in the fabric of higher education," said Phylis Lan Lin, symposium chair and associate vice president for international partnerships at UIndy. "Universities are increasingly embracing the notion of service learning as a model to integrate research work, learning inside the community through civic engagement."

The symposium was organized by the University of Indianapolis at the UIndy Athens cultural center, while the next "Service Learning" symposium will take place in China. Ambassador Luo encouraged educators to contribute to the upbringing of a globally minded generation. He told the symposium audience: "Socrates had challenged his fellow Athenians to acknowledge their ignorance and search for truth. Confucius had urged his contemporaries to approach wisdom through diligent learning and be ready to learn from others."

TEACHERS' VOICE bi-monthly magazine

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