

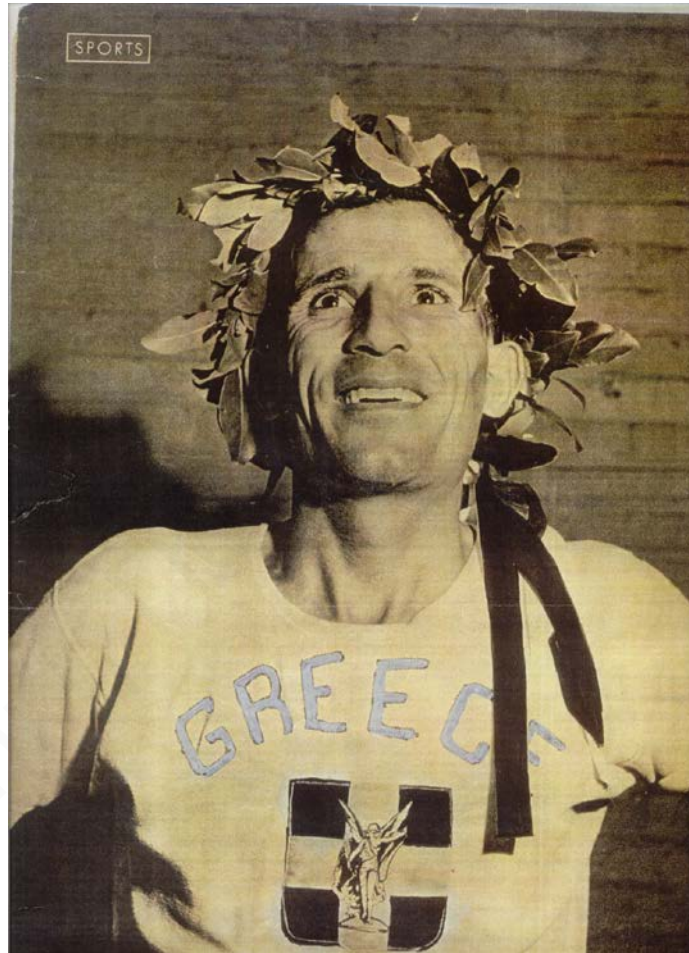
# KYRIAKIDES STYLIANOS

A great athlete who run for the human race



# Kyriakides Stylianos

the athlete, the man, the humanatarian



# Athletic Achievements

- 1932 - Starts training for first time and wins in the Pan Cyprian games in two days the 1500m, 5K, 10K and 20Km
- 1932 – 1948 : He is Greek champion 12 times in 5K, 1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, in 10K, 1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, and marathon 1933, 1934, 1936, 1934. Best times 5Km 15:33:00 in 1937, 10K 32:28:00 in 1936, marathon 2h 29m 27 secs
- 1934 – 1940 : Champion of the Balkans 10 times, 10K 1934, 1936 and marathon, 1934,1936,1937 and 1939 and 2<sup>nd</sup> in 1933, 1938, 1939 and 3<sup>rd</sup> in 1940

# Athletic achievements

- 1934 – 1940 : Marathon champion of Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Romania, Bulgaria.
- 1935 London : AAA championship, Silver medalist in marathon
- 1936 Berlin : Olympic marathon, 11<sup>th</sup> place 2h 43m 20secs
- 1937 London : AAA championship, Silver medalist in marathon, in 2h 40m 20secs
- 1938 Boston – While in the leading group, using new “unbroken” shoes without socks, he develops severe blisters and he drops out in the 21m.



# Athletic achievements

- 1940 – 1945 : WWII interrupts his carrier, he does not train or run at all.
- 1945 December : Undernourished and very thin, decides to start training to run Boston, he goes to Cyprus for better training conditions and corresponds with his coach Otto Simitchek.
- 1946 Boston marathon : Takes first flight from Athens to New York. Wins in 2h 29m 27secs – world best time and European record. After 1946 Boston becomes a truly international marathon.

# Athletic achievements

- 1946 Oslo European games marathon : drops out because of cramps.
- 1947 Boston marathon : 10<sup>th</sup> in 2:39:13 winner Yu Bok Suh Korea 2:25:39, Ragazos (Gr) 6<sup>th</sup> in 2:35:34
- 1948 London : Olympic marathon, 17<sup>th</sup> place, 2h 49m 00secs . Winner Cabrera (Arg) 2:34:51.6 . A most dramatic marathon. Most runners drop out because of excessive heat and humidity. 41 started and 30 finished. The leader was passed by two runners after entering the stadium because of dehydration.

# Athletic achievements

- His athletic career ends after the 1948 Olympics, at the age of 38, after 16 years, that were interrupted for 5 years during WWII. Missing two Olympics, 1940 and 1944. These could have been the best years of Kyriakides athletic career.
- Holder of the Greek marathon record for 36 years 217 days, with 2 h 29m 27secs from 1934 until 1970

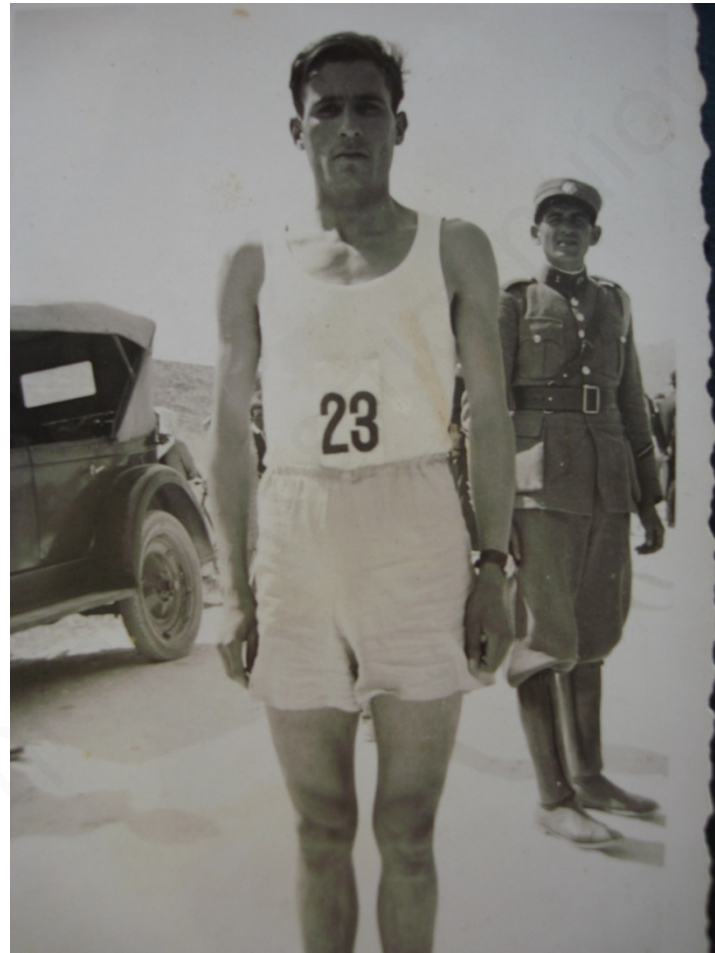
# Kyriakides parents Yiannis and Eleni



With mother, father, sister and her children



Cyprus 1932 started running at the age of 22





# First runner to use hand stopwatch to pace his races - Cyprus 1935



First runner to use hand stopwatch to pace his races



The hand stop watch was bought in London in 1935

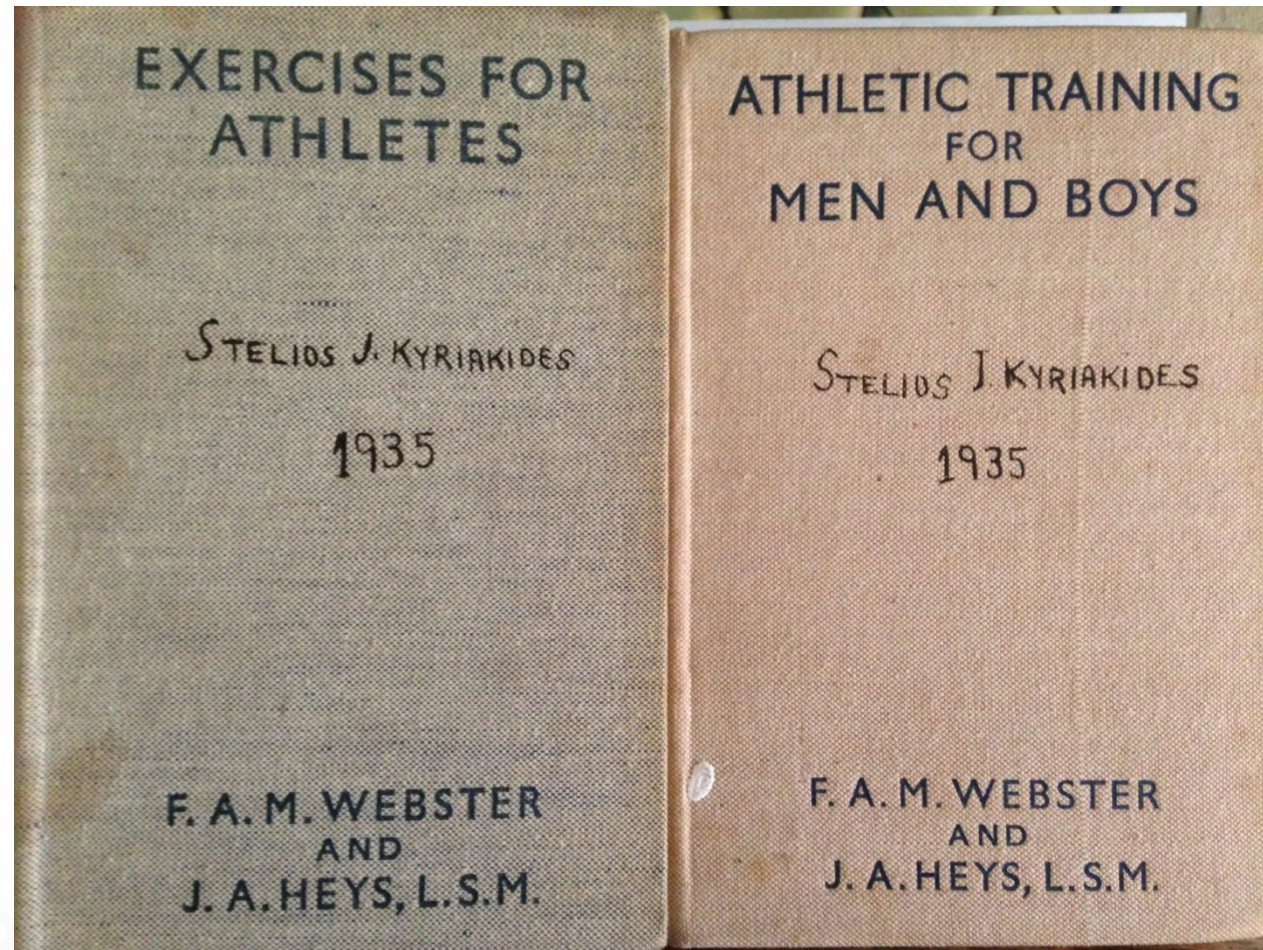


# First runner to use stretching exercises during warm up from 1935





First runner to use stretching exercises and to watch his died. Books bought in London



First runner to train with coach by  
correspondence – 1934 -1935-1945

# AAA CHAMPIONSHIP LONDON 1935

2<sup>nd</sup> place in 3:03:20, winner Norris (Eng) 3:02:58





# AAA CHAMPIONSHIP LONDON 1935 & 1937

Kyriakides is 2<sup>nd</sup> in the marathon



# OLYMPIC GAMES BERLIN 1936

Kyriakides 11<sup>th</sup> in 2:43:20

winner Sohn (Kor) 2:29:19





# OLYMPIC GAMES BERLIN - 1936





# OLYMPIC GAMES BERLIN 1936



# BERLIN OLYMPICS 1936

## start of marathon



# AAA CHAMPIONSHIP LONDON 1937

2<sup>nd</sup> place in 2:40:20



# AAA CHAMPIONSHIP LONDON 1937

Βιβλιοθήκη Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου

# BOSTON marathon – 1938

## Kyriakides travelled by ship, one month sailing

- Running with the new “unbroken” leather shoes given to him by the Greek community as a gift, and not using socks, he develops severe blisters in his feet, while in the leading group of 6 runners and has to drop out of the race in mile 20
- At that time the organizers did not have transport arrangements for the drop out athletes, so Kyriakides has to stop a bus for a ride and then get a taxi to go to the finish. Fortunately both drivers understood, and did not ask for money!

# First foreign runner to enter the BOSTON marathon - 1938



his arms and legs as limp as those of a rag doll.

Stelios Kyriakides, the Greek Olympian and a heavy pre-race favorite, dropped out of the race at the twenty-mile mark after running sixth most of the way. Kyriakides developed blisters on his left foot. No cars were available to bring him into the finish, so he hailed a passing bus, the driver of which allowed him to ride free. The bus, however, was not going far enough so Kyriakides dropped off and thumbed a ride from a motorist who brought him to a spot in Boston where a \$1.25 taxi ride brought him into the clubhouse.

The summaries:

*By The Associated Press*

1. Leslie Pawson, Pawtucket, R. I. 2:35:34.8
2. Pat Dengis, Baltimore..... 2:36:40.4
3. Johnny Kelley, Arlington.... 2:37:34.6
4. Mel Porter, New York..... 2:39:55
5. Paul Donato, Boston..... 2:42:05.2
6. Michael Mansulla, Brockton.. 2:42:30.6
7. Clarence Demar, Keene, N. H. 2:43:30.4
8. Gerard Cote, St. Hyacinthe, Quebec..... 2:44:01.4
9. Walter Hornby, Hamilton, Ont. 2:44:39.8
10. Fred Ward, New York..... 2:47:14.8
11. Anthony Paskell, Cambridge.. 2:47:34.4
12. Hugo Kauppinen, New York.. 2:49:05.2
13. Dave Komonen, Sudbury, Ont. 2:49:38.4
14. William Steiner, New York... 2:50:53.8
15. Leo Giard, Beverly..... 2:51:47.6
16. Lloyd Evans, Montreal..... 2:52:21.8
17. Andre Brunelle, Medford.... 2:52:37.4
18. Augustus Johnson, Port Chester, N. Y..... 2:56:43.2
19. Bob Tilton, Hamilton, Ont... 2:58:57.4
20. Cecil Hill, Beverly..... 2:59:06

Other finishers: George Lieberman, Philadelphia, 22d; John Clarke, Philadelphia, 28th; George Rolland, Long Island City, N. Y., 44th; Warren Dupree, Foxboro, 45th; Philip Oliver, Danielson, Conn., 47th; William Zsilka, New York, 49th; Daniel Hoffman, New York, 50th; Alson Cobb, Mansfield, 51st; A. Charles Brolochick, Newark, N. J., 52d; Michael O'Hara, New York, 55th; William Rossi, Providence, R. I., 57th.

Running shoes used until the 70's were made of hard leather soles and tops



# WWII years and occupation 1940-1944

- During the WWII years there was no sports activities anywhere in Europe. With little or no food many people died in Greece.
- Kyriakides and his family survived because as an electricity bill collector we could find some little food in the farms which he delivered the bills.
- Kyriakides helped the Greek resistance, by delivering messages, listening on short wave radio the BBC news which he passed on and by hiding Allied pilots in his cellar.



# Kyriakides joins the army in 1938 as volunteer





# Civil war years 1945-1949

- WWII was followed by the Greek civil war between communists and royalists, which was worse than the occupation.
- From 1940 to 1950 the economy of the country was in ruins
- Athletic activities started only for the group of athletes that went to the London 1948 Olympics with the money and athletic material and equipment that Kyriakides collected during his visit to the US in 1947

# BOSTON marathon 1946

Kyriakides takes first ever flight that took 3 days to arrive . Doctor does not allow him run, because he is too thin



# BOSTON 1946 start Kyriakides near the front

102 Marathoners as They Got Away at Hopkinton



SCENE AT START OF LONG GRIND as Marathon field began Hopkinton-to-Boston race this noon. (Globe Staff Photo by Danny Goshgizian)



# Boston 1946 - In the middle of the race



Boston 1946 - Epic battle between  
Johnny Kelley and Kyriakides.  
At that time too many cars  
in the road in Boston marathon route



# BOSTON 1946 – Kyriakides in the final half mile



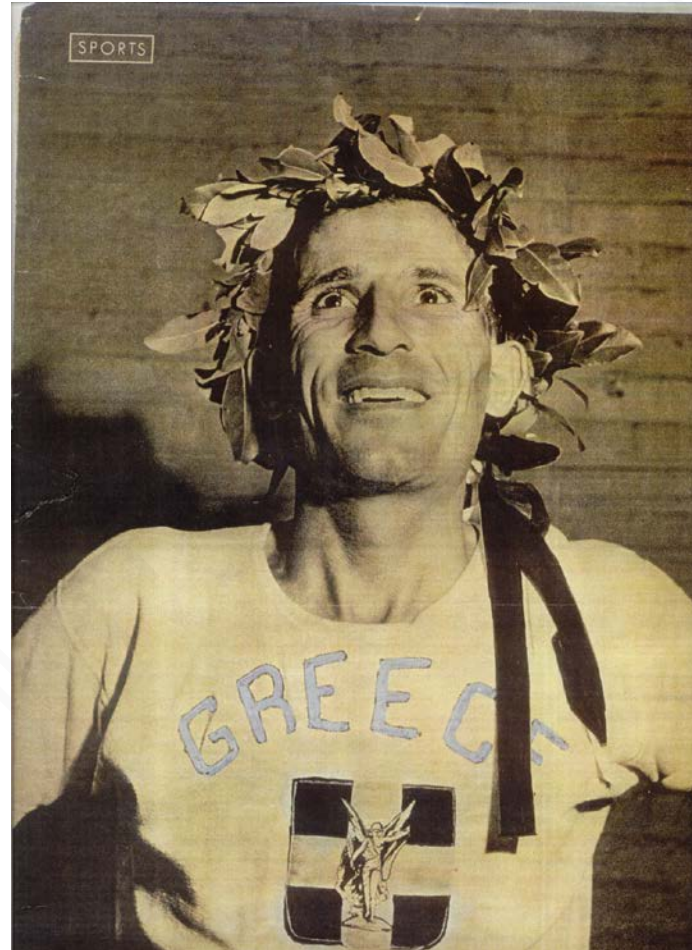


BOSTON 1946 winner in 2h 29m 27secs  
Worlds best time and European record



# BOSTON 1946 Kyriakides with winner wreath

## Photo from LIFE magazine





# BOSTON 1946 Bib and Gold medal with diamond for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



# One meter tall winners cup by the Cypriot community in BOSTON





# BOSTON 1946

- As a result of Kyriakides plea to the Americans for help to Greece, President Truman invites him to the White House.
- The President authorizes a special assistance called “THE KYRIAKIDES AID PACKAGE” consisting of about 25,000 tons of food, wheat, clothing, medicine, tents, blankets etc
- Kyriakides also collects USD 250,000 in cash plus cows and bulls and brings back to Greece.
- Kyriakides is the first athlete/runner to run for CHARITY

- Kyriakides is asked to become professional athlete, but he declines
- He is offered a 10 year contract by MGM to become an actor, but he declines.
- He has many offers to remain in the USA, but he declines.
- Kyriakides declares that he came to run for his devastated country and the hungry, dying people that need help.

## GREEK FOOD RELIEF RIDES ON MARATHON

Win by Kyriakides Can Boost  
Aid for Starving Country

By ARTHUR SIEGEL

The B.A.A. Marathon this Saturday may seem to be a lot of foolishness to logical people—such as ones who play mystic numbers trying to win the daily double at horse races—but the Greeks have a good word for it. And there is the significance in this year's race that if Stylianos Kyriakides of Greece can win, or be right there at the finish, that achievement will mean more food and clothing for impoverished Greece.

### GREEK NOT SEEKING PERSONAL GLORY

Such is the information offered by George Demeter, the Bostonian who is an avid marathon fan. He is rooting for Kyriakides to do well and there isn't anything but an idealistic viewpoint. In the past, Demeter has had his brief moment of fame when he slapped a laurel crown on the sweaty brow of the marathon winner.

This year he doesn't care about that moment of glory. "Kyriakides is a representative of Greek athletes," Demeter points out, "and while he is here as an athlete, he has been commissioned to pick up some athletic supplies to take back to Greece. It's almost pathetic how little they want back there. Three or four times, some shot for shot-putt, tin, javelin, track shoes, spiked shoes, track suits."

### WIN MAY BOOST RELIEF FOR GREECE

"He'll be traveling to help raise funds for Greek Relief. A victory might mean, by the time he finishes his tour, a whole ship of supplies that are so desperately needed back in his home country. It's a terrible burden for just one small man. But Kyriakides is a Greek and he's proud that he's the man to carry that burden. That's why he may be a bit more serious Saturday, since he's running for food and clothing—ever medicines—for millions of his countrymen."

Kyriakides wants a few of those as he calls them, ski suits, although over here they're known as sweat suits. The athletes in Greece want to get started and they want some thing with which to get started. They want to interest the young boys and girls in track. After all, that was of Greek origin.

Then Demeter went on as he told how much the Greeks in this country wanted Kyriakides to win and how much Stylianos wanted that victory in the B. A. A. run. The average competitor this Saturday will be thinking of what it means to him personally. There may be the national pride. But Kyriakides has a whole nation depending on him. If he wins this Saturday—

he finishes among the first five in this great event—he'll go touring the country, with Greeks in the various sections supporting that tour.

So that's the true story of Kyriakides and his second visit to the United States. He came over here since before, merely as a competitor. This time he's here as a life-saving aid.

Incidentally, Demeter revealed that the Massachusetts Greeks are planning to stage a marathon of their own in the future. Possibly Kyriakides' victory might move up the event a year. But the plans call for a Greek-conserved marathon, to be staged on Memorial Day, from Lowell to Boston.

One million Greeks wait to greet him on his return in May 1946





# One million Greeks wait to greet him on his return in May 1946





# A kiss for his wife and children



# EUROPEAN Championship OSLO 1946

First games in Europe after the war Kyriakides drops out because of severe cramps





# OSLO 1946

## PHOTO FROM GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

Winner Mikko (Fin) 2:24:55, Ragazos (Gr) 9<sup>th</sup> 2:32:50





# BOSTON 1947 Kyriakides 10<sup>th</sup> in 2:39:13

Winner Yu Bok Suh (Kor) 2:25:39, Ragazos 6<sup>th</sup> (Gr) 2:35:34





# USA special assistance to Greece 1947

- In May 1947, a year after his victory and as a result of the publicity given to the economic problems of Greece, as his victory in Boston Marathon in 1946, the US government sends to Greece an amount of \$ 400,000, 000 as an advance of the Marshall Plan assistance. Only country in Europe to receive advance.



# OLYMPIC GAMES LONDON -1948

Kyriakides is 11<sup>th</sup> in 2:49:00 dramatic race, 32 oC heat and humid conditions only 30 out of 41 runners finish the race



# LONDON 1948 Winner Cabrera (Arg) and people fainting from 32oC heat



# GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS - MARATHON

Βιβλιοθήκη Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου



One of the first runners to use his fame and popularity for the good of the community

- After Kyriakides retired he became member of the technical committee of the Greek Athletic Federation in 1951.
- In 1952 he starts to revive Greek Athletics for the youth.
- In 1952 he starts building the stadium in his home town Filothei a suburb of Athens.
- In 1956 with the stadium completed he starts the Filothei athletic club, bringing in the youth of the surrounding area to train .

# One of the first runners to use his fame and popularity for the good of the community

- By the end of the 50's he starts the boy scouts team in Filothei and later helps to start the girl guides
- In the difficult years of the 50's and 60's he helps the local community by organizing in social fund events.
- He finds homeless children in the streets of Athens, brings them home and helps to find government schols for them to study.
- He works continuously in his spare time in the Filothei stadium

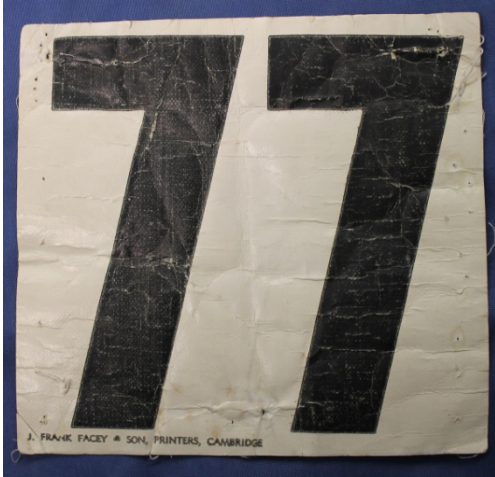
One of the first runners to use his fame and popularity for the good of the community

# Organizer of the first ATHENS international marathons from 1958 To 1978

- In 1951 joins as a member of the Greek Athletic Federation and from 1955 until 1981 he is responsible to organize the international marathon of Athens. Many great runners take part including Abebe Bekila 1961, the Fin Veiko Karvonen 1955, Ron Hill and Bill Adcoks GB 1969 and many other great runners from Finland, Japan, South Africa, New Zealand, Turkey, Belgium, Romania, Yugoslavia.



# December 10, 1987 Kyriakikides passes away



Boston 1946 Bib no **77**

Kyriakides chose this number because he said it was his lucky number. He won in **2:29:27**

He died in **1987** at the age of **77**.

We can therefore safely say that **7** was his number.

# KYRIAKIDES STATUES

Statue in city of Marathon, Greece, 2004



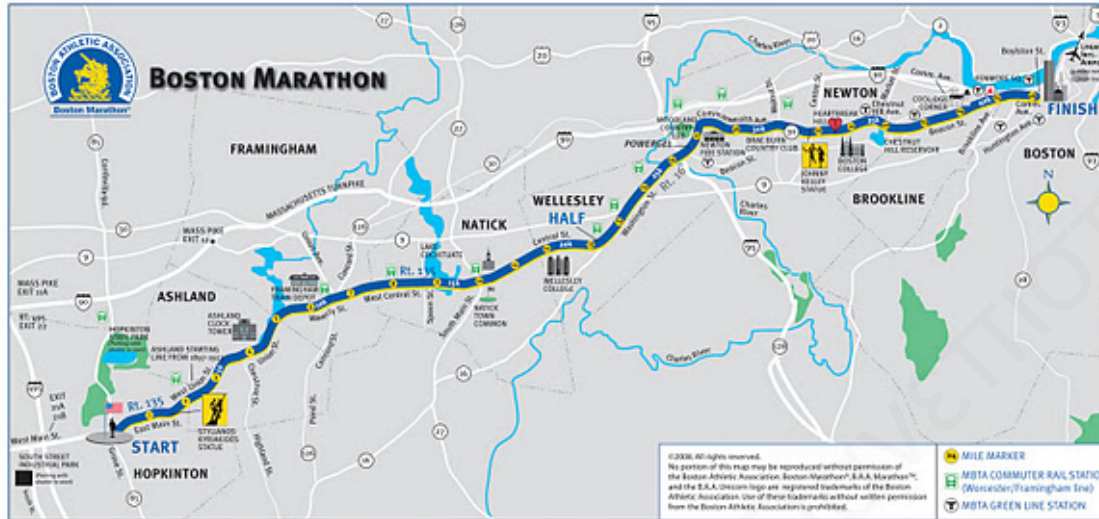
# KYRIAKIDES STATUES in Boston course one mile mark, 2006 Many runners lay a wreath before they run





# Boston marathon course

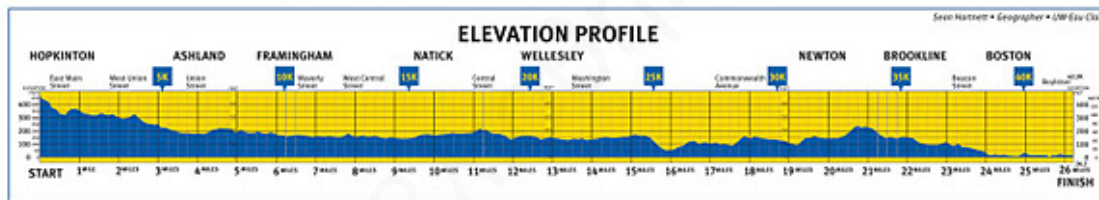
## Kyriakides statue at 1 mile mark



The historic course starts on Main Street in the rural New England town of Hopkinton and follows Route 135 through Ashland, Framingham, Natick, and Wellesley to where Route 16 joins Route 135. It continues on Route 16 through Newton Lower Falls to Commonwealth Avenue, turning

right at the fire station onto Commonwealth which is Route 30. It continues on Commonwealth through the Newton Hills, bearing right at the reservoir onto Chestnut Hill Avenue to Cleveland Circle. The route then turns left onto Beacon Street continuing to Kenmore Square,

and then follows Commonwealth Avenue inbound. The course turns right onto Hereford Street (NOTE: against normal traffic flow) then left onto Boylston Street, finishing near the John Hancock Tower in Copley Square.



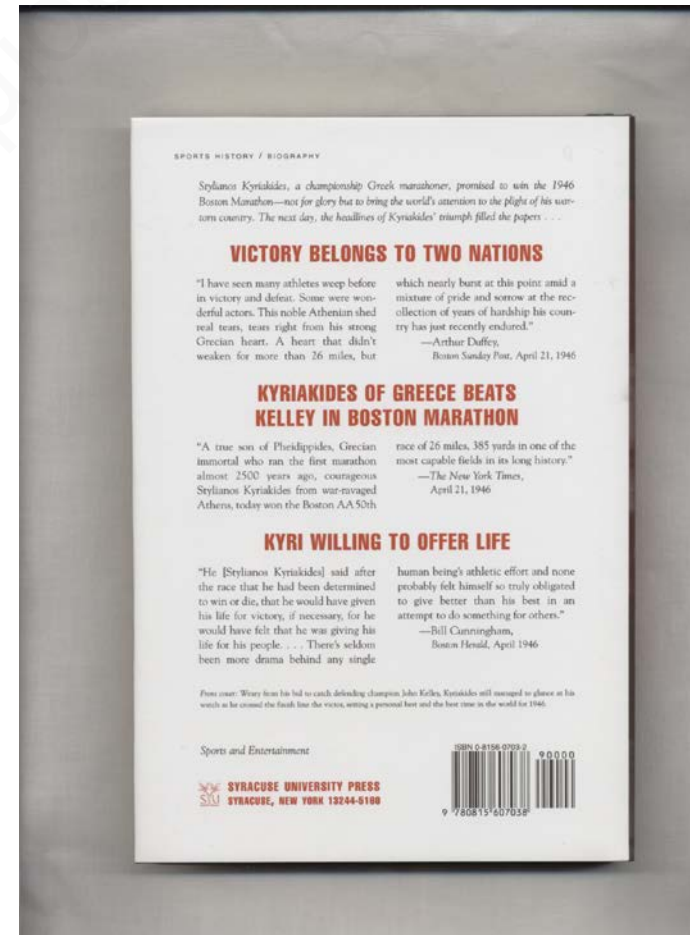
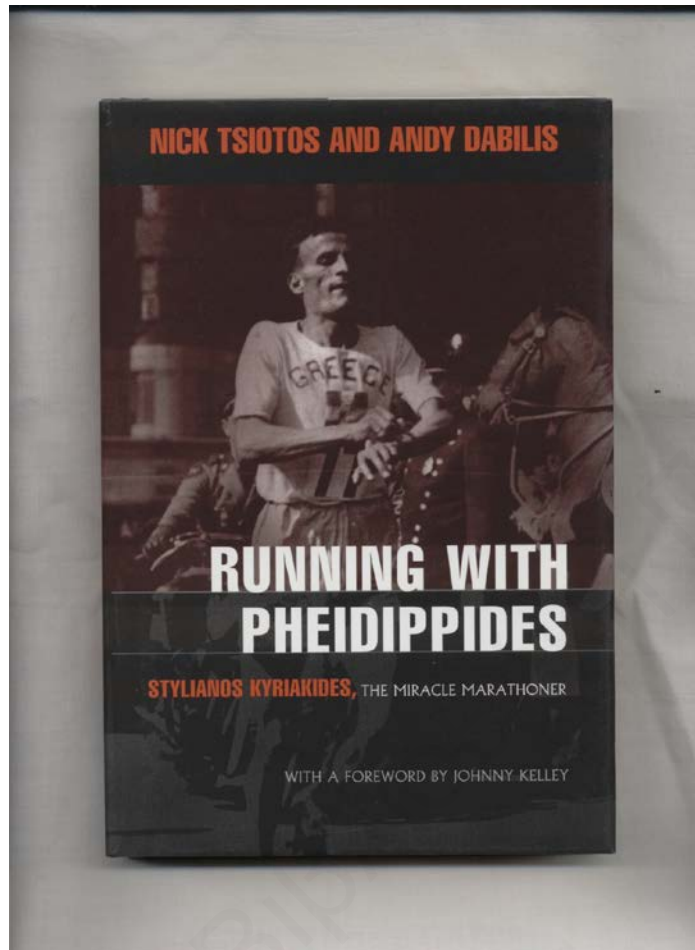


# Statues in Filothey Greece Pafos, Cyprus 2010



# RUNNING WITH PHIDIPPIDES 2001

## Book published in the USA





# And translated in Greek in 2003

## BORN WINNER



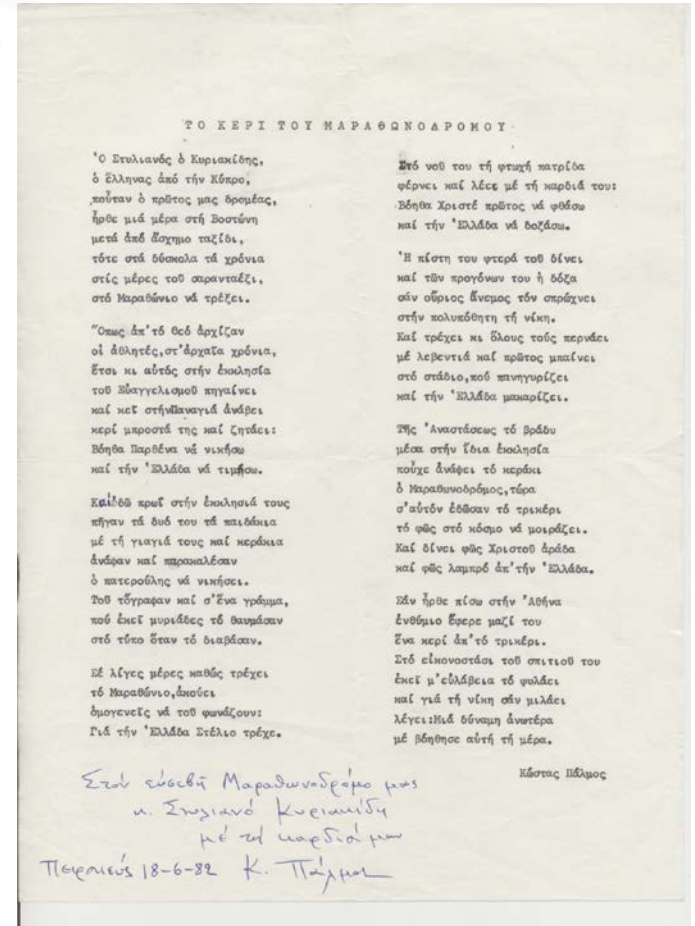
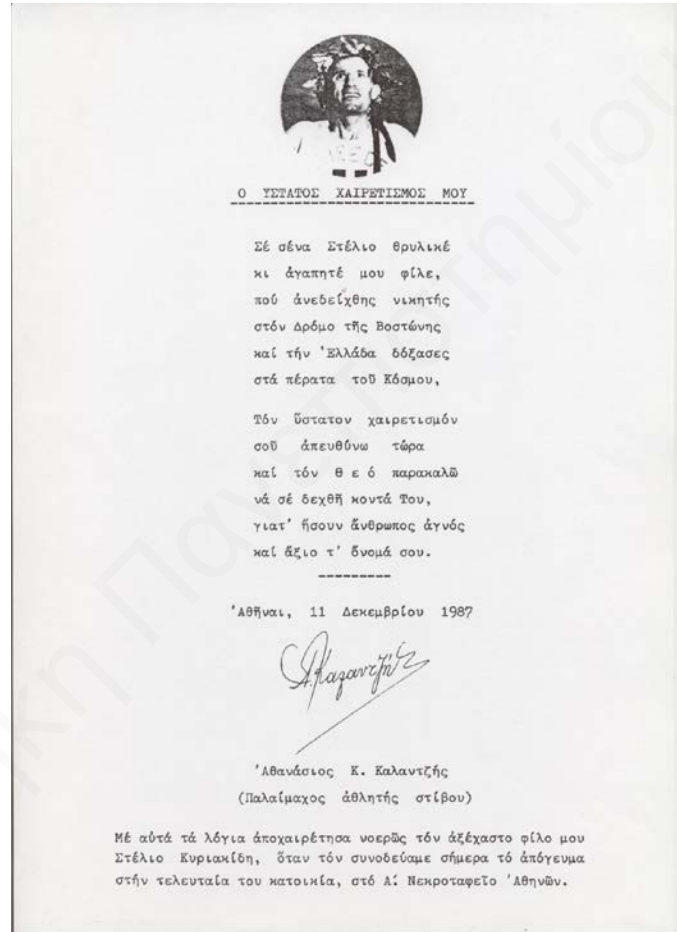
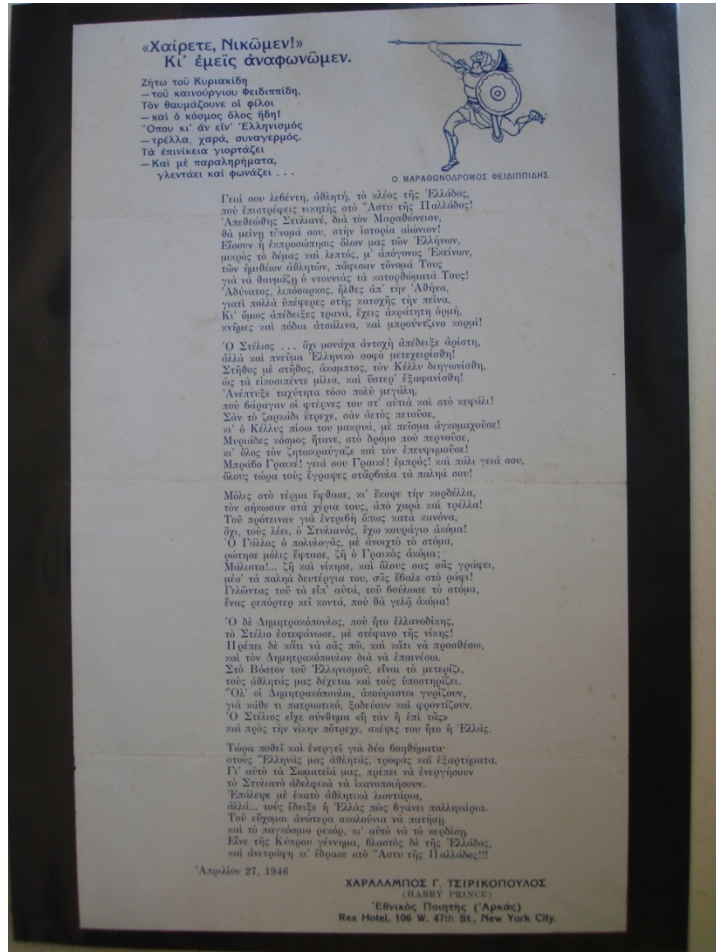
# KYRIAKIDES STORY in an NBC documentary

## Winner of EMMY award in 2004





# MANY POEMS ON KYRIAKIDES HAVE BEEN WRITTEN



# KYRIAKIDES CARTOONS





# COMIC BOOK FOR KYRIAKIDES in the USA 1946





# Many MAGAZINES around the world have written articles about Kyriakides









DISNEY is developing the Kyriakides film






# Village of Pyrgos, Peloponnese, Greece

## Annual race since 1988 near his tomb



# Kyriakides special exhibit in Boston Sports Museum 2001




*Over the past four years* I've followed with great interest the work of my friends Nick Tsiotos and Andy Dabilis as they researched and wrote the definitive biography of marathoner Stylianos Kyriakides. Their book, entitled, "Running with Pheidippides" documents the inspiring tale of a runner who achieved one of the most improbable victories in the history of distance running. His triumph at Boston in 1946, on the 50th anniversary of America's oldest marathon, not only established the international credentials of the race, but also focused world attention on war ravaged Greece.

Kyriakides' triumph was achieved through the support and sacrifice of his family and employers in Athens. Before returning to Greece, following his victory, Kyriakides traveled throughout America raising both money and awareness for his nation and returned home to a hero's parade viewed by a million cheering Athenians. His triumph evoked the glory of ancient Greece while helping save the modern war-torn nation. He was, and remains, forever a national hero and one of international sport's true humanitarians.



In 1946 Boston was blessed with many noteworthy sports achievements including the first Red Sox pennant since 1918 and the founding of the Boston Celtics. However, the most significant victory of them all was achieved, most appropriately on Patriots Day and Holy Saturday, by a Patriot in the truest sense of the word.

*Richard A. Johnson, Curator*


**KYRIAKIDES...**  
*Running for the Human Race*



Opening April 17, 2002, 7:00 p.m.  
American College of Greece  
Library, Upper Level  
6 Gravias Street, Aghia Paraskevi  
The exhibit will remain open until Friday, April 26  
(9-5 p.m. except weekends)



**A VERY SPECIAL EXHIBIT**  
ON THE ATHLETE, THE CHAMPION, THE HUMANITARIAN

  
*Stylianos Kyriakides*

**RUNNING WITH PHEIDIPPIDES**  
Exhibition Foreword

by John S. Bailey,  
President, The American College of Greece

I was an American adolescent living in Boston, Massachusetts, when Stylianos Kyriakides courageously won the 50th Boston Marathon, earning the acclaim of all athletes - especially of his home country, Greece, and his birthplace, Cyprus. A modern-day Pheidippides, the Greek victor might well have uttered the single word breathlessly spoken by the first Marathon runner to anxious Athenians in 490 BC - *Nenikamen!* ("We have conquered!").

With memories of 20 April 1946 still fresh, I am proud indeed to introduce this Exhibition which relates Kyriakides' triumph that moved the hearts of millions. It was a physical and truly spiritual feat in the immediate wake of years of oppressive Axis occupation of Greece, of starvation and civil war. His family had endured deprivation and hardship; and, even while training post-war for Boston, he went short of essential nourishment.

Kyriakides had a twofold purpose in making his second attempt at the Boston Marathon: to win and so to publicize Greece's fearful plight and her pressing needs. On both counts he decisively succeeded.

As chance would have it, the father of my wife Irene - Yannis Korres - was a close friend and fellow athlete of Kyriakides. This bond led to Kyriakides becoming Irene's godfather. Irene, who is Director of Cultural Affairs, is the prime mover in bringing this Exhibition to Greece and to the College - an American institution enjoying many ties with Boston.

It is an honor for The American College of Greece to welcome each one of you to this Exhibit which celebrates an historic victory.







# Deere Collage exhibit 2003



# ANATOLIA College Greece Kyriakides Exhibit in 2006

Βιβλιοθήκη Πανεπιστημίου Κρήτης

# KYRIAKIDES HONORED by the BAA in 2006





LIMASSOL, Cyprus ,100 year anniversary 2010

Βιβλιοθήκη Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου

# Pafos, Cyprus, 2010



Cyprus marathon in Pafos since 2015 is  
dedicated to Kyriakides

Βιβλιοθήκη Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου



# Kyriakides honored by

- Honorary citizen of many cities such as Boston, Athens, Piraeus, Nea Smyrni, Faliron, Limassol, Patras and many others
- GOLD CROSS of the Phenix by the King of Greece in 1962
- Honorary member of the ROTARY clubs in Greece and Cyprus
- Honored by all the athletic clubs of Greece and Cyprus
- In the last ten years Foundations and sports peace movements use Kyriakides as an example to follow in their conferences in the USA, GREECE, SOUTH AFRICA, CYPRUS and others

- At least 6 long distance races in Greece and Cyprus are dedicated to Kyriakides

# Kyriakides archive 1931 – 1987 in the internet

- The Kyriakides vast archive with countless documents, letters, photos newspaper clipping, original newspapers, diplomas etc can be found in the internet. [www.kyriakides.org](http://www.kyriakides.org)



# HAND STOPWATCH, DIET AND EXERCISES

## 秒表，饮食和运动



KYRIAKIDES BOSTON 1946 WORLD RECORD 2h29m27s

FIRST RUNNER TO USE HAND STOPWATCH IN 1935

1946年，KYRIAKIDES赢得波士顿马拉松冠军并创造当时的世界纪录2小时29分27秒

# HAND STOPWATCH, DIET AND EXERCISES

秒表，饮食和运动



THE STOPWATCH秒表,  
1935年

# MUSEUM OF MARATHON RUN IN THE CITY OF MARATHON

## 马拉松博物馆 在希腊马拉松市



THE TWO ATHLETES STATUES IN THE ENTRANCE ARE  
A GIFT FROM THE SISTER CITY OF XIA MEN  
两个运动员雕塑是来自厦门的礼物





Kyriakides exhibit of his personal memorabilia  
can be found in the museum of marathon run  
in the city of Marathon











# MUSEUM OF MARATHON RUN IN THE CITY OF MARATHON

## 马拉松博物馆





# Some of Kyriakides trophies



# THINGS NOT TO HAPPEN

## 不应该发生的事情



BOSTON FIRST EXPLOSION  
2013年波士顿爆炸

# THE SPIRIT OF MARATHON

## 马拉松精神



COMPETITORS HELPING EACH OTHER

竞争者互相帮助