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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The World's First Computer: The Antikythera Mechanism**

*Astronomer John Seiradakis shares the secrets of the ancient analog computer*

**CHICAGO, IL** - Learn the astronomical secrets of the Antikythera Mechanism, an ancient analog computer with more than 30 hand-cut bronze gears discovered more than 100 years ago by sponge divers near the Greek island of Antikythera.

Researchers say the device, which predates any other known clockwork mechanisms of similar complexity by more than 1,000 years, was designed to predict astronomical positions and the cycles of the ancient Olympics.

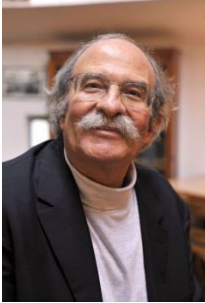
Please join us on Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the National Hellenic Museum for a discussion with Dr. John Seiradakis, Radio Astronomer and Physics Professor at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. You'll learn how state-of-the-art technology was used to decode the truth behind the world's first computer.

Admission: \$15 for the general public, \$10 for members, and \$5 for students.

The National Hellenic Museum's *Celebrating the Greeks* program series is made possible by a generous donation from Grecian Delight Foods and the Parthenis Families.

Other generous sponsors of this program include the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation, Hellenic Link – Midwest, Hellenic American Women's Council, and Dr. Thanasis Economou.

Photo 1:  
Dr. John Seiradakis



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*Located in Chicago's Greektown, the sleek 40,000-square-foot National Hellenic Museum at 333. S. Halsted St. is both contemporary and timeless, connecting all generations—past, present and future—to the rich heritage of Greek history, culture, art and the Greek American experience. The National Hellenic Museum, previously known as the Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center, has been fulfilling this mission since 1983.*

For more information, visit <http://www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org> or call 312-655-1234.

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