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Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, Executive Director of AEWC, Raket Dink and Andy Torigian, Executive Director of AMAA



AMAA News

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Together We Can Build

Andrew Torigian

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.” (Luke 6:38).

For the first time in the history of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), the Board of Directors last year approved a Capital Fundraising Campaign to build and renew our infrastructure throughout the areas where we serve. This fundraising ties in very nicely with the 90th Anniversary of the founding of the AMAA which began building churches and schools in our historic Armenia shortly after the battle of Sartarabad, that the Armenians defeated the Turkish forces and became a free and independent Armenia on May 28, 1918.

It has been a little over a year now since we began our Capital Fundraising Campaign to reach our minimum goal of \$13 million. The support has been tremendous. All of our AMAA Board Members have participated. The response from our AMAA members who were approached was exceptional. As a result, we have raised over \$9 million in donations and pledges. We have another six months to complete our goal.

“Render service with enthusiasm, as to the Lord and not to men and women, knowing that whatever good we do, we will receive the same again from the Lord, whether we are slaves or free.” (Ephesians 6:7-8).

The AMAA banquet for the 90th anniversary celebration took place at the Hilton in Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey. The focus at the banquet was a tribute to all of our lady volunteers who do so much for our programs in Armenia with Orphan & Child Care, the Milk Fund and Summer Camp and Christmas Committee. This included our special guest Rakel Dink who was given an award for carrying on the work of her husband Hrant Dink.

“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of Hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.” (Malachi 13:10).

If you receive a telephone call or a written solicitation from the AMAA Campaign Committee, open your heart and recognize the good your contribution will make to those who have the least.

Oristos 6nau ;u \a\tn; zau4]; xi4 m; xi m; 6 Au; tis!
Krisdos dzenav yev haidnetzav, tzezi, mezi Medz Avedis.
(Christ is born and is revealed, good tidings to you and to us).

Unselfish Sacrifice

Dikran Youmshakian

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) this year celebrates the 90th Anniversary of its founding. This is a great opportunity to thank God for its long history of service.

As we review the history of the AMAA and reflect on the factors that helped in its organization and success, our attention immediately focuses on the sacrificial efforts of the founding members and the first trustees of the AMAA. This group of great visionaries took a courageous step to immediately plan a major fundraising campaign. The aim was to raise at least half a million dollars to renovate all Armenian Evangelical Churches and Armenian schools in the homeland Armenia. Unfortunately, unanticipated events interrupted this effort. The deteriorating political situation in the homeland with Armenia becoming part of the Soviet bloc, made it impossible for the AMAA to reach out to the needs in Armenia.

This hindrance fortunately did not reduce the enthusiasm and the perseverance of the founders. On the contrary, they became more motivated and kept the flame of hope burning in their hearts and minds. The campaign went on to support major rehabilitation programs in the Armenian Diaspora. The allegiance of the organizers became the driving force behind the success of the AMAA.

Unselfish sacrifice was the secret behind the success of the AMAA. The founding members comprising both clergy and concerned lay leaders, endeavored to make sure that AMAA succeeds and that future generations become motivated. No doubt they were successful and they do deserve our special recognition:

Vahan Babasinian
Rev. A. A. Bedikian
Rev. Kapriel Bedrosian
Haroutune Dadourian
Rev. Hagop M. Depoyan
Dikran Donchian
Rev. Yervant Hadidian
Dr. Aram G. Hejinian
Melidon B. Ignatius
Rev. Mihran Kalaydjian
Minas Kondazian
Armenag Mahjoubian
B. John Mushekian
Rev. Manasseh Papazian
Garabed T. Pushman
Dikran S. Sarkisian
John Telfeyan
S. B. Yacoubian
Rev. Haig Yardumian

They took on the critical task of placing the organization on a firm foundation. At a time of crisis, they opened their

hearts and provided from their pockets. With great devotion, and sacrifice they, and their immediate successors, served the AMAA in this manner for almost 25 years.

Fortunately, those who followed were as dedicated as the original founders. After 90 years, if we name all the volunteer and meticulous leaders that served the AMAA, we might fill the pages of this publication.

Today, the AMAA faces new challenges. The newly independent Republic of Armenia with its crucial needs, the struggling Armenian communities in the Middle East, the status of thousands of Armenian immigrants in Europe, and the specific needs of Armenians in North America, anticipate much from the organization. The AMAA will not stand still and will challenge its members and friends to do their utmost to help our communities around the world.

Much emphasis will be placed on the involvement of the youth and the new generation. They will be motivated to take responsibility and continue to labor. Past experience can be a driving force and the Scriptures can become an inspiration. The founders were inspired by the example of Jesus who came not to be served but to serve. So should those who will be called to lead this organization. Let us simply follow the example of Jesus and labor with unselfish sacrifice.

May God lead us through this celebratory year and may He guide us with His wisdom. Praise be to his name. □

A GLANCE INTO AMAA HISTORY

THE FOUNDING AND INCORPORATION OF THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA:

First, in 1907, the Union of the churches in eastern United States formed a Mission Committee. Then, at three Annual Meetings of the Union (1915, 1916, 1917), the delegates began to show impatience with the lack of progress. Finally, the Executive Committee of the Union, composed of the Reverends Mihran T. Kalaydjian, H. Y. Yardumian, S. B. Yacoubian and businessmen John Telfeyan and Dikran Donchian were instructed to come up with an organizational structure for a Missionary Association by the time the convention met in Worcester in 1918. These men presented their findings and recommendations, along with formulated Bylaws, to the Annual Meeting of the Union held in Worcester in 1918. On Friday, June 7, 1918 delegates from ten established churches and twelve mission fellowships set aside hesitation and voted with enthusiasm and unanimity to establish the Armenian Missionary Association of America. Between the years 1918 and 1921, the Bylaws were finalized and the AMAA was registered as a public corporation.

(A Brief History of the Armenian Missionary Association of America by G. H. Chopourian)

AMAA 90th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting Kicks-Off Together, We Can Build Miracles Campaign

This year the Armenian Missionary Association of America's (AMAA) 89th annual meeting and related activities were held at the AMAA Headquarters in Paramus, NJ on October 16-18, 2008 under the leadership of Dr. H. Steven Aharonian, President and Mr. Andrew Torigian, Executive Director.

The turnout was high and reports from the various committees were encouraging. They clearly reflected that the mission of the AMAA remains alive, vibrant and true to the vision of our founders. It also continues to remain true that the work of the AMAA and the Armenian Evangelical Unions are a united effort to address the challenges of the society we live in today.

In the evening on Saturday, October 17th, more than 200 people gathered at the Hasbrouck Heights Hilton to attend the celebration of 90 Years of Miracles. The celebratory theme resounded throughout the evening's program which

was led by our gracious master of ceremonies, and one of the AMAA's Vice Presidents, Ms. Jeanmarie Papelian.

Program highlights included a tribute to the AMAA ladies' committees, honoring the hard work and love that the committee founders, chairs and members have placed in all of their projects on behalf of the AMAA. The women at the helm of these committees are the heart and soul of the majority of fundraising endeavors conducted for the AMAA.

The evening included musical interludes by soloists Ari Agnerian and Armine Kassabian and pianist Paul Nercessian who entertained by performing traditional Armenian songs.

The pinnacle of the evening's program was a presentation made to our honored guest, Mrs. Rakel Dink. An emotionally charged presentation was made when Andrew Torigian along with Rev. Dr. Tootikian presented Mrs. Dink with a plaque honoring Hrant Dink's life and work. A special painting by Mrs. Lucy Janjigian was also presented to Mrs. Dink. In her speech, Mrs. Dink thanked the Armenian Evangelical community and the AMAA. It was through their direct support to the Tuzla Summer Camp (Camp Armen) which Rakel and Hrant attended that help define the path Hrant chose to follow.

Dr. Carnegie Calian, the keynote speaker of the evening emphasized the need to begin preparing for the AMAA's next decade and continue into another 100 years of service to the Lord. He

further inspired us to take heed of the John 3:16 message to us: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." Let us all continue coming



Rakel Dink delivering her words of gratitude and appreciation.



A special painting by Lucy Janjigian being presented to Rakel Dink by Andy Torigian.



Armenia's Ambassador to the UN Armen Martirosian greeting the guests.

AMAA 90th ANNIVERSARY

together and remembering those who are forgotten. It is with your help that the AMAA continues offering life-changing opportunities.

The weekend's activities came to a spiritual conclusion when everyone gathered at the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus for the AMAA Annual Worship Service.

It is with love and great appreciation that we thank the Public Relations Committee Co-chairs, Janet Avakian and

Lucienne Aynilian, for their tremendous work organizing the delicious meals and service over the three day period of meetings.

Ninety years ago, the founders of the AMAA had the foresight to create an organization whose mission was to wipe out ignorance and hopelessness by providing educational, social, intellectual and religious opportunities in Armenia and throughout the diaspora. This vision has led to 90 Years of Miracles. Recently, the AMAA found itself positioned at a fork in the road to continue offering those same opportunities to the next generations affected by economic and civic disadvantages. In 2007, our current-day visionaries decided to embark on a \$13 million capital campaign to strengthen the foundation, address the growth of our programs and projects, and proclaim that "Together, we can build miracles." The Together, We Can Build Miracles campaign celebrates the successes of our past and it is the next step into the future. Championing this campaign and at the



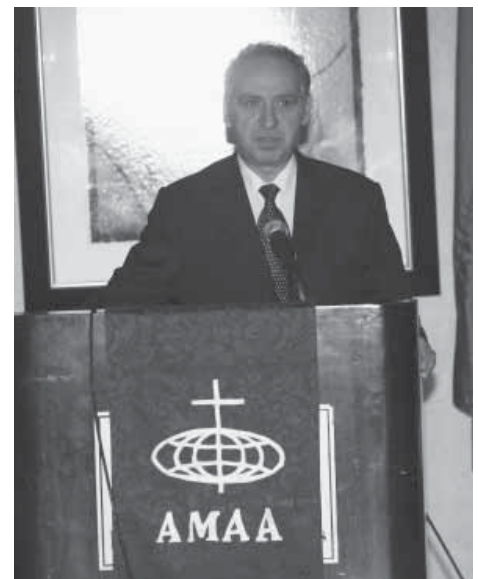
Rev. Dr. Carnegie Callian, the keynote speaker of the Banquet.



Rev. Joel Mikaelian, President of the Armenian Evang'l Union of France giving the invocation.



Rev. Joe Matossian Minister to the Union (AEUNA) greeting the guests.



Rev. René Leonian, AMAA Representative in Armenia greeting the guests.



Receiving handmade recognition gifts from Armenia. (l to r) AMAA Field Director Dikran Youmshakian, Ex. Director Andy Torigian, President Steven H. Aharonian, M.D., Rev. Samvel Kirakosyan, president of the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches of Eurasioa and Rev. L. Nishan Bakalian.

helm are the campaign co-chairs: Elaine A. Kasparian, Charles Bilezikian, Robert Hekemian, Sr., George Phillips, Sr., and Joyce Stein along with the assistance of AMAA Executive Director Andrew Torigian.

We continue to thank God for the opportunity to make a difference. It is with joy that the AMAA works hard to
(Cont't on page 8)

Tribute to the AMAA Ladies' Committees



Elizabeth Agbabian and Michele Simourian,
AMAA Orphan & Child Care Co-Founders.



Mary Jane Hekemian and Joyce Philibosian Stein,
AMAA Orphan & Child Care National Co-Chairs.



Lucy Janjgjian, AMAA Summer Camp & Christmas
Committee Founder and National Chair.



Elbiz Baghdikian, AMAA Summer Camp & Christmas
Committee Chair.



Marie Alberian, Rose Torigian, Elizabeth Aynilian, Ida
Gueyikian & Lily Anne Babigian, AMAA Summer Camp
& Christmas Committee members. Lily Anne is also a
member of AMAA Orphan & Child Care Committee.



Seta Nalbandian and Louisa Janbazian, members of
AMAA Orphan & Child Care and Summer Camp &
Christmas Committees.

Tribute to the AMAA Ladies' Committees



Suzy Phillips and Inga Markarian, Haigazian University LA Auxiliary Committee members.



Janet Avakian and Lucienne Aynlian, AMAA Public Affairs Committee co-chairs. Janet & Lucienne were the co-chairs of the AMAA's 90th Anniversary Banquet.



Elaine Kasparian, Founder Armenian Children's Milk Fund and Co-Chair of AMAA Development Committee.



Jeanmarie Papelian, Esq., Armenian Children's Milk Fund Chair.



Julie Aharonian, Haigazian University LA Auxiliary Committee member.



Rosette Tootikian, Detroit area AMAA Orphan & Child Care Committee Past Chair.



Arsiné Phillips, LA area AMAA Orphan & Child Care Committee Co-Chair.



(Cont't from page 5)

bring Jesus into the lives of our fellow Armenians throughout the world and provide humanitarian aid regardless of religious persuasion.

The 90th Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 2009, hosted by the Armenian Euphrates Evangelical Church in Providence, Rhode Island. □

Soloists Arminé Kassabian, Ari Agnerian and Pianist Paul Nercessian receiving Flowers of recognition for their musical performance at the banquet.

We Salute You AMAA ! On the 90th Anniversary

We salute you Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA)! Hail to you on your 90th birthday! It was surely the hand of Providence that guided that team of Armenian Evangelicals, those men of vision, who brought you into existence on that fateful day of June 7, 1918, in the little town of Worcester, Massachusetts.

You have come a long way. You have been God's gift to our nation, extending your spiritual, educational, cultural, social and philanthropic services to the Armenian nation and beyond.

As I look back to your 90 years of accomplishments, I cannot but praise God for making you a wonderful instrument to spread His blessings all over the world. How many lives have you touched, inspired and uplifted through your financial and moral support of churches, schools, camps, clinics, centers, educational and cultural programs. Thousands and thousands of Armenians and non-Armenians, generation after generation, have been blessed by your benefactions and have found their ways to a better life! You have been the "Good Samaritan" to numerous needy people—orphans, widows, shut-ins, poverty-stricken, sick and the sorrowing.

We salute you AMAA, for you have been the benefactor and mentor of tens of thousands of Armenian students helping and enabling them to receive their education! Through your financial, spiritual and moral support you have given them their dignity, imparted to them Christian values, and inculcated in them the pride of being Armenian Christians (Hye Christonya).

We salute you AMAA, for you have been one of the unshakable rocks of the Armenian nation! Your history is one of continued growth in the midst of ever-expanding Armenian-American community. Today, you possess nine decades of tremendous success and an untarnished record of service to the Armenian people. Today, you represent one of the most vital, dynamic and substantial Armenian organizations in America and in the Armenian Diaspora. Today, you are helping our nation build a strong and secure community throughout the world.

We salute you AMAA, for you are the future hope of our community life! Therefore, march forward, looking upward and onward and continue to be a spiritual filling station where Armenians will come to get refueled and have their moral and cultural batteries recharged. March forward confidently and continue to invest financially, morally and spiritually in Armenian lives, resting assured that those investments will yield great dividends in the new generations. March forward and continue to stretch your loving and healing hands to meet many needs and challenges. March forward and continue to inspire us to be fulfillers, extenders and enlargers of the best of our heritage.

And be assured our beloved AMAA, the oncoming generations of Armenians will take the torch, keep it burning and will pass it on. Be assured that just as we have been beneficiaries of those who have gone before us, so will those who come after us be the beneficiaries of our dedication.

We salute you AMAA! May you live long, serving God, the Armenian nation and mankind.

**Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Executive Director
Armenian Evangelical World Council**

AMAA

Your Missionary Organization

The above title was the topic of the Annual Meeting Seminar that was held on Friday, October 17, at the AMAA Headquarters in Paramus, New Jersey. This seminar was held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting and, as in previous years, was well appreciated. AMAA members, delegates, church representatives, pastors and guests (over 60 in number) were present to listen to AMAA Vice President Peter Kougasian. Mr. Kougasian is a prominent lawyer and serves the city of New York as its Assistant District Attorney. He is also a talented public speaker

Mr. Kougasian introduced the topic along the following outline. "It is a fashion nowadays for institutions to evaluate themselves by asking how well they are serving their customers. ...So in reviewing the work of the AMAA, we might begin by acknowledging that our customers are the people that we serve – the infants who receive formula through the Milk Fund, the children and their families who are sponsored, the students who receive financial aid, the children who attend AMAA camps and the faithful whose churches AMAA supports."

Mr. Kougasian also gave an overview of the origins and history of the AMAA with emphasis on its role in helping build the Armenian Evangelical movement in North America and the world. "AMAA is you, it is your organization" he emphasized and explained.

He later called AMAA Field Director Dikran Youmshakian to speak about AMAA's role in supporting churches and preparing people for ministry. Rev. Ron Tovmassian, past moderator of AEUNA spoke about the traditional role of AMAA in North America as the missionary arm of the Armenian Evangelical Churches. AMAA President, Dr. Hrair Aharonian, gave an overview of the educational endeavors through the Haigazian University in Beirut, the Near East School of Theology, Evangelical

AMAA Board and President Elections

The Board of Directors of the AMAA is composed of 27 volunteer members. Each member serves two terms of three years each. Every year 9 members are elected to the Board.

In Sept. 2008 ballots were mailed to all active AMAA members to elect 8 members to the class of 2011. A ninth member was assigned by the Board. The results were announced during the 89th Annual meeting. The following members were elected to the AMAA Board class of 2011: Levon Filian, Nurhan Helvacian, Ph.D., Robert Hekemian, Sr., Kenneth Kevorkian, Hrag Marganian, M.D., Jeanmarie Papelian, Esq., Alan Philibosian, Esq., Gary Phillips Esq. and Fred Simonian.

On Dec. 9, 2008 the AMAA Board unanimously re-elected Dr. Steven H. Aharonian to continue to serve the AMAA as its President. The following were elected as the officers of the AMAA Board: Peter Kougasian Esq. & Jeanmarie Papelian, Vice Presidents; Nurhan Helvacian, Treasurer; David Hekemian, Assistant Treasurer; Harry Dulgarian, David Hagopian & Gary Phillips, Recording Secretaries.



Peter Kougasian, Esq., leading the seminar.



Dr. Ara Apellan giving his testimony as past scholarship recipient.



89th Annual Meeting of the AMAA.

Theological Academy in Yerevan, Avedisian School in Armenia and many other schools in the Middle East. Two past AMAA scholarship recipients, Dr. Ara Apelian and Haig Kherlopian, gave their testimonies emphasizing the important financial aid that AMAA provides to college students. AMAA's Operations Director, Mr. Al DePaola, had a Power Point presentation of numbers and charts describing AMAA budget allocations.

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Kougasian quoted the late Rev. Movses B. Janbazian (AMAA past Executive Director) and said, "as members of a worldwide mission organization, we are no longer an isolated faithful, worshiping hermetically in one corner of one church. We become part of Christ's Great Commission. We feel the burdens of others, and they in turn share our burdens. We share in each other's joys. We encourage each other, inspire each other, and pray for each other every day. At its foundation, a mission organization is nothing less than the way in which we as Christians relate to the world." □

The Armenian Missionary Association of America and its Nation-Wide Mission

Rev. Barkev N. Darakjian

Nehemiah, who was the former cupbearer of the King of Persia, Artaxerxes I (465-424 B.C.), had returned to Jerusalem with a specific mission: to rebuild Jerusalem, and help re-establish his compatriots, the returning Jews from Babylon where they were exiled almost a century ago. He appealed to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to those who had just returned, to start rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem which was destroyed by the Babylonian invaders.

The above cited verse from the Book of Nehemiah became an inspiration and challenge to the Armenian Evangelical community and churches in the United States of America. The Armenian genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Turks during the first quarter of the 20th century, had not only decimated the Armenians in their ancient and historic homeland, but dispersed the survivors all over the world, creating ghettos mostly in the Middle Eastern countries. The visionary and the pioneer of the Armenian Missionary Association of America was Rev. Mihran T. Kalayjian who had moved to the United States before the Turkish massacres. He studied at first at Yale University and then continued his education at the Yale Theological Seminary to become a minister of the Word of God. He was serving a local American community church when God put in his heart the sufferings of his compatriots who were left helpless and destitute in Turkey, neighboring Arab countries, and in Armenia. His dream and calls for rehabilitation of his compatriots and the reconstruction of the Armenian land and institutions, found sympathetic ears and hearts among the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the United States of America. The AMAA was born at the Annual Convention of the Armenian Evangelical Union – Eastern States, held on June 7, 1918, at Worcester, Massachusetts.

It is not the intention of this article to present the history of the AMAA, but to recognize the aim and concerns of its Founders, specially of its first Executive Secretary, Rev. Mihran T. Kalayjian. In an extended letter to Rev. Dikran Kherlopian, the author of *Voskehmadian* (Golden Book) – A centennial history of the Armenian Evangelical Movement, Rev. Kalayjian presents very succinctly the aim and purpose of the AMAA:

We founded the Armenian Missionary Association of America with a deep conviction that our martyred Armenian nation will survive, and will continue to exist as a nation; as the first Christian nation in the world, she has a divine and noble calling to not only confess her Savior, the Lord Jesus, and to bear Christ's cross of afflictions to the knowledge of the entire world, but she also intends to become the torch-bearer of the lofty Christian civilization among the peoples of the Middle East... Therefore, it is indispensable that we contribute to the revitalization of our Armenian heritage and spiritual life. On a different occasion, Rev. Kalayjian makes the following declaration: *In Armenia or elsewhere, we are determined to rebuild that which the Turk destroyed – churches, schools, and institutions, and we will not let any Armenian child to be deprived of education for reasons of poverty.* It is very obvious to see Kalayjian's Christian patriotism, and his spirit, vision, and dedication to rebuilding the nation, together with the challenges it presented.

In the 1970s a book was published in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with the title *Protestant Diplomacy in the Middle East*, authored by Prof. Jo-

"You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace" (Nehemiah 2:17)

seph L. Grabill, a historian and professor of history. As a modest historian of the Armenian Evangelical Movement, I thought it might be an interesting book, having in view the most beneficial and multifaceted contributions of the American missionaries to the Armenians in Turkey. It was only in the 1980s that I could get hold of a copy of this book. Those who are interested in the history of the Armenian genocide, and the Armenian Cause will find Grabill's book quite illuminating. In his book, I was happily surprised to come across the name of Armenian Missionary Association of America. They will find out how some of those missionaries played a very important and most positive role both during the massacres and later, in the recognition of the Armenian Cause by President Wilson's government. The year was 1918, the founding year of the AMAA. Both the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America and the Armenian Missionary Association of America were represented at the Armenian National Council, participating in its deliberations about the future of the Armenian people, and specially on the independence of Armenia. A few of the missionaries were very close to Wilson's government and to President Wilson in particular. Their aim was to secure Armenia's independence under the protectorate of the United States. Unfortunately, the joint efforts failed to achieve this goal; however, through the intervention of the missionaries and other friends of Armenians, it was possible to secure great financial help to implement social services among the homeless and the starving. It is estimated that there were over 20,000 Armenian orphans and homeless people in Armenia alone. Through missionary agencies and the Near East Relief, America played the role of the Good Samaritan. The Armenian Missionary Association was just in time to take over the Christian and humanitarian spirit and the know-how from American Missionaries.

As I mentioned earlier, this article is not intended to present the history of the AMAA. However, on the 90th anniversary of this Association, we must first thank God for using the small community of Armenian Evangelicals for bringing its share in the survival of our nation, and the revitalization of our national life through its own Armenian Missionary Association of America. Our churches, schools, the Haigazian University of Beirut (the only Armenian university outside Armenia), the dispensaries and social service centers stand as witnesses to this Association's dedication to the general well-being of our Armenian nation. It is an Armenian and Christian Mission and enterprise for witnessing to the love and glory of God.

To put it on a more personal basis, I am not ashamed to acknowledge the AMAA's vital and continuing role in my life, and in my being what I am; it helped me financially, spiritually, and morally to receive not only a high education – college, university, and theological seminary, but also by giving me opportunities to better serve the Kingdom of God, our churches, our Sunday School and youth organizations, and in the field of Armenian Evangelical literature and publications. I pray to God that the AMAA may continue to serve our nation, our Motherland, churches, schools, and various institutions, to strengthen and to make effective the Christian witnessing of our nation among the nations, be they friends or foes, for His glory, and for the advancement of His Kingdom on this Earth. □

The Armenian Evangelical World Council Holds Meeting In Paramus, New Jersey

The Board of Directors of the Armenian Evangelical World Council (AEWC) held its meeting on Friday, October 17, 2008, at the AMAA headquarters, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, New Jersey. Representatives from five Armenian Evangelical Unions, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) and the Stephen Philibosian Foundation (SPF) were in attendance.

Reports were received from the officers and each of the seven organizations of the Council. The Board revisited some of the items of the previous business meeting. It welcomed the good news of the evangelistic work in Europe and the formation of a committee dealing with the protocol agreement regarding the Armenian Evangelical ministers moving from one Church Union to another.

Under New Business, the following items were discussed and acted upon:

1. Enhancement of the Armenian Evangelical Archives. The Council went on record to thank the AMAA leadership for moving the AEWK archives and the library from the former to the present headquarters (31 West Century Road, Paramus, New Jersey). The Board also expressed its special appreciation and gratitude to its Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian for his donation of 22 leather-bound archival material. The Council, once again, reiterated the importance of preserving Armenian Evangelical historical materials and the enhancement of the archives.

2. The establishment of a new archival branch in Yerevan, Armenia. The Board welcomed the establishment of a new AEWK archival branch in Yerevan, under the supervision of the President of the Evangelical Academy of Armenia, Rev. John Khanjian Ph.D., and pledged to support it morally and financially.

3. Recognition of Raket Dink. In token of their appreciation of continuing the legacy of her martyred husband Hrant Dink, the AEWK and the AMAA resolved to recognize and honor Raket Dink with a plaque of commendation and a painting specially prepared for this occasion by artist Lucy Janjigian at the 90th anniversary banquet of the AMAA on October 19, 2008.

4. Inquiry regarding the World Council of Churches (WCC). The Board discussed the issue whether AEWK would join the WCC or leave each union to make that decision on their own. It was resolved that each union separately make that decision.

5. A new Armenian Chair in the University of Aleppo. The Board welcomed the establishment of the Armenian Chair in the University of Aleppo and commended Rev. Harout Selimian's assistance in this agreement, and pledged its moral support to this newly established Chair.

6. 100th Anniversary of the Armenian massacres of Adana and holocaust of the Armenian Evangelical leadership in Osmaniye, Turkey. It was resolved to instruct all Armenian Evangelical churches and organizations to observe on Sunday April 12, 2009 (or any day closer to that date), the 100th anniversary of the Armenian massacres of Adana, and pay tribute to the memory of those who were martyred in the Armenian Evangelical Church of Osmaniye.

7. The status of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Baghdad. The Board welcomed the news of the anticipated membership of this church into the fellowship of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East.

8. Williams Saroyan's 100th Anniversary. It was resolved to mark with joy and thank God for the 100th anniversary of William Saroyan, an American Armenian Evangelical by birth, who received his early Christian education at the First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno, CA., and later achieved prominence in literary world.

9. Augmenting AEWK's missionary outreach in Russia. It was resolved to study the matter of missionary outreach in Russia and ask the Unions of Eurasia and Armenia to provide the Council with further information and ways and means of reaching out to the unchurched Armenians.

10. The Diaspora Ministry of the Republic of Armenia. It was resolved to welcome the creation of the Diaspora Ministry and hope that it will accomplish its mission through effective programs and culturally energize Armenians in the Diaspora. AEWK extends its full support to the newly established Ministry.

11. Elections. Elections took place and the following new officers were elected for the ensuing two years (2009-2010), effective January 1, 2009: President - Rev. Haroutune Selimian; Vice-President - Rev. Avedis Boynerian; Secretary - Rev. Joel Mikaelian; Treasurer - Mr. Albert Momjian Esq.

12. Appreciation. It was resolved to extend grateful thanks to the Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian for continuing his voluntary and faithful service to the Armenian Evangelical World Council.

13. Venue and date of the next meeting. It was resolved to hold the 2009 meeting on Friday, October 16, at the Armenian Euphrates Evangelical Church, in Providence, Rhode Island.

14. Grateful thanks. It was resolved to express the Council's appreciation to the Armenian Missionary Association of America for playing host for the meeting of AEWK.



(front row l to r): Rev. Joseph Matossian, Rev. Avedis Boynerian, Rev. Haroutune Selimian, Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, Andy Torigian, Rev. Megerdich Karageozian. (back row l to r): Badveli Dikran Youmshakian, Rev. René Léonian, Rev. Gilbert Léonian, Dr. Steven H. Aharonian, Rev. Joel Mikaelian, Rev. Jacques Tchoghjanjian. (missing from picture): Joyce Stein, Albert Momjian, Esq., Rev. Samvel Kirakosyan.

- Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, AEWK Executive Director

AEUNA Hosts Hranoush Hakopyan, Minister of Diaspora Affairs of Armenia

Representatives of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America welcomed the newly appointed Minister of Diaspora Affairs Hranoush Hakopyan at the United Armenian Congregational Church on November 26, 2008. Rev. Joe Matossian, Minister to the Union, opened the reception with a prayer.

Dr. Hrair Aharonian, President of the AMAA, welcomed Minister Hakopyan and invited her to visit all of the AMAA sites in Armenia, and the AMAA office in Paramus, New Jersey. He applauded the Armenian government for creating the Ministry of the Diaspora.

Zaven Khanjian, on behalf of the AEUNA, welcomed the Minister and introduced each of the guests present. The Minister shared how there are three million Armenians in Armenia, and seven million in the Diaspora. She said, "I want to be the Minister of all Armenians—everywhere." After a brief question and answer period, Khanjian thanked the Minister for her visit and asked her: "To be the eyes, ears, and mouth, for all Armenians everywhere." The meeting was closed with a prayer by Rev. Barkev Darakjian.

- *Joyce Abdulian*



Minister of Diaspora Affairs of Armenia Hranoush Hagopyan, Center, shown meeting with representatives of the AEUNA. Front row, l-r: Joyce Abdulian, Rev. Barkev Darakjian, Minister Hranoush Hakobyan, Elizabeth Agbabian, and Sona Khanjian.

Back row: l-r: Hrair Atikian, Ph.D., Mihran Agbabian, Ph.D., Rev. Ron Tovmasian, Rev. Joe Matossian, Consul General of Armenia, Armen Liloyan, Sebu Tashjian, Vahe Nalbandian, Ph.D., Dr. Hrair Aharonian, Mesrob Shaboyan, and Zaven Khanjian.

AMAA Distributes \$140,000 in College Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) spent two days reviewing the 70 applications that were submitted by Armenian students requesting scholarship aid. The applications were thoroughly examined and evaluated according to academic achievement and financial need. Fifty-nine students attending colleges and universities in North America were granted scholarships. The total scholarship amount distributed in North America this year was \$125,000.

"We were very satisfied with the academic standard of our students," Mr. Robert Hekemian, Jr. commented, while signing the scholarship grant letters. "It is an honor for us to be able to help," added Mr. Hekemian. "Hopefully one day; these students will return the favor and will step up to help other needy students." Mr. Hekemian is the competent and experienced chairman of the AMAA Scholarship Committee which comprises eight volunteer members. Most of the members have served this program for over ten years.

The Scholarship Program of the AMAA was established with one goal in mind - to help Armenian students receive a higher education, achieve their educational goals and thus become assets to our communities. Hundreds of students over the years have benefited from this program and many today are well recognized educators, ministers, professionals and service men or women. Many graduates of the program have returned the favor and have supported this program with their financial aid. Some have established scholarship endowment funds with the AMAA.

In addition to the aid provided to students studying in North America, AMAA also distributed \$15,000 in scholarships to students in Armenia.

Education is one of the major service programs of the AMAA. Through its support to kindergartens, elementary schools and high schools in Armenia, the Middle East, and the United States, AMAA has played a vital role in educating and training the next generation. Through its Child Education Sponsorship Program, the AMAA has helped thousands of needy students in Lebanon and Syria.

The AMAA thanks God for the privilege of serving the needs of our students and acknowledges the thoughtfulness and the generosity of great benefactors like the Stephen Philibosian Foundation, the Hekemian Family Fund, the Levonian Educational Fund and many others, which continuously support this program.

Those who are interested in supporting the Scholarship Program can contact the AMAA headquarters in Paramus, New Jersey or visit AMAA's website: amaa.org. □

Bridge to AMAA Hankavan Camp Is Open

The Armenian Missionary Association of America is delighted to announce that the construction of a new bridge leading to AMAA Sheen Shoghik Camp in Hankavan was completed in October of 2008.

In May of 2007 the bridge leading to Hankavan Camp in Armenia was destroyed due to the heavy rain and the overflowing of the river near the entrance. An urgent appeal was made to the public asking for help to reconstruct the bridge. Thanks to the generosity of AMAA members and friends, and support received



from Armenian Evangelical Churches worldwide, \$40,000 was raised for this purpose.

A temporary bridge was installed to the camp providing limited access before the camp season started in June of 2008. In August construction of a new and permanent bridge began, and within three months a new bridge was installed. The total cost of the construction was \$45,000.

The AMAA Board of Directors and the AMAA Summer Camp Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported this vital project. Thanks to their generosity, the bridge to Hankavan Camp is open.

The summer camp program is vital for children in Armenia, who come to camp to enjoy the beauty of nature, have association with friends, play, and learn that they are loved by Christ. □

Haigazian University Celebrates the Naming of the "Derian Armenological Library"

On Friday, October 13, Haigazian University named its Armenian Library as the "Derian Armenological Library", in honor of Mrs. Anahis Derian and her late husband Henry, from Pasadena, CA, who had donated \$500,000 to the University, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, back in the year 2005.

The ceremony, attended by prominent Armenian officials, intellectuals, editors, publishers, and friends of the library, opened with the unveiling of the Henry & Anahis Derian memorial plaque by the President of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East, the Rev. Megerdich Karageozian, University President Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian, and University Librarian Ms. Sonia Sislian.

Sislian welcomed the audience and gave a brief overview of the Derian Armenological Library.

Bibliographer, scholar, and school principal, Mr. Jirair Tanielian shared with the audience his experience of more than 20 years as the librarian of the Armenian Library.

In his closing word, President Haidostian expressed his special gratitude to Mrs. Derian, and noted that Henry Derian had passed away a year ago. Mrs. Anahis Derian had sent a kind message



Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian, Rev. Megerdich Karageozian and Ms. Sonia Sislian

apologizing for not being able to attend the event and that she was in prayer for the Haigazian University community.

Founded in 1955 by the efforts of Rev. Dikran Kherlopian, the Derian Library holds one of the richest collections in the Armenian Diaspora. The library includes a number of rare books, a selection of 18th and 19th century publications and the private collections of prominent Armenian intellectuals like Siran Seza, Kersam Aharonian, Dr. Antranig Manouguian, and Krikor Bogharian.

- Mira Yardemian

The following were the Field activities related to the AMAA:

AEUNA General Assembly 2008

The Armenian Evangelical Union of America (AEUNA) had their Biennial Assembly in June 2008 in Glendale, CA. The Assembly was hosted by three Armenian Evangelical churches: the **Armenian Cilicia Evangelical Church, Pasadena; Armenian Evangelical Brethren Church, Glendale; Armenian Evangelical Church, Hollywood;** and commemorated the **90th anniversary of the independence of Armenia;** the **90th anniversary of the Armenian Missionary Association;** and the **30th Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical World Council.**

The theme of the assembly was **Living with Biblical Perspective.** The main speaker was **Dr. Glen Martin,** Sr. Pastor, Journey of Faith, Manhattan Beach, California; and the AEYF speakers were **Paul Haroutunian,** Fresno/Madera Youth for Christ for Junior/Senior High School age; and **Phil Garo,** Fresno businessman, for college/career. Seminar leaders included **Steve & Silva Hekimian** speaking on "Tentmakers Today: Opportunities & Challenges"; **Rev. Dr. Manuel Jinbachian** speaking on "Extra-Biblical Sources for the Historicity of the Gospels" and **Antibas Loussarian,** speaking on "Steps of Faith". Each day began with prayer and sharing, led by one of the AEUNA seminarians, followed by various church musical groups leading in exciting, uplifting and on-your-feet praise and worship.

The business meetings were led by the moderator, **Rev. Ron Tovmassian.** Reports were given by the officers and committees of AEUNA, as well as by various affiliated and recognized organizations.

Five new corporate and associate-member churches were accepted into the fold of the AEUNA: **Armenian Christian Fellowship, Orange County CA (Rev. Dr. Don Sunukjian); Holy Trinity Armenian Evangelical Church, Glendale (Rev. Berdj Djambazian); Holy Trinity Armenian Presbyterian Church, North Hollywood (Rev. Ara Chakerian); Christian Outreach for Armenians, Glendale (Rev. Daniel Albarian);** and **Christ Armenian Church, Glendale (Saro Khachikian).**

The Saturday banquet was a festive evening highlighted by musical performances, stimulating speakers and wonderful fellowship as nearly 400 adults broke bread together, while over 150 youth attended the AEYF banquet.

The General Assembly concluded with a special commemoration worship service on Sunday morning. The local Los Angeles area churches relocated their services to join the General Assembly service. Some 500 persons were in attendance. Reception of the new member churches took place, and the following individuals were installed as Directors on the AEUNA Board: **Rev. Avedis Boynerian, Moderator** (AMC, Watertown, MA); **David Hagopian, Vice Moderator** (AEC, Chicago, IL); **Zaven Khanjian, Treasurer** (UACC, Los Angeles); **Rosemary Demirjian, Clerk** (FAC, Belmont, MA); **Rev. Dr. Ara Heghinian, Ministry Committee** (AACC, Salam,



NH); **Jennifer Jacobs, Youth Committee** (ACC, Detroit, MI); **Mihran Jizmejjan, Armenian Christian Heritage Committee** (AEC, Toronto, CANADA); **Rev. Jason Matossian, Evangelism and Church Planting Committee** (UACC, Los Angeles); **Edward Saliba, Stewardship Committee** (FAPC, Fresno); **Rev. Kevork George Terian; Publications Committee** (ACEC, Pasadena, CA); and **Members-at-Large, Souzi Baghdikian** (IACC, Downey, CA); **Rev. Aren Balabanian, West Coast Youth Administrator** (FAPC, Fresno), **Rev. Nerses Balabanian** (CACC San Francisco), **Rev. Mher Khatchikian** (AEC, Montreal, CANADA) ; **Robert Saroyan** (PACC, Fresno); and **Nyree Shishmanian** (APC, Paramus NJ) were installed.

The 20th Biennial Assembly will be held in Detroit, Michigan in 2010. □

Armenians in Cincinnati, OH



AMAA Field Director Dikran Youmshakian and AEUNA Minister to the Union Rev. Joe Matossian visited Cincinnati, OH in August and met with members of the Armenian community to organize a fellowship there. Vahe and Liberty Magarian hosted a dinner at their home. □

Campaign Event in Boston, MA



Jeff and Nancy Bilezikian hosted a group of AMAA members and families at their home in Watertown on Saturday, Oct. 11, to support the AMAA Capital Campaign. AMAA representatives Dikran Youmshakian and Rev. René Leonian addressed the group, updated them on recent AMAA activities in Armenia and challenged them to support the campaign. □

Field Visits to the West Coast



Rev. René Leonian, accompanied by AMAA Field Director Dikran Youmshakian, visited the churches in Las Vegas, Fresno and Los Angeles. They participated in various activities and campaigned for the AMAA. A breakfast meeting with the Armenian Evangelical pastors was held at Phoenicia Restaurant on Tuesday, Oct. 28. Present at the breakfast were also Rev. Megertich Karagoezian from Beirut, Lebanon and Rev. Harout Selimian from Aleppo, Syria. □

AMAA Peninsula Group Annual Luncheon

The Friends of the AMAA Peninsula Group had their Annual Luncheon on Friday, Dec. 5, 2008 at the home of Dr. & Mrs. Agheg Yenikomshian. Each year the group sponsors ten students in Lebanon and Syria providing \$2,500. Founded in 1960, the group organizes luncheons and raises funds to support needy students in Lebanon and Syria. □

Campaign Event in San Francisco, CA



(l to r) Rev. Nerses & Sevan Balabanian, Rev. René Leonian, Mr. & Mrs. Edward & Eleanor Aslanian and AMAA Field Director Dikran Youmshakian.



On Saturday Oct. 25, Mr. & Mrs. Edward and Eleanor Aslanian hosted a group of guests at their home in San Francisco in support the AMAA. AMAA representatives updated the group, answered questions and encouraged the guests to support the mission and ministries of the AMAA. One of the AMAA interns, Mr. Andrew Aroyo, who was present, spoke about his experience this summer in Armenia. □



AMAA Peninsula Group (l to r): Karen Adrouny, Arpi Haleblian, Anayis Adrouny, Kris Gulesserian, Nina Tashjian, Margo Gulesserian, Rima Yenikomshian and Nora Balabanian. Missing from picture: Anahid Gulesserian, Lara Khoury and Ello Yeghyayan.

Armenian Children's Milk Fund Honors Michael and Seta Kalajian



Michael Kalajian joined with his wife Seta thank the guests and express their appreciation for their kind tribute.

The Armenian Children's Milk Fund (ACMF) began its work in 1989, shortly after the devastating earthquake in Armenia. For nearly 20 years, the ACMF has been supplying infant formula to needy children in Armenia during their first year of life. Funds to purchase infant formula supplied by the ACMF are raised through the hard work of volunteers. On November 15, 2008, more than 100 people gathered at the Karoun Restaurant in Newton, Massachusetts to celebrate the hard work and dedication of two very special ACMF volunteers, Michael and Seta Kalajian of Bedford, Massachusetts. Mike and Seta have been volunteering for the Milk Fund since its inception. They have made their work for the Milk Fund a family affair: their sons, Michael and Gary, daughters-in-law, Sonya and Tami, and grandchildren, Tyler, Taleen, Jamie and Katie, have all become volunteers for the ACMF.

Following a blessing by Rev. Greg Haroutunian, guests of the luncheon enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the Eurdolian family, owners of the Karoun Restaurant. The Karoun Restaurant was chosen as the site for this event because it has been the location for many ACMF fundraisers and celebrations over the years.

Raffi Manjikian, a founding member of the ACMF, spoke about how the ACMF came to be, and the hard work Michael and Seta have put into keeping it going all these years. Michael and Seta's 16 year old grandson, Tyler Kalajian, spoke eloquently about how his grandparents have inspired him to community service and to give back to those who are less fortunate. Tyler is the leader of an ACYOA Chapter in Chelmsford, Massachusetts. He and his sister Taleen encouraged their friends in the ACYOA to help out when the ACMF sponsored a concert by the Shoghig Choir from Armavir, Armenia in May 2008.

Dikran Youmshakian, Field Director of the AMAA, presented Michael and Seta with a Certificate of Appreciation from the AMAA. Also present was Massachusetts State Representative Peter Koutoujian, who awarded the couple a citation from the Massachusetts State Legislature honoring their hard work and dedication to the children of Armenia. Following the presentations, Michael and Seta thanked their many friends and relatives in attendance. Mike remarked that it has been a privilege to help save the lives of children in Armenia. He related that as a child, he was embarrassed to go to a restaurant with his

father. His father would always drink the milk from the creamer which a server would provide with a cup of coffee. The elder Mr. Kalajian never let milk go untouched, never allowed a drop to go to waste. In later years, Mike came to appreciate what his father had gone through as a young orphan, fending for himself and his brother after the rest of the family died during the Armenian genocide. They were fortunate to find a female goat, and took turns milking it. Mike's father believed that milk had kept him alive, and Mike and Seta have honored his memory through their work for the ACMF, keeping Armenian children alive for nearly 20 years. □

- Jeanmarie Papelian, Esq.*

* Ms. Jeanmarie Papelian, Esq. is the current chairperson of ACMF. She was the Master of Ceremonies of the event. Those who are interested in supporting the ACMF can do so by contacting her Toll Free (888) 616-ACMF or (617) 484-6233, or the AMAA at (201)2635-2607. Your gifts will be appreciated by our infants in Armenia.



Michael and Seta Kalajian with their children and grandchildren.

"Children Helping Children" Thirteenth Annual Event A Success



The Boston AMAA Orphan & Child Care Committee's 13th annual luncheon, held October 16 at the Belmont Country Club, was once again a sparkling success, gathering area sponsors in a generous show of support to needy children in Armenia. This year's event featured an exciting live auction hosted by WCVB-TV Channel 5 Meteorologist Mike Wankum together with WBZ Newsradio Host Jordan Rich.

Contributors and attendees represented all Boston area churches, and continues to grow each year. Supporters arrived early to browse the gift items available for auction and sale, including sports, theater, and concert tickets, as well as an abundant variety of exciting gift packages. Guests were entertained by a fashion show lit up by adorable child models in fashions by Elite Bebe of Belmont. This year's book event featured the sale of novels by Armenian author Nancy Kricorian.

In her opening remarks, Mrs. Michele Simourian, the co-founder of the AMAA Orphan & Child Care Committee, thanked the committee members for their dedicated hard work, and welcomed all the guests including AMAA's Field Director, Dikran Youmshakian, and the Rev. Samvel Kirakossian, the pastor of the Evangelical Church in Vanatzor, Armenia.

Founded in 1918, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) is a nonprofit charitable organization that provides services to underprivileged youth through educational, relief, and mission ministries. AMAA is a nonsectarian Christian organization which renders its services to those in need without discrimination. AMAA operates in twenty-two countries and often partners with other relief agencies to aid disaster-stricken areas throughout the world.

This luncheon was one of many similar functions organized by the AMAA Orphan & Child Care Committee to raise funds and provide aid to needy children in Armenia. Thanks to the efforts of the committee, children today have a better chance to survive the hardships in our homeland. They are provided with food, clothing, medical care, education and most of all reason to know that God loves them all. Each year thousands of children attend summer camps, receive gifts on Christmas and experience the joy of Easter. For additional information, please visit AMAA.org.

Event sponsors are all volunteers who welcome new members of all ages and all backgrounds. Anyone wishing to join the committee or make a donation is encouraged to contact Michele Simourian at 508-785-0569. All contributions are tax deductible. □

Spiritual Corner

WITH "THIS" LOVE

by Dikran Youmshakian

"Love is in the air..." are words from the lyrics of a very famous song. What kind of love?

In 1st Corinthians 13, the Apostle Paul glorifies love as patient and kind. He also describes what love is not. Love is not proud, is not rude, is not self-seeking, and is not easily angered. Also what love does not do. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices in the truth.

Love tends to be viewed as a feeling related to affection, attraction and attachment. Couples love each other, parents love their children, children love their parents, people love their country. These are all great feelings and experiences.

There is however more to love, something which is permanent and eternal and not related to attraction or attachment. It is a love that supersedes all the above. A love that is expressed towards those we might have no attraction, attachment or even affection. This is God's love - a divine love which is the result of God's mercy and grace. It is a love for all creation. A love that not only cares but also saves.

This love should be in the air around us and also in our hearts especially during the Christmas Season, for it reminds us that God so loved the world that He gave His Son.

Let us therefore, during this Holy Season and the coming year, love each other with "tHis" love. That will make a difference. □

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- ◆ Au; tarancakane fangst;an jo,ak ke tramadrh na;u safmana' ak ;kamoutoun;zo[fog;uor m,akn;rou ; u fa\ ousouzi;cn;rou!

^a5a\ouj ; an Da, te-

Fa\ Au; tarancakan Enk;rakzouj ; an 6a5a\ouj ; an da, te n;rka\is , at endar]ak h! Anor fog;uor krj akan4 m,akouj alin4 enk;ra\in ; u niuj akan 6a5a\ouj iunn;re ke fasnin au;li qan qsan;rkou ; rki;rn;rou! Sks;low Mi az;al Nafangn;rhn4 Ganata4 Faraua\in Am;rika! Mi=in Ar;u;lqi ; rki;rn;r - Libanan4 Souria4 : giptos4 Ki pros4 |ounastan4 Iran4 Jourqi a4 Irag! : uropakan ; rki;rn;r - ~ransa4 Poulkari a4 P;lyi qa4 G;rmani a! Ke fasni na;u minc;u Australia!

Als bolorhn ; tq4 ; u am;nhn a5a= ; u au;li4 Au; tarancakane ir 6a5a\ouj ; an a5a=naf;rj da, te ke nkath m;r Fa\astan Fa\r;ni qe!

Kar;li ch alst;[4 w;re li,oua6 ; rki;rn;re a5an-]in a5n;low3 manramasn . 7sil4 jh Au; tarancakane yi,d i@c t;saki 6a5a\ouj iunn;r ke matouzanh ald ; rki;rn;roun mh=! Sakaln4 ÑE-am;aki als a5ij ow4 koux;m 6anranal mi aln ; rkou kar;uor 6a5a\ouj ; an da, t;rou3 our Au; tarancakane barolakan ; u niuj akan kar;liouj ; anz m;6 tokose ke latkaznh!

FA|R: NIQI ^A%A|OUJ : AN DA<TE

A5a=ine3 6a5a\ouj ; an ald kar;uor da,t;rhn3 m;r Fa\astan3 Fa\r;niqn h4 { araba[i f;t mi asin! Alst;[mi=ank;al phtq h li ; i4 jh ÉÑÐÐ-i w;r=auorouj ; an4 m;r fa\r;niqi mh= patafa6 ; rkra,arvi ald m;6 a[hthn ; tq4 ; u manauand ÉÑÑE-i4 Fa\astani w;ranka. azoumhn ; tq4 a\ n tarin;roun4 Au; tarancakani vra=an ; u t;silqoun;zo[3 Gor6adir Tn7rhn4 ; r=ankali , atak W;r1 Mowshs Yanpax;an4 Au; tarancakani . namakalouj ; an ou,adrouj ; an \an]n;z m;r fa\r;ni ta5apo[vo[owourdin 7gnouj ; an] ; 5q ; rkar;lou . ist k;nsakan qristonhakan ; u mardasirakan partakanouj iunn ou partaouorouj iune!

W;r1 Mowshs Yanpax;an4 ald tarin;roun anendfat ; rj ; u;k;z fa\r;ni q! Masnauor Au; tarancakani famar k;dron me gnou; zau ; u ka5ouzou; zau : r;uani mh=! Au; tarancakani \atouk gras;n;akn;r kaxmou;zan tarb;r , r=ann;rou ; u qa[aqn;rou mh=4 ; u Au; tarancakane sksau Bari Samarazii d;row4 amhn t;saki niuj akan4 a5o[=apafakan4 enk;ra\in4 krj akan ; u ; k;[;zakan 6a5a\ouj iunn;r matouzan;l m;r fa\r;nabnak kar7t;al axgaki zn;roun!

Sakaln4 m;6 ; u zauali dvba. touj iune a\ n ; [au4 or

W;r1 Mowshs Yanpax;an wa[avam7rhn ; u anaknkali nkau ir 6a5a\ouj ; an yamboun wra4 ÉÉÉÉ S;pt;mb;rin4 m;6 lousa. abouj ; an matn;low Au; tarancakani . namakalouj iunn ou pa, t7nhouj iune4 j h Mi az;al Nafangn;rou ; u j h Fa\astani mh=!

Sakaln4 noranka. Fa\astani mh=4 Au; tarancakani 6a5a\ouj ; an kariqe , at m;6 ellalow4 gor6i da,te ,outow endar]akou; zau ir tarb;r marx;row4 , at me tarb;r qa[aqn;rou ; u , r=ann;rou mh=!

: k; [;zakan ; u Fog;uor ^a5a\ouj iunl-

N;rka\is3 ,our= qsan tarin;r ; tq4 ; k;[;zakan g;tni wra\ Au; tarancakane fimna6 h ; u niuj aphs ; u barolaphs ke fowanauorh ,our= ÎÉ Au; tarancakan ; k;[;zin;r4 qristonhakan enk;rakzouj iunn;r ; u a[7j at ; [in;r!

Au; tarancakane ouni na;u Astoua6abanakan Y;maran me4 our fog;uor fowiun;r ; u qristonhakan dastiarakouj ; an famar a5a=nordn;r ke patrastouin! <our= ÎÉÉÉ manoukn;r4 patanin;r ; u ; ritasardn;r qristonhakan dastiarakouj iun ke stanan ir;nz patkan ; k;[;zin;rou4 Kirakn7r;a\ dprozn;rou4 ama5nalin famagoumarn;rou ; u ama5nalin Sourb Groz Warvarann;rou mi=ozau!

Kan na;u Sourb Girqi s;rto[ouj ; an k;dronn;r karg me , r=ann;rou mh=! }ri Astoua6a,ounc ke ba, . oui fon our phtq h!

Krj akan ^a5a\ouj iunl-

Au; tarancakane : r;uani mh= ouni s;' akan na. akrj aran dproz me 9Fa\ Au; tarancakan Au; tis;an Warvaran0 anounow4 or ouni au;li qan ÉÉÉ a,ak;rt!

Au;li qan ÉÐÉÉ cqauor ; r. an;r4 bar;rarn;rou mi=ozow krj anpast ke stanan! Omanz 6no[n;roun al niuj akan 7vandakouj iun ke faj aj oui!

Au; tarancakane stan]na6 h na;u w;z mankaparthxn;rou niuj akan foga6ouj iune!

Karg me \a=o[; u cqauor famalsaranakan a,ak;rt;n;rou krj aj o,ak ke \atkazoui!

Niuj akan 7gnouj iun ke \atkazoui na;u arf;sti dproz \aya. o[cqauor patanin;rou!

Enk;ra\in ; u A5o[=apafakan ^a5a\ouj iunl-

Au; tarancakane fimna6 h ; u ke warh ; r;q bouvarann;r (clinics) atamnabouvouj ; an f;t mi asin4 mhke : r;uani mh=4 mi use Wana]ori4 isk ; rrorde Spi taki mh=! Ald bouvarann;re4 ba5in ambo[=akan imastow4 m;6 7rfnouj iun ke nkatouin ir;nz gtnoua6 , r=ani cqauor bnakcouj ; an famar!

Als marxhn n;rs4 Au; tarancakane ouni masnauor Tiknanz |an]na. ounb me4 oronq masnauor manoukn;rou \atouk 'o,i kaj ke ba, . n ,our= ÎÉÉ nora6in manoukn;rou4 iuraqanciur amis kanonauoraphs!

Ir;nz cqauorouj iune stougoua6 tar;zn;rou ; u ankarn;rou4 iuraqanciur amis4 dramakan \atouk 7vandakouj iun me ke kataroui! Nman paragan;rou tak ; [o[n;roun4 ; rb;mn out;st;[hni ; u fagoust;[hni w;r;rab;r;al 7vandakouj iunn;r ke katarouin!

Masnauor famagoumari wa\r;r (camps) ka5ouzoua6 ; n4 our3 ama5oua\ ; [anakin4 snndakar7t manoukn;rou ; u patanin;rou famagoumarn;r t;[i k*oun;nan!

Au; tarancakane oui na; u Tiknanz latouk |an|na. omb me4 or amhn tari4 ^noundi ; [anakin4 ka[andchq; r ke fauaqh Mi az; al Nafangn; rou ; u Ganatali ; k; ; zin; rhn4 incphs na; u bar; rarn; rh4 ; u a\ld nouhrn; re ' aj j oua64 vamanakin ke ba, . ouin au; li qan qsan faxar manoukn; rou!

MI +IN AR: U: LQI ^A%A|OUJ : AN DA<TE

M; r Falastan falr; ni qhn ; tq4 Au; tarancakani ; rkrord kar; uor ; u endar]ak 6a5a\ouj ; an da, te ke nkatoui Mi=in Ar; u; lqi a\l Fal ga[ouj n; re4 oronz 7gnouj ; an fasn; lou famar 6nound a5a6 hr Au; tarancakane ÑE tarin; r a5a=!

J h; u Mi=in Ar; u; lqi bolor ; rki rn; roun mh= m; 6 kam ' oqr na. a] ; 5nouj iunn; r ou n; za6 h Au; tarancakane4 saka\ n4 i w; r= o\4 ir ; k; ; zakan4 manauand krj akan ; u bar; sirakan 6a5a\ouj iunn; re au; li k; dronazouza6 h4 m; 6agoln ga[ouj e nkatouo[3 Libanani Fal ga[ouj in wra\4 our na; u kar; liouj iune ou n; za6 h au; li axat gor6; lou!

N; rkalis Au; tarancakane niuj aphs k*7vandakh Libanani mh= ; [o[cors Fal Au; taranakan ; rkrordakan warvarann; rou4 mhk mi=nakarg ; u ; rkou na. akrj arann; rou! Au; tarancakane k*7vandakh na; u niuj aphs inq nabau c; [o[; k; ; zin; roun!

|atouk niuj akan 7vandakouj iun ke tramadroui na; u Ama5nalin Sourb Groz warvarann; rou4 manoukn; rou4 patanin; rou ; u ; ritasardn; rou ama5nalin famagoumarn; rou!

Enk; ralin ; u bar; sirakan marx; rh n; rs4 Au; tarancakane niuj aphs k*7vandakh Poursy Fammouti mh= gtnouo[Fal ^; ranozin4 Acaxourkn; rou ; u Ankarn; rou fastatouj iunn; roun! Lauago\ n k; rpow4 niuj aphs ; u barolaphs n; zouk ke kangni ; u k*7vandakh Jrati (Poursy Fammout) Enk; ralin ^a5a\ouj ; an K; dronin4 our ke dim; n laya. fiuandn; r ; u niuj akan kariq ou n; zo[anfat mardik ; u entaniqn; r!

Als bolorhn ; tq4 saka\ n4 famaxgalin g; tni wra\4 am; nhn kar; uor ; u 7rfnab; r 6a5a\ouj iune4 or Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj iune ke matouzanh4 taras' iu5 m; r axgi xauakn; roun4 ir fimnadra6 Fal kax; an Famalsarann h! S' iu5qi m; r krj akan marxhn n; rs4 miak bar]rago\ n3 famalsaranakan ousman fastatouj iune ; [o[3 Falkax; an Famalsarane4 au; li qan khs darh i w; r4 famalsaranakan ousoum ke =ambh4 a5a= Faloun ; u ; tqe oc Faloun4 a5anz or; uh famal\ nqal in . trouj ; an! Manauand Fal kax; an Famalsarane matc; li h niuj aphs tkar ; [o[bolor Fal ousano[n; roun4 latouk krj anpast tramadr; low!

Als7r qic ch j iue4 bolor a\l Fal ousouzicousouzcoufin; roun4 oronq Fal dprozn; rou mh= ke 6a5a\; n4 kam qic me amhn t; [\altnouo[Fal mtauorakan mardik4 oronq . onarfabar k*endounin ; u ke wka\; n4 j h3 ; j h Fal kax; an Famalsarane cellar4 ir; nz famar ; rb; q matc; li piti cellar famalsaranakan ousoum stanal!

Ph\rouj i Falkax; an Famalsarane fimnadr; le4 xa\l paf; ln ou xargazoumi als7roua\ makardakin fasz n; le4 Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj ; an am; nhn mna\oun4 axg7gout ; u 7rfnab; r 6a5a\ouj iune kar; li h nkat; l

m; r axgi xauakn; roun4 ; u mi; uno\ n at; n4 aspncakan Libanan; an Fal; rni qin famar!

Oura. ouj iun h \altn; l alst; [4 j h Mi=in Ar; u; lqi Falouj iune4 latkaphs Libanani Fal ga[ouj e4 m; 6aphs ke gnafat; n Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj ; an matouzana6 a\ld axg7gout ; u 7rfnab; r 6a5a\ouj iune4 ; u fpart ke xgan ir; nq xir; nq3 Falkax; an Famalsaranow!

Takauin4 Au; tarancakane3 fog; uor4 niuj akan ; u mardasirakan 6a5a\ouj iunn; r ke matouzanh Sourio\4 Iragi4 Irani ; u Jourqio\ mh= gtnouo[Fal Au; taranakan ; k; ; zin; rou mi=ozow!

N; rkalis 6a5a\ouj ; an nor da, t men h Au; tarancakanin famar : uropali karg me ; rki rn; re4 incphs P; lyiqa4 Poulkaria4 G; rmania4 Folanta ; u Spania4 our nor sksa6 ; n Fal Au; taranakan ; k; ; zin; r kaxmauoroui!

ÑE-am; aki als a5ijow4 als . 7sqe auart; lh a5a=4 t; [in h farz ta\4 j h Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj iune ; kamouti i2nc a[biurn; r oui n; u anor niuj akan karo[ouj iunn ou kar; liouj iune o2ur ke fasn n; rkalis!

Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj an ; kamouti gl. auor a[biurn; rn ; n4 a5a=in4 ir andamn; rou srtabou. nouhrn; re! : rkrord4 Fal fauataz; al ; u axgashr anfatn; rh ; ka6 nouhrn; re! |atouk koc; rou a5ijow4 Fal Au; taranakan ; k; ; zin; rh go\aza6 goumarn; r! Enk; rakzouj ; an qow kan na; u an]; 5nm. ; li goumarn; r4 oronz tokosn; rhn oro, ; kamout me ke golana! Au; tarancakane oui na; u karg me fasouj ab; r kaloua6n; r! : rb; mn ke patafi4 tar; z mardik ir; nz kaloua6al in ; u kam dramakan s; ' akanouj iune ke ktak; n Au; tarancakanin!

N; rkalis Au; tarancakanin fasolj n; re ke fasn n ; our= fEE milion tolari! Isk tar; kan piutyhn ke fasn n ; our= ; 7j e milioni! Ald piutyhin au; li qan mhk ; rrorde ke tramadroui m; r falr; ni qi kariqn; roun famar!

ÑE-am; aki als patmakn a5ijow4 i . oroz srth ' a5q kou tanq Astou6o\4 fog; uor ; u Au; taranakan t; silqow l; zoua6 ; u a5a=nordoua6 a\l mardoz famar4 oronq . ixa. ; zan Fal Au; tarancakan als astoua6a-fayo\ ; u 7rfnab; r kaxmak; rpouj iune fimnadr; l ÑE tarin; r a5a=!

Astou6o\ ' a5q kou tanq na; u Au; tarancakani ÑE tarin; rou 6a5a\ouj ; an4 anor ayoumin ; u n; rka\ kar; liouj iunn; roun ; u karo[ouj ; an famar!

ÑE-am; aki als a5ijow4 ke , norfauor; nq na; u Am; rikali Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj ; an n; rka\ Na. agafe4 Waric Tn7rhne4 Au; tarancakan Da, ti tn7rhne ou . namakalouj ; an bolor andamn; rn ou pa, t7n; an; re4 j h# Am; rikali ; u j h# Falastani mh=! Nolnphs Au; tarancakani bolor fin ou nor bar; rarn; rn ou nouiratoun; re!

M; r a[7j qn h4 or bar]r; aln Astoua64 7rfn; low 7rfnh Fal Au; tarancakan Enk; rakzouj ; an qristonhakan4 mardasirakan ; u axg7gout 6a5a\ouj iunn; re4 m; r axgi xauakn; roun bar7rouj ; an ; u lr ' a5qin famar! □

** W; r1 |owfannhs Sarmax; an fowiun h GhImpriyi Fal Au; taranakan : k; ; ziin (Ganata)*

Rev. Hovhannes Nishan Karjian (1926-2008)



Rev. Hovhannes Karjian was born on July 30, 1926, in Marash, Turkey. He was the elder son of Nishan and Khatoun (Jamgochian). In 1936, his family moved to Aleppo, Syria, where he attended the Armenian Evang'l Bethel Elementary School. He began his work as preacher and teacher upon his graduation from Aleppo College (High School) in 1945 at the Armenian Evang'l Church and Elementary School in Kaladouran, Kessab. His passion for higher education and a sense of calling nudged him toward theological education. In 1953, he graduated from the American University of Beirut with a B.A. in Religion, and the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, with a Master of Divinity. That year he married Rebecca Vartanian and their union was blessed with four children.

His pastoral service continued in 1953 in Syria -- first in the Armenian Evang'l Church of Kamishli, then in the Armenian Protestant Emmanuel Church in Aleppo. He was ordained into the Christian ministry in 1961. The First Armenian Evang'l Church in Beirut, Lebanon benefited from his pastoral leadership from 1979-1988, during the civil war. In 1986 He was elected President of the Union of the Armenian Evang'l Churches in the Near East. In 1988, he formally retired from active ministry, but in his understanding there could be no retirement from a pastor's calling. From 1988-1990, he served as the pastor of the Armenian Evang'l Church in Sydney, Australia. In 1997, when he and his wife relocated to the United States, he accepted the responsibility of preaching the Armenian sermons at the Armenian Martyrs' Cong'l Church of Havertown, PA, which he did weekly until 2007.

Concurrently Rev. Karjian served in different ecclesiastical settings, including Haigazian University of Beirut; the Near East School of Theology, Beirut; the Armenian Evangelical World Council; the Middle East Council of Churches; and the World Council of Churches. He also served as President of the Armenian Protestant Community in Syria 1969-1980, of Aleppo College 1966-1968, and of the Near East School of Theology 1991-1994, where he was conferred with an honorary doctoral degree.

A man of deep faith and integrity, Rev. Karjian was a devoted and unconditionally loving husband, father and grandfather, a brilliant intellectual, a deep thinker, a creative writer, a thoughtful speaker, a classical music enthusiast and an avid reader. He leaves behind his wife Rebecca, daughters Pauline, Nayiri, Sevan and son Datev, and three grandchildren. □

Rev. Soghomon Nuyujukian (1923-2008)



Soghomon Nuyujukian was born in Aleppo on March 1, 1923, to Devulet and Lucie Nuyujukian, who were refugees from Aintab, Turkey, where Soghomon's four older siblings were born. Although his father was a master weaver and designer, times were hard, and Soghomon left school after the eighth grade to work in the family business. Two years later, with scholarship aid, he completed high school and one year of college and then enrolled at the Near East School of Theology and American University in Beirut. After graduation in 1948, he served his home church, Emmanuel Armenian Evang'l Church, first as assistant pastor, and then as senior pastor. He married Matilde Cholakian. However, she was soon diagnosed with lymphoma and after nine years of marriage she died, leaving behind eight-year-old Jessy and six-year-old Hratch.

In 1959, he married Hilda Cholakian. Soon after, they moved to Alexandria, Egypt, to temporarily fill the desperately needed role of pastor. In Egypt, Hilda gave birth to Ara.

In 1962, Badveli was invited to Beirut, to serve as secretary of the Union of the Armenian Evang'l Churches in the Near East. Two years later, Christine was born. In 1968, he became pastor of the First Armenian Evang'l Church of Beirut. In 1974, the family moved to the USA and he became pastor of the Ararat Church in Salem, NH. While at the Salem church, Badveli enrolled at Andover-Newton Theological Seminary and received his D.Min. cum laude, in 1979. In 1980, he was called to Armenian Martyrs' Cong'l Church, in Havertown, PA, where he ministered until 1988. On Jan. 30, 1989, his wife of thirty years was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died on May 25th.

Though officially retired, Badveli continued to serve in Armenian and non-Armenian churches. He was moderator of the Armenian Evang'l Union of North America from 1994-1996. As AMAA's representative he traveled to all U.S. Armenian Evang'l churches, including Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, France, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Armenia, Syria, and Lebanon. In 2007, He was named Pastor Emeritus of Armenian Martyrs' Church. After a brief illness, he peacefully passed from this life to the eternal at age 85.

Badveli is survived by his daughters Jessy and Christine, and son Hratch, (his younger son, Ara, died last year), twelve grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. His older brother, Kevork, lives in Massachusetts. Memorial gifts have been designated for the Rev. Soghomon and Hilda Nuyujukian Fund at the AMAA. □

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff also wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA NEWS.

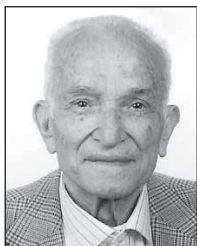
*Aznive Ajamian
Cliffside Park NJ*
* *Khosrow Aljian
Rolling Hills, CA*
* *Anouche Chalian
Watervliet, NY*

* *Emmanuel Karageuzian
Watertown, MA*
* *Edward M. Keazirian
Ipswich, MA*
* *Sam Poladian
Huntington Bch, CA*

* *Jacqueline Sadakian
Sat Mateo, CA*
* *Sylva Shemmassian
San Carlos, CA*
* *Memorials designated for AMAA*

Hagop Aynilian

Hagop Aynilian born in 1914 in Aintab, Turkey passed into his eternal life on Sept. 12, 2008 in Beirut, Lebanon. He was homebound and in ill health for the past two years. He is survived by his three children; George, Ani and Harout; six grandchildren; Lara, Jennifer, Karin, Alex, Paul, Cynthia, and two grandchildren; David and Isabella.



Hagop, who had lost his father at an early age, was raised in Shemlan, Lebanon, in a Scottish orphanage after escaping from Aintab in 1920 with his mother and brother due to Turkish threats on the Armenian community. He later completed his middle school education in Aleppo and joined the work force as an auto mechanic in Beirut. In 1943 he married his good friend from the orphanage Jenny and established a loving, warm and Christian family nest. He worked for over 50 years as a mechanic and earned high respects from his customers for his integrity, honesty and professionalism. The church was his second home. He served his beloved church, The First Armenian Evangelical Church of Beirut for over 50 years as deacon, trustee and in various committee's of the affiliated Armenian Evangelical High School. He was deacon emeritus for over 20 years and devoted himself to the service of the church

Hagop loved Christ and tried hard to live a daily Christ-like life as much as possible. He was not an eloquent speaker, but was an avid reader of Christian and historical books. His Christian faith was demonstrated by service, generosity, compassion and love.

Hagop missed his lovely wife Jenny when she passed away in 2002. He took care of her patiently when she suffered six years from Alzheimers disease.

A funeral service was held at the First Armenian Evangelical Church of Beirut on September 15, 2008. His son George from Chicago, daughter Ani and grandchildren Karin from Aleppo, and Jennifer from Switzerland were present at the service.

Hagop Aynilian's family members will always remember their dear father and grandfather as a role model and an icon of faith and he will live in their hearts all through their lives. May the Lord bless his memory for all and each one of us. Amen.

In lieu of flowers, donations could be made to the First Armenian Evangelical Church of Beirut. □

Dorothy Baldadian

Dorothy Baldadian was born in Erzerum Turkey, on Nov. 21, 1909, the fourth child of Garabed and Verkin Parnagian. In 1915, all Armenian Christians living in Erzerum were told they had three



days to prepare for relocation. Garabed sold everything and bought horses and carts. Dorothy was strapped onto a horse with her younger brother Martin; brothers Edward, Peter, and Dickran walked alongside. After the third day of the journey all of the men were taken, ordered to dig their graves and they were killed. Mother Verkin and her children witnessed many atrocities as they continued their march to the desert of Der Zor. Miraculously, they were saved by a relative and a righteous Turk.

In 1920, Dorothy, her Mother Verkin, Martin and Dickran arrived at Ellis Island. Brothers Edward and Peter were left in an orphanage until 1927 when Verkin became an American citizen and earned enough money to send for them, and realized her dream of having all of her children in America, a land of freedom to worship our Lord.

Dorothy married Samuel Baldadian in June 1933, in Camden, NJ, and they were blessed with three children: Ruth, Arthur and Joyce. Samuel died in 1978 from a brain tumor. He was skillfully and tenderly nursed at home by Dorothy in his final years.

Dorothy was a woman before her time. She started driving when most Armenian women stayed home all day making great lunches and dinners (she also did that). She was a member of Holy Trinity Church. She was also active in AGBU, Daughters of Vartan, and CONTACT Community Helplines. For many years she also attended Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church in Havertown, PA, with her family.

She was loving and kind to all, but her family was foremost in her heart. One facet of her life stood out above all of the rest and that was her faith and her personal relationship with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her three children and spouses: Ruth (John) Melian, Art (KC) Baldadian, and Joyce (Brian) Hoyle, as well as six grand and four great-grandchildren and an extended family.

Dorothy went to meet her Lord on May 4 in her 99th year. We are certain he welcomed her with, "Well done, good and faithful servant." □

Sirpuhe Conte

Sirpuhe Conte died peacefully and entered her eternal home on Oct. 23, 2008. She was three months away from celebrating her 100th birthday. Sirpuhe was born in the village of Hadjin, Turkey and



immigrated to the US as a young lady. She resided in Los Angeles, CA with her devoted parents, Yeghia and Hanasant, brothers John and Barkev, and sisters Azad and Mary, all who preceded her in death. In 1931 she married Stephen Philibosian, a successful Oriental rug merchant and philanthropist. They had two daughters, Joyce and Louise. She and her husband later moved to Philadelphia, enjoying their beautiful Hilltop Farm, which later became the Armenian Sisters Academy of Philadelphia after the death of Mr. Philibosian in 1974. Sirpuhe became a dedicated volunteer for a number of organizations, and carried on the philanthropy of her husband. Of special interest was support for Armenians in the Middle East, building and renovating elementary schools in Lebanon, student scholarships, supporting orphanages and providing housing for the aged and blind. Mrs. Conte was honored by the Lebanese government with a Certificate of Merit for her many charitable and cultural contributions. In 1955 the Philibosian Foundation founded Haigazian University, the only Armenian institute of higher learning outside of Armenia.

In 1953, she moved to California with her daughter Louise. She married John Conte in 1962 and moved to Palm Springs and built a home at Eldorado Country Club, and were later joined by her daughters. Mr. Conte died in 2006. Sirpuhe's philanthropic activities in California included Eisenhower Medical Center, the Virginia Waring International Piano Competition, the Center for East-West Medicine at UCLA, Pet Rescue of the Desert and Achievement Rewards for College Scientists. She served as a trustee of the McCallum Theatre, and also was honored with Northwood Institute's Distinguished Women's Award in 1978.

Mrs. Conte is survived by her daughters, Joyce (husband Joe) and Louise, grandchildren Stephanie (husband Michael) Landes, Christina (husband David) Segel, Leslie (husband Rick) Berge and Stephen (wife Lulu) Danelian, and several great-grandchildren. Gifts of remembrance were made to the AMAA, Pet Rescue and Christian Schools of the Desert, as well as UCLA Center for East-West Madison. □

Edward Janjigian

Edward Janjigian, a 40-year resident of Franklin Lakes, NJ, passed away Oct. 29, 2008. He was born Dec. 1920 in Aleppo, Syria to Elizabeth and Shemavon Janjigian. His father fled from Mashgert,



Kharpert, and settled in Aleppo after the Armenian Genocide by the Ottoman Turks and he started his own men's clothing business.

Edward's primary education started at the Armenian Evang'l Emmanuel Church's school in Aleppo. He continued his studies at the Freres Mariste French College, graduating in 1939 with honors in the second French Baccalaureat with a Philosophy major.

During WWII, 1940-1945, Edward was employed as secretary by the French army in Aleppo. He was transferred to Beirut where he founded his own import-export business, Janjigian Trading Co. Inc.

Edward married Lucy Boyadjian in 1956 in New York City. They resided in Beirut for several years. While on a business trip in the USA, civil war broke out in Lebanon. They decided to stay and Edward continued his business and they became US citizens.

Edward's deep interest in the welfare of the Armenian community at home and abroad led him to be actively involved in charitable organizations. Edward was an active member of the AMAA, served as board member and was on its executive committee, was treasurer and past president, served in several committees. He was also on the board of directors of the Karaghuezian Foundation, The Armenian National Sanitorium of Lebanon and member of The Advisory Committee of the Jinishian Memorial Program of the Presb. Church (USA) since its inception in 1966 where he served as Chairperson for 11 years.

Edward was known for his jovial outgoing personality, his shrewd business acumen, his generosity and his devotion to family and church. A world traveler, he spoke 6 languages, kept up with world affairs, enjoyed entertaining, swimming and acting in French plays.

He was a devout Christian who loved his Lord and started each day with Bible reading and prayer. He was a member of the West Side Presbyterian Church where he served as trustee. Edward is survived by his wife Lucy; his three children, Denise, Mark and Charles; his son-in-law Rick Colbeth; daughter in laws Catherine and Tracy; and 10 grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the AMAA or the West Side Presb. Church. □

Carol Marganian

Carol Jean Amerkhanian Marganian made her transition into eternal bliss on November 8, 2008. Surrounded by family, the circle of love became complete.



The sole purpose of Carol's life was to be "a beneficial presence in the world". She was a spiritual seeker with a sincere desire to become receptive to Truth and manifest qualities of God in her everyday life. As a student of metapsychiatry, she became aware early on that her true nature was Divine Consciousness, living and roaming in Omniactive Divine Mind.

At an early age, qualities of goodness became manifest in Carol's life. At the tender age of eight she had already assumed the responsibilities of caring for her siblings. In adult life, she continued her mission of

service as a medical social worker helping countless families in time of their greatest needs. As a mother, she instilled in her children spiritual qualities of beauty, compassion, and the love for the good of God. As a wife, the focus was always in making the marriage a "spiritual" one. Whenever there was a disagreement, "There is no interaction anywhere" she would say, "only God's Omni-action everywhere". Carol loved children and was a powerful advocate of children's rights. She glowed as a Sunday School teacher at Immanuel Church.

During the last few months of her life, the intense spiritual work enabled her to transcend from dualistic linear thinking into the Infinite Domains, beyond time and space. Through God's grace, she was able to surrender the despair and the agony of death into all-encompassing presence of God, made manifest through her radiance.

"In Him we live, and move, and have our being". Acts 17:28. □

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them." (Revelation 14:13)

ARMENIAN BIBLES • FA3:RHN ASTOUA?A<OUNC:R

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Participants in the 89th Annual Meeting of the AMAA



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