



# Armenian CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW MEXICO

NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 1994

## MARTYR'S DAY OBSERVANCE

An Armenian style meal will be cooked and served by your Board members this year, with chicken being grilled by Gegham and Ashot (as they did at the picnic last fall). A vegetarian alternative will be available also. Reservations (RSVP) are very important, so please call by April 16th. It would be wonderful to have help afterwards cleaning up, so please contact a board member (see below) if you can do this.

There will be three visiting scientists from Armenia in Albuquerque during the week of the 24th whom we will be inviting to our Martyr's Day Observance. We are also inviting the three Armenian foreign exchange students. They will soon be returning home.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following people were elected to the board in November, 1993:

Artin Chatmajian, President  
(W) 1-832-9701, (H) 281-8393  
Ashot Tumagyan, Vice-President  
260-1202  
Sophie Garvanian, Treasurer  
266-7222  
Armen Chakerian, Recording Secretary  
(W) 898-4544, (H) 243-3607  
Rita Cook, (W) 880-1600, (H) 296-9339  
Beverley Larson, 294-6581  
Karen Nystrom, 266-2361  
Gegham Mkhitarian, 275-238  
Sergei Ter-Grigorian, 883-8173

We are a diverse mixture of long-term and new members; immigrants (Ashot & Gegham from Armenia, Sergei from Russia, Artin from Jordan) and non-immigrants; Eastern & Western Armenian speakers and non-Armenian speakers (Karen, Sergei & Beverley). We invite any member to join us on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Meetings rotate among various member's homes, the next one at Nystroms, 3313 Mackland NE on May 4th.

## DUES

Membership dues in the association are \$15.00 per person per calendar year. Please send your dues or donations for 1994 directly to: Sophie Garvanian, 1600 Cardenas Drive NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110. Make checks payable to the Armenian Cultural Association. Thanks to all who have renewed their 1994 dues without this tardy reminder.

### **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY/NEWSLETER WRITER**

We are in need of a volunteer to handle the association's mailings and writing of the newsletter starting in the fall, 1994. There would be a minimum of 4 mailings & newsletters per year to prepare. You do not need a computer or even a typewriter, the newsletter can be handwritten and then taken to a printshop for preparation. Please contact a board member if you can help us with this.

### **ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES**

We are continuing to sponsor the education of three Armenian students in Lebanon, Zepure Atamian, Rita Azadian & Hovig Medoian, through the Armenian Missionary Association of America at a total cost of \$300 per year. At Christmas, 10 gift baskets were given to needy families through the Salvation Army and \$100 was given to each of the Armenian foreign exchange students in Albuquerque. We have reserved the Elena Gallegos picnic area for another picnic on August 28, 1994 and are planning another possible event for May. We are also preparing a financial report which will be distributed to everyone in the next few months. Please give us your ideas about what kind of cultural events, community service activities or donations we should be doing/making.

### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ruth and Avak Akgulian have a first grandson, Chase Conner, born January 14, 1994 to Zachary and Terry Caskey.

Sophie Garvanian's youngest son Michael, his wife Bryce and son Nishan recently moved back to Albuquerque and are expecting another baby any minute.

Congratulations to Ashot & Galina Tumagyan who were married four months ago.

Welcome to Kevork & Nairi Sarkisian, cousins of Gegham Mkhitarian's wife, Garine, who have moved here from Los Angeles.

### **ARMENIAN CULTURAL EVENTS**

Armenian and Middle Eastern Folk dancing will be featured as part of the New Mexico August Folk Dance Camp to be held August 10-14, 1994 at Highlands University in Las Vegas, NM. Gary and Susan Lind-Sinanian will be the instructors & "have conducted extensive oral history interviews focusing on traditional Armenian dances and are among its leading exponents." There are 2 day and 4 day packages or maybe you could just go for selected events. Call Gary Diggs (293-5343) or Charles Cummings (892-4750) to find out. If there is interest, perhaps our association could sponsor their workshop in Albuquerque at a later date.