

**ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR ARMENIAN CHURCH
1993 Annual Report Of The Women's Guild**

**CHAIRWOMAN - SILVA KARACHORLU
VICE CHAIRWOMAN - SANDY HITIK
RECORDING SECRETARY - MARY BATTLE
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - MAY NAHABEDIAN
TREASURER - ALICE GEORGE
ASST. TREASURER - PAULINE NAHABEDIAN
HISTORIAN - DOLORES TOOTOOIAN**

THE YEAR IN OUR LORD, 1993, was a very eventful year for all of us here at St. Gregory's. It started with the usual church calendar of activities. Here briefly is a list of the events and activities that were held in 1993:

- Armenian Christmas Dinner
- Mardi Gras or Paregentan (which is the Christian version of Halloween)
- Women's Saints Day (which was held in Evanston church)
- Maundy Thursday Dinner
- Palm Sunday Dinner
- 91st Diocesan Assembly
- Father's Day Breakfast
- Rummage Sale
- Church Street Picnic
- Midwest Churches Town Meeting Luncheon
- Mini Bazaar
- Bake Sale
- Church Anniversary Dinner
- Armenian Language Lab 2 Day Crash Course

The Women's Guild is very instrumental in assisting the Parish Council with various functions and activities. Our combined efforts help to make each function a success. We assisted the Parish Council with the Anniversary dinner, and also with the Midwest Armenian Churches Town Meeting luncheon, among many other functions as well.

This past year our church also sponsored the 91st Diocesan Assembly. I can proudly say that the Women's Guild did their best to help the Parish Council host this important event. The "Hospitality Night" on Thursday was a success. It generated close to \$4000.00 in revenue. The food and entertainment which was prepared by the Women's Guild was a smash. But more importantly, everybody who attended this function had an excellent time. The many people who attended this function were left in awe. In reflection, many people from our church helped to make this event a success. Everybody gave 110% of their support. I could only hope that this hard work can continue into and throughout the year.

We are all witnesses to what we can achieve when everybody pulls together and gets involved.

Immediately following the assembly our energies were directed towards our church picnic. The sweet table alone generated \$5000.00 in revenue. The Women's Guild does not have to be modest about the income their sweet table generates. It is an important aspect of the picnic and should continue to be in the forthcoming years. The Women's Guild will be contributing \$1340.26. This is 60% of our annual income. Adding the \$4000.00 in proceeds from the Thursday "Hospitality Night" as well as the \$5000.00 plus from our annual picnic raises our overall contribution to the Parish Council to close to \$10,000.00.

As I stated in my last year's Women's Guild Annual Report, I wished more success in 1993. Yes, I do believe 1993 was a successful and prosperous year for our parish but something is still missing. The financial success and prosperity of our Guild alone is not sufficient enough to keep the church active. We need more people to get involved not only to fulfill our financial aspect but also to keep the spirit of our church alive. We have in our parish very capable and intelligent individuals who can contribute to the advancement of this church. Unfortunately, some of us "fixed fixtures" do not know the secret of shaking and motivating this very capable crowd of people. There must be a way! I for one am open for all types of suggestions regarding this great matter of concern.

Recently, we have had great discussions about who is going to be our next chairlady for the Women's Guild. Surprisingly enough, there is a lack of enthusiasm in filling this position. Don't think I am denying or am ungrateful to all our friends who came and helped very diligently at times when there were important affairs such as the Diocesan Assembly and our picnic, however, we must find a resolution to this problem in the very near future. The continued success of our church may be at stake.

Currently Women's Guild organizations nationwide are sponsoring children in Hayastan. Our chapter is sponsoring a little girl and has contributed \$200.00 to date to this fund. I can only hope that this sponsorship program serves its purpose effectively.

In December, the Women's Guild was host for an Armenian Language Lab 2 day Crash Course. This was not your ordinary run of the mill Ա, Բ, Գ learning session. Ms. Sylva Der Stepanian from the Diocese in New York along with three colleagues instructed this very enjoyable experience. I would like to stress the fact that we should have had more parishioners attending this event. There was something interesting to learn for all those that participated.

Again, last but not least, the Women's Guild wishes to thank all of you who supported our activities throughout the year and we pray that 1994 will be even a greater and ever more prosperous year for our parish.

Respectfully Submitted,
Silva Karachorlu
Women's Guild Chairwoman