

St. Gregory The Illuminator Armenian Church 1994 Annual Report of The Women's Guild

Chairwoman	Silva Karachorlu
Vice Chairwoman	Sandra Hitik
Recording Secretary	Mary Battle
Corresponding Secretary	May Nahabedian
Treasurer	Alice George
Assistant Treasurer	Pauline Nahabedian
Historian	Delores Tootooian

The year in Our Lord, 1994, was an eventful year for all of us at St. Gregory's. I say eventful because we were blessed with the presence of our new priest, Hayr Surp Paren Avedikian. I believe Hayr Surps input and guidance will serve as a vital tool to our guild, and I am sure it will have the same influence for all church organizations .

Our guild activities in 1994 were quite successful. We again were able to maintain a steady schedule of events and also assist the parish council in hosting their schedule as well. The following is a list of events sponsored by the Women's Guild in 1994:

- Armenian Christmas lunch
- "Mardi Gras" / Paregentan (Pot Luck) dinner
- Women's Saints Day held at Saints Joachim And Anne Church - Palos Heights
- Maundy Thursday traditional vosbi jash and eggs
- Palm Sunday Dinner
- Rummage Sale
- A Farewell Buffet luncheon for Archpriest Haig Donikian
- A Welcome Buffet luncheon for Father Paren Avedikian
- 20th Annual Street Fair-Picnic
- Mini Bazaar And Bake Sale
- 1st Annual Midwest Churches Ladies Guild meeting
- Armenian Baking Classes

On Palm Sunday, the Women's Guild prepared a heartfelt dinner for all who attended in celebration, commemorating Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. This was a very special day.

Our pastor, Very Rev. Father Paren Avedikian arrived to our parish on the first Sunday in August, marking the beginning of a new era for St. Gregory's church and parish. Following the church services, the Women's Guild prepared an elegant luncheon in honor of Hayr Surp's arrival. Many parishioners attended this luncheon to celebrate this welcoming event.

Every Sunday following church services, the Women's Guild has coffee and ? for the parishioners who attend services. After church has finished parishioners gather in the large hall for group discussion and Christian fellowship. Quite often we are together with fellow parishioners from Detroit, who come to visit Hayr Surp and celebrate Badarak with him. This allows us the chance to get to know and extend our friendship with parishioners from other sister Armenian churches.

The Midwest Women's Guild meeting held at St. George Armenian Church in Waukegan was most promising. The idea of having a meeting of this magnitude can only mean that we have the potential to achieve great results. For instance, our energies can be focused on helping the needs of Hye Camp and other related youth activities. The benefit of this is that we are collectively helping one another and continuing cooperation among Midwest sister churches.

The 1994 street picnic was very successful and as a result our sweet and bakery table generated close to six thousand dollars. The ladies auxiliary once again came forward and made eighty-four dozen lahmajoons which secured another one thousand dollars. We are thankful to the Ladies Auxiliary for their monumental support.

With Hayr Surp's suggestion we had three sessions of Armenian Baking Classes. The attendance was very good. The overwhelming part of it, if I may add, was that most of the attendees were our young ladies from our own parish. They showed great interest and enthusiasm in learning how to prepare Armenian baked goods like beoregs, pides, and baklava. I believe they enjoyed themselves surrounded in the ranks of veteran bakers.

In an effort to increase our Guild membership, May Nahabedian, our very innovative corresponding secretary, sent out invitations to all our young adult ladies inviting them to join the guild. We had a respectable turnout. We are hoping that in the near future we may count on our young ladies to take the initiative in continuing our Women's Guild traditional role in our church. We hope to witness a smooth "changing of the guard."

At this time the Women's Guild presents a check in the amount of \$ 2325.00 which is 60% of our annual income.

Respectfully Submitted,



Silva Karachorlu - Chairperson