

ANNUAL REPORT, 1981

WOMEN'S GUILD

It was with some trepidation and reluctance that I accepted the responsibility of chairing the Women's Guild, never having acted in such capacity before. With the help of Fr. Sooren and all the faithful members of the Guild, however, the job has been relatively easy, and I am happy to say that I am now almost at the point where I can call myself an "old hand."

After installation of the new officers in January (Louise Rockwell, Secretary; Manoushag Seraydarian, Treasurer; Ursula Findikyan, Chairperson), the Guild got off to a rather slow start. The traditional Armenian Christmas dinner in January was a covered-dish affair and very well attended despite the inclement weather.

We were able to supplement Parish Council's budget by giving them \$500. in February, as well as allocating \$560. for an anniversary gift to the church -- a table for the vestibule. Our committee, consisting of Marion Rejebian and Carol Bogdasarian, spent much time, effort and love shopping for this table and choosing one appropriate for our church and within the limits of our budget. We also allocated \$200. for a project proposed by our Choir director, Michael Findikyan, who intends to collect, from all available sources, old and new Armenian songs to be bound in a booklet and duplicated for the use of all who are interested and, especially, for our children who may otherwise never know these songs.

In March, a committee of 3 Guild members agreed to help work on the booklet for the 50th Anniversary of our church. We also baked choereg and dyed eggs for Easter and had a raffle with 3 prizes donated by our members -- a handmade Afghan, a bottle of Armenian cognac, and a cash prize of \$25.

April brought the traditional Mid-lenten dinner and Women's Saints Day, on which we were host to members of the Syracuse Women's Guild. We had a

luncheon and a short program with recitations and songs. Our faithful member, Vartanoush Kerjilian, as on many previous occasions, did Armenian readings in her inimitable way.

In May, Adrienne Kachadourian very graciously opened her home for a meeting. She served tea and cakes to all of us. This was intended to serve also as a membership drive and was very successful.

The highlight of the month was a surprise luncheon and program by the children for our Fr. Sooren on the occasion of his first anniversary as leader of our parish. Hayr Soorp is reported to have been annoyed at being left out of the preparations for this auspicious event -- having sensed that something was "cooking," but not knowing that the secret arrangements were being kept from him on purpose!

We ended our winter-spring season with a brief meeting in June and a delicious luncheon at the Vestal Steak House.

During our summer vacation, we had a dinner for Der Kevork who visited us with his family in July. We were all pleased to see them.

In August, there was a small but profitable bake sale at Ty Cobb Stadium in Endicott, eminently well arranged by Manoushag Seraydarian on very short notice.

Our new year began in September with Harry Sarkisian agreeing to be the liaison between Parish Council and Women's Guild. I would like to mention at this point that understanding and cooperation between the two organizations have been at their best. We have worked together consistently on many occasions, and that is as it should be.

In September, the Guild contributed to the dinner in honor of Deacon Hrair and Anoush Dekmejian by helping with the preparations, the program, and setting up and preparing for a mezza table.

During the entire year, members of the Youth Group never failed to

help by serving food, cleaning up after dinners, and in general being there whenever they were asked.

In addition to a delicious lamb dinner in October, we had a large and very profitable bake sale in November, to which all the women of the parish contributed amply, and a Wine and Cheese Party in December which was enjoyed by all. We thank Arslan Kachadourian for donating his precious time to entertain us with his trumpet during this event.

The Southside Ecumenical Service was held at the Church of the Good Shepherd in November. As always during the past years, members of the Guild baked and contributed cookies for the coffee hour following the service.

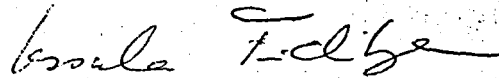
Marion Rejebian researched and set up a guideline to be used whenever advertising is needed. This will be a very handy and helpful article to have for any events in the future.. We were contacted by the Roberson Center to participate in their Christmas Exhibition in December, by loaning them any Armenian objects we might have. Alice Boyajian complied by giving them several lovely pieces of lace and needlework, as well as some baked goods.

During the latter part of the year, the Guild offered several coffee hours after Badarak. This seems to be much enjoyed by all, and we shall continue to do this periodically.

To close out the year, we were able in December, to present Parish Council with an additional \$1000. to supplement its budget.

I wish to thank all the members of the Guild for their cooperation during the past year and look forward to another fruitful year.

Respectfully submitted,



Ursula Findikyan, Chairperson



Louise Rockwell, Secretary