

The St. James Women's Guild had a very fruitful 1998. Seven general membership meetings were held; five executive committee meetings were held. Our general membership meetings were as follows:

Feb. 12 - Ellen Ishkhanian conducted a wonderful writers' workshop.

March 19 - Dr. Grace Ilandjian Basil gave a fascinating talk on "Parenting and the Pediatrician".

April 22 - Gary Bashian, Esq., gave a very informative talk on "Estate Planning".

May 21 - Veronica O'Day gave an informative presentation on women's health.

Sept. 23 - Our Silver Membership Tea was held at the home of Dawn Papalian.

October 21 - Cultural program featuring a film on the climbing of Mt. Ararat.

November 18 - Setta Tavitian gave a fun and fascinating wine tasting, as well as a presentation of table setting ideas for the holidays.

Other events other than general membership meetings were as follows:

March 20 - hosted Lenten Dinner

May 3rd - Holiday food sale and flower sale

May 8th - prepared large portion of "eech" for the Diocesan Assembly.

May 27th - trip to Caramoor attended by 17 people.

Dec. 20 - Holiday bake sale and dried fruit sale.

Our 1999 events are as follows :

January 10 - Communion breakfast for all the children of the parish

February 10 - General Membership Meeting featuring Marge Tellalian Krykostas, coordinator of the Armenian Ellis Island catalog.

February 21 - Production of Armenian play "Partzr Troghe".

March 13th - regional sponsors of Women Saints Day.

April 14th - general membership meeting.

April 30th - "An Evening with Nancy Kricorian" (author of Zabel)

May 2 - Annual Bake sale and Flower sale

We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful group of women in our Women's Guild, who are always willing to help and participate in all our activities. Our group is a wonderful blend of women of all ages, from all walks of life, coming together to create the dynamism and strength of a cohesive whole.

As I step down from three years of being chair, I am ever grateful to the solid executive committee I had, as well as the advice and support from Der Karekin Kasparian.

Elizabeth Derderian