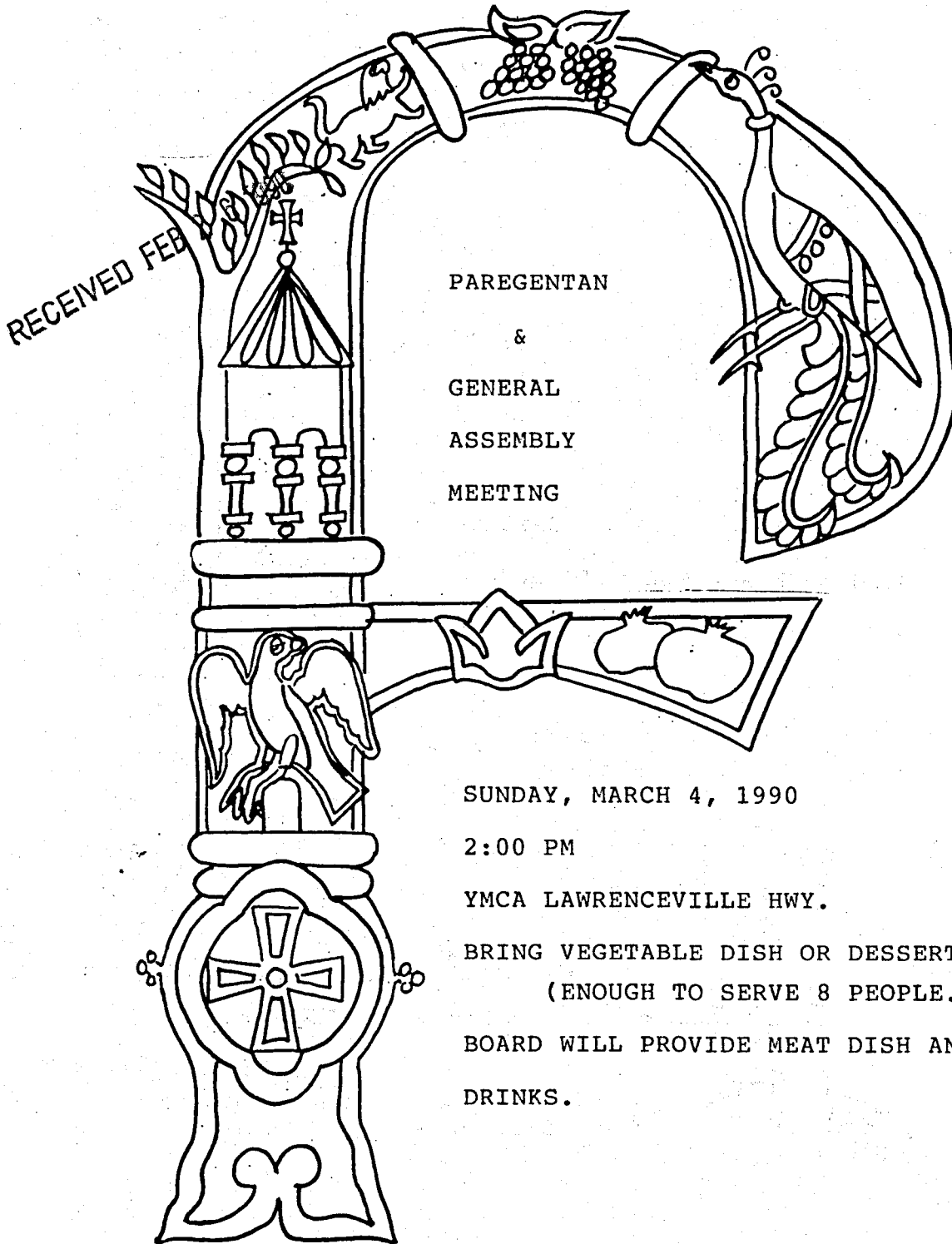


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E. Khayj



ARMENIAN INDEPENDENT CULTURAL ASSOCIATION of ATLANTA Inc.



PAREGENTAN
&
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
MEETING

RECEIVED FEB

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 1990

2:00 PM

YMCA LAWRENCEVILLE HWY.

BRING VEGETABLE DISH OR DESSERT.
(ENOUGH TO SERVE 8 PEOPLE.)

BOARD WILL PROVIDE MEAT DISH AND
DRINKS.

Atlanta Commemorates Quake Anniversary

ATLANTA, GA. - Members of the Armenian community recently honored three Atlanta-area physicians and the Armenian Assembly of America for their contributions to Armenian earthquake relief last winter at a special commemorative gathering held at Emory University.

Ara Keyfer, President of the Armenian Independent Cultural Association of Atlanta, recognized the Assembly for its commitment to helping the people of Armenia recover from the terrible earthquake last December.

He presented Ross Vartian, Executive Director of the Assembly, with a check for \$6,000 for the Assembly's earthquake relief fund. Since last December, the Armenian Independent Cultural Association of Atlanta has contributed over \$30,000 to the Assembly relief fund.

The three doctors who were honored were Gail V. Anderson, Associate Medical Director at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta; James J. Dugal, President and Medical Director of J. Dugal International, Inc.; and Henry J. Siegelson, surgeon in the Department of Emergency Medicine, Dekalb Medical Center. On behalf of Atlanta Armenians, Keyfer made a small presentation to the doctors "in appreciation for your selfless efforts to help Armenia in her time of tragedy."

The doctors not only went to Armenia after the earthquake to

offer their skills as physicians, but also have continued to work in the United States after their return to get more U.S. aid channeled to Armenia. Two hope to return to Armenia in 1990.

Vartian, who was invited to speak to the group about the current relief and reconstruction needs in Armenia, said the contributions received from Americans across the country enabled the Assembly to undertake a \$3.3 million project to build a state-of-the-art building manufacturing complex just outside of Leninakan.

He said the Assembly has also been involved in medical relief projects and technical exchanges, as well as opening an office in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, to help coordinate the Assembly's projects and to assist many other Armenian and non-Armenian organizations pursuing their own projects in Armenia.

"The hard reality today is that things in the earthquake region are not fundamentally different than they were one month after the earthquake," Vartian said. "The good news is that the bodies are removed, the rubble is cleared, and tens of thousands of people from within and without the Soviet Union are engaged in the process of rebuilding."

"But there is still very little occupiable new housing," Vartian added. "Foreign construc-

tion projects have been put on hold until the warm weather returns in the spring and projects that have been completed, for the most part, cannot be used due to the lack of utilities, sewage and water."

"And so, there is still much to be done," Vartian said. "The Armenian Assembly is committed to helping Armenia rebuild over the short and long-term and to help introduce Western technologies and methodologies to help move the rebuilding process along as quickly as possible."

The lecture which was attended by some 60 members of the Armenian community as well as faculty and students from Emory University, was co-sponsored by the University's Department of Soviet and East European Studies.

The event culminated a week of commemoration by members of the Armenian Independent Cultural Association of Atlanta. In their vignette on Armenia, which was on public display in the international section of the "Atlanta Festival of Trees" December 1-10, they offered special thanks to the many Atlantans who gave generously to fund drives for Armenia. The Festival was held at the Atlanta Apparel Mart, where thousands of people viewed the Armenian display. The exhibit was designed by a committee chaired by Mrs. Seran Megerian.



ATLANTA REMEMBERS THE QUAKE VICTIMS. Ara Keyfer, President of the Armenian Independent Cultural Association of Atlanta, presents books on Armenia to three Atlanta-area physicians who have been involved in Armenia earthquake relief. From left: Ara Keyfer; Gail Anderson; Henry Siegelson; and James Dugal.

A I C A A

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1990

1990													
JANUARY							JULY						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				29	30	31				
FEBRUARY							AUGUST						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28				26	27	28	29	30	31	
MARCH							SEPTEMBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3							1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						
APRIL							OCTOBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5	6
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30						28	29	30	31			
MAY							NOVEMBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31			25	26	27	28	29	30	
JUNE							DECEMBER						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

FEB. 27, 1990 Talk by Kelland (Kelly) Stevenson from American Friends Service Committee. Just back from 6 month stay in Armenia helping to build rehabilitation & health centers for children.

*** 7:30 pm. AFSC, 92 Piedmont Ave. Tel.: 586 0460.

MARCH 4, 1990 Paregentan and General Assembly. 2:00 pm. Lawrenceville Hwy. YMCA.

APRIL 1990 Visiting clergy arranged by coalition committee. To be announced.

MAY 6, 1990 Stone Mt. Park picnic. 1:00 pm.

SEPT. 1990 General Assembly meeting. To be announced.

OCT. 13, 1990 Formal Dinner-Dance for Armenian Relief Fund. Perimeter-Dunwoody Holiday Inn

DEC. 31, 1990 New Year's Eve Party. Chastain Park American Legion Lodge.

ARMENIA UPDATE

On Friday, February 9, an informal gathering was called to discuss recent events involving escalating violence against Armenians in the Soviet Union. Two plans of action were considered: (1) Fundraising for Armenia; and (2) Action to gain United States Government support for Armenia.

Many other Armenian groups already have established fund drives to provide refugee and other aid needed by Armenia at this time. PLEASE make your donations to the organization of your choice soon. While Armenians in the Soviet Union are paying with their lives, we Armenians in America must not close our hearts or our wallets. Please contact Ara Keyfer 262-3160 or Juliette Stepanian 325-8789, if you need information.

On the diplomatic front, Ara Keyfer, Armen Karapetian, Juliette Stepanian, and Kevork Yacoubian met with Congressman John Lewis of the 5th Congressional District on February 16, 1990. Individuals from the Atlanta Armenian community will continue to meet with other Georgia congressmen and senators. Mass mailings to President Bush, Secretary of State James Baker, and Senators Nunn and Fowler are also important. If you do not have the time to compose your own letter, please, xerox, SIGN and send copies of the attached letter to:

President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC. 20500

Secretary of State James Baker
2201 'C' St., NW
Washington, DC. 20520

Senator Sam Nunn
303 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC. 20510
(Fax # 202-224 0072)

Sen. Wyche Fowler
204 Russell Bldg.
Washington, DC. 20510
(Fax # 202-224 8227)

PAST EVENTS

ARMENIAN CHRISTMAS PARTY. - About 40 people spent a fun evening dining and dancing. We hope that more people will join us next year.

ARMENIAN ART FESTIVAL. - A visiting Armenian folklore group performed before an audience of over 100 people. It was a very touching experience for all. Special thanks to the following people for making this event possible,
Mr. & Mrs. A. Ohanian Ms. R. Ohanian
Mrs. H. Nalband Mr. K. Yacoubian
Mr. O. Kabbenjian Mr. S. Aga-Sarkissian
And all financial contributors.

COMMUNITY NEWS

LESLIE GENGOZIAN was the lead female vocalist in a production of the Christmas operetta 'Amahl and the Night Visitors.' performed at the Emory Univ. Glen Cannon Chapel. Leslie has a beautiful voice and we wish her continued success in her endeavors.

DR. GEORGE ADOMIAN was recently released from Emory University Hospital after a serious illness. We wish him continued recuperation and good health.

MR. AVEDIS MAGARIAN passed away on Sat. Feb. 17, 1990. in Atlanta. The AICAA wishes to extend condolences to his wife and children.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

That time of the year has rolled around again! Please fill out the form below, cut it out and send with check to : AICAA, P.O.BOX 7277, ATLANTA, Ga. 30357. Address corrections requested.

.....

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME Spouse name
STREET # Children Names Ages
CITY
STATE ZIP
TEL.(Res)..... (Bus.).....

Yearly dues : Family/\$50 - Single/\$30 - Student & Sr. Citizen/\$10

Make checks payable to AICAA.

DATE :

February 20, 1990

Dear President Bush, Secretary Baker, Senator Nunn, and Senator Fowler:

The situation of Armenians in the Soviet Union has reached a crisis level which no citizen of conscience can ignore. For the past two years Armenians have been facing intolerable violations of their human and civil rights. Beginning with pogroms in Sumgait in February 1988, the tiny republic of Armenia has been flooded by over 200,000 refugees fleeing violence against them in Azerbaijan. The devastation of the December 1988 earthquake left hundreds of thousands of Armenians homeless, and repeated blockades of Armenia since 1988 by Azerbaijan have made reconstruction in the earthquake zone virtually impossible. Tragically, nearly 1/3 of the population remains homeless in Armenia. Recent violence against Armenians evacuated last month from Baku to other Soviet-Moslem republics such as Tadzhikistan compound an already horrific situation.

Armenian Americans were deeply gratified by initial Congressional response to assist Armenia immediately after the earthquake. However, the nightmare for Armenians continues. It is a cold winter, but railroad blockades by Azerbaijan prevent essential food, fuel and medicine from reaching Armenia and Nagorno-Karabagh. Relief supplies collected by American citizens also are not getting into Armenia, because civilian relief flights from the United States are not being given visas from Soviet authorities. The survival of the Armenian people must not be sacrificed to political expediency. In view of your concern for human rights, we urgently appeal to you to support actions toward emergency relief to Armenia. These actions include:

1. support for A.I.D. assistance to Armenia
2. approval of Department of Defense planes to carry supplies to Armenia
3. emergency refugee migration assistance through ERMA for Armenians expelled from Soviet Azerbaijan. This aid will help Armenian refugees stay in their own country so that they will not be forced to migrate abroad.
4. We also encourage you to include the plight of Armenians in your talks with President Gorbachev and other Soviet officials.

The issues raised by Armenia are not just narrowly "Armenian" issues, but they are issues of broad humanitarian importance. I join all concerned citizens in thanking you for your assistance and support .

Sincerely yours,

Name:
Address: