

# Groong

Volume 3, Number 3

The Newsletter of the Ann Arbor Armenian Church

Summer 1996

## Summertime reflections

By Deacon Michael Ohanesian  
Deacon-in-Charge

I can almost hear the actress in *Porgy and Bess* singing: "It's summertime and the livin' is easy. Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high." This thought makes me want to go wading through a creek. How about you? Summer is the time of year for kite flying, traveling and lots of leisure activities. From the windswept hills of Tennessee to the rough shorelines of Oregon... from the surfers of Santa Barbara to the racers in Indianapolis... from the rugged Baja Peninsula to nostalgic Cape Cod... from muggy Houston to soggy Seattle, wherever you may venture it is vacation time.

During the summer do you make time for rest and relaxation? I sincerely hope you do and wish that this summer brings you peace and rest. As always, I invite you to visit the parish. Come to the picnic and enjoy getting to know fellow Armenians.

I hope you can make time for God in your busy life. The little time that you devote to Him will give back many times over. There is much more to life than what we see. The beautiful music of the liturgy is composed, practiced, and perfected in the harmony of worship. The act of coming together as Armenian Christians is deepened by coming together in prayer. Being with your fellow Christians could be part of the "all things" that St. Paul mentions in Romans 8:32 and 1 Timothy 6:17. The apostle tells us that our God "richly supplies us with all things to enjoy."

Have an enjoyable summer, and I hope to see you in church as well as at the beach.

Bring a friend and your favorite Armenian dish to pass to the :

## Church Potluck Picnic

Date: Sunday, July 21

Time: After church services

Place: 4578 Gregory Rd, Dexter  
call 426-3404 for directions

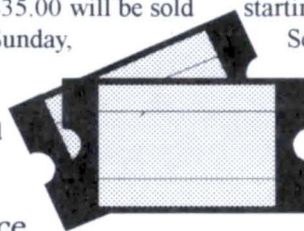
## Fundraising events set for 1996

By John Ohanian,  
Parish Council Chairperson

As the new chairperson of the parish council I wish to inform my fellow parishoners of present goals the council and I have set for the church. One of my main goals is fiscal responsibility and growth. My dream (which I intend to make a reality) is to have our funds total \$15,000 by March of 1997 so that we could acquire a modest facility. Currently, our funds total approximately \$6,000. I am confident that we can more than double our bank account in less than a year. My only fear is that this community will not have the drive, energy and wherewithal to sustain a church. Although I am focusing on financial matters in this message, it is only one facet of the work of the parish council. Let us know how we can serve your family and please consider supporting our fundraising events.

### CANCUN VACATION RAFFLE

How would you like to escape the pre-Christmas crowds at Briarwood and spend five days on the beach at Cancun, Mexico? All you have to do to win is buy one raffle ticket. Only 150 tickets at \$35.00 will be sold starting this summer. The lucky winner will be chosen on Sunday, September 8. The trip includes two round-trip tickets and lodging for two for four nights at the Sheraton Towers in this wonderful resort town. The trip must be scheduled before December 15, 1996 with the return flight on or stay. and include a Saturday night



### New Year's Eve Dance

Food, dancing and favors will be furnished for ticket prices of \$55.00 per couple or \$30 per person. A cash bar will be available. We hope to start the new year in hye style in a local hotel ballroom to be announced..

### April in Paris

Imagine visiting Paris in the spring. This trip of a lifetime can be yours for the cost of a raffle ticket. Again, only 150 \$35 raffle tickets will be sold for a chance to win round-trip airfare and accomodations for two for four nights at the Concorcel Hotel in Paris. Enjoy all the sights and sounds of this romantic city.

My wife and I have stayed in both hotels and would be happy to give you trip advice. Car rentals are not necessary in either location. Another event under consideration is a fall fashion show. We would appreciate feedback to know whether there is any interest in this activity. Please contact Sadie Metzgian at 995-0851 to give your opinion or to volunteer.

## International News

(From: *Assembly This Week*)

**U. S Congressional subcommittee votes for direct aid to Karabagh.** News that the House of Representative's Subcommittee voted for an amendment to the foreign aid bill that includes a provision for direct humanitarian aid to Nagorno Karabagh was reported by the newspaper *Azg* from a radio broadcast by the U.S. funded *Radio Liberty*. For every \$1 of aid Karabagh receives \$7 will go to Azerbaijan.

**Diplomat says U.S. views Turkish blockade as insignificant.** In an interview with the government daily, *Hayastani Hanrapetutyun*, an unidentified senior Armenian government official remarked that Clinton's waiver of the Humanitarian Aid Corridor Act indicated that Turkish blockade of Armenia is viewed by Washington as insignificant. The source added that, while Clinton's action is an internal matter for the U.S., it reinforces intransigent attitudes in Baku that avoid serious Karabagh negotiations. The official asserted, "Baku considers the blockade as an essential matter. Instead of promoting peace talks, steps are taken which strain the atmosphere and harm the peace process."

**International Foundation for Electoral Systems works with Armenia's Central Election Commission to create a uniform and standardized election process-including amendments to the law that would improve ballot format, monitoring access by nongovernmental organizations, and candidate and voter registration procedures.**

## Calendar

*please keep for future reference*

**June 16** Divine Liturgy  
Please join us this Sunday for a very special visitation by Father Garabed Kochakian, the Chancellor of the Diocese.

**July 21** Divine Liturgy  
Picnic

**August 4** Jashou Service

**August 18** Jashou Service

**September 8** Divine Liturgy

**September 22** Jashou Service

**October 6** Divine Liturgy

**October 20** Jashou Service

**November 3** Divine Liturgy

**November 17** Jashou Service

**December 1** Jashou Service

**December 15** Jashou Service

*Services are held in the lower level of the Genesis Building (St. Clare's/ Temple Beth Emeth) 2309 Packard Rd. at Eastover. Walk towards the incense!*

## **Do you need me? I am there.**

*You cannot see Me, yet I am the light you see by. I am at work, though you do not understand My ways.*

*I am not strange visions. I am not mysteries. Only in absolute stillness, beyond self, can you know Me as I am, and then but as a feeling and a faith.*

*Yet I am there. I hear. I answer.*

*When you need me, I am there.*

*Even when you feel most alone, I am there.*

*Even in your fears, I am there.*

*Even in your pain, I am there.*

*I am there because I have to be: Because I am. Only in Me does the world have meaning; only out of Me does the world take form; only because of Me does the world go forward. I am the law on which the movement of the stars and the growth of living cells are founded.*

*I am the love that is the law's fulfilling.*

*I am the love that you can cling to.*

*I am your assurance.*

*I am your peace.*

*I am one with you.*

*Beloved, I am there.*

*Adapted from "I Am There"*

*James Dillet Freeman*

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## Groong

Lisa Mangigian, Editor

Editorial contributions are welcome  
and may be sent to:

**Groong**

**4578 Gregory Road  
Dexter, MI. 48130**

Please make checks payable to :

Ann Arbor Armenian Church

Special thanks and prayers for Harry Alatchanian for his donation to the

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