



# TREX NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TRIPLE X FRATERNITY OF CALIFORNIA

## 73rd ANNUAL TRIPLE X CONVENTION

Hosted by the Selma Chapter

**August 30 - September 2, 2002**

**Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel - Fresno**



### FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

- REGISTRATION: 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Hotel lobby.
- Afternoon: Selma Hospitality Suite open.
- Evening: CASINO NIGHT, Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel, Buffet Dinner 6:30 p.m.; Casino Action 8:00 p.m. (Blackjack, Craps, Wheel of Fortune) \$37.50



### SATURDAY, AUGUST 31st

- REGISTRATION: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Hotel lobby
- Afternoon: Selma Hospitality Suite open.
- Golf Tournament - Fig Garden Golf Course - \$60.00
- Gin & Tavloo Tournament - H.J. Plaza Hotel - \$3.00
- International Food & Wine Tasting - Calif. Armenian Home Ani Pavilion - \$30.00



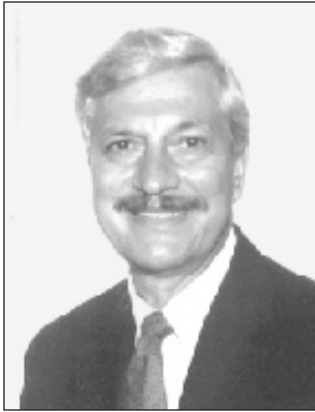
### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st

- Morning: Men's Breakfast and Business Meeting. 8:00 a.m. - \$15.00
- Ladies Brunch & Play - Roger Rocka's Theatre \$35.00
- Afternoon: Selma Hospitality Suite open.
- Grand Ball & Dance - Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel \$45.00



### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd

- Farewell Brunch - Grizzlies Stadium (8 a.m. - 10 a.m.) - \$15.00



# Grand Master's Message

Greetings to my Brothers,

As my term as Grand Master comes to a close, I have been reflecting on our Brotherhood, because it is truly a Brotherhood of Men who individually, or through family have together survived traumatizing and happy life experiences.

It is a cultural and ethnic group that has bonded together throughout History's cruel blows. There is an old Armenian proverb that transliterated states: "In order to make metal strong, you must temper it with very hot fire." Our families have been there and done that. That has helped make us stronger... and better Americans as well... But now I see our Brotherhood weakening through the aging of its members, so we must all work to recruit more new members, as well as younger members. In order for us to survive, to maintain and pass this important socio-ethnic bond to our heirs in our great country of America, we must be creative and flexible.

There are two amendments to our Trex By-Laws being brought up at the Convention: 1) a name change to "Trex Fraternity of California" that keeps our legal name as Triple X, (submitted by Golden Gate Chapter to combat present day bad connotations of the "XXX"), and 2) an election change so that all Chapters elect officers to coincide with the Grand Officer elections, ( submitted by Mt. Diablo Chapter to improve Intra Chapter and Grand Chapter communications.)

There is one more important amendment that we should discuss at the Convention and bring before the Body at our Mid Term: the election into our Brotherhood of worthy Odars married to Armenian women. If they are interested in joining, it indicates their strong commitment to the Brotherhood of our Organization.

I have truly enjoyed this past year, getting to know more of my fellow Brothers, and I wish you and your families Health and Happiness with a Capital "H" during the coming years.

Charles K. Paskerian

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Grand Master

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2001-2002

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# Convention 2002

Brothers, it's that time of year again! The Selma Chapter is proud to be your host for the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Triple X Convention. This year's festivities will be held in Fresno on August 30, 31 and September 1<sup>st</sup> and we have a full plate of activities to keep you entertained for the weekend. We have secured a special room rate of \$72.00/night, single/double occupancy at Fresno's downtown Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel. This special rate is guaranteed only until August 1<sup>st</sup>, so get your reservations in now (559-485-9000), and be sure to mention you are with the Triple X Convention.

The fun begins on Friday August 30 with Casino Night in the Hotel's Main Ballroom. Enjoy a buffet dinner at 6:30 PM followed with spirited Casino action at 8:00 PM. Blackjack, Craps & the Wheel of Fortune will provide plenty of gaming fun and you can cash in your winnings for a chance to win many valuable raffle prizes! Your ticket also includes 100 dollars worth of gaming chips.

Saturday August 31 will have a host of activities for everyone. The day kicks off at 11:00 am with a 4-man scramble Golf Tournament at Fig Garden Golf Course. Call Harry Kutumian for more information (Cell 559-917-4494; Res. 559-439-1479). Don't forget the Gin & Tavloo Tournament will also be held Saturday at 1:00 PM in the Hotel.

On Saturday Night we'll present a new and exciting event: The International Food & Wine Tasting Festival at the California Armenian Home Ani Pavilion. The evening starts at 6:00 PM as you enjoy a variety of international foods representing the many cultures of our Valley, and you will also be able to sample many different wines from some of California's finest wineries. And while you're enjoying the food & wine you will be entertained with a variety of ethnic music and dance performances. Plus don't forget to check out the Silent Auction and bid on some terrific items. Wow! If you think that's a great night, just wait – we've got more for you! At 9:00 PM KEF TIME with Richard Hagopian & His Orchestra starts as we top off the evening with Armenian music and dancing. If you're in the mood to be wined, dined and entertained then this is the night for you! Don't miss it!

On Sunday morning, September 1<sup>st</sup>, we'll get down to business with the Men's Breakfast/Business Meeting to be held at 8:00 AM in the Hotel's Main Ballroom. We also have a nice afternoon planned for the wives with the Ladies Brunch & Play to be held at 11:00 AM at Roger Rocka's

# Selma

**HELLO** from Selma Chapter, your proud hosts for the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Triple X Convention to be held on August 30, 31 and September 1, 2002 in Fresno. Please plan to spend the Labor Day weekend with us as we are going to entertain you in true Selma Style!

Even though much of our Chapter's energy is focused on convention preparations we still managed to keep our calendar full with plenty of activities.

On February 9 we held our annual Val-

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Theatre. The women will enjoy brunch and the musical "Chicago" at Fresno's premier dinner theatre. Sunday Night will be the traditional Triple X Grand Ball, beginning at 5:30 PM with no-host cocktails followed by dinner at 6:30 PM. After-dinner entertainment will be provided by the world-renown John Bilezikjian and His Orchestra, featuring Armenian and American music.

On Monday morning we'll host a Farewell Brunch in the new downtown baseball stadium starting at 8:00 AM. Enjoy brunch and a tour of the new ballpark to cap off the busy weekend.

Brothers, we hope we have put together a terrific convention for you to enjoy. Much of the credit goes to our Convention co-chairs: Brothers Jack Ouzounian PGM, Jack Bedrosian PGM and Pete Cholakian PM, who have put in many hours planning this weekend. Our event chairmen have also worked very hard – Many thanks to Phil Manoogian, Pat Balakian, Oscar Kasparian, Charles Jamgotchian, Harry Kutumian, Ken Melkonian, Mike Kilijian, Robert Srabian, and everyone else whose name I may have forgotten. (It hasn't all been hard work, though. The best part at our monthly meetings is seeing how many donuts Harry Kutumian can eat, and betting on how late Kenny Melkonian will be. It's been a lot of fun.)

Everyone should have received their registration materials by now. If you need more information please contact Brother Frank Korkmazian at (559) 255-5803. The booklet committee also needs your help. Please show your support for the fraternity by taking an ad out in the convention yearbook. If you have any questions contact Arden Kashishian at (559) 226-4253 or Jack Ouzounian at (559) 266-5320.

Once again, thanks for all your support and we hope to see you all at the Convention!

Perry Mamigonian, Publicity

**entines Dinner-Dance** at the AACL Hall. Co-Chairs David & Michael Sarabian and Ken Esraelian put together an outstanding evening. The night was topped off with an appearance of the one and only Elvis. That's right – an actual Elvis sighting in the Selma Chapter!

**Sports Night** was next up on our calendar as we honored several Armenian athletes of local merit. Martin Santigian, an All-American at Occidental College; Lawrence Kaprielian, 1954 All-City FCC MVP; and Charles Garabedian, National Rifle Champion were honored this year. Fresno State Athletic Director Scott Johnson was the keynote speaker.

March followed with our **Law Enforcement Night** dinner. The hall was packed for this annual event as many brothers and their guests came to hear from several local leaders. Sheriff Richard Pierce made a special note of thanking Selma Chapter for our many years of support. He also presented a badge of appreciation to Bro. Abby Mamigonian for preparing the delicious lamb shank dinner every year. Many thanks to co-chairs Dan Boyajian, Robert Kandarian and Jason Musser.

Our annual **Spring Bingo** was held on May 28 with another spirited crowd in attendance. This was followed on June 2 with our **Spring Outing & Scholarship Awards** at the California Armenian Home grounds as the brothers and their families enjoyed a beautiful afternoon and a delicious shish kebab barbeque. The chapter also took the opportunity to announce the winners of this year's scholarship awards. Congratulations to all the winners and best of luck in your future!

On a sad note, the Selma Chapter regrets to announce the passing of three brothers: John C. Barigian, K.K. Cholakian and Aram Shahe-nian. These brothers embodied the spirit of the fraternity to its fullest and their presence will be greatly missed. Our deepest condolences are extended to their families.

Before closing I'd like to remind you to get your reservations in for the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Trex Convention. Special room rates of \$72.00/night at the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel (559-485-9000) are guaranteed only until August 1<sup>st</sup>. For more convention information please contact Bro. Frank Korkmazian at 559-255-5803. **WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!**

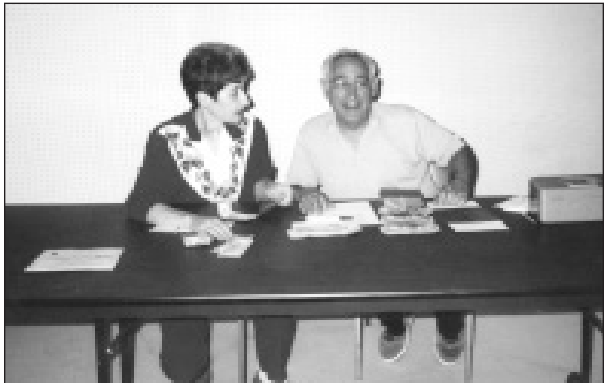
Fraternally,  
Perry Mamigonian



New members Larry Avedisian and Tim Kukenbaker.



Chefs Ken Melkonian and Sam Bagdasarian



Gayanne and Frank Korkmazian.



Chuck Jamgotchian presents this year's scholarship winners.



# Oakland

Dear Brothers,

The Oakland Chapter has continued to be very active and successful in 2002, thanks in part to Brother Master David Leyman doing an excellent job at the helm.

In May, the Chapter had its annual trip to Graeagle, CA. We golfed on Friday and Saturday and the weather was great! After Friday's round, we went to the house and barbequed chicken for dinner. After an early round on Saturday, we went back to the house and played gin during the afternoon until dinner, which was barbequed tri-tip steak. After dinner, we "worked off" the scrumptious food for a few hours as we resumed our seats at the table and played poker for a few more hours. Even after we were done playing cards, as if all the card playing wasn't enough, we watched a movie all about poker. I guess we are a bunch of "khoumarjies."

In July, we had our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual day at the ballpark, which included the Brothers and their families. We watched under the glaring sun as the Oakland A's were defeated by the San Francisco Giants during interleague play at the sold out Network Associates Coliseum in Oakland. We met 2 hours before the game for a tailgate party and grazed on hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, chips and drinks. Despite the Brothers and their families who were fairly divided amongst being an A's or Giants fan, the rivalry was all in jest. Brother Stuart Arakelian chaired this event and got a lot of help from his wife Caroline to make this a great success. You both hosted a great "smokin'" tailgate and thank you for your hard work.

The following day was our annual Oakland Trex Family Picnic. Brother Harry Sherinian and his wife Margaret once again spearheaded this event. We met at Pleasant Hill Park in Pleasant Hill where the temperature was sizzling and I don't mean from the 2 barbeques that were cooking the meat. Families tried to stay cool under the shaded picnic tables while some others enjoyed cooling off by participating in the balloon toss and playing with squirt guns. Other families enjoyed swimming at the large community pool. The menu consisted of tri-tip steak, pilaf, fasulya, salad and dinner rolls. If anyone still had room in their stomachs, there were cookies and watermelon for dessert. There were over fifty members and family at the picnic. A lot of work and preparation goes into this event and every year Brother Harry and Margaret do an outstanding job down to every detail. Thank you.



Brother George Kamian and family at the Oakland trex picnic.



Brothers Harry Sherinian, Stuart Arakelian, and Harold Koojoolian at the Oakland A's game.



Brother Craig Bazigian taking Gary Alexanian's money at gin.



Brothers relaxing at Grayeagle weekend outing.

At the end of July, the Oakland Trex has its second annual family camping trip to Lake Chabot in Hayward. Organized by Brother Rick Magarian, the site includes, boating, fishing, and hiking and like all Armenian events, great food. The event promises to be a fun and relaxing time for all.

One sad note to mention...The fellow brothers lost one of their own, Dennis Sherinian, who passed away in June. He was a very active member of the Oakland Trex for 25 years. About 2 years ago, Brother Dennis moved to Palm Springs and was an active member in that Chapter as well. Many brothers who knew Dennis were present at the memorial service to pay their last respects.

The brothers of the Oakland Chapter are developing upcoming events and look forward to a promising future.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brother Craig Bazigian

## Peninsula

GREETINGS Brothers and Families!

Peninsula Chapter officers for 2002 - 2003 are: Master - Andy Nalbandian

Junior Master - Vazgen Babayan

Corresponding Secretary - Zareh Salmassian

Recording Secretary - Kip Garabedian

Treasurer - Vic Khachooni

Sergeant at Arms - Aram Salmassian

Custodian (and Head Chef) - Mike Michaelian

TREX 2000 Committee Chapter Rep. Joe Keshishian

Unless otherwise notified, meetings are on the third Thursday of the month at the Los Altos Masonic Lodge, 146 Main Street in downtown Los Altos.

The Peninsula Chapter continues to enjoy



Grand Master Chuck Paskerian's official visit to the Peninsula chapter



Peninsula Chapter monthly meeting with Brothers from Golden Gate Chapter present.

fellowship and good food thanks to our master chefs Bros. Mike Michaelian, Vazgen Babayan, Vic Khachooni and Kip Garabedian. Bro. Larry Karabian and wife Dian have moved to their new home at Shaver Lake. Bro. Vic Paparigian is recovering from a stroke following heart bypass surgery. Bro. Norris Gregory is retiring by closing his pharmacy and will have more time to devote to his vineyard and some wine tasting with us. We wish them health and happiness and look forward to their presence in the coming months.

We have had several fabulous barbeques in our outdoor patio. It was a pleasant surprise to be honored by a visit from Bro. Grand Master Chuck Paskerian followed by a visit by Golden Gate Bros. Vartan Hovsepian and Ara Kaprielian at a later meeting. We had a working dinner meeting in March with our Golden Gate Chapter Brothers at the Basque Cultural Center in South SF. Several proposed amendments were reviewed and discussed for presentation at our Annual Convention in Fresno.

Future Peninsula Chapter events are:

**Mountain View Art and Wine Festival:**



Peninsula Chapter Brothers at the barbeque preparing Shishkebob dinner with Grand Master Chuck Paskerian

Our 3rd annual fundraiser with the Peninsula Chapter... food booth at the Mountain View Art and Wine Festival on September 7 and 8 is in planning., Thanks to Bros. Vazgen Babayan and Vic Khachooni for again heading this important event.

**Annual Picnic at Vic's:** The annual picnic at Vic and Linda Khachooni's in Los Altos Hills is being planned for October.

**Chapter Christmas Party:** We are looking to the Annual Convention and the presentation of important proposals to the Brothers to build and strengthen our Fraternity.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andy Nalbandian



Golden Gate/Peninsula: David Zovickian and Vic Khachooni.



Joint Golden Gate Peninsula meeting: Grand Master Chuck Paskerian and Kip Garabedian.



Joint Golden Gate Peninsula Meeting: Anoushavan Kasparian, Ara Kaprielian and Jerry Vorperian (sitting).

# Golden Gate

Golden Gate Trex is proud to present to Convention 2002 our very own Bro. Charles Paskerian. As Grand Master, Bro. Chuck is working hard to update our storied fraternity as we forge' ahead in the 22nd century. We wholeheartedly support Bro. Chuck's vision for change and urge our brothers throughout the state follow suit.

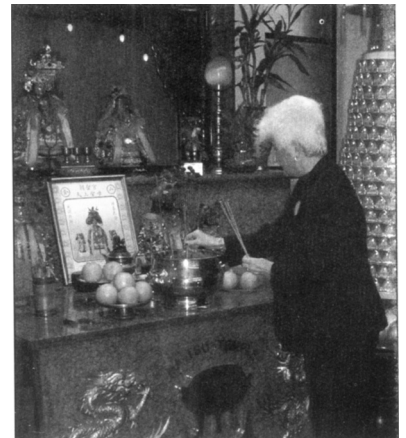
Golden Gate has certainly led the way in good times these past few months. Under the wing of Ulla Kaprielian, the chapter hosted a walking tour of Chinatown. Elise Kazanjian displayed her mastery of Mandarin, leading us through back alleys, herbal shops, temples and the delicacies of an authentic meal Too bad Bro. Master Ralph Kazanjian wasn't able to get us into his favorite mah jong tournament.

For those adventurous enough to take on North Beach's nightlife, our Valentine's outing was not to be missed. Big fun (and even bigger hats) were the order of the night as the chapter reveled with San Francisco's long running musical revue "Beach Blanket Babylon". Special thanks to Bro. Vartan and Arlene Hovsepien for arranging this splendid evening.

For the more sophisticated among us, Bro. Leonard Kaprielian led a safari to tranquil Sonoma County. Touring world class wineries and picnicking were the backdrop for a picture perfect pastoral day.



Ulla Kaprielian, with Vartan and Arlene Hovsepien



Elise Kazanjian demonstrating temple rituals



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Ann Sarkisian, Dorothy Leylegian and Agnes Kaprielian



Ulla Kaprielian cutting her surprise birthday cake



PGM Sark Sarkisian and his lovely wife Ann

# Capitol

The past six months of 2002 have flown by the coop you might say.

I'm sorry brothers I don't have much to write about that would be good reading, with this stroke on my hands to deal with, it's tough brothers. I do my therapy in bed every morning for 1/2 hour, shower, have breakfast, then I sit in my wheelchair and Mauvis puts me to work watering her flowers, trees and shrubs in the back yard. I love it.

I've started writing my book from traveling to 33 countries and equal to 14 times around the world. I have flown 2 million 300,000 miles, and spent 7083 hours in the air of flying time logged.

Surviving 5 plane accidents is a miracle. As a civilian photographer at McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento, California I was photographing damaged bombsights at Castle Air Force Base in Merced, Ca. Returning to Sacramento. We crashed in a B-25 while still on the ground, when suddenly at the take off point the aircraft veered to the left, crossed three runways, we tore through a neighbors wooden fence, with the pilot screaming over the intercom to buckle down and hang on. The airplane had enough speed to travel another 1/4 mile and bury itself 4 feet into the farmers field. I pulled the escape window and we crawled out safely. The right wheel crystallized from lack of hydraulic fluid and sheared off. This was the worst of 5 crashes I had.

Capitols KEF NIGHT was a great success. There were nearly 100 people who enjoyed the great shish kebab dinner prepared by bro. Leon Jake Bajakian and his elves. Many prizes were awarded during the drawings. Thanks to the brothers who made this night a successful affair.

PGM Joe Hagopian and wife Rose celebrated 5 days at Incline Village, Lake Tahoe, Ca.

Daughter Karen and 15 members attended the family reunion. Son-in-law Rich Bertran and son Mike decided it was no fun rolling marbles in the bottom of a mayonnaise jar so they rode their bicycles around the lake. A 73 mile trip, and taking 6 hours for the trek. WOW.

With the Fourth of July holiday being a favorite time to spend with the family, bro. Harry Artinian celebrated with his sons and grandchildren in Lake Tahoe, Ca.

Bro. Richard and Flora Nahigian made a trip through the valley to San Diego, Ca. to visit grandchildren and family.



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# San Diego

San Diego Triple X enjoyed another productive and exciting year!

The San Diego Triple X Fraternity's Annual Fund Raiser, **2002 HYE BALL** Dinner Dance and Scholarship Awards ceremony, took place Saturday, May 4, 2002, in the elegant banquet hall of Ocean's Eleven Casino in Oceanside, CA.

The Casino staff beautifully appointed the large banquet hall. Claudette Hovsepian, wife of Fraternity Master Steve Hovsepian, created floral arrangements and flower centerpieces. More than 180 people attended the festive evening.

The banquet hall, hors d'oeuvres and dinner were donated by the owners of the Ocean's Eleven Casino, spearheaded by Operating Partner/Owner Mr. Haig Kellegian, who graciously donated \$1000 additionally to be given to the Scholarship award recipients.

After the dinner, scholarships in the form of financial assistance were presented to six worthy recipients selected by the San Diego Triple X Fraternity Scholarship Committee consisting of Bros. Vahan Serpekian, Harry Guzelimian, and Master Steve Hovsepian.

Mrs. Seta Khosharian presented the Vartan Khosharian Memorial Scholarship award to Mary Ann Yaghdjian of USC, majoring in Communications and Business. Mr. Haig Kellegian presented the Haig Kellegian Scholarship award to Joanne Yaghdjian of USC, majoring in Communications. Fraternity Master Steve Hovsepian presented four additional scholarships to Fred Grigorian of UCSD, majoring in Electrical Engineering; to Rita Sultanian of APU, majoring in Communication; to Natalie Babayan of USD, majoring in French and Art; and to Meika Bajakian Chervinskias of SDSU, majoring in Psychology and Communications.

Later in May, many members of San Diego Triple X participated in a special community reception for the

**Armenian American Mammography Uni-**



"Master Steve Hovsepian (far right), Mrs. Seta Khosharian and Haig Kellegian with San Diego Triple X scholarship recipients: Fred Grigorian, Rita Sultanian, Natalie Babayan, Meika Bajakian Chervinskias, Joanne Yaghdjian and (not pictured) Mary Ann Yaghdjian."



"2002 Hye Ball (L to R): Oceans 11 Owner Haig Kellegian, Master Steve Hovsepian and Master of Ceremonies PGM Joe Kellejian."



"(R to L): PGM/Emcee Joe Kellejian, Mrs. Seta Khosharian and her nephew, Mrs. Maida Markarian, wife of Bro. Noubar Markarian."

**versity Center (AAMUC)** in Yerevan, Armenia, which was founded by Rita Balian. Hosted by the San Diego Friends of AAMUC, the event was held at the Del Mar Hilton and welcomed more than 80 members of the community, including many San Diego Triple X members who personally donated to the cause. In addition, San Diego Triple X donated a \$500 grant to AAMUC for breast cancer exams and preventative treatments for

women in Armenia. The event raised more than \$13,000 for AAMUC.

On June 28, 2002, San Diego Trex and the ACYO of St. John Garabed Armenian Church in San Diego, hosted a

**Dance and Reception for two visiting students from JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF ARMENIA (JAA)**, one of San Diego Triple X's adopted charities. With joyful music and dancing, forty people welcomed Lucine and Ani, the two university-bound economics students from Armenia, and their chaperone Hasmig, JAA's administrator based in Los Angeles.

The event proceeds went to JAA, and San Diego Triple X also donated Sea World tickets for the students and a few of their new San Diego friends to enjoy the following day. PGM Joe Kellejian also donated tickets to the Del Mar Fair for the students to enjoy during the special weekend visit. The students said they will never forget their time in San Diego.

Here's to another positive and successful year ahead!

PM Steve Kradjian

Corresponding Secretary

## Orange County Juniors

Simply put, the Orange County Juniors are stronger than ever. We are coming off a very successful 2001 and have entered 2002 with a bang. We have been and continue to be a big part at our Senior members functions. The Spring Fling will live on for years to come because of the great time had by an in attendance. The Laughlin Stag was a whole other story: for some of us, it was a three day blast that did not seem to end, but for others the combination of alcohol and gambling make it maybe almost impossible to remember. In July, we ran the raffle at our Senior's annual picnic and to date, it was the most successful raffle yet. By the end of the year look forward to another tremendous party by your Brothers from The Orange County Junior Triple X Fraternity!

Fraternally,  
Bro. Simon Hovakimian

## Orange County

Hi to all our brothers from the Orange County Chapter. We always stay busy in our chapter. Master Ara Papazian and his officers have done an outstanding job. We have many activities, which keep our Brothers and their families having fun. They are our extended family.

Once again our Fairview Party for the disabled was a great success. We served ice cream and cake and other refreshments and gifts for their people. We know it is better to give than to receive and it's so good to give to people like these. Thanks to all the brothers and their wives who helped.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Armenian American Sports Hall of Fame Banquet/Sports Night had as Chairmen Jack Kayajanian and Nick Paboojian and Wayne Najarian who did an outstanding job too on the food. The Humanitarian of the Year was Bobby Valentine; Manager of the New York Mets and The International Baseball Man of the Century was none other than The Great Tommy Lasorda. We laughed so much – you had to be there. Tommy and Bobby will cherish the Candy Dishes they received. Also we honored Bro. Paul Abrahamian who played football for Tufts University. He had wonderful stories of his College career. Thanks Bro Paul for being the Armenian-American Hall of Fame Inductee.

The Laughlin Stag outing – We had over 40



Master Ara and GM Chuck.



Bro. Gabriel, Naz, Z. Harry, Kurk, Grand Master Chuck.



Sport Night: Ron Dedeaux, Tomm Lasorda, Bro. Paul Abrahamian, Bobby Valentine. What a team!



Bros. Kris, Simon, Danny, Master Chef Art Kazarian.



Bros. John, Nick, Ed, Billy.

Brothers attend. Lots of laughter – Just have good, clean fun. The only problem we had was that we ate our lunch with White Bread. No Pocket Bread. Maybe next year we won't have that problem. Thanks to Bro. Harold Bazarian for doing an outstanding job.

The 2rd3 Annual Spring Dance has as Chairman Bro. Ara Gholdoian. Lots of fun was had by all. Bro. Art Kazarian did an outstanding job on the Mazza. What a spread. Plus our own Marge Kazarian and Stella Cholakian and all the wives who helped with the food, etc. made the evening a huge success. It was a fun filled evening enjoying the Armenian music and meeting new friends in the community.

The Pot Luck at Bro. Kurk and Marge Kazarians Clubhouse was terrific. Every year Marge makes the most delicious Keyma. Over 80 broth-

ers and their families and guests attended. Our wives make the most wonderful dishes. Are we blessed by families who enjoy each other. Our entertainment was from Bro John Mekenian and his wife Karen's children, son Ryan and daughter Nicole who sang for the group. What a talented family. We had a great time catching up on what families are doing and had a great time. Thanks again Marge and Kurk for your wonderful hospitality.

Our chapter has donated over \$20,000 to the following organizations; Ararat Home for the Aged, Armenian Eye Care Project, Tommy Lasorda Foundation for the Youth,

Children's Hospital of Orange County and Armenian Schools. Thanks to all the Brothers and wives who made this all possible.

Our Jr. Chapter is doing great. We like to see our Young Armenian Boys becoming our Brothers.

Meetings: We are meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month. Call one of our Brothers when you're in town to attend. See you at the Convention.

Fraternally  
P.G.M. Haig Jamgotchian



Spring Fling: Love to Armenian Dance.



Bros. Kelly, Archie, John, Leo, Pat.



# Las Vegas

Year 2002 is a year full of challenges for our chapter.

We are diligently working to make 2003 convention one of the best in history.

After 2002 convention in Fresno all our members will be kept abreast of coming events.

In Palm Desert everybody had a blast, beautiful town and wonderful people (see picture)

When our GM came to town, a crowd of over 80 people were on hand to welcome him and Diane. Everybody had a good time (see pictures)

It was one of the most rewarding events of the year for our chapter.

Shavarsh Papazian



Diane Paskerian, GM Chuck Paskerian, Master Sam Artinian, Gil Surabian,



Bros. Shavarsh Papazian, Gil Surabian, PGM Archie Cholakian, Billie Eordekian, Mike Haratunian, and Orange County Brothers.



Bro. Arpiar Babikian, Connie Anooshian, Bro.



Bro. Arpiar Babikian, Connie Anooshian, Bro. Armen Anooshian.



Andra Horasanian, Bro. Karney Ovian, a guest from Armenia, Bro. Kirk Bazoian.



Hilda Ladh, Bro. Shavarsh Papazian, Jeni Papazian.



At Palm Desert: Bros. Charles Parigian & Kattie, Ralph Barzekoff & Marlene, Shavarsh Papazian & Jeni, George Parigian & Mary.

# Los Angeles

Dear Brothers:

Greetings from Los Angeles! The Brothers of the LA Chapter love our state and all that it has to offer. However, we have been growing increasingly tired of the gangster stereotype applied to those that live in the Los Angeles area. Some of the Brothers have been trying to fight this for some time now, but collectively, we have not made much of a dent. To bring in the New Year, our Chapter made the decision to become just like the stereotypical gang members we all have come to know. Our year has still been full of events, there has just been a bit of a change in our threads and jive.

We started our year with a few meetings and joined many of you at the March Fine Fest in Fresno, more commonly referred to as Mid-Term Convention. Fines were flying all over the place. Our Master, Bro Mel Shanoian, Jr. Master Ralph Dergazarian, and Recording Sec Shant Dergazarian were all fined significantly. When asked about the meeting, Bro Shant said "I was laying the cut getting my drink on and my snack on when the man picked my drawers for a Jackson – sheeeee". I surmised he was not happy from the fine.

Later in March we held the annual Family Bowling Night. The events chairman was Bro Greg Boyadjian (our Treasurer) and our Jr. Master, Bro Ralph. Between the adults and kids, over 70 people attended the event this year. In talking about the event this year, Bro Steve Mikaelian said "check-it, let me ax you something...have you scoped the babies here...it be crying, I thought it was rain – so bring a towel...(expletive)". Since I had no idea what he said, I left it at that. Thank you Brothers for a nice event.

In April we held the desert golf outing. This year the Palm Desert Chapter hosted the event. The LA Chapter supports this event strongly with many participants. Among them was Bro John Casparian. When asked about the event, Bro John said, "I loves me this game! I runs me the ball up the fairway so deep, it be crying. After, I like to chill at my crib and smoke me a flat splif, thinking I was a crazy angel – sheeee (explitive)". Sounded to me like Bro John had a great time. Thank you Palm Desert Chapter.

In May, we held the Partner's Best Ball Tournament and Wives Night Out. None other than Bro Dikran Devian ran the Best Ball Tourney. Just before the event, I asked Bro Dikran what draws people to this event. He replied, "You fend to raise up and get your golf game on – check it!



At the Armenian Open, event chairman Bro. Michael Kourtjian displays his bi-polar tendencies by first flipping over all the patio tables, then engaging in a pleasant diatribe with a curious on-looker.



Bro Master Mel poses with Family Picnic Event Chairman, Bro Ron. Bro Ron and Gerry Ohanessian put on a great event year after year.

Meet up at Brookside, from the first hole to the last hole, we play all over this (expletive). You got to get your posterior in one of these big (expletive) carts". After talking with Bro Dikran for a few more minutes it is easy to see why so many attend. Thank you Bro Dikran and your posse.

Our Jr. Master Bro Ralph and Bro Shant were the co-chairmen for the famous Wives Night Out Event. This year's event was held at a Mediterranean restaurant and the Brothers and their wives were entertained by a very funny comedian. After the event, Bro Armen Hampar said, "I be off, up and out of this place. I already dun been up in there, and I loves me some comedy". Thank you Bro's Ralph and Shant.

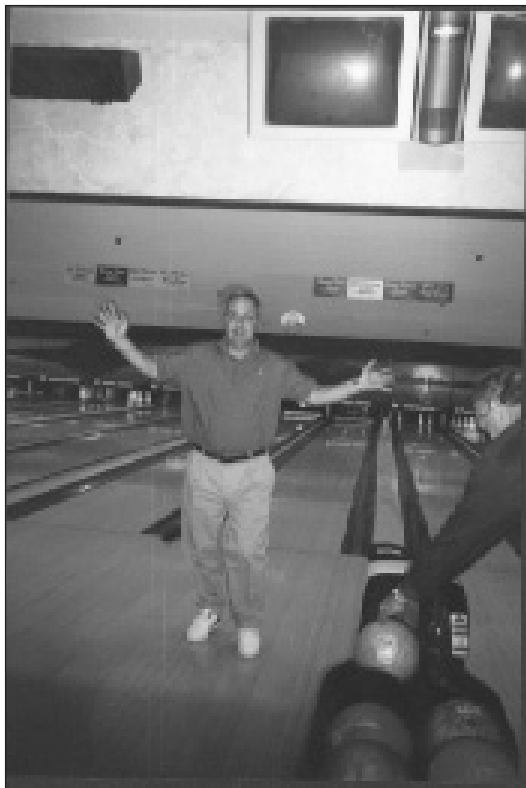
In June we held the Armenian Open at Brookside Golf Course, where we had over 80 golfers. Bro. Mike Kourtjian chaired the even again this year and all went smooth. Also in June was the family picnic in Verdugo Park, Glendale. Bro's Ron and Gerry Ohanessian have run the picnic

with the invaluable help of their mother, Bea. This year again we had a fantastic turnout. So many people pitch in here. The LA Jr.'s help serve the food, several Bro's shish and cook the meat, and let's not forget the wives who help out. Bro Master Mel's wife Sharon makes the most unbelievable pilaf. When asked about the operations of the picnic, Bro Jerry said, "...(expletive) We know how to get this picnic on... we floss and fly this (expletive) all over this park. We be loving it, and it shows like a (expletive)". I have attended this picnic for years, and it was clearly one of the best we have had. Thank you Bro Ron, Bro Jerry and Bea!

That pretty much covers the first 6 months of the year. It has been fun and we are looking forward to convention in Fresno. We wish our fellow Brothers the best of luck in putting it on.

Warm fraternal regards,

Bro Michael Surmeian  
Los Angeles Chapter,  
Associate Editor



Bro John Casparian demonstrates his Flintstone's Twinkle Toes bowling moves at the annual bowling night.

## Fresno

Greetings from the Fresno Triple-X-Chapter.

The hottest thing in town is the weather (103).

Cur calendar of events is as follows:

**January 31:** Sports viewed on TV. Fifth Thursday of the month, brothers enjoyed hot dogs and hamburgers at the clubhouse to view the Fresno State/ Tulsa game. It was also Coach Jerry Tarkanian's last season. Thanks for an enjoyable evening put together by Co-chairmen Jr. Masters Jack Bedoian and Harry Tanielian.

**February 21.** Wives and Triple-X-Widows Night. This gala event was a definite success. It was great to see some of our widows. A kufta dinner was enjoyed by all. All the widows were presented with a long stem rose and they are eager to come back next year. Thanks again to the Jr. Masters and their committee.

**March 1 and 2 Mid-Term:** This year's mid-term was hosted by Fresno Chapter. Friday, the clubhouse was open to all brothers and dinner was provided that evening. Saturday, the clubhouse was busy with pinochle, gin, etc. and lunch. Cocktails and mezza followed by dinner. Previously, that afternoon, some enjoyed a golf tournament at Sherwood Forest Golf Course. Grand Master Charles Paskerian did conduct a well-controlled lengthy meeting and fined individuals "till it hurt."

**March 14 Coach Pat Hill Night:** Coach Pat Hill again honored us with his presence for a fun-filled evening. Thanks. Do not miss his 2003 appearance with the Fraternity. Mike Emerzian put on a great "All you can eat" Shish kebab dinner. Mike always chairs this event and it is very successful.

**April 18:** Dinner at Koko's Armenian Restaurant Koko always serves this dinner "family style" and this event is always well-attended. He cooks all our Armenian dish favorites and I can tell you we enjoy .....

**May 16:** Bus trip to the Lemoore Palace Casino. The bus was loaded as well as the would-be gamblers. "Yahlah".

**June 20:** A real treat was Brother Gary Garabedian's "spareribs dinner". We were honored with the presence of PGM Jack Ouzounian, Selma Chapter. This event was well attended and put it on your calendar for next time. "Dem Ribs" were good.

**IN MEMORIAM:**

**Brother Harry "Huss" Hagopian** passed





Widows and Wives Night.



Newly weds Pete and Isabelle Chilpignan.

away peacefully at home on May 29, 2002. The Fresno chapter is saddened by his loss to us. He was 87 years old and a member of this chapter since 1946, a lifetime member. He was an active participant until the later years but always was involved. He was a World War II Veteran and retired from Chooljian Packing Co. in 1985. He is survived by his widow, Dorothy; daughters Elaine and Joanne, grandchildren and sister Barbara Peters of Fowler; brother Edward Hagopian; sisters-in-laws Annette and Nell Hagopian. He is survived by many nieces and nephews. Our sincere condolences to his family.

**Brother John Koligian**

John passed away on April 14, 2002. He was 84 years old. John has been an ardent member since 1952 and a life member. He was a veteran of World War II, returned to Fresno and started his own business, Butler Plumbing. He was a valued member of the fraternity, and even when Virginia and John's family were grown, he always made sure the children had a grand Christmas tree for the annual party. It was his delight to attend all the conventions and made sure that he took friends with him when they no longer drove to these conventions. He delighted in taking Virginia "just for lunch" to Carmel. He is survived by his wife Virginia, daughter Leana, son John Jr. and his grandson Evan; His son in law Marvin.

These two brothers passings leaves us with a void in the fraternity.

This is the Fresno Chapter signing off until the next time. See you at Convention time in Fresno, hosted by Selma Chapter.

Fraternally,  
 Brother Nazareth Chaderjian



New Members: Mike Gulian, Steve Bedoian, Joe Agopin, Sam Papiikian, John Shanoian, Merlin Kazarian.



Fresno Chapter Delegates at Mid-Term.



Coach Pat Hill handling the raffle.



Grand Chapter Officers



Three brothers in white

# MT. DIABLO

## MIKE AARONIAN PRESENTS

At the January meeting Brother Mike Aaronian, Jr. gave a presentation on Football officiating. Mike is a high school principal whose avocation is being a football referee.

He began by doing Pop Warner and junior high school football games, then on to high school games. He then spent many years officiating junior college games. He once did eleven games from a Thursday through Sunday. His next step was small four-year colleges. In 1995 he began covering large university games; games that had over 70,000 people in attendance. In 1999 he became an official for the Pac Ten Conference (Cal, Stanford, USC, etc.), including post season bowl games.

He discussed his experience at each level and the preparation and training needed, along with a physical conditioning program. He must take an annual rules test. He showed video tapes of several recent university games. He stopped the tape right after he threw a flag and then asked the brothers to detect why the flag. Then he re-

ran the play to identify the infraction. Mike was entertaining and informative presenting a terrific program for the brothers.

## BOB ARABIAN PRESENTATION

Brother Bob Arabian gave a talk on his experiences in setting up automotive production plants overseas. He spoke about working with governments of developing countries. He was involved with the entire production operation. In addition to the physical aspects of the plants he, also, worked on training personnel. He focused his talk on Iran in the early 1970s. He covered the coordination needed to operate a plant.

Bob provided a great deal of insight on the multitude of issues that had to be accommodated; e.g., population centers, transportation, housing centers, social issues, supportive manufacturing plants, health and education of the population, including political conditions. During this time he and his wife lived in Tehran for two years and has lived in twenty countries. Bob provided a fascinating, extremely interesting, and informative talk, including some great stories.



Harvey, Rusty, Kevork



Mike Aaronian



Steve and Haig



Bob Arabian



Ray Chiljanis table at the Christmas Party



Jamgotchians and Boyds (Jr.)

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

In December the chapter held its annual Christmas Party at Boundary Oaks Golf Course in Walnut Creek. Nearly fifty trexmen and guests attended. Committee members George Rustigian, Harvey Kamian, and John Dichian put on a terrific affair.

Following the giving out of raffle prizes Steven Hazarabedian and Ed Hazarabedian presented the program. Steven had rewritten the lyrics of five Christmas caroles to include choice Armenian words. Singing the songs were a challenge, with a lot of giggling going on. Ed handled the distribution of gifts in a new and unusual way that had the audience, literally, going around in circles, and having a lot of fun.

We were pleased to see Grand Master Chuck Paskerian and his lovely wife Diane in attendance. Thanks to the committee for an enjoyable evening.

Fraternally,  
Jack Mooradian,  
Associate Editor



Pat, Garo Keadjian and Armik



Armen and Leona Donian



Mt. Diablo's Grand Officers



The Hazarabedian's and Dee



# Palm Desert

Dear Brothers,

Our Palm Desert Chapter is growing stronger with each passing year. This past year, we have had many successful meetings and events.

In this past year, the Palm Desert Chapter has welcomed five new brothers and has now grown to 43 members. Our newest brothers who survived their interview meetings are:

**Bro. Gary Funtas** and **Bro. Greg Safoyan**. We also welcome transfer member, **Bro. Steve Babagian**, from the Fresno Chapter.

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Brother, Dennis Sherinian** in May of 2002. Originally a member and Past Master of the Oakland Chapter, Brother, Dennis and wife Jackie moved to the desert and joined our chapter two years ago. We extend our deepest sympathies to Jackie and their family.

Our "Family Day at the Fair" was held again on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival. Desert members, along with many visiting Los Angeles Chapter members, enjoyed the music of Grand Funk Railroad. Mezza was served in the hospitality suite, while families enjoyed the food and entertainment the county fair provided. Our chapter was



THE DESERT GOLF OUTING: PM Nick Nigosian, Grand Master Chuck Paskerian, Master George Kirkjan and PM Omar Kanadjian



THE XXX SPRING PICNIC: Bros. Neil Huether, George Banerian, Chick Kandarian, Guyrun Amirghan, V.J. Mkrтчian, Stanley Avedisian and Buddy Melkesian



SPRING PICNIC: At the Melkesian Home



SPRING PICNIC: Bros. Gordon Chuchian, Stanley Avedisian and Chick Kandarian. Our Expert Cooks!!!

again proud to present two scholarships of \$250 each, to deserving junior livestock exhibitors.

A Spring Picnic was held on April 7<sup>th</sup> at **Bro. Bobby and Kahnema Melkesian's** home, in La Quinta. A traditional shish kebob dinner, with all the trimmings, was served, thanks to **Bros. Stanley Avedesian, Chick Kandarian, and Neil Huether**. Our brothers and their families enjoyed the beautiful desert weather, delicious food and later played a few hot games of volleyball.

The first "Desert Golf Outing" was held at the end of April. **Grand Master Chuck and Diane Paskerian**, and brothers from Los Angeles, Fresno and Las Vegas, enjoyed a weekend of golf, dining and socializing with our desert brothers. **Master, George and Tammy Kirkjan** hosted a lovely cocktail party at their home on Friday night, to kick off the weekend's events. The weekend included golf on Saturday, with dinner following, and Sunday golf, with a delicious Award's Brunch to end the weekend. **Bro. Armen Yarijian** did a great job coordinating this successful event.

Our first "Wife's Night Out" was held on June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort, in Indian Wells. A delicious Italian buffet was served, followed by live music and dancing in the lounge. Our brothers really know how to wine and dine their wives!!

The Palm Desert Brothers are planning a stag outing for the weekend of July 27<sup>th</sup>. Laughlin



THE DESERT GOLF OUTING: Master George and Tammy Kirkjan with daughter, Kristen and son, Bro. Greg Kirkjan



THE DESERT GOLF OUTING:: Cocktail Party



PALM DESERT XXX MEETING: Bros. Howard Chuchian, Steve Balian, Artie Bagdasarian, Koko Tutunjian and Bobby Melkesian

here we come! I'm sure we'll have much news to report on this maiden trip in the next issue.

As you can see, this year has been very busy. We welcome you all to visit the desert for any of our events or business meetings, held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Plans are underway to attend the 2002 Convention in Fresno. We look forward to another successful convention, hosted by our brothers in Selma.

As outgoing Master, it has been a great year, filled with growth, energy and enthusiasm. I have enjoyed this last year and look forward to my role as Past Master.

See you all at Convention 2002!

Fraternally,  
Master, George Kirkjan

# Sequoia

Since the Mid-Term Convention Sequoia Chapter has had a Ladies Nite Outing with 34 members and wives taking a train ride to Modesto. There, some of the brothers enjoyed the meal at the Garden of Eden and some did not since the Amtrak was late.

We also have been having during the summer months picnics in Tulare, Visalia, Dinuba, and Kingsburg. A variety of food is served at these locations.

The Fireworks sales were very good according to Master Harry Krikorian.

The next fiscal year, most brothers are looking towards a new year of leadership.

Fraternally yours  
Richard Sheklian.

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## Mid Term 2002



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