

March 2009



# *Trex News*

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TRIPLE X FRATERNITY OF CALIFORNIA  
[www.trexfraternity.com](http://www.trexfraternity.com)

**Triple X Fraternity**

## **55th Mid-Term Convention**

**Hosted by the Selma Chapter**

**Saturday, March 7, 2009**

**Pardini's Restaurant**

**2257 W. Shaw, Fresno, California**

- **Mid-Term Golf Tournament**

**RIVERSIDE GOLF COURSE - 9:00 A.M.**

**7672 N. Josephine Ave., Fresno, CA (559-275-5900)**

*(See back page for details)*

- **No-Host Cocktails & Mezza 6:00 P.M.**

**Dinner 7:00 P.M.**

- **Business Meeting 8:00 P.M.**



## *Grand Master's Message*

Dear Brothers,

This past year 2008, our Triple-X Fraternity celebrated its 90th Anniversary. I am very proud and honored to be serving as the Grand Master during this momentous time.

During the last several months since our annual Convention, I have had the pleasure of traveling to several Chapters for meetings, installation dinners and holiday parties, where I have experienced a tremendous feeling of brotherhood. I would like to thank my Brothers for the hospitality and warmth they have shown to my wife, Carolon, and I while visiting with them.

Each of our Chapters, whether large or small, has their own distinctive personalities, while still having the same ultimate goal.....to support the bonds of friendship and promote charity. The participation at each event or meeting has confirmed what I have always known to be true ..... "Our Fraternity's strengths lie in the quality and dedication of the members we call our Brothers".

I would like to thank PGM Pete Cholakian and his wife, Cathy, for offering me a "home away from home" when I travel to the Northern California Chapters. My trips up North have been especially enjoyable when accompanied by PGM Pete Cholakian, PGM Mel Shanoian and PGM Jerry Poochigian. I look forward to many more road trips before my term as Grand Master is completed.

It is great to see members of the three Junior Chapters in attendance at various functions. These men are the future and should be made welcome whenever they are present.

(cont. on p. 3)

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### **Grand Master's Message (cont.)**

After 90 years, we can all be very proud to be a member of a Fraternity that continues to grow and reach out, to positively impact our communities, according to the ideals and morals of our founding fathers.

I encourage each of you to attend our annual Mid-Term Convention the weekend of March 7th, in Fresno. This is the perfect time to promote the fraternal bonds that are ever present and strong in our great fraternity!

Fraternally yours,  
Nick Nigolian

## **Capitol Chapter**

### **2008-2009 Officers:**

PGM Alan Khatoonian ..... Master  
Ruben Shahbazian ..... Jr. Master  
Bill Derderian..... Treasurer  
Sam Khatoonian..... Secretary  
Harry Sweet ..... Assoc. Ed. / Photographer  
Ruben Shahbazian ..... Critic  
Art Tatosian ..... Custodian

At our November 5th, 2008 meeting a cell phone telephone call came in for master PGM Alan Khatoonian that two of our Trex brothers were on their way to the Trex meeting when they were involved in an automobile accident. It appears that a DUI driver made lane changes on highway 99 in front of Bro. Ed Odabashian's car, with Bro. Mal Kasparian as his passenger. Bro. Ed being a 90 year old driver, driving at night during the winter months, had no alternative than to rear-end the DUI driver. Both of our Brothers were not seriously injured. The DUI driver ended up in the hospital.

Good news to hear that Bro. "Guy" Kaizak Hagopian is on the mend from an illness. Bro. Vern Shahbazian, Bro. Peter Onnigian and Master PGM Alan Khatoonian have been putting on some fabulous dinners at our recent meetings. Bro. (Chef) Art Tatosian is our master cook, salad maker and bottle washer.

Congratulations to all our brothers who made this year's Charity Raffle such a huge success. Raising \$1000 with hard work and generous donations, we surpassed that mark with a total of \$1157.10.

Bro. Bill Derderian was the spark plug behind this great idea. Thanks Bill. This year's donations were made to the Armenian Eye Care Center, Armenian Gospel Mission, Bay Area Friends of Armenia and Armenian Studies Program at Cal



**Bro. Art swearing in new 2008-2009 officers. Bro's. Bill, Ruben, Harry, PGM Allan, and Sam.**

State University, Fresno, CA.

This year's Triple X Christmas party for the children was an overwhelming success. We had over 60 children sit on Santa's lap for their presents. The Capitol Chapter brothers and family guests totaled over 200 people. Bro. Art Tatosian wore and displayed his 100 year old Santa Claus suit. Bro. Sam Khatoonian assisted with the presents.

Patio Party: Hosted by Bro. Leon Hagopian was appreciated by many family and Trex members. Many children and adults were able to enjoy swimming in an Olympic sized pool without bumping into each other. Bro. Bill Derderian and wife Miriana prepared lunch for everyone.

## **The Story of a boy from Erzerum**

**Franklin Der Ohanesian** was born on January 5, 1908. Born in Turkey. This will be a series of historical backgrounds of our Capitol Chapter brothers.

Bro. Frank and his family lived in Istanbul. They lived in a 3-story building that was the former residence of a Turkish Pasha. The once large and ornate residence had been made into apartments. This building was located right across the street from the Dolmabahce Mosque. Frank could hear the Friday calls to prayer as Turkish officials came there to pray.

While in Istanbul, Yervant, Frank's father married Vart (Rose) Chikranian. Yervant first met Vart in Erzerum. They reconnected and married when they both found themselves in Istanbul at the same time. Bro. Frank came to America in 1921 on



the cruise liner Acropolis. The Ohanesian family first went to Fresno where their relatives were living. They later moved to Sacramento in order to find employment. Attended Fremont School at 14 years old and later graduated from High School in 1929 and became a naturalized U.S. citizen.

During the 1929 depression Frank went to work with his good friend Sam Tarpin in the upholstery business. Not able to support himself, he finally landed a good job with Prudential Insurance. Bro. Harry Sweet was Frank's first customer buying an insurance policy at 50 cents per week.

December 1st, 1936, Bro. Frank was one of eight founding members of the Capitol Chapter Triple X Fraternity. Other founding members were John Kazanjian, Andy Sarkisian, Harold Soligan, Ralph Yeramian, Ruben Sweet, Sam Tarpin, and Edward Garabedian. Bro. Frank married his lovely wife Elsie Yenovkian in 1944. Setting was at the Pioneer Congregational Church on L Street in Sacramento.

Today, December 2008 Bro. Frank is a survivor. At 100 years he is a kind gentleman. He is lucky he survived the Genocide of 1915. He has never shown any bitterness toward anyone. January 5, 2009 Brother Frank will celebrate his 101st birthday. The entire Triple X Fraternity wishes Brother Frank Der Ohanesian many more happy years to come.

Fraternally,  
Bro. Harry Sweet, Assoc. Editor



Patio Party: Bro's Bill, PGM Allan, Art and Joe.



Bro. Arthur Tatosian (Santa) entertained the children.

## Golden Gate

The Golden Gate Chapter brothers would like to open our article with a hearty Happy New Year greeting to our fellow brothers throughout California and wonderful Las Vegas, and we send yet another thanks to the Palm Desert Chapter for their hard work in preparing last summer's awesome convention. All of us who attended had a grand time, indeed.

Life is good in the City by the Bay, and plans are already ramping up for our convention coming in 2012. Start saving your time and money now, because we're planning a convention to be remembered - something you will not want to miss. It promises to be a convention which can only happen in beautiful San Francisco.

However, in the meantime, our Golden Gate Chapter's brothers have been busy with both work and play.

It's not too late to submit your entry for our almost Annual Gold Classic, which will be held at the Round Hill Country Club in Alamo. But, don't delay, since the tournament is slated for Monday, March 30, and there's not much time left. This will be another "class" operation - complete with lunch, dinner, wonderful prizes and trophies, and loads of surprises.

Once again, the proceeds from the tournament will help us to support selected charities. This year, those charities are the Armenian Eye Care project, the Bay Area Friends of Armenia (soup kitchens), and the bay area's very own KZV Armenian School - the only Armenian day school in the Bay Area. Those wishing to participate, sponsor, or simply donate toward the cause should contact Brother Ara Kaprielian at 925-376-9044.

Applications are also now available for the Golden Gate Chapter Charitable Trust scholarship program. These \$1,000 scholarships are awarded annually to deserving Bay Area high school graduates. If you know of someone who fits that description, have them contact Brother Garo Mirigian - scholarship committee chair - at 510-792-7583.

As in past years, our Golden Gate brothers enjoyed another romantic Valentine's Day at Sinbad's restaurant overlooking San Francisco Bay. As with all our events, brothers from the other chapters were invited to attend, and we had a fair representation from the various bay area chapters. The evening included a "social" before dinner, games, music for dancing, and gifts for our lovely Valentine's dates.

And, just so the other chapter brothers don't think we're all work and no play, our Golden Gate Chapter brothers have had a few outings since the last Trex News - including an historic train ride on an old steam train through the Niles Canyon (site of the original Hollywood - and location of all the Charlie Chaplin and Bronko Billy movies) and an adventurous fishing trip on San Francisco bay.

The train ride was fun, as was the fishing trip, but the sea was more than a little choppy, and the 4:00 a.m. boat boarding made for some "interesting" times on board. The brave fishermen included brothers (PM) Richard Surabian, (PM) Vartan Hovsepian, Henry Shishmanian, (PM) Ara Kaprielian, and current Master and master planner Peter Kaprielian. The only one NOT to be sick on the Bay was Richard's main squeeze - Sona - who caught her limit - as well as the admiration of everyone else on board.

We're looking forward to seeing all the brothers in Fresno for the mid-term. And, we're looking forward to a prosperous and healthy 2009 for our Trex brothers, families, and friends.

Garo Mirigian



Golden Gate Chapter fishing trip was October 18th. Left to Right: Richard Surabian, Vartan Hovespian, Henry Shishmanian, Ara Kaprielian, Peter Kaprielian.

## NOTICE

Deadline for submitting articles and pictures for the next issue of Trex News is July 5, 2009.

**Mail to:**

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## Mt. Diablo

**New mailing address: PO Box 6234, Moraga, CA 94570-6234**

**The 2008-2009 officers are as follows:**

Master..... Bro. Jack Mooradian  
 Jr. Master ..... Bro. Jeff Apkarian  
 Treasurer ..... Bro. Ed Hazarabedian  
 Rec. Secretary..... Bro. Myron Konjoyan  
 Corres. Sec. .... Bro. Shavarsh Hazarabedian

Our Annual Family Picnic on July 19th at Rancho Laguna Park in Moraga was another success. BBQ Lulu Kebabs, pilaf, salad and desserts. Thanks to Brother Jerry Tusan for chairing the



Master Jack Mooradian and Brother Ray Chiljan at the Patio Buffet at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo.



Brothers posing during the Family Picnic in Moraga.



Brothers Ed Hazarabedian, Jerry Tusan and John Gulbenkian BBQ lulu kebabs at the Family Picnic in July.

event, Brothers Ed Hazarabedian and John Gulbenkian for helping to BBQ and Brother Jeff Apkarian and wife Jennifer for the delicious array of fresh salads.

Brother Ray Chiljan again hosted the Round Hill Country Club Patio Buffet for family and friends on August 17th. Over 34 attended and enjoyed a wide variety of BBQ salmon, steak, chicken, pasta, and all the accompaniments along with wine furnished by Brother Jerry.

At the July business meeting, Brother Jack Isaacs gave a very informative talk on oral systemic balance and other dental health practices. October's guest speakers included Brother Tanil Matosian who shared his experiences growing up Armenian in Pennsylvania and Brother Haig Harootenian on his growing up in San Francisco. At the November meeting, Brother Garo Keadjian recapped his recent tour of Armenia. Garo attended the "World Reunion of Armenian Schools of Egypt". Thanks to Master Jack for continuing to solicit interesting information from our Brothers to share at our meetings.

The Palm Desert Chapter hosted a grand convention in Rancho Mirage with Brother George Rustigian and Jerry Tusan representing our chapter. Mt Diablo was well represented at the Oakland Chapter Lobster Dinner and meeting in November.

During this time our Chapter has voted to purchase an 8" x 8" memorial brick to commemorate



**Swearing in new officers: Master Jack Mooradian, Jr. Master Jeff Apkarian, Corres. Secretary Shavarsh Hazarabedian, Treasurer Ed Hazarabedian, Rec. Secretary Myron Konjoyan.**

the Armenian Genocide with our name inscribed at Sonoma State University.

The annual Christmas Dinner was held at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo on December 7th. We had a private dining room for 36 attendees, gourmet buffet and wine. Brother Al Kaljian hand carved beautiful wood Katchkar's for all the ladies in attendance. Thank You Brother Al. Brother Ray Chiljan and Brother Ed Hazarabedian co-chaired the event.

We truly regret that Brother Armen Donian and Brother Armen Boyd have resigned. They were both hard workers and we will miss them both.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Tusan, Associate Editor



**Pat Keadjian, Brother Kevork Hagopian and wife Grace.**



**Brother Ed Hazarabedian, Tan Matosian and wife Marilyn at the Christmas Party.**



**Brother George Rustigian and wife Carol at Palm Desert Convention.**



**Brothers Clifford Melikian, Garo Sedrakian, and Seno Garabedian at the Christmas Party.**



**Brother Garo Sedrakian and wife Sonia.**



**Brother Seno Garabedian and wife Dickie.**

# Los Angeles

Dear Brothers:

The Los Angeles Chapter would like to congratulate the Brothers of the Palm Springs Chapter for putting on an absolutely fantastic convention. Each day and night was filled with great events, top notch entertainment, great food and great hospitality. We also want to congratulate our new Grand Master and former LA Brother, Nick Nigosian. We know he will do a great job. Also serving on the Grand Chapter is Bro. Vaughn Vartanian as Jr. Grand Master, Bro. John Casparian as Grand Treasurer and Bro. Shant Dergazarian as Grand Historian – all of them former LA Jr's too! Los Angeles has a great deal to be proud of.

The LA Chapter kicked off the summer in June with our 53rd Annual Armenian Open Golf Tournament at the Woodland Hills Country Club. Bro. Ara Papazian and his committee outdid themselves yet again with a great venue as well a prizes for the best golfers. In spite of this event's success, Bro. Ara is bitter. He claims that after dropping Tiger Woods as a sponsor, GM engaged him as their new sponsor; however, that deal fell through given GM's current financial turmoil.

On July 13th, Bro. Darren Eminian and his wife Aida chaired our summer Bingo Night at the Ararat Home. Bingo numbers were creatively called by Bro. Armen Titizian. Bro. Armen's number calling style evokes extreme feelings of love or a seething hate from the crowd – nobody is neutral! A few young children began weeping when the number calling began, which resulted in Bro. Armen being pelted with M&M's and other snacks. Fortunately, the children were subdued and the games continued.

In September, the Los Angeles Chapter hosted the Annual Ararat Home Picnic chaired by Bros Richard Jebedjian, Ken Khteian and Gabe Kaprelian. With the help of almost all our members, wives and many of their kids, we served well over 1400 hearty meals. We were also very happy to see GM Nick Nigosian at the picnic. Besides getting to see old friends, there were carnival games for the kids and dancing. After 14 years co-chairing the picnic together, these Bros are stepping down (I'm OUT!) and a new crew was trained this year. It is not often one can say something is returned in even better condition than when it was given to them, but these Brothers have done it and are handing off an event in great condition! Thank you Brothers Richard, Ken and Gabe for all your hard work and dedication to the Fraternity and the Ararat Home.

In October Bro. Tev Eminian and PGM Mel Shanoian co-chair our Annual Stag Outing at the Sycuan Indian Resort & Casino in El Cajon. It's

a simple agenda - three days of golf, lots of great food and fun with each other. Special thanks to GM Nick for attending the weekend. Grand Master was entertained by Bros Mark Mikaelian and Ken Goretzian singing Sharagans as well as Bro. Shant Dergazarian's failed attempt at dead lifting Bro. Sam Donabedian. The weekend was capped off with our annual trip to Dick's Last Resort where Bro. Chuck Simonian from Sequoia Chapter won the impromptu Dancing with the Stars contest. That man has rhythm!

Later in October Bro. Greg Shanoian and Jr. Master Gary Zakarian chaired our annual Installation Banquet to honor our outgoing Master, Bro. George Titizian and his executive board. Bro. Master George demonstrated real leadership to our chapter during the year by tackling issues that needed attention. He is a man of great character



**Just before complete mayhem broke loose, Santa, his helpers and the children that weren't frightened off by Santa's antics posed during the Family Trex Christmas Party. Immediately after this picture was taken, Santa began disbursing contraband mini vodka bottles to anyone that wanted them.**



**Bro. Ara Papazian is about to be informed by Bro. John Casparian that he will not get the sponsorship he had been hoping for from GM. This was the last time we saw Bro. Ara smile.**



The Three Wise Women (L-R) Laura Surmeian, Sonja Mikaelian and Lucy Nalbandian have been co-chairing the Trex Family Xmas party for several years. They are currently seeking candidates for a contingency Santa Claus for next year in the event Bro. Steve Mikaelian doesn't make parole.



After long hours of making salad at the Annual Ararat Home Picnic, Bros John Yaldezian and Mark Boranian get frisky in the kitchen. Shortly after this picture was taken, both Brothers were sent into the walk-in freezer to cool off.

and continues to be an example to us all of a true Trexman. Grand Master Nick Nigosian swore in the officers led by Master Gary Kouyoumjian (former LA Jr.), Jr. Master John Saroyan, Recording Secretary Joe Ouzounian, Treasurer Bro. Ron Roopenian (former LA Jr), Corresponding Secretary Bro. Chris Masseredjian (former LA Jr.) and Sgt at Arms Bro. Bogos Patatian. Great work Bros Greg and Gary.

Also in October about 40 Brothers, wives and kids boarded a cruise ship for a long weekend to Mexico. PGM Mel Shanoian's wife Sharon organized most of the trip with help from other wives and off they went. The trip was marred by a group of lost Somali pirates who attempted to hijack the ship on its way to Ensenada. Thankfully PGM Mel Shanoian, flanked by Jr. Grand Master Vaughn Vartanian, Grand Treasurer Bro. John Casparian and Bro. Art Avazian were able to overtake the pirates using only PGM Mel's huge cigar, a deck chair, a mechanical pencil, a compass and lineman pliers as weapons. Thankfully Bro. Art Avazian was there to help fight off the pirates as well as to counsel the

## Los Angeles Juniors

Brothers:

The Los Angeles Junior Triple X Fraternity had a strong finish to 2008!

Since Convention, the Los Angeles Juniors have planned and prepared for two Triple X Holiday Parties, while assisting their Senior Brothers in the planning and operating of the Ararat Home of Los Angeles annual picnic.

The Annual Halloween Party was a huge suc-

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pirates on their expired immigration status. Nice work Brothers!

In November Bro. John Casparian chaired the Annual Gin Tournament. The games went on past midnight as the Brothers and guests try to wear each other down. This year's winner was Bro. Earl Paul. Bro. Earl credits his win to lots of sleep the night before and playing against amateurs. Nice work Bro. Earl!

In December we held our Annual Christmas Kef Chaired by Bro. Martin Titizian with help from Bro. William Kevorkian. Hundreds of guest come for this event and we all work together to put on the event. Bro. Martin is stepping down after a number of years carrying the torch and he will be greatly missed. Many thanks Bros Martin and William.

Also in December several of the wives co-chaired our Family Christmas Party. Lucy Nalbandian, Sonja Mikaelian and Laura Surmeian have been putting this event on for a number of years. After a great meal and desserts, there were crafts for the kids and a visit from Santa himself. Bro. Steve Mikaelian did another stellar job as Santa. Although we have all become accustomed to the Dept. of Corrections ankle bracelet he wears, showing up smelling like cheap ripple was a nice added touch. After gifts for the kids were distributed, Santa had special gifts for the Brothers. On his last commercial airline flight, Bro. Steve must have hijacked the flight attendant's liquor cart because he handed out dozens of mini-bottles of vodka to everyone. Since the wives and young children drove home that night, a ride sharing program will be instituted for next year. It's going to be hard to top that stunt next year!

We welcome 2009 as another great year for our Fraternity and the LA Chapter. We have events planned virtually every month where we can all get together – beyond just meetings. Speaking of meetings, if you find yourself in LA, our meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Ararat Home and our events are posted on the website at [www.trexfraternity.com](http://www.trexfraternity.com).

Regards,  
Michael Surmeian

cess, drawing in over 600 guests and a busy line to get in ALL NIGHT LONG. This Party is now known statewide and is working as great grounds for attracting prospective members!

The 2nd Annual Holiday Ugly Sweatshirt Party is a smaller event we host, so we can kick back and relax with the Brothers as well as mingle with young women and prospective members. This year had a great turnout, and food, drinks, and games made the evening a fun, holiday event!

The Juniors have planned events throughout the New Year and expect to draw from a group of active, young men who are interested in becoming a part of the Fraternity.

The Juniors look forward to hosting a few parties, planning several entertainment outings, and supporting our Senior Chapter in 2009!

Fraternally,

David Maseredjian, Jr.



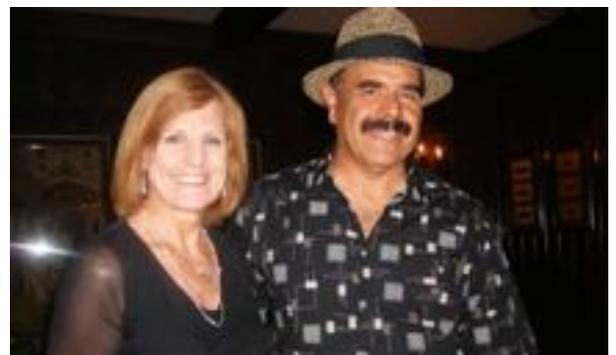
## Sequoia Chapter

Greetings, to all of our brothers, family members, and friends. Hope everyone has had a great Christmas. The beautiful Sierra Mountain Range, just east of us are full of gorges white snow. My wife continues to remind me, that winter is here, so please wear a jacket. I guess if you live in the beautiful Central Valley of California, you love the summers, and hate to see it finally come to an end.

Our 2008-2009 year began with the election of new officers. Starting with our new Master, Ron P. Shanoian, Junior Master, Peter H. Babagian, P.G.M., Treasurer, Darrell Peters, Recording Secretary, Chuck Simonian, Corresponding Secretary, Byran Ananian, Sergeant at Arms, Jack Barsamian, Historian, Thomas Babagian, Webmaster, Peter H. Babagian, P.G.M. I wish to express thanks to these new officers for their hard work, and continued service to our chapter.

Our summer ended with a wonderful Ladies Night Out event, at the Depot Restaurant here in Visalia. It was a privilege to honor our wonderful wives, and we were blessed that night with a visit from our Grand Master Mel Shanoian, and his wife Sharon. We had Picnic Meetings in May in Tulare, June in Visalia, and July in Dinuba. We continued to have fun at our Summer Family Picnic, chaired by none other than Peter H. Babagian, PGM. Thanks to all the brothers that helped and to our bbq staff of Bryan Yahnian, Bryan Ananian and Sark Davidian Jr..

We all looked forward to September as many of us had the opportunity to attend the fantastic Triple X Convention, hosted by The Palm Desert Chapter. We want to say a word of thanks to Grand Master, Nick Nigosian, Greg Avedesian, P.G.M., Greg Safoyan, Master, and all the brothers who helped. What a impressive convention you all put on in the beautiful desert of California. We enjoyed the Friday Night at The Oasis, dancing to the music of John Bilezikjian Band. The fun continued on Saturday night with Kef & Kebob. It also



Tom and Sherry Babagian



**PGM Peter and Mary Babagian**



**Master Ron Shanoian, with his Aunt Sylvia and Uncle, Sark Yahnian**



**Harry and Laura Dividian, and Harry & Louise Majarian**



**Chuck and Susie Simonian**

was another night filled with wonderful music, dancing, food and great fellowship with families, and friends. We all had a great breakfast meeting on Sunday morning, as we welcomed our new Grand Master, Nick Nigosian. Thanks again for a wonderful "Resort Style", 79th Triple X Convention. Everyone did such a great job; we would have never guessed this was your first convention.

We had a superb time at the Vintage Press Restaurant here in Visalia with our Installation Dinner. Our very own friend, and Trexmen, David Vartanian (head chief), put on a dinner fit for a king. We were honored with a visit from our new Grand Master Nick Nigosian, and his wonderful wife, Carolon. We all had a fantastic time of visiting and sharing together as our new officers were sworn in.

We were all sadden to hear about the loss of our brother Vern Hagopian. Vern was a amazing brother who loved Triple X, and our brotherhood. He was born on May 10, 1934 and passed away August 8, 2008. The brother's of our Sequoia Chapter will miss Vern, and the amazing person he was. Everyone spoke well of him.

We were happy to welcome a new member, Bryan Poochigian to our chapter. Bryan is the son of Jerry Poochigian, P.G.M.. We are always happy to welcome new brothers.

Our Sequoia Chapter was pleased to award four scholarships to students of Armenian Heritage. These well deserving students in our community included, Sarah Ainley, Elizabeth Boyajian, Alyson Buyuklian, and Sark Kalfayan. We wish them well in school. A big thank you goes to our Scholarship Committee Chairmen, Rick and Harry Krikorian for their great work.

We finished up the year with our Annual Christmas Party at Adventure Park. We had a great turnout. We enjoyed the buffet pizza dinner, salad bar, laser tag and all the many attractions. A big thanks again goes to our Chairmen, Rick Krikorian for a fantastic time. We look forward to another great year as Trexmen, serving our fellow brothers, and community.

We were honored once again at our convention with the Achievement Award Trophy. We have a great group of brothers, and we would encourage all our members to continue to attend our twice a month meetings.

I would like to thank our Treasure, Darrell Peters for his dedication for the past two and a half years. He has really done a great job. Hope everyone continues to have a Healthy and Happy New year, and that we remain thankful, for how God has blessed us all.

Associate Editor,  
Tom Babagian, P.M.

# Las Vegas

TREX Las Vegas had a very exciting year in 2008. We had a successful scholarship program. Two UNLV Armenian students were awarded \$500 scholarships.

The year was topped by our Christmas Dinner at the new MEZZA Restaurant. We also had a fancy feast prepared by Bro. Peter Boghossian and his wife Mary at their home famous for the legendary Lush Kebab. We also had a scholarship fund raising dinner at Bro. Ara Gueyikian's home which was the talk of town for a while.

Our new member Yuri Grigoryan also known as the artist YUROZ, donated an original painting to the Las Vegas Fraternity, which will be raffled off in the coming months to raise more money for our scholarship fund.

We hold our monthly dinner meetings every second Wednesday at alternating restaurants and Brothers' home, so if you happen to be in town give us a call, we may buy you dinner....

Our new project for the year is a fight song for the Fraternity, we are holding tryouts for a choir conductor "Armenian Idol" style, every member of the fraternity is eligible so are potential members.

See you all in 2011 when Las Vegas hosts the Convention.

VJ Taslakian  
Master



Bro. Peter and wife Mary preparing the fancy lulu kebab.



Master VJ administering the oath to Bro. Mesrop.



Dinner-meeting at the Boghossian Terrazo.

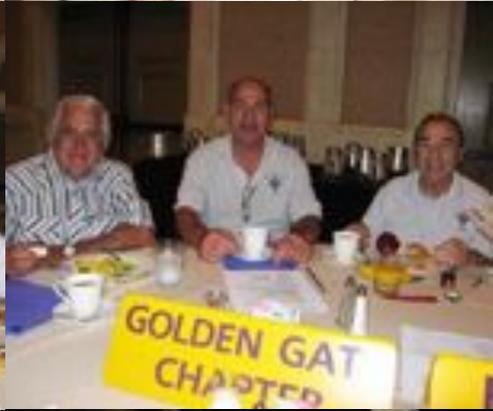


Bro. Nick making the Franklin argument.



Bro. Yuroz signing the "derriere le tableau."





# Oakland

Brothers,

The last six months of the year have been very busy for member of the Oakland Chapter.

The Annual Oakland Family Camping Trip started us of in August. A group of about forty, which was made up of the brothers and their families attended. This years chairman Bro. Rick Margarian decided to try out Lake Berryessa for this annual event. This was a new venue for us and a few of the brothers took up their boats. Well, the weather was hot and the food was great. Swimming and boating in the afternoon and of course great food in the evening and a lot of fellowship. All the brothers returned in one piece after water skiing and wake boarding. All who attended said they had a great time.

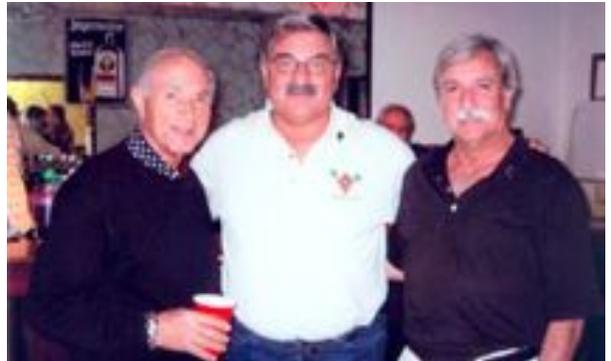
Greg and Lisa Chorbajian hosted a gala at their beautiful home in Danville for the Chapter. It was a wine tasting event and well attended by the brothers and their wife's.

The weather was warm and the setting in Brother Gregg house and patio were wonderful. We all ate and drank till late in the evening and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. This reporter cannot say enough about the gracious hospitality of our host and hostess.

Again this year, Bro. Rick Mickaels and his wife Sheri rode in the Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tour to raise money for M.S. This was a one hundred mile bike ride and Bro. Rick and his wife rode a tandem bike for the entire route. Hats off to Rick and Sheri for getting involved in such a worthwhile event. Through their efforts and many others like them, they raised a lot of money for a worthy charity.

This reporter would like to thank Bro. Al Yeremian for preparing a wonderful chicken and pilaf dinner for the chapter in September. Bro. Al is a charter member of the Oakland Chapter and a strong supporter of our meetings and functions. With a little help form Bro. Craig Bazigian and Harold Koojoolian, we all enjoyed a great dinner.

This years inter chapter Lobster Feed, which is sponsored by Oakland Chapter, was a great success. We invited our sister chapters, Golden Gate, Diablo and Peninsula. Our Grand Master Nick Nigosian attended with a contingent of Past Grand Masters form the Valley and the Southland. It is always a pleasure to have such guests at our function. The giant lobster (3lb. plus) was won by drawing by brother Masis Gozurian. He ate heartily. We also took this occasion to swear in Bro. Joe



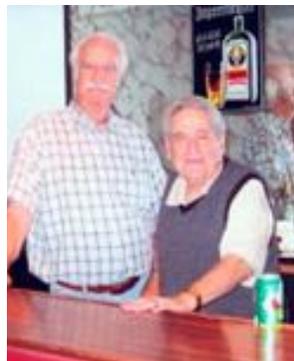
**Bro. Greg Cherkoyan, PGM Pete Cholakian and GM Nick Nigosian.**



**Bro. Rick Mickaels and wife Sheri riding for Charity.**



**Bro. Cliff Kalipjian, Al Yeremian, Archie Kamian, Harold Koojoolian and Craig Bazigian.**



**Bro. Harry Sherinain and John Chorbajian at Lobster Feed.**



**Bro. Craig Bazigian and Jim Taylor Jr. at Trex X-mas Party.**

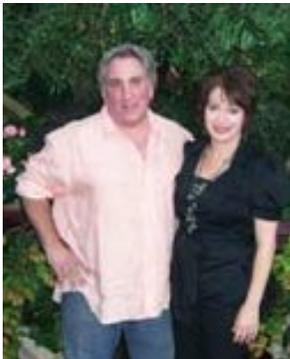
Demerjian. A new member in our chapter. He must think we are a wild group of guys. The attendance was great, the food which was prepared by Brothers Craig Bazigian and Steve Donikian was out of this world. A good time was had by all.

Our Annual Christmas Party, which was chaired by Brother Rick Mickaels, was a great success. We invited our sister chapters in Northern California to join us at the Pescatore Restaurant in Jack London Square in Oakland. All the Brothers and their wives from all the chapters enjoyed themselves and brought in the holiday season with a bang. The group was entertained by a parade of Christmas decorated powerboats that were parading up and down the Oakland Estuary.

Fraternally yours,  
Bro. Harry Sherinian  
Associate Editor



Bro. Gary Alexanian keeping track of Oakland treasury.



Greg and Lisa Chorbanian our hosts at Wine Tasting.



Bro. Ron and Maureen Mickaels at Trex X-mas Party.

## Orange County

### Officers For 2008-2009

Master .....Bro. Dave Berberian  
Jr. Master.....Bro. Fred Cartozian  
Treasurer ..... Bro. Ron Sarouhan  
Cor Secy..... Bro. Ara Malazian  
Rec Secy..... Bro. George Ampagoomian  
Sgt at Arms ..... Bros. Terry & Larry Hanoian  
Webmaster ..... Bro. Ron Sarouhan

**Board Of Directors:** P.M. Bro. Archie Cholakian, Bros. Kris Kazarian, Billy Eordekian, Rob Tusan, Mark Hachigian And Harold Bazarian.

Once again our chapter has been busy under the leadership of our Master Bro. Dave Berberian and his slate of officers and board of directors.

Our Annual Picnic was a great success at our new location at Irvine Park. Chairman Bro. Wayne Najarian and Bro. Art Kazarian and all the Brothers and wives who helped were terrific. We had great meat cutters, pilaf makers, chefs, dessert preparers, set-up and take down helpers. The music was great and the fellowship of meeting new people was the best. The kids had fun with their



New Master Dave Berberian, Bros. Terry and Larry Hanoian, Trexmen of the Year, GM Nick Nigosian, Master Brian, Jr. Grand Master Vaughn.



Enjoying the Convention.



**New Officers: Larry, Ron, Eric, Dave, Fred, Terry, Ara, and GM Nick.**



**Christmas party**

Our 2nd Annual Trex Charity Golf Tournament was great thanks to Chairman Bro. John Gulugian, Co-Chairman Bro. Fred Cartozian, Bro. George Ampagoomian, Bro. Leo Depoian and all the Brothers who helped with Sponsorship and their time to put on this great event. The Bicycle Casino and Oceans Eleven Casino were are major sponsors. They gave \$10,000. Our main celebrity was the great Basketball Coach Jerry Tarkanian. He signed T shirts and gave a great speech at the Dinner. Thanks to all the players "We are all winners".

Our Christmas Party was chaired by Bro. Ron



**Installation Party**

games.

Our Chapter was well represented at the Annual Convention in Palm Desert. They put on a First Class Convention which was well attended by all. Thanks again for a job well done. We had plenty of mazza and great cigars. What Hospitality!!!

Chairman Bro. Mark Hachigian again did a great job with our Angels Baseball Night Out for our Brothers and guests. It was great fun trying to catch fowl balls or just eating too many hot dogs and peanuts.

Our Installation this year was at the Hilton Hotel South Coast Plaza. This is where we will be having our 2010 Convention and will be running our Past Master BRO. HAROLD BAZARIAN FOR GRAND MASTER. Our Grand Master Bro. Nick Nigosian and his wife Carolon and Jr. Grand Master Vaughn Vartanian and his wife Lynette were there to install our new officers. Our Trexmen of the year were our Sergeants at Arms Bros. Terry and Larry Hanoian. They bring life to our chapter with their smiles and laughter. We do have "Fun". Thanks to my wife Marcia for making her Yalanchi and of course to Marge Kazarian for all the rest of the mazza.



**Charity Picnic. Where is Art in this picture?**



**Second Annual Golf Tournament with Jerry Tarkanian; Bro. John, Leo and Fred.**

Sarouhan and his committee. We had George Banerian from the San Diego Chapter play Santa Claus which the kids really enjoyed. Also we had 2 Marines from Camp Pendleton as our guests who took the toys we brought for needy kids. Our Grand Master Nick Nigosian and Carolon were in attendance. Thanks G.M. Nick for attending so many of our activities.

Our next activity will be a Party at Fairview Developmental Center for the Disabled. We are all looking forward to attending the Midterm in Fresno. The best thing in life is having over 900 Brothers as our extended Family.

We have lost one of our Founding Members. Bro. Jack Minasian was in the Trex for 33 years. He will be dearly missed. Our condolences to his family.

Respectfully,  
P.G.M. Haig Jamgotchian

## Fresno Chapter

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our Trex brothers and their families from the Fresno Chapter. We pray for peace on earth and good will toward all men.

### ACTIVITIES since our last Trex News July 3, 2008

Business meeting at the club house. Master Bob Bedomian presented the calendar for the forthcoming year with all members involved.

**July 17, 2008 TRI-TRIP DINNER at the CLUB HOUSE:** The tri-tip dinner was enjoyed by all of us and a good time to discuss the 2009 convention details and committees. The convention will be hosted by Fresno in 2009 and plans for the events are already in the works.

**August 21, 2008 STEAK DINNER and BOARD MEETING:** The camaraderie was great as well as the usual good steak dinner. Again, convention 2009 was on members' minds and a lot was accomplished.

**September 11, 2008 WILLIAM SAROYAN NIGHT.** Mr. Podd Wronski, acting and drama professor, gave an excellent presentation of Fresno's own William Saroyan at the clubhouse. Chairman of this event was Varoujan Der Simonian. The dinner menu consisted of Chicken or beef filet kebab and condiments. It was an event well-attended.



Set-up crew at the Picnic. Bro. Art Kazarian, can you pick him out?



Fresno Chapter athletes.



Trex wives dishing out the kebab.



Fresno Delegates

The chapter has a supply of William Saroyan books available for \$50.00.

**October 23, 2008 DINNER at TABLE MOUNTAIN** Dinner was held in a private room and an open menu. 36 brothers, wives, and guests attended with much merriment evident. We all enjoyed the casino attractions to the fullest.

**November 20, 2008 CONVENTION DINNER MEETING** Brothers, wives and guests were invited to dinner which we all enjoyed and sign-up sheets were presented and I'm happy to say that the response to our call for help was great. Thanks again to our always available cooking committee --- Brothers Dave Gaston, Pete Chilpigian, Richard Bedoian, Jack Bedoian, Bob Bedoian, Tarjian Bedoian, Gary Kazarian, Merlin Kazarian, Joe Stepanyan, Mike Stepanyan, Michael Basmajian, PGM Bob Juskalian.

**December 11, 2008 CHRISTMAS DINNER:** Christmas was celebrated at George's Restaurant. Fifty two brothers, wives, guests attended. It was a gala evening for us all... The most wonderful moment was when we had a trio of surprise guests. OUR GRAND MASTER Nick Nigosian and wife Carolon, PGM Pete Cholakian and wife Cathy, and our own PGM Bob Juskalian and wife Dorothy. This made our day

**IN MEMORIAM:** We were saddened by the demise of the oldest Triple X member, ever. Brother Arthur Rustigan was a Triple X member for 83 years. He died at the age of 101 plus. Brother Art was famous for many things. He was well known in the valley and thereabouts . He first had a service station called Rusty's at Kern and L Streets in Fresno. With his brother Bart Rustigan, they opened The Iran, an upscale Armenian restaurant in Fresno. It was the place to go to. Brother Art was known for his sports participation, especially in basketball and baseball. He played golf to the very end. We will miss his appearances at our meetings with inputs to new guidelines. Brother Art, you will be missed, rest in peace.

**A HAPPY NEW YEAR** to all and see you at the MID-TERM.

Fraternally, Nazareth Chaderjian



Merry Christmas



PGM Pete Cholakian, GM Nick Nigosian and PGM Bob Juskalian.



Merry Christmas



Merry Christmas



Merry Christmas

# Selma

It's 2009, another year has passed and time is flying by until it's time for the Mid-Term again. While we are raring to go, it wouldn't be fair to talk about the future without looking back at the past few months. The first event we held after the convention was our installation dinner, we were joined by Bro. Grand Master Nick Nigosian and his wife Carolyn. We were happy to have 3 PGM's along with PGM Nick at the event.

The dinner was very nice and we presented the Trexmen of the Year award to Bro. Aaron Krikorian. He has been very dedicated, chairing our annual Turkey Bingo and helping to cleanup and straighten out our books. Congratulations Bro. Aaron on a well deserved award! We were happy to have 3 PGM's along with PGM Nick at the event.

Speaking of Turkey Bingo, while I was unfortunately not able to attend (blame Bro Robert Oga-



Robert Kandarian, Jr. Master, Dan Boyajian, Master; Aaron Krikorian, Trexman of the year award recipient; and GM Nick Nigosian.



Selma Chapter's three PGM's Pete Cholakian, Frank Korkmazian, Jack Ouzounian with GM Nick Nigosian at our Installation Night.



Installation Night.



Matt and Delia Cholakian at Installation Night.



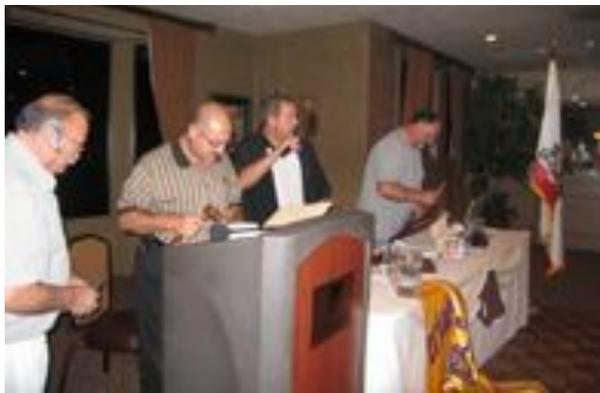
Plaque recipients: Jim Markarian (25-yr), PGM Haig Kasparian (50-yr), Kirk Minasian (50-yr), and PGM Joe Garabedian (50-yr).



Business Meeting



**2008-09 Officers' Installation at Pardini's Restaurant.**



**Chuck Jamgotchian turning over the meeting to incoming Master Dan Boyajian.**



**Business Meeting**



**Business Meeting**

nesian, his daughter got married. Congratulations again on that!) I am told it was a fantastic event. The food was great as always and a good time was had by all.

December ushered in the holiday season and we held our annual Christmas Party. Bros Patrick, Larry, and Phil are to be commended for putting on a great event. While every aspect of the event was a success the greatest success of all? We were only \$33 over budget! Though Bro Kenny still wasn't happy.....but that's nothing new.

We are preparing for our annual Law Enforcement Night. Bro Jr. Master Robert Kandarian is lining up the dignitaries. Bro Robert an amazing job of lining up law enforcement personnel as well as a static display each year. The only problem is after so many years there aren't too many things we haven't seen. Bro Kevin Kandarian suggested a Taser demonstration and volunteered Bro Mike Missakian to be the test subject.

When we started planning the Mid Term we intended to do it at the Chuckchansi Hotel and Casino like the last time we hosted it. Unfortunately it seems they are too busy passing the peace pipe to get anything done. Time after time phone calls were made and unreturned, apparently they haven't heard about the bad economy and don't realize how much our Bros like to gamble. Oh well. We are now going to be using the Picadilly Inn and Pardini's restaurant. The details will be coming out shortly. We welcome you all and can't wait to see you in March.

We are looking forward to a great 2009. We've got some new members, some new ideas, and we are just getting started. 2008 was a good year. Let's make 2009 even better!

**Matt Cholakian**  
Assoc. Editor



**Business Meeting**

# *Palm Desert*

Dear Brothers,

The Palm Desert Chapter of the Triple X Fraternity had a very active 2008. Along with organizing our regular meetings and annual events, the Palm Desert Chapter hosted the first Triple X Convention in the desert. Our Brothers and their families came together, under the direction of our Convention Chairman, PGM Greg Avedesian, to host a fantastic “Resort Style” Convention at the beautiful Westin Mission Hills Resort in Rancho Mirage.

The attendance for the Convention this year was overwhelming! PGM Greg Avedesian and his committee did a great job in planning many fun and exciting events. Friday began with a Friday night Welcome Kef - “Midnight at the Oasis” at the Westin Mission Hills Resort, Saturday night was “Kef and Kebob” at the Westin Mission Hills Resort, and Sunday the Installation Dinner and Dance was held at the Kirkjan Family Hall, in Rancho Mirage. Throughout the entire weekend, our Hospitality suite was open at various times for all to enjoy the delicious mezza and drinks. Saturday we had our golf tournament. Sunday the ladies had an enjoyable day on the Palm Springs Aerial Tram, which included a luncheon and celebrity house tour through Palm Springs. The Sunday men’s breakfast and business meeting was sold out. The days were filled with going to the casino, shopping, playing gin, tavloo and swimming at the hotel pool. Many thanks go out to our Convention committee for a job well done. We would also like to thank everyone who supported and attended this year’s Convention and helped to make it fun and successful.

The Palm Desert Chapter also celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year in 2008. The energy and enthusiasm of our members, along with the strong fraternal bond we share, help to contribute to the continued growth of our Chapter. Many thanks to our Past Master, Greg Safoyan for a job well done and to all of our brothers for an eventful and great year!

In November, we held our Installation and Awards Banquet at Vickie’s of Santa Fe restaurant in Indian Wells. We installed our newly elected officers for the year, and enjoyed the evening with members and their wives. We were honored that our hometown, newly elected, Grand Master, Nick Nigosian, was in attendance at this year’s Installation Banquet. The Palm Desert Chapter is very proud that our PM Nick Nigosian was elected as Grand Master for 2008 - 2009. He has been very



George and Tammy Kirkjan



Newly elected Grand Chapter Officers: John Casparian, Grand Treasurer; Vaughn Vartanian, Jr. Grand Master; Nick Nigosian, Grand Master; VJ Mkrtichian, Grand Marshal; Larry Kaprielian, Grand Secretary.



Greg Safoyan receives his past master’s plaque.



New officers being sworn in by GM Nick Nigosian.



GM Nick Nigosian, with PGM Joe Kellejian and PGM Mooney Najarian.

active as a Trexman and a major force in our Chapter.

Palm Desert Chapter's 2008-2009 Officers are:  
 Master ..... Bro. Greg Kirkjan  
 Jr. Master..... Bro. Gary Funtas  
 Rec. Secretary..... Bro. Christopher Markarian  
 Treasurer .....  
 Corresponding Secretary .... Bro. Blaine Carian  
 Sergeant At Arms ..... Bro. Gordon Chuchian

Our annual Christmas Kef was held on December 13, 2007, at the Mission Hills Country Club in Rancho Mirage. It was an evening filled with delicious food, dancing, and holiday cheer that was enjoyed by our brothers, their wives, friends and families. Grand Master Nick Nigosian, and his wife, Carolon, also attended the event. Thank you to Master Greg Kirkjan for organizing this very successful holiday event.

The "XXX Family Day at the Fair" at the Riverside County Date Festival is set for February 21, 2009. We encourage you to come and enjoy our desert hospitality at this annual event. Also, this year's "Desert Golf Outing", will be held on May 15th and 16th. It is being held again this year at The Classic Club, which was the home course of the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic in 2008.

Mark your calendars and watch for more information on other upcoming events throughout the year. Everyone is invited to come down and enjoy our Desert and participate in these events. Our brothers look forward to your visits and also to seeing everyone at the annual Midterm in Fresno. As always, we welcome all visiting brothers to our meetings, which are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Happy New Year.

Fraternally,  
 Master, Greg Kirkjan

## Peninsula

Greetings Brothers, Families, and Friends!  
 Peninsula Chapter officers for 2008-09 are:

Ruben Kazarian..... Master  
 Vic Khachooni..... Treasurer  
 Mark Antranikian ..... Jr. Master  
 Joe Keshishian..... Historian  
 Kip Garabedian ..... Recording Sec.  
 Aram Salmassian ..... Sgt. at Arms  
 Mark Antranikian ..... Cor. Sec.  
 Vic Khachooni..... Custodian

Chapter meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Los Altos Masonic Lodge, 146 Main Street, Los Altos, in either the ground floor rear conference room or the large lower-level meeting room. When the weather is nice, we meet outside in the newly renovated patio/barbeque area, where an elevator was also installed. If you're ever in the area during one of our meeting days, be sure to stop by! Newly elected Master Ruben Kazarian has been doing a fine job conducting the meetings, taking the reins from three-year Master Vazgen Babayan.

On a solemn note, it is with a great deal of sadness that we report the passing last August of Marion Paparigian, wife of longtime member Brother Vic Paparigian. Our sincerest condolences



es to Brother Vic and to his family and innumerable friends.

At our August meeting, Peninsula Brother Zareh Salmassian, along with additional insightful commentary from fellow travelers Brothers Larry Karabian and Kip Garabedian, provided an excellent computerized slide show which documented their two-week trek to Armenia with a group of volunteers last summer. They did admirable work helping to renovate two homes in a small village while they were there, and also were able to spend some time touring the country and partaking of the abundant hospitality. All three enjoyed their time in Armenia immensely, and our Chapter is very proud of the good work they did there.

The weekend after Labor Day, our Chapter held our 9th annual fundraiser at the Mountain View Art & Wine Festival. We sell homemade barbeque lamb and beef kebabs that are quite delicious, if we do say so ourselves! Event organizers Brothers Vic Khachooni and Vazgen Babayan did an outstanding job getting everything together in preparation for the busy weekend; a big thank you also goes out to the numerous Brothers who helped make the weekend a big success with all of their hard work and dedication before, during, and after the event. Monies raised from the sales are used in donations to various charitable organi-

zations throughout the year.

We held a special Thanksgiving Dinner at our regularly scheduled November meeting, with wives and significant others invited. Everyone had a wonderful time there, enjoying the company as well as the delicious menu of turkey and ham with all of the fixin's! We had an excellent turnout; a special thanks to all of the Brothers and wives who helped with the hall decoration and preparation of the scrumptious feast!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming Midterm!

Fraternally submitted,  
Mark Antranikian  
Junior Master/Corres. Secretary



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Jack Ouzounian, Grand Editor, 446 N. Blackstone, Fresno, CA 93701



# Mid-Term Golf Tournament

**RIVERSIDE GOLF COURSE - 9:00 A.M.**

7672 N. Josephine Ave., Fresno, CA

(559-275-5900)

**Green Fees - Cart - Lunch - \$75.<sup>00</sup> per person**

Applications and checks **MUST** be mailed in no later than February 28th (Provide handicap and names in foursome)

**Mail entry blank and check to:**

**Harry Kutumian**

**670 E. Dovewood, Fresno, CA 93710**

**559-439-1479; 559-917-4494**

**Harry Kutumian  
670 E. Dovewood  
Fresno, CA 93710**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Handicap \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Foursome \_\_\_\_\_