



Culture  
Heritage  
History  
Language

Armenian Cultural Organization of Minnesota  
Established 1980

No. 137  
Autumn 2013

# MinneHyeLites

After-dinner  
entertainment  
by the

**Gnu  
Woodwind  
Quartet**

And there will,  
of course, be  
Armenian  
dancing  
as well!

SAVE THE DATE!!  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2014  
ACOM's 33rd Annual

## Gaghant Barahantess

6:00 p.m. Social Hour - Cash Bar  
7:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner featuring chicken,  
two pasta dishes, salad, vegetables,  
bread, dessert, coffee, etc.

Children's meals also available.  
\$30 per adult \$18 per child

We look  
forward to  
seeing you

**January 4,  
2014.**

Sincerely,  
ACOM  
Executive  
Committee

Please complete the reservation form, include your check made out to ACOM, and mail it as soon as possible. Questions? contact Michelle Hayes ([michellemhayes@hotmail.com](mailto:michellemhayes@hotmail.com))

**Location: Marriott Minnetonka Southwest 5801 Opus Parkway, Minnetonka**  
(same location as last year) -

## IN SYMPATHY

### GERARD LEON CAFESJIAN

The benefactor who helped salvage and restore the famed Como Park carousel, now bears his name: Cafesjian Carousel. Cafesjian died at age 88. His philanthropic pursuits went well beyond the Carousel. He also founded the Cafesjian Family Foundation, the Cafesjian Museum Foundation and the Cafesjian Center for the Arts. He had retired and was living in Naples, Florida.

Cafesjian was born in 1925 in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Armenian parents who immigrated to the United States in 1915. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and later earned a degree in economics from Hunter College and a law degree from St. John's University Law School. He began working for West Publishing in New York City and later was transferred to the St. Paul office.

In 1988, Cafesjian led an effort to save a 1914 merry-go-round that had spun at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds for 75 years. He and others contributed more than \$2 million to save the 68-horse carousel from being broken up and auctioned off. The restored Cafesjian Carousel was initially installed in Town Square in downtown St. Paul. "I knew it was worth saving and had to be saved," Cafesjian told the Pioneer Press in 1990, just days before the refurbished carousel was set to make its public debut. "We can all be proud of the way everybody got behind it."

When the carousel was unveiled, Cafesjian reportedly bought 100 tickets to give away to children who wanted to



ride it and sat on a park bench to observe the event. "I can't think of getting more pleasure per dollar than what I've gotten already," Cafesjian said at the time.

Through his philanthropic organizations, Cafesjian sought to bring economic relief and artistic venues to Armenia and to promote Armenian art and history to the rest of the world.

Cafesjian's wife, Cleo, died in March 2013. The couple met during WWII and were married in July 1947. He is survived by his sister Mary Dobbs, his daughter Kathleen Baradaran (Jaff Baradaran), his son Thomas Cafesjian, his granddaughter Carrie Martinson (Ben Jones) and his three great-grandsons, Sam, Eli and Jack.

### VARTKES H. EHRAJIAN,



A long time member of the Armenian community in Minnesota, Ebrahimian died on October 4, 2013 at age 80. He served on the board of St. Sahag Armenian Church and supported ACOM in all its activities. A staunch Armenian, he loved to cook and often shared his dishes at board meetings and other functions. He co-authored a book on Middle-Eastern cooking called: *Cooking The Middle Eastern Way: Culturally Authentic Foods Including Low-Fat And Vegetarian Recipes* (Easy Menu... by Alison Behnke and Vartkes Ebrahimian (January, 2005).

Vartkes was born in Aleppo, Syria, where his years of success in the business world began. In 1959, he came to America and rigorously pursued his education and received his Masters' Degree from Indiana University.

His professional accomplishments centered around the financial aspects of business. Vartkes spoke seven languages including English, Arabic, Armenian, Turkish, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

As a CFO for nine years, he was in charge of all worldwide financial activities in 35 countries for H.B.Fuller Co. He credits his wife, Laura, with rock-solid support and his children who endured some serious sacrifices that had to be made for his success.

Vartkes is survived by his wife, Laura; children: Jim, Tamar, Alice, Ricardo and Kate; grand children Ethan and Madison, Owen and Graham; sister Flora Zarig Krikorian.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO ...**

... newlyweds, **Harut and Jackie Khachatryan**, ACOM extends its best wishes for a long life full of happiness, prosperity and good health. The young couple tied the knot in California on September 6, 2013.



... **Hagop Tabibian and Anilga Moradkhani** who got married also in California on October 19, 2013. Our best wishes to all. We look forward to seeing more and more of both couples.

...**Peter and Brooke Hajinian** on the arrival of baby Charlie on June 25, 2013. He weighed in at 7lb. 8 ozs and dad believes he is going to be a big "boereg and pilaf" fan. Our most heartfelt congratulations to you all. Thank you for being such brave parents and bringing Charlie to his first Voski Ashoun, in the rain, no less! Everyone enjoyed seeing him. He definitely is the spitting image of his Dad !



**SPEEDY RECOVERY WISHES TO ...**

...**Peka Savayan** who underwent a totally unplanned surgery on Thursday, September 5, 2013. The procedure was very successful. She went home to recover and is even attempting to work part-time. We pray for a complete and fast recovery for you, Peka.

**BEST WISHES FOR A COMPLETE RECOVERY TO ...**

- ...**Seda Bagdasarova**
- ...**Harriet Balian**
- ...**Rev. Jim Gertmenian**
- ...**Sona Plummer**
- ...**Lawrence Reimers**
- ...**Alice Tashjian**
- ...**Aida Yaghsejian**

**THANK YOU**

Wow ! What a great newsletter, Peggy & Steve! To paraphrase Churchill - So few do so much for so many!  
~ ~ Tom Keljik

Thank you for your efforts for Armenia. We may not be able to attend Voski Ashoun, but I will keep the info handy. Blessings to all of you.  
~ ~ Mignette Nadjarian

Thank you to all the ACOM members who are working so hard and keeping us informed of all the activities. You are doing a wonderful job. God's Blessings,  
~ ~ Sarah Wiersbeck

Dear ACOM,  
I have been truly blessed these past three years reconnecting with my heritage through ACOM events. You have enriched my life with new friends who have brought back cherished memories of the food, language and spirituality of my Armenian past. May I say further that nothing gives me more pleasure than to know that I have carried out my Grandmother's wishes to pass on the legacy of her special recipes to those who understand their importance in the Armenian culture.  
Yours,  
~ ~ Gloria Gholdoian Faust

Dear ACOM,  
Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Cafesjian Center for the Arts. We are trying very hard to maintain and expand upon my father's vision for Armenia.  
Sincerely,  
~ ~ Kathie and Jaff Baradaran

Dear ACOM,  
I want to thank you for the generous donation you provided to AYI from Voski Ashoun. I appreciate the support and confidence you send with your contribution. I realize there are plenty of worthwhile programs you could support. AYI strives to develop and implement relevant and effective programs that benefit Armenian children in Armenia. Thanks for believing in our work.  
~ ~ Marty Meketarian  
Armenian Youth Initiative



Seated Front: Van and Vali Kardashian  
Back: Kira, Sam & Megan Nyholm  
taken at Harut & Jackie Khachatryan's wedding reception  
Oct. 19, 2013 in Ararat Hall.



Vali Kardashian, Nairy Digris, Van Kardashian  
taken at Cafesjian Memorial luncheon.

## TRAVELS TO ASIA, SUMMER OF 2013

By Judy Tiffany Ohannesian



I traveled to China and South Korea in August 2013. While in China I took 5 cooking classes. These classes were wonderful and gave me a great appreciation for the critical ingredients and techniques that had always eluded my attempts to master the art of Chinese cuisine. While there I bought a hand hammered cleaver, which is my new favorite kitchen tool. My husband Doug is enjoying all my practicing ... he says that these 5 classes are "the gift that keeps on giving".

After 11 days in China, I met my husband Doug in South Korea to visit our daughter, Erica Paulian Tiffany. Erica is teaching English in Daejeon, South Korea for one year. She is having a wonderful year and is really taking advantage of all that South Korea has to offer. She loves the food, especially the kimchi and the baby octopus.

She rode her bike around Jeju Island a mere 180 mile trip in the South Korean Sea. In September she ran a half marathon along the DMZ (demilitarized zone).

Our most memorable part of our trip was to attend Erica's first concert playing the ukulele in a club in Daejeon with her fellow teacher Lynne from South Africa. They sounded just great and we were so happy to be able to be in the front row cheering her on! Erica will be returning to the U.S. sometime in 2014 and we are eager to see what new adventure she chooses for herself.



THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED LAUNCH ANOTHER ACOM ANNUAL PICNIC ON THE SIDE LAWN OF ST. SAHAG CHURCH ON AUGUST 11, 2013.



Close to 80 people came to what turned out to be an almost perfect day. The bouncy castle was immediately engaged by those 12 and under right from the start.



Near the end, several adults - including Lou Ann, Vardges Hovhannisyan, and Michael Gulezian were seen careening off its sides.



Congrats to Social Directors Michelle and Adrienne Hayes for securing the castle (moonwalk)! Thanks also for the games organized and administered by Marty Meketarian -- the balloon toss always being the favorite.



Plenty of sunshine, food, jovial talk, smiles and slaps on the back. Workhorses Leroy, Nairy and Terry were there for the setup and the teardown.

Tom Keljik



## ARMENIAN ARTS AT THE MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

by Lou Ann Matossian



If you went to the Minnesota State Fair this year, and visited Heritage Square, you may have seen Gagik Gasparian, an Armenian metalworker from North Carolina, making beautiful filigree Christmas ornaments.

Mr. Gasparian represented Armenia in the power weightlifting competition at the 1996 Paralympics in Atlanta. The Raleigh Community Examiner caught up with him at the North Carolina State Fair:

All that glitters is gold in the world of Gagik Gasparian, bronze and gold metal Paralympian weightlifter and bench-press

world record holder. Today, he's found donning eyeglasses, from which dangle an array of sparkling tiny metal objects twisted out of metal cans. Imagine your Lysol can morphing into a majestic glittering giraffe or penguin! Gagik embodies the truism that there is no limit to creativity - and that the very concept of limitation is a mere illusion.

Gagik Gasparian comes to the MN State Fair every year and is glad to connect with Armenians in our community. From Flickr, here is a photo of him and his work:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/textilesdiva/2992085222/>  
[http://farm4.staticflickr.com/3151/2992085222\\_7302e50d77\\_b.jpg](http://farm4.staticflickr.com/3151/2992085222_7302e50d77_b.jpg)  
Mr. Gasparian is also on Facebook.



### MICHAEL GULEZIAN CONCERT

The call was received at 12:22 PM on August 4th, 2013. MICHAEL GULEZIAN, the famed acoustic guitar artist, was wending his way on I-94 after having staged a successful late night concert in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, and tucking in a quick 4-hour nap. His report was full of confidence that he would be arriving in the Twin Cities at 2:30 PM. Traveling on coffee fumes in his system and a tank of diesel in

his trusty old VW Jetta, it was a good bet he could pull it off. Mindful of the notorious Wisconsin Highway Patrol, he was cautious not to push more than 5 miles over the hourly speed limit as he made his way through the black dual ribbon of road etched through corn fields and cow pastures.

This was Michael's second-in-a-row benefit concert (in the Twin Cities) for the Fuller Center for Housing / Armenia. With a bit of help from his friends, all his gear and guitars were readied and the concert began on time in Keljik's Oriental Rug Store in South Minneapolis. The setting

resembled a shop that one might find in the grand bazaar in Istanbul or the souk in Damascus. This exotic setting afforded those who wanted to sprawl on beautiful carpets or sit comfortably in chairs to be transported by Michael's beautiful play to wherever their mind and spirit would take them. Near 60 people (half Armenian connected and half pure fans of MG) were thoroughly entertained for the next several hours with a break in the middle to nibble, drink and kibitz.

The event raised over \$750.00 that will go toward housing projects in Armenia that Cynthia Erickson will lead next year. Michael was delighted to make his talent available for the cause and hinted at making this a yearly event.

Thanks go out to Michael, Mark Keljik - proprietor of Keljik's Oriental Rugs, our social ladies Adrienne (in recovery mode at that time) and Michelle, Cynthia, Leroy, Tina, Dave, Lou Ann, and of course, Nairy and Terry.

Coincidentally, Michael had to attend to some business in the Twin Cities, so he hung around for another week, and we all had the pleasure of visiting with him a little longer, when he came to ACOM's picnic on Sunday, August 11, 2013 in the backyard of St. Sahag.

Thank you once again, Michael, for all your heartfelt contributions!

Tom Keljik,  
ACOM President



## WHAT WAS IT LIKE GROWING UP ARMENIAN IN .....!

ACOM sponsored the fourth in a series called "What Was It Like Growing Up in \_\_\_\_\_!" on Sunday, October 13, 2013. The series draws on the personal experiences of those interviewed. For those of us in the audience, the time spent listening was well worth the investment. **Arthur Kourajian, Azad Mesrobian, and Raisa Martirosyan** assembled in Friendship Hall shortly after 1:00 p.m. and were peppered with questions by the main interrogator - Tom Keljik - for over an hour.



**Art** led off and told us of his growing up in Jamestown, North Dakota. Art is our first American-born Armenian-American to talk about his youth. He did a wonderful job talking about a dark-haired kid with a name not ending in "son" growing up without a lot of Armenian identity. His mother was a (genocide) survivor and one who found her husband through an arrangement and a whirlwind hasty courtship. The Kourajian family grew to nine children with Art bringing up the rear. He said of that all four Armenian families in Jamestown lived on the same block, giving a sense of togetherness. It was when his mother was surprised by contact from her brother, whom she thought had died in the genocide, that his eyes were opened. Accompanying his mother to Los Angeles, Arthur's senses were saturated with all things Armenian. This awakening happened at 26 years of age. In a short time, his mother was working behind the scenes with her female Armenian contacts to find a suitable mate for her last born. The matter was settled when Priscilla Jamgotch was located. Arthur told us he proposed quickly, but it took Priscilla three years to agree. Oh yes, Leroy Erickson reminded him that a brother of Art's was elected and served as mayor of Jamestown!

**Azad** explained that his parents were part of the great Armenian forced-migration driven from their homes in what is now Turkey and arriving in Syrian refugee camps. It was in this setting that his father found and married his mother. He has authored and published a book called *A MIGHTY TREE*, in which he tells the story of his family, his youth and settling into American life. It is well worth the read since he does an excellent job in explaining the pain of family separation, embracing the American

lifestyle and the quest and hunger for education. His travels to Mankato, Minnesota and South Dakota for school thrust him into a culture very remote from what was familiar to him. Unlike Arthur, he found the blond, blue-eyed Scandinavian ladies to be to his liking and eventually captured

the heart of his chosen who just happens to be a Lutheran Minister today. He credits his older brother Sam for blazing the way in America. We all noticed Sam smiling widely in the audience. At the end of the session, Azad was offered a slice of pumpkin pie, to which he quickly, but politely said "no thank you".

**Raisa** explained that she was born to an Armenian family in Pyatigorsk, Stavropol Region, Russia. Russian was the language of the land and she grew up with it as her first language. (Raisa had her niece Oktyabrina Mollaeva translate for her to help facilitate a smooth interview. Thanks Oktyabrina for your services.) She explained that they were accepted fairly well in the community, but still felt a bit of distance from time to time. She explained that she was a studious young woman and found math and economics to her liking. To further her studies she went to Baku, Azerbaijan, which was at that time part of the Soviet Union. While visiting a friend, she encountered a young man playing a guitar. After the visit, he was still there and began to follow her, which made her feel afraid. This young man eventually became her husband and they had a wonderful relationship. As most of us know, once the Soviet Union fell apart, old and new animosities were sharpened and Armenians found themselves under attack and their lives and property being threatened. Raisa is now interested in finding a way to reach out to her remaining relatives and help them as best she can.

Once again we were left with a feeling of admiration for our presenters. Very different from one another, but united in history and slices of Armenian culture mixed into our American home experiences. Who will be next to talk about Growing Up?

Tom Keljik  
ACOM President



## FULLER CENTER FOR HOUSING TRIP TO ARMENIA

In 2014, Cynthia Erickson will again be leading a Fuller Center for Housing team to Armenia to build homes for families in need. This will be her 10th trip to Armenia to build homes. The Fuller Center for Housing gives us all an opportunity to do humanitarian work in Armenia for families who will be eternally grateful for your generosity.

The dates for this trip are June 22 - July 6, 2014, in Vanadzor. The participation fee this year is still being finalized (between \$1500-1600) and does not include airfare. Further details about costs are available upon request.

This time frame is perfect for college students who would like to travel and do mission work before returning to school in the fall. It may also be convenient for new college graduates who want a meaningful break before starting their career. But you don't need to be a young adult to participate. People of all ages can contribute. There is a job for everyone! This is a wonderful way to reach out to help others yet enrich your own life by helping a family make a major positive change in their living situation that will substantially impact their future.

If you are at all interested, please let me know. Questions are welcome. Feel free to share this information with other family and friends who may be interested in an adventure like this.

Consider a trip this year, enjoy the richness of Armenia and its people, and change lives one home at a time.

*Cynthia Erickson*

[cynthia.erickson@minnmicro.com](mailto:cynthia.erickson@minnmicro.com)

### YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

For those of you who want to gather all your family history data in one place, check out the web site for Armenian Family Tree. There is an online family tree builder where you can enter family data and share it with others. There are also a variety of research services offered.

[www.armenianfamilytree.com](http://www.armenianfamilytree.com)

## 2013 ACOM Members

Highlighted names have donated \$50 or more.

ACOM thanks you!

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Adamek                | Tina & David                                 |
| Agadzhanova           | Galina                                       |
| Andeweg               | George & Jeanne                              |
| Angell/Byfield        | Bill/Michele                                 |
| <b>Aram</b>           | <b>Connie &amp; George</b>                   |
| <b>Asgian</b>         | <b>Phil</b>                                  |
| Balian                | Harriet                                      |
| <b>Baradaran</b>      | <b>Kathie &amp; Jaff</b>                     |
| Bobgan                | Harold                                       |
| Bulbulian             | Francis & Barbara                            |
| Charchian             | Aram & Ruth                                  |
| Clarke                | Barbara                                      |
| Desteian/Savage       | John/Judy                                    |
| Digris/McGibbon       | Nairy/Terry & family                         |
| <b>Dourgarian</b>     | <b>Gregg &amp; Mary &amp; family</b>         |
| Erickson              | Cynthia & Leroy ,Chris,<br>Bradley, Mitchell |
| <b>Faust</b>          | <b>Gloria &amp; Doug</b>                     |
| Favre                 | Jim & Margaret                               |
| Gauro                 | Boghos & family                              |
| Gildensoph            | Lynne  |
| Gindorff              | Mary Moukalian                               |
| Gregorian             | Henry & Laurel                               |
| Grigoriants           | Olga & Katia                                 |
| <b>Hajinian</b>       | <b>Peter &amp; Brooke</b>                    |
| Hayes                 | Michelle                                     |
| Johnson               | Margaret                                     |
| Keljik                | Jeff & Susan, Katie                          |
| <b>Keljik/Collins</b> | <b>Tom/Jennifer</b>                          |
| <b>Keljik /Grantz</b> | <b>Mark/Caren</b>                            |
| Kocharian/Davtian     | Armen/Marine                                 |
| Kourajian             | John & Myrna                                 |
| <b>Lippert</b>        | <b>James</b>                                 |
| Manthei               | Debra  |
| <b>Mardirosian</b>    | <b>Artoosh &amp; Helga</b>                   |
| Matossian             | Lou Ann                                      |
| Meketarian            | Marty & Mara & family                        |
| Merjanian             | Steve & Peggy                                |
| <b>Mesrobian</b>      | <b>Azad &amp; Karen</b>                      |
| Mesroubian            | Sam & Sylvia                                 |
| <b>Najarian</b>       | <b>John &amp; Mignette</b>                   |
| Nyholm                | Peter & Dana & family                        |
| Ohanessian            | Sita   |
| Ohannesian/Tiffany    | Judy/Doug, Erica, Harrison                   |
| Oyler                 | William                                      |
| Pederson              | Mary   |
| Plummer               | Sona & Bill                                  |
| Rith-Najarian         | Steve & Janet                                |
| Saakian               | Karina & Valeriy & family                    |
| Savayan               | Peka & family                                |
| Tashjian              | Alice  |
| Teosyan/Bagdasarov    | Yelena/Georgiy                               |
| Toghramadjian         | Avo & Katie & family                         |
| <b>Warren</b>         | <b>Melanie &amp; John</b>                    |
| Wiersbeck             | Sarah  |
| Wiersbeck             | Mark   |
| Yaghsezian            | George & Aida, Gregory                       |
| Ylitalo               | Caroline & David, Andy, Max                  |

ACOM appreciates all donations, no matter how large or small. Your support allows us to continue to serve the MN Armenian Community. To join or rejoin, please use the form on the back cover and mail it with your dues to: ACOM Treasurer ~  
1703 Skillman Avenue West ~ Roseville, MN 55113



## VOSKI ASHOUN 2013 – A RAINY NIGHT GOOD TIME!



A little rain didn't dampen spirits.

Would the rain come Saturday night, or would the front stall delaying it to Sunday? All week long the forecast bounced from rain to no rain. Setup began at 4:00 on Saturday, September 14, with canopies being erected, lavash oven lit and grapes deployed in stomping pools. As we approached the 5:30 start, the rains started in earnest. In the midst of a drought, it decided to rain on our Voski Ashoun!

To our surprise the people began to arrive and embrace the night. Greeted by History on a Stick, people were treated to a 5,500 year old shoe on display (facsimile) from a find in an Armenian cave - credited to be the oldest shoe ever found. In addition, they found a map showing the ancestral home of the Armenians along with a display on Cobblers of Harput.

Under the canopies, vodka and pomegranate wine were sampled along with grapes, crackers, meats, cheese and freshly baked lavash lathered in butter and sprinkled with cinnamon and sugar - yum! Fires were started in the pits and yielded heat and enchanting flames that beckoned the young and old to sit on comfortable bales of hay and roast marshmallows. Conversations and stories broke out and hearty laughs were rendered as a few brave ones danced into the vats of grapes led by the Meketarian boys. One could imagine our ancestors gathering in their villages long ago enjoying the same fun that we had on a rainy night in mid-September.

Tom Keljik, ACOM President



PS: Thank You very much to all those who braved the weather and came, and to those who were unable to come but contributed nevertheless. Funds raised, \$400, were donated to the most worthy cause of AYI (Armenia Youth Initiative), Marty Meketarian, President & Executive Director.



Frozen Grape Kabobs Too!



**ARMENIAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION OF MINNESOTA (ACOM)**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

1) To provide programs and events which encourage its members to learn Armenian culture, language, history and heritage.

2) To provide programs of Armenian culture, language, history and heritage for the general Minnesota area.

3) To provide an environment which encourages participation of all Armenians, their relations and friends who have an interest in Armenian culture, regardless of religious, political or social differences, and to promote harmony among its members.

4) To provide periodic gatherings and meetings for the cultural furtherance of the Armenian people, their relations and friends who have an interest in Armenian culture within the general Minnesota area.

**CONSTITUTION**

The Armenian Cultural Organization of Minnesota (ACOM) preserves and promotes Armenian culture, language, history and heritage in Minnesota and the upper Midwest. Founded in 1980 and headquartered in St. Paul, ACOM is the oldest and largest Armenian organization in the state.

ACOM welcomes everyone, regardless of ethnic, religious, or political affiliation, who takes an interest in Armenia and Armenians. Our members include first-generation through fourth-generation Minnesota Armenians, their families, and non-Armenian friends of the community.

ACOM's numerous cultural and social events include Armenian dance parties (barahantess), guest speakers, Armenian language classes, folk dance lessons and performances by the Armenian Dance Ensemble of Minnesota, chamber music concerts by the Armenian Music Ensemble, art shows, summer picnics, and craft sales. ACOM also sponsors all Armenian activities at the International Institute's *Festival of Nations*, a major regional folk festival held annually in St. Paul. Minnesota Armenians were founding participants in 1932; today, the Festival is ACOM's most visible public venue.

The ACOM office and most activities are in the historic St. Sahag Armenian Church building, at the intersection of Dayton and Howell, in the Merriam Park neighborhood of St. Paul. As an independent, 501(c)3 non-profit organization, ACOM is supported primarily by membership dues and private donations. Gifts to ACOM are tax-deductible to the extent permissible by law.

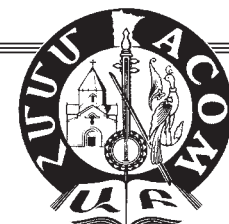


**ARMENIAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION OF MINNESOTA**

203 North Howell Street ~ St. Paul MN 55104

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

|                                  |                   |              |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| President:                       | Tom Keljik        | 651-659-0552 |
| Vice President:                  | Leroy Erickson    | 651-917-1818 |
| Treasurer:                       | Naïry Digris      | 651-639-9346 |
| Secretary:                       | Tina Adamek       | 715-425-2315 |
| Social Directors:                | Adrienne Hayes    | 612-866-4277 |
|                                  | Michelle Hayes    | 612-867-1628 |
| External Affairs & Cultural Dir: | Lou Ann Matossian | 612-929-2947 |
| Past President:                  | Mark Keljik       | 612-823-6338 |
| Newsletter Editor:               | Peggy Merjanian   | 603-521-7142 |



Armenian Cultural Organization  
of Minnesota

Culture. Heritage. History. Language.

# ACOM's 2013 Calendar of Events

For further info, call Tom Keljik, ACOM President, 651-659-0552

## Armenian Cultural Organization of Minnesota

| Month                  | Date    | Event   | Time           |
|------------------------|---------|---|----------------|
| January                | 5       | Gaghant - Barahantess, Marriott in Minnetonka   | 6:00 PM        |
| January                | 15      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| February               | 10      | What Was It Like Growing Up Armenian In ...   | 1:00 PM        |
| February               | 19      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| March                  | 10      | Urban Expedition featuring Armenia, Landmark Center<br>Valeriy Saakian on accordion, ADE performance  | 1:00 PM        |
| March                  | 20      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| March                  | 23      | Festival Silk Dying & Painting workshop   | 1:00 PM        |
| April                  | 22      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| April                  | 24      | Genocide Commemoration  | 7:30 PM        |
| May                    | 2,3,4,5 | Festival of Nations, St. Paul: Children, our past, our future   |                |
| May                    | 15      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| May                    | 19      | Pilaf Off..... & Ancestral Tables   | 1:30 PM        |
| May                    | 31      | Missahats/Lahmajoun order placed  |                |
| June                   | 9       | Kourajian GNU Quintet @ Keljik Rugs, Minneapolis  | 2:00 PM        |
| June                   | 19      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| July                   | 14      | ACOM Off-Site Picnic - Erickson's, Roseville  | 1:00 PM        |
| July                   | 17      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| August                 | 4       | M. Gulezian Guitar - Benefit Fuller Center for Housing<br>Location: Keljik Oriental Rugs, Minneapolis | 4:00 PM        |
| August                 | 11      | ACOM Picnic   | 1:00 PM        |
| August                 | 21      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| September              | 7       | Voski Ashoun  | 5:00 PM        |
| September              | 18      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| October                | 13      | What Was It Like Growing Up Armenian In .....   | 1:30 PM        |
| October                | 16      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| November               | 19      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| December               | 17      | ACOM Executive Committee meeting  | 6:00 PM        |
| <b>January 4, 2014</b> |         | <b>Gaghant - Barahantess, Marriott in Minnetonka</b>  | <b>5:30 PM</b> |

Following are Armenian Dance Ensemble performances at various locations.  
You are invited and welcome to attend. There is no charge for these events.

### 2013 ARMENIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE OF MINNESOTA

For further info, call Nairy Digris 651-639-9346

| Month     | Date  | Location                             | Time       |
|-----------|-------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| March     | 10    | Festival of Nations Preview          | 1:00 PM    |
| March     | 10    | Landmark Center                      | 1:45 PM    |
| April     | 11    | Sholom Home                          | 7:00 PM    |
| April     | 23    | Episcopal Homes                      | 6.45 PM    |
| May       | 3,4,5 | Festival of Nations (8 performances) |            |
| May       | 15    | Presbyterian Homes, Croixdale        | 6.30 PM    |
| June      | 6     | Jones-Harrison Residence             | 7:00 PM    |
| June      | 25    | Edina Care and Rehab                 | 7:00 PM    |
| July      | 12    | Hennepin County Government Center    | 12:00 NOON |
| August    | 24    | Minnesota State Fair                 | 12-5 PM    |
| September | 24    | Episcopal Homes                      | 6.45 PM    |
| October   | 22    | Sholom Home                          | 7:00 PM    |
| November  | 12    | Edina Care and Rehab                 | 7:00 PM    |
| December  | 1     | Ukrainian Christmas Festival         | TBD        |



ACOM has placed a barrel in the Fellowship Hall along with empty grocery bags on the side. Please keep in mind the less fortunate and bring non-perishable food items. Your donated items will be much appreciated by those who are in need. ACOM has been regularly delivering bags of food to the Keystone Foodshelf. They have delivered more than 300 pounds of food. Thank You!



Armenian Cultural Organization  
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# ACOM MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2014

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_ City/St/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

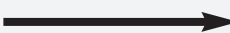
- HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP\***  
**MINNESOTA RESIDENTS . . . . . \$30.00**
- OUT OF STATE . . . . . \$15.00**  
**(Newsletter Only)**
- CONTRIBUTING . . . . . \$100.00**

*\*Includes all members of one household*

Comments? \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO ACOM.**

**COMPLETE THIS FORM and  
RETURN IT WITH YOUR CHECK TO**



**Nairy Digris, Treasurer  
1703 Skillman Ave. W.  
Roseville MN 55113**

**We appreciate and count on your continued support.**

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*Peggy Merjanian, Editor  
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