

March 2012



Trex News

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TRIPLE X FRATERNITY OF CALIFORNIA
www.trexfraternity.com

Triple X Fraternity

58th Mid-Term Convention

Hosted by the Selma Chapter

Saturday, March 3, 2012

Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino

Highway 41, 711 Lucky Lane

Coarsegold, CA 93614

- **Mid-Term Golf Tournament - 9:00 a.m. (See information on back cover)**
- **Business Meeting 4:00 p.m. Casa de Fuego Event Center (Event Center will be available for us from 11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.)**
- **Hotel Information:**
1-866-794-6946, Rooms are available for Friday, March 2, & Saturday, March 3, 2012 - Rate \$122.00 per night
Reservation group ID #SHK0302 Selma Trex Fraternity
— SPOUSES ARE INVITED FOR THE WEEKEND —

Any Qusetions

Harry Kutumian, Master 559-917-4494

CHUKCHANSI

Gold Resort & Casino



Grand Master's Message

My Dear Brothers,

Since the beginning of our Great Fraternity ninety four years ago, so much in our world has changed yet much has found ways to remain consistent. We still have Brothers that lived life with prohibition, before jet planes, The walk on the Moon, and cell phones.

We who are of Armenian decent and have banded together through the Triple X Fraternity have shown stability, strength of character, and brotherly love through common purpose. Our ancestors over the past 5,000 years have shown us the way to survive and grow! We need to reach out our hand to those around us who express our common goals and ideals. Bring them forward into our Trex Family so that they can also experience our warmth of

commonality, brotherhood, and benevolent ways. Add to all of this is a pledge to have as much "Fun" together as possible. To encourage our wife's, friends, and families to enjoy in our joint success in all that we do.

The Trex News of November 1933 (posted on the Web Site) and that of today's is much the same. Telling stories, sharing thoughts, and hope for a bigger, brighter future.

An important focus is to grow our Triple X Fraternity. Our Junior Brothers chapters are vital to our growth but are also only one of the avenues to reaching our goals. In order to move forward each one of us individually can make the difference by reaching out and continually striving to pull others in.

Your Grand Chapter Officers and Grand Chapter Advisory Board are working hard for all of us. A Big thank you to all chapters for showing support of the goals set for this year's agenda. My thanks for the honor of being your Grand Master and your faith placed in me. A very healthy, prosperous, and happy new year to all Trexmen and your families.

Fraternally,

Vaughn R. Vartanian, Grand Master

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Capitol

With the year 2012 around the corner, the Capitol Chapter is readying itself for another year of improved accomplishments under the leadership of our youthful executive staff who has been voted in for a second term.

2011-2012 OFFICERS:

Master Bro. Sam Khatoonian
Jr. Master..... Bro. PGM Alan Khatoonian
Secretary Bro. Paul Yenovkian
Treasurer Bro. Joe Vitullo
Associate Editor.. Bro. George Shahinian
Marshal/Custodian Bro. Art Tatosian
Sunshine Bro. Bill Dederian

The Capitol Chapter meets at the St. James Armenian Church hall in Sacramento first Wednesday of each month. A delicious dinner always precedes the meeting. We are very grateful to **Bro. Art Tatosian** who prepares a gourmet meal sponsored alternately by members. The Chapter will occasionally contribute to fill the gaps. Many thanks also go to **PGM Bro. Alan Khatoonian** and **Brother Master Sam Khatoonian** who provide plenty of drinks and cookies. A few grandkids at home also benefit with these cookies...

PAST YEAR ACTIVITIES:

. Our annual Capitol Chapter **"Ladies' Night"** was celebrated again in February and was a successful affair held at a local Italian restaurant. As a show of gratitude to the "Ladies in our lives" we treat our "significant other" with a nice dinner and share a memorable evening every February, the month of the "Valentines". Thank you **PGM bro. Alan Khatoonian** and **Bro. Art Tatosian** for chairing this wonderful event.

. In March, several brothers and their families celebrated **St Patrick's Day** at a local Sam's Hoffbrau. The delicious corn beef and cabbage served made every one forget the waiting their turn in the long lines of people. Thanks go to **Bro. Paul Yenovkian** for suggesting this enjoyable activity.

. May was again the month for our yearly main event, the **"Kef Night"**, which provides the yearly funds for our charitable donations. Although attendance was not as good as previous years, the event was successful enough to serve the goals of the affair. Because of the reduced revenues and to make the donated amounts more meaningful, this year's charitable donations have been postponed and will be combined with next year's revenues for subsequent distribution. The event was ably chaired by **PGM Alan Khatoonian** and **Bro. Art Tatosian**, and aided by many of the brothers.

. **"Poker night"** is a new activity that we intro-

duced this year. The event was proposed by Bro. Joe Vitullo and will take place quarterly. The purpose is to create brotherly fun as well as to have the Chapter share some of the bounty. Our first try was in October, and turned out to be very enjoyable for the seven brothers who participated. **Bro. Scott Khatoonian** went home with more money than he came with and the Chapter benefited with a small amount as well.

. The last activity, and a very successful one, was the **"Children's Christmas Party"** in December. Each year the Capitol Chapter and the St. James Armenian Church sponsor the event for the children of the community. **Bro. Art Tatosian** selected a beautiful tree which was decorated artfully by the "Ladies" in the church hall. **Bro. Paul Yenovkian** was a very convincing but friendly Santa Clause distributing presents to some 35-40 kids, and **Bro. Joe Vitullo** lead the ceremony masterfully. All in all,



Bro. Master Sam Khatoonian, Bro Joe Vitullo with Bro. Paul Yenovkian as (Santa).



Bro. Scott Khatoonian promises to be a good boy



Santa was generous and the kids were happy.



Bro Art Tatosian testing his own cooking.

approximately 100 people attended. Pizza, cake and ice cream kept everyone content for the evening.

MEMBER NEWS:

. Sadly, this year we lost two brothers from our chapter; **Bro. John Dorian** and **PGM Bro. Joe Hagopian**. Bro. John was 87 years old and passed away last summer. He was a member of the Capitol Chapter for many years. They will both be missed dearly.



PGM Bro. Joe Hagopian was 98 when he passed away last July, shortly after losing his wife of 72 years in January. In his early years Bro. Joe worked as a mechanic, and developed a passion for automobiles that led to a career of buying and selling cars. He was affectionately known as “Broadway Joe”, after the name

of the street, Broadway “auto row”, where he had his car dealership. He was an amiable man, and a smile and a wave were “trademarks” of his easy-going personality.

Bro. Joe joined the Capitol Chapter in 1946. He held many Chapter offices, as well as that of Grand Marshal at the State level. He served as Chairman during the 1960 Grand Chapter Convention in Sacramento. He was subsequently elected Grand Master for the 1960-1961 year.

. **Bro. Rod Jorjorian** is recovering nicely from a critical spinal surgery, and **Bro. Guy Hagopian** is undergoing treatments for a serious condition. Lastly, we just heard **Bro. Vern Shahbazian** experienced a nasty fall injuring his back during Christmas week. We wish all three brothers a quick recovery and hope to see them soon at the next meeting.

On a happier note, we welcome **Bro. Scott Khatoonian** who moved back from Texas to rejoin us again in Sacramento.

With best wishes for the New Year,
Fraternally,

Bro. George Shahinian
Associate Editor

Orange County

Officers for 2011-2012

Master	Bro. Rob Tusan
Jr. Master	Bro. Eric Oganessian
Treasurer	Bro. Steve Sahagian
Corr. Secy.	Bro. Brian Melkesian
Record Secy.	Bro. Ara Malazian
Sgt. of Arms	Bros. Terry & Larry Hanoian
Webmaster	Bro. Ron Sarouhan

Board of Directors:

1 yr: Dave Berberian, Ron Sarouhan, Larry Kaprielian

2 yrs.: Jon Agaganian, John Garakian, David Kelegian

Our Installation was again a First Class Event and we were joined by our New Grand Master Bro. Vaughn Vartanian and his wife Lynette. Grand Master Vaughn swore in the new officers. Our Trexman



2012 Officers: Brian, Steve, Larry, Terry, Ara, Master Rob, Eric.



Grand Master Vaughn, Master Rob, PGM Harold, Past Master Ken



Bro. Master Rob, Trexman of the Year Bro. Mike Hartunian, PGM Haig, Grand Master Vaughn.

of the Year was Bro. Mike Hartunian who at 90 years of age is called Mr. Dependable. He was roasted by Bro. Art Kazarian who is one of Mike's best friends. Our New Master Rob Tusan has a great team. Just like a great oiled machine. They run real smooth. Thanks Bro. Rob for your leadership.

Our 36th Annual Picnic is getting better every year. Chairman Bro. Past Master Wayne Najarian and Bro. Art Kazarian. Thanks to them and all of brothers and wives who helped make this a wonderful event. Over 500 people attended and were entertained by a live Armenian Music. There were games for the kids and it was great meeting old and new friends. If you have never tried Bro. Art's Shish Kabob make sure to come to our Picnic on July 22, 2012.

Chairman Bro. Ron Sarouhan and Co-Chairman Bro. George Ampagoomian and their wives put on the Finest Christmas Party with a Real Santa Clause (Bro. George Banerian from San Diego Chapter) for the kids. There was also a magician entertaining all of us. Over 70 attended and it was held at Mile Square Golf Course, Club House. We had a special treat. Bro. Past Grand Master Chuck Paskerian and his wife Diane were there to celebrate with us. He mentioned the upcoming Convention in San Francisco. Make your room reservations now - Check the Trex Website for details.

Past Master Wayne Najarian will have a Poker Night and Eating Affair at his Company Board Room. It's great to get together and enjoy the



Bro. Dave, Larry, Danny, Pat, Chuck, Archie, Haig, Fred, Kurken, Malcolm (Christmas party).



Bro. Art Kazarian (with the straw hat) and his set-up crew at our Picnic. Chairman P.M. Bro. Wayne Najarian, sitting 2nd from the left.

Brothers having fun and laughing.

Join us at our meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Zov's Armenian Bistro, 17440 17th Street, Tustin, CA. Cocktails at 6:30 and dinner at 7:15.

Respectfully Submitted,
Haig Jamgotchian, PGM



Bro. David Hekimian and Bro. Shant Dakessian helping with all the other wives and brothers. Food Line Picnic.



Bro. Kurken, Nishan, Jerry, Jack, Ed, Dr. Roger.



Bro. Art, Don, Kelly, Harry.



Christmas Party Co-Chairmen: Ron & Olga Sarouhan, and George & Barbara Ampagoomian.

Selma

Greetings Brothers, Family, and Friends of Triple X Fraternity,

This past year has been a BLAST thanks to all of the brothers of Selma Chapter who have contributed their time and effort! Their hard-work has not gone unnoticed and we are thankful to have them as members!

In August, we held our annual Keyma Dinner at the Fresno Club House – which was a HUGE success. Brothers from near and far gathered to eat a well-prepared meal by Bro. Sam Bagdasarian. A BIG applause goes to him and his much appreciated kitchen crew. His keyma was delicious and we look forward to hosting this annual event in the near future. Remember to vote for him as he runs for Grand Master in 2013!



Bro. Haig Aivazian Jr. enjoying his meal during a Business Meeting at Fresno Club House.



Bros. Roger Simonian, Kay Paboojian, Vernon Avakian, and PGM Pete Cholakian



Past Officers of Selma Chapter at a Business Meeting inside Club One Casino – Fresno.

Soon afterwards, brothers and their families attended the 2011 Las Vegas Convention hosted by the Las Vegas Chapter during Labor Day Weekend. All of us that attended truly had a wonderful experience throughout the entire weekend. Thank you to



Installation of the newly elected Executive Board.



Selma Chapter at the 2011 Las Vegas Convention with newly elected Grand Master Vaughn Vartanian.



Attendance at Turkey Bingo on November 19th, 2011 inside St. Paul Armenian Church – Fresno.



Bro. Jim Markarian selling those raffle tickets!

the brothers of Las Vegas Chapter for hosting such a great event!

Moving along, we held our Installation Dinner at the Elbow Room Restaurant in Fresno to honor the incoming and outgoing officers of Selma Chapter. Awards were presented to members that exemplified true brotherhood throughout the past year. Also, we were thankful to have Grand Master Vaughn Vartanian grace us with his presence. As always, it was a pleasure to have him and his lovely wife, Lynette, join us for a great evening amongst family and friends!

The next event we held was Turkey Bingo at St. Paul Armenian Church. Tickets were sold to members of the community to eat a fabulous chicken dinner and win various prizes – which included cash, raffle items, and turkeys. Without a doubt, this event would not have been a success if it wasn't Bro. Aaron Krikorian. His hard-work and efforts made Turkey Bingo a hit, and we are very proud to call him brother!

Lastly, we held our Christmas Party at the Cosmopolitan Restaurant in Fresno. Brothers and their wives enjoyed a great meal in celebration of the holidays. Once again, thank you Bro. PGM Pete Cholakian for hosting this event!

Until Mid-Term approaches, take care and look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Fraternally,
Bro. Grant G. Bedrosian
Associate Editor



Bro. Master Harry Kutumian and his grandson.



Bros. Grant Bedrosian and Mike Mohammadi serving drinks behind the bar.

San Diego

The San Diego TREX chapter had its annual family picnic on a beautiful Saturday in August. Brother Steve Hovsepian planned the event which included an array of great food and fun games for all families to enjoy. The young kids particularly enjoyed the swimming pool while the adults enjoyed backgammon.

In September, Master Harry Nalbandian relinquished his duties to allow Michael Tusan to take over as the Master of the San Diego chapter. Harry served as Master for 3 years and did a wonderful job.

The San Diego TREX chapter's big event was in October. Our annual Wine and Cheese event was a huge success in raising money for our scholarship fund. The scholarship recipients were present to accept their scholarship award. There was a total of 7 scholarship recipients. The TREX members and guests enjoyed getting to know the college students and their families. There were many donations from local restaurants, golf courses, and retail stores in the San Diego area that helped in raising money for the event. The wine and cheese event attracts a nice group of respectable people from the San Diego community and is something that we all look forward to attending.

In December, we had our annual Christmas party. We were honored to have our Grand Master Vaughn Vartanian in attendance to celebrate the Christmas holiday. The young kids were surprised when Santa Claus made an appearance. Santa Claus handed out his reindeer bells which included a leather strap with the kids names engraved on it. How special! Thank you to George Banerian for his many years of service in making the Christmas party so much fun. Everyone seemed pleased with the gifts they received from our traditional gift exchange.

We expect the year 2012 to be another fun and successful year for our chapter.



Peninsula

Greetings Fellow Brothers, Families, and Friends!
Peninsula Chapter officers for 2011-12 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, Corresponding Sec.
Vic Khachooni, Custodian

Our Chapter meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Los Altos Masonic Building, 146 Main Street in Los Altos. If it's cool outside, you'll find us downstairs in the large banquet room complete with an industrial-size kitchen, or when the weather's nice we'll often be in the building's courtyard patio, most likely with several of the Brothers gathered around the barbecue! Our hard-working cooks take great pride in providing delicious meals every month, so if you ever find yourself in the Bay Area during our meeting time, be sure to stop by! Tavloo, wine, mezza, fellowship, and great food await you!

This past September, several of our Peninsula members attended the Annual Convention in Las Vegas and enjoyed all of the festivities. When they returned, another busy weekend was in store for them, as it was time for our popular kebab booth fundraiser at the annual Mountain View Art & Wine Festival. Friday evening before the festival, we get together to prepare the meat and then of course we must do a taste test to make sure the kebabs meet our high standards! Then during the busy weekend, everyone pitches in to help set up the booth and prepare, cook, and sell our delicious beef and lamb kebabs – it's a



The Mtn View Art & Wine Festival kebab booth is ready for business! Pictured are Brothers Kip Garabedian, Aram Salmassian, Vazgen Babayan, Earl Saroyan, Mark Antranikian, Ruben Kazarian, Daryl Jamgotchian, Vartan Berberian, and Vic Khachooni.



A local cable show cameraman films Brother Daryl preparing a lamb kebab wrap as Brother Mark describes the action to the viewers. The cameraman loved our kebabs, as did our multitude of customers during the 2-day festival.



Cooking up a feast at the food booth BBQ are Brothers Zareh Salmassian, Vazgen Babayan, Vartan Berberian, and Vic Khachooni.



Brothers Kip, Vic, Daryl, Ruben, and Mark take a quick break from their sales duties to pose for a picture inside the Peninsula Chapter's kebab booth.



As the festival wraps up, the motley cleanup crew (Brothers Kip, Mark, Vic, Vazgen, Aram, and Daryl) gathers by a nearby wall, perhaps looking for a rumble?!?

great group effort; thanks to all! Funds raised during the weekend are put towards our charitable donations throughout the year. As always, all the hard work was worth it, as it turned out to be another huge success. A local cable show cameraman stopped by to film us as we prepared a (free!) kebab sandwich for him, and several of our customers even commented that we should have our own restaurant!



Members and guests alike gather around the table as they fill their plates with all sorts of amazing holiday treats. Everyone agreed that the dinner was excellent -- kudos to our great chefs and organizers!



Vazgen Babayan, Anne and Joe Keshishian, Mark Antranikian, and Master Ruben Kazarian are ready for the Christmas party to begin!

For our December meeting, we decided to invite family and prospective members to attend a Peninsula Trex Christmas feast. Our organizers did a wonderful job decorating and getting all the food and drinks ready. It was very well attended, and the mezza, turkey, ham, yams, veggies, pilaf, wine, salad, and dessert were all delicious! A special surprise treat was that our senior member Brother Joe Keshishian and his delightful wife Anne were able to attend. He had been unable to attend meetings this past year due to a very serious and lengthy illness, but he thankfully has recovered enough to be able to get out of the house and spend a very nice evening with his fellow Brothers. Everyone there was very happy to see him, to say the least!

As we move into the new year, the Peninsula Brothers look forward to renewing old friendships and seeing our fellow Trexmen at the upcoming Mid-Term Convention in the great San Joaquin Valley.

Fraternally submitted,
 Brother Mark Antranikian
 Junior Master/Corresponding Secretary



Peninsula Charter Member Brother Joe Keshishian and his lovely wife Anne pose next to our recently-restored & framed Triple X Charter from 1950, on which his name appears.



Peninsula members pose for a post-feast picture. Back row: Bud Kalafian, Mike Kachatourian, Mark Antranikian, Vazgen Babayan, Aram Salmassian, Vartan Berberian. Front row: Kip Garabedian, Vic Khachooni, Joe Keshishian, Ruben Kazarian, Rudy Cazanjan.

Sequoia Chapter

Hello everyone from the Central Valley of California. It seems hard to believe that another year has come and gone so quickly. We have not received very much rain so far, and our beautiful snow-capped Sierra Nevada Mountain's look a little bare of that white stuff.

Our 2011-2012 year began with some new surprises. Our twice a month meetings changed to a new location here in Visalia. We are now meeting in a large hall in the Masonic Temple, with a complete kitchen and storage facilities. This new facility allows us to have dinner meetings each month, and this seems to bring in more brothers to our meetings.

We had election of new officers last fall. Starting with our new Master, Brother Chuck Simonian, Junior Master, Brian Poochigian, Treasurer, Ron Shanoian, Recording Secretary, Bryan Yahnian, Corresponding Secretary, Charlie Amasalian, Sergeant at Arms, Sark Dividian Jr., Historian, Thomas Babagian, Custodian, Archie Zarkarian, and Webmaster, Peter H. Babagian, P.G.M.. These guys do a great job and are very much appreciated.

We would like to say a big THANK YOU, to all the brothers of the Las Vegas Chapter, and the hard work of all their committees that hosted the Triple X 82th Annual Convention in Las Vegas last September, 2011. What a great event. A BIG THANK YOU again for all your efforts.

We wanted to thank all the brothers from the Selma Chapter Triple X for putting on a wonderful Keyma and Lahmajoon Dinner last August. We had several brothers attend this Tri Chapter event. These brothers included Master, Chuck Simonian, Ron Sha-

noian, Tom Babagian, and Mark Kazarian. It was great seeing brothers from Selma, Fresno, Los Angeles, and even Palm Desert.

This year Master Chuck Simonian's daughter Lisa wanted to help raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. She entered her first marathon of twenty six-miles in San Francisco to help raise money for the society. The Sequoia Chapter donated \$500.00 to this wonderful organization in her name. We were all so proud of Lisa and what she accomplished. Her efforts to raise money to help find a cure for leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, and myeloma were outstanding. Lisa had not done much running before this event. We applaud her efforts, and are so proud of her.

Feed The Armenians and our Community Project was another great success and a double blessing. The Sequoia Trex purchased a lamb through Redwood High School's Future Farmers of America. Our lamb did really well at the Tulare County Fair. The most exciting part came on November 9, when our new Master, Chuck came up with an idea that just about blew the roof off the Masonic Temple.

About two months before our lamb dinner Master Chuck made a list of all the Armenian men who lived in our area and were not Trexmen. Then he matched up those of us that were members and asked us to invite these men to our delicious lamb feed. We had marinated lamb, rice pilaf, salad, drinks, and banana split sundaes for dessert. We had sixty men attend in all, with about thirty prospective new members. It was an outstanding evening for all who were Armenian, and attended. We were blessed to have John Casparian, Junior Grand Master who came all the way up from Los Angeles to be with us. Thanks to all the Sequoia Chapter brothers who helped with this



great event. A special thanks to Sark Davidian Jr. for picking up the lamb early, and keeping it at his ranch until it was ready for our feast. We look forward to doing it again next year. It was a great night of food, fellowship, and catching up with one another.

We were all sad to say so long to our dear Trex Brother, George Tamouzian who passed away on October 18, 2011. George was born October 5, 1930. He joined Triple X Fraternity in 1974 and was a member for thirty seven years. His family fled Turkey and arrived in the United States through Ellis Island and eventually settled in the Armenian Community of Yettem. He and his bother Sark began working at an early age on the family farm. They grew grapes for making golden bleach raisins using the family dehydrator. The Tamouzian brothers eventually farmed tomatoes, peppers, squash, grapes, and cotton. George was very proud to serve his country through the Air Force in the Korean conflict. George served as a military police and protected General Patten as his body guard. On July 4, 1957 George met a young school teacher named Phyllis Sadoian at an AGBU Picnic in Fresno. George and Phyllis were married on May 9, 1959 in St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church, in Yettem. Shortly after they were married they were blessed with a daughter Lori, a son Michael, and a second daughter Pamela. George was married for 52 years and leaves behind his wife, children, two son-in-laws, a daughter-in-law seven grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and great nieces. We are all going to miss George, and his wonderful smile. My wife Sherry and I were blessed last year at our installation banquet to sit with George and Phyllis. We heard some wonderful stories about his early days and growing up here in the San Joaquin Valley.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the midterm this year here in the Central Valley.

We hope that this New Year God will continue to bless everyone with good health and great times with your family.

Associate Editor,
Tom Babagian, P.M.

Sequoia Juniors

Sooo it's midterm time again, and we know what that means: business as usual. Although it's important to make sure all our ducks in a row, we want our brothers to take the time to enjoy themselves. So, kick your feet up, enjoy a cigar, and have a Happy Easter. Bro-near.

-Love Sequoia Jr XXX

LA Jr. Trex

Dear Brothers,

The LA JR chapter has been quite busy since Convention. Convention was one wild weekend! Between the free drinks, showgirls, and table games I think Vegas needs to recover from us! After we collected the brothers we misplaced in Vegas (not giving out names) the LA JR's have been quite Busy.

We had our annual Halloween party at Casa's in wonderful downtown Los Angeles. Surprisingly no-one was thrown out or knifed. Our Ugly Sweater party hosted at the Boranian Party Complex was a big success. Not a single brother was harmed in the enjoyment of the festivities (the same won't be said for the pig however). We also joined our LA SR chapter in the annual installation banquet (free food is never passed up).

One of our upcoming trips, Winter Wonderland is just around the corner. Everyone is invited to come up to Big Bear Lake and join in with us as we read the bible and spread holiday cheer in the mountain community. Another event that we are looking forward to is Palm Deserts "Day at the Riverside County Date Festival" with host PGM "Godfather" Nick Nigosian who just happens to be the president of this year's fair! Until then, stay safe, stay second amendment.

-Master Vaughn M. Vartanian



Los Angeles

The month of July found the LA Trexmen going to the races. Chairman Dr. John Saroyan got 40 of us out in the fresh air to celebrate brotherhood at Hollywood Park. Every year this event has grown and we have Brother John to thank for it.

The 2011 Convention was a very exciting time for the L.A Trex. We had 24 members attend the convention in Las Vegas and our very own Brother Van Vartanian was elected as Grand Master and other L.A Trexmen were elected to the Grand Board: Brothers John Casparian, Richard Jebejian, Shant Dergazarian, Steve Hampar and William Kevorkian. We congratulate them and look forward to working with the Grand Board.

Also, in September, our chapter ran the annual Ararat Home picnic under the chairmanship of Brother Michael Surmeian. Members of his committee were Brothers William Kevorkian, Shant Dergazarian, Joe Ouzounian, John Casparian, Richard Jebejian, Galen Petoyan and Steve Hampar. The picnic was a great success with over 1,000 meals sold but most important was the fact that 71 members of the L.A Trex volunteered to make sure it was a success.

In October, we had our installation Banquet. Spearheaded by co-chairs Brother Gary Zakarian and Brother William Kevorkian.

What a great success, with an overflowing crowd of 110 Trexmen came out to install their new officers and to honor outgoing Master Shant Dergazarian.

The program started out with a film Tribute to outgoing Master Shant Dergazarian put together by Brother Gabe Kaprelian and Michael Surmeian. They are definitely our Hollywood connection.

The following Brothers were installed:

Brother Ara Papazian; Master

Brother Christopher Armen ; Jr. Master

Brother Michael Amerian; Secretary

Brother Garo Papazian; Corresponding Secretary

Brother Greg Barsom; Sergeant of arms

It was an unforgettable evening celebrated with music and amusement with our fellow brothers and guests.

Moving into the holiday season, the L.A Trex had a Christmas party for our children and grand- children. We want to thank our Trexmen's wives Candance Titizian, Lara Titizian and Laura Surmeian who organized, cooked and guaranteed that the children would have a memorable Christmas party. Oh, thanks to Santa Claus who found time to bring gifts to the children.

The L.A Trex is looking forward to an eventful 2012.



NOTICE

Deadline for submitting articles and pictures for the next issue of Trex News is **July 8, 2012.**

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Fresno

Greetings from the Fresno chapter. Our officers for 2012 are PM Gary Kazarian, Master, Bill Kandarian, Jr Master, Merlin Kazarian, Assist. Jr. Master, PM Richard Bedomian, Rec. Sec., PM Richard Shirin, Treasurer, Steve Bedomian, Sar. at Arms, Michael Basmajian, Assoc Editor and Tarjian Bedomian, Corr. Sec.

Fresno chapter had many interesting meetings and dinners that included: a great November social put on by PGM Jack Bedomian and Bill Kandarian that included a great mazza. In December we celebrated Bob Emerzian's 89th Birthday with a delicious cake. Way to Go Bob!!!!

Our Christmas dinner was held again at Yosemite Falls Granite Park Restaurant, about forty brothers and wives enjoyed the good food and fun times. The dinner was hosted by Master Gary Kazarian and was chaired by the one and only Jr. Master Bill Kandarian who also played Santa. Santa passed out candy and bags of dolls and jewelry to the ladies. Bob Emerzian was kind enough to donate the dolls and jewelry. Thank you Bob!!

To the surprise to all, FRESNO chapter grew by one member in 2011. The brother was sponsored by Merlin Kazarian who managed to bring Rick Mirigian into our doors. Welcome brother Rick.

On the other hand we lost a dear brother Elmer Noroian, we want to give the Noroian family our heartfelt sympathies. Good-bye Bro. ELMER.....

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Basmajian, Assoc. Editor.



Bro. Jerry Baxter, wife, PGM Ed Hokokian and wife Mary Ann.



Bros. Bill Kandarian, Jerry Baxter and Merlin Kazarian barbecuing.



New Member Bro. Dick Mirigian with brothers.



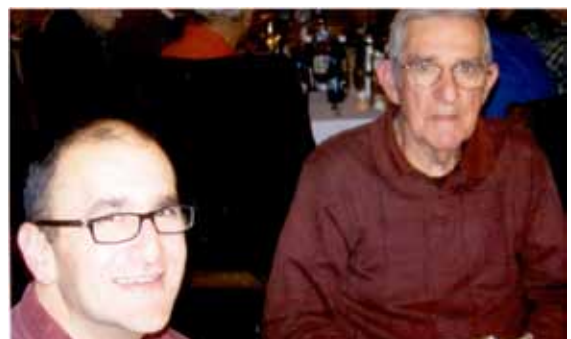
Bob Emerzian at Christmas Party.



New member Dick Mirigian and Master Gary Kazarian.



Bill Kandarian (Santa) and his wife Linda.



Christmas Party

Oakland

Parev from your Brothers in the Oakland Chapter!

2011 was yet another eventful year of fun, fund-raising and fraternity here in the Bay Area. Oakland is an energetic chapter with an awesome group of participating Brothers. Sadly we recently lost one of our most active and long time members with the passing of Brother John Chorbajian. Please send prayers and warm thoughts to Bro. Gregg Chorbajian and the Chorbajian family.



A new slate of officers was elected for 2012.

Master: Bro. Craig Bazigian

Jr. Master: Bro. George Kamian

Treasurer Bro. Robert Tashjian
(also Web Master)

Rec. Sect..... Bro. Joe Dermenjian

Corr. Sect. Bro. Greg Cherezian

Sgt-at-Arms Bro Harry Sherinian

Custodian..... Bro. Armen Phelps

Historian Bro. Albert Yeremian

Assoc. Editor..... Bro. Vartkes Avakian

Oakland Brothers blew off some steam this year with several outings, including a 2011 golf outing.



Here is one from a TREX golf outing in 2011 with Bro. Harold drilling his putt without a belly putter!

The annual "Masis Gozurian" Cigar Night was held in October at Bro. Rick Magarian's beautiful Victorian home in Alameda. 15 brothers showed up for Cigars, Drinks and



Desserts. We raised funds for charity this past year at our 17th annual Crab Feed. It was another resounding success, with over 300 in attendance. Rumor has it that 16 Trexmen and their wives from Southern California will be coming up for the Jan 2012 Crab Feed.

We hosted several Inter-Chapter dinners in 2011 including our annual Lobster Feed Bash in November, hosted by our very own Brother Master Craig Bazigian. In attendance this year was Jr. Grand Master Bro. John Casparian. We always have plenty of Brothers from Golden Gate, Mt. Diablo and Peninsula chapters for that event.

Finally we celebrated the Holiday Season at our annual Trexmas Christmas Party with our Brothers from around the Bay in early December at the famous Trader Vic's in Emeryville.

Fraternally Submitted,
Bro. Vartkes Avakian



Gone but not forgotten: Past Grand Masters Z Harry Astor, Chuck Hazarian, Ed Sarouhan.

In Memoriam

(as of Sept. 2011)

Fresno

Joe Agopian

Sam Simone Simonian

Los Angeles

Ken Khteian

Earl Paul

Palm Desert

Dick Odabashian

San Diego

Mourad Najarian

Selma

Nubert Baker

Steve Matoian

Gerald Surabian

Jake Mooradian

Vahe Simonian

John Sahakian

Sequoia

Dick Ekizian

Harry Davidian

Vaughn Ananian

Our heartfelt sympathies to their families and loved ones.

Palm Desert

Dear Brothers,

The year 2011 was a great year for the Palm Desert Chapter of Triple X Fraternity. We hosted several successful events and continue to be known in the community for our social and charitable contributions. Thank you to Past Master, Gordon Chuchian for a job well done and to all of our brothers for a great year! At the September meeting, we elected Bro. Dr. Armen Karimyan as our new Master.

Palm Desert brothers and their families enjoyed the 2011 Convention in Las Vegas. Thank you to our Las Vegas brothers for hosting a fun filled convention, where we elected Bro. Vaughn Vartanian as our new Grand Master. With GM Vaughn's energy and innovative ideas, we are sure that he will improve our fraternity to greater levels.

In October, we held our Installation and Awards Banquet at the Desert Sage Restaurant in La Quinta. We installed our newly elected officers for the year 2011-2012 and enjoyed the evening with members and their wives. We were honored that our new Grand Master, Vaughn Vartanian and his wife Lynette were able to attend this year's Installation Banquet.



Christmas Kef 2011. PGM Nick Nigosian & PGM Greg Avedesian with GM Vaughn Vartanian.

Our Palm Desert Chapter's 2011 – 2012 Officers are:

Master.....Bro. Armen Karimyan
Jr. MasterBro. Bobby Melkesian
Rec. Secretary.....Bro. Steve Afetian
TreasurerBro. Koko Mazmanian
Corr. SecretaryPGM Nick Nigosian
Sergeant-At-ArmsBro. Larry Johnson

Our annual Christmas Kef was held on December 10, 2011, at the Agua Caliente Casino ballroom.



In front of the largest Armenian Flag in the World



October 2011 Meeting

It was an evening filled with delicious food, dancing, and great live music. The evening was a great start to the holiday season and was enjoyed by our brothers, their wives, friends and families. Thank you to Master Armen for organizing this very successful holiday event.

Our annual "Family Day at the Fair" at the Riverside County Date Festival is set for February 25, 2012. We hope that you can all come and enjoy our desert hospitality at this annual event.

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, and then in San Francisco over Labor Day weekend for this year's XXX Convention. As always, we welcome all visiting brothers to our meetings, which are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Happy New Year 2012.

Fraternally,
PGM Nick Nigolian,
Corresponding Secretary



Christmas Kef 2011. Bro. Junior Master Bobby Melkesian & Wendy And Bro. Buddy Melkesian & wife Carol



Christmas Kef 2011. Master Dr. Armen Karimyan & wife Larissa And Bro. Dr. Dikron Torian & wife Irina



Christmas Kef 2011. Master Dr. Armen Karimyan, Bro. Steve Afetian

Mt Diablo

Greetings to all our Fraternity Brothers from Mt Diablo Chapter:

Officers for 2011-2012

Master..... Kevork Hagopian

Jr Master PGM Shavarsh Hazarabedian

Rec. Secretary..... Sevak Tsaturyan

Treasurer Ed Hazarabedian

Corr. Secretary ... Jerry Tusan

Our Family Picnic on July 23 was at the Rancho Laguna Park in Moraga. 27 people enjoyed BBQ chicken and beef kebab, pilaf, salad and Grace Hagopian's delicious homemade cookies. It was a beautiful



Bro. Ray Chiljan, Dee Kassabian, Master Kevork, Harvey Kamian, George Rustigian



Bro. Jerry Tusan, Sam Bagdarasian (Selma), Ed Hazarabedian



Bro. George Rustigian, Carol and Dorris Kezerian at Christmas Party



Bro Ray Chiljan, Garo Keadjian, Dee Kassabian



Bro Al Kaljian, Jerry Tusan, Ed Hazarabedian

day and fun was had by all.

On September 4, Brother Ray Chiljan chaired our annual Patio Party at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo for those who weren't able to attend the Las Vegas convention. Brother Jerry Tusan provided the wine. It was a great social event with lots of freshly BBQ items by the Round Hill chefs.

The joint Bay Area Chapter Lobster Feed on November 15 was also the meeting night for Oakland Chapter. It was well attended by 14 Mt Diablo Brothers. Great job Oakland Brothers on cooking all those live lobsters to perfection!

Our Community Involvement this year was chaired by Brother Tanil Matosian and held at the Contra Costa Food Bank on November 17th. Hundreds of bags of food for the needy were sorted and



Brother Seno & Dickie Garabedian, Bro. Garo & Sonia Sedrakian at Christmas Party



Bros. Ed & Ray packing food at the Food Bank



Mt Diablo enjoying Lobster at Oakland Meeting



Master Kevork presenting past Master Jeff Apkarian a thank you plaque

labeled by Tanil's team including his wife Marilyn, Bros Ed Hazarabedian, Ray Chiljan, and Jeff Apkarian and wife Jennifer. Another one is planned for March. Good job Brother Tanil.

The December 4 Annual Christmas Party at Round Hill attracted 38 people, the largest turnout ever! A delicious buffet was provided as well as plenty of good wine donated by Brother Jerry Tusan. No one went home hungry, or thirsty.

We wish to congratulate Brother Garo Sedrakian on his milestone of 50 years with the Triple X Fraternity and Brother Harvey Kamian for 25 years. A plaque was presented to past Master Jeff Apkarian by Master Kevork Hagopian for 2 Great years as Master.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Mid Term Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brother Jerry Tusan, Associate Editor



Mt Diablo Picnic

Las Vegas

Greetings Brothers,

2011 was a phenomenal year for Las Vegas, we had a great convention. Brothers came from all chapters and made it a wonderful event. Bro. Shavarsh who was heading the convention committee ran a tight ship and everything worked like a Swiss time-piece, we are still receiving congratulatory notes on the convention.

Brother Master Ara has agreed to stay on as Master for one more year and his decision was approved unanimously.

We had a great Christmas Party hosted by Bro. Rouben, and all the brothers and their wives and significant others had a wonderful time. Bro. Rouben is the new Boxing Champion of the Las Vegas Seniors Boxing League, the finals were held at Caesars Palace Poker room and Bro. Rouben won with a knock out punch in the first round. Congratulations Bro Rouben.

We have our monthly Business meetings every second Wednesday of the month, if you are in Las Vegas, give us a call, we will buy you dinner.

Fraternally, VJ. Taslakian.



Golden Gate

Fellow Brothers,

This year the Golden Gate Chapter is sponsoring Brother Garo Mirigian for Grand Master. We believe Brother Garo will bring a resurgence to the brotherhood as he leads us into the 21st Century. As Grand Master Brother Garo will be an excellent choice to represent our fraternity and the Armenian community.

The Golden Gate Chapter is hosting the 2012 San Francisco Convention at the PARC 55 HOTEL in the heart of beautiful downtown San Francisco. You can visit our web site at www.goldengatetrex.org where you can register, select, and reserve for the various convention events as well as register for a room at the hotel.

Also, make sure you visit our hospitality room during the mid-term convention where you can purchase additional raffle tickets. We will be having our "first" raffle drawing during the mid-term convention, so don't forget to buy additional raffle tickets for a chance to win all or some of the convention events for you and your wife/girlfriend. Plus after the drawing, hang on to your tickets because there will be a "second" drawing during our September convention for a chance to win 6 nights in Maui at a fabulous condo and there are many other wonderful prizes also. The best part is; all your raffle ticket purchases are tax deductible, so make your checks payable to Triple X Fraternity of California Golden Gate Chapter.

This February 11th, we will be having our annual Valentine Party. Tickets are \$60.00 per person and seats are limited so register early.

The Golden Gate Chapter has two new members. We are happy to welcome Hagop Tatoian and Tigran Antounian.

On the 10th of December, our Master Gary Namman held his annual Christmas potluck gathering. We had an excellent turn out as members from all four Bay Area chapters were in attendance and everyone ate, drank, and made merry.

See you in San Francisco this Labor Day.

Fraternally,

Richard Surabian, Editor



OBITUARIES



Brother Philip T. Manoogian, 68, passed away on September 17, 2011 in Fresno, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born on March 9, 1943 in Reedley. He attended Dinuba High School, Reedley College, and graduated from Fresno State College in 1968 and earned a Teaching Credential in 1969. Phil began his educational career with the Fresno Unified School District (FUSD), as a teacher, vice-principal, and later

as the Director of Special Education, for 22 years, and ended his career in the Student Services/Transfers Department as an Administrative Manager. He joined the Selma Chapter of Triple X Fraternity in 1976. He served as Master and chaired many committees. He served on the Grand Chapter level as Grand Secretary for two terms. He was a member in the Knights of Vartan, Fresno. He was active in St. Paul Armenian Church, he was a Parish Council Officer, a Men's Forum member, Sunday School superintendent, and coached ACYO volleyball for many years. In 2009, he received the Diocesan 'Hye Spirit Award' for his many years of dedicated service to the Armenian Church. He is survived by Jackie, his wife of 44 years; daughters, Pamela Jendian and her husband Matthew; Suzanne Peters and her husband Darrin; and 4 grandchildren.



John Edward Chorbajian passed away on November 22, 2011 in Lafayette, CA surrounded by his loving and adoring family. John was an extremely, kind, compassionate and humble man despite his many accomplishments, both personal and professional, and was immediately loved and embraced by those people fortunate enough to have met him. He was a member in the Oakland Triple X since 1960. Throughout his life, John asked for nothing, but gave everything; he truly lived a Christian life and now

will assuredly enjoy eternity with our Lord and his family and countless friends that have patiently awaited his arrival. John leaves behind his loving wife Anita, his son Gregg (Lisa), his daughter Karen (Marty) Ruane, grand children Nicolai, Christian, Noelle, Gabrielle, Aimee and numerous relatives and friends. John was born on July 13, 1928 in Aleppo, Syria, the youngest of 6 children born to Sarkis and Azniv Chorbajian. He was very proud of the Jesuit education he received in Beirut before traveling to the United States in 1951. John was conversant in numerous languages including French, Arabic, Armenian, English and Turkish and this proficiency would later serve him, and our country, well as a Corporal in the Medical Corp of the United States Army as a translator and earned him numerous accolades for exemplary service, including a commendation from General M.B. Ridgeway. John married Anita Rae Kamian on July 18, 1953. John was a very loving and devoted husband and father and took great pride and pleasure in every family gathering and activity such as fishing, 49er games and any event involving his grandchildren. His family was his greatest source of joy and happiness and his abundant love and generosity was apparent to any person that had the pleasure of making his acquaintance.



Kirkor "Kirk" Minasian was born on October 23, 1929, in Chicago, Illinois. He was raised in Chicago, Illinois and graduated from Calumet High School. After graduation, he was drafted and served in the U. S. Army in Korea during the Korean War. Upon his discharge, he moved to California to be with his family. Kirk, subsequently attended and graduated from Fresno State College. Upon graduation, he owned his own gas station before obtaining a teaching credential, then

teaching and coaching at Irwin Junior High School. He worked in the Fresno Unified School District as a teacher, coach, and administrator for over 35 years. He was an avid sports fan and loved to attend all sporting events especially football and basketball games. He especially liked to root for his favorite team the Chicago Bears. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marian Dokoozlian Minasian. He is survived by his son, Larry Minasian; his daughter, Laurie Minasian; son-in-law, Frank Dmochowski; and many loving nieces and nephews. He was a member in the Selma Triple X since 1958.



Elmer Noroian was born in Fresno, CA on October 15, 1926, and passed away peacefully on Wednesday, October 26 2011, at home with his wife and sons at his side.

Elmer was employed as an accountant by the Del Monte Corporation until he retired in 1981.

Elmer was a life long member of the Holy Trinity Armenian Church. He served as a member of the board of trustees for two years.

Elmer loved football and was Alumni of Fresno State. He was involved in several clubs and organizations which include, the Huntington Boulevard Association, the Fresno Philharmonic Society for 11 years, Channel 18, the Fresno Triple X Fraternity since 2005, AARP Chapter 217 as president for two terms, Veterans of War, and the American Legion Post 4. Elmer served our country twice. Once for two years in the U.S. Navy in World War II and the second in the U.S. Army in the Korean War.

After retiring In 1981, Elmer and Irma traveled throughout the United States enjoying their love and life together. Elmer always wanted Irma at his side. He always called Irma's name and it always ended in "I Love You". Elmer was loved by many people and will be missed. He is now at peace with God and all of his love one's that went before him.

He is survived by Irma Noroian, his loving wife of 53 years; his care providers and adopted sons, Jeff Hough and Ray Martinez; first cousin, June Tavian and her son Michael.





GM Vaughn Vartanian (driver) and wife Lynette provided the transportation for Ron Dayne, Dick Enberg, and George Fleming on January 2, 2012 in the Rose Parade. These three men were the new Rose Bowl Hall of Fame Inductees. GM Vaughn's 1909 Pierce-Arrow 48SS 7 Passenger Touring was chosen by the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Committee, Greg E. Custer Committee Chair. "You can all be sure that "our" Grand Master Pin worn proudly on my collar, will also enjoy the ride down Colorado Blvd. as part of the parade", said GM Vaughn.

PGM Nick Nigosian responsible for creating the largest Armenian Flag in the world in Indio, California ~ 191' long by 9' high.



PGM's at 2011 Las Vegas Convention: l to r front row: Chuck Parigian, Haig Jamgotchian, Bob Juskalian, Harold Bazarian, Jack Bedoian, Jack Ouzounian. Back row: Archie Cholakian, Pete Cholakian, Nick Nigosian, Pete Babagian, Mel Shanoian, Chuck Paskerian and Jeff Hazarian.

TREX NEWS – Published by Grand Chapter, Triple X Fraternity
Jack Ouzounian, Grand Editor, 446 N. Blackstone, Fresno, CA 93701

MID-TERM GOLF TOURNAMENT

SIERRA MEADOWS COUNTRY CLUB

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(16 miles from Chuckchansi Casino)

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Saturday, March 3, 2012

Tee-off 9:00 a.m.

Green Fees - Cart - Prizes \$75.⁰⁰ per person

Reservations must be made by February 24th

(Provide handicap and names in foursome)

Mail entry blank and check to:

Selma Triple X Fraternity

Vernon Avakian, 3066 W. Paul, Fresno, CA 93711

559-431-5747, 559-472-6247



Vernon Avakian

3066 W. Paul

Fresno, CA 93711

559-431-5747, 559-472-6247

Name _____

Chapter _____

Handicap _____ Phone () _____

Names of Foursome _____
