

Trex News

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

Triple X Fraternity

62nd Annual Mid-Term Convention

Hosted by Sequoia Chapter

Saturday, March 5, 2016

128 W. Mineral King, Visalia, CA

(Parking north of building in parking structure)

Mid-Term Golf Tournament - 10:00 am

(See back cover)

River Island Gold Course

31989 River Island Drive Porterville, CA 93257 559-784-9425

Lunch - Noon Masonic Hall (Tavlloo, Gin, Pinochle, and More).

Masters Meeting - 4:00 pm Dinner 6:00 pm Business Meeting 7:00 pm

Hotel Information:

Marriott: 300 S. Court Street, Visalia, CA 93274
(Across the street from the Masonic Hall)

Phone (559) 636-1111

http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/vismc-visalia-marriott-at-the-convention-center/?app=resvlink

Rooms available March 4-5

Rate - \$ 99.00 per night.

Book your group rate for Masonic Lodge Triple X Fraternity

Deadline 2/01/16

Reservations Group — Masonic Lodge Triple X Fraternity
Game Room available on 8th Floor Friday Night

Any questions to PGM Ron Shanolan

ron.shanoian@comcast.net

559-731-1877



Grand Master's Message

It is a pleasure to continue to serve as your Grand Master. It is rewarding to have the opportunity to experience the enthusiasm and brotherhood that exits throughout the year. I have been particularly impressed with the number of multi-chapter events that are scheduled throughout our organization.

Some of our Grand Chapter goals this year are to begin the groundwork for a Centennial Yearbook, provide support to the Fresno Chapter in their efforts to plan and stage a memorable Centennial Convention in 2018, work with our smaller Chapters to find ways to increase their membership

and continue to encourage Chapters to update their Grand Chapter websites.

I want to thank the Grand Chapter Officers, PGM Advisory Board and the Chapter Masters/Officers for their outstanding work on behalf of our Fraternity.

I am looking forward to a strong turnout for our Mid-term Convention hosted by the Sequoia Chapter.

Fraternally yours
John Casparian, Grand Master

TRIPLE X FRATERNITY GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS 2015-2016

Grand Master

John Casparian, LA Chapter 818-324-3389 jcasparian@aol.com

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Grand Editor

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Los Angeles

Dear Brothers:

You would think the LA Chapter would be completely wiped out after the 2015 Convention at the Los Angeles Millennium Biltmore Hotel, but not so. We kicked off the summer with the Annual Convention and before another word is written here, we are deeply appreciative to all the Brothers, wives and families that attended and supported the event.

Bro Michael "Minas" Mooradian, his amazing wife Cheryl and his hand-picked committee pulled off truly the best convention in recent memory. The grandeur of the hotel set the tone and each event was unique and glamorous. If I had to limit my description of the convention to a few words they would be **Opulent** and **SOLD OUT!** In addition to the excellent events, who will ever be able to top the LA Chapters hospitality suite? – The LA Chapter has **Janis Casparian** and her crew to thank for planning, organized and executing all aspects of the hospitality suite. The actual room for the hospitality suite was like slipping back in time to the 1930's, with classic wood paneling, detailed ceilings, period correct furnishings and views of the city.

The Events were all **sold out** to capacity too! The Speak-Easy casino night chaired by Bro **John Saroyan**, **Gary Zakarian** and their wonderful wives **Gladys** and **Aline** was an absolute success. Gaming tables, great food, music, chip girls and all night raffle made the evening feel like a speak-easy of the past. Outstanding event Bros Gary and John.

Saturday golf, Chaired by PGM Mel Shanoian was eventful too. Besides golf, a real fire broke out near the course and our golfers got a front row seat seeing our LAFD in action. After golf, all convention participants were treated to the LA Chapter's endless mezza in the Hospitality Suite, which carried us all the way to our Saturday Evening Dress to the Nines dinner dance chaired by Bro Michael & Cheryl Mooradian. A very successful Silent Auction chaired by PGM Bro David Maseredjian preceded the sold out gala. Guests were welcomed into the Hotel's famous Crystal Ballroom by the sounds of the Angel City Big Band. This 15+ piece band kept us entertained and dancing. Later, we were treated to more live music delivered to us by the Oasis Band, led by our own PGM Vaughn Vartanian. An absolutely fantastic night for all of Triple X.

Sunday's breakfast meeting led by PGM Ron Shanoian went very smooth and the gavel was passed to our new Grand Master John Casparian, his Grand Chapter and PGM Advisory Board. As great as the meeting was, it's the Sunday ladies event that is still being talked about – a private tour of the Warner Brothers backlot, organized by Cheryl Mooradian and Janis Casparian. Pictures are still floating around on facebook and it was a real treat for them all. Sunday evening Bro Mark and Laura Estepanian chaired a rooftop cocktail party at Checkers Hotel across the street from the Biltmore. This sold out event featured rooftop views of the city, an abundance of hors d'oeuvres,



2015 Convention masterminds Bro Michael Mooradian and his amazing wife Cheryl. Together with the help of their capable committee pulled off an unforgettable convention.



Saturday night's Dress to the Nines Sold-Out Dinner Dance in the Crystal Ballroom of the Biltmore. This picture is a recreating of the 1923 Opening Night Gala photo at the Biltmore.

live music and great friends to share it all with. Nothing like this was done before and its success speaks for itself. Fantastic work Bro **Mark and Laura** on a great evening.

After the convention we got busy again with our Chapter activities. Bro **Jimmy Melikian** generously donates his beautiful Palos Verdes house every year in September for our Cigar Night. Bro Jimmy puts together a nice spread of hors d'oeuvre, brandy and other liquors — and Brothers are allowed to smoke inside the house while the wives enjoy the view outside. Bro Jimmy underwrites this entire event with the proceeds going toward a soon to be announced scholarship program sponsored by the LA Chapter. Thank you Bro **Jimmy and Connie** for your generosity!

Also in September, the Los Angeles Chapter hosted the Annual Ararat Home Picnic chaired by a great committee made up of Bros William Kevorkian, John Casparian, Shant Dergazarian, Joe Ouzounian, PGM David Maseredjian, Galen Petoyan, Richard Jebejian & Michael Surmeian. With the help of almost all our members, wives and many of their kids, we served well over 1200 hearty meals. This is the Home's biggest event of the year and our Chapter is proud to make such a significant contribution of our time and talents to the Home.

In October Bro **Tev Eminian** & PGM **Mel Shanoian** co-chaired our Annual Stagg Outing at a new venue – the Pala Mesa Resort near Temecula. Bro Sam Donabedian found this place and Bros Tev and PGM Mel moved their winning event plan from the desert to Temecula. Two days of golf, great food, drink & fraternalism. Cash prizes were awarded for the golf winners both days. Lots of gin was played too – with several marathon games on Friday and Saturday nights. All we can say is outstanding work Bro **Tev**, PGM **Mel**, Bro **Martin Titizian** and Bro **Gabe Kaprelian**!

Later in October Bro Gary Zakarian chaired our annual Installation Banquet at the beautiful Porter Valley Country Club to honor our outgoing Master Johnny Yaldezian. This year's program included a complete "This is Your Life" episode for now Past Master Johnny which involved his parents, lovely wife Lisa, beautiful daughters Allie and Maggie, quite a few characters from the LA Chapter and lots of embarrassing pictures & stories. Such a fun time with lots of laughs. The coveted Ken Khteian Trexman of the Year Award was won by one of our most dedicated brothers, PGM Mel Shanoian. PGM Mel started as a Fresno Jr. Bro in 1969 and has always been very active for almost 50 years. For as long as many of us can remember. PGM Mel has served as Chairman of the very successful Armenian Open Golf Tourney. PGM Mel is not only a great Trexman, but also a great friend to many. Outstanding work by **Bro Garv** with special thanks to his wonderful wife Aileen.

In November Bros Grand Master John Casparian and Stan Roopenian chaired the Annual Gin Tournament. The players battled till past 2 am when the winners were determined. The winners this year were the pair of Bro Stan Roopenian and Bro Johnny Yaldezian, who will split possession of the coveted Gin Tournament Trophy during the year. All players were treated to an unbelievable dinner and drinks. Thank you for the great event Bros Grand Master John and Stan.

In December Bros Martin & Armen Titizian and their beautiful wives Candice & Lara chaired our Family Christmas Party. About, families, children & grandchildren enjoyed the event complete with a great meal and incredible desserts by Lara Titizian. There were crafts for the kids, gifts and a visit from Santa himself. Bro Armen Titizian served as Santa this for the first time. Perhaps Bro Armen wasn't the best choice as he only weighs in at about 170 lbs. and nobody brought pillows to stuff the suit – he was swimming in that thing. All the adults in the room and most of kids immediately noticed something was wrong with Santa. Is Santa sick? Did Santa go to detox? Is Santa on meth? These whispers were all heard when Bro Armen strolled into the room carrying a bag of gifts bigger than him. Fortunately, there were no other mishaps and the day went off without a hitch. Thanks to the Brothers and their wives for a great event.

2016 will be another great year for the LA Chapter



Continuing their long-standing bromance, Bro's Gabe and Chris hold up the food line to take a picture. Clearly upset with the work stoppage, Bro Ron interrupts their special moment by bashing them both on the head with a food tray.



Cigar Night with the boys! Thank you Bro Jimmy for hosting the event all these years.



An emaciated Santa visited our LA Chapter Family Christmas Party. Great job Bro Armen for being Santa and Bro Martin for co-chairing along with Candice and Lara Titizian for a great day

and we look forward to more great events with our Master, PGM **Jeff Hazarian** and his executive team.

Regards, Bro Michael Surmeian Associate Editor

Las Vegas Dear Brothers,

Warm greetings from the entertainment capital of the world. It's been a very busy time for us and our chapter bond has held strong despite the loss of 4 of our local "heroes". Bros. Gil Surabian and Sam Artinian guided us for many years and we will do our best to carry on the great spirit of brotherhood they both vividly demonstrated. In addition, Las Vegas lost 2 of the most well-known and widely-loved Armenian icons of the modern era, Jerry "Tark the Shark" Tarkanian (former Fresno Trexman) who is America's most winning coach of all time and Kirk Kerkorian, one of the most influential figures in the history of Las Vegas.

You may suspect that Vegas is all fun and games but our chapter was very proud to lend leadership support to a much more serious endeavor ... the recent Unveiling and Dedication Ceremony for the newly consecrated Armenian Genocide Memorial Monument located here at Sunset Park, the 320 acre crown jewel of the Clark County Park System. It was the culmination of the hard work of the nonpartisan, Armenian-American Cultural Society (AACS) of Las Vegas. This long anticipated event attracted about 500 enthusiastic Armenians including 2 Surpazans, 2 Der Hayrs, 2 Authentic Dance Troupes and various reps from the U.S. Congress, the State of Nevada and from the City of Las Vegas.

Even though we were not the only sponsors, 3 members of our Las Vegas chapter received recognition for their central role in the complex process of bringing this historic monument to fruition. Bro. Adroushan "Andy" Armenian (Honorary Consul of Armenia) received a Commendation from the Mayor's office for his influential civic leadership, Bro. Levon Gulbenkian is the architect of the monument and Bro. Armen Anooshian is a principal member of the AACS Committee.

Although not an official Trex Event, several fraternity members recently played a key role in the Armenian Eyecare Project's (AECP) Annual Gala, thus fulfilling two of the core values of the Triple X ... Charity and Brotherhood. Our brother Mark Derderian led a large group to the recent fundraiser at the beautiful Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach including 32 Trexman and their wives from 4 different chapters (Las Vegas, Orange County, San Diego

and L.A.) with no less than 3 PGMs plus the current Grand Master and other G.C. Officers. A great time was had by all while raising money for a very worthy cause which was founded by the esteemed O.C. Trexman, Roger Ohanesian, a.k.a. "Dr. O".

Several of our Vegas brothers attended two separate memorial tributes sponsored by UNLV at the Clark County Central Library Auditorium. In November, Kirk Kerkorian was honored with an impressive salute to the man whose 12 local megaresorts define our modern day Las Vegas and made so many proud to show what Armenians are capable of accomplishing. In January, the Library gave a compelling presentation of Jerry Tarkanian's incredible Championship record and how his perseverance and determination eventually vanquished his NCAA accusers with a \$2.5M settlement, a public apology, and induction into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame.

This year we donated to the Genocide Monument, the Ararat Home of L.A., and the new Armenian Apostolic Church presently under construction here in town. Our Brother Shavarsh Papazian is in charge of fundraising there. In addition, we also continued our community "outreach". Last year we supported the Lion Habitat and this year it was "Preserving the Rhino" ... We quickly raised \$296 ... all in singles!

Last month we had our dinner meeting at Bro. Ruben Gregorian's balad (palace) with a fabulous spread of food from his charming wife, Rose. The brothers tried to "Out



Vegas Bros. Gil and Mark with O.C. Bros. Nishan and Steve at Dana Pt. (back in the day)



Bros. Andy, Levon and Armen being honored at the Genocide Monument dedication



Bros. Mark, Andy, and Levon at the dedication of the Genocide Monument



Bros. Mark, John Saroyan (GM), Mike Mooradian (JGM), and Galen Petoyan with Grand Master John Casparian and the pretty ladies at the Armenian Eyecare Gala in Newport Beach



Standing room only at the Consecration of the Genocide Monument



Our beloved Coach Jerry "Tark the Shark" Tarkanian

Bluff" each other at Poker while others were "All In" with Tavloo. Lotta fun! It was such a success that now we are all looking forward to a big celebration of Armenian Christmas at Brother Ruben's house again and when it comes to great food, there is "No Limit"!

We added one new member this year and we are on the lookout for other qualified candidates. Please join us the next time you're in Vegas to "visit your investments". We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, typically at the Shish Kabob House on Flamingo.

> Fraternally, Bro. Mark Derderian, Assoc. Editor

Oakland

Parev Brothers,

Kudos to the LA Chapter for a great convention. All the brothers that attended (and there were many) came back from the event saying what a great convention LA arranged and how much they and their wife's enjoyed the whole weekend.

As we look back on 2015, I feel it is important to review some of the good works that the Oakland Chapter has accomplished. As usual, charitable donations to worthwhile charities are always at the forefront of our agenda. Each year we try to expand the scope of our donations to both Armenian charities and local community charities that have a need. Our annual Charity Crab Feed (which is held in January) gives us the funds we need to do good works. Some of the charities are: St. Vartan Armenian Church, Encinal High School Band, Friends of Warm Hearth, Second Harvest Food Bank, House of Hope, Mer Hooys, Alameda County Food Bank, Contra Costa Food Bank, and Solano County Food Bank to mention just a few.

Our Chapter has elected Bro. Dan Riley as Master for the upcoming year. Dan is a long time Trexman who transferred from the Golden Gate chapter to Oakland a few years ago. This editor is confident that Dan and his executive body will do a great job and am looking forward to an active and exciting year under his leadership.

Since our last news article, the Oakland Chapter has had



A Brother who has fallen on Hard Times



Bro's Cooking at Church Bazaar



Trex Chef's at Lobster Feed



Giant Lobster won by Bro. Rick Magarian



Master Dan Reily Prepares Dinner At Meeting

one of its premier events, the Family Camping Trip to Loon Lake. About thirty five members and families attended the event this year and as usual came back singing the praises of the beauty of the Sierra's and the great comradely that all the brothers and families had. A special thanks to Bro. Rick Magarian for taking the lead on this event and working so hard to make it a memorable weekend.

In November Bro. Craig Bazigian hosted our annual Bay Area Chapters Lobster Feed. This year our Grand Master John Casparian was in attendance and we had a great turnout from our Brother Chapters. This is an annual event that Bro. Craig and his committee have been doing for a number of years. Close to fifty members and guests were in attendance and all ate their fill of lobster and all the things that go with it. Be sure to check out the picture of GM Casparian with the monster 5lb. lobster. We had a drawing for the monster of the deep and he was won and eaten by Bro. Rick Magarian. Prior to the lobster there was a huge table of Meza that everybody partook in.

Plans for the 2017 Convention are in full "go mode". Co-Chairmen Gregg Chorbajian, Stuart Arakelian and Jim Taylor are working feverishly to make this a memorable event. We are tapping into the some of the premier venues

available throughout the East Bay and are planning on some very exciting events. More info to follow.

This past Christmas was a memorable one, when the Oakland Chapter was invited to join Mt. Diablo Chapter's Christmas gala at Round Hill Country Club. A wonderful meal with brothers and wives from both chapters enjoying the season and all the decorations made for a special evening. A special thanks to Mt. Diablo Chapter for including us in their plans.

Respectfully Submitted, Bro. Harry Sherinian Associate Editor Oakland Chapter



Swearing in Oakland Executive Board



Trexmen At Loon Lake



Oakland Bros at Meeting

Palm Desert

Dear Brothers,

The year 2015 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, Steve Afetian** for a job well done and to all of our brothers for a great year!

Palm Desert brothers and their families enjoyed the 2015 Convention in Los Angeles. Thank you to our Los Angeles brothers for hosting a first-class and fun-filled convention!

In October, we held our Installation and Awards Banquet at Castelli's Ristorante in Palm Desert. We installed our newly elected officers for the year 2015-2016 and enjoyed the evening with members and their wives. We were honored that our new **Grand Master**, **John Casparian** was able to attend this year's Installation Banquet.

Our Palm Desert Chapter's 2015 – 2016 Officers are: MasterBro. Arjuna "Vic" Saraydarian

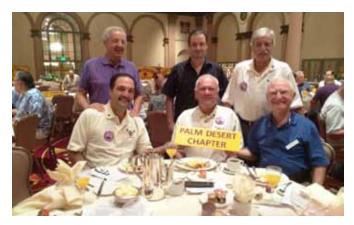
Jr. Master.....Bro. Harry Kaladjian Rec. Secretary.....Bro. Sarkis Bedrosian

Treasurer PM Rob Carian Corr. Secretary PM Nick Nigosian Sergeant At Arms... Bro. James Towery

Your Palm Desert brothers are looking forward to a busy year as we prepare to host the next Triple-X Convention 2016, in Palm Desert, at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort and Spa. Convention Chairman, **PGM Nick Nigosian** and his committee have many fun and exciting events planned. Come and enjoy a weekend getaway in the desert as you "Live and Play like a Star". Your participation is key to ensuring a successful Convention, and we hope to see everyone on Labor Day weekend. Be sure to purchase your Convention Raffle tickets before the Midterm, in order



Palm Desert Installation of Officers. GM John Casparian, Master Vic Saraydarian, Bro. Sarkis Bedrosian, Bro. Harry Kaladjian, PM Rob Carian & PGM Nick Nigosian



PALM DESERT TRIPLE-X CHAPTER at the Los Angeles Convention



PALM DESERT TRIPLE-X CHAPTER Installation Dinner. PGM Nick Nigosian & Carolon, GM John Casparian & Janis, PM Greg Safoyan & Kim

to have a chance to win the prize of 3 room nights and event tickets for two at the Palm Desert XXX Convention. Please join us in supporting our Past Master Greg Safoyan who is running for Grand Master in 2016.

Our annual Christmas Kef was held on December 19, 2015, at the Miramonte Resort ballroom in Indian Wells. It was an evening filled with delicious food, dancing, and holiday cheer, that was enjoyed by our brothers, their wives, friends and families. Thank you to **Master Vic** and his wife Zenda, along with Janis Avedesian, for organizing this very successful holiday event.

Our annual "Family Day at the Fair" at the Riverside County Date Festival is set for February 20, 2016. Come and enjoy our desert hospitality at this annual event. Also, this year's "Desert Golf Tournament", will be held on May 7th. It is being held again this year at The Classic Club, the home course of the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic. We will also be holding our annual 50/50 reverse Raffle that same evening. Get your tickets soon and come enjoy an exciting evening of delicious mezza and fun!

We are very saddened by the passing of one of Palm Desert's Charter brothers. **Bro. Garo Tutunjian** was an active and supportive member of our fraternity and always devoted to his brothers. He will always be remembered and

missed. Our deepest condolences to his family and many friends.

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 here in Palm Desert over Labor Day 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 2016. Fraternally, **PGM Nick Nigosian** Corresponding Secretary



Installation Dinner. PD Master Vic Saraydarian, PGM Greg Avedesian, PM Greg Safoyan, GM John Casparian & PGM Nick Nigosian



PM Greg Safoyan - Running for Grand Master in 2016. Volunteers for the Salvation Army outside of Macys



Christmas Party. PGM Joe Kellejian, PGM Nick Nigosian & PGM Greg Avedesian with Elise Alchian (widow of founding member Arsen Alchian)



Christmas Party. Brothers Steve Balian, Chris Markarian, Gordon Chuchian & Sarkis Bedrosian and wives



Installation Dinner. PM George Kirkjan & Tammy and Bro. Buddy Melkesian & Carol

NOTICE

Deadline for submitting articles and pictures for the next issue of Trex News is **July 8, 2016.**

Mail to:

Jack Ouzounian, PGM, Grand Editor 446 N. Blackstone, Fresno, CA 93701 Bus. 559-266-5320; Fax 559-266-1426 E-mail: libertyprinting1@att.net

San Diego Chapter

For the San Diego Chapter of the Triple X Fraternity, the Summer and Fall of 2015 were filled with some great events, including our Summer Picnic, our 7th Annual Wine & Cheese Tasting and our Annual Christmas Party. All of the events were a great success and fun for all who attended.

On Sunday, July 26th, the Trex brothers and their families enjoyed their annual Summer Family Picnic. The event was coordinated by Bro. Danny Tevrizian and was held at the picnic grounds in Fairbanks Ranch. About 25 adults and kids were in attendance. There was plenty of good food, fun conversations around the picnic tables and enjoyment of each other's company under the beautiful San Diego sunshine. The kids had a blast running around, playing with each other and exploring the park.

On Saturday, October 10th, our chapter held its 7th Annual Wine & Cheese Tasting event at the beautiful Rancho Bernardo Courtyard. Nearly 125 guests were in attendance, including Armenians, as well as many non-Armenians, from the San Diego community. We were grateful to Grand Master John Casparian, as well as Palm Desert Master Vic Saraydarian and his wife Zenda, for their attendance. The event is our primary fundraiser and provides funds for our Student Scholarship Program, which offers scholarships to college students of Armenian descent. This year, our fraternity awarded five students with a \$1,000



2015 Scholarship Award Winners



San Diego Trex Summer Picnic 2015



San Diego Trexettes 2015 Wine & Cheese



San Diego Trex Delegates 2015 Convention



San Diego Trex 2015 Summer Picnic



San Diego Trex 2015 Wine & Cheese Mezza

scholarship each. San Diego Councilman Mark Kersey helped award the scholarships again this year. All of the San Diego brothers, led by PGM Joe Kellejian, worked hard at making the event a success, both socially and financially. We also want to thank the Trex ladies (better known as the "Trexettes") for their hard work and efforts in preparing the food and creating the elegant table settings and design. Special thanks also go out to Alan Yaghjian, who has kindly allowed us to use the Rancho Bernardo Courtyard all of these years, and to Los Angeles Bro. Charles Maseredjian and his wife Rosalie for helping again this year.

In September, over the Labor Day weekend, many of the San Diego Trex brothers traveled north to enjoy the fun and hospitality at the annual convention, which was hosted by the Los Angeles Chapter. The events, food and fraternal friendship made the trip a memorable one for those of us who attended.

On Saturday, December 5th, we held our annual Christmas Party, which was coordinated and hosted by Master Jim Sahagian and his wife, Jane, at their beautiful home in Poway. Brothers and their wives contributed lots of food and desserts and spent much of the evening "catching up" and enjoying each other's company during the Christmas season. As always, the evening included our annual gift exchange, which resulted in a fun time for all, as well as a visit from Santa Claus's brother (thanks PGM Bro. Joe Kellejian for filling in for Santa).

Steve Hovsepian, Assoc. Editor



Santa Visits Trex Kids 2015



Trex 2015 Christmas Party

Golden Gate

THE GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER brothers finished up 2015 in style. From initiating new members to honoring its finest and oldest Trexmen at a wonderful only-in-San Francisco-venue to having a great time at the Annual Convention, and of course supporting the local churches with their festivals, and local chapters with their fundraisers...the GG Trexmen crushed it again! Great fun!

GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

The GGC continues to draw new members! Under the leadership of Bro Hagop Koujakian our roster of venerable brothers continues to grow. The latest brother to be accepted into the fold is Nicolas Stathakos (a fine Armenian name if I've ever heard one!)

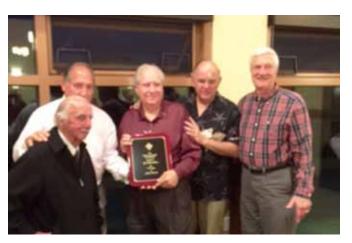
HONORING OUR OWN

The brothers held a special dinner in August to honor the longest standing GG-Chapter brother Al Nalbandian. The GG-Chapter leadership presented Bro Al a commemorative plaque for so many years of membership and service. Master Henry Shishmanian, PGM Sark Sarkisian, PGM Garo Mirigian, and PGM Charles Paskerian did the honors. Al, ever the actor, delivered a wonderful heartfelt thank you and imparted some early history of the chapter's origins.

cont. on p. 14



PGM Garo Mirigian Swears-In New Brother



GGC Leadership Plaquing Brother Al Nalbandian





GGC Delegates at the Men's Breakfast Sunday Morning

What...is that Rhett?

Golden Gate (cont. from p. 11) THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

We had quite a contingent down in the Southland representing the Golden Gate Chapter at the annual TREX convention. Our Los Angeles brothers had a terrific event planned. From the start, the hospitality room rocked with great mezza and an open bar and ran all through the weekend. And Friday night's Casino Night event was a smash hit raising all kind of money to be certain. And yours truly, the Golden Gate Chapter Editor came home with the lottery grand prize!

The convention was at the grand old Biltmore Hotel, an historic masterpiece where the first five Academy Awards were held. Of course, the Saturday Night Ball was a Hollywood Theme and some special guests appeared...

Just another packed house of Brothers having Kef time and eating large! After growing our active membership, the clubhouse is getting to cramped. This motivated Bro Hagop Koujakian and Aunty Lou to expand into the adjacent garage. We're looking forward to the Grand Opening of the new space during our January New Year's meeting!

And it wouldn't be an update without showing off our dear Aunty Lou, matron of the GGC TREX Clubhouse. Go Aunt Lucy!!!



Aunty Lou Celebrating her 109th with Family and the Brothers at the Harding Park Clubhouse





TREX meeting at Auntie Lou's Clubouse.

Fresno

GREETINGS Brothers from a wet and soggy Fresno Chapter.

The last several months have been very rewarding to our beloved Chapter and club house, the doors are still open. Through the skilled hands of our Master Steve the renting of the hall has been busy and the fresh new promotions of quality fund raisers have taken place. The idea to bring Dr. Castro to speak here came from several "NEW" members: Brother Chris and Brother Minas played a huge role in setting up the program including the appearance of Victor E. III, FSC mascot and presenting the pooch with a Triple X custom skateboard. The entire event was a huge success and money maker. The meal was directed by GPM Bob and PM Richard and the usual cooks, salad makers and grillers of the Fresno "gang". The months that passed also included "cook" your own steak by PM Gary as well as his famous lamb chops that everyone just LOVES. As usual PGM Bob has spearheaded many delicious dinners to boot!!!

I must also thank, another "new" member Brother Arlen for taking over the mailing and printing of the post cards so as to give Brother Tarjian a rest.

I must also say with a heavy heart good bye to Brother PM Bob Bedoian, that used to come into the kitchen to help cut up the veggies and make me laugh when my seldom seen salad making partner Brother Merlin didn't show... Bro. Bob was a one of a kind person....I loved listening to his "Bobism" like a pinch of salt in the coffee to cut the



Bro. Chris and skateboard artist.



Bro. Richard and Ladies and Victor E. III

bitterness and adding chili powder in the salad and other dishes he was just a scream!! I like to think of Bro. Bob as just gone; on vacation driving his motor home...to some interesting place.

Michael Basmajian



Grand Master Ron Shanoian and Master Steve with Dr. Castro of Fresno State University.



PGM Bob, Dr. Castro and Bro. Chris.



Bros. David, Bill, and Pete at FSC President's Nite B.B.Q.



PM Richard at Bro. Bill's fantastic Christmas Dinner at 500 Club.

Mt Diablo

Greetings from Mt Diablo:

Our 2015-2016 officers are Master Vic Vasgerdsian, Jr Master Ray Chiljan, Recording Secretary, Jack Mooradian, Corresponding Secretary, Jerry Tusan, Treasurer, Ed Hazarabedian.

We celebrated our 40th anniversary during 2015 with a nice dinner, memorabilia and speeches. We continue to stay active with the members we have.

Brothers Seno Garabedian, Garo Keadjian, Tan Matosian and Jerry Tusan attended the Convention in Los Angeles over Labor Day. Every event was perfectly planned and organized. Thank you again LA Brothers!

On September 13, Brother Ray Chiljan and Garo Keadjian organized our summer Patio Party at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo. Due to the warm weather, the patio seating was moved indoors. Everyone enjoyed the event.

Our December Holiday party this year included Oakland Brothers and their wives/guests. We had a record turnout of 74 people! Brother Ray Chiljan was able to have the Country Club set up a private buffet and pasta



Mt Diablo Brothers Garo & Pat Keadjian, Kevork & Grace Hagopian



Mt Diablo Master Vic & Hasmig Vasgerdsian, Harvey & Janet Kamian



Oakland Brothers Stuart & Caroline Arakelian, Gregg & Lisa Chorbajian, Steve & Stacey Shartzer



Oakland Brothers Don & Lisa Manoogian, Ed & Kristian Minasian



Oakland Brother Vartkes & Kerrie Avakian, Harry & Jill Avakian



Mt Diablo Brother Jerry Tusan, Barry Barsamian, Seno & Dickie Garabedian

station for our group. Thank you Brother Ray. Brother Rick Michaels and Jerry Tusan provided the wines for the event. There was not a drop of wine left at the end of the evening. It was exciting to share this event with our Oakland Brothers and Families. True fraternalism!

During 2016, Brother Steve Noroian will celebrate his 50th year as a Trexman, PGM Shavarsh Hazarabedian 40 years, Brother Harvey Kamian 30 years and Brother Ray Chiljan 20 years. Boy, how time flies. Brother Al Kaljian will celebrate his 73th anniversary!!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Mid term meeting in March.

Respectfully Submitted Brother Jerry Tusan, Corresponding Secretary



Brother Ray Chiljan, Frances Stevens & Katherine Chiljan



Brother Jeff & Jennifer Apkarian, Mr & Mrs Nick Stathakos



Mt Diablo Brothers Tan Matosian, Jerry Tusan, Golden Gate Brother Charles Paskerian

Peninsula

Greetings, fellow Trex Brothers, families, and friends! Our Peninsula Chapter officers for 2015-16 are:

Ruben Kazarian, Master Vic Khachooni, Treasurer Mark Antranikian, Junior Master Historian - vacant Kip Garabedian, Recording Secretary Sgt. at Arms - vacant Mark Antranikian, Corr. Sec./Assoc. Editor

Vic Khachooni, Custodian

We have a small but spirited group of Peninsula Trexmen who meet in the evening of each third Thursday for our monthly dinner meetings. The meetings are held at the Los Altos Masonic Building, which is located at 146 Main Street in Los Altos, California (enter from the back parking lot side). We gather in a nice banquet room and our expert chefs perform their magic in an adjacent and recently renovated industrial kitchen in the lower floor of the building. When the weather's warm, we will often meet and eat outside in the wonderful courtyard patio which we put to good use for barbecue dinners. The Peninsula Chapter is well-known for serving up great meals each month thanks to our hard-working and talented Brothers –







Bro. Vartan



Guests

nobody ever leaves a meeting hungry! Please feel free to stop by and join us if you're ever in the Bay Area during one of our meeting times.

With the exception of your author, no other Peninsula members were able to make it down to the fantastic Convention hosted by the Los Angeles Chapter this past Labor Day weekend. It was a very well-run weekend of terrific events at a historic venue, the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown L.A. I got there too late to attend the Friday night Speakeasy & Casino Night, but I did attend the classy Dress to the Nines dinner/dance on Saturday night, the nice Breakfast & Business Meeting on Sunday morning, and the ritzy Skyline Cocktail Reception on Sunday evening on the scenic open-air rooftop deck of the adjacent Hilton Checkers Hotel. Oh, and you can't forget the fantastic hospitality room with an abundance of food, drinks, and even a few tayloo games! Kudos to the Los Angeles Chapter for putting on such a great Convention – the bar has been set rather high for future years!

Unfortunately, two of our members, Aram Salmassian and Mike Kachatourian, are unable to remain active in the Chapter and have resigned within the past few months. Both great people, their camaraderie and many contributions at our meetings and events will certainly be missed – we wish them nothing but the best in their future endeavors. And there is some hopeful news as well – we do have two or



At the July meeting, pre-dinner tavloo games are ready to go! L-R: Brothers Mark Antranikian, Vic Khachooni, Daryl Jamgotchian, & George Kamian (Oakland).



Bro. Vazgen Babayan serves some delicious fish at the July meeting to Bro. Daryl Jamgotchian and guest Mihran Kassabian.

Selma

Greetings, fellow Trexmen! The Selma Chapter is off to another great start with our new slate of officers for the year. After a bit of light arm-twisting, Brother Mike Kilijian agreed to run for Master for the 2015-16 term, and was unanimously elected post-haste. Other officers include Jr. Master Marcus Marootian, Secretary Frank Korkmazian (PGM), General Fund Treasurer Jim Tikijian, and Charitable Trust Treasurer Aaron Krikorian. The incoming officers were honored at our annual Installation Dinner, held in late September at the fantastic Elbow Room Bar & Grill. Additionally, Brother Marcus Marootian was designated as our Trexman of the Year. It was very well attended as always, with everyone enjoying a great evening of delicious food and great company.

The prior week in September, we held our popular 3rd annual Sports Social at the Fresno Clubhouse, featuring Fresno State Basketball Head Coach Rodney Terry (and a few cheerleaders as well!). We were honored to have newly-elected Grand Master John Casparian and his wife Janis in attendance, along with a full house of people enjoying the

three member prospects that may be joining our ranks in the not-too-distant future!

In November, we had a special Thanksgiving dinner gathering at the NorCal Armenian Senior Center in Burlingame. Many members and their significant others were able to attend and enjoyed quite a feast! A huge thank you goes out to the industrious efforts of several Peninsula Brothers and their spouses for making the great evening possible.

The Peninsula Chapter wishes all Trex Brethren a most joyous 2016 – best wishes for a happy and healthy year ahead! We look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming Mid-Term Convention in March!

Fraternally submitted,
Brother Mark Antranikian
Peninsula Chapter Jr. Master/Corr. Sec./Assoc. Editor



Bro. Mark Antranikian and Deb at the 2015 Convention



Business Meeting. Treas. Aaron Krikorian, Master Bob Srabian and PGM Frank Korkmazian, Secretary.



Bro. Oscar Kasparian making an announcement.



Keyma Dinner



Keyma Dinner



Keyma Dinner

superb dinner, talks, and raffle prizes.

Speaking of September events, we of course cannot forget the fantastic Labor Day Weekend Convention, held this time at the historic Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. The Selma Chapter was very well represented, and everyone there had a great time at all of the very well run events throughout the weekend. Congratulations to GM John and all of the new Grand Chapter Officers, and thank you to the Los Angeles Chapter for organizing and hosting such an outstanding event!

Our annual Turkey Bingo fundraiser was held in November at the California Armenian Home. It featured a chicken & filet kebob dinner followed by an evening of bingo, where every winner received a Thanksgiving turkey as part of their prize – not a bad deal at all!

In December, we hosted our annual Children's Christmas Party at John's Incredible Pizza Company. Many children and grandchildren of the Selma members were treated to a fun afternoon of an all-you-can-eat pizza and pasta buffet, as well as a few kiddie rides and more carnival games than they have at the county fair! Play well enough and you can earn enough credits to get that new skateboard you've always wanted!

On a sad note, I regret to report that 40-year member Dr. Harry Moordigian passed away in November. In addition to being a great dentist, friend, and Brother, he was also a generous contributor to the community and to Fresno State. Deepest sympathies to his family – he will be missed by all who knew him.

Fraternally, Brother Mark Antranikian Selma Chapter Associate Editor Grand Webmaster



Joint Fresno-Selma Dinner/Meeting



Joint Fresno-Selma Dinner/Meeting

Sequoia

Greetings to all our Brothers in California, and Las Vegas. We have had a very exciting year. We had a great time selling fireworks last summer at our firework booth. Thanks to Rick Krikorian who continues to chair this committee, and does an outstanding job. Thanks also to the brothers who helped with the selling of the fireworks.

Several of us enjoyed Selma Chapter's Annual Keyma Dinner. Several of Sequoia brothers attended including Tom Babagian, Gerard Garoian, and Chuck Simonian. It was more Keyma than the eye could see. Thanks to PGM Sam Bagdasarian, Larry Avedisian and all the brothers for all their hard work on this wonderful summer dinner.

We wanted to thank the L.A. Chapter and all the brothers who helped with the 86th Annual Trex Convention. This event was held at the Beautiful and Historic Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. It was a wonderful Labor Day weekend for all who attended.

We hosted another "Feed the Armenians Night" last fall and invited several chapters to join us. At this event we host Armenians from our community who are not yet Trex members. We sponsor their dinner and exposed them to our chapter. Many of our new members come from this event. Thanks to Brothers' Chuck Simonian, PGM Jerry Poochigian, Dean Ametjian for heading up this event and all the brothers who helped.



PGM Jerry and Pete who is sitting on Santa's lap first.



Rene Yahnian Santa's helper



PGM Ron and Gary Hovannisian new member



Sequoia Lamb Feed



Sequoia Lamb Feed



Gary Hovannisian -Sequoia Jr.s

We were so happy to welcome a new member, Gary Hovannisian. Gary's dad John, and brother John Jr. have been members a long time. Welcome Gary, we are so glad you joined.

We were honored in 2015, by the California Legislature Assembly. This was a CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION to Sequoia Triple X Fraternity. The certificate read, "Thank you for your patriotism and dedication to community service. It is organizations like yourself that stand out as the example of what the United States of America and its Ideals were founded on." Signed, Devon J. Mathis, Member of the 26th Assembly District, California State Legislature.

In December we celebrated our annual Sequoia Trex Family and Friends, Christmas Party Dinner. We had a great turnout, and even Santa Claus appeared out of nowhere. Thanks to everyone who brought something and helped. A big thank you goes to Santa (Mark Kazarian) for the happiness, and gifts he brought to all the children.

We are starting our new year with our Installation Dinner On January 13, 2016. We hope to see a lot of our brothers at this event.

Thanks again to Shant Dergazarian who served on our Grand Chapter for many years as Grand Historian/Custodian. Shant after many years is giving someone else an opportunity to serve in this position. He desires to spend more time with his family and kids. We appreciated the many years of service to our Trix Fraternity.

Thanks also goes out to our very own PGM Ron Shanoian for all of his hard work as Grand Master, and the many visitations in 2015.

Blessings to all of you in this new year of 2016. Looking forward to seeing you in March, at the Mid-Term here in Visalia. "Joy to the World,"

Tom Babagian PM,



50-year Brother Richard Sheklian and PGM Ron

Orange County

Incoming Officers for 2015-2016

Master Bro. Brian Melkeskian
Jr. Master Bro. Robert Ohanesian
Treasurer Bro Rob Tusan

Corres. Secy. Bro. Sarvan Tomaskesis Rec. Secy Bro. Wayne Najarian.

Bro. Don Kazanjian

Sgt. at Arms Bros. Larry and Terry Hanoian

Board of Directors::

2 year term: Bros. John Cholakian, Mark Hachigian and Steven Sahagian

1 year term: Bros. Haig Jamgotchian, Don Kazanjian and Ron Sarouhan

Bro. Past Master Jon Agajanian did an outstanding job with the help of his officers and our membes and wives. This year donations were made to The Armenian EyeCare Project, Ararat Home Los Angeles, Choc Childrens Hospital and the Armenian Rose Parade Float.

Our 40th Annual Picnic was another success. Chairmen Bro. PM. Wayne Najarian and Bro. Art Kazarian did a terrific job. The Shish-kabob Luncheon was delicious - Armenian dancing - Games for the Kids The picnic brings many families together. We look forward to the next picnic July 17, 2016. Thanks to all the Brothers and wives who



Enjoying L.A. Chapter Convention



2015 Officers Sarven, Robert, Rob, Master Brian, Don, Terry & Larry



New member Brent Melkesian with wife Ann and Laura & Master Brian Melkesian



Jr. Grand Master Michael, Master Brian, PM Larry and PGM Peter



Sisters Louise, Marg & Marge



Bro Simon and wife Annik enjoying Santa with their family

helped.

Thanks to the L.A. Chapter for an outstanding Convention. Looking forward to the Palm Desert Chapter Convention in 2016.

Our Installation was at Bayside Restaurant in Newport Beach. This was a first class event with over 90 people present. We had the honor of having our Jr. Grand Master Michael Mooradian and his wife with us. We honored 4-25 year members: PM Wayne Najarian, PM Kelly Astor, Bro. Ed Harver and Bro. Al Antoyan TREXAN of the year went to PM Wayne Najarian and PM Mark Hachigian. Also the Lifetime Achievement Award went to PGM Archie Cholakian.

We installed our new incoming officers under the leadershiop of our new Master Brian Makesian. Looking forward to another fun filled year.

Our Annual Christmas Party with Mr and Mrs Santa was a huge success. All the kids got to talk with Santa and received presents from him. Thanks to PM Ron Sarouhan and PM George Ampagomian and their wives who did a super job planning and executing this fun night. Also gifts were collected for Toys for Tots.

A great time was had by all.

Our meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of every month at J.T. Schmidt Restauant, 2415 Park Ave., Tustin with cocktails at 6pm, dinner at 7 and meeting at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted, PGM Haig Jamgotchian



Christmas Party with the Magician



Kids breaking the pinata at TREX picnic (my Granddaughter Sahra)

OBITUARIES

HARRY MOORDIGIAN, DDS - Selma Chapter



Dr. Harry B. Moordigian, Jr., age 76, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, November 11, 2015, at the California Armenian Home in Fresno, CA, with family at his bedside. He was born in Sanger, CA, to Harry Sr. and Nevart (Sohigian) Moordigian on January 14, 1939. A graduate of Sanger High School and Fresno State College, he served in the United States Army for two years in Korea, and went on to obtain a Doctorate of Dental Surgery at Washington University Dental School in

St. Louis, MO, graduating in 1969. He retired in 2011, from a 41 year successful dental practice.

He was a member of the American Dental Association, Triple X Fraternity, Sanger Tigers, and Knights of Vartan. Dr. Moordigian has actively supported Fresno State since the 1970's, when he joined the Bulldog Foundation. Since then, his contributions have supported numerous programs including the Armenian Studies Department and Bulldog athletics. In 2007, he honored his parents, Harry and Nevart Moordigian, by establishing an endowment to support students in the Department of Viticulture and Enology. He gave a generous donation to The Fresno Family Counseling Center, run by Fresno State's Kremen School of Education and Human Development, which helps expand mental health services in the Central Valley. He also donated to the South Valley Education Initiative which will provide scholarships to South Valley students. Dr. Moordigian's latest gift established an endowment to enhance the Jordan Agricultural Research Center's microbiology laboratory. This space will be named the Dr. Harry B. Moordigian, Jr. Laboratory and will be used by students and faculty to research microorganisms in food processing and wine production. His life will be celebrated in the spring prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the lab.

Dr. Moordigian was preceded in death by his mother Nevart; father Harry; and step-mother, Victoria (Antoyan). He is survived by his daughter, Gina Dean and her husband Nathan, and their two sons, Griffin and Nicholas, of Fresno; daughter, Lisa Moordigian; ex-wife and friend, Judy Moordigian; and many cousins and friends he considered family. In keeping with his wishes, a service will be held private. Remembrances may be made in Harry's honor to Fresno State's Agriculture Department and Education Department; or The California Armenian Home.

GARO TUTUNJIAN - Palm Desert Chapter



Garo Tutunjian (The Jewelers' Jeweler) was born in the Armenian Quarter of Jersualem, during the time of World War II. Rather than pursue a formal education, he was asked to work at the age of eight to support his family. His uncle taught him the skills of jewelry design. At a young age, he learned everything there was to know about the trade – to wax, cast, set stones and work with customers, and to present them with a finished product.

Garo had the opportunity to come to America as

a young man. He started work in Beverly Hills, California, at Kazanjian Jewelers and then Hand of Gold Original, where his professional skills, creative style and artistic talents were first recognized by members of the movie industry. It was there that he won his first award: The International Diamond Award for a piece called "Stained Glass Windows."

The next step in his professional journey was to Los Angeles. There he created mountings and jewelry for a great number of jewelry companies, including The Hawaiian Pearl Divers and Orange Blossom Wedding Bands. At this time, he traveled to Palm Springs to deliver his creations to local jewelers. The local businesses loved his work, and he fell in love with Palm Springs. It was a bond with his new community, which would endure for the rest of his life.

Once he moved to Palm Springs, he opened a jewelry factory at Sun Center and began working with Bullocks Wilshire, Saks Fifth Avenue, Andrea Howard, Leeds & Son, Robann's, Gucci, Cartier, and many others. At this time, he earned the nickname of "The Jewelers' Jeweler," since his work was highly sought after by so many of these exclusive retailers. It was there that he fell in love with and married his wife Jacci, with whom in 1976, he opened his own store on Palm Canyon Drive. Garo became Palm Springs' first wholesale jeweler, who sold to the public. The public welcomed him by supporting his business for the next forty-five years. Smoke Tree Jewelers remains a fixture of the Palm Springs community.

Garo Tutunjian was a legend and an icon in the jewelry world. He brought design to new heights, and his method of creation and passion is becoming a lost art. His colleagues, his customers, his friends and his family will miss his presence. He is survived by his loving wife, Jacci Bianco Tutunjian, his daughters: Ani Tutunjian-Khachian, Farrah Jenner and Marisa Tutunjian-Lubas. He is also survived by his six grandchildren: Charlie, Christian and John Khachian, Gianna and JJ Lubas and Owen Jenner.

Garo joined the Triple-X fraternity as a charter member of the Palm Desert Chapter in 1998. He was a supportive member of the fraternity and loved by his brothers and their families. Garo was also an active member and Godfather of the Armenian Apostolic Church of the Desert. His presence in the community will truly be missed.

GIL SURABIAN - Las Vegas Chapter



Gilbert Surabian was the proud son of Sara and Bill Surabian of Providence, Rhode Island. Gil moved to California with his family when he was 14 and quickly made lots of new friends because he always had a likeable personality. When the Korean War broke out in 1950, Gil joined the U.S. Navy to pursue his interest in medicine. He became a surgical nurse and continued in that career after the war for a total of 15 years. He found it very rewarding.

As just one very special example, in 1960 when he was 28, he met his lifelong love and future wife, Rita, when they both worked in the same hospital operating room.

Gil himself had a natural love of entertaining people and, after a few more years of nursing, which did not pay so well, he embarked on a new career in the Food and Beverage Industry. Thanks to his good Armenian upbringing in a very sociable family, he was a natural at it.

In the 60's, he drove an exclusive "Avanti" automobile and he had a nightclub named Ali Baba's in North Hollywood which featured Shish Kebab and Belly Dancers. In addition to being a super host, he also enjoyed playing the dumbag drum there in an Armenian band.

As far back as the late 50's, Gil was one of the charter members of the L.A. Hye's Club which was an Armenian social club dedicated to fellowship among Armenians from all walks of life without regard to their specific religious or political beliefs.

That club endured through the 60's and 70's. They had frequent dances and parties which included renting a beach house at Pt. Dume near Malibu for a month in the summer of '66. The following year, 12 of the members rented the beach house on their own. They called themselves the "Dirty Dozen". Gil was the Leader and, of course, was also the Head Chef for the "Weekend Luaus" as well.

In many ways, Gil set a very good example for all of us to follow. He was always ready to help a friend ... He never spoke poorly of others ... He didn't repeat gossip he may have heard, and ... He didn't try to take one side against the other. As a result, he could stay friends with everyone, and in turn, everyone liked and admired him.

Gil was always an optimist with a fantastic outlook on life. Even when his health declined in the last few years, he would always have a smile on his face. No matter what his ailment was, he always managed to make the best of his condition and he remained courageous until he and Rita, the love of his life, were finally reunited in God's heavenly home. Gil and his trademark smile shall live on as an inspiration to all of those who had the good fortune to make his acquaintance. May God illuminate his soul.

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