

## A Message From Our Chairman...



Where has the year gone?! It seems like only yesterday I was starting my term of office. I recall how anxiety ridden I was to take on what I thought to be a daunting task. I wish I knew what I know now: that I had no worries. Each of you touched my year as chairwoman in a variety of ways....by volunteering for a standing committee, by attending meetings, by your participation in outings and events, by baking, by just sharing with me your thoughts and encouragement. For that I am eternally grateful. I learned a lot from you. I learned how much you care about our organization. At every corner I turned I observed how members promoted our Christian values not only in our church but by reaching out into the community. Each of you should be proud to be a Women's Guild member and realize the difference you have made.

I would be remiss not to mention my sincere appreciation to my Board members. Their counsel, support and kindness were truly appreciated. In addition, I would like to express my gratitude to Anna Sarkisian my editor and flyer creator! Finally, I would like to thank Fr. Aren for his belief in me to lead and to Fr. Armash for his spiritual guidance. I truly could not have done this without any you! It's been my honor to serve as your chair.

Happy Thanksgiving,

**Barb Rupas**

"Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to you as well."

- Voltaire



The Guild sends our sincere sympathy to Karen Mangune on the passing of her dear brother Tom Messelian.

We also extend our condolences to the family Harry Karagosian. He was the father-in-law of Dawn Karagosian, brother of honorary member Alice Mavian, and uncle of Cheryl Jobouljian.

It is also with sorrow that we send our sympathy to Susan Janigian on the passing of her beloved sister, Silva Sahakian.

November 7 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)	Alternative for Girls Collection & Guild Election 6:30 p.m.
November 13 <sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)	Sou Boreg Bake Date 9:00 a.m.
November 18 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Only Pickup Day for Sou Boreg order
December 5 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)	Guild Christmas Membership Dinner 6:30 p.m.



**Alternatives For Girls**

We will continue our yearly gift bag project for the women's shelter, "Alternative for Girls." Please bring any toiletries and small gifts that you have saved and bring them to our November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

We welcome our new Guild members Yn. Maran Bagdasarian, Edith Baise, Joanna Piligian, Vickie Sarkisian, and Ida Varadian. We look forward to working beside them in the future.



### Thanksgiving Sou Boreg Sale

The Guild cooking committee will be making 25 – 30 pans of Sou Boreg on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Orders will be taken by Yerchanig Joy Callan. Contact her at 248-254-3955 or email at [yerchanigc@gmail.com](mailto:yerchanigc@gmail.com). The only pickup-day is Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. \$65 per tray or \$40 for half tray.



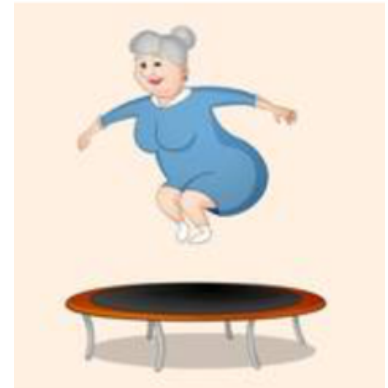
*\*Our nominating committee is putting together a slate for the upcoming elections slated for November 7<sup>th</sup>. Please consider serving on the board when you are asked. I personally can attest to what a fulfilling and gratifying experience it has been serving you. You won't be alone leading the guild. The board works together to make our guild a success. The saying "We are better, together", truly exemplifies our guild. ~ Barb Rupas*

*Nominating Committee members this year: Judy Parks (Chair), Anne Marie Ameriguan, Anita Boyadjian, Laurie Reizian and Marilyn Sarkesian.*

## *"Not Your Grandma's Guild" Recruitment News*

Our recruitment meeting brought in new members and served as a brainstorming session. We were looking for fresh ideas to strengthen our Guild. Our youngest Guild member, Erika Palaian, was invited to be a part of the brainstorming. The board met and decided to adopt the following suggestions:

1. Develop a welcome letter and new member packet
2. Tri-fold membership recruitment piece
3. Ask Guild members to invite potential members to Christmas dinner
4. Coming in January 2019, Armenian Cooking classes and Mom & Kids classes. Committee members Joy Callan, Diana Vosganian, and Lisa Derderian will be organizing these events. Watch your newsletter for class registration.



## **2018 Women's Guild Dues Reminder**



Just a friendly reminder for those who may have forgotten this year's dues.

Make your \$25 check payable to St. John Women's Guild.

Mail to:

**St. John Women's Guild**

**c/o Yerchanig Joy Callan**

**36445 Valley Ridge Drive**

**Farmington Hills, MI 48331-1233**

Any questions, please contact Yerchanig Callan at 248-254-3955

Thank you to those who have already paid.

[www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org)



Thank you to everyone that made St. John 2018 Annual Bazaar a roaring success. We punctuated the definition of fellowship with members and friends of the Guild, and of our church. We rekindled old friendships and made new relationships that will carry into the future. Bravo to every hand and every heart that gave their special touch to our very special acts of

love in service to our church.

We extend some of our most popular products while cutting back on others. We look forward to allowing friends and members to contribute more Armenian home-made baked goods in the coming years, to help facilitate the making of products in bulk that one cannot easily make at home alone.

When reciting just numbers of items we made, the mind boggles. To say things like 5,000 kufta or 141 trays of sou boreg, discounts the wonderful people that stood (or sat) together, week after week, sharing travel news, new baby news or even new cholesterol drug news. We all benefited from sharing our time and learning from one another.

This year, we added a fifth day of sou boreg and until the end of lunch Sunday, no one was told, "We're out!" Four days of katah instead of three and admittedly, we look to five days next year. Two days of khalkha, two days of meat boreg, and a zillion days of choreg, one night of spinach pie, one giant day of yalanchi sarma, and marathon kufta!! Delicious khadaif and bourma. Whew!

Each year, we learn from each other in ways that lighten the load for all of us. We listen to suggestions (rethinking the shape of meat boreg) and we listen to customer requests (resurrecting spinach pie), all while watching the bottom line and maintaining our high quality standards.

None of this could be done without the constant support of the entire St. John Facility Staff. Their constant and consistent help does not go unnoticed. We are blessed by the presence of each and every one of our incredibly supportive staff.

All in all, just like it says on the poster, the best three days of the year! And, if anyone is interested in buying choreg, see Sara Andonian!! That's all that is left. As a point of reference, the freezer looked like the Berlin Wall of milk crates and sou boreg towers and now, like a small bedroom, waiting for furniture.

Mark your calendars: only six months to go until we start again (and four months until Palm Sunday Bake Sale). Keep your hands limber and those okhla's oiled!!

- Yerchanig Joy Callan

## Hello Fellow Bazaar Committee Members!!



Congratulations on another successful Bazaar!!!

Kicking off with the church and museum tour on September 26<sup>th</sup>, which was well attended and a wonderful day for our attendees. Our Thursday evening Cabaret Patrons Dinner and Silent Auction was well received with delicious mezza all donated and excellent entertainment and dinner coordinated by Paul Yousoufian.

The weekend had record attendance!! Thankfully our committee members worked out some of the “snags” along the way and we were able to run smoothly. Paul A and Paul Y were stellar!! Our Fine Arts, Health Fair, Kids Room, Vendor Selection, Sanctuary tours, Country Store, Book Store, Grandmas Attic, Tin can Raffle, and Hye Bar married with some wonderful entertainment by the Manoogian School dancers, the Johnites and the Negosian Band provided for an Amazing weekend! Let us not forget TALINE, charismatically introduced by Fr. Aren and the Sanctuary Concert Sunday afternoon.

None of this would be possible without ALL OF YOU and our St. John's office and maintenance staff!!

Most of all, we thank our Women's Guild for all their hard work over the last year!! They never let us down. The Hot Foods and Baked Goods were outstanding!

With Gratitude,  
*Lisa Mardigian*

On behalf of the St John Parish Council, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your giving of your time and talents at this year's bazaar. Not only was this year a huge success financially, it appears we had more people attending throughout the weekend and we escaped a potential disaster when power came back on Saturday night! God was looking out for us.

Again, thank you ALL very much for your continued support of St. John Church.

Sincerely,  
*Parish Council (Michael Kazarian, Chairman)*



## *Social Service Committee Annual Care Package Project*

Thank you to our Social Service committee who packaged 54 college boxes. Carol Ohanesian and her committee members packed a box full of Armenian goodies! Special thanks to committee members: Carol Ohaneisan (chair), Lisa Johnson, Dawn Aginian, Linda Assarian, Linda DePietro, Linda Franquist, Cheryl Joboulian, Linda Lutz, Marilyn Sarkesian, Nancy Berryman, and Nancy Panaretos.





The Women's Guild of St. John Armenian Church  
**Christmas Dinner**  
 Let us rejoice and celebrate this  
 blessed season together.  
**Wednesday, December 5, 2018**  
 6:30 pm - Fellowship & Mezze'  
 7:00 pm - Dinner  
 7:45 pm - Announcements  
 8:00 pm - Program  
 Tickets: \$20/Reservations:  
 Due by November 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Please mail to Jacqueline El Chemmas  
 5784 Inkster Road  
 West Bloomfield, MI 48323-3832  
 Questions: Call Jackie - 248-762-1312  
[jackieelch@gmail.com](mailto:jackieelch@gmail.com)

In the spirit of giving, members who are interested  
 may wish to bring a new, unwrapped toy to support  
**SNOWPILE WISH LIST**  
**Children's Hospital of Michigan Child Life Services**  
 Newborn - Rattles, Light-Up Toys, Musical Stackers  
 3-5 years - Play-Doh, Little People Play Sets  
 6-10 years - Action Figures, Barbie Dolls, Hot Wheels Cars  
 11-18 years - Sketch Pads, Craft Kits, Nail/Hair Care Items  
 Suggested Items  
[stjohnsarmenianchurch.org](http://stjohnsarmenianchurch.org)



*\*The Dinner Committee is accepting monetary donations to help defray the cost. Donation checks should be given to Sara Andonian.*

*\* This event is open to members and non-members*

[www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsarmenianchurch.org)



## Sou Boreg Encore!!

Bravo! Bravo! Encore! An hour, a day, every day or even sending a treat, brought six months of preparation to the 2018 St. John Bazaar, and a resounding success. Your participation was what made it special. You and your efforts, your old friends, your new friends, Guild members, friends of the Guild, uncles, husbands, pals, all combined, gave our church family a weekend of grand fellowship and very satisfied appetites!



The laughter and sharing of stories was on the agenda each and every week. The sharing of talents, pictures, the last movie, the latest restaurant, etc. was on tap and the time flew by. Your special participation in support of our beautiful St. John community is treasured. And, just because you were all so wonderful, we have had many requests for one more day of Sou Boreg. Can you bring yourselves (Encore) one more time on November 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.?

~ *Yerchanig Joy Callan*



If you have something you would like to include in our newsletter, please contact Diana Vosganian at [pasadenapenguin@gmail.com](mailto:pasadenapenguin@gmail.com) or (248) 661-1875.