



ASCSF Newsletter

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Inside this Issue

- 2023 Off to a Good Start
- Ararat Education Center Report
- Dinner/Entertainment Fundraiser
- Our Sponsors

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- Allan Lines

Ararat Valley Education Center Staff

- Miriam Jamalyan, Program Coordinator
- Marine Galstyan, Program Assistant

Educators

- Ms. Milena Hoysepyan
English Teacher and Book Club Leader
- Albert Karapetyan
4-H Vegetable Project Leader
- Nver Abgaryan, IT
Artificial Intelligence Instructor

2023 Off to a Good Start

--Richard Funt, PhD, Executive Director

I travelled to Armenia in early March with many items on my agenda. Mariam, Marine and I drove to the Ararat Valley Education Center in Lukashin to visit our students. I was impressed with the number of bees working the apricot trees coming into full bloom. I believe that there were three bees for every blossom. We met with Albert who had just installed our small green house, which is where we grew seedlings for transplanting in May. I was impressed with the strength and design of the greenhouse. Drip irrigation was already installed. So, when we talked about STEM-Agriculture, the greenhouse used all the components of STEM. Also, we visited the garden which was plowed and soon to have water to come from the artesian well. We also discussed the fence and gate that will be installed.

We had a very progressive meeting with Irina, Director of COAF that discussed the development and collaboration of the second SMART (STEM) education center which is in the Ararat Valley. We want to meet the needs of Agriculture Education in the next 50 years. We need to light the flame of future leaders. Our work impacts the whole world every day. The global population will increase 1 billion more people in the next 10 years. Thus, we need to develop technology, data collection (from digital tools and sensors) to create reliable artificial intelligence.

On April 24th, I attended a 108th Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide at St James Episcopal Church in Clintonville. Adam Bdoyan gave a short inspirational presentation. This event was well attended by youth and adults. Many uplifting speeches, expressing the resilience of the Armenian people and the development of strong communities, were given. I am pleased that our efforts will help bring fulfillment to this endeavor (Healthy Children/Youth = A Strong Armenia).

In conclusion, I had a meeting with my friend from Syria who is a Syrian-Armenian. He is a waiter 3 doors from the Holiday Inn Express. He has been in Yerevan for 6 years now since he escaped from Aleppo. His parents were in the recent earthquakes in Syria. They were not injured and are maintaining their store for their community. He would like them to come to Armenia, but they wish to stay with their community. He would like them to come to Armenia and then apply to come to America.

Ararat Learning Center Activities ~ March, April, May

--Mariam Jamalyan, Program Coordinator

English Book Club

The lessons for the English Book Club continue as usual during the mentioned period. Starting in mid-January, the student club for "English book and literature" began reading the book *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll. These lessons were held once a week with active participation and discussions among the students. Miss Milena Hovsepyan the leader of the club planned to finish the book with students by May and organize a movie watching of the movie *Alice in Wonderland* for the students; the students will participate and choose a character which they will present, e.g. the Mad Hatter, Alice, White Rabbit, the Queen of Hearts, etc.

Agriculture Club

At the end of February, it was agreed to build a greenhouse with a drip irrigation system in Lukshin village, and Mr. Albert Karapetyan was chosen for this task. Albert Karapetyan, a specialist in the field of agriculture with a high education in engineering, was designated by the Uplift Armenia team to conduct agriculture lessons for the students. The curriculum for planting and growing suitable vegetable types for the season is currently being developed. Preparatory work for having a plot of land for planting the seedlings from the greenhouse and increasing the volume of vegetables grown is currently underway. Currently the agriculture club has 8 students.

Renovation of Library Toilet

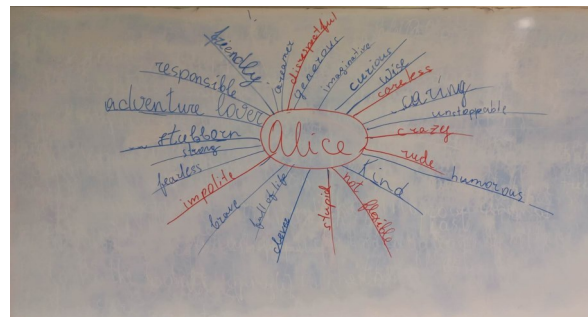
The renovation and change of pipelines for the library toilet has begun and is currently in progress. Uplift Armenia has identified two masters who will be responsible for fixing the pipes. It was agreed with community council members that the renovation will be coordinated by the Uplift Armenia team. The planned deadline for the completion of this work is the end of May.

Inventory Management

The Uplift Armenia team has planned to restructure the inventory and donate some items to the villagers in need. This plan will create more storage space and make the library room more convenient and representable for the students who use it.



Vegetable Project

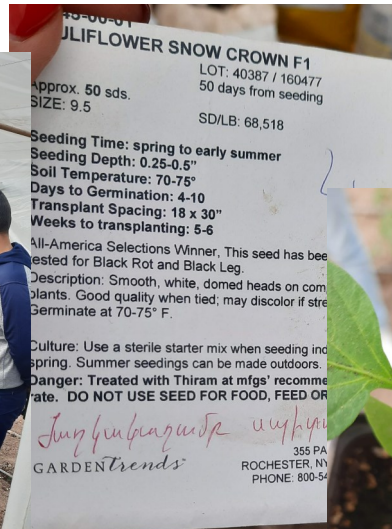


Book Club



Photos from Ararat Valley Education Center 4-H Vegetable Project continued

—Marine Galstyan



Dinner/Entertainment/Silent Auction Fundraiser

June 30, 2023

6:30 PM Dinner (Doors open at 6:00 PM) ~ Silent Auction 8:00 PM

**Harrison Place
117 East High Street
Ashley, OHIO 43003**

\$40 per person / \$75 per couple

\$150 per table of 4

\$225 per table of 6

goal 10 tables, 40 to 60 people



RSVP, with payment, by June 23, 2023 to:

Armenian Children's Support Fund, 1877 Stockwell Dr, Columbus, OH 43235

richardfunt@sbcglobal.net ~ 614-459-3762



Armenian Children's Support Fund

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Thank you Donors



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