



# ACSF Newsletter

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

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## Current Board Members

- Richard C. Funt, Ph.D.  
Executive Director (Founding Board Member, term expires 2022)
- Adam Bdoyan  
Membership Director (Appointed 2020, term expires 2025)
- Shirley Funt, M.Ed.  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Director (Founding Board Member, term expires 2026)
- Robert Moore, Esq.  
Education Director (Appointed 2018, term expires 2023)
- Mike Ridge, P.E.  
Vice Director (Appointed in 2019, term expires 2024)

## Membership Renewal

--Joe Clase, Administrator

Membership offers much strength for our Uplift Armenia project. which builds sustainable educational opportunities for the youth of Armenia. As we have said the children of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century face more challenges than those who have lived in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. We have established strong educational program in Lukashin, Armenia. Our library is full and overflowing with books. Our facility has been used to hold community support for those who seek psychological help during recent difficult times and our books bring strength and hope. Dick Funt will travel to Armenia in March to officially open our Library -which is call the Ararat Valley Educational Center.

Please see our 2023 Membership Pledge Form and renew your membership. By renewing your membership, you support our promise to the children that we will continue our programs. You may copy this form and pass it along to others who would be interested in our mission. Please seek out local businesses that would become a Corporate Sponsor.

## Looking Forward to 2023

--Richard C. Funt, Executive Director

Mariam, Marine and I are looking forward to the Dedication of our Library to be known as the Ararat Valley Educational Center. Over the past year we have installed a heater/air conditioner, and curtains that reduce the cold and heat coming into the room. We have had a local citizen come clean the room every week. I was very proud of our shelves, desks, and table that creates a space for learning.

I am looking forward to having our students plant seeds and grow transplants and plant them in late spring for summer and fall harvest. Some of these, such as celery and asparagus, need extra care and nurturing in order to harvest a quality product. Both are listed in our dietary needs as providing important nutrients and vitamins not found in other vegetables. It is important that we prepare our garden soil and apply compost for maximum benefit, healthy soils, healthy plants, heathy people.

The asparagus seed comes from Scott Walker of Walker Brothers Inc. in Pittsgrove, New Jersey and was shipped in our container two years ago. I met Scott many years ago, at the time when many new types of asparagus was being tested and planted. His work and passion have brought much to American agriculture and nutritious food to citizens around the world. We are very grateful to Scott for his generous gift of two types of asparagus for the children of Armenia. This gives our students the opportunity to produce, prepare and preserve asparagus.

## Learning Center Activities for December, January, and February

--Mariam Jamalyan, Program Coordinator

- On December 1st, the students of the English language and literature club finished reading the assigned book, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's "The Little Prince," with teacher Ms. Milena Hovsepyan. With her suggestion, a themed day on the novel was organized as a closing event during which the children watched the first-ever animated feature film adaptation of the book and shared their thoughts on the novel and its adaptation.
- The Uplift Armenia team finished the process of the library's digitalization with the help of two volunteers from Lukashin: Ms. Svetlana Davtyan and Ms. Armik Hovsepyan. It was also announced on the Uplift Armenia Facebook page that the library is now open and everyone is welcome to visit and lend books.
- On December 23rd, the Uplift Armenia team organized an American Christmas celebration and Christmas tree decoration with children from Lukashin. It was agreed that the children would also play Secret Santa, and at the end, everyone exchanged their presents.
- On December 24th, an interesting workshop and discussion was held in the library. The engineering team lead of the Armenian Wirestock startup, Mr. Nver Abgaryan, spoke with the Lukashin children about general developments in the information technology sphere, IT professions, and innovations of the future like artificial intelligence. In the practical part of the workshop, the children were divided into two groups, where they started to develop their startup ideas and pitch them to the audience. Due to the children's interest in IT-related occupations, it was agreed to have meetings with other representatives of the IT field in the future.
- After a short winter holiday break, the library and the English book club started operations on January 10th, 2023. The children, with teacher Mrs. Milena, chose "Alice in Wonderland" as the book of the month to read.
- On January 14th, the Uplift Armenia team organized an excursion for the Lukashin children to the Parajanov Museum in Yerevan. The visit was very interesting and inspiring for many students who are interested in painting, performance art, and filmmaking.
- Currently the Uplift Armenia team negotiates on the renting of a 20 Sqm greenhouse for doing flowers/vegetables growing project with children.





**2023  
Wishlist  
for  
Ararat Valley  
Agriculture Center**

Children's Literature (Animal Farm Book Club)

See booklist on reverse side.

Educational Greenhouse Project

- \_\_\_ 75-ft 3/4-inch Water Hose—\$85
- \_\_\_ 1 roll Weed Mat (5 oz, 6' x 250') - \$115
- \_\_\_ Flat Screen DVD Player—\$850
- \_\_\_ 1 Diagnostic Microscope—\$750
- \_\_\_ 50 10-inch Hanging Baskets—\$111
- \_\_\_ Water Hydrant—\$175
- \_\_\_ Large Composting Facility—\$750
- \_\_\_ 2 bags Fertilizer—\$105
- \_\_\_ 330 ft plastic fence, 4-ft high—\$210
- \_\_\_ 10-ft x 20-ft High Tunnel—\$1200
- \_\_\_ Container—8-ft x 8-ft x so-ft—\$3000

Questions/Additional Information: Contact Richard Funt,  
Director, Armenian Children's Support Fund, 1877 Stockwell Dr,  
Columbus, OH 43235; richardfunt@sbcglobal.net

## Book Wishlist

1. The Mystery of the Third Planet by Kir Bulichev
2. Monster High by Lizzie Harrison.
3. The Fault in our Stars by John Green
4. Anne-Marie's Diary by Michel Quast.
5. Paper Towns by John Green
6. The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
7. The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman
8. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll
9. How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell
10. Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson
11. A Wizard of Earthsea by Ursula K Le Guin
12. Harry Potter by J.K.Rowling
13. The Lord of the Rings" by Ron R. Tolkien
14. The Hobbit, or There and Back Again by R.R.R. Tolkien
15. The Chronicles of Narnia by Clive S. Lewis.
16. The Catcher in the Rye by Jerome D. Salinger
17. Dandelion Wine by Ray Bradbury
18. The Hunger Games by Susan Collins
19. Twilight by Stephen Myers
20. Percy Jackson by Rick Riordan
21. If I Stay by Gail Forman
22. NeverEnding Story by Michael Ende
23. Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
24. Winter Battle by Jean-Claude Murlev
25. Kostya + Nika by Tamara Kryukova
26. Witcher Saga by Andrzej Sapkowski
27. Vampire Academy by Richelle Meade
28. Dinosaurs Atlas
29. A Dog Named Mani by Bodo Schaefer
30. A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
31. Robinson Crusoe by Robert Lewis Stevenson
32. Tom Sawyer's Adventures by Mark Twain
33. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
34. The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway
35. Don't believe everything you think by Joseph Nguyen
36. Who moved my cheese by Spencer Johnson
37. Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul by Jack Canfield
38. What I Leave Behind by Alison McGhee
39. Firefly Hollow by Alison McGhee

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**Note:** If purchasing from Amazon, books should be shipped to Richard Funt, 1877 Stockwell Dr, Columbus, OH 43235. To have your gift documented, notify Richard of your order at [richardfunt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:richardfunt@sbcglobal.net).



**Uplift Armenia**

# 2023 Membership Pledge Form

**Armenian Children's Support Fund**

*Join us in helping Armenian children!*

Name: _____
Business Name (if applicable): _____
Address: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____

## Annual Pledge

Dollar Amount	Item	Description	Individual Donation Amount
	Newsletter Subscriptions (if multiple write # to left and attach list of subscribers)	We send out quarterly publication of a newsletter highlighting our activities and news from Armenia.	Email = Free US Mail = \$10 per year
	Individual Membership (if multiple write # to left and attach list)	Members have voting rights at annual meeting, including candidacy for board positions and invite to all events. Includes newsletter subscription.	\$125 per year
	Corporate Sponsorship (if multiple write # to left and attach list)	Includes an annual membership and sponsor recognition in all regular publications. Includes newsletter subscription.	\$275 per year
	Additional Pledge	We thank you for any additional pledge you are able to make to assist our efforts.	

Total 2023 Pledge Amount \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Method

All pledges may be paid with submission of this pledge form or may be paid as quarterly installments. If you wish to be invoiced quarterly, please include 25% contribution with this completed form and send to:

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

All checks should be made payable to "Armenian Children's Support Fund" an IRS 501(c)3 registered charity organization. Receipts for tax-deductible contributions will be sent back to the contact listed on this form.





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

Thank you Donors



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