



The Manoogian Voice

Southfield, Michigan

November 2010

A.G.B.U. Alex & Marie Manoogian School

AGBU Special Project Group

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2010 Golf Day

Once again the Special Projects Group organized and held Manoogian School's 38th Annual Golf Outing, hosted at the Detroit Golf Club. The income of this event will benefit the Manoogian School through the A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian Educational Fund.

During dinner, our School benefactor, Mr. Richard Manoogian, greeted the crowd and praised the sponsors

and organizers of this event for their ongoing dedication to the Manoogian School. We would like to extend our special thanks to Mr. Richard Manoogian, the Special Projects Group, and the participants for their involvement in this project. Their support is thoroughly appreciated by the Manoogian School Board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.

Did you know...

The prehistoric monument of Carahunge, or Zorakarer in southern Armenia, is equivalent and 3,500 years older than England's Stonehenge, (around 7000 BC). The 204 huge stones sit like soldiers on a hill, huddled in formation. According to scientists' findings, a temple consisting of 40 stones built in honor of the Armenians' main God, Ari, meaning the Sun, is situated in the central part of Carahunge. Besides the temple, it had a large and developed observatory that caused a sensation in astronomical circles.



Smart Boards

The Manoogian School is purchasing Smart Boards for the classrooms. Funding is from the proceeds from this year's annual Special Projects Golf Outing. The Smart Board is an interactive piece of technology that allows students to interface with a computer using a special white board.

Kdg, PK3-4 Field Trip

On Friday, October 1, the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes made their annual trip to Erwin Apple Orchard and Cider Mill in South Lyon. It was a beautiful, crisp fall day, perfect for apple picking. The children were each given their own bags and the responsibility to fill them with as many apples as they could. After the orchard, they went out into the pumpkin patch where they were thrilled to pull pumpkins off their vines. The children then played in the playground and visited the petting farm. Upon arriving back at school, the group enjoyed a delicious snack of cider and donuts. The children also made apple cake and apple pie using the apples they picked in the orchard.



The kindergarten class has been very busy learning about change of the seasons as summer gives way to autumn. In order to observe the changes in the environment, the Kindergarten children visited the nature center at the University of Michigan/Dearborn on October 5. At the nature center, the students were led on a tour of the woods and were given the opportunity to observe small animals in their natural environment preparing for the winter.



Armenian Virtual College (AVC)

The A.G.B.U. Manoogian High School has embarked upon a partnership with the Armenian Virtual College (AVC) to further enhance its technology-based instruction of the Armenian language. All students in grades 11 and 12 are now enrolled in the Armenian language courses based on their proficiency levels.

Prior to embarking upon their initiative, Dr. Torossian, Mr. Avedikian, Mr. Toumajan, and Mrs. Kaisserian received online instructions on the content and delivery methods of the online courses. They participated in a two-day training session through

Skype, and became qualified teachers of AVC.

The Armenian Virtual College is the newest learning institute of the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU), one that will carry on its lifelong dedication to Armenian education with an entirely innovative approach. Through online education, it offers several certificate programs and credit-bearing courses in Armenian education at the college level. The AVC is currently comprised of three departments: language, history, and



culture, each of which offers several courses in varying skill levels.

New Manoogian School Faculty Members



Miss Lauren Cusumano is the new elementary librarian, computer teacher, and substitute. Miss Cusumano is a recent Wayne State University graduate, specializing in language arts and science for elementary education. For 6 years prior to graduating, she was employed at Tutor Time Learning Center, as well as babysitting her

two nieces. Miss Cusumano truly enjoys working with children.



Mrs. Jodi Richards is the new high school/middle school Math teacher. Mrs. Richards earned her bachelor's degree in Communication (1996) and Mathematics (2007) from Eastern Michigan University. She is currently pursuing her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix, and expects to graduate

next year. Mrs. Richards is married and has two sons in high school.



Miss Rita Konja is the new middle school Math and English language teacher. Miss Konja was born in Southfield, MI. She was the first in her family to pursue a career after graduating from high school. Miss Konja graduated from A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian School in 2004, attended Oakland University, and pursued a career in

Elementary Education, with a major in Mathematics and a minor in Language Arts.



Miss Seena Karapetian is in her third year as one of our Resource Room teachers, and has been working in Special Education for five years. She received her degree from Wayne State University, specializing in cognitive impairment and elementary education. Ms. Karapetian is also the swim coach, for men and

women, at Birmingham Groves, where her boys succeeded in winning the state championships this past spring.



Mr. Adam Novak is the new high school and 8th grade Social Studies teacher. Mr. Novak earned his bachelor degree at Adrian College in History, with a minor in Spanish, and received his teaching education at Wayne State University. Outside of the academic arena, Adam Novak has been very much into sports. He played both baseball and

basketball at Adrian College, and finished his career as the all-time leading rebounder in the school's history. He also has coached basketball at the middle and high school level.



Mrs. Jeannie Khezarjian has returned to AGBU as the PreK-3 teacher, after leaving to start a family. Her daughter Grace, is in PreK-3 at the school. She graduated from The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education in 2003.



Ms. Donna Griffin is the new Science teacher for grades 8-12. Her previous teaching experience includes classroom and virtual classes at the high school and college levels. Ms. Griffin earned her Bachelor's degree at the University of Michigan – Dearborn, along with Secondary Education certification in the Sciences, English, and Computer Science. Ms.

Griffin also holds a Master's in Business Administration with a specialization in Management Information Systems. Ms. Griffin has an older son, Cody, who majored in Fine Arts and Art History at Eastern Michigan University, and a younger son, Alexander, currently a 7th grader.

Manoogian Upcoming Events

Texas Hold'em Tournament, November 12

Scholastic Book Fair, November 15-17

Teacher-Parent Conferences, November 19

Thanksgiving Recess, November 24, 12:03

Dismissal for all students

Manoogian Sports Update

The Girls Varsity Volleyball team, (Coach Mrs. Haigan Ferhadson) extended its unbeaten streak through the first three matches this season before losing a hard-fought fourth match. Co-captains Mariam Metti and Aline Kendirdjian have led this team with their serving and offensive capabilities this season. The previous streak of matches won ended at two years, and three matches. The team has two more matches before the season ends.

The Boys Varsity Soccer team experienced numerous injuries and a shortage of players with varsity experience, losing all their matches to Star Academy, Universal Academy, and Hamtramck High School. The team was led by Alec Calukyan, Shant Kendirdjian, and Vladymyr Pikh.

Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball season begins the first week in December. The girls return three players with four years of varsity experience, while the boys only return a handful of players with varsity experience.

College Admissions and Scholarships

Admissions representatives from seven area colleges visited the Manoogian School during September and October to present college information to interested seniors. The colleges who participated were: the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (September 22), the University of Detroit-Mercy (September 29), Oakland University (October 4), the University of Michigan-Dearborn (October 5), Michigan State University (October 13), Wayne State University (October 22), Central Michigan University (October 27), and Lawrence Tech University (Nov. 3).

Students received information about academic scholarship opportunities, college majors, campus life, and admission requirements.

The class of 2011 has already been awarded college scholarships of over \$700,000. Congratulations to all.



A representative from Lawrence Tech University visited the school November 3.

Visit Manoogian School's Web Site: www.manoogian.org



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