

March 2021

# TREX NEWS

TRIPLE X FRATERNITY  
www.trexfraternity.com

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
California Non-Profit



## *Fighting Covid* *The*

## *Brotherhood Way*

ARAK  
MATSOON  
GARLIC  
BASTURMA  
HARISA  
KHASH  
SHISH KEBOB  
CIGARS  
THINK POSITIVE  
TEST NEGATIVE  
ZOOM MID-TERM



## *CDC Way*

STAY HOME  
DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE  
WEAR A MASK  
WASH YOUR HANDS  
SOCIAL DISTANCING  
VIRTUAL HANGOUT  
ACT NATURAL  
FLATTEN THE CURVE

# FROM THE GRAND MASTER...

My fellow Brothers,

Everyday life is hard enough without having a global pandemic thrown on top of us all. While it seems the eye of the storm has passed, there is still a good deal of uncertainty. But our great Fraternity and our members will weather this storm by taking care of ourselves and each other. The constant messages of “isolate” and “keep your social distance” can make us feel alone; but physical connections are not nearly as strong as emotional connections. We are not alone.

Zoom meetings for our chapters are common. I have attended quite a few of them and while it is great to see everyone on zoom, nothing can replace the enjoyment of seeing all of you in person. That is why I make the commitment now to do my very best to attend chapter meetings and your events when they start in person again, even if my term is over.

The Grand Chapter with the PGM advisors have met a number of times already. Beyond the normal business of the Grand Chapter, there are two areas of focus which will carry beyond my term: Grow membership within each chapter and expand our Fraternity to other cities within CA as well as other states.

To guarantee the future of our Fraternity, new members are needed. Comfort and stagnation are not the ingredients for growth. Public events where non-members are exposed to the Triple X Fraternity are the fastest way to identify candidates. Several chapters have crafted simple events like this and have been successful in gaining new members. My goal is to roll these event models out to other chapters. Ultimately, it is up to the chapter if they want to grow.

For numerous reasons, some of our brothers move to cities or states where the Triple X Fraternity has no presence. Armenians are everywhere. Let's embrace the words of William Saroyan's great quote about Armenians which ends with “For when two of them meet anywhere in the world, see if they will not create a New Armenia.” Truer words were never spoken. We have all experienced that feeling of immediate closeness to another Armenian after knowing them a short time. This will take effort and time, but with encouragement and support, it can happen. The Las Vegas Chapter has proven it.

We are part of a great organization with over 100 years of history. I have the utmost faith and confidence that we will prevail by being true to our priorities, staying connected, taking personal responsibility, relying on each other and deepening our commitment to our Fraternity's future.



Warmest fraternal regards,  
Bro. Chuck Simonian  
Grand Master 2020 - 2021



## TRIPLE-X FRATERNITY GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS 2020-2021

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# PALM DESERT

Dear Brothers,

Greetings from the Palm Desert Chapter of the Triple-X Fraternity. We hope this article finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy.

We would like to recognize PM Bro. Bobby Melkesian, who served as our Master for a second time in 2019-2020. Thank you, PM Bro. Bobby for keeping things together, and for doing such a great job during such a unique and challenging year.

Our Palm Desert Chapter's 2020 – 2021 Officers:

Master-----Bro. Howard Chuchian, PM  
Jr. Master-----Bro. Chris Markarian, PM  
Rec. Secretary-----Bro. Sarkis Bedrosian  
Treasurer-----Bro. Rob Carian, PM  
Corresp. Secretary---Bro. Jim Towery, PM  
Sergeant at Arms-----Bro. Nick Nigosian, PGM

PGM Nick Nigosian and PGM Greg Safoyan were both in attendance at the September Business meeting, which was held at Kotinos Barn in Exeter, CA. Many thanks to Brother Dean Ametjian for his hospitality and for providing this wonderful venue. With the open-air environment and the safety measures in place, the get together was fun and safe. Like many other chapters, several of our other Palm Desert Chapter Brothers joined in for the business meeting on Zoom. Despite some technical challenges, our resourceful fraternity was able to successfully conduct our business and conclude another year.

Despite these less than conventional times, the Palm Desert Chapter is happy to announce that we swore in a new member at our November meeting. Congratulations to our newest Brother, Mike Askejian. Along with Brother Al Adams, his visiting co-sponsor from the Orange County Chapter, Mike was able to survive his interview and become part of our fraternity.

Also, at our November business meeting, PM Bro. Armen Karimyan spoke passionately and in great detail about the current state of affairs in Armenia. With tremendous concern about the situation in Armenia, the Palm Desert Chapter unanimously approved a \$2,500 donation to the Armenia Fund.

If all goes as planned, our Palm Desert XXX Golf Outing and 50/50 Reverse Raffle is scheduled for May 1, 2021. It is being held again at The Classic Club in Palm Desert and will be followed that evening by a cocktail party where the raffle will take place. Even if you don't golf, be sure to get your raffle tickets soon and come enjoy an evening of fun and excitement!

Our business dinner meetings are normally held

on the 3rd Wednesday of each month and as always, all visiting Brothers are welcomed.

We look forward to hopefully seeing many of you at the Mid-Term meeting in March.

Fraternally,  
PGM Greg Safoyan,  
Associate Editor



PGM Bro Greg S. Reading PGM Bro Greg Avedesian eulogy at the September business meeting



PGM Nick and OC Brother Jon at the October meeting

**GRAND EDITOR**  
**NEXT TREX NEWS DEADLINE**  
**AUGUST 1, 2021**  
**BRO. STEVEN SAHAGIAN, PM,**  
**GRAND EDITOR**  
**TEL: 626.399.3799**  
h4oskier@verizon.net



New Brother Mike Askejian being sworn in by PGM Nick



New Brother Mike Askejian getting his pin from PGM Greg



Brothers Al Adams, Mike Askejian, Master Howard & PGM Greg



PM Bro. Bobby handing over the gavel to Bro. Master Howard

## FRESNO

Hello Brothers from the Fresno Chapter

Hope all the Brothers, Wives and Families are all doing well.

Congratulations, to Brother Chuck Simonian, on being elected our Grand Master.

Hope everything gets better soon so you can visit all the Chapters.

PGM Bro. Jack Kayajanian, thank you for guiding through dark times and introducing us to Zoom Meetings.

The Fresno Chapter Officers for 2020-2021 :

- Master-----Bro. Michael Harutinian\*
- Junior Master-----Bro. Bill Sahatdjian\*
- Treasurer-----PM Bro. Kenny Melkonian Jr\*
- Rec. Secretary-----PM Bro. Richard Bedoian\*
- Corr. Secretary-----Bro. Arlen Tanelian\*
- Custodian-----PM Bro. Gary Kazarian\*

- Sergeant At Arms-----Bro. Michael Basmajian\*
- Good & Welfare-----PGM bro. Jack Bedoian\*
- Phot./Web Master-----Bro. Raffi Mouradian\*
- Historian/Editor-----Bro. Varoujan Der Simonian\*
- Board of Directors-----PGM Bro. Bob Juskalian,
- Brothers PGM Steve Bedoian, PGM Ed Hokokian,
- David Kandarian and Bill Kandarian

\* Members of Board of Directors

Congratulations, Bro. PM Kenny Melkonian Jr on winning the PGM Al Nalbandian Memorial Award. Bro. Kenny put together a monthly chapter newsletter that was sent to all the Fresno Brothers. This was our main way of communicating since we could not meet. Bro. Kenny well deserved and earned this award.

Junior Master Bro. Bill Sahatdjian was able to

have two Business Dinner meetings before restaurants got shut down again. Our October Meeting was held at Javier's Mexican Restaurant. That evening we brought into our Chapter Michael Mazman as our newest member. Brother Michael is not only our newest member, he is also our youngest. Welcome Brother Michael to being a Trexman.

The following month, in November we met at Alla's Armenian Restaurant. Both of these meetings were attended. Then came the shutdown of facilities. Bro. Master Michael and Bro. Junior Master Bill we are looking for the day when we can meet in person again.

Sadly I must announce the passing of Brother Dr. Harry Sadoian. Bro. Harry was 65 year member joining the Fresno Chapter in 1955. Brother Harry will be missed dearly.

We had two, Brothers Pete Chilpigian and Merlin Kazarian spending a few days in the hospital. I have talked to both Brother Pete and Brother Merlin and they both doing fine. Brother Jerry Baxter recently received a pace maker. He is home and doing fine. Wish Brother's Pete, Merlin and Jerry a speedy recovery.

In these trying times, Brothers, let's try to stay in contact the best we can. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon. Health And Happiness To Everyone.

Bro. Varoujan Der Simonian  
Associate Editor



New Bro. Michael Mazman Sworn In By Bro. Master Michael Harutinian And Past Master Richard Bedoian



Bro. Nishan Soghomonian & PM Richard Bedoian



Bro. Michael Basmajian, Bro. Jr Master Bill Sahatdjian  
Bro. Varoujan Der Simonian



Fresno Chapter Business Zoom Meeting  
PGM Bro. Jack Kayajanian, GE Bro. Steven Sahagian  
Fresno Brothers



Fresno Brother's at Dinner Meeting



Fresno Chapter Business Zoom Meeting  
GM Bro. Chuck Simonian, GE Bro. Steven Sahagian  
Fresno Brothers

# GOLDEN GATE

New Year greetings from our brothers of the Golden Gate Chapter. By the time you receive this message, many of you may already be vaccinated and ready to face a happy, and hopefully healthy remainder of 2021.

Let's start by finally congratulating our Grand Master Chuck and his supporting Grand Chapter members for their efforts to keep our fraternity afloat as we continue to navigate what is hopefully the end of the worst pandemic in our memory. Just know that your brothers in the Golden Gate Chapter stand ready to support you however we can.

Next, we'd be remiss if we didn't also congratulate PGM Jack for his suggestion that our organization join together in donating to the Fuller Housing Project. With our combined efforts, our fraternity has been able to provide critical housing to several needy families in our homeland.

Speaking of our homeland, and the immense needs over the past months with the war and resulting damage, destruction, and homelessness it caused, we're proud to report that our chapter members – both individually and collectively – have donated generously to support relief efforts. In the true spirit of our fraternity, we will continue to support our Armenian heroes as they fight to protect and preserve our homeland.

On to more happy things. With all the craziness that identified most of the past year, our Golden Gate brothers stayed strong and continued our almost-monthly meetings – although they were virtual via Zoom. Using this format forced many of our brothers to become a little more “tech savvy” in using their computers. Thankfully, many of our wives were able to step in and log us on, etc. TREXmen can ALWAYS count on our wives to support us in our efforts.

In addition, our brothers made a sincere effort to stay in touch with each other in order to keep our collective spirits up, to share jokes, to send good wishes, and to help maintain our always-sunny smiles.

Finally, we're happy to report that planning continues on our 2022 convention – to be hosted in beautiful San Francisco. It will, once again, be hosted at the newly renovated PARC 55 Hotel – home of our very successful 2008 convention. More information will be forthcoming, but it promises to be a great celebration and a warmly fraternal effort. Stay tuned for more convention details, and start collecting those impressive photos and clever writings to create your perfect Ad Book submissions.

As always, we send our TREX brothers our warm wishes for a glorious 2021...and for years to come.

We're so ready to see you all in person, once again, and to continue the good works of our fraternity.

## GG Chapter Brothers



Brother Master Mark Dorian  
'Baseball Cap Bro.'



Bro. Treasurer Henry Shishmanian  
'The Cigar Guy'



Brother Jr. Master Peter Kaprielian  
'The Bearded Wonder'

# ORANGE COUNTY

Hello to all Californian and Nevada Brothers from the Orange County Chapter. While this pandemic has certainly impacted the lives of all, the spirit of the Triple X Fraternity in Orange County has persevered.

OC Master Simon Hovakimian was gently persuaded to remain as Chapter Master for the 2020-2021 year, the first ever Three-Peat as Master in our Chapter's history. Along with his expert and energetic guidance, the 2018-2019 officers also agreed to stay for another tour. They are:

Master.....Bro. Simon Hovakimian  
Jr. Master .....Bro. Brent Melkesian  
Treasurer .....Bro. Harold Bazarian, PGM  
Corresponding Secy...Bro. Al Adams  
Recording Secy.....Bro. Rober Petrosyan  
Sgt. at Arms.....Bro. Terry Hanoian

Like all chapters, Orange County has been following the Governor's guidelines to restrict social gatherings, wear masks and stay at least 6 feet apart, so all of the usual summer, fall, and winter events had been cancelled. But thanks to Master Simon, we have continued with monthly Zoom meetings since March 2020 with the brotherhood we all enjoy.

A big Thank You to Past Grand Master Jack Kayajanian whose term was interrupted by Covid-19, but nevertheless continued with his goal for the Triple X Fraternity to provide funds to build houses for needy families in Armenia through the Fuller Center for Housing. With the help of many chapters and individuals, he succeeded in collecting \$60,000 in donations for the year, and at least one family has already moved into their new home thanks to this effort. Great job Jack on this worthwhile endeavor!

The Orange County Chapter was proud to support this effort, and in addition, a significant number of brothers made individual donations to the Fuller Center thanks to Bro. Don Kazarian's "grass roots" efforts within the chapter, and as a result we were able to fund one entire house in Armenia. Thanks to PGM Jack for initiating this drive and to Bro. PM Don Kazarian for providing the enthusiasm within the chapter to collect additional donations.

During the brief respite from the lockdown, a small group of Brothers met for an impromptu summer gathering for a little Kef in the Afternoon. Thanks to the brothers for the last minute planning of this non-event.



In October we were disheartened to learn that Brother PGM Haig Jamgotchian and wife Marcia were both diagnosed positive for Covid-19. Thankfully Marcia had mild symptoms and PGM Haig, while slightly more severe, was able to recover at home. We're glad to have Haig back at full strength in 2021, so beware!

We were able to hold one in-person meeting in November, just days before restaurants and indoor dining was shut down for the second (or was it third?) time. Though it was a smaller than usual group, it was good to see the Brothers who were able to attend, share their experiences, and have a toast and a laugh before again being banished to our respective homes.

In November we lost one of our long time members, Ed Osepien. Bro. Eddie was a fireball in his younger days, both within the chapter and on the local drag racing scene in Southern California, and will be dearly missed. In January we were saddened to hear Ed Harver, another senior member, had passed. Ed had moved from Orange County to San Diego several years ago to be closer to family but nevertheless remained a faithful member.

We are hopeful to be able have in-person meetings this spring or summer, and get reacquainted with our sister chapters over Labor Day Weekend, but the most important thing is for all of us to stay healthy and safe.

Fraternally,  
Haig Jamgotchian, PGM

## SAN DIEGO

I have had a Frida Kahlo quote floating around in my thoughts as of late. It goes, “At the end of the day, we can endure much more than we think we can.” I can’t help but think about how much this rings true today. We as humans are one of the most resilient species, and we, as Armenians, are some of the most resilient of the bunch. I can’t help but see this truth as our chapter and fraternity navigates its way through this pandemic, continuing our meetings virtually and staying committed to our community involvement all the while. I can’t help but see it in Armenians in the diaspora committed to standing up and speaking out on behalf of our brothers and sisters back home as they face aggression. I can’t help but see it most in the Armenians in Armenia and Artsakh as they fight to protect their native lands and way of life.

While we all undoubtedly faced challenges during the Summer and Fall of 2020, the San Diego Chapter of the Triple X Fraternity was blessed with a number of noteworthy happenings. We added a new brother to our chapter, we awarded our yearly scholarships to some incredibly talented young students of Armenian descent, continued our planning for the 2021 Convention, and collaborated to contribute to those in Artsakh during this difficult time.

We just welcomed Brother Levon Demirdjian to our chapter. Levon grew up in the Los Angeles area and ultimately made his way to the East Coast. He recently relocated to the West Coast, settling here in San Diego. Levon is a Data Scientist for Johnson

and Johnson and enjoys playing guitar in his free time. Welcome, Brother Levon.

In addition, we just awarded seven \$1,000 scholarships to seven intelligent and thoughtful undergraduate students. Choosing these seven winners from our pool of applicants was extremely difficult as each was so well qualified and equally impressive. Five students received general scholarships, while two others were awarded the Candyce Kellejian-Bickers scholarship. The Candyce Kellejian-Bickers scholarship was formed to honor the memory of PGM Joe Kellejian’s sister who was a beloved educator. The two students who received these scholarships are focused on becoming educators themselves. Unfortunately, we could not present these students with their awards in person during our Annual Wine and Cheese Event. Still, we have asked them to join us at the 2021 Convention so that we may give them special recognition for their award and achievement.

Even though we still face some uncertainty about what the coming year will hold for us all, we are hopeful that we will have the opportunity to gather in San Diego, California for our 2021 Convention. With this hope in mind, we have already begun planning a spectacular event for Labor Day weekend 2021 and can’t wait to connect with you and your families in “America’s Finest City.”

The San Diego Chapter also regularly discussed the recent events that have taken place in Artsakh and Armenia during our monthly chapter meeting. Our group members collaborated to come up with a list of ways to contribute to those abroad, including monetary donations, donations of goods, signing of petitions, contacting government representatives, and raising awareness on social media. It was so encouraging to see our members passionate about this cause and willing to do all they could to support.

Keep on enduring, Brothers. As humans, and especially as Armenians, it is what we do. We will continue to endure until the pandemic is managed and behind us. Our fellow Armenians abroad will continue to overcome adversity, as they always have, and the three million of them alongside the eleven million Armenians living all over the world in the diaspora will stand together and endure. We are stronger than we even think.

Here’s to a happy and healthy 2021.

Jesse T. Shamshoian  
Associate Editor

# SEQUOIA

Hello, and greetings to all our fellow Trex Brothers in California, and Nevada . This has sure been a different kind of year. One article put it this way, a very unprecedented year, with a deadly pandemic, social unrest, hurricanes, fires, place's of gatherings all closed down, and a political divide in our government. I am thankful as I remind myself, God is on our side, and we all still live in the greatest country in the world. I think when things change drastically as they have, it can help us take a look inside ourselves, and see what we (Hye's) are really made of.

I want to first thank our Brother Dean Ametjian and his wife Megan for opening their home in Exeter to all the Trex Chapters for our September 2020, Trex Convention meeting. Thanks also goes out to all the brothers who attended. Thank you to our Past Grand Master, Jack K. Kayajian for leading our meeting from a very different kind of venue. I know for many brothers, it must have been very difficult trying to hear and ask questions (over Zoom) during our time together. We all continue and pray this second wave of the pandemic will soon subside. Many of you may know, we had to cancel our 70th year Celebration of Sequoia Trex Brothers, as a chapter.

In fact, this fall we have had to cancel most of our face to face meetings, and gone to the zoom format meetings. I am sure that was true for most of the chapters.

We did have one meeting out at Dean's Barn thanks to Dean, & Megan Ametjian and Master Mark Avedian who helped put on a wonderful steak dinner for all the brothers. We are so grateful for all our former Trex Brother's from Sequoia Chapter who came before us and invested funds wisely. During the past twenty years our chapter has donated over \$175,000 dollars, to various local causes, scholarships, Armenian organizations, both locally and internationally. Speaking of donations we would like to thank The Families of Brother John Hovannisian for challenging our chapter to donate to help war torn families in Armenia. John's family said they would match whatever we donate to the Orran Fund in Armenia. Our chapter decided to donate \$5000.00, and with the Hovannisian matching fund, we will be sending \$10,000.00 off to help these war torn families. We are truly blessed to help in this way. We do have a few Brothers, who were having

a difficult time with some health issues. Please keep these, Brothers' Joe Donabed, Sark Yahnian, Sark Dividian Jr., in your thoughts and prayers. We also once again donated toys for children in our local hospital over Christmas. Thanks to Brothers' Rick Krikorian, Brian Poochigian, Gary Goostanian, Master Mark Avedian and other brothers in our chapter for supporting this worthwhile cause in our community.

We wanted to say a big "THANK YOU" to Brother Richard Tamouzian for doing an outstanding job of updating our web page. Please check it out if you get a chance at, <https://www.sequoiatrex.org/>

We are very honored and blessed to have three Past Grand Master's, from Sequoia Chapter. They include, Pete Babagian, Jerry Poochigian, Ron Shanoian. We have currently serving from our chapter, GRAND MASTER, CHUCK SIMONIAN, 2020-2021. We are so proud of these four brothers.

Finally on a very thankful and happy note for 2020, we would like to congratulate Brother Paul Babagian and his wife Andrea. On September 24, 2020 the arrival of their son Niko Daniel Vianello Babagian. He came in at 8 pounds 13 ounces. Congratulations to you both. Two proud Grandparents, Brother Tom & Sherry Babagian, and one proud cousin, PGM Pete Babagian.

In closing, we hope all of you remain healthy and have a very blessed 2021 New Year.





2020 Sequoia Brothers annual Meeting



Brother Dean and GM Chuck at Annual Meeting



GM Chuck Oath of Officers



GM Chuck Addressing Brothers Annual Meeting



Brothers Sark and Serge Morning Breakfast



Brothers Sark and PGM Jerry Morning Breakfast



Paul Babagian and son

# LOS ANGELES

The LA Chapter has been holding meetings monthly with good attendance from our brothers. Bro Master Derik Ghookasian and his Executive Officers have been carrying out the duties of the Chapter and we all look forward when we can get back to normal. Like many of you, the LA Chapter typically has at least one event every month, so being locked down make it especially tough. The one event that has not been severely impacted has been our Chapter Golf Tournament and Championship. Bro Zareh Mitilian does a great job maintaining a solid relationship with our "Home" course of Simi Hills and we usually have 3 foursomes every Saturday morning. We are indebted to Bro Zareh for his commitment to keeping us all together for these weekly games. This year's Club Champion is Bro David Abrahamian. Bro David worked his way through the participants claiming the top spot after beating Bro Mark Goshgarian (2nd place) in the final match. Congratulations Bro David! Bro Mark Mikaelian took 3rd place this year. Also, Bro Tev Eminian was recognized with a trophy for his hole-in-one from 2019 and Bro Mark Mikaelian was also recognized for his hole-in-one in 2020. Congratulations to all.

On a very sad note, we said goodbye to our dear Brother Armen Hampar. Bro Armen was a legend of the LA Trex and loved by many. His memory stays with us all. A eulogy is included in this publication.

Like all of you, the members of the LA Chapter agonized over the war in Artsakh. Early on, our Brothers donated through other organizations early on that were matching our contributions. However, as an extra push, the LA Chapter and its members raised an additional \$6,500 for Artsakh. Prior to that, the LA Chapter raised an additional \$3,300 for the Fuller Housing project in Armenia. For a year with no fundraising events, the LA Chapter contributed close to \$10,000 to aid our Motherland and our people.

Photos for this edition are from the LA TREX archives and hope you enjoy them. See you all at Midterm.

Bro Michael Surmeian ----- LA Chapter Associate Editor



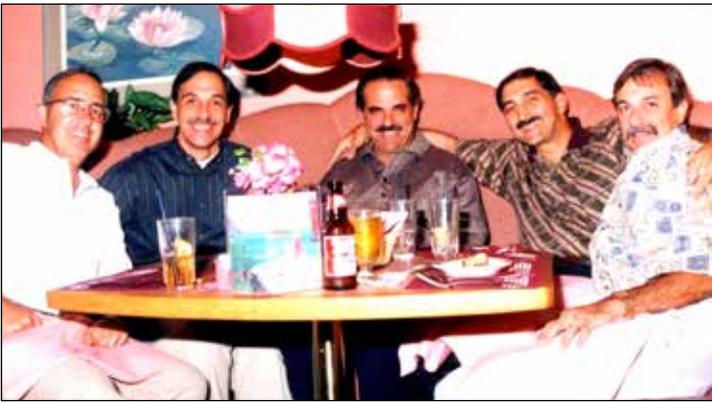
LA TREX pose for a group shot before the meeting where our centennial yearbook headshots were taken. What a handsome group.



Circa 1950's. LA Jr's Basketball team playing St. Gregory ACYO. Their purple satin shorts could only be obtained from Fredericks of Hollywood.



Circa mid 1970's convention, Bros Steve Eordekian, Joe Zorigian, Aram Avazian, Leo Avazian, Aram Betkijian and Dee Housepian.



Circa 1980's LA TREX Stag PGM Club Sandwich  
L-R: PGM John C, Bro Walt, PGM Mel S,  
Bro Gabe & PGM Nick N.



Circa 1980's LA TREX STAG:  
Bro Randy A and PGM John C.



Bro Chris Armen towers over one of the jockeys at Santa Anita race track for the TREX Day at the Races 2013



PGM Mel and Bro Tev at the 2011 LA TREX Camp Out at Lake Cachuma. Bro Gary Z and Bro Mark A having a romantic moment on the boat going 95 mph



Bro Shant sporting a TREX Mask enjoying a mystery drink



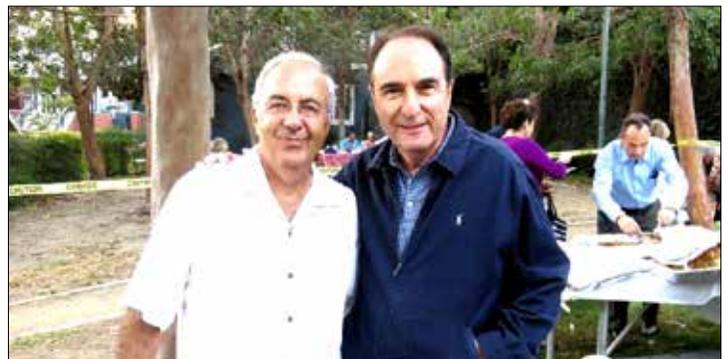
Bro Zareh, frequently mistaken for Clark Gable, keeps us together with weekly golf matches



LA TREX Summer Meeting and BBQ at the Ararat Home Bros Mark, Martin, Mike, Tev, Stan & David



Bros Jack, Mampre and Kev shishing away at the Ararat Home Picnic from years ago



PGM John Casparian and Bro Art Avazian at the 2016 Wives Night Out event at the Hollywood Bowl, chaired PGM David Maseredjian seen in the background

# OAKLAND

There's just no getting around things:

It's a virtual life!

- Virtual business meetings? Check.
- A virtual (and peaceful) transfer of (Trex) power? Check.
- Our first-ever virtual Cigar Night? Check.
- Virtual strategizing for virtual fundraising efforts in 2021? Check.
- And a virtual Trexmas Celebration? Check.

What's that, you say? You want details? Read on, brothers!

At our September 15, 2020 online meeting, the Oakland Chapter commemorated our yearly, Constitutionally-mandated "peaceful transfer of power" with the virtual swearing-in of a new slate of officers, led by Bro. Master Stuart Arakelian and Bro. Jr. Master Ed Minasian, who were dutifully and unanimously elected at our August '20 Zoom meeting. Returning as chapter officers for another term of office are Brothers Jim Taylor, Treasurer (and Chapter Historian); Rob Tashjian, Corresponding Secretary; Craig "Bazig Bucks" Bazigian, Recording Secretary; and Brian Pinomaki, Custodian. Returning to the head table with a different office this term is Bro. Vartkes Avakian, serving as Sergeant-at-Arms. Rounding out the Oakland team is yours truly, Bro. Wayne Saroyan, as the chapter's Associate Editor.

A few weeks after our new officers were sworn in, at a casual gathering of Oakland brothers at our new Master's home, Bro. Stuart presented the chapter's outgoing Master, Bro. Wayne, with a plaque honoring our newest Past Master for his service over the previous term. Alcohol and cigars, along with a delightful mezza, were also consumed with appropriate fraternal enthusiasm.

Our October and November 2020 meetings focused on how best to continue our commitment to supporting our local and Armenian communities through our annual fundraising efforts in the midst of a progressively worsening global pandemic. Topping the list, of course, is our yearly January Crab Feed, and how we can create a safe, successful event under strong, preventative "stay-at-home" orders across California. Our plan? Creating an online event where we can manage dinner orders, payments and pick-up/delivery options, along with ancillary fundraising efforts that include a raffle

and online silent auction. Stay tuned for later reports on how well we succeed, since the event will take place after our newsletter deadline.

We're also exploring a Spring golf event that will be open to the entire Fraternity, echoing a longstanding Trex tradition.

Enjoying a respite from our pending business, the chapter hosted our first "virtual" Cigar Night on a brisk, chilly November evening. A dozen or so brothers gathered via Zoom in back yards around the Bay Area, well-bundled and fortified against the cold with a variety of beverages, as we enjoyed one another's company thanks to this magical thing called the interweb (and the Phrase of The Year, "You're on mute!").

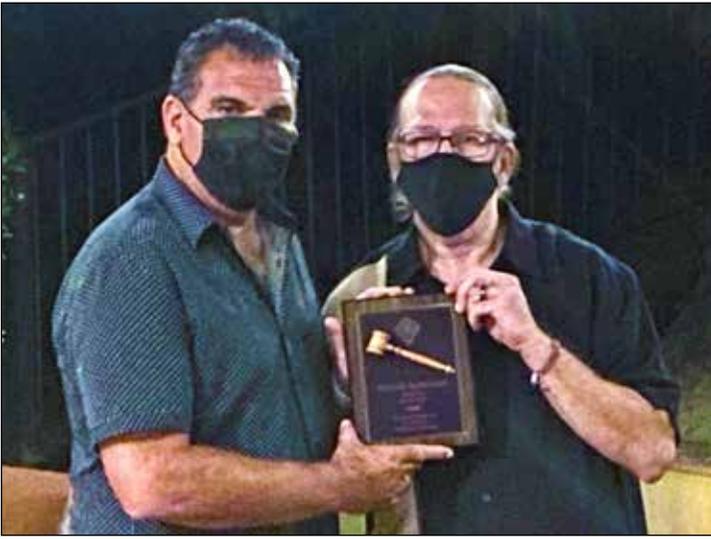
Capping a tumultuous and challenging year, we celebrated the holidays on a joyous note with our annual "Trexmas" event. The evening's undisputed highlights included the awarding of "The Best 2020 Coronavirus Beard," by unanimous acclaim, to Bro. "Father Trexmas" Aram Boyd, and the guzzling of half a bottle of Glenlivet 15 – on camera – by our new Master (who said he had an "extremely" stressful year)!

Phew. It's been quite a journey across the 2020 finish line and safely into 2021 for all of us, and we look forward with great optimism to being able to enjoy the brotherhood of our chapter, and our Fraternity, in person. Until then, stay safe, and be well.

Fraternally,  
Bro. PM Wayne Saroyan



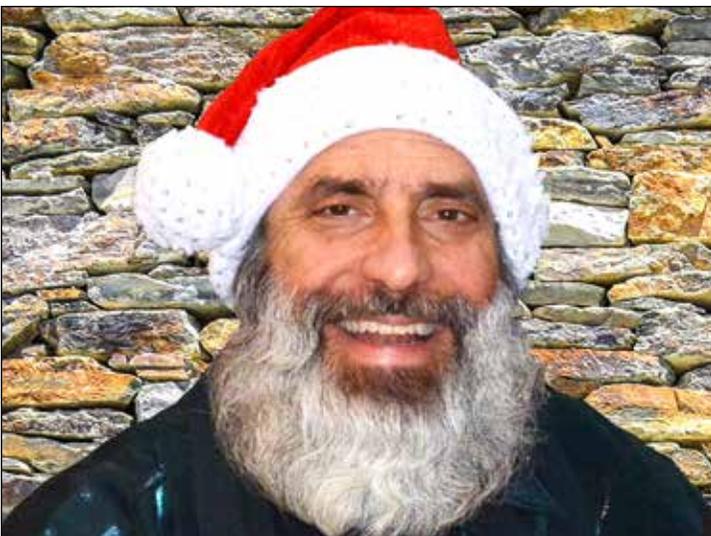
Oakland Zoom Trexmas  
December 15, 2020



Oakland Trex Transfer of Power  
October 14, 2020



Oakland Trex Unofficial CigarFest  
October 14, 2020



Father Trexmas Aram (The Beard) Boyd  
Oakland Trexmas 2020

## LAS VEGAS

Since the Corona Virus hit our Country we here in Las Vegas have been keeping safe as possible, but after February March, and April, things loosened up a bit so we started to have a few meetings. We called them get togethers and it worked out for a while. We still meet once a month at the Shish Kebob House.

The only thing we have been supporting has been our churches and some charities. We had to cancel our Xmas Party due to the virus scare. All of 2019 was a slow year but we are like all of you.

Our Master Arthur Kasarjian has been running our meetings very well even with the low numbers of members who come to the dinner meetings. The Grand Master Chuck Simonian and Jr. Grand Master Steve Mikaelian came to our meeting in October and was greeted, as all Grand Masters should be treated, with a delicious dinner.

Our Chapter supported the Fuller Center Housing for Armenia and many other charities here in Las Vegas. Our Past Master did an out standing job for our Chapter he held that position for 4 years, Thanks Bro. PM Ruben Gregorian. Well here we are in 2021 let us hope that this Virus will pass us by soon.

Fraternally,

Master Arthur Kasarjian & PGM Charles Parigian

## PENINSULA

New Year greetings to our beloved Brothers, families, and friends! Once again, we're content with keeping the same officers for this new fiscal year, but this time let's say it's because of the pandemic! Our 2020–2021 Peninsula Chapter officers are as follows:

Master – Vartan Berberian

Jr. Master – Ruben Kazarian

Treasurer – Vic Khachooni

Corresponding Secretary – Mark Antranikian

Recording Secretary – Kip Garabedian

Associate Editor – Mark Antranikian

Sergeant at Arms – Aram Darmanian

Historian – Kip Garabedian

Custodian – Vic Khachooni

Webmaster – Mark Antranikian

Our meetings are on hold for now, but whenever we do end up resuming our monthly dinner gatherings (perhaps/hopefully later this year??), our chapter will get together on the third Thursday of each month. Our normal meeting place is the Los Altos Masonic

Building, located at 146 Main Street in Los Altos, California (enter from the back of the building on the parking lot side). I know our famed chefs can't wait to start preparing amazing dinners for our members and guests on a regular basis once again!

Our last chapter meeting was in February of 2020, back in the "good old days." We attempted to organize a couple of dinner meetings later in 2020 (in July and October) at Brother Vic Khachooni's house, but alas the efforts were ultimately unsuccessful. So, like many other chapters, not much has happened with the Peninsula Chapter since March of last year, and we look forward to getting back to our normal chapter events as the situation improves.

In the meantime, we will see many of you online via Zoom during our virtual Mid-Term Meeting, and wish you all the very best of health and a much-improved 2021!

Fraternally submitted,  
Brother Mark Antranikian  
Peninsula Chapter Assoc. Editor / Corr. Sec.  
Webmaster / Grand Webmaster

## SELMA

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Brothers! We've just been through one hell of a year, and doesn't seem to be much to look forward to, but we are doing our best. Since we last saw you all at our Annual Meeting in September, whether in person or via Zoom, we have been meeting periodically as the governor permits. (By the way, congratulations and best wishes to our new Grand Master Chuck Simonian!) It's been very enjoyable for our chapter to get together when we can and have some sense of normalcy, even if it's a smaller group of us. We were lucky enough to have a great turnout in October at Brother Joey Sahakian's hangar (yes, he's rich), with over 40 brothers in attendance. At that meeting, we were able to initiate a new brother, Matthew Mugrdechian, so we look forward to him being active in our Selma Chapter, once we start having actual activities like we did way back in the good old days... such as 2019! We also managed to squeeze in a meeting in November before everything got locked down again.

Sadly, we did lose three of our members last year: Brother Karnie Tutunjian, Brother Robert "Bobby Magic" Boyajian, and Brother PGM Joe Garabedian. Our deepest sympathies go out to all of their families

and friends – may they rest in peace. Karnie, Bobby, and Joe, you will be sorely missed and we will treasure our memories of you always.

Currently, we are waiting for things to open up again so we can resume our usual activities and events that have all been on hold. We kept our officers and board members the same for another year. We received a completion update from the Fuller Center for Housing on the \$10,000 we donated directly to them, and seeing the results and the actual Armenian family that we helped was one big positive that came out of 2020. We have another donation earmarked for the same amount, and will see what cause we end up giving to this year. Like other chapters, last year we also contributed to the Grand Chapter's fund to the Fuller Center, which was a great idea by GM Jack Kayajanian and a very worthwhile cause.

For a while, weren't sure if we'd have a Mid-Term or not, but it's now been decided to have it 100% online via Zoom. We're all hopeful that things will improve soon so we're able to have some sort of gathering and we can see you all again in person, perhaps in San Diego this September if all goes well. Selma Chapter is going strong and looking forward to another great year, picking up where we left off as soon as possible.

Fraternally,  
Brother Mark Pryor, Master  
Brother Mark Antranikian, Associate Editor



Sahakian Air Flight 007  
Arriving soon at an airport near you!



Brothers getting ready for a rare occurrence...  
an in-person meeting in 2020!



Long time, no see!  
Selma Brothers catching up with each other



Brother Joey Sahakian's hangar  
was the venue for our October meeting



PGM Pete Cholakian swears in our newest member,  
Bro. Matthew Mugerdechian



Selma members look on as Bro. Matthew  
joins our chapter

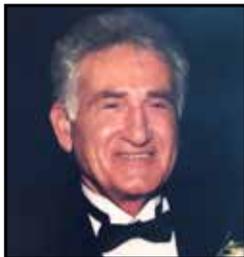


Master Mark Pryor presents new member  
Bro. Matthew Mugerdechian with his Trex pin



Post-dinner conversation at the  
October 2020 meeting

## IN MEMORIAM



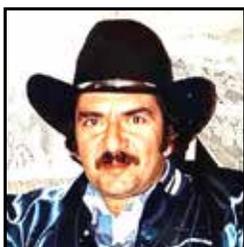
**Brother Edward Osepian**  
**Orange County**

Brother Eddie "O" was born July 16, 1930, in Los Angeles, California, to Lillian Koumrian and Johnny Osepian. Passed away Nov. 13, 2020

His love of cars started at a very young age. The first car he bought didn't come assembled. He did

that himself as he brought pieces home from the auto wrecking yard and built it himself. His love of cars drove him into the legal and legitimate realm of street racing. He then entered the first recognized drag race in Goleta. He went on to win and receive the title of "The First Top Eliminator." Ed joined the Navy and served 4 years in the Korean war as a gunner first mate on the USS Rochester. Ed loved the care packages that his family sent and was very proud to have served his country. He continued to be proud of his service and even in his later years he loved wearing his "USS Rochester" cap. Ed returned to racing and joined up with Jerry Johnanson and Danny Porsche, where together they owned the Howard Cam Rattler. Today the Rattler is in the NHRA Museum in Pomona.

Ed will be missed by his family and all that knew him. The Orange County Chapter has lost another great one, 40-year member, Eddie "O".



**Greg Davidian - Sequoia**

April 11, 1951 – January 30, 2021

Bro. Greg was a 45 year member of Sequoia Triple X Fraternity. Gregory was born to John and Ann Davidian of Cutler. He started driving tractor at the age of 9 and continued to this day with his business, Greg

Davidian Custom Tractor Work. Greg attended Monson-Sultana grammar school. He was a proud 1969 graduate of Dinuba High School and attended COS until farming called him full time. Greg and Margie lived in the same house on their farm for the past 45 years. In 1980, they had their first child, a daughter, Annie. In 1992, they were blessed with their second daughter, Sara. In early years, Greg loved to hunt and fish with his family and friends. His farming friends would meet daily in the back of the Davidian home for a game or two of pool and some good laughter. Greg had the innate ability to make everyone laugh! He was kind and loving and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Brother Greg Davidian was member of Sequoia Chapter Triple X Fraternity for 45 years. His father John Davidian was a member of Sequoia Chapter.



**Brother Ed Harver – Orange County**

June 20, 1926 – January 7, 2021

Barkev Edward Harpootian (Ed Harver) was born in Philadelphia, PA to parents Harry and Elizabeth Harpootian. Married on November 7, 1947 to Ruth Halajian. Ed served in the U.S. Navy from 1945 – 1946. Ed received a Bachelor of Arts from USC in 1951, then in 1952 he received a Master of Science in Education, also from USC. He then became principal of First Avenue Junior High School where he retired in 1982. Ed and Ruth moved first to Carlsbad then to San Clemente. Their house had an ocean view and they spent 20 wonderful years there. Ed and Ruth often hosted

family and friends in their home, something they enjoyed doing together.

Ed joined the Orange County Chapter in 1989. Very active member.



**Armen Hampar – Los Angeles**

Nov. 26, 1931-September 24, 2020

Brother Armen Hampar was born in New York to Alice (Kazanjan) and Vahe Hampar. He attended Columbia University, and was in the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. He graduated in 1953 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He

registered at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and in 1954 was commissioned as an Officer of the Coast Guard in Savannah, Georgia. In 1966, Armen's job at Witco Chemical Co. brought the family to Southern California. Armen was the co-owner of Lubricating Specialties Company, which grew to become the largest independent blender and packager of lubricants on the West Coast, with plants in Pico Rivera, Commerce and Vernon. He was extremely proud of the Ararat Home of Los Angeles where he served twice as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and also chaired several committees. He remained an active board member until his passing. He was a forty-year member and Past Master of LA TREX. Armen was a fixture in the LA Chapter and loved his TREX Brothers. He will be dearly missed and remains in our hearts and he will be remembered for many years to come. He was also a 55-year member of the Knights of Vartan.



**Brother Harry Sadoian - Fresno**

October 20, 1926 - December 9, 2020

Everyone Loved Harry. He was born in Orosi, CA. He was the youngest of four boys and remained close to his brothers throughout his life. After graduating High School and serving in WWII he continued his education at UC Berkeley

school of Optometry. He married Helen, the love of his life, in November 1951 and moved to Fresno. He started his Optometry practice in a converted old house in the Tower District and devoted himself to a successful career that served the Armenian community and beyond. He retired in 2009 at the age of 83. Harry was a true "people person". He cherished all of his relatives and his many, many friends, old and new. He had a happy, kind and generous heart. In turn, he was loved by all. Harry was active in the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church and spent many hours volunteering for church functions. He also was involved in various community organizations such as Triple X, The Knights of Vartan and The Greater Fresno Optimist Club.

Harry missed his wife Helen, who passed away in October and joined her in Heaven on December 9, 2020.

# Palm Desert TREX

21<sup>st</sup>. Annual

Two Man Golf Tournament

May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Put your two-man team together and join us for golf at the Classic Club



May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 \* 08:00am Shotgun

Two-man scramble

- Tee prizes for all guest
- \$50,000 hole-in-one (split 50-50 with player and Trex)
- Closest to the pin and long drive
- Lunch after golf (no host bar)
- Cash prizes awarded after play on Saturday at the lunch

All of this included in your \$125 entry fee per player

TREX 50/50 Drawing:

The drawing will be held May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Kirkjan Family Hall with appetizers & cocktails (no host bar) starting at 6:00pm. The 50/50 raffle will be limited to 200 tickets at \$150 per ticket, the reverse drawing will begin at approximately 6:30pm.

For information on 50/50 Drawing tickets and Golf Tournament call:

Blaine Carian (760) 275-3327 \* Bobby Melkesian (760) 485-1006  
Nick Nigosian (760) 774-3686 \* Howard Chuchian (760) 275-5209

**STAY HEALTHY  
ENJOY LIFE**



**SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2021  
IN - PERSON BUSINESS MEETING**



**CALLIPPE PRESERVE GOLF COURSE  
IN PLEASANTON, CA**

## OAKLAND TREX CHARITABLE GOLF OUTING

**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND  
SUNDAY, MAY 30TH**

Tee Times Begin at 8:00am

Shamble Format

- \$140 Per Player- Lunch Included
- \$150 Hole Sponsorship
- Long Drive & Closest to Pin Contest
- Raffle Prize Ticket Drawings
- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Group Prize Money
- Goody Bags for All Participants

**Lulu Kebab BBQ to Follow at Arakelian Home  
(assumes favorable CV19 environment)**

RSVP by MAY 10th to  
Stuart Arakelian- Stufam62@gmail.com  
(925) 708-1712  
or  
Craig Bazigian -CBazig@comcast.net  
(415) 515-6515