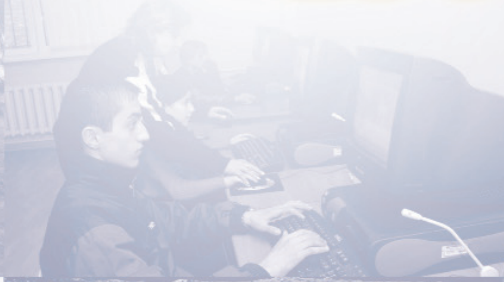




2004-2005 BIENNIAL REPORT
PRESENTED AT THE 84TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ON DECEMBER 9, 2006 IN PARIS, FRANCE



AGBU 100





AGBU CENTRAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004-2005

President

Berge Setrakian

Vice Presidents

Sarkis Demirdjian & Arshavir Gundjian

Treasurer

Nazar Nazarian

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Joseph Basralian

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His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians

Chairman of the Board

Louise Manoogian Simone

Vice Chairman

Nazar Nazarian

Members

USA: M. Michael Ansour, Carol Bagdasarian Aslanian, Richard Manoogian, Benon Sevan, Sam Simonian, Sinan Sinanian, Dickran Tevrizian.

BELGIUM: Edouard Jakhian (2004).

FRANCE: Aris Atamian (2005), Levon Kebabdjian.

SYRIA: Karnig Yacoubian.

DIRECTORS EMERITI

Haygachen Ouzounian⁺, Barry Zorthian.

IN MEMORIAM

Boghos Nubar, Founder; Alex Manoogian, Honorary Life President.

⁺ deceased

AGBU 55 EAST 59TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022-1112 PHONE 212-319-6383 FAX 212-319-6507 EMAIL AGBUNY@AGBU.ORG WEBSITE WWW.AGBU.ORG

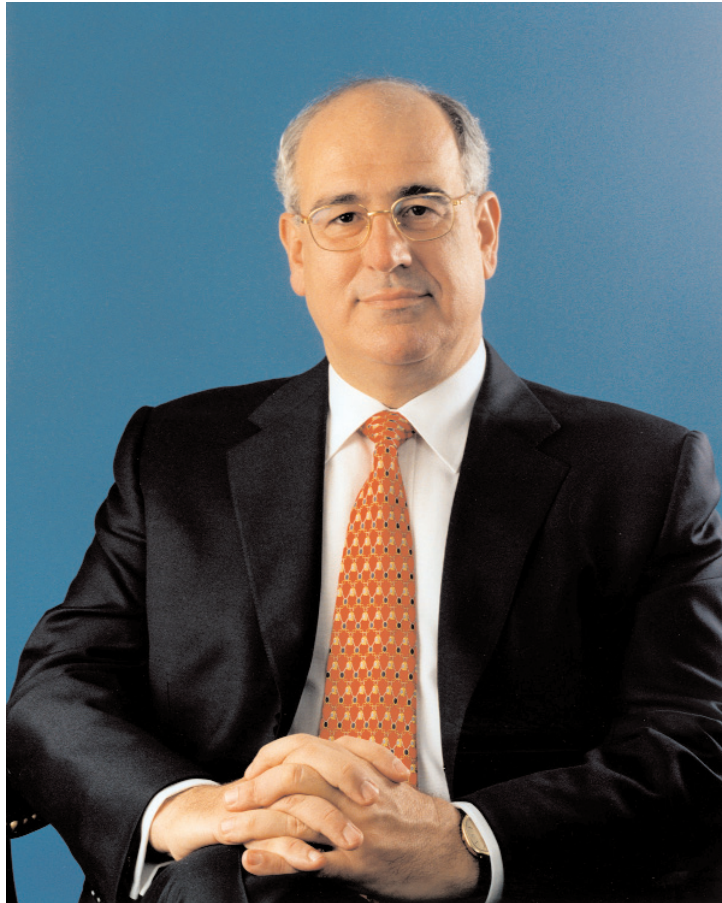
FRONT COVER - Row 1 (left to right): New York Summer Intern Program participants at Columbia University; Colonie de Vacances in Ancelle, France; American Red Cross Senior Major Gifts Officer Barbara O'Reilly presenting a plaque to Central Board Member Michael Ansour in recognition of AGBU's \$100,000 donation to the 2004 Red Cross Katrina Fund. **Row 2:** California's Manoogian-Demirdjian High School graduates; London Chapter Chairman Harout Aghajanian and Treasurer Bedros Aslanyan (both center) survey the Pareshen site in Karabakh with local officials; Montréal's newly renovated Alex Manoogian Community Center. **Row 3:** Vaskenian Seminary, Lake Sevan in Armenia; New York Summer Interns in Washington, D.C.; Soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian taking a bow after a performance with the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra. **Row 4:** Ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new dormitory of the Vaskenian Seminary on Lake Sevan; Students carving woodwork at one of the three Children's Centers. **Row 5:** Alexander Primary School Winners of an Interschool Debating Competition in Sydney; Students at the Children's Centers learning computer skills; AGBU-sponsored performance of Anush opera in Yerevan. **Row 6:** Central Board Member Levon Kebabdjian and France District Committee Member Ara Aharonian discussing a village plan for the Karabakh Repopulation Project with one of the local contractors; Armenian folk dance from the "Sounds Armenian" event staged by the Melbourne Chapter; Pensioners receiving a hot meal at one of the six Soup Kitchens in Armenia. **Row 7:** Young Professionals of Tehran visiting Iran's historic town of Kashan; Paris Summer Intern Program participants in the French capital; Generation Next Mentorship Program mentors and mentees pitch in to clean up their local community.

BACK COVER - Row 1 (left to right): Cordoba Fathers Committee inaugural event; Southern California District Annual Society Dinner; Antranig Dance Ensemble performance in honor of its 35th Anniversary. **Row 2:** Pianist Sahan Arzruni with Cairo Chapter Chairman Onnig Belekdanian and Egypt District Chairman Berdj Terzian during AGBU's Aram Khachaturian @ 100 Tour; Sydney Chapter hosts Vartan Tashdjian Art Exhibit; American University of Armenia Memory Plaque. **Row 3:** Tehran Scouts at the local Center; Participants of the 83rd General Assembly in Armenia; Construction of the Monastic Dorms of Holy Etchmiadzin. **Row 4:** Graduating class of the Alex & Marie Manoogian School in Southfield, MI; Committee members of the Southern California District Annual Society Dinner; Irind village school in Armenia. **Row 5:** Alex Manoogian Memorial on Alex Manoogian Street in central Stepanakert, Karabakh; Nork Children's Center performance in New York; Participants of the New York Summer Intern Program. **Row 6:** Young students at a Children's Center; AGBU President Berge Setrakian with Ultrasound Training Center Co-Directors Dr. Hambardzumian and Dr. Sisakian and two physicians from India who receive training at the facility; Members of the Young Professionals of Los Angeles. **Row 7:** Duduk Master Djivan Gasparyan and dancer Sophie Devoyan taking their final bows after a performance hosted by the Lebanon District; 83rd General Assembly session in Armenia; São Paulo Chapter Chairman Carlos Matheus Der Haroutiounian, Buenos Aires Chapter Chairman Vahram Hairabedian and São Paulo Chapter Vice Chairman Ricardo Burmaian. All photos were taken in 2004 and 2005.



His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, AGBU President Berge Setrakian, AGBU Board Members, Chairpersons, donors, members and staff in front of the Veharan in Holy Etchmiadzin on the occasion of the 83rd General Assembly in 2004.

President's Message



To Our Members, Donors and Friends,

As President of AGBU, I have been privileged to observe the far-reaching life of our organization as few are able to do. Visiting Chapters and Schools in recent years around the world and communicating with our enthusiastic Chairpersons and Representatives, I have been overwhelmed time and time again by the dedication and spirit of our members, donors and staff. In this biennial report, you have the unique opportunity to see the world of AGBU as I do and appreciate our many accomplishments throughout the past two years. It is a world that AGBU founder and first President Boghos Nubar could never have envisioned as he set out a century ago to form an organization to serve all Armenians and preserve and perpetuate the Armenian identity. It is a community that has extended to six continents and touched so many lives in so many ways. Today, we continue to be proud of AGBU and all it stands for as we celebrate its milestone Centennial anniversary. As you read this report, I hope you gain inspiration from the tremendous positive force that defines AGBU.

With assets totaling \$272 million and an annual budget of \$36 million as of 2005, AGBU stands strong as the largest Armenian non-profit organization in the world. Providing a full spectrum of educational, cultural and humanitarian programs, AGBU remains active on the frontlines every day, reaching out to over 400,000 Armenians through a global network of 73 Districts and Chapters, 48 Community Centers and Offices, 13 Young Professional Groups, 33 Day and Saturday schools, Student Scholarships, Summer Camps, Athletics, Scouts & Youth Groups, Internship Programs, Performing Arts and 14 publications.

Transforming the donations and bequests entrusted to it for the benefit of the Armenian people, AGBU has been hard at work making lasting change all around the world. Renovations and expansions to centers in Buenos Aires and Montreal, schools in Canoga Park, Detroit and Montevideo, and Camp Nubar in New York served to reinforce our presence in these robust Armenian communities. With an eye on expansion in Europe, AGBU has also laid important groundwork by bolstering



KEEPING ARMENIANS INFORMED

During 2004 and 2005, four new publications (*Revue Arménienne des Questions Contemporaines*, *UGAB Méditerranée*, *YP Corner* and *Yeram*) in three countries began circulating information to Armenians about local, global and historical issues.



SHOWCASING ARMENIA

Students from AGBU's Nork Children's Center in Armenia perform during the New York premiere of their North American tour that traveled to eight cities during October 2005. AGBU is proud to support the rich artistry of Armenian culture.

our presence in France, the hub of the Armenian European community.

Our long-term investment in the diaspora is pivotal to the development and strengthening of our ties with Armenia, which has experienced substantial growth since its joyous declaration of independence 15 years ago. Paramount to the preservation of our national identity, AGBU has invested over \$100 million in the homeland since independence and almost \$15 million in the last two years on a range of educational, religious, cultural and humanitarian programs, including the Children's Centers, Soup Kitchens, special projects in Holy Etchmiadzin, the Ultrasound Center, and the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra. Highlights include contributions to the expansion of the American University of Armenia with the addition and construction of two new buildings, and the announcement of our future plans to build an AGBU educational and cultural center in Armenia for diaspora youth to discover their origins with local peers.

Several projects over the last two years stand witness to AGBU's ongoing commitment to restoring the war-torn infrastructure of neighboring Karabakh, including the establishment of an AGBU office in the capital city of Stepanakert, the founding of a Chamber Orchestra and the repopulation of border villages. With the support of Chapters worldwide, the first rebuilt village of Norashen is now home to 100 residents, the construction of the second village Pareshen is on track, and fundraising for the third village Jrakn is underway.

In its commitment to move forward with the evolution of the international Armenian community, AGBU Central Board was also faced with the most trying decision to discontinue the Melkonian Educational Institute. With increasing challenges in delivering education to an Armenian nation that continues to change demographically, economically and socially, AGBU has since reinforced its dedication to its mission and, in 2005, AGBU Central Board was pleased to announce plans to open a second high school in the Southern California area. Difficult decisions inspire growth and advancement, and as we cross into the

21st century, AGBU remains poised to uphold its legacy of service and pave the way with unparalleled foresight.

With over 70% of expenditures allocated to education and youth programs, the new generation is the leading beneficiary of AGBU's goodwill. As advocates for our ancient language, culture, history and religion, we must continue to develop innovative, cutting-edge programs that appeal to younger generations, reinforce their identity as proud Armenians, and build enduring links which unite them with our homeland. Each new generation inherits the responsibility for safekeeping the Armenian identity, and we must prepare them for the task ahead.

Please remember that AGBU needs your continued support, and the good we can achieve depends on you. We are proud to say that donor confidence is increasing every year, as evidenced by our growing endowments: 946 total endowments have been established at AGBU as of 2005, compared to 599 endowments as of 1995. Through your generous donations, you fulfill an indispensable role by ensuring AGBU programs are carried out for generations to come. Our numerous achievements would also not have been possible without our many partners in governmental, Church and civic organizations, as well the countless individual volunteers who share our passion to preserve the Armenian identity. Through cooperation and solidarity, I urge all organizations and individuals to join AGBU in this universal mission to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead.

As goodwill ambassadors to our society at large, we will show the world the power of the Armenian spirit and the positive results when Armenians work together as one.



Berge Setrakian, President



HONORING ALL GENERATIONS

Some of the 1,200 pensioners who benefit from AGBU's six Soup Kitchens in Armenia. AGBU's humanitarian projects help those most in need.



STRENGTHENING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Students at Marie Manoogian Institute in Buenos Aires gather for a special welcome for His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, during the Pontiff's 2005 visit to Argentina. AGBU chapters, schools and centers form the backbone of Armenian communities across the globe.

AGBU Worldwide 2004-2005



AGBU reaches 400,000 Armenians annually with its educational, humanitarian and cultural programs.



Armenia & Karabakh

LEGEND	
COUNTRY	Countries where recipients of Scholarships & Loans study
★	District Committee
☆	Chapter/Committee
■	Center
□	School
▣	Saturday School
▤	University
▥	Young Professionals (YP) Committee
▧	Mentoring Program
◆	Partnership Project with the Holy See of Etchmiadzin
■	Humanitarian Project
■	Cultural Program
■	Publication
■	Medical Projects
■	Summer Camp
■	Summer Intern Program
■	Youth Programs (Scouts/Sports/Youth Group)

The Middle East



Africa/Asia/Australia



BIENNIAL REPORT 2004-2005

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31

ASSETS	2005	2004
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 5,635,600	\$ 6,356,227
Portfolio investments	182,759,988*	178,184,358*
Contributions/Accounts receivable	11,392,153	2,240,601
Interest receivable	1,656,530	1,050,659
Total Current assets	201,444,271	187,831,845
Real Estate	69,038,791	67,905,185
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements, net	1,873,558	2,087,184
Total Assets	272,356,620	257,824,214
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$5,519,636	\$4,840,063
Notes payable	641,756	770,863
Total Liabilities	6,161,392	5,610,926
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	55,939,248	56,048,043
Temporarily restricted	36,044,965	26,190,271
Permanently restricted	174,211,015	169,974,974
Total Net Assets	266,195,228	252,213,288
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	272,356,620	257,824,214

*These amounts represent book value as of 12/31/04 and 12/31/05. Total market value as of 12/31/04 and 12/31/05 are \$185,769,957 and \$187,772,570 respectively.

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE

Public Support:

Contributions
Membership dues
Special events

Revenue:

Investment income
Rental income
Tuition and other school income

Satisfaction of program restrictions

Management income, reserve and capitalization

TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE

PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Programs:

Educational
Cultural
Religious
Humanitarian

Administrative
Fundraising

Foreign exchange/Translation adjustment

TOTAL PROGRAM & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Change in net assets, from operations

Inter-fund transfers

Change in net assets

NET ASSETS, beginning of year

NET ASSETS, end of year

HIGHLIGHTS

BIENNIAL FINANCIAL REPORT 10-YEAR COMPARATIVE TOTALS

	2005	%	2004	%	1994
Total Assets	\$272,356,620	5.64	\$257,824,214	60	\$161,433,299
Total Income	49,842,247	22.98	40,527,685	44	28,108,564
Total Expenditure	35,860,307	0.51	34,108,761	27	26,841,607

Yearly (%%) Increase/(Decrease) 10-year (%%) Increase/(Decrease)

ALL FIGURES ARE IN U.S. DOLLARS.

ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended December 31, 2005

Year Ended December 31, 2004

Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
\$ 1,702,022	\$ 17,370,070	\$ 3,556,352	\$ 22,628,444	\$ 1,985,610	\$ 6,906,238	\$ 4,596,331	\$ 13,488,179
308,468	-	-	308,468	342,859	-	-	342,859
2,721,588	-	77,354	2,798,942	3,073,364	-	77,547	3,150,911
4,732,078	17,370,070	3,633,706	25,735,854	5,401,833	6,906,238	4,673,878	16,981,949
9,906,722	1,579,375	-	11,486,097	10,380,094	1,371,016	-	11,751,110
2,110,447	6,934	-	2,117,381	1,332,837	-	-	1,332,837
10,502,915	-	-	10,502,915	10,461,789	-	-	10,461,789
22,520,084	1,586,309	-	24,106,393	22,174,720	1,371,016	-	23,545,736
27,252,162	18,956,379	3,633,706	49,842,247	27,576,553	8,277,254	4,673,878	40,527,685
10,204,509	(10,204,509)	-	-	6,750,587	(6,750,587)	-	-
1,600,982	(1,692,775)	91,793	-	1,266,530	(1,359,284)	92,754	-
39,057,653	7,059,095	3,725,499	49,842,247	35,593,670	167,383	4,766,632	40,527,685
19,154,221	-	-	19,154,221	17,649,922	-	-	17,649,922
7,082,133	-	-	7,082,133	7,057,599	-	-	7,057,599
4,213,112	-	-	4,213,112	4,737,179	-	-	4,737,179
2,519,140	-	-	2,519,140	1,873,602	-	-	1,873,602
32,968,606	-	-	32,968,606	31,318,302	-	-	31,318,302
2,577,928	-	-	2,577,928	2,317,584	-	-	2,317,584
236,528	-	-	236,528	247,680	-	-	247,680
77,245	-	-	77,245	225,195	-	-	225,195
2,891,701	-	-	2,891,701	2,790,459	-	-	2,790,459
35,860,307	-	-	35,860,307	34,108,761	-	-	34,108,761
3,197,346	7,059,095	3,725,499	13,981,940	1,484,909	167,383	4,766,632	6,418,924
(3,306,141)	2,795,599	510,542	-	(4,266,581)	4,330,510	(63,929)	-
(108,795)	9,854,694	4,236,041	13,981,940	(2,781,672)	4,497,893	4,702,703	6,418,924
56,048,043	26,190,271	169,974,974	252,213,288	58,829,715	21,692,378	165,272,271	245,794,364
\$55,939,248	\$36,044,965	\$174,211,015	\$266,195,228	\$56,048,043	\$26,190,271	\$169,974,974	\$252,213,288



His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, AGBU President Berge Setrakian and AGBU Board Members attending the 83rd General Assembly in Yerevan, Armenia, in 2004.

PROGRAMS

ARMENIA

American University of Armenia
 Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra
 Children's Centers (3)
 Soup Kitchens (6)
 St. Nersess Hospital
 Ultrasound Center
 Vaskenian Theological Seminary
 Yerevan State University

KARABAKH

Karabakh Chamber Orchestra
 Karabakh Repopulation Project

MAJOR PROJECTS

ARMENIA

Arapkir Church
 Clergy Housing in Etchmiadzin
 Erebouni Church
 Etchmiadzin Children's Center
 Gyumri Pregnant Women's Center
 Holy Trinity Church
 Outside Altar in Etchmiadzin
 St. Gregory of Narek Church
 St. Gregory the Illuminator Cathedral
 St. Hakop Church
 St. Sarkis Church
 Vanadzor Children's Center

KARABAKH

Housing complex for veterans and war widows
 Stepanakert Secondary School #7

SPECIAL GRANTS

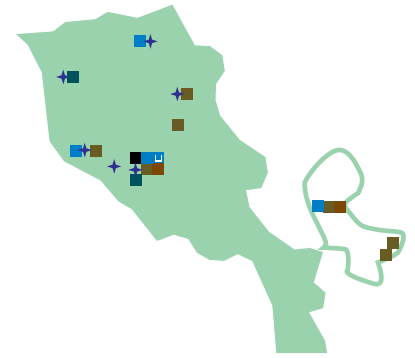
ARMENIA

Academy of Science
 Aintab School #2
 Amasia Village
 Armenia State Opera Theatre
 Gyumri School #3 for the Disabled
 Gyumri School for Visual Disorders
 Irind Village School
 Meghri Kindergarten
 Peniamin Jamgotchian School
 Travel video program for television
 Writers Union of Armenia

KARABAKH

Karabakh Diocese
 North-South Highway construction
 Rehabilitation Center

Armenia



View of the AUA campus, including the main building on the right and the Paramaz Avedisian building under construction in the center.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

Preparing Graduates to Lead Armenia's Future

In October 2004 and 2005, close to 300 graduates joined the ranks of alumni numbering almost 1,400 at the 13th and 14th Graduation Ceremonies of the American University of Armenia. The university's most recent achievements include the acquisition of the Vartkes & Hasmig Barsam Building, which complements AUA's regional and international student recruitment campaign through the provision of housing, and the groundbreaking for the construction of the new Paramaz Avedisian Building, which will include expanded educational and research facilities. Annually, about 400 students enroll in AUA's two-year program, earning Master's degrees in Business Management, Conservation and Environmental Science, Engineering, Law, Political Science and International Affairs, Public Health and Computer Science.

ARMENIAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Delivers Two More Outstanding Seasons

The Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra galvanized Yerevan's cultural scene with an impressive array of weekly concerts during the 2004 and 2005 seasons. Traveling to Ankara in October 2004, APO, along with the State Academic Choir of Armenia, performed together for a sold-out audience of over 2,000 under the direction of Istanbul-born maestro Hovhannes Tchekidjian. The program was the first of its kind in Turkey's cultural capital. The APO's Chamber Orchestra was also invited to perform at Lebanon's Byblos Festival in July 2005. Highlights of APO, under the direction of APO Artistic Director and Principal Conductor, Eduard Topchjian, from 2005 included sold-out performances by the famous Italian baritone Renato Bruson and Canadian soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian.



American maestro Alexander Treger guest conducts the APO during a performance on July 3, 2005.

During the past two years, the generosity of thousands of benefactors and donors once again supported AGBU's longstanding presence in the homeland. Through representation offices in Yerevan and Stepanakert, the organization administers a vast array of educational, humanitarian and cultural programs that serve countless individuals.

NORK, ARAPKIR AND MALATYA CHILDREN'S CENTERS

Educating a Generation of Talented Youth

Since 1993, the Arapkir, Malatya and Nork Children's Centers have provided after-school instruction to over 3,000 talented youth, ages 6-16, in art, computers, crafts, dance, gymnastics, history, languages and music, in addition to participating in weekly church services and Bible study courses, which are held in the adjoining chapels. In September 2004, two gymnasts from the Nork Center's Circus Group traveled to the Delphi Games in Moldova and returned home with a gold and silver medal. At an international chess competition in Tehran, Iran, that same month, the Arapkir Center's Chess Class won the gold medal. In addition, during the month of October in 2005, the Nork Children's Center toured eight cities in North America (featured on page 16).

SOUP KITCHENS

Lending a Helping Hand

AGBU's six Soup Kitchens in Yerevan, Sevan, Etchmiadzin and Aghazdan continue to provide a daily meal to over 1,200 pensioners and orphans. In addition, recipients often take home the ample portions to share with family members and friends, and volunteers deliver meals to those who are ill or housebound.

ULTRASOUND CENTER

A State-of-the-Art Medical Facility

Recognizing the need for Armenia's physicians to keep pace with advances in modern medicine, an AGBU benefactor donated a CT Scan machine to the Ultrasound Center in 2005. Dr. Levon Nazarian, Professor of Radiology at Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, established the Center at the Yerevan State Medical Institute in 2000 for both students and doctors, some of whom come from as far as China, India and Russia to receive instruction. Since then, the Center has trained some 50 medical personnel in the certificate program and more than 30 students in the internship program.

VASKENIAN SEMINARY

A Spiritual Oasis on Lake Sevan

The donor-sponsored dormitory of the Vaskenian Seminary on Lake Sevan was inaugurated in October 2004. The brand-new facility includes staff rooms, offices, library and living quarters for a hundred seminarians, and is part of the larger campus that provides religious education and training to clergy who go on to serve Armenian communities throughout the world.

AGBU OPENS NEW REPRESENTATION OFFICE IN



Class instruction at one of the Children's Centers.

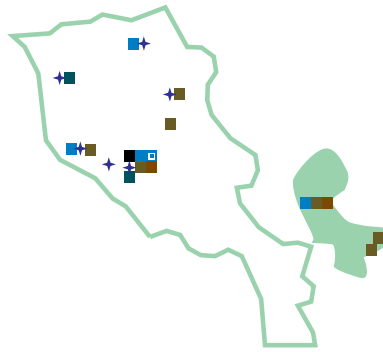


One of AGBU's six Soup Kitchens in Armenia.



Young Professionals touring the Ultrasound Center at Yerevan State Medical University during the 2004 General Assembly in Armenia.

Karabakh



STEPANAKERT

Given AGBU's extensive support of Karabakh's efforts to rebuild its economic, educational and cultural infrastructure, a new office in Stepanakert was the next step during 2004.

KARABAKH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Plays First Concert and Tours Armenia



Karabakh Chamber Orchestra performs at the Aram Khachatrian Concert Hall in Yerevan on June 27, 2006 during the "One Nation, One Culture" festival under the direction of Gevorg Muradyan.

At the request of Karabakh President Arkady Ghoukassian, AGBU established the Karabakh Chamber Orchestra (KCO) in 2004 to encourage cultural life in the budding republic. While KCO's premier concert took place in Stepanakert in October 2004, after AGBU's 83rd General Assembly in Yerevan, it performed its first Yerevan concert in July 2005. In order to help local youth develop their talents, several of the 17 KCO musicians, 11 of whom relocated to Karabakh from Armenia, have begun teaching at the Stepanakert Music College and at music schools in Shushi and Lachin.

KARABAKH REPOPULATION PROJECT

Bringing Armenians Home

The Karabakh Repopulation Project continues to expand significantly in the Hadrut region with wholehearted support from worldwide Districts and Chapters, sharing AGBU's vision to repopulate the country's war-torn villages with tens of thousands of Armenians.

NORASHEN: In 2002, the France District spearheaded AGBU's first village in Karabakh and built 23 houses for 100 residents, including 32 school-aged children and 14 pre-schoolers. In May 2005, a medical center, made possible through the gifts of AGBU France donors, the Union of French Armenian Doctors (UMAF) and the financial support of the Karabakh government, opened in Norashen.

PARESHEN: Through the generous donations of members of the U.K. Armenian community and matching funds from AGBU London Trust, the London Chapter volunteered for the significant undertaking of a second village with Phase One underway. Karabakh authorities and the London Chapter have taken the joint responsibility of supplying water and electricity to Paresheh, and the local authorities will also build a road that will connect it to other villages and regions.

JRAKN: Fundraising began in 2005 for this third AGBU village, with \$100,000 already allocated and additional pledges promised from US members. The initial goal of ten houses will launch the village and bring more Armenians to the region.

The three AGBU villages will share Norashen's medical center, kindergarten and primary school, along with a secondary school, which was sponsored by the Southern California District and the Sydney Chapter.



Apartment building and community hall built for war veterans and widows of soldiers who fought in the Karabakh War.



Stepanakert Secondary School #7.



Alex Manoogian Memorial on Alex Manoogian Street in central Stepanakert.



Norashen school construction.



On May 4, 2005, (Left to Right) Deputy Premier of NKR Ararat Danielian, NKR Health Minister Zoya Lazarian, a representative of the Avakani local self-governing body, UMAF President Levon Artinian, and AGBU France District Board Member, Ara Aharonian, inaugurate the Medical Clinic in Norashen.

AGBU SCHOOLS

ARGENTINA	
Buenos Aires	Marie Manoogian Institute (K-12)
AUSTRALIA	
Sydney	Alexander Primary (K-6)
	Alex Manoogian Saturday School
BRAZIL	
São Paolo	Paren & Regina Bazarian School (K-8)
BULGARIA	
Dobrich	Saturday School
Haskovo	Saturday School
Plovdiv	Saturday School
Rousse	Saturday School
Silistra	Saturday School
Sliven	Saturday School
Yambol	Saturday School
CANADA	
Montréal	Armen Québec-Alex Manoogian (K-8)
Toronto	Daniel & Alice Zaroukian (K-6)
CYPRUS	
Nicosia	Melkonian Educational Institute (6-12)
FRANCE	
Paris	Alex Manoogian Saturday School
Lyon	Saturday School
Vienne	Saturday School
GREECE	
Athens	Artaki Kalpakian (K-6)
IRAN	
Tehran	Marie Manoogian (1-5)
	Nevart Gulbenkian (9-12)
IRAQ	
Baghdad	Pourasdan Friday School
LEBANON	
Beirut	Boghos K. Garmirian (K-9)
	Tarouhy-Hovagimian (7-12)
	Levon G. Nazarian (K-6)
SYRIA	
Aleppo (K-12)	Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian
Damascus	Gullabi Gulbenkian (K-6)
Kamishli	Saturday School
URUGUAY	
Montevideo	Nubarman-Manoogian (K-12)
USA	
Canoga Park, CA	Manoogian-Demirdjian (K-12)
Detroit, MI	Alex & Marie Manoogian (K-12)
Chicago, IL	Sisag H. Varjabedian Saturday School
Cleveland, OH	Saturday School
Costa Mesa, CA	Orange County Saturday School

Day schools are displayed in white, weekly schools are displayed in gray.

Education

Preparing young Armenians in more than 37 countries for successful futures, AGBU's educational endeavors serve close to 7,000 students each year. Starting from the decades-old Scholarship Program, which awards grants and loans to highly qualified candidates, to the New York and Paris Summer Intern Programs, AGBU staunchly believes in the importance and value of education. In fact, counted among the organization's institutions are the two largest day schools outside of Armenia—the Lazar Najarian-Calouste Gulbenkian School in Aleppo (Syria) and the Manoogian-Demirdjian School in Southern California (USA) with over 1,400 and 950 pupils respectively.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Well over 1,500 students from 29 countries (*listed below*) received grants and loans totaling over \$2,043,000 during 2004 and 2005 to pursue their collegiate studies, in fields ranging from medicine to the arts and from law to Armenian studies. Almost half of this sum was allocated to scholarships for graduate degree candidates at the American University of Armenia.

Argentina	Cyprus	Italy	Turkey
Armenia	France	Japan	United Arab Emirates
Australia	Germany	Jordan	United Kingdom
Austria	Greece	Lebanon	Uruguay
Belgium	Hungary	Netherlands	USA
Bulgaria	Iran	Poland	
Canada	Iraq	Switzerland	
China	Israel	Syria	



AGBU Toronto Board Members & administrators with 2004 scholarship recipients.

SCHOOL MILESTONES

RENOVATIONS & EXPANSIONS

APRIL 2004—Over 300 community members gathered at the **NUBARIAN-MANOOGIAN SCHOOL** in Montevideo, Uruguay, for a ribbon-cutting ceremony of the expanded complex, which includes two kindergartens, five classrooms and the Sam Simonian Hall.

JUNE 2005—His Holiness, Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians, blessed and dedicated six classrooms and a teachers lounge in the **MANOOGIAN-DEMIRDJIAN SCHOOL** in Canoga Park, California, during a special ceremony to unveil the new facilities. While substantial fundraising, including \$300,000 raised by the school's Parent Teacher Organization, and the expansion construction began in 2003, an additional \$100,000 was pledged for four of the classrooms.

SEPTEMBER 2005—The **ALEX & MARIE MANOOGIAN SCHOOL** in Detroit completely renovated its elementary and secondary school facilities to continue serving the greater Detroit community as a charter institution. In addition, the school received a \$153,000 academic excellence grant from the Walton Family Foundation in 2004, which was allocated to the upgrading of the science and computer labs.

ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER 2004—The **LAZAR NAJARIAN-CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN SCHOOL** in Aleppo, Syria, celebrated its 50th Anniversary with some 4,000 participants during a weekend of events honoring five decades of achievement at AGBU's largest school.



Manoogian School Celebrates its 35th Anniversary with (left to right) Mr. Eugene Gargaro Jr. of Masco, Principal Dr. Nadya Sarafian, Dr. Richard Marburger of Lawrence Tech University, and AGBU Board Member & Masco CEO Richard Manoogian.

OCTOBER 2004—The **ALEX & MARIE MANOOGIAN SCHOOL** commemorated its 35th Anniversary in Detroit, Michigan with a special banquet attended by 400 alumni, faculty and parents.

MAY/JUNE 2005—Several joint events between Canada's Toronto Chapter and the local **ZAROUKIAN SCHOOL** celebrated the School's 20th Anniversary and AGBU's 99th Anniversary. Attended by over 250 members and friends, the festivities culminated with a banquet at the Alex Manoogian Cultural Center.

JUNE 2005—As a testament to its three and a half decades of teaching excellence, the **ARMEN QUÉBEC-ALEX MANOOGIAN SCHOOL** in Montréal, Canada, honored its 35th Anniversary with a banquet attended by hundreds.

ALUMNI GIVING BACK

MAY 2004—Over 300 guests attended a fundraising banquet organized by the Los Angeles alumni of the **LAZAR NAJARIAN-CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN SCHOOL** in Aleppo, Syria. Staying true to its mission for the last 15 years, such as providing scholarships and other grants on a near annual basis, the group raised \$30,000 through this event.

Mikhael Yessayan Kindergarten students gather in front of the new AGBU Calouste Gulbenkian Center in Aleppo, Syria. The Center also houses the Yessayan Kindergarten.



STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT 2004/2005

High school students from Buenos Aires' **MARIE MANOOGIAN INSTITUTE** and Canoga Park's **MANOOGIAN-DEMIRDJIAN SCHOOL** took turns visiting California and Argentina as part of their established exchange program, which was created to foster AGBU's mission to expose its youth to the common values that bind Armenians together.

For two school years in a row, a combined total of 80 students at the **MANOOGIAN-DEMIRDJIAN SCHOOL** received high marks on the college-level Advanced Placement Program (AP®), which earned them the designation of AP Scholar by the College Board.

Exemplifying the importance of philanthropy and compassion for their fellow Americans, the student body at the **MANOOGIAN-DEMIRDJIAN SCHOOL** raised \$12,000 in September 2004 for a Red Cross donation assisting victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Two students from Sydney's **ALEX MANOOGIAN SATURDAY SCHOOL** received the "Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement" during a ceremony attended by 2,000 guests in September 2005. Sponsored by the local government, the award recognizes students from community language schools for their achievements and contributions to Australian society.



Classroom at Toronto's Zaroukian Day School.



Students from Marie Manoogian Institute in Buenos Aires visit Disneyland during the 2005 Student Exchange Program with the Manoogian-Demirdjian School in California.

NEW YORK SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM

Making a difference in the lives of over 450 global university students for 18 years, the AGBU Presidents Club-sponsored NYSIP offers young Armenians the opportunity to spend a summer in Manhattan at the New York University dorms and intern at renowned institutions and companies to broaden their professional horizons. In addition, participants gain knowledge of their heritage and learn the importance of volunteerism through a well-rounded curriculum of cultural and educational lectures, and community service projects.



2005 New York Interns perform community service during their annual "Sunshine for Seniors" event.



Manoogian-Demirdjian pre-school and elementary school students take part in Paradox 2005 celebrations in Southern California.

From June to August of 2004 and 2005, the 18th and 19th sessions of NYSIP brought together a combined 66 university students from Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, England, France, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates and USA.

PARIS SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM

In 2005, PSIP welcomed five university students from Armenia and Switzerland, who were housed in *la Maison des Étudiants Arméniens*—funded by AGBU Founder Boghos Nubar. During their stay, students had the opportunity to gain valuable work experience in leading Paris-based institutions and explore the Armenian side of the French capital.



2005 Paris Summer Interns.



Eighth grade high school graduates of Armen Québec-Alex Manoogian School in Montréal with diplomas in hand.



Pictured with the principal of the Manoogian school in Michigan (left) and the president of Lawrence Tech University (right) are the three Manoogian students taking part in the INSPIRE program, a joint initiative between the two institutions that allows Manoogian students to earn college credits.

CHAPTER PROGRAMS

ART ACADEMY

Syria, Aleppo Sarian Academy

CHORAL GROUPS

Argentina, Buenos Aires	Shnorhali
Bulgaria, Haskovo	Gomidas
Bulgaria, Yambol	Aravod
France, Paris	Koghtan
Iraq, Baghdad	Choir
Lebanon, Beirut	Junior Choir
Uruguay, Montevideo	Grung

DANCE ENSEMBLES

Argentina, Cordoba	Ararat
Bulgaria, Plovdiv	Mirage (Jazz Ballet)
Greece, Thessaloniki	AGBU Dance Ensemble
Lebanon, Beirut	Antranik
Syria, Kamishli	Akhtamar
USA, New York	Antranig

LIBRARY/RESEARCH CENTER

France, Paris Nubarian Library

MEDICAL CLINICS

Lebanon, Beirut Medical Dispensary

MUSICAL GROUPS

Bulgaria, Plovdiv	Erebouni
Syria, Aleppo	Marching Band
USA, Pasadena	Marching Band

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Canada, Montréal	Golden Age
Lebanon, Beirut	Asbeds
Syria, Aleppo	Asbeds
USA, Pasadena	Asbeds
USA, Pasadena	Hye Geen
USA, New York	NYSEC

THEATRE GROUPS

Bulgaria, Haskovo	Youth Troupe
France, Paris	Ahazank
Lebanon, Beirut	Vahram Papazian
USA, Pasadena	Ardavazt
	Ardavazt Juniors



AGBU Montréal's renovated, state-of-the-art Alex Manoogian Community Center was inaugurated on October 30, 2004.

CELEBRATING MILESTONES

25TH ANNIV.	2004	Coro Shnorhali (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
	2005	Ardavazt Theater Group (Pasadena, USA)
30TH ANNIV.	2005	Golden Age Committee (Montréal, Canada)
35TH ANNIV.	2004	Antranig Dance Ensemble (New York, USA)
40TH & 41ST ANNIV.	2004 & 2005	São Paulo Chapter (São Paulo, Brazil)
50TH ANNIV.	2005	Sarian Art Academy (Aleppo, Syria)
95TH ANNIV.	2005	Marseilles Chapter (Marseilles, France)
98TH ANNIV.	2004	AGBU's 98 th Anniversary (Cordoba, Argentina)
99TH ANNIV.	2005	AGBU's 99 th Anniversary (Cordoba, Argentina)
	2005	AGBU's 99 th Anniversary (Montréal, Canada)
	2005	AGBU's 99 th Anniversary (Toronto, Canada)

DISTRICT & CHAPTER CHAIRS 2004 – 2005

ARGENTINA, BUENOS AIRES—Vahram Hairabedian. **CORDOBA**—Ricardo Erezian. **AUSTRALIA, MELBOURNE**—Maral Tchorbadjian. **SYDNEY**—Aram Hagopian. **AUSTRIA, VIENNA**—Tamara Babayan-Bohdjalian (2004), Berge Seraydarian (2005). **BRAZIL, SÃO PAULO**—Carlos Matheus Der Haroutiounian. **BULGARIA, BURGAS**—Hagop Movsesian. **DOBRICH**—Hayg Egikian. **HASKOVO**—Garó Hachadurian. **PLOVDIV**—Roupen Chavoushian (2004), Hripsime Tovmasyan (2005). **RUSSE**—Edmon Dogramajian. **SILISTRA**—Mgrdich Kalustdian. **SLIVEN**—Varta Garabedian. **SOFIA**—Sonia Avakian-Bedrosian. **VARNA**—Vanuhi Arakelian. **YAMBOL**—Sonya Arshavir Hovnanyan. **CANADA, MONTREAL**—Boghos Kichian (2004), Viken Attarian (2005). **TORONTO**—Hagop Altounian (2004), Knar Basmadjian (2005). **VANCOUVER**—Dickran Kuchukgozian. **CYPRUS, LARNACA**—Stepan Kamakian. **LIMASSOL**—Merouj Sarkissian. **NICOSIA**—Karekin Costanian. **EGYPT, DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF EGYPT, CAIRO**—Berdj Terzian. **CAIRO**—Onnig Belekdanian. **ALEXANDRIA**—Sarkis Vartzedian. **ETHIOPIA, ADDIS ABABA**—Vahakn Karibian. **FRANCE, DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF FRANCE, PARIS**—Denis Ketchedjian. **LYON**—Serge Vartanian (2004), Michel Sandjian (2005). **MARSEILLE**—Bernard Besoian. **NICE-COTE D'AZUR**—Alain Kebadjian (2004), Chakée Hagopian-Clausen (2005). **PARIS**—Richard Abdalian. **ST. CHAMOND/ST. ETIENNE**—Leonardo Basmadjian. **VALENCE**—Varoujan Varvarian (2004), Philippe Panossian (2005). **VIENNE**—Soukias Soukiassian. **GREECE, DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF GREECE, ATHENS**—Dikran Abassian. **THESSALONIKI**—Haigouhi Portukalian. **IRAN, TEHRAN**—Roupen Ter Poghosian. **IRAQ, BAGHDAD**—Hampartzoum Shehranian. **ITALY, MILAN**—Haig Alexanian. **LEBANON, DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF LEBANON, BEIRUT**—Avedis Demirdjian. **SOUTH AFRICA, JOHANNESBURG**—Jacques Adanalian. **SWITZERLAND, GENEVA**—Taline Avakian. **SYRIA, DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF SYRIA, ALEPPO**—Melkon Shamamian (2004/2005), Bedros Boyadjian (2005). **ALEPPO**—Varoujan Tenekejian. **DAMASCUS**—Takvor Boyadjian. **KAMISHLI**—Zareh Simonian. **LATTAKIA**—Hagop Attamian. **YACOUBIEH**—Kevork Khatchadourian. **UNITED KINGDOM, LONDON**—Harout Aghajanian. **URUGUAY, MONTEVIDEO**—Avedis Barsamian (2004), Hagop Chamikian (2005). **USA, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT COMMITTEE, LOS ANGELES**—Vahe Imasdounian. **FRESNO, CA**—Berj Kalamkarian. **HYE GEEN LOS ANGELES, CA**—Sona Yacoubian. **OAKLAND-SAN FRANCISCO, CA**—Ashken Mouradian. **ORANGE COUNTY, CA**—Krikor Mahdessian. **PALM SPRINGS**—Mary Beloian. **SAN DIEGO, CA**—Ani Kalayjian-Lanuzza. **SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, CA**—Hovig Antabian. **SAN GABRIEL/GLENDALE, CA**—Raffi Elmajian. **SILICON VALLEY, CA**—Yervant Zorian. **CHICAGO, IL**—Heratch Doumanian. **NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT, MA**—Souren Maserejian. **DETROIT, MI**—Nadya Sarafian, David Terzibashian. **CLEVELAND, OH**—Sebouh Setrakian. **PHILADELPHIA, PA**—Elizabeth Barone, Clara Samelian. **PROVIDENCE MEN, RI**—William Aznavourian. **HOUSTON, TX**—Sarkis Ohanian. **PRESIDENT'S CLUB**—Vartkess & Rita Balian.

Chapters

AGBU's over six dozen Chapters dedicated their multifold efforts to fundraising for both local and Central Board initiatives, celebrating milestones, planning informative events and engaging the local community. Moreover, the organization's cultural groups dazzled tens of thousands of spectators worldwide through concerts, performances and special programs that brought together young and old alike.

LOOKING FORWARD

Renovations—Expansions—Special Events

MARCH 2004—As part of its youth endeavors, the Buenos Aires Chapter renovated the gymnasium in its Center and held a reopening ceremony. The facility serves over 300 young athletes.

SEPTEMBER 2004—The Southern California District (SCDC) sponsored its first Society Gala Dinner with over 200 guests and generated \$144,000 for SCDC's initiatives in the region.

OCTOBER 2004—Hundreds of Armenians gathered at the newly renovated Montréal Center for a weekend of activities celebrating the local Chapter's renewed commitment to the community and the completion of its \$1 million renovation. Highlights of the weekend included a cultural performance with close to 600 audience members and a gala banquet.

JULY 2005—The Marseilles Chapter, in addition to commemorating its 95th Anniversary, honored Serge Tchuruk, Chairman and CEO of the multinational corporation Alcatel and one of the world's most prominent business leaders of Armenian descent. Over 250 AGBU Central Board members, supporters and friends from six countries attended the gala dinner.

OCTOBER 2005—The SCDC Second Annual Society Gala Dinner, attended by 300 guests, raised over \$200,000, which was allocated to the development and administration of youth programs within Southern California.



Left, Duduk Master Djivan Gasparyan and dancer Sophie Devoyan from Armenia take their final bows in Beirut, Lebanon. Right, One of three sold-out matinee performances to 1,000 Lebanese Armenian school students.



Guest of Honor Serge Tchuruk (fourth from right), AGBU President Berge Setrakian (far right), Gala organizers and guests gather to cut the ceremonial first slice of cake at the Marseilles Chapter's 95th Anniversary banquet.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

LEBANON DISTRICT GATHERS OVER 6,000 ATTENDEES IN BEIRUT—THEATRE GROUP TRAVELS TO ARMENIA

MAY 2004—With members of the AGBU-sponsored Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra from Armenia and the local Beirut Symphonic Orchestra, world-renowned New Age musician Ara Gevorgian delighted a capacity crowd of over 2,000 for two nights at the invitation of the Lebanon District.

AUGUST 2004—Traveling to the homeland, the Lebanon District's V. Papazian Theater Company participated in Armenia's "One Nation One Culture" Festival and staged performances in Yerevan, Gyumri and Stepanakert (Karabakh).

NOVEMBER 2004—Internationally acclaimed duduk virtuoso



Some of the 4,000 spectators that attended the "Megaevento" event in Buenos Aires, Argentina.



Ardavazt Theatre Group's production of "Leblebiji Hor-Hor Agha" in Pasadena in October 2004.

Djivan Gasparyan played to audiences numbering over 3,000 at the President Emile Lahoud Exhibition Hall. A matinee of this performance also took place for 1,000 students from AGBU and other local Armenian schools.

ANTRANIG DANCE ENSEMBLE MARKS MILESTONE WITH PERFORMANCE

JUNE 2004—More than 1,000 capacity audience members applauded as the Antranig Dance Ensemble returned to Lincoln Center and marked its 35th Anniversary with a performance entitled "Journey Through Dance."

AGBU ARDAVAZT & LARK MUSICAL SOCIETY PRESENT ACCLAIMED TCHOUHADJIAN OPERETTA

OCTOBER 2004—Over 7,000 attendees attended three sold-out performances of Dikran Tchouhadjian's widely acclaimed operetta, "Leblebiji Hor-Hor Agha." Performed as a joint venture between the AGBU Ardavazt Theater Company and the Lark Musical Society, this large-scale event raised funds for both cultural organizations.

GENEVA CHAPTER ACCOMPANIES SWISS CANTON DELEGATION TO ARMENIA

APRIL 2005—Representatives from the Geneva Chapter accompanied the Geneva Canton Minister of Education, Mr. Charles Beer, on his first trip to Armenia in April 2005 to supervise the implementa-



Melbourne's "Sounds Armenian" performance in August 2005.

tion of the city's Armenia programs. Partners of the Geneva Canton in their Armenia projects are the Geneva Chapter and the Armenian Social Investment Fund.

MELBOURNE CHAPTER SPONSORS "SOUNDS ARMENIAN" CULTURAL PERFORMANCE

AUGUST 2005—Showcasing the rich musical heritage of Armenia's history, "Sounds Armenian," presented by the Melbourne Chapter, assembled an array of artists both local and from the homeland for a unique program incorporating projected visual and sound effects that was attended by hundreds of guests.

BUENOS AIRES "MEGAEVENTO CULTURAL" ATTRACTS THOUSANDS; 1,000 TUNE IN ONLINE

SEPTEMBER 2005—Approximately 4,000 spectators gathered at the Buenos Aires Exhibition Center to enjoy "Megaevento Cultural," a live spectacle of song and dance with 500 performers. Held under the auspices of the City of Buenos Aires and the Embassy of the Republic of Armenia, and organized by the local Chapter, this program united all Armenian cultural groups within South America for the first time, including AGBU's Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay Chapters. Utilizing web technology to maximize exposure of "Megaevento," a live Web broadcast, AGBU's first ever, took place with 1,000 viewers online.



NORK CHILDREN'S CENTER TROUPE ATTRACTS 7,000 IN NORTH AMERICA

OCTOBER 2005—Taking the United States and Canada by storm, the AGBU Nork Children's Center Performing Arts Troupe launched their much-awaited North American debut. Charming sold-out audiences totaling over 7,000 in New York, Richmond (VA), Washington, D.C., Racine (WI), Chicago, Boston, Montréal and Toronto with their irresistible spirit and enthusiasm, the 52 talented youth, ages 10-19, completed a whirlwind one-month tour. The award-winning troupe - comprised of the Haykazounk Folk Ensemble, Narek Dance Ensemble, Nork Circus School and Vahagn Drum Ensemble - presented a remarkable repertoire of traditional Armenian and contemporary art forms, including song, dance, instrumental music, dramatic recitation and gymnastics. Joining AGBU in hosting this large-scale endeavor in honor of the 1600th Anniversary of the creation of the Armenian Alphabet were the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern) and the Diocese of the Armenian Church of Canada.

Young Professionals

Responding to the lifestyle of young, career-oriented Armenians, the global network of thirteen Young Professional (YP) Groups mobilizes ambitious volunteers dedicated to AGBU, who enrich the greater community through innovative events and programs. Whether mentoring college students, sponsoring cultural events or raising funds for AGBU programs, YPs inspire thousands of Armenians every year to get involved and stay involved.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Celebrating its 10-year anniversary in 2005, the worldwide YP network welcomed the establishment of new groups in Boston, Paris, Plovdiv, Sofia and Tehran, nearly doubling its number. In addition, the first YP Conference held outside of North America took place in July 2004 in conjunction with the XVII AGBU World Games in Bulgaria (see page 18), which, along with a special YP itinerary during the 2004 General Assembly in Armenia, provided an ideal opportunity for YPs to connect with their global peers.

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

Benefiting the Young Professional Endowment Fund for the AGBU Children's Centers, the YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF GREATER NEW YORK (YPGNY) sponsored its signature Armenian Christmas Reception & Silent Auction in January 2004 at the Mercedes Benz Showroom in Manhattan with over 150 supporters in attendance.

The YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (YPNC) hosted its Winter Gala Getaway Weekend, the largest YP event worldwide, in the heart of San Francisco during February 2004 and 2005, attracting 500 guests and adding funds to the YP Endowment.

Reaching out to students in the United States and Armenia, the YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF LOS ANGELES (YPLA) fundraised to provide scholarships to participants of the New York Summer Intern Program and an allocation towards the American University of Armenia's Digital Library subscription.

All in all, the worldwide YP network raised over \$25,000 for a variety of AGBU programs during 2004 and 2005.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS CHAIRS 2004 – 2005

BULGARIA, PLOVDIV—Lusine Dadurian. **SOFIA**—Hristo Angelichin. **CANADA, MONTREAL**—Alex Melikian. **FRANCE, PARIS**—Vanessa Ketchedjian. **IRAN, TEHRAN**—Raymond Hartoonian. **LEBANON, BEIRUT**—Arpy Tanielian (2004), Saro Nercessian (2005). **SWITZERLAND, GENEVA**—Karineh Manasserian-Cattin. **USA, LOS ANGELES, CA**—Cynthia Simonian. **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, CA**—Sarkis Soghomonian (2004), Ed Minasian (2005). **ORANGE COUNTY, CA**—Natalie Balikciyan, Alis Polatyan, Sella Tosyalian (2004), Greg Sermabeikian (2005). **BOSTON, MA**—Garo Arakelian, Alexis Butler. **GREATER NEW YORK, NY**—Natalie Gabrelian. **PHILADELPHIA, PA**—Stephen Odabashian (2004), Robin Barone (2005).



Top, The inaugural meeting of the Young Professionals of Boston.
Bottom, Young Professionals gather at the 2004 World Games in Bulgaria.



FOCUS

Initiated in 2001 as a weekend event and organized entirely by a new generation of AGBU beneficiaries and members, FOCUS unites global young Armenian professionals to share their international perspectives and pay tribute to the programs that have positively impacted their lives. From July 14-17, 2005, close to 600 young Armenian professionals flew in from Belgium, Canada, England, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon and Switzerland, in addition to over 20 U.S. cities, for the third biennial FOCUS in South Beach (Miami), Florida. With a program comprised of a networking evening featuring a panel discussion, a silent auction of art from the Children's Centers, and a sold-out Gala at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, the event raised \$25,000 for the Scholarship Program through pre-event fundraising.



The Saturday night Gala in Miami.



"FOCUS on Art" fundraising event.

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires *Colonia de Vacaciones (Summer Camp)*
Grupo Scout General Antranik
Liga de Jóvenes (Youth Group)
Sports Committee
Cordoba *Day Camp*
Liga de Jóvenes (Sports & Youth Group)

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Sports & Youth Group
Sydney Sports & Youth Group

BRAZIL

São Paulo *Departamento de Jovens (Sports & Youth Group)*

BULGARIA

Plovdiv Green Camp
Sports & Youth Group
Sofia Unger Camp
Youth Group

CANADA

Montréal Scouts Group
Sports Committee
Toronto Sports & Youth Committee

CYPRUS

Nicosia Ararat Futsal Team

EGYPT

Alexandria HMEM Scouts, Sports & Youth Group
Heliopolis HMEM Scouts, Sports & Youth Group

FRANCE

Ancelle *Colonie de Vacances (Summer Camp)*
Lyon Youth Group
Marseilles Youth Group
Paris *Union Sportif Nubar*
Jeunes (Youth Group)
Les Z'Anims (Youth Group)

St. Chamond/

St. Etienne Youth Group
Valence Youth Group
Vienne Youth Group

GREECE

Athens Youth Group

IRAN

Tehran AYA Scouts Group
AYA Sports Teams
AYA Youth Group

IRAQ

Baghdad AYA Ohan Sports Teams
AYA Ohan Scouts Groups
AYA Ohan Youth Groups

LEBANON*

Antelias AYA Antranik Groups
Summer Day Camp
Beirut AYA Antranik Groups
Sin-el Fil AYA Antranik Groups
Tripoli AYA Antranik Groups
Zahle AYA Antranik Groups

SYRIA*

Aleppo AYA Antranik Groups
Damascus AYA Antranik Groups
Kamishli AYA Scouts Group
Summer Day Camp
Kessab Summer Camp

UNITED KINGDOM

London Youth Group

URUGUAY

Montevideo *Liga de Jóvenes (Sports & Youth Group)*

USA

New York Camp Nubar
SCDC Generation Next Mentorship Program
Sports Groups
Scouts Groups

*AYA Groups in Lebanon & Syria have several scouts, sports, college youth and youth subcommittees

Youth

Campers, counselors and administrators at AGBU Colonie de Vacances (Summer Camp) in July 2004, Ancelle, France.



SUMMER CAMPS

The Buenos Aires (Argentina) Chapter's **COLONIA DE VACACIONES** attracted hundreds of children from December to February with its annual day camp. Offering a host of indoor and outdoor facilities, the local Center's summer session united youngsters ages 3-12 for swimming, music lessons and a monthly camping trip.

The Plovdiv (Bulgaria) Chapter sponsored young children in the renowned village of Markovo for its weeklong **GREEN CAMP** in June 2005, offering Armenian language, culture and religion instruction, and other outdoor activities.

Initiated in 2003 by the Sofia (Bulgaria) Chapter, **CAMP UNGER** brought together children, ages 10-12, for an opportunity to meet Armenian peers and take a break from city life.

The France District's Camp, **COLONIE DE VACANCES**, established in 1979, had full capacity during its annual three-week sessions in July, attracting campers from all parts of France, in addition to other European countries, Russia and the United Arab Emirates.

Continuing its 37-year tradition, the Aleppo (Syria) District's **KESSAB CAMP** sponsored some 200 children, who would not otherwise have been able to attend, at the camp for two weeks each summer. In addition, well over a thousand AGBU youth flocked to the site for their annual camping sessions.

A combined 579 campers, including 60 new children, from Canada, France, Germany, Lebanon, Turkey and USA participated in **CAMP NUBAR** (New York, USA), AGBU's longest-running camp, during 2004 and 2005. Several new additions to the grounds, including an art barn, adult staff building and lounge, three tennis courts, two girls' cabins, girl counselors' cabin, and sailboats and tubes at the lake, ensure that Camp Nubar remains a state-of-the-art facility.

ATHLETICS

XVII AGBU World Games Held in Albena, Bulgaria with Over 350 Participants

For a full week in July 2004, 350 athletes, YPs and supporters from Argentina, Austria, Canada, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Egypt, France, Italy, Lebanon, Spain, Syria and the United States journeyed to the Black Sea

AGBU enjoys the membership of thousands of youth around the world who eagerly participate in a diverse array of local, regional and global programs and activities. While gaining important skills and learning about good sportsmanship and leadership, AGBU's new generation also creates lifelong bonds and celebrates the Armenian spirit.

Opening Ceremonies of the 2004 World Games in Bulgaria.



resort town of Albena, Bulgaria, to represent their respective countries at the XVII AGBU World Games, which was organized by the Sofia Chapter and its local Games committee. Additionally, the first overseas Young Professionals conference was held alongside competitions in basketball, football, volleyball, table tennis, tennis, badminton and swimming.

*27th & 28th Annual South American Games
Cordoba (2004 Host) - Buenos Aires (2005 Host)*

With more than 650 combined spectators cheering in the stands, young athletes from Buenos Aires, Cordoba, Montevideo and São Paulo competed for first place in football, basketball, volleyball and backgammon during this annual South American tradition.

*Canadian Regional Games Held in
Toronto (May) & Montréal (October)*

Continuing their annual tradition of inter-provincial games, Canada's youth groups came together in the spring and fall of each year for two weekends of friendly competitions in basketball. In addition, an ice hockey competition, Canada's national sport, premiered on the roster during the October 2005 tournament.

Capturing the Cyprus Futsal Association's victory for the fifth year in a row, the **NICOSIA CHAPTER'S ARARAT FUTSAL TEAM** became the national champion in both 2004 and 2005. Competing nationally and internationally since 1984, the team is ranked in the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA).

The **PARIS UNION SPORTIF NUBAR** basketball and volleyball teams, both male and female, traveled to Nice in 2005 to participate in the 4th Annual Manouk Tournament, where the men's team placed first in basketball once again. Also in 2005, the sporting group reached out to new members by offering badminton, and the men's basketball team climbed the ranks in local divisions.



Above, Garo, the mascot of the 2004 Bulgarian World Games. Left, Campers and counselors at Camp Nubar in upstate New York.

Exemplifying their great skill in basketball, the **BEIRUT (LEBANON) AYA ANTRANIK GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM** won the national championship title for the third and fourth consecutive years in 2004 and 2005. In addition, the **BEIRUT (LEBANON) AYA MEN'S STABLE TENNIS TEAM** proved victorious by also winning the Lebanese championship title in 2005.

Traveling to Damascus for the Syrian national swimming competitions in mid-July 2004, eleven members of the **ALEPPO AYA GIRLS SWIMMING TEAM** participated in a range of races, including 50-meter backstroke, 200-meter butterfly, and 400-meter freestyle, and came home with 16 gold medals, 18 silver medals and 17 bronze medals.

YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

Recognizing the need to perpetuate the Armenian identity in Argentina beyond the capital and Cordoba, the **BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA) LIGA DE JÓVENES** organized the first Interprovincial Visit to smaller Armenian communities. In February 2004, some 300 people witnessed the official establishment of the Armenian community of Posadas (1,000 km from the capital). In 2005, in addition to celebrating their group's 65th Anniversary, the local youth made another interprovincial visit, this time to Rosario. Liga also mounted its immensely popular annual Woodstokian concert in 2004 and 2005, where hundreds of youth heard the sounds of emerging Armenian Argentinean bands.

GENERATION NEXT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Modeled after the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America program, Generation Next Mentorship Program has been working with the Glendale Unified School District (GUSD) in greater Los Angeles since 1997. During the 2004-2005 academic year, the group continued to bring together more than 30 volunteer mentors and their assigned mentees at least twice a month for joint activities. The mentor relationship served as a role model for students, and offered them the guidance and tools necessary for success in all aspects of their lives.



Mentors and mentees in California's Generation Next Mentorship Program clean up their neighborhood as they learn the value of civic responsibility.

In February 2005, the **TORONTO (CANADA) SPORTS & YOUTH COMMITTEE** sponsored a charity concert at the Manoogian Cultural Center, raising funds for its sports and youth programs. Three Armenian Canadian bands performed for over 175 fans.

During the month of August 2005, over a dozen French Armenian teenagers, ages 15-18, had the opportunity to visit AGBU projects and witness firsthand the positive outcome of the organization's homeland endeavors through the **FRANCE DISTRICT'S ANNUAL YOUTH TRIP TO ARMENIA AND KARABAKH**. More importantly, they also traveled to Norashen in Karabakh, where they helped build a nursery and forged friendships with local youth. Back in France, the **PARIS UGAB JEUNES** youth group brought together over 70 participants from England, Italy, Switzerland and all corners of the French republic for "WEJ 2005" (Weekend Jeunes/Youth Weekend). The event provided an ideal backdrop not only for an exchange of ideas among AGBU's European youth, but also to launch an enhanced level of cooperation among its youth groups. Further south, in the Provence region, young members of the **VALENCE CHAPTER**, who are alumni of Colonie de Vacances, initiated a new **UGAB JEUNES** group in 2005 that organizes weekly theatrical exercises, sports, cultural, and recreational activities.

During the month of September 2005, members of the **BEIRUT AYA DANCE GROUP** traveled to Armenia to reconnect with the homeland. The highlight of the trip was visiting the Nork Children's Center, where they met with the dance students and spent an afternoon choreographing a dance together.

Demonstrating their graceful talent, **KAMISHLI (SYRIA) CHAPTER'S AKHTAMAR DANCE GROUP**, comprised entirely of local youth, placed third in a Syrian dance competition in 2005.

During the months of September and October 2004, **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT'S (USA) ARDAVAZT JUNIORS THEATER GROUP** staged five original one-act plays for eight evenings to capacity audiences totaling well over 2,200. To accommodate the demand, extra seats were often added, and three additional performances were staged after the production's close.



Campers, counselors and administrators at Bulgaria's Camp Unger in 2005.



Ardavazt Juniors Theater Group performs "Teenage Wasteland"

Scouts

The **BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA) GRUPO SCOUT GENERAL ANTRANIK** celebrated its 19th Anniversary at the local Center with some 500 guests.

The **BAGHDAD (IRAQ) AYA OHAN SCOUTS** organized several activities to unite AGBU youth in the Middle East, such as participating in the Lebanon District's Annual Scouts Trip to Mount Lebanon in 2004. The following summer, 100 Baghdad Scouts joined the Aleppo Scouts on their annual camping excursion to Kessab, Syria.

Celebrating 20 years of AGBU scouting activities in the Southern California District (USA), hundreds of supporters of the **SAN FERNANDO VALLEY SCOUTS** gathered for a banquet in July 2005.



Members of SCDC's Pasadena Scout Troupe.

Publications & Media

The organization's 14 publications spread the word to some 100,000 individuals globally, from local newsletters to *AGBU News Magazine*, which is published through the New York Central Office and has the largest circulation of any Armenian periodical in the world.

During 2004 and 2005, newsletters were created in Beirut (*YP Corner*), Damascus (*Yeram*) and Marseilles (*UGAB Méditerranée*), a new scholarly publication emerged from the Nubarian Library in Paris (*Revue Arménienne des Questions Contemporaines*) and the Sydney Chapter sponsored two directories for its local community, *The Almanac of Armenians in New South Wales* and *The Bilingual Community Guide*.

AGBU.org continues to be the organization's premier source for online information, forms, photos and events for 10,000 monthly users.



AGBU PUBLICATIONS

AGBU News Magazine	New York, USA
AGBU Voice	Bulgaria, Plovdiv
Ararat Quarterly	New York, USA
Deghegadou	Cairo, Egypt
Desilk	Toronto, Canada
Generación 3	Buenos Aires, Argentina
Hayatsk	Aleppo, Syria
Hoosharar	New York, USA
Khosnag	Beirut, Lebanon
Mioutune	Sydney, Australia
Revue Arménienne	Paris, France
UGAB Méditerranée	Marseilles, France
YP Corner	Beirut, Lebanon
Yeram	Damascus, Syria

AGBU WEBSITES

FLAGSHIP SITE

www.agbu.org New York, USA

DISTRICT SITES

www.agbuscdc.org Los Angeles, USA
www.ugabfrance.info Paris, France

CHAPTER/YP SITES

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SCHOOL SITES

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www.alexmanoogian.qc.ca Montréal, Canada
www.agbutorontoschool.com

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 Southfield, USA
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Visit AGBU.org for a complete and up-to-date list of all AGBU websites.

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