



THE SANDPIPER



THE WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SAND LAKE, NY

P. O. Box 535, West Sand Lake, NY 12196

www.SandLakeKiwanis.org

SandLakeKiwanis @nycap.rr.com

Meets 6:30 PM Mondays at The Lakeview Inn Restaurant

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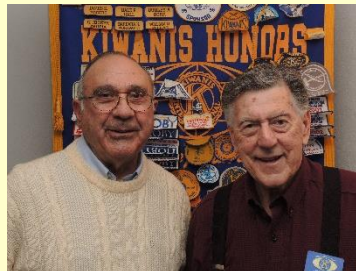
Craig L. Daniels, Joseph M. Behson, Patricia A. Lane

MEETING OF MARCH 28, 2015

PRESIDENT Stuart Nippes presiding

GREETINGS & INVOCATION by Bob Pasquarelli

GUESTS: speaker **Ralph Enokian**,



with Program Chair Joe Trupia

prospective member **Bob Carton**,



a guest of Jim Colabelli

WELCOME BACK Barb Fioravanti

PROJECT SIGNUP SHEETS

DOORS OF HOPE, unloading food truck Tuesday, April 5 and Monday, April 18:

April 5: Bob Loveridge, Skip Patton, Joe Behson, Craig Daniels & Jamie Hanlon

April 18: No one yet

BLOOD DRIVE: Friday, April 22

Setup: Nancy W. Davis

First Shift (1 – 3:30): Canteen – Pat Lane Registration – Eve Ward

Second Shift (3:30 – 6); Canteen – Linda Ellis Registration – Craig Daniels

Cleanup: Nancy W. Davis

MONTHLY PASTA DINNER @ WSL Firehouse, Saturday, April 9:

12 – 7 Setup & Cook: Linda & Lyndon Ellis, Bob Loveridge and Frank Lewandusky

3 – 5:30 Setup & Serve: Jean Hamlin, Jamie Hanlon and Jim Colabelli

3:30 – 7 Cashier: Eve Ward

5 – 7:30 Serve & Takedown: Jean Hamlin, Peg Weiss and Pat Lane

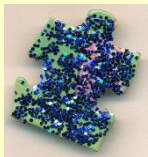
POESTENKILL DISCOVERY DAY Saturday, April 2:

Pick up food: Bob Pasquarelli & Craig Daniels

Cook, Serve and Cashier: Lyndon Ellis, Ward, Colabelli, Mulligan, Hamlin

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Election of 2 delegates and 2 alternates to represent the club at International Convention. **John Brownrigg** will represent East Greenbush Kiwanis. Representing Sand Lake Kiwanis, **Pat Lane** will be Delegate 1 and **Dave Booker** will be Delegate 2.



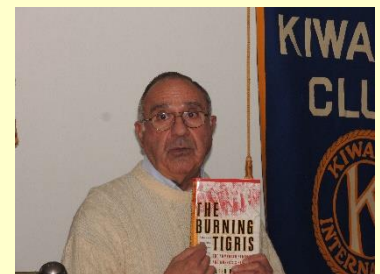
National Autism Day is Saturday, April 2. One of our K-Kids leaders is autistic, and she told us that sometimes life is a puzzle. SLK was presented with puzzle pins for each member, which we are encouraged to wear on April 2.

Joe Behson reminded us that the Dissipated 8 concert is on April 23 at Averill Park High School. Spread the word. Joe has posters.

PROGRAM:



Joe Trupia introduced speaker Ralph Enokian to present “Armenian Genocide Part 2,” a follow-up to the program he presented previously to SLK. Ralph began by teaching us a few phrases in the Armenian language, supplemented by a handout he gave us with translations of common expressions. He brought to our attention the book *The Burning Tigris* by Peter

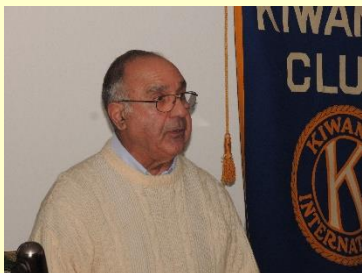


Balakian, which tells of the massacres of the Armenians in the 1890s and of the Armenian Genocide in 1915 at the hands of the Ottoman Turks. Ralph spoke at Shaker High School recently, and his story was well-received. He had planned to attend a presentation by Peter Balakian at Siena College, but Dr. Balakian had to cancel because of illness. The organizers asked Ralph to sub for Dr. Balakian, but he begged off due to fatigue. However, at the event the workshops substituted for the talk seemed not to satisfy the attendees, so Ralph agreed to speak a few words, which turned into an hour and a half. He was well-received, but still didn't get the \$2500 honorarium promised Dr. Balakian.

In the Ottoman Empire the Millet system defined a socio-political structure with Muslims at the top. Christians and followers of other faiths were allowed to practice their faiths and carry on business so long as they did not conflict with Muslim practices. The Armenians were known as successful

business people, and their prosperity enabled the prosperity of the empire. Their prosperity also enabled them to travel, and during the French Revolution they were exposed to nationalism and the increasing rights of poor people. They wanted those things for themselves and their families. The Turkish leaders viewed these ideological changes as a threat, and felt they were losing control. Sultan Abdul Hamid refused to accept the social changes, and was determined to break the spirit of the minorities including, in addition to the Armenians, Greeks, Assyrians and others. During his tenure from 1876 to 1909 he massacred 3,000 Armenians in their villages.

Prior to WWI Armenians, Greeks and other minorities served in the Turkish Army. In 1908, three new leaders known as the Young Turks, dissatisfied with the Sultan, rose up and formed a coup to take over the Empire. Seeing the Armenians, the largest minority, as a threat, they decided to destroy them. Under the cover of the end of World War I, with the help of their ally Germany, they began a systematic plan to carry out their genocide. In 1915 they began sending troops into the provinces. First they rounded up all leaders in the community and tried and executed them for violations of convoluted, contrived laws. Next the men were marched out into the desert where most died of starvation and exposure. Some, along with Greeks, were conscripted into the army. Women and children were stolen, stripped of their belongings, and enslaved under penalty of death. Many found it preferable to jump off the cliffs into the River Tigris, turning it red with blood. Ralph's mother and aunt managed to go from orphanage to orphanage, eventually making it to Canada and then the USA. His grandparents both perished. People were forced to march into closed buildings where they were burned to death. There was worldwide outrage, but other countries were busy recovering from the ravages of war and did not feel they could spare the resources to intervene.



A new leader named Mustafa Atatürk gained power and resolved to try the Young Turks for war crimes based on the Treaties of Sèvres and Lausanne. They were tried in absentia, as they had already fled the country. 85% of the homeland was lost, and 1.5 million people were killed. The principles of Atatürk's reform, upon which modern Turkey was established, are referred to as Kemalism. The genocide ended in 1923, but Turkey denies it ever took place, calling it a civil war. Ralph recounted that during his campaign, Barack Obama referred to Armenian genocide, but as president he refers to the events simply as a massacre, purportedly to protect our petroleum interests. All the victims of the genocide have been canonized by the Armenian Church. There is now a generation of former orphans, raising children with no grandparents. Ralph had the opportunity to meet a man who killed 80 Turks single-handedly. SLK thanked Ralph heartily for bearing witness to the Armenian genocide so that it will be remembered and never repeated.



HAPPY DOLLARS

- \$ **Pat Lane** is happy because her kids gave her a chocolate Easter bunny which now has no ears.
- \$ **Skip Patton** is happy for a negative biopsy.
- \$ **Barb Fioravanti** had a happy dollar for the smooth closing on her and Gene's new house in New Bern, NC. She also had two "sorry" dollars, one for missing the sponsored youth club night last Monday but glad everyone got to meet Builders Club president and VP Alex Gaboury and Dylan Stroman; and the other for not being able to write the Sandpiper as promised, both due to said closing in NC.

- \$ **Bob Pasquarelli** is happy because his daughters and granddaughters brought food to help out Joan, who still has trouble cooking. Wine from Belize was included.
- \$ **Joe Behson** is happy to have updated the SLK Facebook page. He encourages us to go there and “like” it, as well as encouraging our sponsored youth club members to do the same.
- \$ **Jim Colabelli** had a happy dollar for prospective member Bob Carton. He also had a comment dollar. When he and Jan first came to Albany their Armenian landlady, Mrs. Nazarian, found comfort in recounting the Armenian history to them.
- \$ **Joe Trupia** is happy to have Ralph with us.
- \$ **John Brownrigg** is happy to have sold the last of his rental properties. He is no longer a landlord!
- \$ Prez **Stu Nippes** had a happy Easter though he spent most of it in his car driving to New Jersey to visit his girlfriend, who informed him they would then drive to Ohio to pick up her new puppy, then back to New Jersey, then he drove back home.

DOOR PRIZE, provided by **Joe Trupia**, was won by Bob Pasquarelli. We were short two diners, so their dinners were raffled off to **Frank Lewandusky** and **Ron Wagner**

50/50 for \$22 was won by **Eve Ward**.

PROGRESSIVE 50/50, worth \$293.50 this week with \$15 added and 38 cards left, eluded **Stu Nippes**, who could only come up with the J♠



COMING WEEKS...

NEXT WEEK **PROGRAM CHAIR Jean Hamlin**
 April 4 **PROGRAM:** Ways & Means Committee Update/Board of Directors
 Greeter/Invocator: Janet Malecki

IN 2 WEEKS **PROGRAM CHAIR: Skip Patton**
 April 11 **PROGRAM:** Paris
 GREETER/INVOCATOR John Brownrigg

IN 3 WEEKS **PROGRAM CHAIR John Mulligan**
 APRIL 18 **PROGRAM:** APHS Key Club Officer Installation
 GREETER/INVOCATOR Ron Wagner

IN 4 WEEKS **PROGRAM CHAIR Jim Hoffman**
 April 25 **PROGRAM** APCSD Budget Presentation
 GREETER/INVOCATOR Jim Colabelli

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

What lies behind us, and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us — Ralph Waldo Emerson