



Kfeirian Reunion Foundation

NEWSLETTER

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Arab Response to Gulf Policy Baffles U.S.

by James Abourezk

Kfeirian Jim Abourezk, former U.S. Senator, and founder of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, lives in Rapid City, SD.

Saddam Hussein's megalomania led him into a forcible takeover of Kuwait, believing, wrongly as it turned out, that the nations of the world would complain for a time, then go on about their business.

How could Saddam have known that George Bush, who had just finished mopping up after Panama, would take offense and mobilize not only the United Nations, but American armed forces as well for a friendly takeover of Saudi Arabia? How can one explain to Saddam that just because America both winked at and financed Israel's invasions over the past 45 years, it would assume a different posture when he decided to invade? After all, did not the U.S. cheer his invasion of Iran?

Perhaps the only thing that is obvious from the Kuwait invasion and the U.S. reaction is that neither Bush nor Saddam have clearly thought out the consequences. Saddam and Iraq are either in for a long siege or a brutal military strike as soon as enough U.S. troops are in place to effect one. Bush and the United States are either in for a long and costly siege or for the sign of American soldiers coming home in body bags, the victims of chemical warfare.

Reaction of Arab Masses?

There is a bit of baffled wonderment in Washington over the reaction of the masses in the Arab world to the Kuwait affair. Why, is it asked, are millions of ordinary Arabs cheering Saddam?

At times this phenomenon is being explained as a confrontation of poor against rich, a jealousy by Arabs without oil directed toward those who possess it. That sentiment has been there from the beginning, subdued, but always present.

What is the different now is the emergence of an Arab leader who has stood up to thumb his nose at Israel and its financial and political patron, the U.S. government. Very few of the Arabs now cheering Saddam would volunteer to live under his brutal rule, but they can spot a double standard when they see one.

Here is an invasion that has finally infuriated the U.S.

government sufficiently to prompt it to go to the U.N.--in recent history a pariah in American's eyes--and organize a denunciation of Iraq as well as economic sanctions. But what, the Arabs ask, of Israel's aggression against them over the past 45 years? Why does George Bush dismiss out of hand Saddam's offer to trade occupations--his of Kuwait for Israel's of Palestine, Lebanon, and Syria's Golan Heights?

Why does the American press seem to mourn the death of even one Israeli when it has ignored Israel's slaughter of more than 25,000 Arabs over the years? Why did the U.S. government not only wink at Israel's invasion of Lebanon, but subsequently provide the finances for it?

The anger of the Arab masses should be understood for what it is--recognition of the long history of U.S. support for Israel's aggression against Lebanese, Palestine and Syrians.

It is clear to them that when the American government shows concern for Arabs, it is only for rich Arabs and Israel. It is also clear that Bush's insertion of American troops is a fulfillment of the dream by Henry Kissinger and others of American control of Arab oil.

The long running double standard by the U.S. government has squandered what was once a strong pro-American feeling in the Arab world. And I shudder to think of what will happen to U.S.-Saudi Arabian relations after U.S. troops overstay their welcome there.

Presidential Action Needed

With the same vigor he applied when he organized sanctions against Iraq, George Bush should move to replace American troops in Saudi Arabia with U.N. troops. He should continue with the only realistic option--to press economic sanctions against Iraq, with humanitarian exceptions, of course, until Saddam decides to disgorge Kuwait.

And most importantly, he should also warn Israel that its anxiety for a war against Iraq should be strictly contained. Israel's long running argument that it is American's only strategic asset in the Middle East now has been exposed as the sham that it always has been.

Finally, there is a way to redeem American's credibility with the Arab world by pressing as hard on Israel, to withdraw from south Lebanon, Palestine and the Golan Heights as we have pressed in Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait.

The Lebanese Diaspora

COMING TO THE AMERICAS

The following article was extracted from A Stream out of Lebanon, by David Weale, Charlottetown, PEI, Institute of Island Studies, 1988, 57pp. Reprinted with permission of the author.

Massive out-migration from Lebanon began in the late 1800s, and by the early 1900s the Lebanese were leaving home at the rate of about 15,000 a year. This is the beginning of the vast Lebanese diaspora, which led to the establishing of Lebanese communities in many parts of the world.

Today there are large numbers of Lebanese in Canada, the United States, South America (particularly Brazil), Australia, New Zealand, the West Indies, France, and many other countries. The Lebanese, like the Scots, the Irish--and like Prince Edward Islanders--have become an emigrant people, and it is reckoned that today there are more Lebanese people living abroad than in the homeland.

Why such a massive exodus? A principal cause of out-migration in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was the oppression of Christians by the Turks. The majority of those who left in this period, and all who came to Prince Edward Island, were from the Christian segment of the population. Many carried memories of persecution.

Frank Kays, who left Lebanon in 1900 and settled permanently in Charlottetown in 1910, put it this way: "Why did I come here? A lot of people were leaving at that time. We were under Turkish rule. I was just going to stay a couple of years, make money and go home, but" When Kays departed Lebanon as a boy of sixteen, his father wanted him to stay, to continue his apprenticeship in the family pottery business; but his mother encouraged him to leave, doubtless fearing his probable conscription into the Turkish army and all that might result from that. For his safety's sake his mother was prepared to endure the heartbreak of a prolonged, perhaps permanent, separation. Mrs. Kays could hardly have anticipated that some few years later she, along with some of her other children, would join Frank in the new home he had discovered on Prince Edward Island.

Others came because of the lack of opportunity at home. Regina Korrey, daughter of Joseph and Annie Shama of Charlottetown, said her parents came "because there was nothing doing in the Old Country." Overpopulation was doubtless also a factor. The population of Lebanon today is about three million, which places a very heavy strain on the limited resources of such a small country. As one writer commented, "the women of Lebanon have been more fertile than the land."

The notion of leaving home, though often frightening, also can be powerful and seductive. This is especially true for the young. Those with even the faintest pulse of adventure in their blood simply must go. Once migration out of a country begins it can become a kind of contagion. Whole towns and districts begin emptying in what Samuel Johnson described as the "epidemic fury" of out-migration. It was even so with the Lebanese. By early in this century the famous "Streams from Lebanon" of the Old Testament had become streams of people flowing out of Syria/Lebanon

into the whole world. As one Lebanese woman in Charlottetown said, "We came just because everybody else was leaving, and we came too like everybody else." Another Island man put it this way: "Everyone, every house in Lebanon, nearly, they have somebody who emigrated to Canada, the United States, Australia, Brazil, Germany, France, you name it! And they all have the urge to go somewhere."

Consider the phenomenon of "chain-migration" in terms of a single Lebanese village. At first just a handful left, but wherever they landed they were soon filled with longing for familiar faces. In their letters they urged others to come join them. Often the merits of their new situation were exaggerated. It was difficult not to fall into that temptation, for it served the double purpose of justifying their decision to leave, while making it more attractive for relatives and friends to join them. In this way a few more would be drawn away, and in some cases it was not too long before such a tide of people was flowing that it seemed as though everyone would leave. After all, departure from one's native land was no longer exile when there were comrades and family members beckoning from the new place of settlement.

These themes are explored with great empathy by Emily Nasrallah in her novel Flight Against Time, a story about emigration from Lebanon to Prince Edward Island. Nasrallah lives in Beirut but has made several trips to Charlottetown to visit the members of her family--four brothers and a sister--who live here.

One interesting disclosure by Nasrallah in another of her many books, Birds of September, and a point confirmed in conversation with the author, is that many Lebanese in the early days of out-migration had no idea what their destination would be when they left their homeland. She claims that the fate of many of the emigrants was entirely in the hands of emigration agents who, without consultation, arranged for the journey of the indigent Lebanese refugees. They would send them first to the French port of Marseille, and then place them on vessels with destinations as widespread as Australia, the West Indies, South America, or Canada. Apparently, some of the Lebanese emigrants literally did not know where they had landed until they disembarked.

Most of the Lebanese in Charlottetown can trace their ancestry to just a few villages, and almost all of them are related to other members of the group here. Indeed, the majority of Island Lebanese came from one or the other of two villages in southern Lebanon: Kfeir, in the province of Hasbaya; or Deir Mimas, just a few miles away, in the province of Marjayoun.

While the original emigrants from Lebanon might have come here because of persecution or a lack of opportunity, it is clear that many others came because they were invited and coaxed by relatives. This was expressed neatly by Mrs. E. N. Kays of Charlottetown.

"Well, I guess everybody had somebody here. Like my husband when he came over, his brother Frank was here and then, a few years after they bought the family home, a brother, and sister and mother. They were all living here. They used to come one after the other, all relatives, mostly relatives, cousins..."

Mrs. Kays recalled that, when she came in the 1920s, "There was nobody of my own here." The fact that there were other Lebanese here brought little comfort. "I had nobody of my own," she repeated, "no family, no relatives, no friends. Just stuck here."

The family or kinship group is an esteemed institution in Lebanon, and family loyalty supersedes loyalty to the state or the group. Family being such a dominant force in their lives, it is perhaps not surprising that the Lebanese should have emigrated, not just as individuals, and not as an ethnic group, but as families. This family or clan solidarity was a trait they would share with many of the established residents of Prince Edward Island. It was something Islanders would respect and admire about their new Lebanese neighbors.

Four New Directors Elected to Board at Annual Meeting

Four new Kfeirians were elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms during the annual business meeting held during 58th Reunion.

Cheryl McCoy Slater, Forrest Hills, KY, was re-elected to the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation Board of Directors, having served an earlier term from 1985 through 1987. Cheryl lives with her husband James David who is President of Prouse Creek Processing Co. They have two sons, 13-year old Chad Dustin, an 8th grade student at Varney Elementary School, and Paul David Slater, a college student. (See News Briefs).

For the past 14 years Cheryl has been a first grade teacher and is presently the computer technician for the Writing-To-Read program. She was chosen as Teacher of the Year in Pike County last year, and serves on a committee working to establish curriculum for non-graded schools in Kentucky.

Cheryl is President of the Episcopal Church Women and a Lay Reader. She works with the Rawl Sales Spousal Group which helps the elderly and needy children and families in the Mingo-Pike county area. She has one brother, Rodney, and a sister, Christie. Her parents are Paul and Jeannette Cantees McCoy of South Williamson, KY, and her grandparents are the late George and Hannah Cantees.

Also re-elected to the board is **Edmund George**, Huntington, WV, who had served on three previous occasions: 1955-56, 1964-65, and 1971-72. Mooney, as he is known to his friends, has been chairman of the scholarship committee, and reunion organizing committee in 1954 and 1965.

Edmund is Vice-President and General Sales Manager of the George Tobacco Company and is a Past Master of the Masonic Lodge. He was a Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart recipient during World War II. His parents were Rosa Facoury and Charles George, one of the founding fathers of the Kfeirian Brotherhood.

Mooney is married to Rosalie Russo George. They have one daughter, Barbara George Ricks (Canton, OH), and four sons: Edmund Alan (Pittsburg); Gregory T. (Forence, KY); Mark J. (Huntington); and Christopher (Louisville).

As a member of the board, Edmund will work to increase reunion attendance, involvement in foundation projects,

interest in the scholarship fund, and pride in the Lebanese heritage.

The two other newly elected members of the Board are Julius Saad of Huntington, and Tom Bevins of Surfside Beach, SC.

Nominations for the Board of Directors are made from the floor during the Annual Business meeting. Officers are elected by the Board.

Kfeirian Foundation Scholarships Awarded To Six Students.

Six students have been awarded \$600 scholarships by the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation Scholarship Committee. Each year, scholarships are awarded to undergraduate students only, on the basis of merit. Students must maintain a high personal and scholastic record, and a normal academic load. Scholarship may be renewed by the Scholarship Committee up to a total of four years. Applications for scholarships for 1991-1992 are available from Mitchell Mickel, 2913 Macon Street, S. Charleston, WV 25303. The next application deadline is August 1, 1991. This year's recipients are:

Michele George Huntington, WV, daughter of Joycelyn George, is a Senior at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, VA. Michele spent her junior year abroad in Reading, England. She has been active with the Circle K Club and the Yearbook staff at Randolph-Macon, and at Reading she was "House President" and in the Ski Club.

Lisa Lee Harris, Ann Arbor, MI, daughter of Norma Lee McCarus Harris and Bruce Harris, is a senior at Michigan State University where she was earned honor roll status each year as a pre-medicine major.

Tony Ayoub Saad, Huntington, WV, is a sophomore at Marshall College, where he is majoring in accounting. Tony, born in Kfeir, is the son of the late Ayoub Toufic Saad, and Rose Saad. He graduated from Notre Dame des Agnes in Huntington where he was a Honors student. He enjoys reading, speech, and sports.

Karen A. Salamy, Whitesville, WV, was valedictorian of her high school class, the recipient of many scholarship and leadership awards, and active in intermural sports. Karen is a student at the University of South Carolina. Her parents are Alfred Essa and Beverly Salamy.

Clay W. Scott, Berkeley, CA, son of Lorraine Bassett Scott, Palo Alto, CA, is a senior at the University of California at Berkeley, majoring in Arabic Studies. Clay has won Dean's list honors each semester at Berkeley, and anticipates graduate work in Journalism after a year's study abroad, perhaps in Cairo. Clay is fluent in German, French, Spanish, Arabic, and other languages. He is the grandson of the late Abraham Joseph and Rahija Saad Bassett.

Samira Jo Thabet, Charleston, WV, the daughter of Charles John and Layla Thabet, is a freshman at West Virginia University. Samira was active at South Charleston High School where she won the Student Council Award, the Principal's Leadership Award, the Academic Achievement Award.

An Editorial

Good Things Are Happening

The 58th Reunion in Charleston produced a profit of nearly \$5,800 due to an higher than expected registration of approximately 300 persons. When the fixed costs of a reunion are shared by more people, a profit results. The surplus goes into the treasury to produce earned income for scholarships and other projects.

Do you have any doubts that the Newsletter has stimulated increased attendance and interest in the reunion? The immense effort that has gone into perfecting the mailing list is paying off. More than 1200 changes (additions, deletions, corrections) have been made in the last 20 months. The mailing list now lists 1210 names, nearly 80% of them with telephone numbers. Communication is the basis for building a stronger Kfeirian Reunion Foundation.

Listed elsewhere in this issue are the names of the individuals who have made generous financial contributions to the Newsletter. Eighty people have contributed an average of \$35 for a total of \$2802. The expenses for the first two issues year have approached \$2700. I anticipate that costs this year will be no less than last year. The work of the editor and co-editors is performed as a free service to you. *If you have not yet made a contribution please consider doing so.*

The Board of Directors has endorsed the concept of a Newsletter and has agreed to underwrite it if needed. But the Board has made it clear that their support is contingent on the financial support of the membership.

Two other Board actions demand commentary: First, the formation of a Genealogy Committee, chaired by Kevin Donley, is applauded. The enthusiasm of Kevin and Becky Thabet and Ray McCarus for genealogy research is infectious. Here's hoping that their work will attract wide support.

The Board's vote to deny a motion by Galib Kawaja to form an Honors and Awards study committee was disappointing. Some Board members feel that the process of selecting Kfeirians to be recognized and honored for their outstanding contribution would be divisive. Perhaps, with further contemplation, a way may be found to honor our outstanding Kfeirians without offending those who are not selected. An organization bathes itself in reflected glory when it bestows recognition on its outstanding members.

Abe J. Bassett

58th Reunion Keynote Address

A Silver Lining Graces the the Threat of Middle East War

The following comments were extracted from Congressman Nick Rahall's keynote address 58th Reunion keynote address.

This evening, I wish to discuss the current world situation as it relates to Lebanon, the land we love second to America. We are proud to be Americans and proud to be descendants of El Kfeir, Lebanon. We have a deep attachment and a deep love for our heritage. America has given an opportunity to our immigrant fathers and grandfathers, who

arrived with no resources other than their dreams, to make those dreams come true.

One of the purposes of this Kfeirian Reunion is to pass along heritage to our children and grandchildren. As we celebrate Labor Day tomorrow, let us recall the contributions our parents and ancestors have made to America. They have contributed in all walks of life: medicine, the sciences, the arts, education, politics, cultural institutions, and business and industry. Every facet of American life has been touched by Americans of Lebanese descent. Let us reflect on the fruits of their hard work. We Lebanese-Americans have played a part in making the United State of America the greatest country in the world.

Brink of War

In the Middle East the world stands near the brink of war. We pray there will be no conflict. We wish all individuals detained against their wills to be able to return home. And we wish every American in our armed forces to come home safely. I think it is clear that President Bush, and we Americans, misjudged Saddam Hussein in believing that he would not invade Kuwait, and in siding with Iran during that eight year war. But it is also clear that Saddam Hussein miscalculated the American response to his actions.

We condemn his actions. I have talked to a number of Arab-American leaders in Washington. There may be differing levels of support for President Bush, but, to a man, every leader of American-Arab organizations in Washington, condemns strongly the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

American action goes beyond the necessity of maintaining the free flow of oil. Maintaining international order and stopping aggression are at the heart of our actions. Without our action Saddam Hussein would have been allowed to control Kuwait oil, and through intimidation of Saudi Arabia, he could control 45% of this world's oil supply. That's too dangerous for any one individual to have this control.

A Silver Lining

So what does this mean for Lebanon? I believe that out of this current crisis there may be a silver lining of future benefit to Lebanon.

You ask, why do I say that? First, I never believed, even in my wildest dreams, that Syrian and American military forces would stand together. Fruit born out of this relationship may benefit Lebanon. Perhaps added pressure can be brought upon Syria to withdraw from Lebanon allowing the Lebanese to be returned to the Lebanese.

Another factor that leads to optimism is that Saddam Hussein, who has supported with money, weapons, and men, the fighting in East Beirut may now find his resources are more needed at home.

And with the new found relationship with our moderate allies--Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates--perhaps there may be new pressures for a settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict, and for withdrawal of Israel forces from the Lebanon. And wouldn't that be nice. To have Israelis out of Lebanon, to have the Syrians out of Lebanon, to have the Iraqis out of Lebanon, and finally, to have all hostages freed. Wouldn't it be nice, to once again, have a Lebanon that is whole and free.

I wish the most successful conclusion to the current

conflict, and that all of our men and women may return to American safely and freely, and no more hostages are held in this part of the world.

Let me say again to always be proud of your heritage. Love America, number one, and do what is in America's best interest. But don't let anybody denigrate our heritage, stereotype us, or falsely try to leave perceptions across the country that we know are not true. We are Americans first, Lebanese second, and our love is in both places. Thank you, and God Bless You.

WILLIAMSON TO HOST 59TH

Williamson has been chosen as host-city for the 59th Kfeirian Reunion, to be held on Labor Day weekend, August 31 to September 2, 1991.

The reunion will be held in Huntington, WV, at the Radisson Hotel. The committee has negotiated a hotel room rate of \$51.00 plus tax, a \$4.00 reduction from the rates for the 58th reunion, which was held in the same hotel.

Jeanette McCoy and Cheryl Slate are Williamson Reunion Committee co-chairmen, LoRayne Dinguess is secretary, and Abe Cantees and Phil Abraham are treasurers.

In previous years, Williamson has hosted the reunion in Lexington, KY, South Point, OH, as well as Huntington.

The Board of Directors have yet to designate a host city or location for the 60th Reunion, but will presumably do so at the spring board meeting.

KRF Simplified Financial Statement As of October 31, 1990

BEGINING BALANCE, Dec. 31, 1989 . . . \$628.79

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Income

1989 Reunion Reimbursement & Profit	1,022.60
Scholarship Donations, 1989 Reunion	1,080.00
1989 CD Interest	459.77
1990 CD Interest	2,433.12
Memorial Contributions	205.00
Scholarship Donations	150.00
Sub-total	5,350.49

Expenses

Scholarship Awards	3,300.00
Reunion Advance	1,000.00
Miscellany	215.35
Sub-Total	4,515.35

NEWSLETTER ACCOUNT

Income	2,727.12
Disbursements	<u>1,765.05</u>
Sub-total	962.07

Balance of Checking Account \$2,426.00

SAVINGS ACCOUNT (CD's) 41,013.39

FUND BALANCE 43,439.39

Kevin Donley Heads Genealogy Committee; Volunteers Sought

The General Assembly has authorized the formation of a Genealogy Committee and appointed Kevin Donley as its Chairman. "Family research is one of the most interesting, pleasurable and gratifying hobbies," writes Kevin, "helping us to learn more about our ancestors and providing us with a better view of ourselves."

The goal of the Genealogy committee is to encourage interest in genealogy and to influence all Kfeirians to record as much information as possible now while older Kfeirians are alive and able to contribute information.

Kevin became interested in genealogy during the 50th reunion. Since that time he has been able to construct an immense tree spanning several generations and connecting several families. "This is the beginning," says Kevin, "but we need your help." Kevin, offers these starting tips:

"First, if you have conducted genealogical research or are interested in doing so please contact me [Kevin Donley, 1856 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 (313) 644-0036] so that we may form a network of interested persons. We may be able to share information and resources.

"Second, please attend the genealogy meetings that will be scheduled at the next reunion. Effective genealogy research techniques will be explained, and information that has been gathered will be shared.

"Third, begin oral histories of the older members of your family. Use tape recorders to capture names of members of the family, dates of birth, death, immigration, naturalization, places of residence. Discuss and record family stories that bring life to your family stories.

"Fourth, check for presence of records in the family bible, photo albums, diaries, deeds, wills.

"Fifth, remember that even if you are not strongly interested in genealogy research, one of your children or grandchildren may be as they get older. So record what you know now."

58th Annual Kfeirian Reunion Preliminary Financial Report

Income

Game Room	125.77
Raffle	419.00
Scholarship	2,105.00
Registration	15,507.50
Advance	1,000.00
TOTAL	\$19,157.27

Expenses

Postage	340.55
Printing	630.34
Band	2,050.00
Hotel	9,248.19
Miscellany	128.81
Repayment of Advance	1,000.00
TOTAL	\$13,397.89

Net Profit \$5,759.38

DEATHS

Mary Louise Abraham, 60, Huntington, WV, died Friday, August 3, 1990, in the hospital. Services were conducted by the Rev. David G. Thabet. Mary, daughter of the late Don E. and Minnie Faye Workman Wilkinson, was born Sept. 13, 1929, in Williamson, WV, graduating from high school there in 1947. She is survived by her husband Raymond Abraham; one daughter and son-in-law, Linda Raye and Bob Thomas, Huntington; one son, Michael E. Abraham, Roswell, Ga; one sister and three grandchildren.

John Bolus, Silver Springs, MD, formerly of Huntington, WV, died Thursday, March 22, 1990, at his residence. Services were held at the St. George Orthodox Church in Washington, and burial was at the Arlington National Cemetery. John retired from the federal government and was a U.S. Army colonel and graduate of Marshall University. Surviving are his wife, Catherine Bolus; two sons, John E. Bolus of Silver Spring, and Michael Bolus of New York; two daughters, Nadia El-Hage of Saudia Arabia, and Denise Bolus of Silver Spring; one sister, Jeanette Bolus of Huntington,; and two nephews.

Helen J. (Hanna) Corey, 73, Toledo, OH, passed away September 22, 1990, in the Toledo Hospital. Surviving is her husband, Louis; sister, Mrs. Amelia Harwarny, Milan, MI; brothers, George Hanna of Toledo and David Hanna of Grand Rapids, MI; also several nieces and nephews.

Paul Lester Ghiz, 49, Huntington, WV, passed away June 29, 1990, in Charleston following an extended illness. Funeral services were held at St. George Orthodox Church. Paul was born February 10, 1941 in Kanawah County, WV, son of Alexander H. and Martha Skaff Ghiz of S. Charleston. He was a life underwriter with Jefferson Pilot Life Insurance Co where he was employed 18 years and received numerous company awards and honors. He was a graduate of S. Charleston High School and West Virginia University. He served the American Red Cross, Little League baseball, Boy Scouts, Rotary Club, and Huntington YMCA. In addition to his parents, he

is survived by his wife Nancy Meadows Ghiz; three daughters, Martha Lynn Ghiz, Charleston, Leslie Elizabeth Ghiz and Juliana Marie Ghiz, Huntington; one son, Paul Gregory Ghiz, Huntington; three brothers, Alex H. Ghiz, Ramsey, NJ, Dr. Robert L. Ghiz, Charleston, and Dr. Frederick A. Ghiz, Sandy, UT; and several nieces and nephews. Pallbearers were Neal Deering, Christopher Ghiz, John Ghiz, Matthew Ghiz, Mike Mansour, Phil Pappas, Don Salamic, and Jim Scott.

Campbell J. Hage, 72, Huntington, died Friday, August 10, 1990, in a Huntington hospital. He was born May 26, 1919, in Huntington, son of the late Joseph and Zahia Elizabeth Tweel Hage. He was a businessman and formerly owned and operated Cam's Ham in Huntington. He attended Marshall University, where he was a star member of the tennis team in the mid-30's. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army and was a member of Hurricane Bible Church. Surviving are his wife, Martha George Hage; four daughters, Camille Hage Hammerick, Point Pleasant, WV, Shelley Hage, at home, Helen Gage Freeman, Ona, and Leslie Hage Mattox, Huntington; three sons, George Campbell Hage, Winston-Salem, NC, Art Hage, Hurricane, and Peter Hage, Atlanta, GA; one brother, Felix Hage, Huntington; and 12 grandchildren. Pallbearers included Thomas Simon, Louis Thabit, and Ralph Hage.

Jad Jamra, Toledo, OH passed away January 12th, 1990.

Mark S. Jordan, 36, Blissfield, MI, passed away October 15, 1990, at Herrick Hospital, Tecumseh. Born July 8, 1954 in Adrian to James and Rose Bassett Jordan, he married Jeana Tibbs June 5, 1987 and she survives. A graduate of Blissfield High School and Grand Valley State, he held a master's degree in geology from Arizona State university. He was an environmental geologist for Technacorp in Plymouth, MI. His mother, Rose Jordan, Blissfield, survives as do two children. Christopher Matthew and Kathleen Marie, and two brothers, John and David Jordan of Blissfield. His father, James Jordan, died in 1989.

Nicholas Kerbawy, 77, Bloomfield Hills, MI, died of brain cancer, June 7, 1990, in his home. He was the former Commissioner of Michigan Sports Hall of Fame and former General Manager of the Detroit Lions and Pistons. Born, August 9, 1912 to Moses and Esmel (Mutter) Kerbawy in the same house in Blissfield, MI, now occupied by his sister, Kathryn Kerbawy.

Nicholas covered sports news for the Blissfield Advance, but after completing his college, taught Spanish and journalism for eleven years at his alma mater, Hillsdale College. He took a job in 1945 as Michigan State University sports information director and became an assistant professor. In 1948, he became public relations director for the Detroit Lions football team, and 1950, he was named general manager. According to his sister Kathryn, he loved sports but teaching was his true love. In his later years, one of his favorite descriptions of himself was that he was "just a Spanish teacher from Hillsdale."

Survivors include his wife, Antha, a son, Kyle, and two grandchildren; two sisters, Kathryn Kerbawy, Blissfield, and Sadie Byerlein, Birmingham, MI, and numerous cousins and relatives.

Harry Gordon Lynch, 72, Bluefield, WV, husband of **Francey Simon Lynch**, passed away April 25, 1990, in a Bluefield hospital. Harry was owner and operator of the Sahara Supper Club for 28 years, and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. **Francey** will continue to operate the club.

Marshall William Simon, 64, Greensboro, NC, passed away in August following a brief illness. Marshall was past president of the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation and chaired the annual reunion. A native of Greensboro, he was former co-owner of Laurie's, a women's fashion apparel store founded in 1944. He was very active in community affairs, and served in the Jaycee's, Jaycee's Old Timers (president), Rotary Club (president, director of the Group Study Exchange), and the Better Business Bureau.

Surviving are wife, Jeanette Thabet Simon; daughter, Mrs. Mary S. Shakro, Danbury, CN; sons, Marshall W. Simon, Jr., Sullivan's Island, SC; Frederick T. Simon, Atlanta; Jimmy Simon and

Johnny Simon, Greensboro; sister, Mrs. Laurie Queen, Greensboro; brothers, Edward W. Simon, Greensboro, Fred W. Simon, Reidsville, NC; and two grandchildren.

BIRTHS

Clay and Ruth Christian, East Weymouth, MA, had a daughter, **Elizabeth Ann**, on September 30, 1990. Grandparents are the Donald Christians and the Toufic Thabets, all of South Charleston, WV.

Kelly Marie Ellison was born on May 30 to her parents Mr. and Mrs. **Darrell Ellison**. Kelly is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Bassett of Beckley, WV.

Essam and Nouhad Haddad, Charlottetown, PEI, are the parents of **Andrew**, born July 20, 1990, and weighing 7 lbs and 13 oz. Andrew is a second child.

Nelson and Beverly Mamey, Corona del Mar, CA, are parents of **Nicholas George**, born July 17, 1990, who is the first boy of seven grandchildren of the late Norman Mamey, Sr., and the first boy in the family in 33 years. Nelson's sister **Denise Mainero** and her husband **Mario** are parents of a daughter.

Norman and June Mamme, Glendale, CA, are expecting a fourth child in May, 1991. They have three daughters.

Stacy Rahall, infant daughter of **Michael and Donna Rahall** of Fayetteville, WV, was baptized at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Beckley. She is the granddaughter of Louis and Elaine Rahall of Fayetteville. A reception and dinner was held in her honor.

Philip and Mary Babich Ross, Santa Ana, CA, had a son, **David Alexander Ross**, the first grandchild in the family, born October 27, 1990 at 7 lbs., 12 oz.

Harvey and Lori Rupp, Denver, CO, are the parents of **Joshua Mikkel Rupp**, born on April 3, 1990. Harvey is the son of Judy Sabah and step-son of Joe Sabah, also of Denver, CO. Anna Sabah of Asheville, NC is Joshua's great-grandmother.

Marissa Kristine Sabah, was born on November 26, 1989, to Joseph Samuel and Kathryn Sabah, in Concord, CA. Joe is the son of Joseph and Judy Sabah

and Grandson of Mrs. Anna Sabah, Asheville, NC.

Paul M. and Debra K. Scholz, Columbia SC, are the parents of a daughter, **Stephanie Leah Scholz**, who weighed 7 lbs., 13 oz. at birth on October 9, 1990. Alfred and Beverly Salamy and L. E. Salamy and the late Aileen Salamy, of Whiteville, WV, are the great-grandparents.

Jim Mansour Thabet, San Antonio TX, is a great grandfather for the first time, with the birth of **Dustin Ellard Stagner** to his mother **Lauren Stagner** and father **Loren** and grandmother **Beverly Thabet Ward**.

Kathy Thacker, Maysville, KY, former member of the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation Board of Directors, is expecting her second child in May. Her daughter **Falon** is two years old.

Anne and Patrick Williams, are the parents of **Elizabeth Anastasia Williams**, born April 15, 1990. Anne is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Harold (Margie Sabah) Schutte, and the granddaughter of Mrs. Anna Sabah of Asheville, NC.

John E. and Sharon M. Zegeer of Charleston, WV, are the parents on a son **Andrew John**, born July 23, 1990. Drew has four living grandparents in Charleston: Harry and Mary Frances Zegeer and Dan and Sheila Cohernour.

ANNIVERSARIES

Anna Sabah, Asheville, NC will celebrate her 89th birthday on November 28. Anna has two new great-granddaughters and one new great grandson in 1990. She says she "enjoys the Kfeirian Newsletter."

Jim Monsour Thabet celebrated his 94th birthday on August 15 with three of his children and four grandchildren. He was able to clearly read a birthday card without glasses. His biggest thrill came with a bag of green onion drops which he insisted on sharing with everyone whether they wanted on or not.

Mr. and Mrs. **Toufic Thabet** of South Charleston, WV celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in July. Eighty people, including seven children, 20 grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren, were there to offer congratulations and good wishes and

were treated to a beautiful spread of Lebanese and American foods, prepared by the Thabet children. The Thabet's children are Linda (Mitchell) Mickel, S. Charleston, WV; Clemence (Farris) Bassett, Blissfield, MI; Naomi (Ralph) McCarron, Van Nuys, CA; Rosie (Donald) Christian, S. Charleston; Carolyn (Adeeb) Sadd, Encino, CA; and Edward Thabet of Van Nuys, CA.

MARRIAGES & ENGAGEMENTS

Kevin Donley, Birmingham, MI, grandson of Jim Mansour Thabet, is engaged to be married to **Lisa Gillespie** on November 16, 1991 in Birmingham.

Gregory Rahall, Morgantown, WV, son of Louis and Elaine Rahall of Fayetteville, WV, was married on August 18, 1990, to **Mary Martha Sass**, of Hico, WV. Both are recent graduates of West Virginia University having earned their Master's degree. Grey is an electrical engineer working with Bell Atlantic in Morgantown.

Nancy Louise Sabah, granddaughter of Mrs. Anna Sabah of Asheville, NC, married **Paul Hoffman, Jr.** in Palm Beach, FL. Nancy and Paul both received their bachelor degrees and are now employed in their family business, Hoffman Chocolates, in Palm Beach, FL.

Catherine Marie Shamas, Toledo, and **Kevin Lee Rutherford** were married October 20, 1990, in St. Elias Church Orthodox Church in Sylvania, OH. Catherine is the daughter of Ralph Shamas and the late Anna Shamas.

Michael Shemas, Toledo, OH, and **Pamela Kay Souter** were married on July 28th, 1990, at 4:30 p.m. at St. Elias Orthodox Church in Sylvania, OH. The ceremony was performed by Father Michael Elias. A reception was held immediately following the ceremony at the church hall. Michael is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Shemas of Toledo.

Kevin Webb, Toledo, OH, son of Eldon & Carol Lee Shames Webb of Toledo, married **Denise Marie Lawrence** in St. Elias Orthodox Church, Sylvania, OH, September 23, 1990.

Marriage Rebecca Ann Zegeer and **Kary Gouge** of Clayton, NY, were married in Hamilton, Bermuda, on July 10, 1990.

The bride's parents, Harry and Mary Frances Zegeer; her brother, Richard Zegeer, (Best Man), and her cousin Carol McCarus, (Maid of Honor), joined the newlyweds on the week long cruise. "We all thoroughly enjoyed the fantastic cruise and the romantic and beautiful Bermuda setting for this wonderful and special occasion," said her mother. A reception was held on July 29 in Charleston at Wellington's of Scarlette Oaks for family, relatives, and friends. The couple resides in Clayton, NY, where they operate a successful video rental business.

EDUCATION

Michael W. Bergines, Long Beach, CA, son of Edna Mae Bergines, and grandson of Alex and Mary Michael, is enrolled at Harvard Business School. Michael, recipient of a Kfeirian Reunion Foundation Scholarship from 1983 through 1986, graduated with honors in political science from Stanford University. For the past three years, he has been employed in the mergers and acquisitions department of the Geneva Corporation and the Ven-Teur Company. Michael is the great grandson of Albert and Minnie Michael.

Christy Berry, Williamson, WV, in enrolled in Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY. Christy is the daughter of Collin and Selma Kawaja Berry.

Joseph Kawaja, Lexington, KY, son of Louis and Betty Cantees Kawaja, attends the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

John Gregory (Greg) Barrett, Fairfax, VA, son of Larry and Bunny Ramey Barrett, was awarded a fellowship to Indiana University, Bloomington to complete his doctorate in English and History.

His sister, **Bethany Barrett**, has been elected "Ambassador-at-Large" at Longwood College of Virginia. Beth, a sophomore, conducts tour guides for visitors, parents, and prospective students, explaining the college's academic and social programs.

Christy Berry, South Williamson, KY, daughter of Colin and Selma Berry, and granddaughter of Nellie Kawaja, has graduated from high school.

Mark A. Chouieri, Charleston, WV, son of Tanios and Connie Chouieri, and grandson of Philip and Mae Michael, enters West Virginia University Medical School in August, 1991.

Tanya Jamra, Toledo, OH, daughter of Larry and Ruth Ann Jamra, graduated from Devilbiss High School in Toledo, where she was a leading athlete. Tanya is attending the University of Toledo on a volleyball scholarship. She is the granddaughter of Freida Jamra.

Steven Karam, Toledo, OH, son of Richard and Shirley Karam, graduated from Stuart High School in Toledo. He is the grandson of Alice Genite Karam. Steven was captain of his varsity football team. He is attending Defiance College on a football scholarship.

Paul David Slater, S. Williamson, WV, son of James and Cheryl McCoy Slater is enrolled at Morehead (KY) State University as a business major. Grandparents are Paul and Jeanette Cantees McCoy.

Chad Sizemore, son of Mary Jane England, and grandson of the late Helen Cantees McCoy, of Williamson, WV, has graduated from high school.

HONORS

George Hanna, Huntington, WV, is sporting a diamond ring which commemorates the "Circle of Excellent" award he received for his work with General Foods. George has been promoted from sales representative to Key Account Manager.

Nazmi Lawen, Charlottetown, PEI, has been elected president of the PEI Multicultural Council having previously served as the director. The Council acts as an umbrella organization for cultural groups in the province. They are often called upon to articulate the needs and concerns of the multicultural community to various levels of government, the media, and the community at large. Nazmi was also appointed to the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Multiculturalism. The committee advises the Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Mark Sahley, 15, Lakewood, OH, won seven gold medals and the overall gymnastics title at the state Sports Festival in Berea, OH, in July. Mark, a

member of the Great Lakes Gymnastics team, swept every apparatus in winning the championship of the boys 13-15 age group Class I and II divisions. Mark won firsts in the pommel horse, high bar, rings, parallel bars, vault, and floor exercise, as well as all-around honors. He has been competing for nine years. Mark is the son of Yarid and Diane Sahley.

CHURCH

Yarid Sahley, Lakewood, OH, son of Roger and Elizabeth Sahley of Parma Heights, has been ordained to the Holy Diconate in St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, October 7, 1990. His Eminence, Metropolitan Elias Kurban of Tripoli, and senior member of the Holy Synod of Antioch officiated at the ceremony. Yarid is married to Diane, and together, they have two sons, Phil and Mark.

Joyce Salamy, Toluca Lake, CA, is the new superintendent of St. Nicholas Cathedral Church School of Los Angeles.

GENERAL

Abe J. and Sharon K. Bassett, Fort Wayne, IN, toured Vienna, Austria and Prague, Czechoslovakia, in November of this year, in conjunction with an international conference of fine arts deans. Abe is preparing to lead a group of 30 persons to London in March, 1991, for the sixth consecutive year.

Marie DeFelice, Brooklyn, NY, is a winner of a free cruise to the Bahamas with "New Kids on the Block" and four days at Disneyworld. Marie, daughter of Betty Thabet-DeFelice, had submitted 925 postcard entry forms, for this nationwide contest sponsored by Coca Cola. She is one of 1700 persons who will take the cruise. Accompanying her on the trip will be her mother and her best friend.

Emily (Abraham) Haddad, Frankfort, IL, recovering from a broken shoulder, celebrated the marriage of her daughter on September 8.

Norman Mamey, Jr. is the producer of a Christmas Spectacular to be presented in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles. The event features 300 singers from forty Orthodox Church choirs performing holy hymns,

traditional carols, popular music, together with comedy, song, dance, and a living Nativity. Other performing groups include Danny Thomas, Jamie Farr, Edmonde Haddad, Roger Williams, the Los Angeles Pops Orchestra, Cabar Feidh Bagpipers, and the Children's Dance Troup. Norman, a Kfeirian through his paternal grandmother, is a member of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church of Los Angeles. He is a Pepperdine University music graduate and has been a choir director for many years.

A **Michael Family** Reunion was held at the home of **Gerry and Kathy (Ramey) Zaforolos** on July 15 in Beckley, WV. Kathy is the daughter of Rames and Madeline Ramey. Nearly 70 cousins attended the reunion, including some from California, Texas, and New York. "A good time and plenty of Lebanese food was had by all."

Carol J. McCarus, Birmingham, MI, traveled to Siberia for two weeks in September as part of a delegation sponsored by the Cranbrook Peace Foundation of Bloomfield Hills, MI. The group stayed in the homes of Siberian families in an effort to promote peace between the USA and USSR through mutual understanding. Carol is the wife of Ray McCarus.

Mourad abou Rashed and his wife, **Fairus**, arrived in Charlottetown, PEI, from Kfeir in July. They were received by his brother **Essam abou Rashed** and his sister **Leila McKarris**. The newly wed couple brought news and messages from relatives in Kfeir. They are adjusting to their new life in Canada.

Nahia Steffan, widow of the late **Sol Steffan** and a long time resident of Williamson, WV, has moved to North Miami, FL.

PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS

Senator James Abourezk has returned permanently to South Dakota from Washington. He will continue as Chairman of ADC, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, as he pursues private practice in Rapid City.

Charles (Chick) Abourezk, Rapid City, SD, has opened a gambling casino, "Chic's Anaconda" in Deadwood, South Dakota. Chick and his children are operating the casino.

Douglas Bassett, is continuing to work in Europe as a free lance photographer. Headquartered in Milano, Italy, he has also worked in Munich, London, Paris, and Vienna. Douglas visited briefly with **Anna Bassett**, Bloomfield Hills, MI, wife of Dr. Joseph Bassett, when she was in Milano shopping for her clothing boutique. Douglas will return to the United States for a one-month visit in December and January.

Doreen Kays, daughter of **Esmā Kays**, Charlottetown, PEI, is a journalist and television correspondent. She is employed at World Monitor Television, and recently received an honorary Doctor of Civil Law Degree from the University of King's College in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Doreen works with World Monitor Television in Boston. She is a former Cairo Bureau Chief and correspondent for ABC News. She worked formerly with CBC, the Canadian Broadcastings Company, and CTV, Canadian Television.

Moufeed Khoury, Halifax, NS, a licensed real estate agent, has been involved in the construction and resale market in Canada and Beirut, Lebanon, for the past 20 years. He served for 5 years as a vice-chairman on the Parish council of Saint Antonio Orthodox Church. He travels a lot, visiting el-Kfeir each year, keeping contact with Kfeirians, he last attended the 50th anniversary Kfeirian Reunion. Moufeed is proud be a Lebanese-Canadian, and his word to all Kfeirians throughout the world is, "we are proud to have a Lebanese heritage and we shall pass this heritage on to our children and grand children.

Larry and Charlotte Sadd Lechlak formerly of Toledo, OH, are real estates agents for Fred Sands Co., Garzana, CA. They have been residents of Studio City, CA since January, 1990. Charlotte is sister of **Adeeb** and **Jameel Sadd** of Encino and Reseda, CA.

Lana Eubanks McGlynn, Washington, DC, has been promoted to senior operations research analyst, working for the Deputy Undersecretary of Army for Operations Research at the Pentagon. She serves as the technical director of the Army Model Improvement Program and has 19 years of service with the Department of Defense. Before leaving

her previous duty station at the U.S. Army Logistics Evaluation Agency in November 1989, she was presented the Commander's Award for Civilian Service. The award is a civilian medal, complete with ribbons, for superior service and achievement. Lana is the daughter of **Josephine Cantees Eubanks** of Williamson, WV.

Gregory Rahal is working in Florida on the space shuttle. He is a 1989 graduate of VPI (Virginia Polytechnical Institute) with a degree in aeronautical engineering. Greg is the son of **Kamal** and **Betty Tweel Rahal** of Vienna, VA, formerly of Beckley and Huntington, WV.

Nick J. Rahall II, Beckley, WV, son of **Joseph** and **Alice Rahall**, U. S. Congressman from West Virginia, has been re-nominated to an eighth term in the U.S. House of Representatives, making him the dean of the West Virginia delegation. When he was first elected in 1976, he was, at the age of 27, the youngest member of Congress. Born in Beckley on May 20, 1949, Nick received his A.B. degree from Duke University and later attended graduate school at George Washington University, in Washington, D.C. Before election to Congress, Nick served as a staff assistant to U.S. Senator **Roger C. Byrd**. He is currently the president of West Virginia Broadcasting Corp. He has three children: **Rebecca**, **Nick Joe**, III, and **Suzanne Nicole**.

Elizabeth Starr Ramieh, Washington, DC, has been appointed Assistant Director of the Human Resources Division of the Internal Revenue Service. Elizabeth, daughter of **Lucy Ramieh** and the late **Mose Ramieh** of Beckley, WV, has been with the IRS for almost 13 years. In her new position, she will assist the Director in planning and evaluation, information, initiation and marketing of management services and products.

David A. Rashed, Charlottetown, PEI, and son of **Labeeb A. Rashed**, is a member of the famous Canadian rock group Hay Write, a group that has recently released their third album, Short End of a Wishbone. The group will be touring North America in the coming months.

Joseph and Judy Sabah, Denver, CO, presented a round table discussion before 1,500 speakers at the National Speakers Convention in Atlanta, GA, last July. Joe, son of Anna Sabah of Asheville, NC, has developed a unique marketing tool for selling products via radio interview talk shows. Joe has appeared on nearly 500 radio talk shows on the subject of "getting the job you want." As a result of these interviews, all done from his home, he has sold more than 17,000 copies of his book, "How to Get the Job You Really Want and Get Employers to Call You." Books sales have exceeded \$250,000. Write Joe at P.O. Box 101330, Denver, CO 80210 for more details.

Mydina Thabet, Rockville, MD, is a dietetic intern with the Marriott Corporation. She is the daughter of Charlie and Layla Thabet of South Charleston, WV.

Dr. Charles Tweel, Columbus, OH, practices family medicine, and is medical director of a nursing home. He and his wife, Patricia, have three sons, Ben, 11, Andy, 8, and Pat, 4. Charles is the son of Charles Tweel of Huntington.

Dear Cousins, Thank you!

KFEIRIAN NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

ANGELS \$100 & Up
Abe & Sharon Bassett
Ramez & Nahie Bassett
Selma Bassett Edinger
Michael & Nadia El-Hage
Fadwa & Simon Naoufal
Gladys Bassett Parlette
Nick J. Rahall, II
Anna Sabah
Lorraine Bassett Scott
Orlando & Dorothy Skaff

PATRONS \$50 to \$99
Denise N. Bolus
Esma Cantees
Lucille Kerbawy DeGroff
George & Gloria Hanna
Mary Kerbawy
Moufeed Khoury
Mitchell & Lucy McCarus

Toufeek A. Nasser
Stephen J. Ramey
Sam Rezk
Jan [Bassett] Rutherford
Julian & Jihad Saad
Barry N. & Donna Shamas
Karyn Cantees Stagg
Said Tweel
Marshall & Vivian Stephan
Woods

COUSINS \$25 to \$49
Thomas & Twila Abourezk
Dorothy Bassett
Eli & Shumla Stephan Bassit
Lillian Bassett
Edna Bergines
Jeanette Bolus
Louis J. & Karen F. Chasar
Frank & Dorothy Corey
Lucille Kerbawy DeGroff
Josephine Eubanks
Mark George
Ghassan N. Ghantous
George & Emily Haddad
Louis & Betty Kawaja
Nellie D. Kawaja
Esma Kays

Rosalie & Marguerite Lowen
Ralph & Naomi McCarron
Ernest & Adele McCarus
Ramon & Carol McCarus
Amiel & Julie A. Michael
Philip G. & Mae Michael
Mitchell & Linda Mickel
Sheryl M. Parrish
Helen Ramey
Phillip G. Sadd
Olga Elias Sahley
Jeanette K. Saker
Eassa & Peggy Shaheen
Lucy Shaheen
Jim & Cheryl Slater
Frank & Sylvia Sophia
Nahie Steffan
Rose Cantees Stuart
Jo Ann Thabet
Ruth D. Thabet
Toufic & Rasmia Thabet
Larry & Cheryl Tweel
Frank & Janet Zakem

FRIENDS Up To \$24
Selma Andrews
Farris & Clemence Bassett
Ralph & Pat Coggin
Robert & Katherine DeCrease
Fredric J. George
Nancy [Bassett] Griffith
John Hodge
Nassef Z. Kourey
Ramon McCarus
Marguerite Lowen Price
Lena Salamy
Martha Alegra de la Soujeole
Tom & Deanna Spitzer
Peggy D. Tweel
Karen S. Wiggensworth

REUNION HISTORY MYSTERY

Can you solve the great Kfeirian Reunion mystery. The 50th Reunion, held in 1982, was **not** the 50th time that the Kfeirians had gathered together. It was the 46th, or maybe 47th, event in the series which began in 1932--or was it 1931?

A lack of consistency in the manner the reunions were enumerated has led to a discrepancy. The reunions were suspended during World War II, from 1942 through 1945. After the war, the enumeration of reunions continued without numbering the war years.

At some point between 1953 and 1980, the war years were counted so that the 1982 reunion was held on the 50th anniversary of the first reunion in 1932, but it was only the 47th meeting.

While the 1932 reunion in Huntington was probably the first official Reunion, several people recall a "reunion" or significant meeting of the Kfeirian Brotherhood in Williamson in 1931.

The editor is seeking evidence from old programs or other dated material which will clarify Reunion history. Particularly important is evidence from 1931 through 1970. Won't you search your papers and mementos for evidence of early reunions. Please forward photo copies of essential pages to the editor.