



# The Kfeirian Reunion Newsletter

## WINTER 2001

Number 3

### 68th Reunion in TOLEDO

Arabic music, Arabic Food, Old Friends, New Friends in the making, Babies running in circles, the familiar beat of the drums, We just had a great time seeing friends and relatives in Toledo. John and Deitra Jamra Hickey did a great job setting up a truly lovely reunion. The Arabic food is always a hit, as is the belly dancer who shows us a few jiggles and fast moves. The Toledo crowd all got together and pitched in their help to make the Reunion an living legend.

We were happy to host the wonderful guests from the Kfeir Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Hajj and his wife. The parents of Makram Hajj of Indiana, and old friends with many American Kfeirians, it was just wonderful to Debkie the night away with three generations together on American soil, as well. The weather was great and not enough can be said about the wonderful time we had together in Toledo.



George Hanna invites you to Debkie to his drum in Las Vegas.

We would like to take this opportunity to WELCOME you to the next Kfeirian Reunion in LAS VEGAS, NEVADA. Never before held in the West, the Kfeirian Reunion would like to party with our western cousins among the glamour and luxury of Las Vegas. No more card rooms, we will have a great palatial mansion of gaming fun. The beautiful renovated Aladdin Resort will host us in luxury and Arabian style. Read more about the details on inside pages.



*inside...*

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### TRAVEL DISCOUNTS TO LAS VEGAS!

Hello Cousins!

Southwest Airlines and Delta Airlines are offering the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation special rates which allow you to discount published round-trip fares for our reunion in LAS VEGAS!

Contact your local travel agent, Southwest Airlines Meetings at 1-800-433-5368, Delta Airlines Meetings at 1-800-241-6760, or Becky Thabet-Schulze of Accent Travel (and Board Member for the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation) at 1-800-494-3553. (\* Applicable restrictions must be met. Seats are limited. No discounts on Delta Express.)

Southwest Airlines is offering a 10% discount on most of its already low fares. Reference ID Code R5782.

Delta Airlines is offering a 10% discount on most fares if tickets are purchased 60 days prior to arrival (5% discount if purchased within 60 days.) Reference Delta's File Number: 175130A.

I hope to see you there!

**Becky Thabet-Schulze**  
Accent Travel  
Kfeirian Reunion Foundation Board Member

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## From the Editor's Desk

This has been an interesting year for the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation. We have seen the end of a century in America and are still going, looking forward to new horizons.

A lot of new and vibrant board members have come along with new energy and new ideas, all committed to making the Kfeirian Reunion viable and ongoing for their children and we hope their children's children.

The Board has taken on the task of putting the Reunion on itself. The last few years, cities have struggled to get involvement and no city came forward for 2001. The Board has made a commitment to making the Reunions more interesting and drawing in new members. We hope you will all join us in this endeavor because the Reunion keeps the heritage alive.

Another important life line of the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation is the mailing list and address book. **Matthew Bassiet** has come forward to volunteer his time and expertise in updating and keeping the mailing list current. Let's all give him a hand by mailing in updates on a regular basis.

A third important conduit to the life's blood of the Reunion tradition is the newsletter. I have been deeply honored and have enjoyed doing the newsletters for the last 6 years and it was always a labor of love. It has become increasingly difficult because of my professional commitments and new responsibilities, and I am both sorry to say and overjoyed to announce that this will be my last newsletter as editor.

But the tradition will go on! **Becky Thabet Schultz** has come forward and volunteered to be your next newsletter editor, and I am sure she

will do a great job and bring new energy and new ideas and a new look to the newsletter. I will aid her in any way I can to make this an ongoing and viable publication.

While I am rotating out of the position of newsletter editor, my writing and collecting duties with the Kfeirian Reunion has just shifted. As I bid you adieu as the newsletter editor,

**I want to announce a new project. I am initiating with the Board of Directors' support and approval: the first Kfeirian Reunion Cookbook!**

**The Kfeirian Reunion Cookbook**, as I envision it, will be more than a compilation of wonderful and delectable recipes of our village; it will be a type of history and tribute to the women of the Kfeir.

**Chuck Fischer husband of Kfeirian Lila Mickel Fischer**, and long time reunion attendee, executive and gourmet chef, will aid me in updating and measuring and testing recipes so that our grandmothers' "pinch of this" will translate into mouth watering dishes on the modern tables of our 21st century dining tables. Also, we will try to update techniques to develop some time saving and labor saving tricks that can integrate our wonderful cuisine into the modern life style.

So, any and all of you can start to forward me recipes, anecdotes, pictures (pictures will be returned, if you wish you can take them to Kinko's, have them scanned for a small fee and send me the disk), names, and stories to go into this memorabilia of the Kfeir.

This will be a several year project, but I will try to reflect the wonderful women of the Kfeir and their hospital and delicious table. After all, they were and are the lifeblood of our village and heritage.

Please forward any items you might want included to:

**Kfeirian Reunion Cookbook**  
**Diann Dee Michael, Editor**  
6930 SW 15th Street  
Plantation, FL 33317  
email: [DiannDee@yahoo.com](mailto:DiannDee@yahoo.com)

**Announcing  
the first  
ever  
Kfeirian  
Reunion  
Cookbook,  
a tribute to  
Kfeirian  
culture,  
cooking,  
and the  
women who  
create and  
celebrate  
the  
Kfeirian  
hearth and  
home.**

Hi Kfeirians from Kevin & Monica Donley!

Here are some highlights from our trip to Mexico:

Monica's family picked us up in El Paso, Texas and as we crossed the border into Juarez, we called Linda Bassiet's family (Matt's wife) but Matt and Linda were out finding bargains.

We spent 10 days relaxing in Chihuahua. For Christmas, we celebrated the Mexican traditions of opening presents on Christmas Eve and going to her grandmother's house to sing a song outside her door about Mary and Joseph looking for a room at the inn. We sang a verse and then those inside sang a verse and it alternated until its conclusion with the opening of the door. Then the hugs and kisses began.

This year Monica introduced an American tradition called "Silly Santa" where everyone brings a secret gift, nicely wrapped. We drew names and then, one at a time, someone chooses a present under the tree, or takes someone else's gift. It was hilarious.

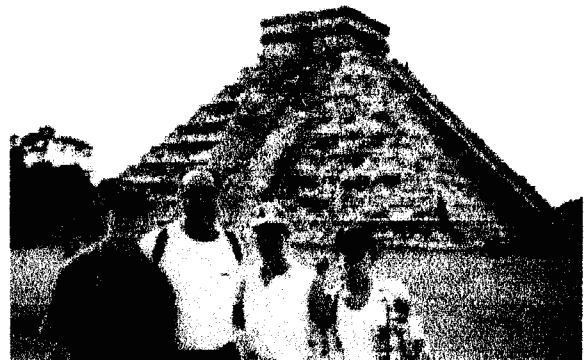
The days between Christmas and New Year's Eve included a two day fishing trip to El Granero, a beautiful lake made by a man-made damn. We fished for Black Bass and succeeded in paying one of the locals for his catch of the day. New Year's Eve was at Monica's house with 40+ cousins and was highlighted by a pinata for the kids. The bigger kids also got into the action (attached photo of Kevin's first bout with a pinata). We also celebrated the tradition of eating 12 grapes at midnight, preceded by a wish or resolution for each one. The party really got festive when one of Monica's cousins replaced the last grape with an engagement ring. We brought back tons of souvenirs (as always) including tile for our new kitchen. We had a great time!

Monica's family had so much fun at the Kfeirian Reunion last year that they are coming to Las Vegas! They've already booked their rooms. We're going to go from Vegas to the Grand Canyon and then down to Monica's family reunion in Chihuahua (which has 350+ participants).

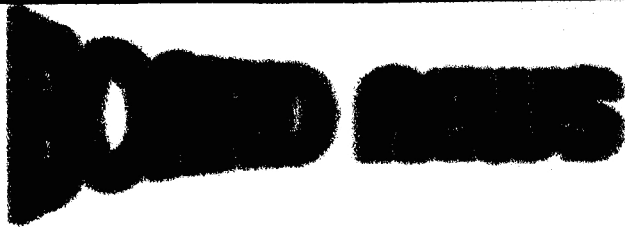
See you in Vegas! Kevin



Kevin Donley, Kfeirian Board Vice President, Trying his hand at a pinata in Chihuahua, Mexico.



John and Andrea Bolus with their sons 16 year old Johnathan and 13 year old Christian enjoyed a wonderful holiday in the Yucatan Peninsula.



## General Assembly News 2000

The Constitution was amended to allow for varying the dates of the reunion to allow for optional locations and to solve the Labor Day - school start date problem.

The scholarship amount was raised from \$800 to \$1000.

The Treasurer's Report indicated a checkbook balance of \$1010.93, and Assets balance of \$88,126.21 and contributions this year of \$3,550 for the Endowment Fund and \$1,345 for Memorial Donations. We had a donation of \$2,000 from the Huntington Palmyran Society.

The Board and the Reunion welcomed Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Hajj of the Kfeir to the Reunion. We always love having visitors from the Kfeir. Joseph invited the Reunion to the Kfeir, a dream we had, and will continue to have.

The website has been registered and can be accessed by <http://www.kfeir.com>

The Vital Statistics Project brought to our attention by Abe Bassett is continuing as a project of the Kfeirian Reunion. Hanna Michael, a resident of Boston, MA, is returning to live in Lebanon and has offered to function as a liaison in the Kfeir for obtaining, copying, and placing on CD ROM the data that exists on weathered pieces of paper in plastic bags. Kevin Donley and Matthew Bassiet will function as the committee for this project.

## Board of Director's Meeting 2000

Dr. Diann Michael was re-elected President, Kevin Donley, Vice President, George Hanna, treasurer, and Selma Edinger, Secretary.

New Board Members elected were Greg Hanna and Becky Thabet Schulz were welcomed to the Board.

Thanks went to Lila Mickel Fischer and Michael Abraham for serving as Board Members for the past three years.

There was much discussion about host cities and how to keep the reunion lively and viable. The Board discussed and then decided to take most responsibility in hosting the reunions instead of waiting for a host city to come forward.

A survey indicated that Las Vegas was the favorite of all sites, and so the Board voted to host the 2001 Reunion in Las Vegas, taking on the task themselves as they are few residents in Las Vegas to create a committee. Jameel Sadd, who lives in Las Vegas, had agreed to help us on site. Each Board member accepted designated responsibilities to make the Vegas Reunion a success.

Future sites were discussed for upcoming Reunions. As Charleston had come forth for the 69th and we placed it in Vegas, there was general agreement that our great 70th Reunion should be at home base in the Tri-State area, and we are hoping for a Charleston Reunion for 2002. Other sites discussed were Raleigh, SC, San Antonio, TX, and Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia. Cruise Reunions have long been talked about and may be in the works for the future. Montreal was also suggested as a site as was Toronto.

Steve Ramey is the chair of the Constitutional Review Committee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and updating the constitution.

# Very Important! — Please Read!!!

One of the brightest promises for a great future for the people of Kfeir is their youth. Our youth are our strength and our future. In these days filled with violence, high crime rates and rampant drug addition, our youth are our hope that we can make a meanful contribution to society. We have reared them to be responsible and given them values they need to become productive members of society. Now as young men and women struggling to get an education at today's inflated prices they need our help. They need it and WE NEED TO HELP!

Currently we are helping several deserving students from our Kfeirian youth with scholarships. The money was there because of contributions received from Kfeirians. The Scholarship Committee sincerely wishes to thank those who have contributed to the Kfeirian Endowment Scholarship program. And we could not begin to tell you how appreciative the students are that are being helped through your generosity. On their behalf, WE THANK YOU!

A thousand dollars may not seem like a lot when you consider the high cost of today's college education, but the strain of meeting those high costs makes a thousand dollar scholarship even more needful. The thousand dollars is a real blessing to these students and makes a real difference to them in helping relieve some of the financial burden. We want to continue to help students in the future and do so in amounts commonsensical. WE CAN ONLY DO THAT IF YOU WILL HELP!!!

AND HELP YOU CAN... for only a commitment of one dollar a week for five years. JUST A DOLLAR A WEEK! The price of a soda pop. Most tip a waitress more than a dollar. Are not our youth worth more??? We are asking you to PLEASE MAKE A COMMITMENT today for a \$1 a week for 5 years. Fill out the form below now and return it with a check. May God bless and reward you tenfold for your support of this worthy project.

P.S. As we approach Memorial Day please consider making a memorial donation in memory of a loved one. We will make mention of the donation in a future newsletter. All donations are tax deductible (our Federal Tax I.D. supplied upon request). Another thing we are asking you to consider is putting the Endowment Scholarship in your will. Doing that would surely be a noble gesture on your part.

One other thing we would like to mention. ANY KFEIRIAN YOUTH IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY. And to insure the utmost in fairness in selection applicants are evaluated by an independent unbiased group of educators from Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia. Their recommendations for selection of applicants are based on evaluations of need, academics, and community involvement. ANY SON OR DAUGHTER OF A KFEIRIAN IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY and we encourage all to do so.

COMPLETE THIS FORM AND MAIL TODAY TO:

**KRF ENDOWMENT PROGRAM, 25 Hillendale Drive, Huntington, WV 25705**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**YES!!!... I WILL HELP!!! Enclosed find a check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_.**

(You can send a check in any amount. \$50 would cover the amount of a commitment of \$1 per week for a year. \$250 would cover 5 years, however any amount you send will be greatly appreciated)

IF YOU WANT TO MAKE A MEMORIAL DONATION IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE:

NAME OF LOVED ONE(S) \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank  
You**

# Scholarships

Scholarships were awarded to the following Kfeirian students for the 2000-2001 academic year:

Stephanie Hanna, Joey Peck, Barbara Michael, Mary Michael, Stephen Davis, Diane Rose, & Nada Lawen. We were glad to be able to increase scholarships to \$1000 a year.

**We awarded 7 Scholarships of \$1000 in the 2000-2001 Academic Year. We are so proud to support the education and futures of our Kfeirian youth.**

Eight scholarships are available each year and any student who is a senior in high school is encouraged to complete an application to:

Mitchell Mickel, Chairman  
Kfeirian Reunion Scholarship  
2913 Macon Street  
South Charleston, WV 25303  
(304)744-0631

**Scholarship applications must be received by August 1st to be considered.**

This year we were proud to share with **Stephanie Hanna**, her last year of education at Marshall University. She graduated December 2000, with a B.S. in Management Information Systems. She is the daughter of George and Gloria Hanna and a faithful reunion attendee and a beautiful young woman. Congratulations, Stephanie and family.

This was the first year we did something long spoken of: We awarded a scholarship to a young lady studying in Lebanon. **Nada Lawen**, daughter of Fouad and Nawal Lawen is attending the Lebanese University and studying Business Administration.



Stephen Davis is the son of Raymon and Donetta Davis from Greenville, South Carolina. Raymon is of the Lowen family. He is attending Bob Jones University and will be studying Broadcasting.

# School News

Joseph M. Peck, son of Mary Hodge and Joe Peck, graduated from Huntington High School on June 6, 1998. Joey is attending Marshall University in Huntington, WV. One of our regular Kfeirian Reunion attendees, Joey is also a great Derbakie specialist that helps us Debkie the night away every year.



**Barbara Mae Michael**

Barbara Mae Michael - Daughter of John and Tina Michael of Elkview, West Virginia is attending Vanderbilt University in Tennessee majoring in Music Performance. In addition, Barbara is a Science whiz and is taking advanced science courses. She is on the Blair Music Academy's Dean's Honor Scholarship as well.

Diane Rose graduated in her Junior Year from a North Carolina High School. The daughter of Stuart and Trace Ann Christian Rose, Diane is beautiful, bright and multi-talented and is attending Point Park College in Pittsburgh, PA.



MORE

**School News**

Mary Elizabeth Michael - Daughter of Philip and Georgiana Michael, from Charleston, West Virginia. She is attending West Virginia University and Major in Biology.



Hello... How are you?? I hope that everyone is doing well. I know sometimes life gets so busy its hard to stay in touch with you. I am doing well. I am teaching in Raleigh, NC and its been a good year thus far. The students are great but sometimes it gets hectic just as any job.

Not much else is new. I started a course in my Master's Degree program this semester in Learning Disabilities at North Carolina State. Its nice to be back in school but I can't believe the cost of education these days! Wow!

A note from our lovely Debbie Michael, formerly of Charleston, daughter of Philip and Georgiana Michael.

Debbie, the next step for our scholarship fund is helping a little bit with graduate education! Keep posted!

## REMEMBER

**Pre-register by July 5<sup>th</sup>  
SEE YOU IN VEGAS!**

## ILLNESSES

Gene Cecil, husband of Adele Ammar Cecil, has been ill and is recuperating at home after a long hospital stay. We're all wishing him a good and total recovery. Adele is the daughter of the late Lydia Radwan Ammar of Bluefield, WV.

Madeline Abraham of Williamson, WV, fell recently and broke her arm. She is recovering at home and doing pretty good.

Emily Haddad, of Frankfort, IL had knee replacement surgery on November 8th.

Norma Hodge Thompson, daughter of Mrs. Rhoda Hodge, and the late Toufe Hodge will earn her Ph.D. in higher education on May 5, 2001 from Marshall University. She is a graduate of the University of Kentucky. We are all proud of her.

Kimberly Thomas, daughter of Bob and Linda Thomas in Huntington, WV graduated from Huntington High School this past spring and has started Marshall University this fall.

Christina Saad has graduated from Huntington High School with Very High Honors. She plans to attend Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio this fall.

Gianna Michael, daughter of Diann Michael of Ft. Lauderdale and George Mekki-Kaddache of Paris, France, was accepted into a Liberal Arts Magnet Program leading to the International Baccalaureate degree. The students, all identified as gifted, study intensely and focus on higher level abstract reasoning skills to prepare them for leadership roles. Middle School students earn High School credits and High Schoolers graduate as Sophomores in College. This prestigious international degree has only recently been offered in public schools in Florida and is highly competitive.



Charlie Fischer, son of Chuck and Lila Mickel Fisher, and long time Reunion attendee, was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy. Currently Charlie is enjoying a rest with his parents in Orlando before heading off for more spy patrol with those computers!

Charlie received a commendation for alerting the US to shenanigans by Saddam Hussein during his last tour of duty in Saudi Arabia. Way to go, Charlie! He don't say much, but this man is always watching! 007++ Before he left the Navy his mother and father joined his ship the USS John Stennis when it arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii and accompanied it to base in San Diego, CA, of the Tiger cruise. What a wonderful experience, except for the food!

# Awards, Promotions,

## Accomplishments

Charles Abourezk, an attorney who practices with his first cousin Michael Abourezk in Rapid City, South Dakota, has been elected as the President of the F Warrior Club Board of Directors, which is the alumni organization for Gerry Spence's Trial Lawyers College. He has also been named to the Board of Directors of the Trial Lawyers College, and is a member of the faculty. Charles is the son of former U.S. Senator James Abourezk.

We would love to see some of the Abourezk family at the Las Vegas Reunion.

Michael Bofysil graduated from Lansing Community College. Congradulations, Michael!

James Donley, former Board Member and man of the world just returned from 4 years in Czechoslovakia and France. Sorry ladies, he returned married and his lovely wife, Ivan, is due to come to a reunion soon. They will not be empty handed, as they now have a 10 month old daughter named Shannon. That means a Czech mom, French baby and American father. Immigration has been fun.

Shannon Anicka now has 6 teeth which firmly wrap around daddy's nose. They are slowly adjusting to the U.S. lifestyle. Daddy is presently Director of IT for 3 divisions of Visteon, including 40+ plants worldwide.



Dr. Jeff George, son of the late Mr. & Mrs. Edward George is the Medical Director of St. Mary's Regional Heart Center and Chief of Cardio-thoracic Surgery. Native of Huntington, WV., he graduated from Duke University, then WVU Medical School. He was Chief Resident in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery at the University of Louisville. He has returned to his home community and speaks of his fulfillment in aiding people he has known all his life.

## Hodge Family News

Phyllis Hodge, wife of John Hodge has a new job. She is now a Sales Rep for Summit Design International, Inc. Summit Design is a wholesale connection for retail stores who sell wicker and rattan furniture as well as home accessories.

John, who is now a Principal in Broward County at Deerfield Beach Elementary School in Deerfield Beach, Fl. has received 2 distinguished honors; The Annenberg Foundation has awarded a \$25000.00 Planning Grant to the Deerfield Beach Innovation Zone for the purpose of increasing proficiency in the area of Literacy for students who attend schools in this zone.

Deerfield Beach Elementary School has been recommended for the 5 Star School Award. This award recognizes outstanding community involvement and volunteerism in public school. Our very own John Hodge is the proud principal of Deerfield Beach Elementary and has achieved these honors in 2 short years. John attributes these successes to a commitment to mission and a strong work

Stuart Kinney, husband of Nancy Hodge Kenny of Marietta, GA, has been promoted to Captain with Delta Airlines. Stuart, and ex-Air Force pilot, has been a pilot and flight instructor with Delta for ten years. Last year he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force Reserves. Stuart is the son-in-law of Mrs. Rhoda Hodge of Huntington, WV.

## McCarus Family News

Ray McCarus' son Chris and his Congolese wife had a son March 1, 2001, named John Bangade McCarus. They are still living in Brooklyn, NY. Ray's other son, John, is now Associate Publisher of the *New Yorker* magazine. Ray says, "See you in Vegas!"

Dr. Diann Michael was elected President of the Broward County Psychological Association and a Representative to the Board of the Florida Psychological Association. She was also appointed Qualified Evaluator for the Department of Children and Families for the State of Florida.

Her research on children with Attention Deficit Disorders was presented at the American Psychological Association, the Florida Psychological Association, and the National Association of Neuropsychology in multiple presentations in 2000 and 2001.

Additionally, she was highlighted in a professional training workshop on Violent Children presented by the Broward Country Mental Health Association. Dr. Michael is in private practice and on the faculty of Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale.



# Marriages



Jameel Sadd, originally of Toledo, is residing in Las Vegas and is our Kfeirian host. He welcomes all of you to join him and his family in Las Vegas for the 69th Reunion.

On September 30, 2000, Tamara Kay Sadd, daughter of Jameel Sadd of Las Vegas, and Frank Lee Brinkley "joined hands in God's love and began their life together" as witnessed by over 135 family and friends. Officiating was Father Joseph Samaan, St. Elias Orthodox Church, Atlanta, GA. The newlyweds spent 4 days at a mountain retreat in Gatlinburg, TN. What a long journey: they met over 15 years ago. They are residing in Norcross, GA. Family members whom had passed into Life Eternal were present in spirit at this blessed ceremony of Love: Louise Mary Sadd, Sadie Hanna, Robert Lee Brinkley & Zack Johnson.



Church picture: Randy and Mary Elizabeth Sadd with their sons Luke and Jacob, Tamara Sadd, father of the bride Jameel Sadd, groom Frank Brinkley, Phillip and Greg Sadd.

Family members gathered for a breakfast buffet the day after the wedding at a local restaurant.

Pictured are back row: Frank Brinkley, Phillip Sadd, Jameel Sadd, Tamara Kay Brinkley, Charlotte Lechlak, Adeeb Sadd, Jamie Hanna and son.

Front row: Randy Sadd, Jake Sadd, Cheryl Fields, Greg Sadd, Jim Hanna.



# Marriages



**Philip Michael, Jr.**, son of Philip and Georgiana Michael of Charleston, WV, joined in marriage with **Leila Mityas** at the St. George Orthodox Church.

**Eddie Henry**, son of the late Barbara Henry and grandson of the late Ed and Bernice Abraham was married September 30th in Williamson, WV. He and his wife **Christine** honeymooned in the Bahamas. Eddie's grandfather Ed was a former board member and President of the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation.

## Engagements

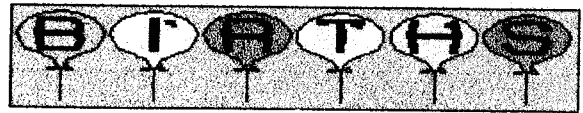
Whoa, our young people have spring fever! The following Kfeirians are engaged: **Greg Hanna**, **Angela Nassar** and **Amira Nassar**. Upcoming details in the next newsletter.

## ANNIVERSARIES

**Jim and Sally Tweel** celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary, January 29, 2000, attending the heralded Marshall University tenth rated football banquet at the Radisson Hotel. Amazing, Sally doesn't look a day over 50. She must have been a child bride!!!

## A Birthday

**Jamina Tweel Carder** was surprised with a 60th Birthday Party by her children in Nashville, TN on December 10, 2000. Happy Birthday, Jamina!



**Michael Abraham**, former Kfeirian Reunion Board President and wife, **Nora**, happily enlarged their family by one young man, **Michael Ray Abraham**. Michael is the son of former Board Member **Ray Abraham** of Huntington, WV.

## Jared Lee Schultz

**Randy and Becky Thabet Schulz** of San Antonio, TX, brought **Jared Lee Schulze** to the Toledo Reunion along with brother **Braden**. They are the grandsons of **Jim Mansour Thabet** of San Antonio.



**Becky** is a newly elected Board Member and has taken a great lead in the arrangements for Las Vegas. A travel agent, **Becky** has worked to make accommodations and travel arrangements really great. She and her family invite you to join them in Las Vegas!

## Moving

**Mrs. Fadwa Naoufal** of Rialto, CA has been in Beirut for the past 2 years. **Fadwa** took her children, **Dianna**, **Amanda**, **Robby** and **Tonia** to Lebanon so they could learn to read and write Arabic and to teach them about their culture and their roots. Meanwhile, **Simon**, her husband maintains their carpet business in Rialto. **Fadwa** is the daughter of **Taher** and **Samia El-Ayssami** of Kfeir. Her new address is 216 So. Riverside Drive, Rialto, CA 92377.

My name is MATTA Roby , a LEBANESE citizen from south LEBANON (MLEEKH near KFEIR village).

I am a cameraman and my first professional introduction to your village in 1990 , while I was filming a wedding ceremony.

My wife is "Maha Elias ZAKHOUR" ( native & habitant of KFEIR ) , her mother is "Mary Kamil AL GOZ". Her late grand father was "Nimer ABOU KHEIR" who lived and passed away in the U.S.A. . Since then I have filmed more than twenty weddings & occasions in KFEIR, where you can have a fair idea about the main church and other KFEIRIAN cultural and customs. In year 2000 I thought of producing a documentary film about the beautiful sites of KFEIR and their people's traditions (agricultural crop productions and all year celebrations and occasions from January to December).and to point out specially the peaceful coexistence between CHRISTIANS and DRUZ communities.

This film contains more then 200 shots (views) assembled in a 2 hour film. The following headlines are: Views of the village (mountains, forests, rivers, fountains, churches , DRUZ holy places , etc.).An interview with the village mayor, with three of DRUZ religious leaders responsible, with the representative of the young women CHRISTIAN association (Y.W.C.A.) in the southern region of LEBANON . The making of traditional bread, The celebration mass (Christmas , Easter , etc.....),The making of traditional cookies of the Easter holiday, Agricultural crop productions: olive oil (from the olive trees to the oil press & finally in the jar); the beekeeping (apiculture) in the village & the honey extraction from the alveolus), the tradition plowing, the season harvest (the wheat in the blade), the manual grinder of the cereals, the traditional extraction of the milk, A real traditional wedding. So through this film you can be in KFEIR with out being in LEBANON .We think you might be interested in our video project , and are at your disposal for further information. Best regards, Roby MATTA  
*Your editor received this email and thought some Kfeirians might be interested in it for themselves or for the Archives of the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation.*

A wonderful photo of the Thabet family, beloved by the Kfeirian community. This photo appears to be circa 1950's. Starting in the front center is Rusmia Thabet, and clockwise we find Tufic Thabet, Mitchell Mickel and his wife Linda, Rose Christian, Naomi McCarron, Michael Bassett, Clee Bassett and daughter Kathy, Charles Thabet, Carolyn Sadd, and Cynthia Bassett. What a wonderful photo, full of memories. I remember eating at the same table. We will all always miss Tufic and Rusmia. May God guard their Eternal Souls.

I have been doing research on the Syrians who boarded the Titanic in April 1912 for the past 5 years. I have been collecting the name of the passengers and their bio information which, hopefully, this year will be complete and in book form.

Two passengers have eluded me. Two young girls from the 'Jabbour' family, presumably, perished, one 19 and one 16 - I have been contacting as many names and people with roots in various villages in Syria and Lebanon inquiring as to whether any information passed down through the families have information on these 2 girls or any of the other passengers. Most of the villages and towns that were listed as part of Syria in 1912 now are in Lebanon. Per chance, was there ever any mention of passengers who boarded from Kfeir?

Do you have any information on these girls or do any of the family members?

*Your editor received this and thought it interesting. There are Kfeirians named Jabbour I believe. Any information on this - forward to me at email or street address.*

If either of these projects interest you or if you have recipes, photos, or anecdotes for the Kfeirian Reunion Cookbook, a kind of folk history with food in mind, or want to add your family's updates to the Family Tree, contact me at [dianndee@yahoo.com](mailto:dianndee@yahoo.com) or Diann Michael

6930 SW 15th Street  
 Plantation, FL 33317

Although I am leaving as newsletter editor, I have several new projects in the works!



# Viva! Las Vegas!

JULY 20-22,  
2001



Kevin and Monica Donley dancing at the 68th Reunion in Toledo. They are inviting you to join them in Las Vegas for the time of your life!

Kevin has worked to make this Las Vegas Reunion memorable!

There are many wonderful children's activities in Las Vegas. There is a museum, there are amusement parks, the Hoover Dam, Circus, Circus, etc. Our young people are sure to have a great time while meeting new Kfeirian Friends!



Gianna Michael is the daughter of your editor, and has taken a writing cue from mom.

Becky Thabet Schulz researched and researched the arrangements in Las Vegas and we are proud to bring to you the arrangements at the Arabic themed Aladdin Resort and Casino in Las Vegas.

Centrally located on the strip it is a wonder to behold. Arabic atmosphere, great lodging, spacious banquet rooms, great pool, attractions for the kids, our own arrangements for the Hafli on Friday night and the Banquet and Ball on Saturday night with dinners included, and, of course, Las Vegas shows and gaming casinos at our disposal.

We look forward to seeing you there and urge you to make your reservations NOW by calling 1-877-333-9474 or visiting our website [www.kfeir.com](http://www.kfeir.com) or for more info on Aladdin Resort & Casino go to [www.aladdincasino.com](http://www.aladdincasino.com). **MAKE SURE YOU TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE KFEIRIAN REUNION!**

At \$129 a night you can't beat the price or the luxury. And our rate is guaranteed for 3 days before and after the Reunion.

**JULY 20-22, 2001**

We chose the date so that those of you who want to go on to the Antiochian Conference in Los Angeles can do so easily. Or join some of us at the bottom of the Grand Canyon!

We already have a good group reserving rooms in Vegas. The Bassett family is going to have a mini family reunion within our reunion, the Abourezks will be there, as will the Hannas of WV, the Donleys and Hussons and Thabets, the Courys of Texas, the Harris family, the Hoseys, the Jana family, the McCarus family, the McCoys of Williamson, the Michaels, the Neweys, Rahhals, the Scotts, the Rameys, just to name a few. The response has been great. Make your reservations NOW to get in on this great rate which is sure to go up and up the closer you get to summer. Your reservations insure our free banquet hall usage, so it is important to reserve now! **REGISTRATION MATERIALS WILL BE COMING YOUR WAY SOON! Reserve by April 30th!**

## The Children's View by Gianna Christiane Michael

In the past years of the Kfeirian Reunion have been some of the best. Nine years ago a young girl named Ashley North and I met, when we were only three years old.

We made friends at that reunion and look forward to seeing each other every year. We have had many years of fun and hope to have even more ahead. This past Reunion was not the best attended that we've had, but this upcoming one will make history!

Ashley and I have heard that next year's will be in Las Vegas!

Now I know that anyone who comes will have a blast. Last year's was supposed to be in Lebanon, but since that didn't happen we expect the Kfeirian people spread all over the country will show up at one of the biggest Reunions in Kfeirian history!

I have heard there are lots of fun things for families to do in Las Vegas.

I can't wait to see you all there!

## KFEIRIAN REUNION FOUNDATION

# LAS VEGAS REUNION

Reunion date is July 20-22, 2001

*At the new*  
**Aladdin Resort & Casino**

**Room rates are \$ 129.00**

**Reservation deadline is April 30th.**

**A two week extension**

**Make your reservation today.**

**The special room rate can be  
booked for three nights before and  
after the Reunion.**

**Registration will cost  
approximately \$ 100.00**

**Group flight discount**

**For more information visit:  
[www.kfeir.com](http://www.kfeir.com)**

That's right - the 69<sup>th</sup> Kfeirian Reunion will be held in Las Vegas July 20-22, 2001.

The location fits us well. We're celebrating at the Aladdin Resort & Casino, the newest Vegas hotel. The Aladdin Resort, which opened this past summer was inspired by the mystical tales of 1,001 Arabian Nights. It features over 130 exotically themed shopping, dining and entertainment venues. You'll find an unsurpassed collection of over 21 restaurants.

Kfeirians on both the east and west coasts have expressed great excitement about the upcoming Las Vegas reunion. Multiple families are planning on holding mini-reunions, making this a splendid opportunity for Kfeirians from both shores to rekindle old friendships and make new acquaintances. Many have expressed enthusiasm at the prospect of meeting cousins who, by dint of geography, are virtual strangers.

The time to reserve your hotel room is NOW! A limited number of rooms have been blocked (84% of the rooms have already been reserved). Reservations must be arranged before our new deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2001, which is a two week extension we arranged with Aladdin Resorts.

Call (877) 333-WISH to reserve your room. Tell them you are part of the Kfeirian Reunion to receive the special \$129.00 rate. You may book up to three extra nights before and following the Reunion at the special rate. The Reunion festivities commence Friday, July 20 and conclude on Sunday, July 22.

Registration will cost approximately \$ 100.00 and includes Friday and Saturday night Hafli. Each night's dinner will "feature" Lebanese cuisine. Entertainment will be provided both nights, featuring an Arabic band playing "Dubkee" music all night, for those who can endure the challenge. Plus a DJ will spin some of your favorite dance tunes and popular hits. Other special events are also scheduled to help make this reunion one of the best ever!

To help with airfare, Becky Thabet Schulze, Kfeirian board member and proprietor of Accent Travel in San Antonio, is arranging a group flight discount. Visit our web site for further information, or call Becky @ (800)494-3553 for information or with help in making your flight arrangements.



# 69th Kfeirian Reunion

PLEASE PRINT

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Others in party **at same address**. List different addresses on additional forms and attach. Amount Paid

Others in party at same address. List different addresses on additional forms and attach.	Amount Paid
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PRE-REGISTRATION FEES BEFORE JULY 5, 2001

Ages 7 and Up \$105 U.S. or \$165 Canadian  
Children under 6 FREE

Registration Price at the door \$125 U.S.

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Paid by Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Received by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN THIS FORM TO

69th Kfeirian Reunion  
25 Hillendale Drive  
Huntington, WV 25705

## See You In Vegas!!!

### CHANGES TO THE DIRECTORY

The following entry is a: ( ) addition ( ) correction ( ) deletion

TITLE: (Circle) Miss Mrs. Mr. Mr. & Mrs. Dr. PLEASE PRINT

**If you have a relative that is NOT received any Kfeirian Reunion mail and wants to be on the list, please send us their address.**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

Adabic Name (or "Clan") \_\_\_\_\_

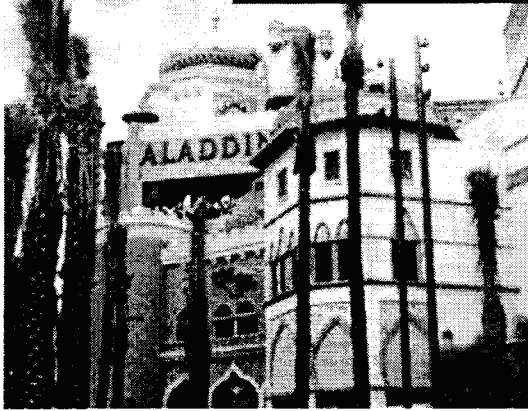
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

# ALADDIN™ Las Vegas

The Kiteirian Reunion

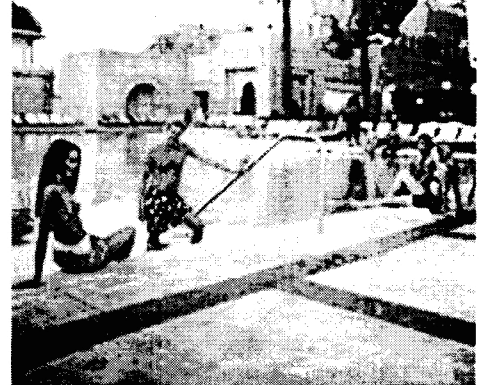


An Arabian scene right here in the good ole USA! The newly developed AladdinResort gives our Arab American Reunion a real flare!

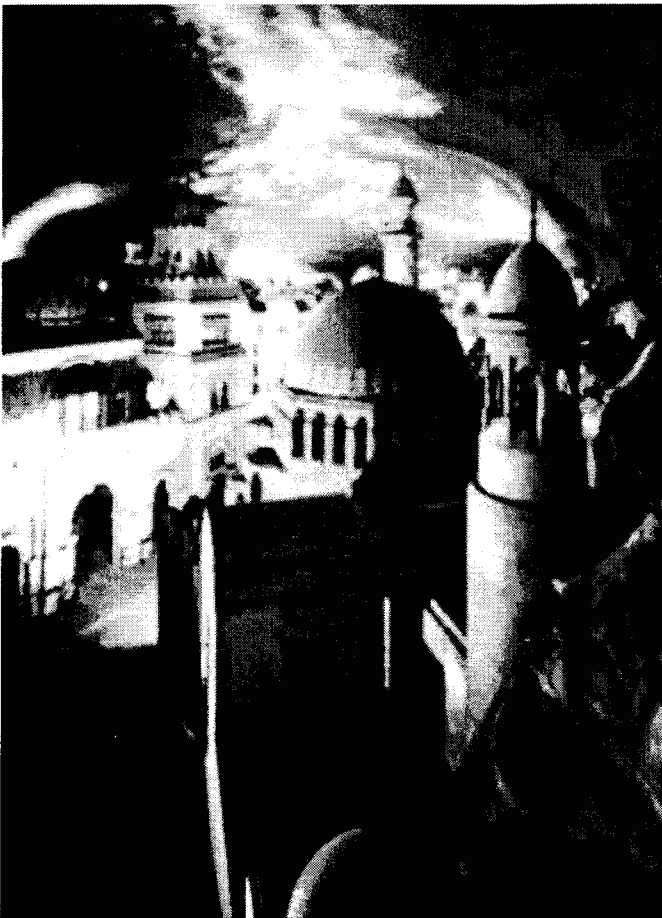
Debbie in the towers of an Arabian Palace! Or enjoy the wonderful Las Vegas shows that are on 24/7. Let's Party!



We will in style in the deluxe London Club!

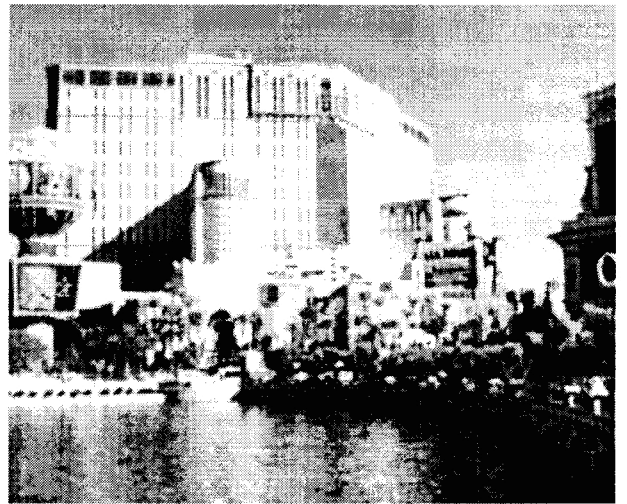


The nights are long, but so are those lazy days by the pool...

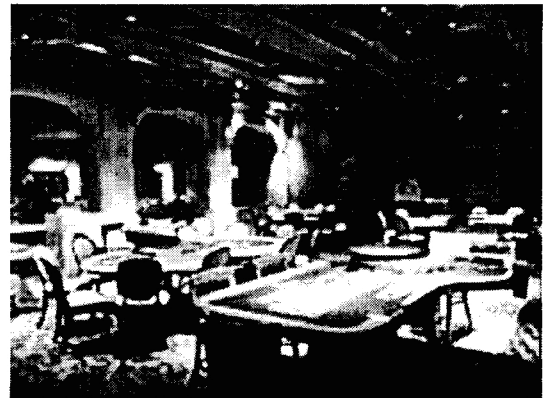


Shopping with a passion, and those winnings (or the credit cards). The Aladdin sports first class shopping in a Mediterranean, souk like atmosphere.

Sun, sand and water by day, the grounds of the Aladdin are a sight to behold.



The London Club is where you will find your editor, looking for a high roller with loose change!



And what is Las Vegas if not a little gaming and cards. Roulette, Bacarat, Blackjack, Poker, you name it, in both the traditional Vegas gaming rooms and the more European and exclusive London Club pictured here.

## LATE BREAKING NEWS

**Mrs. Sadie Kerbawy Byerlein** of Bloomfield Hills, MI passed away March 6, 2001. Sadie was a cousin to Lucile Kerbawy DeGross and aunt of Kyle Kerbawy. Memory eternal.

**Mrs. Anna Sabah** of Ashville, NC passed away in January 2001. Our sympathy goes to her son Joe Sabah of Denver, and daughter and son-in-law Dr. and Mrs. Harold Schutte of Weaverville, NC. Memory eternal.

**Mrs. Nazik Hanna**, Huntington, WV celebrated her 89th birthday April 9, 2001. **Jeanette Bolus** and **Charles Hosey**, **Asma Hodge**, **Mary Peck**, **George Hanna**, all had birthdays in April and won't reveal their ages. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVERYONE.** Many more.

### RECEIVED IN THE MAIL:

Dear George:

I just returned from a trip to Lebanon and Syria with a delegation of thirteen people. We went to the Kfeir where we were welcomed by a couple of hundred people, both Christian and Druze. The priest and the head Druze Imam were the leaders in the welcome, and all the Druze Imams turned out to sit in a line for the welcoming. It was heartwarming, and I was in tears about half the time. We went from the village square to my parents' home for drinks, then to the Orthodox Church where the Priest showed us around. The leaders of the village made a number of requests of me, from money for a playground, to a secondary school, to a new water system. I asked them to boil the request down to one item which I could present to the Kfeir reunion and ask for contributions. They settled on the playground, which will cost approximately \$10,000 to build and to stock. They already have the land that has been contributed by another Kfeirian who lived in America.

I promised them that I would make the request for contributions at the reunion in Las Vegas in July. They were pleased at that, and are fully expecting that the American Kfeirians will come up with enough money for the playground. I hope you will be able to suggest this to our reunion members when you next send out a newsletter, and I'll be happy to make an oral presentation at the reunion itself.

Also, I think it would be a good idea for the reunion to raise enough money each year to fund each of the needed projects for the village, starting this year with the playground, then next year for the secondary school, and so on. Let me know what you can do to spread this idea amongst reunion members. I'll see you in July.

Best regards,  
Jim Abourezk

### From Beirut Times Editorial:

"To the Bush/Cheney Administration Lebanon, as one of the world's oldest continuing civilizations, in our view, will play a pivotal role in the Middle East.

To inspire a renewal and strengthening of the bond and to improve and enhance the relationship between the peoples of Lebanon and the United States in the years to come, our staff endorses for replacement of Ambassador Satterfield, the nomination of prominent Malibu attorney, Bruce A. Thabit, who enjoys impeccable credentials and whose parents are from an historical family in our native land."



**JACK N. METREE**, passed away at his home in Fort Pierce, FL on March 7, 2001. Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Isabell. He attended schools in Huntington, and Marshall University.

**Phillip John Ghiz**, 85 of Charleston died February 3, 1999. Formerly of Logan where he was a former city council member, he attend Marshall and was a Army Vet of World War II.

**John Sakakini**, 89 of Huntington has passed on. He was a retired IRS agent, general auditor with the Powellton Coal Co., Relocation Officer for Huntington Urban Renewal and former owner of the Marting House.

## REMEMBER

**Pre-register**

**by July 5<sup>th</sup>**

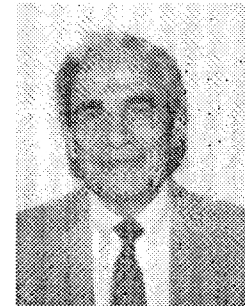
**SEE YOU**

**IN VEGAS!**

**Yes! — You Can Help!**

**Yes! — We Can Do It!**

**Read Page 5 - Please!**



**Edmund "Mooney" George**, 77 of Huntington, died August 26, 1999 in St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, WV.

He was retired as co-owner of

George Tobacco Company in Huntington. A Veteran of World War II, he received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the World War II Victory Ribbon American Theater with Four Bronze Service Stars.

Survivors include his wife Rosalie Russo George of Huntington and four sons and one daughter.



**Louise Mary Hanna Sadd**, of Marietta, GA passed away, July 10, 1999, after a courageous battle with cancer. She

was born in Huntington, WV, February 10, 1936. She attended Marshall University and was a member of the Pi Kappa Sigma Sorority. She was employed by the Tenneco Oil Company for 25 years. She is sadly missed by her four children. Her greatest joy in life was raising her daughter and three sons.

### Marshall signs pair to golf scholarships

Golfers **Brad Tweel** from Huntington High School and **Drew Whitten** from Hurricane High School signed to play at Marshall University.

Coach **Joe Feaganes** said both players signed National Letters-of-Intent with the Thundering Herd. They are Marshall's first recruits for the 2001-02 season.

Tweel was a member of Huntington's state championship teams in 1998 and 1999.

*Brad Tweel is son of Larry and Cheryl Tweel and grandson of James and Sally Tweel.*





In court yard of St. George  
In front of 400 year old  
Olive tree. Samira (Nassar) and  
Naseeb Abou Jamra, Gloria,  
George and Farres Kassab



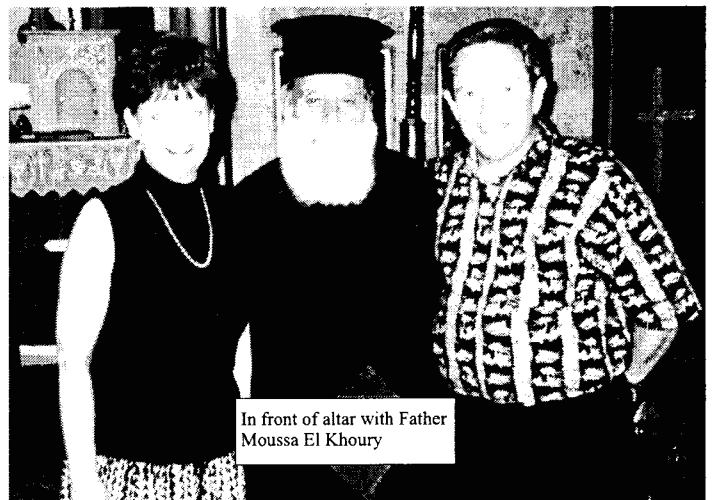
In front of Aain in Kfeir.  
George Hanna, Farres Kassab

August 1st – 17th 2000, Gloria and I had the most wonderful trip to Lebanon, Damascus, Syria, Jordan, Israel/Jerusalem, and Palestine/Bethlehem. We met up with family and friends in Beirut who treated us royally. We toured such famous sites as Cedars of Lebanon Forest, Baalbeck, Kaleel Gibran Museum. The highlight was going to Kfeir, Lebanon, my birth place, meeting up with some childhood friends that I grew up with. Visited several families we know and all opened their hearts to us. We visited my home and seeing the emotion on Gloria's face was priceless.



In Kfeir, with childhood friends;  
Yousef Abou Rahal, Tahar El Ayssami

In Damascus, we stayed at the gorgeous five star Le Meridien Hotel. We met a young man at the hotel, his name was also Hanna. He befriended us and insisted that Gloria and I have dinner with him and his beautiful wife at a restaurant in old Damascus. We visited several historic sites, the National Museum, Umayyad Mosque, which housed the head of John the Baptist, numerous Churches and Cathedrals. We toured Maaloula, a small village of 3,000 people, whose resident still speak Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus. We had dinner with the parents of a doctor friend of ours whom we had met on their visit to Huntington last year. We visited St. Takla and Sednaya, (I got my first hair cut here at 2 ½ years old) monasteries where many miracles had been witnessed.



In front of altar with Father  
Moussa El Khoury

Our next stop was Amman, Jordan. We visited Mt. Nebo, burial site of Moses, We dipped our feet in the emerald green Jordan River, visited some 4th and 6th century Byzantine churches, and 30 minutes from Amman, the mosaic city of Madaba, where the oldest map of the Holy Land exists on the floor of St. George Greek Orthodox Church. We purchased some gifts from a local merchant in Madaba who was kind enough to give us a ride back to Amman; he insisted we visit his home. His wife and daughter had a full meal waiting for us. Incredible hospitality. Regrettably, we passed on the 4 hour one way trip to the famous ruins in Petra. We were told

that of all the ruins we had seen, this was the most beautiful.

Then to be able to walk the path that Christ walked was awesome. We visited most of your historic sites in Jerusalem and Bethlehem area Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Church of the Nativity, Garden of Gethsemane, took a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, Nazareth, Jerico, and many other sites. It was a trip of a lifetime and recommend everyone takes such a trip.

George and Gloria Hanna



We in South Florida have started getting used to having George Kawaja visit from the cold north! Kentucky is still North and cold to us from South Florida. George came down and shared some good times with fellow Kfeirians Odile and Ghassal Lean of Canada, and their uncles, George and Cesar Zakem and Marcella Matta, George Kawaja's niece from Brazil who now works in South Florida in banking. A good time was had by all. George is your editor's cousin, and we all enjoy his company when he spends his winter with us. He has returned to Lexington and says everything is blooming, the temperatures are in the 70's and it is Spring there!



### *Selma's Travels*

Jan 8th, I took my third Caribbean tour on a Carnival ship. Again a large ship with about 3000 passengers. This trip lasted only one week, but it was wonderful. We sailed West. Our first landing was Cozumel, Mexican Island, where we saw ruins a few thousand years old. We got the taste of Mexican shops, people, and enjoyed the land and the seashore immensely. Our next landing was at the Grand Cayman Island. Walked around town, found a ROCK CAFE. Toured the Island by Bus and spent 2 hours on the seashore, in the water and sand. I found coral washed up by the waves. Fun to get your feet in the sea. Third and last, we went to Jamaica, This was a great tour, Jamaica was different, we also visited a Park with most different flowers, trees, and waterfalls. Some of the people climbed the waterfall, a very high distance. I enjoyed this trip, especially the warm weather, since it was extremely cold in Columbus.

A visit to West Virginia in the fall to see the fall foliage took us to Snowshoe Mountain and Pocahontas County area. I had never seen that part of W. Va. It was a wonderful sight. Two trains (small), Cass and Salamander took us to the highest point of Snowshoe mountain area. We visited the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. Scientists from all over the world visit these telescopes. The U.S. Navy uses one of these telescope. Snowshoe Ski Slopes is one of 10 best Ski Slope in the United States. Elevation is 3 to 4000 feet. See you in Vegas!

# In Memoria

**Mrs. Salome Abraham** of Huntington passed from us August 4, 2000. Mrs. Abraham was born in Majdal Shams, daughter of Slaymen and Hamdume Deeb. She arrived in America in 1938 aboard the HMS Normandy. She was preceded in death by her husband, Issac Abraham and by an infant daughter. She is survived by three sons, Drs. Fred, Nazeem and Charles Abraham of Huntington, WV, eight grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. She will be missed by all



**Farris Bassett** of Blissfield, MI, passed away January 25, 2000. He was the son of Michael and Thebe Bassett and the husband of Clemence Thabet. He is survived by his wife and three children, Cynthia Brooks, Michael Bassett, and Catherine Borucki, two sisters, Louise Tweel and Rose Jordan, four grandchildren and two step grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Lydia Michael.



**Mary Lou Bokair** of Huntington, passed away February 18, 2001. A retired Cabell County school teacher.. Mary was a long time Reunion attendee and was central in the establishment of the Kfeirian Reunion Scholarship program. Beloved by her friends,

family and students, Mary will be deeply missed. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister Ellen Bokair. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Julia and Hafiz Nassar of Toledo, Ohio. She was a deeply loved teacher and will be missed by all who knew her.

**Phillip George** passed away in Arizona. He was the brother of the late Edmund, Fred, Edward, James. Louise, & Lorena George. He is survived by Linda George Sakakini. May his soul rest in peace.

**Helen Cantees** of Williamson died April 21, 2000. She was the daughter of the late Antonio and Josephine Saleeba. She retired from Dawahare's Department Store. She is survived by her husband, Saber Cantees, her son Emil Cantees, a brother, Calvin Saleeba, a sister Maxine White, and three grandchildren.



**Salwa Jean Mickel George** passed away February 19, 2000. She was the daughter of the late Joseph Mickel and Lydia Jabbour. She attended George Washington University. Mrs. George was preceded in death by her husband Fred George, and her sister Amileen Mickel of Charleston. She is survived by her children, Deidra George and Frederic George, and Dr. Julia George of Raleigh, NC., and by three grandchildren, and by many nieces and nephews.



**Kathy Haddad Goodman**, the only child of Mary Louise Tweel, and the late Edward M. Haddad and the wife of Steve Goodman passed away on November 14, 1999. She served as a Cabell County Substitute teacher and was active in church and civic groups. She attended Juilliard School of music and acted in many plays. Graduating from Marshall University, she also earned her Master's Degree in Communication Arts. She contributed to many important causes in Huntington and will be sorely missed by all who had the grace in their lives to know her.



**David R. Mickel**, a telecommunication sales representative, died Wednesday, March 21, 2001, of a brain tumor at the Gilchrist Center for the Hospice Care in Towson, MD. He was 39 and lived in Eldersburg, MD. David was married to Dottie Jean Kapert. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his parents, Alexander J. and Nadine L. Mickel of Richmond, VA; two sisters, Sheryl Parrish of Ellicott City, MD and Sandra Ruder of Richmond, VA. David was a Maryland sales representative for Chesapeake Communication where he had worked for more than 10 years. The company specializes in sophisticated telecommunications equipment that is used worldwide in U.S. Embassies. He was a longtime communicat of The Church of the Epiphany (Episcopal) Church in Richmond, VA.



✝

## In Memoria Continued



Martha Hage of Huntington passed away February 21, 2001. She is the widow of Campbell Hage and the daughter the late Nemer and Helen Thabit George. She was preceded in death by her two sisters, Mary George and Florine George, and two brothers, William and George. She

was the owner and operator of Cam's Ham and leaves four daughters, Camille, Shelley, Leslie, and three sons, Rev. George, Pastor Art, and Peter Hage, and two sisters, Mrs. Mike Thabit and Lucille George. May her memory be Eternal.

Amiel Michael of Charleston, WV, passed away in March, 2001, after a long illness during which he showed grace and courage. Amiel, son of George and Sadie Michael who immigrated from the Kfeir follows his brothers Mitchell and Phillip Michael into eternal peace.



The owner of the Michael Fruit Market, a Charleston staple for many years, Amiel is the Past President of the Kfeirian Reunion Board of Directors and a long time supporter and attendee. He was an active Mason and a Shriner and contributed to many good cause in his charitable way. Amiel brightened our lives with his warmth, good cheer, and admirable character and will be missed by many. He is survived by his wife, Julia Courey Michael, and his sons Steven and Randy, his daughter, Sandy, 5 grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. It is with great sadness that we bid him Adieu until, by the grace of God, we can join him in Eternal Rest.

Jack Metry passed away March 7, 2001, at his home in Florida. Jack was an engineer with the Army Corps of Engineers, and was schooled in Huntington, attending Marshall University. Jack was a Reunion supporter and attendee. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Isabelle, and his daughter, Lela Katherine Kadavari, and four grandchildren and two greatchildren.

Therese Tweel passed on November 12, 2000. She was preceded in death by her husband, Roger Tweel. Survivors include her daughter Sueellen Casto, and her sons, George and Ronald Tweel and seven grandchildren.



George Rahall of Beckley, WV passed away January 17, 2000. He was the son of the late Asaff Rahall and Jamelia Thabet. Mr. Rahall was an engineer. He is survived by his wife of 53 years,

Livia Anna Kregecz, and four sons, Stephen, Kenneth, Dr. Lawrence, and Ronald. He also leaves a brother, Lewis, and two sisters, Alice Murad, and Deborah Hawarney, and six grandchildren. God Rest his Soul.

Edna Yarid Tweel, passed away Sept. 15, 1999. She was the daughter of Slyman and Mary Yarid of Said Naya and Zahle. She was married to Charles Tweel, who survives her, as well as two daughters, Patricia Coddington and Angela Bullock, and a son Dr. Charles Tweel.



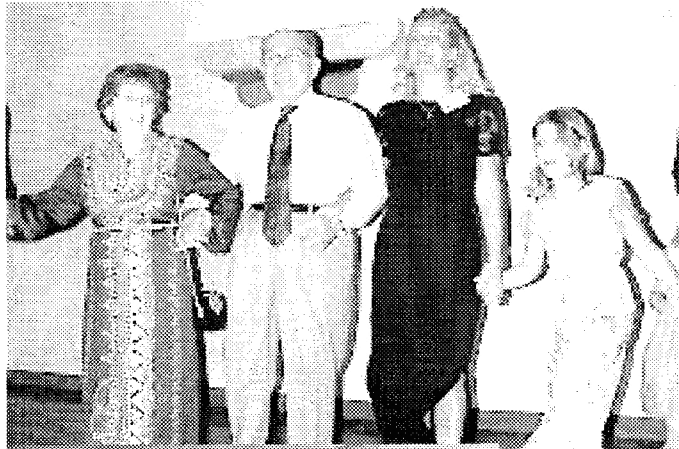
She is also survived by 9 grandchildren, and three great-grandsons. She loved the role of Sito and will be deeply missed.

Mrs. Joy Tweel of Huntington, WV passed away August 11, 2000. She was the wife of Nicholas Tweel. She had been the recipient of a wonderful birthday present from her husband, River Downs Racetrack which was newsworthy. She was a model and involved in many community and arts affairs. She is survived by her husband, and two daughters Gail Lewis, and Lynn Arbogast.



Mary Louise Tweel Haddad passed on Oct. 9, 2000. She was the daughter of John and Anna Thabit Tweel. She was an educator and lived in the Huntington area all her life. She earned her doctorate in International Education from Columbia University. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Haddad, her daughter Kathryn Goodman, her sister Thelma Cassis, and brothers, Samuel, William, and Norman Tweel. She is survived by her brothers, Nicholas and Charles Tweel.

# 68th Reunion in PHOTOMONTAGE TOLEDO



Photos Courtesy of Kevin Donley