



KFEIRIAN REUNION FOUNDATION

Founded 1932

Winter 2008 Newsletter

76th Annual Kfeirian Reunion — Labor Day Celebration

Even if you missed the 75th Annual Kfeirian Reunion this past Fall, it is clear from the photos below how wonderful this milestone occasion turned out to be. People came from far and wide (even from Kfeir itself!) to honor our Reunion founders and celebrate our rich heritage with friends and family. It was an occasion for us all to be proud and one that provided inspiration to keep the Reunion going for generations to come.

As such, it is with great pleasure that the Board of Directors invites you to the 76th Annual Kfeirian Reunion in Charleston, West Virginia, over Labor Day Weekend 2008. Charleston is a place filled with many wonderful memories of Reunions past. We hope to see you there! *Charleston is great in 2008!*

2008 Reunion Details

Date:

Saturday, August 30 — Monday, September 1

Hotel:

Charleston Marriott Town Center
200 Lee Street East, Charleston, WV 25301
www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/crwww-charleston-marriott-town-center/

Reservations:

(304) 345-6500 or (800) 228-9290

Special Rate:

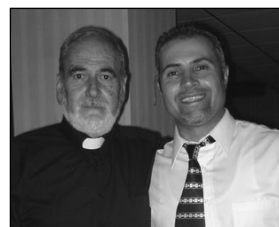
\$89 (standard room); \$125 (suite); mention Kfeirian Reunion Rate applicable from August 28 — September 1

Reservation Deadline:

August 8 (Reunion block of rooms released on this date)



Memories from the 75th Reunion...



2007 – 2008 Board of Trustees

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Mike Harris

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Julian Saad

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Successful 75-Year Celebration of the Kfeirian Reunion

The 75th Annual Kfeirian Reunion was a great success! With more than 400 attendees, it was a memorable and milestone occasion. It was wonderful to see families come together to catch up on old times and make new memories. It was inspiring to see the many children who attended as they are the future of our beloved Reunion. It was a tremendous learning experience to welcome Helen Corey for the first-ever Kfeirian cooking class. It was with great pride for our heritage as we ate Lebanese food and were entertained by those amazing belly dancers during the Saturday night Hafli. It was a blessing to have His Grace, Bishop Thomas with us for the weekend. Last, but not least, it was with heartfelt joy that we welcomed Fr. Assad Rahall from Kfeir who joined us for the 75th Reunion.

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make our Reunion a success. I would also like to thank George Hanna for all of his hard work as the chair of our commemorative address book. This book was truly a work of art.

It has been a privilege to serve as your Board President, Vice President and Reunion Chairman over the past four years. I have made many new acquaintances and rekindled old friendships during my tenure. I have also learned a great deal about our families, our heritage and our beloved Reunion. I am eternally grateful for these experiences.

Sincerely,
Joseph M. Peck



2007-2008 Scholarship Recipients

Since founding the Kfeirian Reunion Scholarship in 1964, over 135 Kfeirians have been awarded scholarships for higher education. Congratulations to the following Kfeirian who were awarded the 2007-2008 Kfeirian Reunion scholarship.

Megan Bush

Whittman College, Walla Walla, WA

Daughter of Jan Rutherford and Jeffery Bush of Juneau, AK

Gianna Michael

Alfred University, Alfred, NY

Daughter of Diann Michael of Davie, FL

Mirna Abou Rizk

University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario

Daughter of Wadih and Najwa Abou Rizk of Ottawa, Ontario

Rachael Rose

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC

Daughter of Stuart and Tracy Rose of Matthews, NC

We encourage Kfeirians to apply for next year's scholarship. To download the application and apply, please visit our Web site at www.kfeir.com/scholarship.html.

Kfeirians Giving Back to Kfeirians

The Kfeirian people are generous, kind-hearted and always looking out for others in need. The character of our people shined through during this 75th Reunion. During the General Assembly Meeting, a request was made to donate \$2,000 to assist four families in need in the village of Kfeir. Each of these families has children— one of which has six children. Funds were requested to assist with the cost of food and fuel for the winter months. A motion was passed to take up a collection during the Reunion's Grand Banquet to help raise the funds to assist these families.

As such, the response was overwhelming! In a few short minutes, our Kfeirian people donated over \$5,500 to this worthy cause. As a result of this amazing response, the Board recognized the need to establish a Benevolence Committee which will focus on future fund raising and distribution of funds to those in need.



Kfeirian Reunion Reporters Wanted!

Looking for 'in-the-know' Kfeirians to gather news and information for the newsletter! Help us collect information on fellow Kfeirians such as milestone events, births, weddings, anniversaries, graduations, etc. Send the information to us and we'll print it in the next newsletter. Contact Nora Abraham at (904) 230-9148 if you are interested or email us at kfeir@kfeir.com.

Births

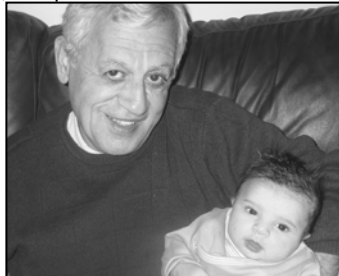
Miles Nasser Barnett
born July 3, 2006
to Alexander & Barrett Barnett



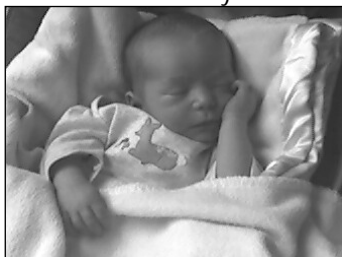
Brandon David Donley
born September 20, 2007
to Kevin & Mónica Donley



Anthony Michael Pedro
born December 14, 2007
to Amira & Tony Pedro
(with proud Geddee, Fouad Nassar)



Kenzie Maruska Donley
born October 12, 2007
to Jim & Ivana Donley



1st Birthday

Luke Abraham Michael
October 31, 2007
parents Philip & Lilah Michael

Happy Birthday!



In Memory

George Rafic Choueiri, 39, of Charleston, WV
(June 5, 2007)

George Rahall, 92, of Huntington, WV
(October, 14, 2007)

Deidra Michele George, 60,
of Huntington, WV
(December 6, 2007)

~ *Memory Eternal*



George Choueiri



Mitchell M. Mickel

Mitchell M. Mickel, 85, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, January 29, 2008, after a long illness.

He was born March 25, 1922, in Kfeir, Lebanon. He is the first son of the late Abe and Nahia Mickel of Williamson.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Linda Thabet Mickel; daughter, Sharman Mickel of Charleston; and daughter, Denise M. Russell, son-in-law, Ronald Russell, and grandchildren, Melaina Russell and Garrett Russell, all of Richmond, Va. He is also survived by his brothers, Alex Mickel of Richmond, Virginia, and Fred Mickel; sister, Gloria Bevins of Williamson; and many other relatives.

He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army in Anzio, Italy, during World War II, where he received a Purple Heart. Mitchell graduated from Williamson High School and received a bachelor of science degree in economics from West Virginia University. He received his commission to the U.S. Air Force and retired in 1970 as a lieutenant colonel after 26 years of military service. After retirement from the Air Force, Mitchell worked for the Internal Revenue Service and later worked for the Office of Personnel Management. He was a member of St. George Orthodox Cathedral, the U.S. Veterans Officers Club, the American Legion, Beni Kedem Temple, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry and the National Retired Federal Employees.

Mitchell will be buried with military honors in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., on his birthday, March 25, 2008.



A Tribute to Mitchell Mickel

As many of you know, Mitchell Mickel served on the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation Board of Directors for many years. He served as treasurer and chairman and then as secretary for the scholarship program for quite some time. We owe a debt of gratitude to Mitchell for his dedication, service and commitment to the Kfeirian Reunion.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, may we extend our sincere sympathy to his wife Linda and the family. May God grant Mitchell peace and may his memory be eternal.

Got News? Change of Address?

Help us keep all Kfeirians connected through this newsletter by updating us with news and information. Brag about your kid who finally got married...a new grandchild...a milestone occasion! Also, help us pay tribute to Kfeirian brothers and sisters who have recently passed before us. We want to hear from you. Send news, change of mailing address and email address for you/family members to: Kfeirian Reunion Foundation, 1817 W. Cheyenne Drive, Chandler, AZ 85224 or kfeir@kfeir.com.

Kfeir.com Relaunches With New Look!

It's a new year and the Kfeirian Reunion Foundation Web site has a new look! Check it out at www.kfeir.com for the latest news and information on the Reunion, Reunion photos, the Scholarship Program, our Kfeirian Family Tree and other helpful links!

Kfeirian Family Tree

Our family tree continues to grow but we need your help in keeping it up-to-date and adding to the more than 4,100 names! Continue to send Kevin Donley your updates by emailing him at kevindonley@comcast.net or be sure to talk to him at the Reunion!



Thanks to all of those who contributed to this edition of the Kfeirian Reunion Newsletter. Send or email information for the next newsletter to: Kfeirian Reunion Foundation, 1817 W. Cheyenne Drive, Chandler, AZ 85224 or kfeir@kfeir.com.

Editor: Samira Thabet



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