Chapter members have also been involved in a number of educational activities. **Zaha Bustami** spoke about peace and justice in the Middle East at a Quakers meeting in Concord on June 30. Chapter adviser **Doris Safie** told Arabic folk tales to children as part of a summer reading program held at local public libraries from July 8-12.

(l to r) Phoenix chapter members Melanie Sahli, Hiam Arkawi, Steve Arkawi and Ilham Dagon serve up Arabic delicacis at the chapter's June 29 picnic at Oak Creek

New Brunswick, New Jersey

Mabruk to **Lou Barood**, who is busy launching the New Brunswick chapter of ADC. Barood has initiated a membership recruitment campaign and ecourages those interested in joining to contact the Organizing Department at the ADC National Office. Barood and a small group of people met with Representative Dick Zimmer (R-NJ) to discuss legislation to provide humanitarian relief for Iraqi civilians, as well as the situation in Palestine.

New York City

New York chapter secretary **Mustafa Alazem** represented ADC in NGO peace activities organized at the United Nations in early June. Please see "Outreach Update," p. 15, for further details.

On July 10, chapter president **Adnan Fakih** gave a presentation about anti-Arab hate crimes at the day-long "Arab-American Culture & Concerns" conference held in New York City. The event, sponsored by the New York City Commission on Human Rights-Bias Prevention and Response Team Unit, dealt with Arab history and culture, as well as Arab stereotyping and defamation in the United States.

Phoenix

Despite the sizzling heat in Phoenix and summer vacations, member of the Metro-Phoenix chapter remained quite active in July and August.

A letter to all members urged them to contact their elected officials during the July 4 congressional recess on a number of issues, including continued Israeli occupation of Arab land, Israeli failure to comply with U.N. Resolution 242 and 338, the emigration of Ethiopian and Soviet Jews to Israel and increased aid to Israel. The chapter also urged their representatives to support House Resolution 93, which outlines a number of economic and security arrangements for countries in the Middle East and calls for a homeland for Palestinians. Chapter president **Selim Hammoud**, **Fred Abood** and **Jumana Hadeed** had letters published in two local newspapers.

In July, the chapter also launched a letter-writing campaign to support House Concurrent Resolution 168 which calls for the release of frozen Iraqi assets in the U.S. to provide medical assistance for Iraqi children. Chapter members also contacted their representatives to voice their opposition to the Administration's crime package, S. 635 and H.R. 1400, specifically the Alien Terrorist Removal provisions.

The chapter held its second annual chapter picnic on June 29 at Oak Creek in Sedona. The picnic featured traditional Arabic cuisine and drew a crowd of close to 50 people. Guests enjoyed volleyball, backgammon, cards, and socializing with friends. Special thanks to chapter chefs **Hiam Arkawi**, **Ilham Dagon**, **Steve Arkawi**, **Amin Sahli**, **Suleiman Hawash** and **Melanie Sahli** for making the event such a success.

Richmond

On May 8, the chapter held elections to establish it's executive board for the upcoming term. Congratulations to newly-elected board members president **Adeeb Hamzey**, president-elect **Nidal Mahayni**,; secretary **Suha Haidar** and treasurer **Lisa Janes**.

San Francisco

The chapter has distributed forms, drawn up by the Media Monitoring Committee, to all members which allow the members to alert the committee to any media reports that need to be responded to, positively or negatively. The chapter is encouraging members to respond personally to reports about Arabs and Arab-Americans. The chapter is also encouraging local members to become active members of KQED public television in order to support the vital work of the station and to play a role in local programming. The San Francisco chapter recently held a picnic in late June, which brought close to 60 people to Hoddart Park in Woodside.

Seattle

The Seattle chapter participated in the 1991 World Fest sponsored by the Ethnic Heritage Council. This is very popular annual event held at the Northgate Shopping Mall towards the end of May featured more than 100 local ethnic groups and organizations who displayed their culture, heritage and food. **Wadad Saba** and **Denise Warren** organized the ADC booth, which won a third place trophy for its display and a second place prize for its superlative *falafel* sandwiches. The third place booth award was shared with the booth of the Palestine Heritage Group, organized by **Suad Ziadeh**. Special thanks to chapter president **Suhail Jubran** who wielded his expertise as the *falafel* chef and to **Majid Lukkata** who generously donated all the ingredients. The chapter would also like to recognize the Omar al Khayyam and Sahara restaurants for their support and thank **Claire Jubran** for her culinary efforts. Also active in this effort were **Pam Awad**, **Barbara Pisacani**, **Karen Young**, **Sylvette Atallah**, **Bergith Kayyali**, **Jiryus Isaac**, and **Margaret Rashid**. Caligraphy, provided by **Adnan Abu Sharar**, **Isam Rashid** and **Amina** proved to be a hit with many visitors who were eager to have their names written in Arabic.

Especially active in monitoring the media and speaking to church and civic groups throughout the area are chapter members **Wadad Saba**, **Ahmed Amr**, **Farhat Ziadeh** and **Yousif Farjo**. In addition, Jubran appeared on an August 8 radio talkshow on KING 1090 AM to discuss prospects for the peace conference. Jubran shared the hour-long show with an Israeli activist.

The Seattle chapter has been helping the local mosque counter a offensive article in the *Seattle Times*. This letter stated that the God of Islam was a different from the God of the Christians and Jews, and asserted that the Muslim God encourages His believers to engage in war. ADC contacted the mosque which later had an article published in the *Seattle Times*. In addition to hosting a number of community picnics, the chapter sponsored a special concert on June 16, featuring musician **Bassam Bishara**, which was enjoyed by a broad sector of the Seattle community.

The ADC student chapter at the University of Washington is gearing up for its Fall activities, and welcomes students in the area to become involved.

Syracuse

The chapter elected a new executive board at its May meeting. *Mabruk* to **David Shomar**, president; **Joseph El-Hindi**, vice-president; **Romey Astafan**, treasurer; and **Debra Rezak**, secretary.

Shomar, a long-time ADC activist and chair of the Political Action Committee, said he hopes the chapter will serve as a vehicle for bringing together Syracuse's Arab community and will continue to establish and strengthen ongoing relations with Syracuse's other ethnic and minority communities.

The chapter would also like to acknowledge outgoing secretary **Wynn El-Hindi** and outgoing president **Selma Abdo** for their dedicated work on behalf of the chapter. Abdo recently spent several months at the ADC National Office, assisting with the final preparations for ADC's Eighth National Convention. The chapter is especially proud that Abdo received the Alex Odeh Memorial Organizing Award in recognition of her efforts in defending the rights of Arab-Americans.

During the convention, chapter members **Debra Rezak**, **Lawrence El-Hindi** and **Evelyn Abdo** met with Representative James Walsh (R-NY) and Paula Jacobsen, assistant to Senator Daniel Moynihan (D-NY) to urge support for a Palestinian homeland and a more even-handed United States Middle East policy.

Tennessee

In July, the Tennessee chapter, as a member of the Nashville Peace Alliance, moved with that organization to the newly opened Peace and Justice Center on the Scarritt-Bennett campus. The chapter has undertaken a number of fundraising activities to help defray operating costs for the office and is seeking donations of equipment and other resources.

Toronto

The Toronto chapter has been extremely busy establishing a working relationship with the United Way of Canada. Chapter president **Roger Khoury** and his board have been successful in creating an Arab community-based United Way committee, which will work to increase the level of awareness between the two groups and research projects of mutual concern. The ADC-Toronto chapter is working hard to gather people from the Arab-American community to participate in the September 22 United Way Walkathon. The day will include two hours of ethnic entertainment and a parade, followed by the walkathon.

Washington, D.C.

The chapter's annual family picnic was held at Brookfield Park in Northern Virginia on August 3, and drew a record crowd of 200 people. The picnic featured an array of Arabic specialties, including *kifta*, *hummos* and *baklava*. In addition to a rousing volleyball match, attendees joined in an Arabic sing-a-long featuring member **Fouad Foteh** on the *oud*.

Chapter secretary **Basil Kiwan** sucessfully launched a voter registration campaign, signing up 17 new voters from Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. Kiwan also distributed forms to compile information for the chapter's voter database, which will be used to target members on issues of concern in their precincts.

Proceeds from the picnic, which drew a number of new members and out-of-town guests, will go towards relief efforts for the children of Iraq.

Kiwan also set up a voter registration booth at the recent El-Bireh convention in Washington, registering close to twenty new voters. ■

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