

CAMP AREV THE STORY

Spring/Summer 2018

LOWER CABINS UPGRADED!

**Brand New Bunks, BIG Mattresses,
Interior/Exterior Improvements**

Christmas in July

SUMMER CAMP 2018

SPRING/SUMMER 2018

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Measuring Success

For decades Camp AREV has been the place for many to encounter Jesus. The mountain top experience has transformed the lives of many, entering into the presence of God in the midst of tall pine trees surrounded by beautiful views. But camp's location is only part of the story. When campers repent and come to know Jesus for the first time, we are told angels in heaven rejoice (Luke 15:10). Success for us is lives committed to Jesus Christ. We also celebrate when guest groups stay at our camp and experience true biblical hospitality, amazing food, fun activities and a memorable weekend.

We measure success by staying faithful to God's call of participating in the building of His kingdom. When we look back and see what God has done in and through this ministry, we can't help but get excited. It motivates us to press on and to create more opportunities for the sake of the gospel. We love serving and telling others how much Jesus loves them and wants a relationship with them. We love seeing kids get excited about singing praise songs. We really enjoy taking walks with them and talking about how God can meet them where they are in life.

This is the reason we exist: To create an outdoor retreat, away from our daily routine, to have conversations we wouldn't have in the midst of life's distractions. Our guest retreat groups tell us that one of the main reasons they love Camp AREV is because it's quiet and calm. Perhaps God speaks loudest in quiet places. We hear God's voice when we stop focusing on the worldly concerns and instead focus on what He really wants for us.

When we are faithful, God is honored. It's a sacrifice, it takes commitment and dedication. Perhaps it's also unpopular putting us in positions to make choices that might hinder our personal desires. But success comes when one of the kids in your cabin starts asking questions that will eventually change their lives forever. You never know how God might use you. You might be the voice they needed to hear that day, or the love they needed to experience. God might use you as a counselor or a staff member to bring to Himself the next doctor, lawyer or pastor. But, you'll never know true success until you obediently throw down your nets, and follow His voice.

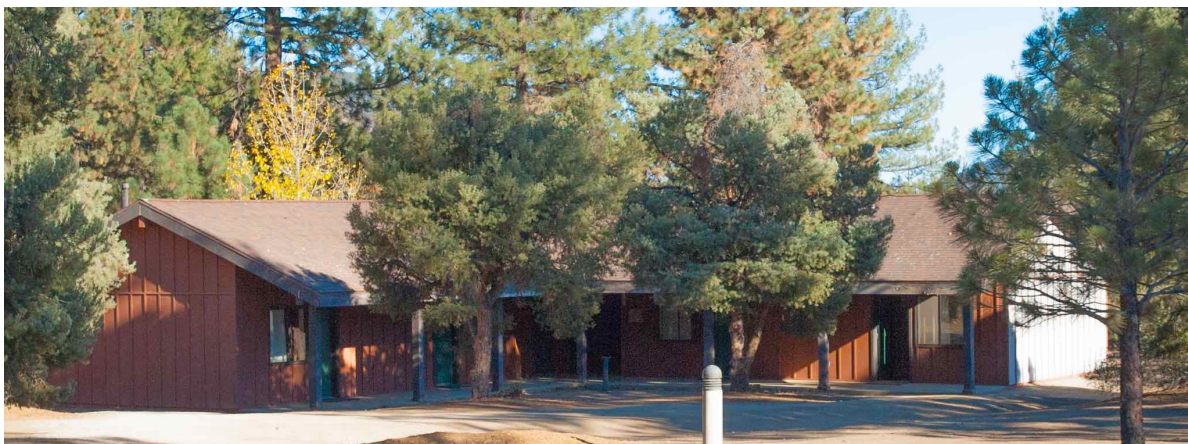
Rev. Razmig Minassian is the Executive Director of Camp AREV. He has been involved with the ministry of Camp AREV since 1998.

FACILITY RENOVATION UPDATE

MAKING CAMP AREV A GREAT PLACE TO STAY

We recently completed the renovation project of our lower Cabins (Cabin A & B). Most of the work was done in April 2018. Now the cabins have ALL NEW carpets, cabinets, sinks, counters, and bathroom fixtures, thanks to a generous grant. Plus: More, Bigger, Better Bunk Beds, thanks to IMPACT banquet donations and grant funds.

Before



After





All Lower Cabin rooms now have extremely sturdy metal bunks with large mattresses. Each cabin has 4 2-level bunks, and two 3-level bunks; each room's capacity is now 12.

These improvements, new bunks in the Lodge, a new basketball court, and new recreation activities (Zip Line, Paintball, Archery, Disc Golf, Low Ropes Course) are all for the purpose of enhancing the Camp AREV experience for our community and our guest groups.

Camp AREV is the place where youth create friendships, enjoy fellowship, hear the gospel, and experience God's creation in a beautiful mountainside setting.

Thank you to all who have contributed toward these important improvements!

To our community: we still need your year-round support of our operations so we can offer the camp experience to youth from our Armenian Evangelical Union and great Armenian American community.

Elise Kalfayan is the current Camp AREV Office Administrator. She is a long time member of the Camp AREV community and has served our camp in various ways notably as volunteer cook and summer temp.



For more information & registration

call 818.507.0922 or visit www.camparev.org

Dates

Juniors (3rd-5th grades) July 8-14

Junior High (6th-8th grades) July 15-21

High School (9th-12th grades) July 22-28

College & Career September 14-16

Closing Ceremonies and Kebab Picnic

Saturday 11-4pm

(Parents plan to pick up campers after picnic)

help us **send campers** to camp



Some families need financial assistance; you can help by donating to our **CAMPERSHIP FUND**.
camparev.org/contribute or mail your contribution to
Camp AREV, P.O. Box 11145, Glendale, CA 91226

A SERVANT'S HEART

After volunteering for Camp AREV's 40th anniversary banquet, Rev. Razmig asked me to join the coordinator team for Summer Camp 2017. My first reaction was to hesitate, since my plan had been to spend the summer studying for my pharmacy board exams. I'd had a good experience as a camper at Camp AREV a few summers earlier, and I'd even thought I would like to help serve there sometime in the future, but I was still struggling to commit. I told Razmig I would think it through.

After a few weeks of reflection and prayer, I told Razmig I was on board. Even though I didn't know exactly what my responsibilities would be, I knew that God would honor my decision to serve Him for 4 weeks and would help me as I prepared for my upcoming exams. I knew I wanted to serve at camp, and I knew there was a chance I wouldn't get this opportunity again. I also knew I would grow closer to God by spending 4 weeks focused on serving Him and spreading His love. So I decided to get involved, and I put all of my concerns in God's hands.

When I showed up the first week, I realized I didn't know many of the people there, and I also saw that it was tougher to lead a big group of Juniors (ages 8-10)

than I'd expected. But I quickly established new friendships and bonded with many of the others who'd decided to serve alongside me. With God's help, I also began to get more comfortable with my responsibilities and began to enjoy using my skills to help make camp a success. Most importantly, I saw that the other volunteers (including the amazing CO team and all the counselors) were willing to show me so much love and support, even though it was my very first time being involved with Camp AREV.

I knew I wanted to serve at camp, and I knew there was a chance I wouldn't get this opportunity again.

My experience serving last summer was such a blessing to me that I decided to serve again in the winter. Both experiences helped me grow as a person, as I learned to do a better job of using my gifts to serve God and share His love with others.

Even though I initially hesitated to serve at Camp AREV, and even though it ultimately meant sacrificing some of my time and energy, I'm so happy with my decision to get involved! I'm thankful I had a chance to give to this ministry, and I'm so excited to see what the future holds for Camp AREV. If you're considering serving and are wondering if the sacrifice will be worth it, I encourage you to step up and get involved - **there is no better time to serve than now!**



Lilit Hovnanian has been involved with Camp AREV since 2015, first as a camper and eventually as a coordinator. Currently she is a full time pharmacist and volunteers on the Camp AREV banquet committee and at the Kebab picnics.

Branches Bearing Fruit

Paris. The Met. Any bakery with macarons. Neiman's shoe department. Where's your happy place?

I have one more place to add to my list, and that's Camp AREV. Attending the annual women's retreat held there last weekend gave me a break from my fast-paced, activity-filled life for just a couple of days. Breathing in that fresh mountain air, reconnecting with old friends, and taking in God's Word recharged me in just the way I needed.

More than 50 women, young and old, gathered from Southern and Central California for fellowship and fun with a few surprises thrown in. Our speaker for the weekend was Rev. Jonelle Kazarian from Fresno, who spoke on John 15. Worship was led by Lena Ekmekjian and Salpi Keleshian, who led in both English and Armenian, along with their team of talented musicians. What a blessing!

Jonelle taught us that God is the Gardener, Jesus is the Vine, and we are the branches. Our purpose is to bear fruit, but the fruitfulness of the

vine is all due to the Gardener. John 15:16 reminds us that He chose us! Jesus commands us to love one another, bear much fruit, keep His commandments and, most importantly, to abide in Him. When we abide in the Vine, we start to look like Him. Isn't that what we all want?

Saturday's activities included hiking, napping, archery, and the very exciting zip line. It has become the highlight of my LIFE to watch octogenarians going down that line with childlike energy and joy! Saturday evening we had our very own paint night under the capable and creative direction of Gassia Mouradian. It was amazing to walk around the room and see the very different and beautiful interpretations of Gassia's artistic example. Who knew we had so many talented artists in our midst?

Sunday morning we had a meaningful time of communion as sisters in Christ. As we said our goodbyes, we were reminded to abide in Christ and rest in Him – in His unceasing love and care for us as we care for those around us.

Thank you, Camp AREV, for another successful retreat. Until next year!

Jesus commands us to love
one another, bear much
fruit, keep His
commandments, and, most
importantly, to abide in Him.



Silva Emerian is a member of the First Armenian Presbyterian Church in Fresno, CA. She is currently a parent of 2 Camp AREV campers and serves in various ways at camp and her local church.

CAMP AREV **IMPACT** WISH LIST

We want to thank you in advance for your gracious giving. We thank those who contributed toward this list during our annual fundraising banquet. We value our partnership in ministry and we praise God for you and your investment in the camp. If you have any questions please contact us at info@camparev.org



Log Splitter - \$1100



Heavy Duty trash bins - \$850 need 10



Cooling/heating split system for lower cabins - \$2300 need 8



8' Lifetime picnic table \$350 - need 10



6' Lifetime table \$100 - need 7



Lifetime convertible benches \$150 - need 8



Double stacked convection oven \$10,000



Deep fryer \$1200



Wireless Microphone for chapel \$600 need 2

FOUR WAYS OF GIVING THAT WILL CHANGE LIVES FOREVER!

You love Camp AREV and want to support it. We want to point out four ways of giving that will be used for God to transform hundreds of lives.

Campership Fund:

The Campership Fund exists to help campers who are in need of financial assistance. This fund creates an opportunity for every camper to experience the love and hope of Jesus Christ at Camp AREV. Read more regarding this fund on page 6.



Friends of Camp AREV:

This program will give you the chance to make a commitment to the ongoing ministry of Camp AREV. Your monthly contribution of any amount would help us continue

reaching lives for Jesus Christ.

Individual Donation/Contribution:

Every dollar is valuable to us. Whether it's used for operations, or special projects, your one time tax deductible donation will be used carefully and wisely to enhance this ministry.

Gift in Kind:

Camp AREV would be tremendously

blessed if you decided to donate something from our "Wish List." This year our wish list is focused on facility renovations and updates. Please see our Wish List on page 9 for more details.

Thank you for supporting our ministry. Please visit www.camparev.org/contribute or sign up for recurring donations through the Friends of Camp AREV Program. You can also send donations by mail to Camp AREV at P.O. Box 11145, Glendale, CA 91226.

Upcoming Events - 2018

July (Summer Camp)

Counselor and Staff Training Weekend - July 5-7

Juniors Camp - July 8-14

Junior High Camp - July 15-21

High School Camp - July 22-28

September

College & Career Camp - September 14-16

July (Saturday Kebab Picnics)

Juniors Camp Week - July 14, 11am-4pm

Junior High Camp Week - July 21, 11am-4pm

High School Camp Week - July 28, 11am-4pm

October

Annual Men's Retreat - October 12-14

Save the dates - 2019

January - February - Winter Camp 2019

One Day Leadership Summit

Los Angeles Region Host & Date TBD

Fresno Region Host & Date TBD

Youth Camp:

College & Career - January 25-27

Juniors - February 1-3

Junior High - February 8-10

High School - February 15-17

March

Annual Celebration/Fundraising Banquet in Los Angeles - March 31

camparev.org | info@camparev.org | 818.507.0922

Affiliations

Camp AREV (E.J.M. Armenian Evangelical Conference Center) is a ministry of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA) and is an approved member of Christian Camps and Conference Association (CCCCA)



P.O. Box 11145
Glendale, CA. 91226
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camparev.org

Cover Photo

Summer camp promotional flyer at the Camp AREV victory circle.

By: Natalie Kaldjian

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Camp AREV Christian Retreat and Conference Center

About

Camp AREV is a non-profit evangelical camp and retreat center that provides an opportunity to each person to make a personal commitment to Jesus Christ our Lord and to grow in the understanding of that commitment.