

MATA MATTERS

Official Newsletter of the Maryland American Turkish Association, Inc.
September, 2012

Check out our new website: www.matamd.com

President's Message



Cennet Kose with husband Benjamin holding her US Citizenship Certificate

I want to congratulate Cennet Kose for recently becoming a US citizen. This is what the Maryland American Turkish Association is all about. We symbolize the blending of cultures. America's solid foundation is its multi-layers of immigrants, from every corner of the world, and our strength derives from the tension to be integrated into this mosaic, while trying to maintain our ethnic identity. Cennet reminds us of the hope and opportunity this country provides, while maintaining and promoting her Turkish heritage.

Blending cultures does not mean we deny or forget our heritage. One of our objectives as an organization is to educate both our fellow Americans, along with Turkish Americans about our rich cultural history. **We welcome all comers.** MATA has always been a diverse organization, conversing in English because we are Americans, and realizing we should not discourage those who cannot speak Turkish fluently.

Yet similar to our Ottoman heritage, which actually accommodated and preserved the ethnic and religious identities of Christians and Jews, alongside Muslims for centuries, MATA has had a similar although much briefer history since our founding in 1967. Our membership and leadership has consisted of Christians, Jews, and Muslims,

all working together .

Yet, the events of the past few weeks also force us to speak out and **condemn the needless and unjustified violence worldwide by Muslims**, regardless of how they may have been provoked. Thugs and terrorists who hide behind a religious label are cowards, and their actions should simply be ignored. These extremists are found in every religion, and in this case their intent was to provoke a reaction, tolerant people should have simply ignored such actions. We cannot justify or condone such violence.

Extremists are toxic to any organization, and we see them in all movements, religious or political. It is at times like this that I have to admire the vision and wisdom of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk when he ensured that the Republic of Turkey be secular. Fully realizing the necessity of separation of religious institutions and the state. When one learns of all he accomplished, it is difficult not to admire him.

New Board of Directors I came away from our annual meeting really excited. We have an energetic new board which has hit the road running. We have already had both the annual meeting and a Bayram dinner at Rudy's Restaurant in Columbia, a picnic with generous raffle donations from **Cazbar's Restaurant in Baltimore, Rudy's Mediterranean Grill in Columbia, Nazar's Produce Market in Columbia, New York J and P Pizza in Scaggsville, and Turkish Family Market in Ellicott City**, along with a resuscitated Newsletter, a new website (www.MATAMD.com) and a Facebook account. Not only are we thankful to the above merchants for their donations, I must also be thankful to the new Board of Directors.

And last but not least, I ask you to become a member by filling out the enclosed membership application and mail it in.

Orhan Suleiman (President, MATA)

**TURKISH FESTIVAL –
September 30th SUNDAY**

**Come join MATA at the ATA-DC Turkish festival
Sunday, September 30th.**



2011 DC Turkish Festival

**MATA Picnic at Centennial Park
in Ellicott City**



The Suleimans, Michael Barrett, and the Kocaks



Dr Semra Engin and Servet Russell



Cennet, Corina, Benjamin, and Huseyin



Picnic Pavilion at Centennial Park



Webmaster and DJ Huseyin Koca

TEXTILE MUSEUM exhibit, titled: *The Sultan's Garden: The Blossoming of Ottoman Art* opened September 21, 2012 through March 10, 2013. The exhibit will focus on Flowers in the Sultan's Garden.



Cushion cover (*yastık*), Bursa, Turkey, 17th century. TM 1.54. Acquired by George Hewitt Myers in 1951. Photo by Renée Comet. Courtesy The Textile Museum

Ottoman art reflects the wealth, abundance, and influence of an Empire which spanned seven centuries and, at its height, three continents. *The Sultan's Garden chronicles how stylized tulips, carnations, hyacinths, honeysuckles, roses, and rosebuds came to embellish nearly all media produced by the Ottoman court beginning in the mid-16th century. These instantly recognizable elements became the brand of the Empire, and synonymous with its power. The Sultan's Garden unveils the story of this artist's influence and traces the continuing impact of Ottoman floral style through the textile arts--some of the most luxurious and technically complex productions of the Empire. Plan on attending.*

BAYRAM DINNER



DJ Huseyin Koca Bayram Dinner

In Memoriam

Munir Atagun (1922- 2011)

Last year MATA lost many old members, and as we went to press we realized we had overlooked mentioning the passing of Munir Atagun. It is never too late to offer our condolences to his family, his loving wife Dr Mutlu Atagun, and their son Mert, and daughter Mehtap. We will miss him.

Mehmet Kurumlu

We were sad to see Imam Cahid Kara return to Turkey. His replacement, **Imam Ebuzer Yurtevi** arrived just in time to perform a funeral service for **Mehmet Kurumlu** of Abingdon, Md. who passed away from a long illness. He was buried in the MATA section of Maryland National Memorial Cemetary (Laurel).

MATA still has plots available, if interested please contact Orhan Suleiman, or any of the other directors.



Bayram Dinner at Rudys in Columbia

Turkish Cypriot Congressional Day October 2nd, 2012

For more information call Mustafa Tunc (3rd Secretary) at 202-887-6198 (TRNC Office in DC), Mon-Fri 9:30am - 5pm, or email him at trncdc@verizon.net.



Recently arrived Imam Ebuzer Yurtevi at funeral service of Mehmet Kurumlu of Abingdon, Maryland



MATA Turkish Booth at Victoria Falls Ethnic Festival (May 19th)

Membership Application (4-2012)

PLEASE COPY AND SHARE WITH A FRIEND. WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR WORK FOR A BETTER TURKISH COMMUNITY!!

Name: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr _____

Address: _____

Street-city-state-zip

Email: _____@_____

Telephone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

DUES ARE \$40 (Family); \$25 (Individual); \$10 (Student).

Please make check payable to : MATA Mail to: MATA, PO Box 762, Columbia, MD 21045

PLEASE CUT AND MAIL BACK WITH YOUR CHECK

DUES \$ _____ DONATION \$ _____ TOTAL \$ _____

IMPORTANT DATES

September 30th Washington DC Turkish Festival

October 8 (Columbus Day)

October 24 (Kurban Bayrami Arifesi)

October 25 – 28 (Kurban Bayrami)

October 28 Bayram and Republic Day Dinner - SUNDAY

October 29 (Republic Day)

November 22 (Thanksgiving)

December 25 (Christmas)

December 31 (New Year's Eve) Monday

December 31st New Year's Eve Party MONDAY



Board of Directors

Orhan Suleiman - President

orhansuleiman@yahoo.com

Home: 410 813-2702

Ozcan Mustafa - Vice-president

Home: 301 490-4288

Kent Drummond - Treasurer

akdrummond@msn.com

Home: 410 381-6410

Lisa Culhagil - Secretary

Cell: 410 456-9147 lisaculhagil@yahoo.com

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Huseyin Koca hk3@njit.edu

Cennet Kose 410 599-3310

Cennet_kose@hotmail.com

Umit and Merve Palabiyik

Home: 813 350-4686 palabiyik@yahoo.com

Support our Merchants

ATTENTION BUSINESSES!

If you would like to advertise on MATA website or in Newsletter, please contact Umit Palabiyik.

**Aladdin Market
308 Main St, Laurel MD 20707 301 362-5060**

**AY Construction (Ahmet)
Kitchen & Bathroom Remodeling 571 723-2412**

**Cagal & Associates, LLC (CPA Services)
Offices in Bethesda and Rockville, MD
301 493-6738 or 240 314-0714**

**Cazbar Turkish Restaurant (Haluk Kantar)
316 N Charles St
Baltimore, MD 21202 410 528-1222**

**Donmez, Petek MD, P.C. (General Practice)
6224 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852
301 230-1895**

**Kensington Pharmacy
3737 University Blvd W., Kensington, MD 20895
301 933-6165 (Huseyin, Pinar, Zeynep, and Melike Tunc)**

**Cennet Köse Cennet_kose@hotmail.com
(410) 599 3310 ckose@howardcc.edu
Private Turkish Language Instruction**

**Law Office of Timur Edib (Business/Immigration)
200A Monroe St, Ste 115, Rockville, MD 20850
301 251-8830**

**Nationwide Insurance (All Types in MD, DC, VA)
43480 Yukon Dr., Ste 215, Ashburn, VA 20147
800 338-4406 (Berker Hazar, MBA)**

**Nazar Produce Market
6955 Oakland Mills Road Columbia, MD 21045
410 290-3464 (Baris Duymus)**

**New York J & P Pizza
8305 Ice Crystal Drive (Fikret Akozer and
Scaggsville, MD 20723 Tanju Kuzu)**

**Pizza Boli (Bulent)
1450 Ritchie Hwy, Arnold, MD 21012
410 757-7700**

**Pizza Tempo
8021 Wisconsin Ave
Bethesda, MD 20814
240.497.0003 (Ugur Altintas)**

**Rudy's in Columbia (Rustem)
7185 Gateway Drive, Columbia, 21046
(410 290-2004). (<http://www.rmgrill.com/>)**

**Slice of Rockville (Dide Summerlin)
1111 Nelson Street
Rockville, MD 20850
301 424-0707**

**Saydam Electronics Service (Akin Saydam)
5284 Corncockle Ct, Columbia, MD 21045
410 730-7088**

**Turkish Family Market
8457 Baltimore National Pike (Suite 16)
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(Bahattin Kaymak)**

**Turkish American Community Center and Mosque
9704 Good Luck Road
Lanham, Maryland
Imam Ebuzer Yurtevi
301 221-4557**

**Zella Pizzeria
1143 HOLLINS ST
BALTIMORE, MD 21223
410 685-6999**

**Maryland American Turkish
Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 762
Columbia, MD 21045**