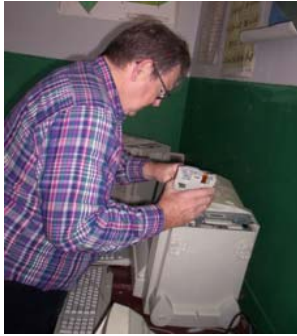


Computer Support

April, 2005

In April, Dale Redding, the head of Armenian Support Project, made his regular visit to Armenia.



The goal of his visit was checking and being informed about the work of distributed computers, their efficiency and use, if there is a need to solve the problems connected with delivered computers. Narine, computer coordinator of HDP office, was with Dale and helped him. Because of limited time there wasn't opportunity to visit all the schools and those beneficiary organizations whom we had distributed computers.

Anyway we visited educational institutions of Tavush, Kotayk and Aragatsotn Marzes and had very effective meetings: we became aware about the problems directly in the places and tried to solve them as much as we could. Dale's professional advice was very useful.

As the main goal of the delivered computers is teaching computer literacy in the villages, after all visits a contest was organized among the beneficiary schools.

It became the most interesting event: the students were very enthusiastic, and the participants impatient to show their skill and knowledge.

The contest was organized on the 30th of April among Talin and its surrounding village schools.

There were determined presents for the best 3 schools. The

first prize – Talin school # 1 learned a new modern computer.

Talin school # 2 and Mastara Village School were

given the prizes for the second and third places.

They received older model computers but with normal working capabilities. In the picture you can see how the winner of Mastara village is opening the prize himself. Never having basic computer literacy before this program, his school got a computer and a new printer due to his knowledge.

It is very gratifying that the distributed computers gave positive results in that period.



HDP Foundation

What do we encourage and contribute?

There are many things that should be done in the field of computer literacy especially in the remote villages which are not accessible to the education projects being implemented mostly in cities and towns around the country. Our goal is to encourage the development of these village schools. Educational institutions and local organizations of these remote villages are our beneficiaries. We are trying to provide them with educational opportunity, which is very important for all the children of the country.



Our way is long but we are moving forward.

H. Kochar 14, Suite. 45
Yerevan, Armenia
Tel. 26 17 61, Fax 27 47 86
Email: hdp@xter.net

Armenian Touch Typing Tutor Software

July, 2005

HDP, through Jinishian Memorial Foundation grant is partnering with Algorithm Service, the premiere Armenian-based, educational software developer in Armenia to create a self-teaching, Armenian language touch-typing tutor program. The software has been developed and is currently being tested in different schools and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to evaluate its applicability and efficiency. Many computer users have Armenian fonts in their computers, however, there is no program to teach them touch typing in the Armenian language. This is an innovation and we hope that it will serve very well for computer users.



The opening presentation for Touch Typing Trials was on 17

May, 2005 with Ray Reeder, HDP Executive Director, Narine Hakobjanyan, Program Coordinator, Alexander Faramazyan, Information Technologies Director, Ruben Krikyan, Education Department Coordinator from Jinishian Foundation, Christine Tshgnavoryan, Youth Leadership Initiatives Coordinator, Project Harmony.



Alexander Faramazyan installed the software in target schools while explaining the operations technique and the goal of the program. The speed and accuracy of typing comprises an important component of the skill. Every student should register his/her name and a statistic page will show the results for each student's performance. Computer teacher in each school is responsible for the trainings for the students and other users.

The software contains 46 lessons and after each lesson it shows the results by percents: if the result is less than 40% the user should repeat the same lesson. But students were doing quite well on the first lessons: to our surprise and happiness the results were above 90%. And we are sure if they continue with the same spirit and zest they will become excellent typists in Armenian in a short period.



Why "Armenian Typist 1600"?

Armenian Touch Typing tutorial software has been named "Armenian Typist 1600" because this year we are celebrating the 1600th anniversary of Armenian letters. The success/progress of this software is very important for HDP especially its usefulness. The schools and the students

that have been involved in this project are



filled with enthusiasm. We share their happiness and we plan to distribute this software during the coming 1-2 months. We will be happy to help Armenian schools to obtain this software.

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H. Kochar 14, Suite. 45
Yerevan, Armenia
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Email: hdp@xter.net