

## “BRINGING TOGETHER THE TWO GEORGIA’S”



### Mr. Papuna Davitaia Minister of Diaspora visits Atlanta

On January 26, 2010 a reception honoring Mr. Davitaia, Minister of Georgian Diaspora and Georgians living in the State of Georgia was held at Eno by Zaza restaurant. The reception gave Georgians an opportunity to meet with Mr. Davitaia, as well as with honored guest, Mr. Tkeshelashvili, Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure, First Vice-Prime Minister. Georgians were able to ask questions regarding the benefits of the Ministry; about existing opportunities between the two Georgias, and future developments within the country of Georgia.

Mr. Davitaia noted that the Ministry of Diaspora hopes to promote and develop international economic relations and intensify educational and cultural programs. The minister said that local enterprisers in country Georgia should be encouraged to intensify relations with compatriots living abroad.



### DINNER WITH GEORGIAN DELEGATES

On February 11, 2010 ATSCC, together with GA2GA Foundation, held a reception for the Georgian Delegation with the International Visitor Leadership Program. The delegation included: Mr. Boris Beraia, Chairman of Christian-Democratic Movement; Mr. Irakli Chikovani, Board Member of Our Georgia-Free Democrats; Mr. Vano Galakhvaridze, Executive Secretary for Christian-Democratic Movement; Ms. Nino Khatiskatsi, Program Director of Advocacy Legal Advice Center and Mr. Irakli Mamaladze, Head of Regional Management Services with National Forum. The evening was full of interesting conversations and beautiful toasts focusing on cultural differences and the hope for stronger Georgia to Georgia relations.

**Reminder!**

**Next ATSCC Committee Meeting:**

**6:30 P.M., Thursday, April 8 @ the Offices of Hall, Booth, Smith and Slover, 1180 West Peachtree St., Suite 900, Atlanta 30309. For directions, see [www.hbss.net](http://www.hbss.net), or call 404-954-5000. Please RSVP to [ninat@hbss.net](mailto:ninat@hbss.net)**

## ANCIENT TBILISI

### *Crossroads of Eurasian Cultures*

ATSCC chairman John Hall and committee member Nina Tickaradze visited Georgia in early December. As the ATSCC continues to pursue cultural exchange programs that further raise awareness of Georgian culture, John and Nina found themselves at the Georgian National Museum with a dear friend, historian and archeologist, Michael Abramishvili. With great enthusiasm and honor, Mr. Abramishvili led them into Ancient Tbilisi.



**Horse skeleton, weapons & vases found over 2000 years old**



Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, is one of the oldest settlements in history. Continuous habitation of its territory goes back more than 6,000 years. Today, over 250 archeological monuments are known in and around Tbilisi, which can be explained by the exceptional position of the city and its environs. In ancient times, it was here that the trade routes from the East to the West, as well as South to the North, crossed, connecting Asia and Europe.

Among the archaeological sites in Tbilisi, the Delisi Chalcolithic settlement is the oldest. The site was discovered during construction work near the present day Delisi underground metro station. The remains are dated to the end of the 5th and the beginning of the 4th mil. BCE. Besides ceramics and stone tools, the digs yielded

some bronze artifacts. Bronze is a man-made alloy of copper and tin and began to spread in the ancient world in the 3rd mil. BCE. This marked the start of the Bronze Age, when tools and weapons from the alloy became widely used. In the respect, the Delisi settlement testified to the leading role of the local inhabitants in initiating bronze production.

Mr. Abramishvili took John & Nina to the newest discovered settlements where digging was still going on and new items were being discovered. Nina Tickaradze, "It was amazing experience to witness bones of a horse being discovered right in front of our eyes, bones as old as 2000 years old. However, it was very sad to learn that these archeological discoveries are not protected by any Georgian laws and were being destroyed to build new buildings." As Mr. Abramishvili explained to them, there are no current laws and regulations protecting these treasures of Ancient Tbilisi, but he hopes this will soon change. ATSCC plans to work together with Georgia National Museum to bring the artifacts to the USA for an exhibition.



**Nina Tickaradze, Mickhae Abramishvili & John Hall observing new findings in Tbilisi**

## ATSCC to Host Group of Georgian Prosecutors

On March 5-13, ATSCC and National Peace Foundation for the Open World Program will host a delegation from the country of Georgia. The program's theme will be "Rule of Law". The country of Georgia is interested in adopting the jury trial process in criminal cases in its judicial system in 2010. The delegation will be guests to the homes of ATSCC volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering for the programs with the Georgian Delegation, please email Nina Tickaradze at [ninat@hbss.net](mailto:ninat@hbss.net).

## SPONSOR-A -CHILD PROGRAM

Please join us and participate in a Sponsor-a-Child Program, (\$260/year/child), which insures nutritional food, annual medical exams, medicines, dental care and much-needed clothing and blankets. Sponsors receive periodic updates as to the status of the sponsored child. You may visit [www.georgiamissions.org](http://www.georgiamissions.org) (Sponsor-a-Child) to select a child and learn about the different institutions. Payment can be made on-line via credit card or mailed to the address given. Or it can be made out to: Georgia to Georgia Foundation and mailed to HBSS.

**Didi Madloba ~ thank you for giving these children Hope for a better life!**



## Mr. Scott Henwood's trip to Georgia

This spring, Mr. Scott Henwood of Hall Booth Smith & Slover PC (HBSS) will be heading to Tbilisi, Georgia to teach courses in legal writing for the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and American Legal History at the Ilia Chavchavadze State University. The courses intend to maximize efficiency in the Georgian legal system and enable legal officials and students to communicate more effectively.

Mr. Henwood brings 35 years of experience in the legal profession. He has clerked for the Supreme Court of Georgia and served for 21 years as the Reporter of Decisions of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals of Georgia. He currently serves as Counsel at the Atlanta firm of Hall, Booth, Smith, & Slover, P.C. where he chairs the Appellate Practice Group, the AR/WIP Committee, and the Hiring Committee. Mr. Henwood and the ATSCC are very excited about this opportunity.

## INTERNSHIP FOR THE STUDENTS OF CAUCASUS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Hall Booth Smith & Slover, PC (HBSS) has formed a partnership with Caucasus University School of Law in Georgia. As a result, 6 students have been selected by Caucasus University and HBSS based on merit and academic performance. They will participate in a law internship at the office of HBSS in Atlanta, Georgia. Three of these students: Ana Lursmanashvili, Sofio Krikheli and Giorgi Zavrashvili are currently participating in this internship in Atlanta. The second group of students will arrive May 1<sup>st</sup>.

During this internship, the students will work with HBSS attorneys and observe trials at the Court of Appeals. This internship will be a great opportunity and experience for the students. Students will be fully immersed in the American judicial system and will have opportunities to visit and interact with Judges, civil and criminal trial lawyers, prosecutors and public defenders. They will experience trials, court hearings, depositions, mediations and many other legal functions. They will gain invaluable exposure to both the people and the processes that make up the system of justice.

HBSS believes in giving meaningful work to legal interns at the firm. Students will have the opportunity to do legal research; attend client meetings, assist in preparing witnesses for trial and deposition, and hear arguments from skilled advocates on both sides of an issue. HBSS fully intends this to provide a well-rounded program that gives Georgian students a breath of experience not frequently attained elsewhere in such a short period of time.