

A.C.Y.O.A.

Outline of Programs for 1980 - 1981

NATIONAL PARTICIPATION:

1. Armenian Studies Programs:
 - (a) Educational tour to Armenia
 - (b) "Journey to Armenia" tour
 - (c) Jerusalem tour
 - (d) University Studies
2. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Basketball Tournament
3. Scholarship Program:
 - (a) Sam Nersessian Scholarship (s)
 - (b) ACYOA St. Vartan Camp Scholarship***
4. Awards Program:
 - (a) Sam Nersessian Award
 - (b) Chapter "A" Award
 - (c) Chapter Honorable Mention
 - (c) Archbishop's Essay Award***
5. Chapter Chairman's Roundtable Seminar
6. ACYOA St. Vartan Camp
7. National Sports Weekend

REGIONAL PARTICIPATION:

1. Retreats
2. Anniversary Balls

LOCAL PARTICIPATION:

1. Mission Program
2. Martyr's Day Commemorations
3. ACYOA Day Celebrations/Programs
4. Lecture/Discussion Programs***

Proposed***

NATIONAL PARTICIPATION:

1. Armenian Studies Programs

(a) Educational Tour to Armenia

Continuation of standard Armenian Studies Program.
20-25 participants - four (4) weeks in duration.
Participants include ACYOA members from Eastern and Western Dioceses.
(Western Diocesan participation usually limited.)
Participants are the guests of the Catholicos of All Armenians.

Interested persons apply and are selected according to criterion based on application form questions, questionnaire/interview and pastor's recommendation. Designed for the more serious-minded young Armenian.

Program includes accommodations for four weeks in Armenia, excursions throughout the Fatherland, audiences with His Holiness, instruction in Armenian history, language, dance, music, and informal meetings with professionals from Armenia - according to group interests.

Proposed are follow-up re-unions, the purposes of which are yet to be determined.

(b) "Journey to Armenia"

New for 1981.
Open to interested persons who are members of the Armenian community. Designed and aimed at allowing as many young American-Armenians to visit their homeland as is possible. ACYOA Members given first priority. Two or three weeks in length. Most probably will include another destination other than Armenia (because of certain restrictions and cost factors).

Group coordinator to be selected by the Primate.
Group will receive informal instruction in history and interesting facts regarding various historical and religious sites in Armenia.

Designed for the less serious-minded young Armenian who wishes to travel and visit the Armenian Homeland in a less structured program.

(c) Jerusalem and the Holy Land

New for 1981.
Open to interested persons who are members of the Armenian community. Designed and aimed at allowing as many young American-Armenians to visit the Holy Land and the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

Group coordinator (s) to be selected by the Primate.
Group will receive informal instruction in Biblical Studies (relating to the many biblical sites and the Holy Places), History of the Armenian Church in the Holy Land, basic liturgics and music, and information regarding the Holy Land and the Armenians Community thereof. (Program of Instruction will be dependent upon group make-up and size.)

Length of stay contingent upon arrangements in Jerusalem. Group tour will probably include another destination (as noted above).

(d) University Studies

Proposed for consideration and implementation in 1982.
 Opened to interested young persons from the Armenian community.
 Program will include study at a University with possible course credit.
 Duration of program pending finalization of program as a whole.

Program to include instruction in various aspects of Armenian History, Religion and Culture.

2. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Basketball Tournament

Basketball competition in both male and female divisions.
 Open to all parish youth of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church.
 Teams represent parishes. No age restrictions.

Locations given to ACYOA Chapters bidding for the Tournament. Every other year the Tournament is held in New York City, with related events held at the Diocesan Cathedral of St. Vartan.

3. Scholarship Program

(a) Sam Nersessian Scholarship

Annual Scholarship given to a deserving youth to attend the St. Nersess Summer Studies Deacon's Training Conference.

Criterion and guidelines to be finalized.

(b) ACYOA St. Vartan Camp Scholarship (to be proposed***)

Annual scholarship given to a deserving youth to attend the ACYOA St. Vartan Camp.

Criterion and guidelines to be finalized.

4. Awards Program

(a) Sam Nersessian Award

Award given to the ACYOA Member who best exemplifies the character of a good Christian and servant of the Church. Annually awarded during the National Sports Weekend Awards Banquet prior to the athletic awards.

Criterion and guidelines to be finalized.

(b) Chapter "A" Award

Award given to the ACYOA Chapter that best fulfills the requirements and standards set forth by the Central Council of the ACYOA.

Chapters shall be informed in more detail as to the criterion of selection.

A system of awarding points to use as a guide in selection of award winning chapters is planned. This system (not to be complicated or rigid) will assist in both informing the chapters of the types of activities and events that are preferred, and in allowing the Central Council to have an organized method of ranking the chapters for final selection.

(c) ~~Chapter~~ Honorable Mention

Award given to the ACYOA Chapter that is chosen first runner-up in selecting the "A" Award recipient.

(d) Archbishop's Essay Award (to be proposed***)

Award given to an ACYOA member who has submitted an essay for consideration in the Archbishop's Essay Award Contest.

One award for an English language essay.
One award for an Armenian language essay.

Selection to be done by a board of critics who will judge the contest. Criteria shall be based upon the Contest rules and chosen themes.

5. Chapter Chairman's Roundtable Seminar

Seminar held annually at the Diocesan Assembly. ACYOA Chapter Chairmen meet together in conjunction with the Annual Diocesan Assembly to discuss pertinent issues dealing with the ACYOA.

New for 1981.

The Roundtable Seminar will feature a teaching/learning session in selected areas of group dynamics, organizational techniques and administrative procedures and methods.

It is the intent of the Seminar to assist in equipping the chapter leaders to better fulfill their roles as chairmen.

6. ACYOA Saint Vartan Camp

Camp for boys and girls ages 8-15.

First held in 1979 at the AGBU Camp Nubar.

In 1980, the Camp was held in New Milford, Conn., under the direction of Fr. Patee Metjian. The Camp saw relative success realizing a profit and setting the stage for future growth, while meeting the needs of Armenian children from throughout the Diocese of the Armenian Church.

The 1980 ACYOA General Assembly voted to include the St. Vartan Camp in its budget and allotted \$750.00. Discussion also included future consideration of purchasing a camp site (something that has been in the discussion stage on the Diocesan level for several years) as a multi-service center. Discussion also included consideration into regional camps.

At the location in Connecticut, on the expansive grounds of a private secondary school, the actual work in organizing and putting on the camp is minimal. Facilities and grounds are first class, as well as the over-all program. As each year passes, the program is improved and expanded to allow the camp participant the

to fully receive a week of fun, memorable experiences, instruction and exposure to Armenian values, ideals and culture.

7. National Sports Weekend

Annual athletic competition for ACYOA members from throughout the Diocese of the Armenian Church. Held during the Labor Day Holiday weekend.

Hosted by a chapter (or co-hosted), the event draws the largest group of ACYOA members to compete in various sports, socialize, re-ignite old friendships and make new ones.

Held since 1969 under varying formats, the Sports Weekend is synonymous with the organization and is held in conjunction with the Annual General Assembly. It is at the General Assembly that those chapters wishing to host the event present their bids, whereupon the Assembly Delegates vote and decide the location of the next convocation.

REGIONAL PARTICIPATION:

1. Retreats

Organized by Central Council Representatives to a given region, or, by a regional committee of sorts, for the ACYOA members of the particular region.

Headed by an Armenian Clergyman, retreats are held at retreat houses and conference centers equipped for such purposes. Formats usually include selecting a weekend (many times during Great Lent) and beginning the initial activities of Friday evening. Activities centering around a given theme continue through Saturday and into Sunday culminating with Divine Liturgy and a departure luncheon.

If organized well, and most importantly publicized sufficiently (including personal contact), retreats are usually well received and realize a spiritual, as well as educational profit. Retreats should never be organized to gain financial profits, as one of the keys to success is a retreat that may be put on with a minimum of expense.

2. Anniversary Balls

Annual event marking the anniversary of the ACYOA. Usually held in the Spring, and hosted by a chapter from a given region, the Anniversary Ball of the Organization has made a come back in recent years.

Efforts for the regional event are coordinated by the Regional Central Council Representative. Chapters from throughout the region participate in various ways depending upon format, location, and themes.

As a regional event, a portion of all profits realized are sent to the Central Council. Host chapters are required to file a complete report with the Central Council, including suggestions for future balls.

Well organized and publicized balls have seen over 500 participants from a given region. Once accepted by the public as an annual event, the Anniversary Ball may be used as a prime fund-raiser for the national organization.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION:

1. Mission Program

Primarily aimed at those parishes which are in need of programs, small-scale events and activities, spiritual and cultural up-lifting, and rejuvenation in the form of organized and entertaining learning experiences.

A team of young people lead by a clergyman spend a week to 10 days in a parish. (Parishes are contacted and selected by the Primate.) During their visit, the team puts on various programs for the members of that parish. (i.e. Bible study, religious films, films on Armenia or other interesting subjects, Armenian language class, Church education, etc., etc.) In addition, the team visits the elderly and the shut-ins, as well as those who are hospitalized.

The team usually stays with local families, and has dinner and supper with different families as the week passes. The team also meets with concerned members of the community who need assistance in organizing youth groups, Church and Armenian Schools, women's guilds, choirs, etc., etc.

Most of the time the selected parish is without a priest, and therefore is in need of programs, visitations and general assistance. Sometimes, the team is sent to a community that has no organized parish life at all, and begins to lay the foundation for a functioning parish.

Mission Team leaders are selected by the Primate. Team members are suggested by the Team Leader and confirmed by the Primate. Members usually come from the ACYOA as well as those who have participated in the St. Nersess Summer Studies Conferences.

2. Martyr's Day Commemoration

Annual commemoration for the Armenian Martyrs.
Held in parishes throughout the Diocese of the Armenian Church on April 24th (or the closest convenient day).

The ACYOA Commemoration program is a suggested format for local Chapters to follow. The intent is for all Chapters throughout the Diocese to participate in a similar program commemorating the martyrs.

Formats usually include Church services as well as discussion outlines and community service projects.

For 1981, a program guide will be published for use by all ACYOA Chapters suggesting various formats to use according to facilities, participation and local custom.

3. A.C.Y.O.A. Day Celebrations/Programs

A day selected during the year when local Chapters celebrate the meaning of the national youth organization of the Diocese of the Armenian Church.

Palm Sunday has become the custom in many parishes to celebrate the ACYOA. Many times an elegant banquet is organized for the entire parish with a short program.

The intent behind this occasion is for the local Chapter to receive recognition as an integral part of the parish; For outstanding members and participants in the Chapter (and parish) to be cited as having performed above and beyond their area of responsibility; To give the chapter, and the organization as a whole more visibility.

Suggested formats include banquets, guest speakers, receptions, and other means a chapter may have at its disposal to celebrate the occasion.

A program guide with suggestions will be published to assist those chapters who do not have this annual event already organized.

4. Lecture/Discussion Programs (to be proposed***)

A series of lectures / discussions sponsored by the local Chapter for both (or either) the chapter membership and the parish at large.

A guide with suggestions shall be published listing various formats and themes, topics and ways to organize the program.

The intent is for the chapter to schedule some educational activities to balance off the social and athletic. In addition, if done well, the entire parish may benefit and the chapter may realize that there are other dimensions to their existence

Some suggestions will include guest lecturers on selected topics, debates on controversial subjects dealing with social concerns, the Church, world problems, etc., as well as films for educational and entertainment purposes.

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ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Diocese of the Armenian Church

P R O P O S A L:

THAT THE ACYOA CENTRAL COUNCIL INITIATE AN
ESSAY CONTEST IN BOTH THE ARMENIAN AND ENGLISH
LANGUAGES (two categories) FOR THE ARMENIAN
YOUTH OF THE DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH
AGES 18 - 30; AND THAT THE NAME OF THIS CONTEST
BE CALLED: "Archbishop's Essay Contest"

(proposed by the Exec. Sec.)

EXPLANATION:

The ACYOA has a duty to provide programs and means for Armenian youth to be able to express themselves according to their own needs. Over all programming in the organization should include different ways in which members can participate and have their needs met, therefore appealing to a better cross-section of the youth in America.

The purpose of this contest is to allow those youths with literary inclinations to participate for citations and awards. The ACYOA will have more exposure through this contest and begin to attract those young Armenians with more serious minded interests.

OUTLINE:

1. Name - "Archbishop's Essay Contest"
2. Eligibility - Open to all Armenians ages 18 through 30.
3. Entry - Participants may enter the contest at any time during the year.
4. Deadline - Deadline for entries is April 30th. Winners will be announced by June 30th.
5. Language - Contest will have two categories: 1. Armenian. 2. English.
6. Limitations - Subject matter is open. Length should be at least 500 words, and no longer than 1500 words.
7. Documentation - Any and all quotations and references must be documented. Any plagiarism will constitute disqualification.
8. Judges - A panel of judges will review the entries and will select a winner for each category, as well as first and second runner-up. A total of six (6) awards will be made. At least two entries are needed for the contest to take place. Awards may be given during the awards banquet at that year's National Sports Weekend, or at another appropriate time.

P R O P O S A L:

THAT THE ACYOA CENTRAL COUNCIL INITIATE A
LECTURE/DISCUSSION PROGRAM, AND PUBLISH A
GUIDE TO ASSIST CHAPTERS IN IMPLEMENTING
THIS PROGRAM.

(proposed by the Exec. Sec.)

EXPLANATION

A program designed for the chapter (and/or parish) to introduce serious topics on an informal (or formal where desired) basis.

The intent is for the chapter to schedule educational activities to balance off the social and athletic.

Suggestions will include themes, times of the year, topics, and formats (such as guest speakers, debates, general discussion, films, slides, etc., etc.).

For example: A one time lecture/discussion on the Incarnation.

Time of the year: The Advent Season (Hisnagi)(December)

Invite guest Clergyman to speak and coordinate discussion.

Plan to invite chapter membership or entire parish under the sponsorship of the ACYOA Chapter. Send out announcements.

Serve refreshments.

For example: A series of debates with chapter members making up panels pro & con.

Possible topics: Inter-marriage, abortion, the Draft, Free Armenia, What language should be used in Church, etc., etc.

Invite parish; send out invitations; choose panelists, moderator; serve refreshments.

In this way, the ACYOA Central Council will be promoting an over-all program for youth that includes a wide-range of interests, means of participation, and ways for the youth to express themselves and learn about their faith, heritage and how it all comes together in a pluralistic society.

It is up to the Executive Secretary and Central Council Members to promote the more serious programs such as these, along with the less-serious more social and athletic activities. Naturally, this program cannot be forced on the membership. However with proper guides making the planning simple and effective, and with incentives and the promotion of certain values, ACYOA can develop an image of having a multi-faceted over-all program meeting the needs of a diversified membership.

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
Diocese of the Armenian Church

Central Council - Structure and point system to aid in determining the recipients of the annual "A" Award and Honorable Mention

GROUP

INDIVIDUAL

I. RELIGIOUS

3 per sponsorship of weekly Lenten program (ea. program).

3.5 per organizing of regional ACYOA retreat (ea. retreat).

3.5 per sponsorship of religious educational series (ea. series).

3.5 per donation of altar or liturgical article to parish.

3.5 per church school teacher or permanent assistant.

3.5 per permanent Choir singer.

3.5 per deacon/altar server.

3 per St. Nersess Summer Study Conference participant.

3.5 per participant in regional ACYOA retreats.

4.5 per candidate for priesthood or religious education major (Primate's confirmation).

II. CULTURAL

3 per Armenian dance troupe formed.

3 per Armenian orchestra formed

3.5 per Armenian Choral group formed.

2.5 per annual chapter pilgrimage to Diocesan Cathedral.

2.5 per parish Armenian School teacher or permanent assistant.

3.5 per Armenian Studies Program participant.

3 per Essay Contest participant in Armenian or English language (need not be winner).

3 per literary piece or research paper on an Armenian subject (prose, poetry, etc.).

3 per Armenian musical composition.

3 per Armenian art piece (any media, including sculpture, ceramics, wood, etc.).

III. ORGANIZATIONAL

- 1.5 per new chapter member.
- 1.5 per inter-chapter sponsored activity.
- 2 per \$1,000 donated to parish (per 15-20 members).
- 3 per formation of a new chapter (other than own).
- 1 for service to parish as a chapter (bazaar, banquet, etc.)
- 2 for cooperation with Central Council (filing reports, meeting deadlines, fulfilling financial obligations, etc., etc.).
- 2 for completion of all 12 monthly fact sheets (sent to Exec. Sec. of the ACYOA).
- 2 per dues-paying parish church member.
- 3 per member elected to the parish council or other elected parish office.
- 2 per member elected to a General or special Assembly office (individual competition).

IV. ATHLETIC

- 2 per sponsorship of an ACYOA athletic tournament (regional, per year).
- 4 for Kulhanjian Sportsmanship Award received.
- 2 per inter-chapter athletic competition.
- 2 for team (s) entered in National Sports Weekend.
- 4 for individual (s) entered in National Sports Weekend.

ARMENIAN CHURCH • YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

A.C.Y.O.A. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

[Please read carefully. Fill out completely and send to Central Council Treasurer.]

CHAPTER NAME: _____ DATE: ___/___/___

ACYOA YEAR: JULY 1ST, 19___ THROUGH JUNE 30TH, 19___.

The following list of names are previous dues paid members who have their official A.C.Y.O.A. Membership Application Form on file with the Central Council. This list indicates those who wish to renew their membership in the A.C.Y.O.A.

[Include name, address, zip code and phone number. This will enable up-dating of membership and mailing listings. Kindly type or print.]

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

[Use reverse side for additional names, or, attach sheets marked "RENEWAL".]

ATTACH ANY NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS TO THIS SHEET.

TOTAL NUMBER OF RENEWED MEMBERS ___ @ \$2.00 EACH, = \$ _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS ___ @ \$3.00 EACH, = \$ _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHAPTER MEMBERS ___, CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____

[Make all checks payable to A.C.Y.O.A. Central Council.]

[affix signatures as indicated.]

Chapter Chairman.

Treasurer.

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH



A.C.Y.O.A. CHAPTER MONTHLY FACT SHEET

[Please complete as indicated and where applicable. Attach any other pertinent data as well as photos of individuals, groups and events.]

Name of Chapter: _____ Name of Parish: _____

Present number of dues paid Members: _____ Number of new Members this month: _____

Scheduled activities and events this month: [List accordingly w/dates. Use reverse side for additional info or attach flyers & literature.]

<u>Religious</u>	<u>Cultural & Educ.</u>	<u>Social</u>	<u>Athletic</u>
1.	1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.	4.

Scheduled and proposed activities and events for next month: [Give dates & attach info.]

Confirmed events in future: [List only those that are confirmed.]

Meeting dates: 1. This month: _____ 2. Next Month: _____

Parish involvement this month: _____

Special awards received by individual members; accomplishments of individual members: [Give name, brief description, and any other interesting information including photo.]

Other Chapter news for this month: _____

Signature of Chapter Publicity
Chairman or Director

MAIL BEFORE THE TENTH (10TH) OF THE PRECEDING MONTH TO:

JAMES MAGARIAN, A.C.Y.O.A.
180 OLD WESTFORD ROAD, CHELMSFORD, MA 01824

PHOTOS: SEND ANY PHOTOS TO ACCOMPANY CHAPTER NEWS. (BLACK & WHITE GLOSSY)
[We cannot return photos.]

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

12 January 81

MEMORANDUM

Enclosed are ACYOA Central Council Parish Visitation Report Forms. Please use these forms for recent and future parish visitations.

All Council Members are expected to make at least one annual visit per parish within their respective assigned region; whereupon this report must be submitted in duplicate to the Executive Secretary and Central Council Chairman.


JAMES MAGARIAN
Executive Secretary

c.c. ACYOA Central Council Members



Central Council

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America 630 Second Avenue New York, N. Y. 10016 (212) 686-0710

ARMENIAN CHURCH, YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH



CENTRAL COUNCIL PARISH VISITATION REPORT FORM

[Please type or print. Attach any additional data.]

Chapter: _____ Parish: _____

Chairman: _____ Pastor: _____

Number of dues paid members: _____ Potential number of members (approx.): _____

Check: _____ Senior group organized & operating, _____ strong _____ weak _____ needs direction.

_____ Junior group organized & operating, _____ 5-15 members _____ 15-20 _____ 20 plus.

_____ Adult advisors (other than parish council liason), name: _____

_____ Parish owns or regularly rents athletic or recreational facilities.

Chapter exec. comm. meets: _____ weekly _____ bi-weekly _____ monthly _____ as necessary.

Chapter meetings are held: _____ weekly _____ monthly _____ bi-monthly _____ irregularly.

Which ACYOA programs does this chapter participate in? (or individual members)

_____ Armenian Studies _____ ACYOA Day Program _____ Martyr's Day Commemoration

_____ Regional Retreats _____ Chairman's Roundtable _____ National Sports Weekend

_____ St. Vartan Camp _____ Regional Anniv. Ball _____ Archbp's Basketball Tourney

Does this chapter usually respond to Central Council communiques? _____ yes _____ rarely

Annual Events (incl. dates): Educational/Religious/Cultural Activities or Events:

- | | | |
|----|----|-----------------------------|
| 1. | 1. | 7. |
| 2. | 2. | 8. |
| 3. | 3. | Other Activities: (general) |
| 4. | 4. | 1. |
| 5. | 5. | 2. |
| 6. | 6. | 3. |

General Observations: [be concise]

Comments: [use reverse side or attach sheets]

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Parish/chapter relations. | 4. Problem areas. |
| 2. Pastor-parish council/ chapter relations. | 5. Leadership potential, |
| 3. Outstanding points/qualities of parish and/or chapter. | of selected members. |

How does the youth of this parish serve the Church?

How does this parish meet the needs of the youth?

Date of visitation: _____ C.C. Member: _____

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

12 January 81

MEMORANDUM

By now you should have received copies of the announcement and agenda for the up-coming ACYOA Central Council Meeting on January 23,24,25, 1981, at the Diocese of the Armenian Church in New York City.

We expect all Council Members to be available for sessions beginning on Friday evening (23rd) at 9pm - 11pm, Saturday, 10am - 1pm & 2pm-7pm, and Sunday following Divine Liturgy and a luncheon, 1:30pm - 3pm.

We suggest that all Council Members come directly to the Diocese on Friday. Accommodations have been made at General Theological Seminary (175 Ninth Avenue at 21st Street) in N.Y.C. It will be much easier to go to the Seminary directly from the Diocese following the Friday evening session. (Check-in will have already been accomplished and keys secured.)

If arriving by plane, bus service is available to Manhattan for nominal fees. If possible, take the bus that will stop at the "East-Side Airlines Terminal." This stop is just two blocks up from the Diocese on 37th Street. (From LaGuardia Airport, take the "Carey" Bus and get off at the second stop. Similar service is available from the other airports.)

We look forward to seeing all Central Council Members and to a very productive meeting with positive and creative thinking and discussion. Those Council Members who plan to present reports or proposals should have copies available for all attending the meeting.

James Magarian
JAMES MAGARIAN
Executive Secretary

c.c. ACYOA Central Council Members

Enclosures for consideration at the meeting.



Central Council

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America 630 Second Avenue New York, N. Y. 10016 (212) 686-0710