

A.C.Y.O.A. JUNIORS

On June 2, 1967, the Worcester ACYOA Juniors elected the following as officers for one year: Michael Kinosian, Chairman; Barbara Bedrosian, vice Chairman; John Mesrobian, Treasurer; Linda Bogosian, Recording Secretary; Karen Nigosian, Corresponding Secretary; Nancy Bedrosian, Assistant Treasurer and Marsha Toromanian, Publicity Director. Our Advisors from the Senior group are Daniel Kalashian and Clara Takesian.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our outgoing Chairman, Brenda Toromanian, for her untiring efforts in making the ACYOA Juniors the fine group that it is.

On June 23 and 24, a group of our members attended a "Sports Weekend" in Providence. We had an opportunity to socialize and make friends with members of other ACYOA chapters. We feel this is one of the most important parts of the ACYOA. The mere setting up of activities is not enough. There is a definite need for better communication with our neighboring chapters.

On July 30, a group of ACYOA Juniors and their friends bussed to New Hampshire for a Beach Party. Fortunately, the weatherman was very kind to us. After spending most of the day on the beach, we went to Salisbury Beach, home of a great amusement center. There is no doubt that a "good time was had by all."

During the Labor Day weekend, the ACYOA held its Twenty-first Annual Assembly at the beautiful Holiday Hills in Pawling, New York. The Senior and Junior Chapters of Worcester were well represented at the Assembly. Bobby Harootyan, Danny Kalashian, and Marcia Gazoorian from the Seniors and Mike Kinosian from the Juniors were this year's delegates. Alternates for the Juniors were Val Mosessian and Sonia Yagjian. Deacon Metjian also attended to represent our Pastor. An amendment of interest to all Juniors was proposed and reads as follows: "Each Junior Group shall elect a delegate at their Annual Membership Meeting to represent them at the General Assembly. The delegates from tax-paying groups shall have voice and vote; the representatives from groups not paying taxes shall have voice only. All voting delegates shall be at least 16 years of age." This amendment was submitted to each Junior group in the U.S. for ratification. On October 27, the Worcester Juniors voted in favor of the amendment.

The Worcester delegates presented their skit "Inch Ga Cheeka?" which was well recieved by the audience.

This year's Assembly gave all those present an opportunity to commune with nature, something which has been lacking in the past. The beautiful and peaceful Holiday Hills proved to be an excellent site. There was a warm and friendly atmosphere at all times. Next year's Assembly site- Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

The ACYOA Membership Drive "kicked off" on September 29, when Calypso singer Kingsley McNeil performed at the Church Hall. Many new Junior members attended this affair. On October 22, Hayr Soorp officially installed our officers after church services.

The Juniors once again, participated in the Young Women's Guild Annual Fall Festival. Our girls worked very hard in preparing for the Festival and the end result was certainly worth it. The girls' Christmas decorations were creative and were also good sellers. It is another example of the fine work that can and is done by the Worcester Juniors. Many thanks to the Bososian and Kaprielian Families for their assistance to the girls and making the Junior Booth the great success that it was.

On November 11th, the ACYOA Junior Church Basketball Team launched another year of play. We started the year on a winning note and as of this writing, we are at mid-season and hold a 4-1 record. We are sponsored by the Men's Club and are coached by Mr. Jerry Pahigian. Games are played at the Worcester YMCA on Main Street. Parishioners are urged to consult the Church Bulletin Board for time and Court Number of our games. It has been our experience over the years to note that attendance from our Church has been close to nil. As a player, I know what it feels like to have someone rooting you on. Last year, we finished the season with a 7-3 record and made the play-offs.

On December 10, our basketball team played host, at the Central Church Gym to two ACYOA teams from out of town. Following the games, everyone participated in a social at the Church Hall.

The ACYOA should develop to become the group where all interested American-Armenian youths will find the application of Christian ideals, values of American culture and the relevance of the Armenian heritage.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Kinosian, Chairman
ACYOA Juniors