

ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH - TENAFLY, N. J.

SEVAN FOLK DANCE GROUP

Officers of the group:

Chairman: Mr. George Shahinian
Treasurer: Mr. Ara Kopooshian
Secretary: Mrs. Violet Kasparian

The group that started with a handful of youngsters has grown into a group numbering more than 25 boys and girls. We are at the close of ^{two} years of activities, leaving behind 22 guest performances and one concert at Town Hall: 6 performances in New York; 11 in New Jersey; 1 in Pennsylvania; 3 in Massachusetts; and 1 in Connecticut.

The group began with a loan of \$200 from the Parish Council, which has been paid back since. From our performances we have collected a sum of \$1566. and incurred expenses amounting to \$1112.69, leaving a balance of \$463.31. Our main expenses consisted of traveling costs and costumes. As you can see, we have been self-sustaining in the past two years. We hope to continue the same and even try to help our church financially, if possible.

We have set ourselves certain goals one of which is a full performance of our own in the near future and, hopefully, many more guest performances.

We continue to meet every Thursday night from 8 to 10 p.m. in the church auditorium and we invite all young adults to come and participate in our activities.

CHOIR REPORT - 1969

The choir has been singing at every service during the year. Attendance has been averaging 5 to 8 people per service. Occasionally an aggregate of 12 to 15 members has enhanced the beauty of the Holy Badarak.

Messrs. Krikor Anoushian and Armen Basmajian have faithfully and unselfishly served on the altar every week. Their devoted service on the altar should be noted and appreciated by all of our parishioners. Mention should also be made of Mr. Robert Varjan who, when scholastic studies allow, serves as censer, permeating our Church in liturgical fragrance.

Our organist, Miss Susan Shamamian, must be commended for her steady attendance and fine performances at every service. Such love and devotion should not be overlooked or taken for granted. This parish is fortunate in having such a fine young lady as its organist.

The choir and altar servers went to the Fairlawn Church on Nov. 23 along with the exchange of the clergy. Members of the choir also participated in the Maundy Thursday services during the Holy Week, and the Jan. 6 Christmas services at the Home for the Armenian Aged in Emerson.