

ACYOA CENTRAL COUNCIL

REIMBURSEMENT FORM

PAY TO: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Items & Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

[NOTE: Send to Council Treasurer on a monthly basis. Attach all receipts.]

Check sent on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Travel \_\_\_ Meals \_\_\_ Accommodations \_\_\_ Programs \_\_\_ Administrative

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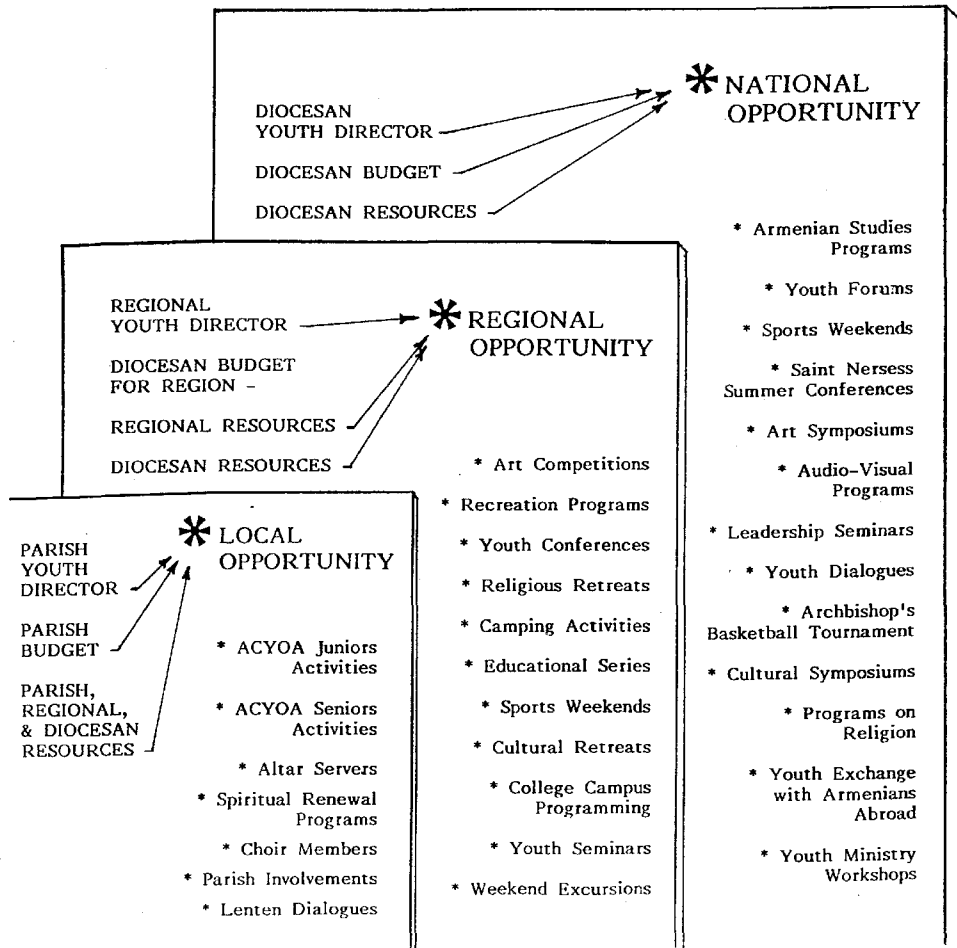
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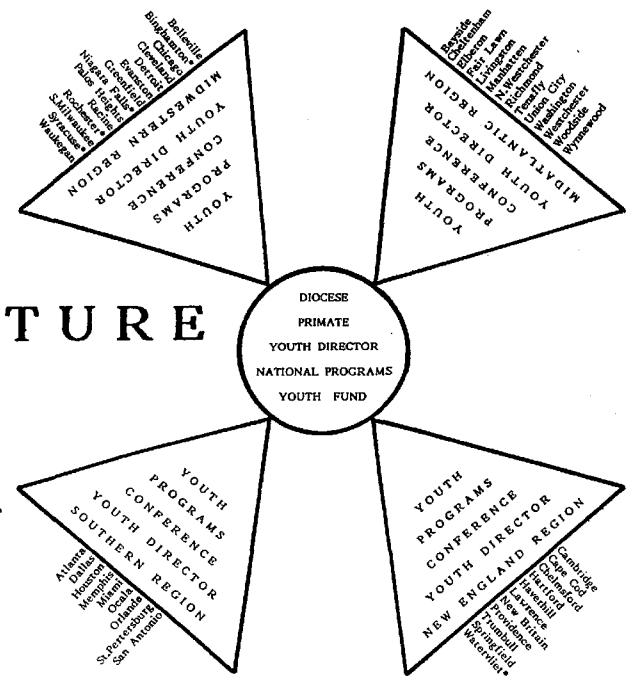
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# PROGRAMS OF OPPORTUNITY

"Creating opportunity" for young people to relate and participate in the Armenian Church and community is the primary purpose and concern here. These "opportunities" will take place on the national, regional, and local levels of the Diocese, and will include religious, cultural, athletic and social programs and projects. This schemata is an efficient means of providing the needed programs.



# A NEW STRUCTURE FOR ACYOA



## Some Definitions.....

**DIocese:** A determined area of jurisdiction for the Church, headed by a ranking clergyman, usually a bishop or archbishop.

**PRIMATE:** Elected head or leader of a diocese, some of whose responsibilities include supervision of clergy, parishes, programs and education of the faithful.

**YOUTH DIRECTOR:** Appointed by the Primate to direct efforts in teaching the goals of the Diocese as pertains to youth and youth programming. Salaried.

**NATIONAL PROGRAMS:** Opportunities for youth to participate in the life of the Church, as well as grow morally, socially, spiritually and intellectually. Open to all young people of the Diocese.

**YOUTH FUND:** A restricted fund administered by the Diocese to finance staff and programs for youth. Contributors include the Diocesan budget, shared profits from national programs and regional programs, as well as donations.

**REGION:** A determined area consisting of Armenian communities and parishes. Usually following an accepted geographical area, but sometimes including selected communities due to their location.

**REGIONAL YOUTH DIRECTOR:** Appointed by the Primate to direct efforts in teaching the goals of the Diocese in a specific region as pertains to youth and youth programming. Works closely with parishes and utilizes the resources of the particular region.

**REGIONAL CONFERENCE:** Gathering of youth representatives of the various parishes of the region for the purpose of interaction, discussion on ideas for regional programs, sharing ideas and solving problems.

**REGIONAL PROGRAMS:** Opportunities for youth to participate in the life of the Church as well as interact with other youth in the region. Varied formats for diverse interests. Open to all youth.

**YOUTH - CHAPTERS:** The young people of the parish who wish to organize themselves for specific purposes. "Chapters" would follow the basics of the ACYOA Constitution, as it speaks to their local needs and situation.

**PARISH YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES:** Appointed or elected by the chapter, or parish if no chapter is organized. Represents the parish at regional conferences, as a participant in program development, sharing of ideas and problem solving.

**REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:** A young person of the region, elected or appointed, who, together with the Regional Youth Director, represents the region at the Annual Diocesan Youth Dialogue.

**YOUTH DIALOGUE:** Presided over by the Primate of the Diocese. Participants include the Diocesan Youth Director, Regional Youth Directors and Regional Youth Representatives. This workable group would address specific details concerning national programs, their rules and regulations, ongoing projects, and share ideas through their experiences in the region and in the Diocese as a whole. The Dialogue would take place at the Annual Youth Forum.

**YOUTH FORUM:** Open to all youth of the Diocese and takes place the three days prior to the National Youth Weekend (Labor Day). Provides opportunity to participate in workshops, discussion groups, seminars, problem solving groups, cultural presentations, instructional sessions, etc., in areas of youth programming, Armenian language, history, cooking, dance; interpersonal relations, Bible studies, Armenian trivia sessions, - the potential list is vast.

## A PROPOSAL FOR THE 1985 ACYOA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

That the ACYOA be restructured to include Regional Youth Directors, employed by the Diocese, to complement the Diocesan Regionalization Project, as well as achieve the objectives as stated below.

### Introduction

The Diocese of the Armenian Church has initiated its master plan for regionalization. This is a result of many years of study and research to find the most effective way of administering to the needs of the faithful spread out in the Eastern and Midwestern parts of the United States.

The Proposal for the ACYOA is aimed at complementing the Diocesan Project, as well as improve and initiate an efficient method of developing and executing programs for the young people of the Diocese.

The Diocesan regionalization project has already begun in the New England area and will soon be started in other areas of the Diocese. The "region" has its various committees, coordinators and workers who will follow through with the specifics of the Project. Eventually, the regional setup will include supervising activities of regional departments, such as Religious Education, Social Services, Finances, Liturgical Education, Public Relations, Ethnic Studies, as well as Youth Development. Within this structure, the ACYOA will function with its own regional emphasis, complementing the work and efforts of the other regional departments.

### Objectives of this Proposal

1. To request the Diocese hire and salary **Regional Youth Directors** who will address the following, among others: organizing parish chapters, regional programming of educational series, retreats, athletics, recreation, art competitions, outings, picnics, college campus activities, and seminars and conferences.
2. To restructure the ACYOA administration (General Assembly and Central Council) into the following:
  - a) Each parish will have an ACYOA **Chapter** which will follow the basics of the present ACYOA Constitution, insofar as it speaks to local parish situation.
  - b) Each parish will appoint or elect **2 parish youth representatives** who will represent the parish at regional activities and conferences.
  - c) **Regional Conferences** will convene at least twice a year for the purpose of interaction, discussion on regional programming, solving problems, sharing resources, and developing the region. The Conference will appoint or elect a **Regional Representative**, who, together with the Regional Youth Director, will represent the region at the Annual Diocesan Youth Dialogue, which will be part of a broader Annual Youth Forum.
  - d) Annually, the Youth Department of the Diocese will sponsor a **Youth Forum** which will provide an opportunity for all the young people of the Diocese to assemble for the purposes of participating

in workshops, presentations, seminars, discussion groups on problem solving, ideas bank, religious and cultural programs, etc., all of which would be open and well organized. The **Youth Dialogue** would also take place at the Forum, presided over by the Primate, and attended by the Diocesan Youth Director, the Regional Youth Directors, and the Regional Representatives. This small and workable group would discuss specifics on current or new programs and projects, as well as address specific problem areas and deal with the rules governing the national youth programs.

3. On the National and Regional levels, **governing rules and regulations** will be administered through specific programming needs. For example: National Sports Weekend Rules and Regulations would govern all aspects of the National Sports Weekend Program. As other programs are developed, each will have its own set of regulations. Certain standardizations will be included in each.

4. To turn over to the Diocese all funds and assets of the National ACYOA, and request that the Diocese set up a specific (restricted) **Youth Fund**. This Fund would be used to finance the new youth program structure (youth director salaries, administrative expenses, programs...). The present system of dividing profits from national programs (one half), and from regional programs (one quarter) with the host parish would remain the same. Additional funding required to finance the youth program will be provided by the Diocese through its budget. The Diocesan Offices would handle all bookkeeping.

### Transition:

The ACYOA Central Council, in addition to their most basic responsibilities, will focus their efforts over the next year (Sept. 1985 thru August 1986) in setting up the aforementioned objectives in cooperation with the Diocese. Whereafter, the new structure would be initiated (Sept. 1986). The first Diocesan Youth Forum would take place prior to the 1986 National Sports Weekend.

-----  
Our greatest mistake is to try to exact  
from each person virtues which he does  
not possess, and to neglect the cultivation  
of these which he has.

Hadrian  
Roman Emperor  
1st Century A.D.

# REGISTRATION - ACYOA REGIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PARISH: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of an ACYOA Chapter? \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever held office in an ACYOA Chapter ? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you receive mail from the ACYOA ? \_\_\_\_\_ Local \_\_\_\_\_ National \_\_\_\_\_

In one short sentence please tell us what you think the "ACYOA" is...

---

Please list any program or activity the ACYOA should offer on a local, regional or national level - be imaginative!!



# A.C.Y.O.A. ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAMS

An ACYOA program of  
the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

## Place Armenia On Your Summer Schedule Now !

### Modern Armenia

Following the holocausts of 1914-1916 in which almost two million Armenians perished, the bulk of traditional Armenia remained in the hands of the Turks.

In 1920, The Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic was founded, with an expanse of 11,500 square miles.

The present population of Armenia is approximately 3 million, and the country is comprised of 33 administrative districts. 90 percent of Armenia is over 1,000 meters above sea-level.

Yerevan is the capital city with a population of approximately one million. It is one of the most ancient cities of the world and is preceded by the ancient Erebouni site, dating back some 6,000 years B.C.E. A sunny city with continental climate, Yerevan spreads near the banks of the Hrazdan River, and is the center of culture and learning.

In Armenia, there are 1,270 schools with over 400,000 students. 37 professional secondary schools and 11 university level institutes form the core of higher education. In 1921, The State University of Yerevan was founded, and in 1943 the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian Republic opened.

The Institute of Research of Armenian Manuscripts was built in 1956. The repository contains some 16,000 ancient manuscripts, the oldest of which is the Lazarian Gospel, dated 887. There are fragments of manuscripts from the 5th and 6th centuries as well.

Armenia displays pride in its State Conservatory, the State Philharmonic Society, the State Academic Opera, and the Ballet Theatre - as well as the Dramatic Theatre, the Young Spectator's Theatre and the Theatre of Musical Comedy - all of which have distinguished themselves admirably in their various areas of the arts.

2,800 libraries can be found in Armenia containing nearly 20,000,000 books and periodicals. Armenia has 12 theatres and 20 museums. There are approximately 1,500 clinics, including 270 hospitals.

100 newspapers and periodicals are published in Armenia with a distribution of 400,000. 55 printing presses produce there, as well as over 100 texts annually for home, school and library use.

Modern apartment buildings, resorts, as well as cultural institutions and scientific developments inter-mingle with villages, ancient monuments and age-old monasteries and churches, weaving a magnificent picture of the thousands of years this ancient and durable nation has seen.

Program (1).....

### Educational Tour to Armenia

(For A.C.Y.O.A. members)

Four Weeks in duration.

Visit Armenia as guests of His Holiness, Vazken I, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians.

See the many points of interest such as: Ancient churches and monasteries, monuments, historic sites, archaeological diggings, museums, galleries, the beautiful countryside and the magnificent metropolis of Yerevan, the capital city.

Experience many cultural, athletic and social activities, such as: The opera, symphony, ballet, and soccer games, as well as the Olympic training center and night-life in Yerevan.

See Armenia's industry. The motion picture studios, the cognac factory, the automobile factory, the winery, art and crafts workshops and the restoration of ancient cathedrals and sites.

Visit Armenia's schools and universities, including the University of Yerevan, the Conservatory of Music, the Children's Summer Camps and student outing centers.

Participate in dance, language and music instruction.

Meet with professionals in your field of interest on an informal basis and exchange ideas and new concepts.

Experience Divine Liturgy at the Mother Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin, and an audience with His Holiness, the Catholicos.

Program (2).....

### "Journey" to Armenia

Three weeks in duration.

A series of excursions to sites of ancient Cathedrals and Monasteries, historic points and places of interest.

Tours to the Art Galleries, Museums, Opera House, Manuscripts Library and more.

See the Monastery of Keghard, the churches of Sts. Hripsime, Gayane' and Shoghagat. Visit Kar Virap, Sardarabad, and Erebuni - the 2750 year old archaeological discovery of the first settlement of the city of Yerevan.

Meet the people. In the market-places, downtown, at work and play, in the parks, the towns, resorts and their homes.

Shopping sprees and night-life in the exciting metropolis of Yerevan, Armenia's growing capital city.

Special tour to Holy Etchmiadzin, the Holy See of the Armenian Church.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Tentative Dates: Program #1 -  
June 18 - July 18, 1985

Program #2 -  
July 2 - 22, 1985

Costs: (1984 cost - increase expected)

Program #1 - \$1,795.00  
Program #2 - \$1,995.00

Application Forms: Available at all Parish Church Offices, or from the ACYOA:  
ACYOA EXECUTIVE SEC.  
99 Long Pond Road  
Tyngsborough, MA 01879  
(617-256-7234)  
(617-649-6875)

DEADLINE: Program #1 - April 1st  
Program #2 - June 1st

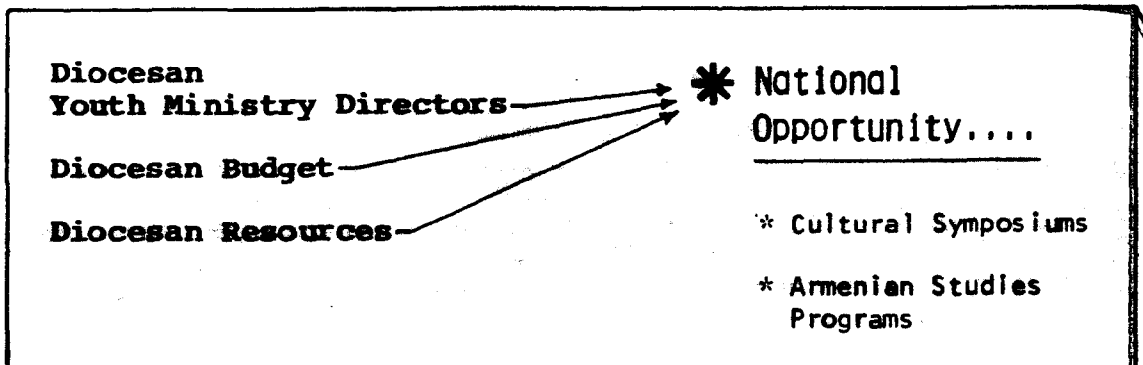
NOTE: If you do not have a current U.S. Passport, apply now at your local Post Office to assure proper processing by the prescribed deadlines for application to the programs. Those with foreign passports may experience problems with securing proper Soviet Visas.

SPACE IS LIMITED. APPLY EARLY.

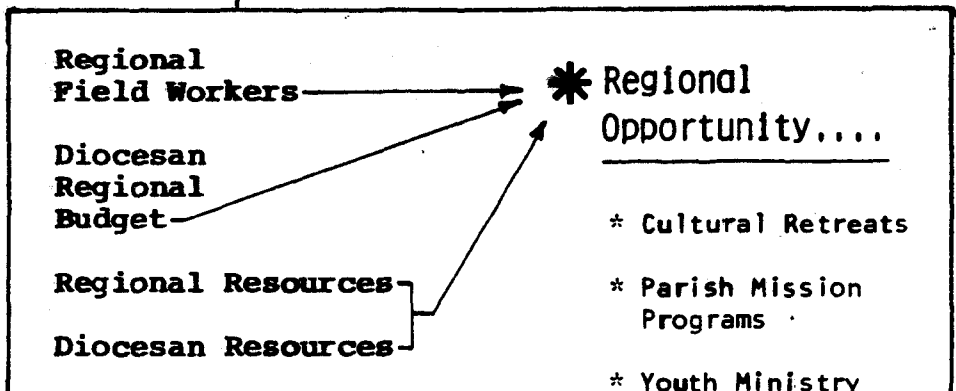
LATE FEES MAY APPLY.

# YOUTH MINISTRY

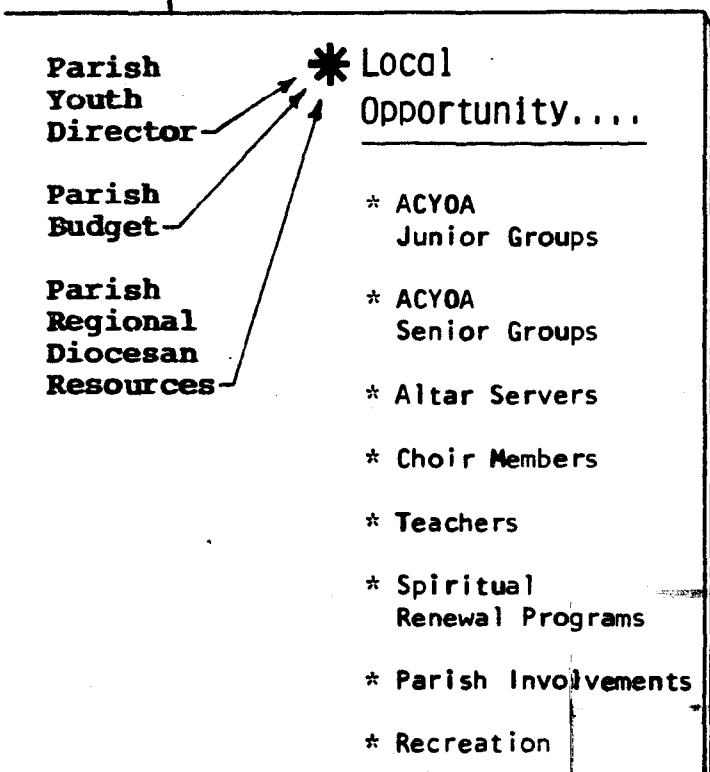
The Diocesan Department of Youth Ministry will primarily concern itself with "creating opportunity" for young people to relate and participate in the Armenian Church and community. These opportunities will take place on the national, regional and local levels of the Diocese, and will include religious, cultural, athletic and social programs and projects.



- \* Cultural Symposiums
- \* Armenian Studies Programs
- \* Forums for Youth
- \* Archbishop's Basketball Tournament



- \* Cultural Retreats
- \* Parish Mission Programs
- \* Youth Ministry Seminars
- \* Recreation Programs
- \* Saint Vartan Camp
- \* "INTERIM" Youth Ministry Training
- \* Saint Nersess Summer Conferences



- \* ACYOA Junior Groups
- \* ACYOA Senior Groups
- \* Altar Servers
- \* Choir Members
- \* Teachers
- \* Spiritual Renewal Programs
- \* Parish Involvements
- \* Recreation

- \* Campus Ministry
- \* Religious Retreats
- \* Youth Conferences
- \* Sports Weekends
- \* Youth Ministry Day-Workshops
- \* Art Symposiums
- \* Youth Exchange with Armenians Abroad
- \* Leadership Seminars
- \* Sports Weekends



# ACYOA

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Ave., N.Y.C., N.Y. 10016 (212-686-0710)

## Chapter Monthly Fact Sheet

.....  
The information provided here will be used to publicize ACYOA chapter/parish news, activities and events.  
[Please complete as indicated and where applicable. Included 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 according to dates. Attach flyers & literature or use reverse side for additional information.]

Religious — \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural — \_\_\_\_\_

Educational — \_\_\_\_\_

Social — \_\_\_\_\_

Athletic — \_\_\_\_\_

Scheduled and proposed activities and events for next month: [Give dates - attach additional information]

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

Meeting dates: This month: \_\_\_\_\_ Next month: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Involvements this month: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Activities this month: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Other Chapter News for this Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Check: \_\_\_\_\_ We would like a visit by our Central Council Representative.  
\_\_\_\_\_ We would like to invite the ACYOA Executive Secretary to our parish.

Signature of Chapter Chairman or Publicity Director

Date

.....  
**MAIL BEFORE THE  
END OF THE MONTH TO:**

**JAMES MAGARIAN**  
Executive Secretary  
99 Long Pond Road  
Tyngsborough, MA 01879

**PHOTOS: Send photographs of people and events to accompany all chapter news. All photographs for publication must be black & white glossies. Photographs cannot be returned.**



# ACYOA

## Annual Chapter Report Form

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America  
Diocese of the Armenian Church  
630 Second Ave., N.Y.C., N.Y. 10016 (212-686-0710)

[Please type or print clearly. For additional space, attach sheets as necessary.]

Annual Report for the Period - July 1st, 19\_\_ through June 30th, 19\_\_

Name of Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Parish \_\_\_\_\_

### I—MEMBERSHIP:

- a. Total number of dues paid members last year: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Total number of dues paid members this year: \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Total number of new dues paid members this year: \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Approximate number of active members: \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Reasons for increase or decrease in dues paid or active members: \_\_\_\_\_

### II—CHAPTER ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, PROGRAMS:

- a. Number of annual events or programs: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. List below annual events and programs:  
[Give date, name, type-cultural, social, religious, etc., & approximate number attending.]  
Example: April 24 - Martyr's Commemoration - Religious/Cultural - 30.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

#### c. List other events, programs and activities:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_

#### d. Reasons for success or failure for a given event:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### III—SERVICE IN THE PARISH:

#### a. In what ways does this chapter serve the parish:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_

#### b. Give the Number of members who:

- 1. Serve at the altar: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Sing in the choir: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Teach in the Armenian School: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Teach in the Church School: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Serve on the parish council: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. Assist the Junior Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Are dues paid members of the parish: \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. (other) \_\_\_\_\_

#### c. Parish/Chapter activity:

- 1. Number of meetings with parish council: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Does the chapter have a parish council liason ? \_\_\_\_ If so, is the liason helpful ? \_\_\_\_ Is the liason concerned ? \_\_\_\_
- 3. Does the chapter meet with other parish organizations ? \_\_\_\_  
For what reasons do these meeting take place ? \_\_\_\_\_

4. List other parish/chapter activity: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### IV—MEETINGS:

- a. Number of general membership meetings: \_\_\_\_\_  
How often: \_\_\_\_ bi-monthly, \_\_\_\_ monthly, \_\_\_\_ bi-weekly, \_\_\_\_ irregularly.
- b. Average number of members attending each meeting: \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Number of executive committee meetings: \_\_\_\_\_  
How often: \_\_\_\_ monthly, \_\_\_\_ bi-weekly, \_\_\_\_ weekly, \_\_\_\_ irregularly.
- d. Reasons for good attendance: \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Reasons for poor attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

**V—FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** (Give only major income and expenses.)

**a. Income —** (Give name of event, date, and amount of profit.)

Example: ACYOA Day Banquet - April 12 - \$450.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_

**b. Expenses —**

1. Dues sent to the National Organization \$ \_\_\_\_\_
2. Parish Contributions \$ \_\_\_\_\_
3. Delegates to the General Assembly \$ \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_

Total income for past year: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total expenses for past year: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cash on hand as of June 30th: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**VI—CHAPTER PARTICIPATION**

(Check the programs this chapter has participated in this year as a group.)

**a. National:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ General Assembly (delegates)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Armenian Studies Programs (Educational Tour to Armenia, "Journey" to Armenia, Jerusalem — "The Holy City")
- \_\_\_\_\_ Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Basketball Tournament (Team or spectators attending games & festivities)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship Program (Sam Nersessian Scholarship)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Awards Program (Sam Nersessian Award, Chapter "A" Award, Chapter Honorable Mention Award, Archbishop's Essay Contest Award)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Chairman's Roundtable Seminar & Conference (Held in conjunction with the Diocesan Assembly - chairman or representative)
- \_\_\_\_\_ National Sports Weekend (Teams or individuals)

**b. Regional:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Regional Conferences & Committees (where possible)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Retreats
- \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Ball
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mission Program

**c. Local:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Martyr's Day Commemoration
- \_\_\_\_\_ ACYOA Day Celebration
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**VII—MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION:**

(Check the programs and activities that members from this chapter have participated in this year as individuals.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Armenian Studies Programs (Any of the three programs)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship Program (recipients)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Awards Program (recipients)
- \_\_\_\_\_ National Sports Weekend (attendance)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Regional Retreats
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mission Program (staff member or assistant)
- \_\_\_\_\_ ACYOA St. Vartan Camp (staff member or assistant)

**VIII—ORGANIZATIONAL:**

a. What new programs should the ACYOA consider on the national, regional or local levels? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Kindly share any suggestions, positive comments, or constructive ideas you might have for the Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

**IX—CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Attach a complete listing of your Chapter Executive Committee for the coming year. (name, address, zip, telephone #. Include Chapter president and all delegates.)

**NOTE:** If elections for the coming year have not yet been held, send immediately after elections.

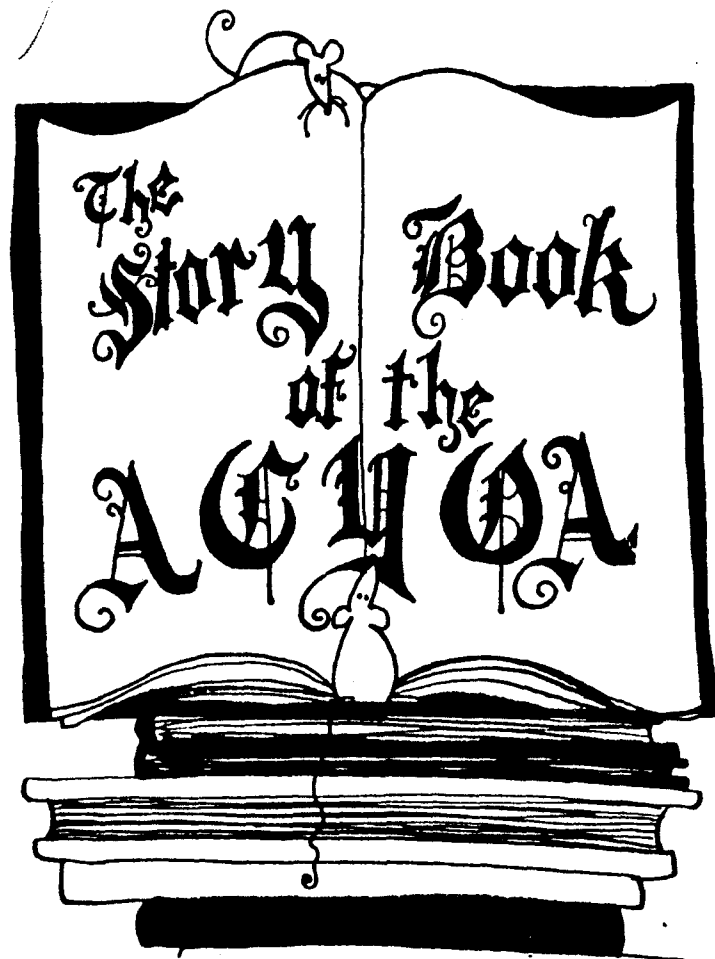
Signature of Chapter Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Chapter Recording Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** ACYOA Executive Secretary, 99 Long Pond Road, Tyngsborough, MA 01879

~~W. M. ...~~  
The ... Church  
... 12



By T.

~~W. M. ...~~



### PLEDGE

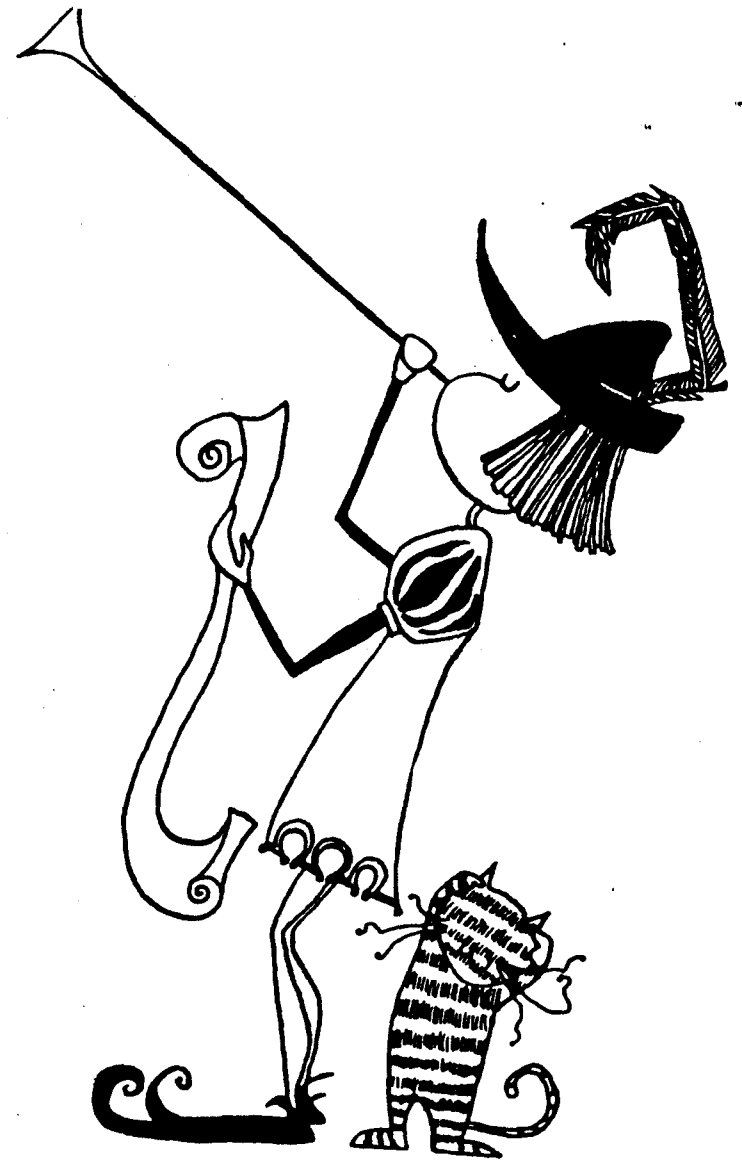
I solemnly promise and declare upon my honor, that as a member of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America. I shall, to the best of my ability, be a faithful son of the Armenian Church; shall be a devoted upholder of the Armenian cultural heritage; shall be a loyal citizen of the United States, and I shall diligently abide by the objects, policies, and decisions of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America. I shall not strive for personal recognition and pleasure, but will serve our Church, our Community, and Country, for the greater glory of God.



Once upon a time there lived a wise Archbishop whose diocese covered most all of North America. One day he thought to himself. "How wonderful it would be if there existed a special organization for all the young people of our Church."



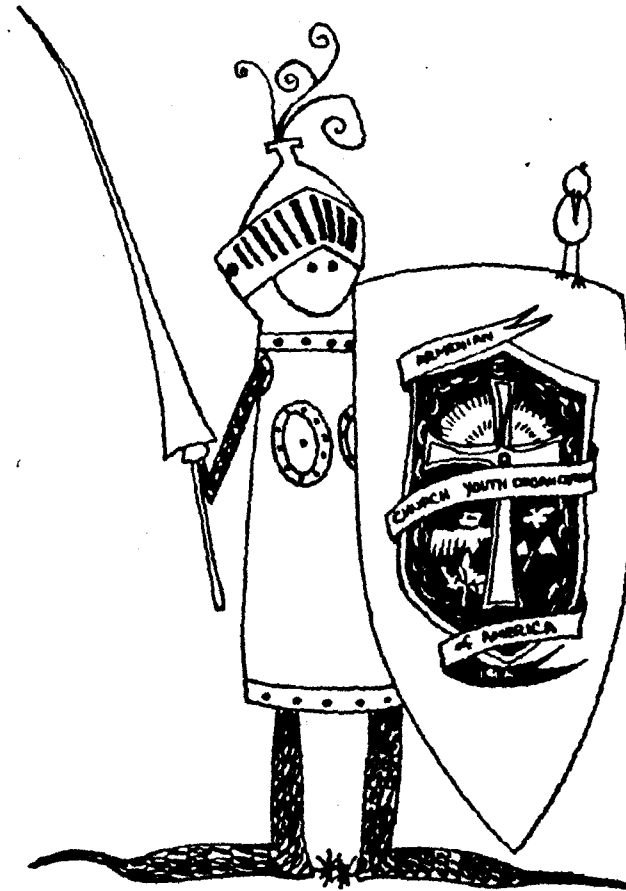
Now there lived in the same diocese the Wizard Belittle. When he heard of the Archbishop's plans, he hastened to see him. "Listen to me!" he said roughly. "Your plan is pure folly! It is sure to fail! Youth is too irresponsible and unpredictable!"



Despite this warning, the Archbishop sent forth his herald with a proclamation: Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye! To a the youth of the Armenian Church. You are invited to attend a special assembly in Providence during the month of January in the year of Our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-six.



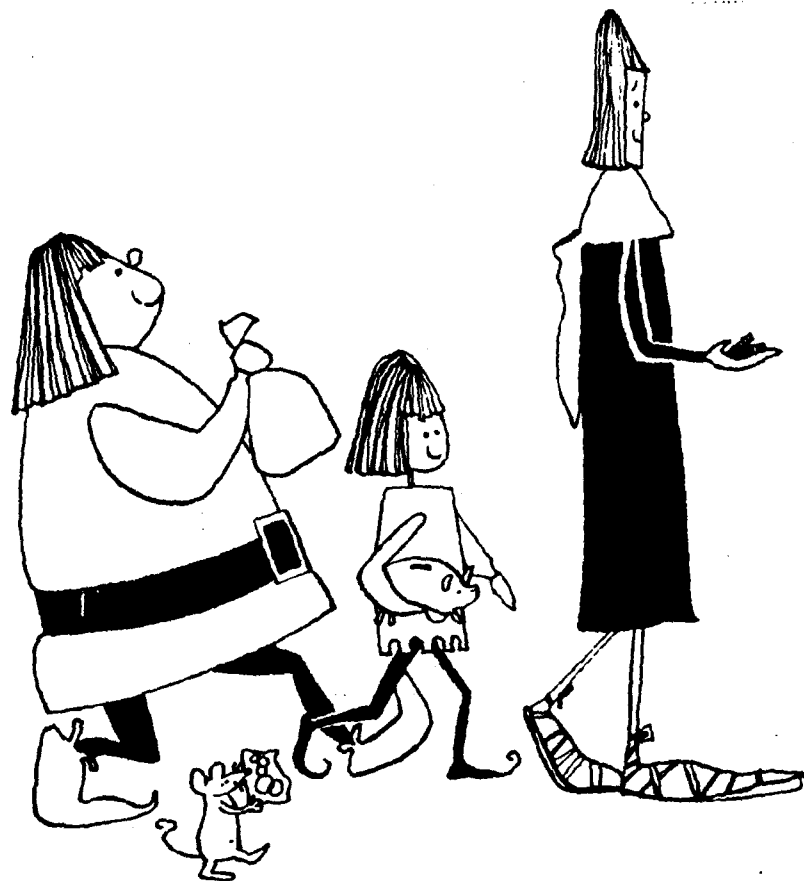
And the young people came, and they listened, and they agreed with the Archbishop, and they formed an organization, and it was called The Armenian Church Youth Organization of America. They appointed nine of their peers to serve as a Central Council to carry out their plans to do good work.



And they made themselves an emblem which would symbolize the spirit of the organization: Unity, Church, Country, and Heritage. The symbols were to be mounted on a shield to emphasize the determination of the members to serve the objectives of the new organization and defend them against the powers of evil.



"It is encouraging to see the enthusiasm you have shown," the Archbishop said, "and I will always be at your side." Then, with a bit of hesitation and sadness, he went on to confess, "I am not as wealthy as some people think. Thus, the organization will have to be self-supporting for the present.



Therefore, in order to carry out the many worthy projects planned, it was necessary that each chapter pay taxes to the Central Council in proportion to their wealth. There were years when the treasury was nearly bankrupt. And then there were the bountiful years. Years which provided funds to undertake worthy and needed projects. . .

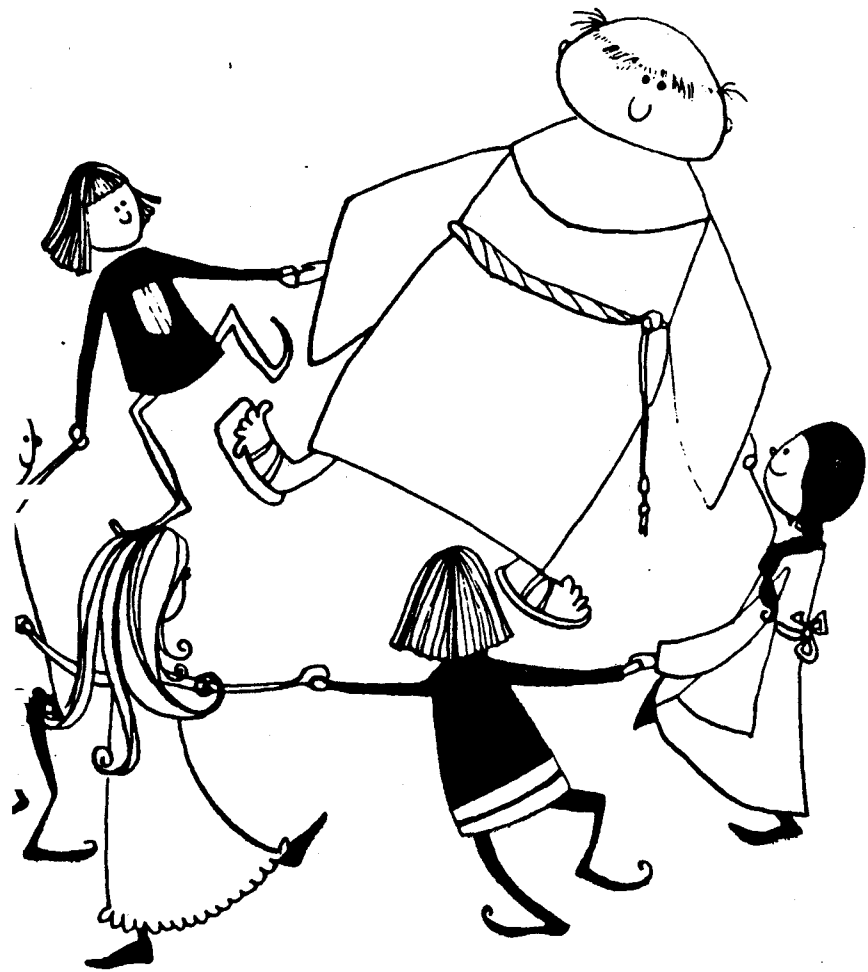


Contributions were made to aid in the restoration of a cathedral in the Mother See and in the Holy Land. And when a cathedral was to be built in the diocese of their Archbishop, they gave again. The ACYOA went on to establish scholarship grants to college and theological students, and provided funds for participants in religious study programs.



From the inception of the organization to the present, members of the ACYOA wrote their own ~~monthly~~ magazine <sup>S & VIEW LETTERS</sup> - The Armenian Guardian. This was only the first of many publications and educational projects which were undertaken.





ferences for Sunday school teachers were first organized by the ACYOA. These conferences inspired the birth of the Council for Religious Education, which now directs the Church Sunday Schools of the Diocese. Continued enthusiasm and determination of the organization helped the establishment of The Armenian Theological School in America, 1970.



And who would have ever believed that the youth yearned not only for knowledge of their own church, but of their sister churches as well. Thus, joint study programs were held with different faiths. Now the ACYOA was experiencing many good days and fulfilling the expectations of the Archbishop.



But, alas, there were dark and gloomy days as well. A chilled wind blew over the organization and its members began to drift. Now this was just the opportunity the Wizard Belittle was waiting for. "I warned you," he said to the Archbishop in a rude and defiant voice.



The Archbishop jumped to his feet and roared, "Get out of my sight, Wizard!" He would have thrown his staff, too, but he remembered his dignity just in time. Then he thought, "It is apparent that more aid and guidance must be provided for the youth." To do this, an Executive Secretary was appointed, regional conferences planned and leadership clinics organized.



Thus, as the years unfolded, a warm, bright happy sun shown on the ACYOA again. There was a rebirth of the original goals and objectives. Retreats and religious conferences became an established part of the ACYOA along with many other good things.



Two pilgrimages to the Holy Land and the Mother See in Etchmiadzin were made, and another is planned. These journeys help inspire the ACYOA members by taking them back to the founts of their national and spiritual origins.

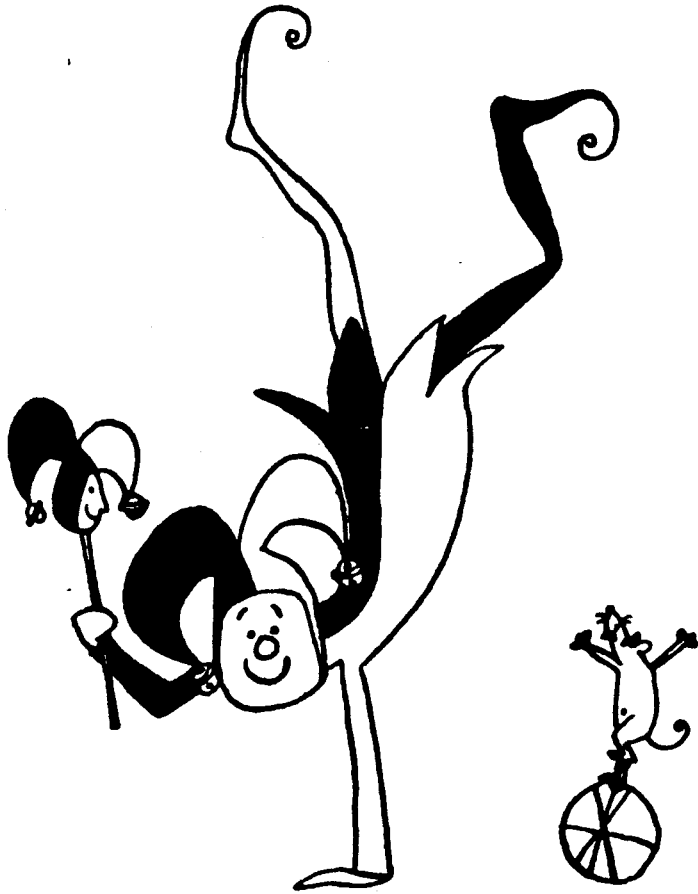
*AND RECEIVED  
MEMBERSHIPS*



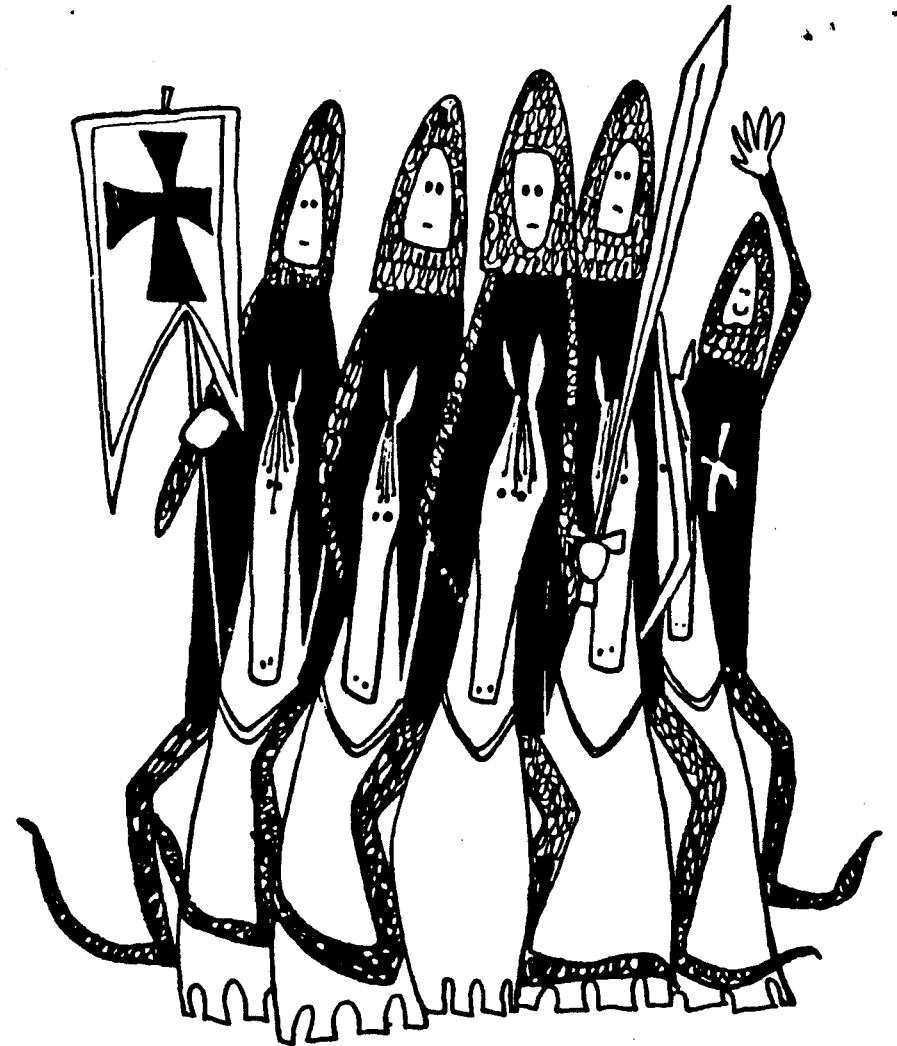
To acquaint the local communities with all that they had been doing and to rededicate themselves, it was decided to hold an ACYOA Day annually. Thus, during the Lenten period, each chapter sets aside a day for this purpose.

*every year...*  
*...*  
*...*  
*...*  
*...*

Now a strong organization was established - an organization which not only had national programs, but consistently participated in community-oriented projects.



One day the good Wizard Joy suggested to the Archbishop, "The young people need merriment if the organization is to remain vigorous." Thus, social programs were planned - and the arts were not neglected.



Then at the 18th General Assembly it was proposed that missionary work be done within the Armenian Church. . . 20th Century Crusaders, made up of high school and college students who spend their summer vacations ministering to forgotten Armenian Christians.



The missionary idea was expanded upon, and it was decided to engage a field worker to go amongst the ACYOA chapters giving practical guidance and advice.



Now the Archbishop called his elders together in council to discuss the ACYOA's good points and its weaknesses . . . They talked of religion, education, culture and joy; and they all agreed that while there was still much work to be done, the future of the Armenian Church was in good hands.

# THIS IS YOUR CHANCE

## ACYOA LEADERSHIP SEMINAR & 10 YEAR RE-ORGANIZATIONAL PLANNING MEETING

FIRST SESSION: Leadership Seminar

TOPIC: Priorities, Your Time, and the Church

Participants will be introduced to various perspectives with regard to evaluating one's priorities and values. What people spend their time on and how the Church fits into people's schedules will also be discussed in relation to young people. Is the Church a priority? Should It be?

(9:30 - 12 noon)

SECOND SESSION: Re-organizational Planning Meeting

FOCUS: ACYOA National Structure

Held every ten years, this special planning meeting will ask participants to re-evaluate the National level of the ACYOA. The planning session will allow for new ideas and creative minds to express themselves and work toward a new structure for the ACYOA on the National level. His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of the Diocese, will be present for a portion of this session.

(2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

### WHEN & WHERE:

Saturday, May 4th, 1985  
9am to 5pm  
Armenian Church of the Holy  
Martyrs, Bayside, New York  
(212-225-0235)

### ITINERARY:

9am. . . . .Registration  
9:30. . . . .First Session  
12noon. . . . Luncheon  
2pm. . . . .Second Session  
4:30. . . . .Announcements  
& Closing

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Young Adults  
ACYOA Chapter Chairmen  
ACYOA Advisors  
Youth Liaisons  
Youth Directors

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Arda Nazerian  
212-454-8370 evenings

James Magarian  
617-256-7234 days



An ACYOA program in conjunction with the Annual Diocesan Assembly  
NO FEE REQUIRED

ACYOA

# IT'S DUE

- June 3rd.....\***INTENTIONS TO COMBINE** - Chapters who wish to combine for the athletic competitions of the National Sports Weekend.  
Send to ACYOA Central Council Chairman
- June 30th.....\***ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORTS**  
\***LISTING OF CHAPTER DELEGATES** (with addresses)  
\***SAM NERSESIAN AWARD NOMINATIONS**  
\***SAM NERSESIAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**  
\***PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ACYOA CONSTITUTION**  
\***GENERAL PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION AT ASSEMBLY**  
Send to ACYOA Executive Secretary
- \***DELINQUENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FROM PAST YEAR**  
\***MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR THE 1985-86 ACYOA YEAR**  
\***ANY NEW MEMBERSHIPS**  
Send to ACYOA Central Council Chairman
- July 17th.....\***ANY NEW OR RENEWING ACYOA MEMBERS**  
Final date to be recognized for legitimate participation in this year's ACYOA National Sports Weekend.  
Send to ACYOA Central Council Chairman
- July 28th.....\***FINAL DATE TO APPLY DISCOUNT**  
All pre-paid-in-full National Sports Weekend Package plans paid by this date may apply a **\$10.00 discount** to the regular price.
- August 2nd.....\***CHAPTER REGISTRATION FOR ATHLETIC COMPETITION**  
Chapter intention to participate due in writing with team and individual rosters completed.  
Send to Athletic Coordinator
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## WHERE TO SEND:

ACYOA Executive Secretary - 99 Long Pond Road, Tyngsborough, MA 01879 (617-256-7234)  
ACYOA Council Chairman - 186-39 Midland Parkway, Jamaica Estates, NY 11432 (718-454-8370)  
Athletic Coordinator - 21 Iowa Street, Worcester, MA 01602 (617-756-4413)

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## TAKE NOTE:

The 1985 ACYOA General Assembly will convene Wednesday evening, August 28th, at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Worcester, Massachusetts, through Friday, August 30th.

The 1985 ACYOA National Sports Weekend, hosted by the Worcester ACYOA Chapter, will officially open on Friday evening, August 30th, at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Worcester, Massachusetts. Athletic competitions will begin Sat. morning and conclude Sun. afternoon.