

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

March 12, 1987

Melanie Mekelian
ACYOA South Florida Chairman
7970 N.W. Ninth St.
Margate, FL 33063

Dear Melanie:

My sincere thanks for hosting me at all the ACYOA functions during my visit to your parish on February 27th and 28th. I really enjoyed our meeting and feel that the South Florida ACYOA is organized and ready for some national programs.

Our organization is very fortunate to have you as a leader in South Florida. You have ~~all~~ the qualities to bring all the youth in your area together, and develop the "new" ACYOA programs that we discussed.

I ^{am} sure that together we can come ^{up} with an agenda of programs and activities specifically suited for your chapter. It is important that you work closely with Der Zaven, and use him as a resource for advice and learning. Also, keep in touch with the Central Council and me. Send Scott Najarian your monthly fact sheets, and keep me abreast of your activities.

I am sending copies of this report to ^{Rev.} Fr. Zaven and to your Parish Council Chairman. It is most important that they review the evaluation, and use it as a resource. If you have any questions, please contact me at the Diocese (212-686-0710).

Again, thank you for your hospitality, and congratulations on your official recognition as members of the National Armenian Church Youth Organization of America.

Sincerely,


Anthony G. Barsamian, Jr.
Acting Executive Secretary

cc: His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian - Primate
Rev. Fr. Zaven Arzoumanian - Pastor
Mr. Harry Apoian - Parish Council Chairman



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 of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

Central Council

630 Second Avenue

New York, New York 10016

212 686-0710

November 16, 1987

His Eminence

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian

Primate of the Eastern Diocese of America

630 Second Avenue

New York, NY 10016

Your Eminence:

On January 29-31, The ACYOA, in conjunction with the Armenian Language Lab, will be conducting our first Armenian Cultural Weekend. It is tentatively planned, pending your approval, and hopefully, your participation. Sylva Der Stepanian and I have designed the following schedule:

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29 - Evening

6:00-9:00 Registration and Check-in at Dumont Plaza

9:00- Social Gathering at Dumont Plaza

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30 - MORNING - Diocesan Complex

9:00-12:00 Conversational Armenian Instruction

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30 - AFTERNOON - Diocesan Complex

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-2:30 Armenian History Lesson

2:30-4:00 Armenian Church History Lesson - Very Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Najarian will lecture.

4:00-4:15 Break

4:15-5:00 Discussion

5:00-6:30 GOMIDAS LECTURE - HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN

6:30-7:30 DINNER WITH HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN

7:30-9:00 Dance Instruction

9:00- Open Time - Activity to be determined later

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 - MORNING - ST. VARTAN CATHEDRAL

9:30- Instructed Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 - AFTERNOON - DIOCESAN COMPLEX

1:00- Farewell Social Gathering and Departure

We would like to make this weekend an annual program, and I think it is important that you participate. We have chosen the last weekend in January because it will never fall during Lent, and it is not too close to the holiday season. We would like it to be the same weekend, annually.

We will not finalize instructors nor begin publicity until you review the program for approval and check your schedule. The Armenian Language Lab has agreed to split the cost of the weekend with the ACYOA. The cost will be approximately \$5,000. This includes: Hotel, Food, Instructors, Books (Armenian History, Armenian Church History, Armenian Language), and possibly, Video Taping.

Participants must be dues paid ACYOA members. They will have an opportunity to pay their \$10.00 dues at application, and they will be asked to contribute \$25.00 to the program, making the maximum cost, \$35.00. Participants should feel a responsibility to their church, heritage, and the ACYOA, therefore, they should be subject to an admission fee and dues. We want the cost to be nominal so that anyone can afford it, and we want our members to know that our fund raising efforts are beneficial. The number of participants will be limited to fifty.

Your Eminence, I await your response, and I am available for discussion at your convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas H. Tashjian

Douglas H. Tashjian

cc. Syraun Palvetzian
Sylva Der Stepanian

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

November 9, 1987

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN
PRIMATE - DIOCESE of the ARMENIAN CHURCH OF ANERICA
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York.

Your Eminence,

At a recent meeting, the ACYOA Central Council reviewed correspondence received from the Armenian Youth Federation (copy enclosed). After much discussion we accepted their invitation to a joint meeting. Also enclosed is a copy of our letter to their Central Executive. Srpazan we wish to have your blessing for this meeting. It is our hope that this meeting will create a feeling of goodwill between our two youth organizations, as well as all young Armenians in America. A tentative agenda is enclosed in the invitation we received from the AYP. The Central Council does not in any way seek to undermine efforts by the Diocesan Unity Committee, however we feel this an important step in creating friendships and mutual understandings with fellow Armenians. Please take this issue into consideration and relay to us your thoughts on this issue. Letters have also been sent to Diocesan Council Chairman, Judge Vincent Gurian and Diocesan Council Youth Liason Mr. Edward Onanian, asking for Diocesan Council consideration of this matter.

Most Respectfully,



Scott Najarian
ACYOA Central Council Chairman



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

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

Armenian Youth Federation
Mr. Greg Bedian,
Central Executive Chairman
80 Bigelow Avenue
Watertown, MA. 02172

October 28, 1987

Dear Greg,

The Central Council of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America (ACYOA) recently received your organization's letter regarding a joint meeting of both your Central Executive and our Central Council. After reviewing your proposed agenda and the spirit in which your letter was written, the Central Council voted with much enthusiasm to accept your invitation.

Please allow us to receive the blessings of our Primate and Diocesan Council. We have forwarded a copy of your letter to both parties and will await their advice.

The ACYOA Central Council shares your belief that the time has come for mutual understanding between ~~are~~ two organizations, as well as all Armenian-American youth throughout the United States.



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

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

I will contact you as soon as new information is available. I may be reached after 8:00PM at (617) 754-0806.

We are looking forward to a new age of cooperation that can result from our endeavors.

Sincerely,



Scott Najarian
ACYOA Central Council Chairman

8 A Robertson Road
Worcester, MA. 01602



Central Council

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



ՀԱՅ ԵՐԻՏԱՍԱՐԴԱՑ ԴԱՇՆԱԿՑՈՒԹԻՒՆ

ARMENIAN YOUTH FEDERATION

YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF THE A.R.F.

EASTERN U.S.A.

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE

80 BIGELOW AVENUE, WATERTOWN, MA 02172

PHONE: 923-1933
(Area Code 617)

October 20, 1987

ACYOA Seniors
Central Executive
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Sireli Hairenagitsner:

The time has clearly come for a conscious effort on the part of our two organizations to develop mutual understanding and open the way for co-operation. Several local initiatives demonstrate that this is indeed also the genuine desire of the membership of our two organizations.

The Central Executive of the AYF-YOARF proposes a joint meeting with the Central Executive of the ACYOA, with the following agenda.

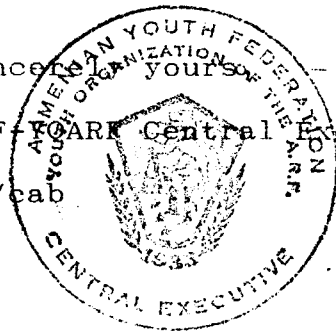
1. Introduction of the two bodies
2. Brief presentations on the structure and scope of activity of the two organizations
3. Discussion of mutual concerns
4. Discussion of areas of possible co-operation
5. Drafting a joint press release

We are amenable to modifying the agenda if you see fit.

Our Chairperson, Greg Bedian, may be contacted most weeknights after 7pm at our office (617) 923-1933.

We look forward to hearing from you and meeting with you.

Sincerely,
AYF-YOARF Central Executive
CE/cab





ՀԱՅ ԵՐԻՏԱՍԱՐԴԱՑ ԴԱՇՆԱԿՑՈՒԹԻՒՆ

ARMENIAN YOUTH FEDERATION

YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF THE A.R.F.

EASTERN U.S.A.

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE

80 BIGELOW AVENUE, WATERTOWN, MA 02172

PHONE: 923-1933
(Area Code 617)

October 20, 1987

ACYOA Seniors
Central Executive
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Sireli Hairenagitsner:

The time has clearly come for a conscious effort on the part of our two organizations to develop mutual understanding and open the way for co-operation. Several local initiatives demonstrate that this is indeed also the genuine desire of the membership of our two organizations.

The Central Executive of the AYF-YOARF proposes a joint meeting with the Central Executive of the ACYOA, with the following agenda.

1. Introduction of the two bodies
2. Brief presentations on the structure and scope of activity of the two organizations
3. Discussion of mutual concerns
4. Discussion of areas of possible co-operation
5. Drafting a joint press release

We are amenable to modifying the agenda if you see fit.

Our Chairperson, Greg Bedian, may be contacted most weeknights after 7pm at our office (617) 923-1933.

We look forward to hearing from you and meeting with you.

Sincerely,
Yours,
AYF-YOARF Central Executive
CE/cab



Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

Armenian Youth Federation
Mr. Greg Bedian,
Central Executive Chairman
80 Bigelow Avenue
Watertown, MA. 02172

October 28, 1987

Dear Greg,

The Central Council of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America (ACYOA) recently received your organization's letter regarding a joint meeting of both your Central Executive and our Central Council. After reviewing your proposed agenda and the spirit in which your letter was written, the Central Council voted with much enthusiasm to accept your invitation.

Please allow us to receive the blessings of our Primate and Diocesan Council. We have forwarded a copy of your letter to both parties and will await their advice.

The ACYOA Central Council shares your belief that the time has come for mutual understanding between are two organizations, as well as all Armenian-American youth throughout the United States.



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

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

I will contact you as soon as new information is available. I may be reached after 8:00PM at (617) 754-0806.

We are looking forward to a new age of cooperation that can result from our endeavors.

Sincerely,



Scott Najarian
ACYOA Central Council Chairman

8 A Robertson Road
Worcester, MA. 01602



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

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

November 9, 1987

HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN
PRIMATE - DIOCESE of the ARMENIAN CHURCH OF ANERICA
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York.

Your Eminence,

At a recent meeting, the ACYOA Central Council reviewed correspondence received from the Armenian Youth Federation (copy enclosed). After much discussion we accepted their invitation to a joint meeting. Also enclosed is a copy of our letter to their Central Executive. Srpazan we wish to have your blessing for this meeting. It is our hope that this meeting will create a feeling of goodwill between our two youth organizations, as well as all young Armenians in America. A tentative agenda is enclosed in the invitation we received from the AYF. The Central Council does not in any way seek to undermine efforts by the Diocesan Unity Committee, however we feel this an important step in creating friendships and mutual understandings with fellow Armenians. Please take this issue into consideration and relay to us your thoughts on this issue. Letters have also been sent to Diocesan Council Chairman, Judge Vincent Gurian and Diocesan Council Youth Liason Mr. Edward Onanian, asking for Diocesan Council consideration of this matter.

Most Respectfully,



Scott Najarian
ACYOA Central Council Chairman



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

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

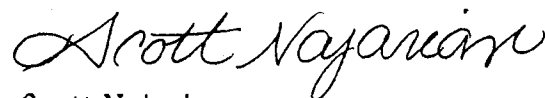
November 10, 1987

JUDGE VINCENT GURAHIAN
CHAIRMAN-DIOCESAN COUNCIL
RFD #2, Macauley Road
Katonah, New York

Dear Judge Gurahian,

At a recent meeting, the ACYOA Central Council reviewed correspondence received from the Armenian Youth Federation (copy enclosed). After much discussion we accepted their invitation to a joint meeting. Also enclosed is a copy of our letter to their Central Executive. Judge Gurahian we wish to have the approval of the Diocesan Council for this meeting. It is our hope that this meeting will create a feeling of goodwill between our two youth organizations, as well as all young Armenians in America. A tentative agenda is enclosed in the invitation we received from the AYF. The Central Council does not in any way seek to undermine efforts by the Diocesan Unity Committee, however we feel this an important step in creating friendships and mutual understandings with fellow Armenians. Please take this issue into consideration and relay to us your thoughts on this issue. Letters have also been sent to His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian and Diocesan Council Youth Liason Mr. Edward Onanian, asking for their consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,



Scott Najarian
ACYOA Central Council Chair man



Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

November 10, 1987

MR. EDWARD ONANIAN
DIOCESAN COUNCIL
13010 Hathaway Drive
Wheaton, Maryland

Dear Mr. Onanian

At a recent meeting, the ACYOA Central Council reviewed correspondence received from the Armenian Youth Federation (copy enclosed). After much discussion we accepted their invitation to a joint meeting. Also enclosed is a copy of our letter to their Central Executive. Mr. Onanian, we wish to have the approval of the Diocesan Council for this meeting. It is our hope that this meeting will create a feeling of goodwill between our two youth organizations, as well as all young Armenians in America. A tentative agenda is enclosed in the invitation we received from the AYF. The Central Council does not in any way seek to undermine efforts by the Diocesan Unity Committee, however we feel this an important step in creating friendships and mutual understandings with fellow Armenians. Please take this issue into consideration and relay to us your thoughts on this issue. Letters have also been sent to His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian and Diocesan Council Chairman, Judge Vincent Gurahian asking for their consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Scott Najarian

Scott Najarian
ACYOA Central Council Chairman



Central Council



ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

Central Council

630 Second Avenue

New York, New York 10016

212 686-0710

September 16, 1987

His Eminence
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate of the Diocese
of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Your Eminence:

I have discussed the visit of His Holiness, Vasken I, Catholicos of all Armenians, with Armenian young adults in the local community and in Detroit. One of my objectives was to ascertain their questions and concerns for His Holiness to consider in his addresses to the youth. The following is a summary:

- (1) What vision does His Holiness have for the future of the Armenian Church in America? What goals should young people be working toward? Should this vision include the unity of all Armenian Churches in America?
- (2) In what areas does His Holiness feel it is appropriate or possible, within the teachings and canons of the Armenian Church, for women to serve the church by liturgically assisting in worship and/or pastorally assisting in the community?
- (3) Since we are facing high rates of intermarriage, how does His Holiness feel the Armenian spouse can maintain his or her Armenian identity? Is it desirable to encourage the non-Armenian spouse to become a member of the Armenian Church? If so, what can the Armenian Church and its young people do to accomplish this mission?
- (4) Since this is an English speaking society, does His Holiness feel it is possible to celebrate a portion of the Badarak in English? Does he think this would help young people appreciate the beauty of our Badarak and help them learn the language?
- (5) Does His Holiness feel it is possible to shorten our church service while maintaining our traditions and our Christian teachings? How does he feel we can increase the presence of young people in the church service and the community?



ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

Central Council

630 Second Avenue

New York, New York 10016

212 686-0710

- (6) Does His Holiness think it would be possible for the Soviet Armenian Government to allow an Armenian youth group to come to America in an exchange with the ACYOA in order for us to learn more about our Armenian brothers and sisters?
- (7) As Armenian American young adults, we are faced with the threat of nuclear war, chemical and physical temptations, and other distractions from our faith and heritage. How does His Holiness feel we should meet these challenges in the context of what our faith and heritage can teach us?
- (8) As Armenian American young adults, we are taught to be competitive and to strive for career and financial success. How does His Holiness feel we should balance these desires while maintaining our heritage and by growing within our faith?
- (9) As Armenian American young adults, societal demands have lead to the deterioration of the family unit. Many young people are asked to move to places away from their families. Many times there are no Armenian Churches or communities in these new places. How does His Holiness feel we should handle the problem of further fragmentation of the community while maintaining our faith and heritage?
- (10) As Armenian American young adults, we are under pressure from peers, media, educators, role models, etc., to participate in behaviors which are unacceptable to our forefathers. How does His Holiness feel we should handle these influences? What is it about their attitudes that gave them the strength to survive their hardships that we should internalize as we face our pressures?
- (11) As Armenian American young adults, What does His Holiness feel we should be doing to honor our martrys? What can we learn from their sacrifices to guide us in our lives?
- (12) There is a shortage of clergy in America. What does His Holiness feel can be done to encourage young Armenian Americans to make the clergy a desirable option as we choose our careers?

Your Eminence, as the Executive Secretary of ACYOA, I believe I know some of the answers to these questions, but I should be strong and decisive when I face them so that I may influence our young people in the proper manner. This is an opportunity for me to learn, and also, it is an opportunity for His Holiness to stimulate the re-vitalization of ACYOA on October 24th, and whenever he is in contact with the Armenian community in America. His thoughts can be our motivation.

Respectfully yours,

Douglas H. Tashjian

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

29
10

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

October 24, 1986

His Eminence
ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN
Primate of the Armenian Diocese of America
St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Your Eminence:

This is a status report of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America. It includes the number of parishes in our Diocese, the number of organized ACYOA Chapters, the number of potential chapters, and the number of dues paid members in the ACYOA. It will also include a treasurers report, and my evaluation of the present state of the ACYOA.

At present there are approximately fifty-five parishes and mission parishes throughout the North American Diocese of the Armenian Church. Of these fifty-five parishes there are only eighteen established ACYOA Chapters in our Diocese. Realistically, I see at least ten to twelve other parishes that could immediately organize into chapters with the proper guidance. Of the eighteen organized ACYOA Chapters, here is a list of actual dues paid members and there respective parishes;

CHAPTERS	MEMBERS
Bayside, NY.....	23
Cambridge, MA.....	20
Cleveland, OH.....	23
Detroit, MI.....	66
Evanston, IL.....	17
Lawrence, MA.....	12
Lowell, MA.....	7
New Britian, CN.....	6
Northern New Jersey.....	39
Palos Heights, IL.....	17
Providence, RI.....	39
Washington, DC.....	37
Watertown, MA.....	32
Westchester, NY.....	9
Wisconsin.....	37
Worcester, MA.....	23
Wynnewood, PA.....	50

TOTAL... 457 Dues Paid ACYOA 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

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

Finally, the treasurers report is as follows; if the ACYOA pays all its current bills, the ACYOA National Budget will be at a deficit of 1,000.00.

Therefore, in summation, the ACYOA has a mere eighteen active chapters, a total active membership of 457, and a national budget of negative 1,000.00 dollars to plan and implement current programs, and develop new ones.

Evaluating the current state of the ACYOA is very simple. This organization is in a critically urgent stage, and needs a whole new plan of revitalization. I appeal to you to consider this matter very seriously.

The first priority of business should be to find a new Executive Director of the ACYOA. As the Acting Executive Secretary, I am only fulfilling the minimum requirements for the existence of the organization. A full time director is needed immediately.

As far as the number of members, I ask you, are you ready to leave the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America to 457 people. This is the actual number of members who are being trained to carry on the mission of the Armenian Church. This figure is critically low, and we need to attract both old and new members..

Finally, the issue of finances. It is time that the Armenian Church invests into their future. Any organization needs money to exist, and as you can see the ACYOA National Budget is out of money. The Central Council of the ACYOA has proposed a vigorous fund raising campaign. This campaign comes under a new program called the ACYOA National Committees. I believe this is the beginning of revitalization of the ACYOA. It is crucial that it has the support of the Primate and the whole Diocesan Council.

In closing, I hope that together we can work through this critical time. I will be available to assist the ACYOA in anyway possible, but it must be acknowledged that major reforms are needed, and they are needed now!

Most Respectfully Submitted,

Anthony J. Barsamian, Jr.
Acting Executive Secretary



Central Council

September, 1987

Dear ACYOA Member,

We ask you to complete the attached survey.

The results will be used to guide the Archbishop, the ACYOA Central Council, and the Diocesan Council as we work together to provide the programs which are best suited for the youth and the Armenian Church.

The best information we can get about the youth is from you, and your input should be a part of the future of the ACYOA and the Armenian Church.

As you know, from Statistics 101, the more responses, the more valid the information.

Thank you for your cooperation. Your opinion is very important to us.

ACYOA Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

9 Cliffway
Port Washington, NY 11050
516-883-0778

July 24, 1987

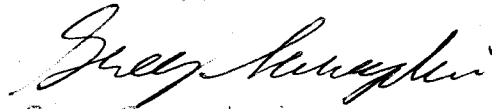
Ms. Syraun Palvetzian
Diocesan Director
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885

Dear Syraun:

Enclosed are the minutes of the July 18, 1987 Central Council meeting. Also included are copies of the March and May meetings. I apologize for the delay in producing the minutes from our March meeting. Unfortunately, a tough semester at school followed by the necessity of quickly producing the Blue Ribbon Committee meeting minutes delayed these minutes further.

Again I apologize for the delay in producing the minutes from our March meeting. I am sure you have found me to be more efficient in producing the minutes enclosed. If there are any corrections to be made please forward them to me by mail.

Sincerely,



Greg Saraydarian
ACYOA Central Council

encls.



Central Council

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

Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

9 Cliffway
Port Washington, NY 11050
(516) 883-0778

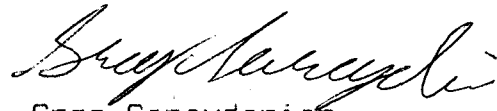
24 July 1987

His Eminence
ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN
Primate-Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885

Your Eminence:

I respectfully request the attention of Your Eminence regarding the matter of the minutes of the March 21-22, 1987; May 9, 1987; and July 18, 1987 meetings of the ACYOA Central Council. I apologize for the delay in producing the March and May minutes. Please review them at your convenience.

Most respectfully,



Greg Saraydarian
Recording Secretary
ACYOA Central Council

enclosures



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

October 5, 1988

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Mr. Douglas Tashjian
ACYOA Executive Secretary
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Re: National Mailing List

Dear Mr. Tashjian:

On Tuesday, September 13, 1988, the Detroit ACYOA contacted Stephanie Masoian in Providence, Rhode Island to request a copy of the Midwest portion of the ACYOA mailing list for the distribution of flyers regarding our annual November Dance. On Sunday, October 2, 1988, Sara Andonian contacted Stephanie again to ascertain why we had not yet received the list. Sara was informed that the request was denied from your office.

Regardless of whether it was within your "rights" to deny us access to this list, it is customary and courteous to inform requestors when a request has been denied. Since the request was denied by you and not Stephanie, you should have been the responsible party who contacted me. This incident shows a blatant lack of professionalism.

Because you neglected to contact us regarding the mailing list, we are behind in our publicity schedule for our November Dance. Every day that passes without the list increases the possibility of a financial loss due to a lack of regional publicity.

Enclosed please find a mailing list for dues paid members of the Detroit ACYOA. It is my understanding (since you neglected to contact me personally), that you require such information before we may receive our requested list. Please be informed that this list has been in the possession of the Central Council Treasurer since July 1988. Perhaps better communication is in order.

Additionally and in the future, if you could provide us with the necessary requirements to receive the mailing list, we would appreciate the information. I assumed that since we were a recognized chapter of the ACYOA and were present at the General



Detroit Seniors

St. John's Armenian Church, Southfield, Michigan 48075 Telephone: (313) 569-3405

October 5, 1988
Mr. Douglas Tashjian
Page 2

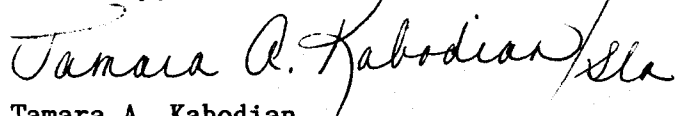
Assembly that we would receive all of the benefits represented to us. In the 1987-1988 Central Council Report, it states: "[t]he mailing list will be made available to chapters, by request, for specific needs."

Since we are enclosing the "necessary" list, I am, for the second time, requesting a Midwest mailing list (to include Canada and Philadelphia). I expect to receive this list and an appropriate invoice via overnight mail or Federal Express within seven (7) days after your receipt of this correspondence. Please mail the aforementioned list to:

Sara Andonian
2671 Roxie
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48013

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,



Tamara A. Kabodian
Chapter Chairperson
Detroit ACYOA

cc:
VIA REGULAR MAIL
Stephanie Masoian
Sara Andonian
Scott Najarian
Melina Spinuzza
Lisa Manookian
Suzie Ashjian
Laurie Onanian
Edward H. Korkoian
Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian
Rev. Fr. Haik Donikian

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

29

September 16, 1988

Dear ACYOA Chapter Chairman:

Attached is the preliminary edition of the ACYOA Membership Handbook, which was given to all delegates at the recent ACYOA General Assembly in Providence, RI. The Handbook is part of the 1989 ACYOA Membership Drive currently underway and coordinated by the ACYOA Central Council. Along with this Handbook are guidelines for a membership drive and a draft of a letter to be sent in a National mailing. These were also distributed to the delegates.

As the ACYOA leader in your area, we hope this Handbook and the supplemental materials will provide enough information and resources to be of assistance to you in helping us to promote the Drive.

If you have any questions or if I can be of service to you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed in the Handbook. You may also contact ACYOA Executive Secretary, Douglas Tashjian, at 212-686-0710.

Sincerely,

Lisa D. Manookian

Lisa D. Manookian
Vice Chairman
ACYOA Central Council

/1
Attachments



Central Council

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA, 630 SECOND AVE

Syraon:

*I am attaching
copies of all 3 letters
that I am using in
this mailing. Most
of the Chairmen, delegates
& clergy received
these books at the
Assembly. Those
receiving their handbooks
now were not present.*



ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

Central Council

630 Second Avenue

New York, New York 10016

212 686-0710

October 21, 1988

Tamara Kabodian
47 Shagbark Drive
Rochester Hills, MI 48063

Dear Tamara,

In reference to your letter of October 5th, which surprised me, it is apparent that there is a need to review the requirements necessary for a Chapter to receive an ACYOA regional or national mailing list.

There is clearly, and without exception, an authorized way to make a request for any such list. Neither Scott nor I can understand why Sara Andonian did not follow it. Sara has just completed a two-year term on Central Council, and in her first year she was responsible for the ACYOA national mailing list which encompassed both regional and national mailings. It was understood, and indeed promoted by her, that these lists could only be obtained by requests made directly the Central Council or the ACYOA Executive Secretary.

It was also public knowledge that the national mailing list was being virtually recreated and then computerized with the assistance of the Sports Weekend Committee. However, a few Chapters did not comply with our repeated attempts to get their updated mailing lists, Detroit being one of them.

Tamara, letters were written to you on 11/02, 11/23, and 2/04

specifically requesting a copy of the updated Detroit list (copies enclosed). Neither the Sports Weekend Committee, Central Council, nor I received a response to any of them. We did not ask you to create a new mailing list; only to review, edit, and update the old one which consisted of names we had been contacting since well before June, 1987.

Consequently, the Sports Weekend Committee reported that we received many calls from young adults in Detroit who had not received information on the National Sports Weekend. We also received many returned envelopes during the past year with Detroit addresses. I think you will agree that this had a costly impact on the ACYOA, and it is an indication that the Detroit Chapter is not reaching many young adults who, despite lack of communication, called for information and participated in the National Sports Weekend. It also means that Detroit missed out on opportunities to recruit new members, and unfortunately, these young adults were not informed of other regional or national ACYOA programs. I believe that you will agree that it is our mission to reach out to all Armenian young adults in all parishes.

Nevertheless, even without the complete cooperation of all Chapters, we corrected and collected addresses and managed to produce a much more accurate national mailing list, including one for the Detroit Chapter. We included address changes from returned mail, requests from potential members, and the names of 15 young adults from Detroit who purchased National Sports Weekend package plans. These names had not previously appeared on the Detroit list.

At the General Assembly in Providence, we announced on two occasions, in the presence of the Detroit delegation, that the national mailing list was in need of final editing and until it was completed it would not be ready for distribution. This announcement applied equally to all ACYOA Chapters (Detroit copy enclosed). Again, all we were asking the Detroit delegation to do was to follow-up with a review and update of the amended Detroit

list, nothing more.

Following the General Assembly, during a conversation with Myles Couyoumjian, who had called me on other ACYOA business, I reminded him about the update of the Detroit Chapter list and its requirement before the ACYOA could release a regional mailing list. Myles, as you know, attended the General Assembly and serves as the Detroit Chapter Vice-Chairman. So, Tamara, I cannot understand how you were not apprised of the proper procedure regarding the distribution of the ACYOA mailing list, nor can I comprehend how you were under the impression that the Detroit Chapter's mailing list request was indiscriminately ignored. Truthfully, the Chapter's request was not denied. Stephanie Masoian, after discussing the matter with me, returned Sara's telephone call and reiterated the above facts.

Hopefully, to allay any future confusion and misunderstanding, I have spoken to Myles and he has assured me that he will work with you, your Pastor, and other members of the Detroit Chapter to complete the mailing list. This will obviously not take place in time to make all the changes and send you the completed labels for your November Dance. However, we want to assist you; therefore, Linda Minassian will send you the present Midwest mailing labels, including Philadelphia and Canada, by express mail as soon as she completes the most recent corrections generated by our September ACYOA national mailing.

I trust this clarifies the situation and that we can avoid any such misunderstandings in the future.

Sincere regards,

Douglas Tashjian
ACYOA Executive Secretary

Enclosures

cc:
Very Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian
Central Council

October 27, 1988

Mr. Scott Najarian
8A Robertson Road
Worcester, Massachusetts 01602

Dear Mr. Najarian:

We are pleased to inform you that at its recent meeting of October 21, 1988 the Diocesan Council confirmed the new ACYOA Central Council as elected at the ACYOA General Assembly. Congratulations and best wishes were extended to all as the Central Council begins a new year of service.

It is very gratifying for us as well to witness leadership and commitment that the Council and those who work with you in guiding the national ACYOA so enthusiastically reflect. We know it is no easy task to coordinate the efforts of a national organization and you are to be commended for all you have done and will continue to do.

God bless you and may His Spirit always imbue your work with wisdom and grace.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

October 18, 1988

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate, Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue, New York, NY.

Your Eminence,

The ACYOA General Assembly convened August 31-September 2, 1988. The Assembly elected the following new members to the ACYOA Central Council: Suzie Ashjian (Westchester) and Laurie Onanian (Watertown). The Central Council met on September 2, 1988 and elected the following officers: Chairman-Scott Najarian (Worcester), Vice-Chairman-Lisa Manookian (Wynnewood), Treasurer-Melina Spinuzza (Evanston), Recording Secretary-Laurie Onanian and Corresponding Secretary-Suzie Ashjian.

Your Eminence, as President of the Diocesan Council, the ACYOA requests the consideration of the Diocesan Council to confirm these nominees.

Most Respectfully,



Scott Najarian
ACYOA Central Council Chairman

Approved

*Scott -
2/2/88*



Central Council

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

September 28, 1988

Dear Friends:

Two years ago, the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America (ACYOA) embarked on a venture to expand the foundations of our Organization. In order to create new and revive existing programs, we formed a group of ambitious young adults to raise funds. They succeeded in their quest and gave us a new beginning.

Two new programs, the ACYOA Cultural Weekend and the ACYOA Leadership Training Weekend, were implemented last year and became huge successes. As a result, our program schedule has been re-designed and expanded this year to include two cultural programs, two leadership seminars and two retreats. Enclosed is our Calendar of Events for the upcoming year.

What You Should Know About The ACYOA

- *** Membership entitles you to discounts on package rates and additional incentives associated with our national events. Membership is required for athletic participation in the National Sports Weekend. Membership is also required for the cultural and leadership programs as they are subsidized by the ACYOA Central Council.
- *** The ACYOA is the only organization which encompasses all aspects of our Armenian heritage. Programs with religious, cultural, educational, and social tones provide for a more balanced equilibrium.
- *** The ACYOA provides opportunities for personal development and leadership.
- *** The ACYOA provides opportunities for all young adults to form lasting friendships with Armenians from all over the United States and Canada.
- *** As a member, you will receive a copy of the ACYOA Membership Handbook. The Handbook provides more

September 28, 1988
Page 2

information on the organization, its programs and includes the ACYOA National Membership Directory.

We are very proud of our accomplishments over the past several years, but we realize there is a vital need to promote and maintain our rich Armenian heritage and strive so that our programs reach all young adults and carry forth our message to those of the next generation. This is our challenge and we invite you to join us in meeting it.

If you are not currently a member of the ACYOA and are 18 or older, fill out the enclosed Membership Application and return it, along with your dues, to the chairman of the local chapter nearest you. A list of all ACYOA Chapter Chairmen has been enclosed for your convenience. Membership dues are \$10.00 annually and are in effect until December 31, 1989.

So, why delay? Join today!

Sincerely,

Scott Najarian
Chairman
ACYOA Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

November 20, 1987

Dear Friend of the ACYOA:

On behalf of the ACYOA Central Council, the ACYOA National Finance Committee, all ACYOA chapters, and all ACYOA members, I extend a warm "Thank-You" to you for your contribution towards our 1987 fund raising campaign.

Because of you and many others, over \$23,000.00 is now being invested towards a mission program, an annual cultural weekend, a leadership training program, college outreach programs, the improvement of current publications, and in our national committees--where these programs and much more will be implemented and disseminated by ACYOA members who have been challenged by your concern.

It has been said quite often that "it is in giving that you receive." It is our hope that your gift will enable us to soar "hyer" than ever before as we reach to attain our goals with a level of efficiency that we can all be proud of. Then, maybe we can give something back to you and something to the next generation--through our achievements--for what you have given us today.

Very truly yours,



Lisa D. Manookian
1986-87 Chairman
ACYOA National Finance Committee

/ldm



Central Council

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA, 630 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016-4885 212 686-0710

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

3467 Whirlaway Drive
Northbrook, Illinois 60062
(312)564-4431

October 13, 1988

Tamara Kabodian
Detroit ACYOA Chairman
47 Shagbark Drive
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48063
(313)651-1168

Dear Tammy,

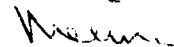
Hi! How are things in Detroit? I hope that this note finds you well. Life is fine in Chicago. We are all settling into our fall routine. Send my regards to the 'gang'.

I am writing concerning our Midwest Regional Meeting. We would like to hold it once again in Detroit in conjunction with your November Dance. As in the past, the meeting would be some time Saturday during the day.

I hope that this request fits in with your chapter's weekend plans. Please let me know as soon as possible as I need to plan around your weekend agenda.

Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you soon. Take care.

Sincerely,



Melina Spinuzza
Midwest Regional Representative



Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

3467 Whirlaway Drive
Northbrook, IL 60062
(312)564-4431

Edward Marootian
Cambridge ACYOA
15 Jeffrey Road
Arlington, MA 02174

September 28, 1988

Dear Edward,

I am writing in regard to the report for the 1988 Archbishop's Tournament. I haven't yet received either a copy of the report or the national portion of the proceeds. Is there a problem? Can I help in any way?

Barring any major problems, I would expect to have a report in hand no later than October 14, 1988. Please understand that our national programming depends on the proceeds from the national events. The Assembly has planned a very full year for the ACYOA. In order to achieve our goals, we need to run efficiently, both administratively and financially.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Take care.

cc: Central Council
Executive Secretary

Sincerely,



Melina Spinuzza
ACYOA National Treasurer



Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

3467 Whirlaway Drive
Northbrook, IL 60062
(312)564-4431

Harry Tutunjian
Watervliet ACYOA
630 Hoosick Road
Troy, NY 12180

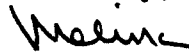
September 28, 1988

Dear Harry,

Hi! How are you? Have you recovered from Sports Weekend? I am fine. I am writing concerning the report for the 1988 Anniversary Ball. Barring any major problems, I would hope to have the report in hand, including the financial details and any applicable proceeds, by October 31, 1988. This would be in keeping with the 90 day rule passed at the General Assembly.

If there are any problems, let me know. Say hello to the 'gang'. When are you guys coming to Evanston for a friendly game of volleyball? Take care.

Sincerely,



Melina Spinuzza
ACYOA National Treasurer

cc: Central Council
Executive Secretary



Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

3467 Whirlaway Drive
Northbrook, IL 60062
(312)564-4431

Stephanie Masoian
Providence ACYOA
108 Whitewood Drive
Cranston, RI 02910
(401)943-6045

September 28, 1988

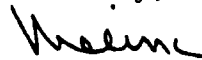
Dear Stephanie,

Hi! I hope that all is well in Providence. When I talked with you last night, I forgot to mention two things:

- 1) The \$1,000.00 loan from the National Treasury for Sports Weekend is due. If you could send this to me as soon as possible, I would appreciate it.
- 2) I want to remind you that, as per the General Assembly, the report from Sports Weekend (including the financial records and the national portion of the proceeds) is due within 90 days of the event. That would make the due date 12/5/88.

If there are any problems with these items, let me know. I will send you a copy of the dues paid membership list as soon as I'm finished typing. Take care.

Sincerely,



Melina Spinuzza
ACYOA National Treasurer

cc: Central Council
Executive Secretary



Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

3467 Whirlaway Drive
Northbrook, IL 60062
(312)564-4431

Maritza Armagon
Greenfield A.C.Y.O.A. Seniors
6249 Parkview Road
Greendale, WI 53129
(414)421-2628

September 28, 1988

Dear Maritza,

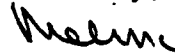
Hi! How's life in Wisconsin? I am fine. I think we have finally recovered from Sports Weekend. I'm sorry that I wasn't able to attend your meeting with Doug Tashjian last weekend. I understand that things are coming together for the Leadership Weekend. Can I be of any help?

I have enclosed an advance of \$1000.00 to help defray some of the initial costs. Keep me updated on the financial picture. I am also sending an abridged copy of the 1988 Hartford Leadership Weekend. Maybe this will be of some help. Please encourage your chapter to keep detailed financial records as I will require a financial report after the weekend. (I am sure you realize the importance of this - having served on the budget committee!)

I appreciate your help and hope that you will contact me if there is anything I can help with. Take care.

cc: Central Council
Executive Secretary

Sincerely,



Melina Spinuzza
ACYOA National Treasurer



Central Council

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

October 11, 1988

His Eminence Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate-Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York

Your Eminence,

As previously arranged with you at our September meeting in Providence, Rhode Island, the ACYOA Central Council will be meeting on October 21 and 22 at the Diocesan Center in New York City. Enclosed please find an agenda for the meeting. Central Council members have been requested to plan to arrive in order for our meeting to begin at 6:00PM Friday. Due to your prior commitments on Saturday, we shall discuss those issues that would be of most interest to you on Friday evening.

Most Respectfully,



Scott Najarian
ACYOA Central Council Chairman



Central Council

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



#1

29
1D

23B

ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

Central Council

630 Second Avenue

New York, New York 10016

212 686-0710

Dear

At the 1987 General Assembly held in Detroit, I was elected to the ACYOA Central Council and assigned as the Mid-Atlantic Regional Representative. As your representative, my responsibilities are two-fold:

- (1) To help strengthen the chapters in our region and bring us together to meet, learn from and share with each other and work together for the betterment of our Church and organization; and
- (2) To work with you and your chapter to ensure your continued growth through service to your own parish.

However, I will need your support and cooperation in order to do this. An open line of communication must be kept. If your chapter has a problem that may require my assistance, please contact me. In addition to myself, you will be hearing from my fellow Council members. Please respond as best you can as your support, cooperation and communication will enable us to complete our responsibilities with a "hyer" level of efficiency.

Within the next few weeks, I will be in touch with you. In the meantime, I am enclosing a list of contacts in our region as well as some general information for your use. Please set aside some time to review this information as we will be discussing many of the issues at our regional conference, which I am trying to schedule for late February or early March. I wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Lisa D. Manookian
ACYOA Central Council

Enclosure

cc: Primate
Parish Priest
Parish Council Chairman
Executive Secretary
Central Council

PS: The ACYOA Executive Secretary, Doug Tashjian, can be reached at the Diocese. If you cannot reach me for any reason, please do not hesitate to contact him.

Armenian Church Youth Organization of America

File

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

November 3, 1988

Suzie Ashjian
50 Coolidge Ave.
Yonkers, NY 10701
(914) 963-0889

Greg Arpajian
National Fundraising Committee
1127 Firethorn
Seven Hills, Ohio 44131

Dear Greg,

At our first council meeting on October 21st, the Central Council reviewed the initial phase of your fundraising endeavor. On behalf of the Council, I wish to inform you that the 1988 National Fundraising Committee, as appointed by Lisa Manookian and yourself has been approved.

Please know that the Council is in full support of your efforts and should you need any assistance, do not hesitate to contact Lisa Manookian (Central Council liason) or Doug Tashjian.

Good luck in your endeavor for the coming year!

Sincerely,

Suzie Ashjian

Suzie Ashjian
ACYOA Central Council

cc: Central Council
Executive Secretary
Fundraising Committee
Miss Siran Palvetzian-Diocesan Executive Director



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

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

9 Cliffway
Port Washington, NY 11050
516-883-0778

23 January 1987

V. Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Najarian
Acting Vicar General
Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885
212-686-0710

Reverend Father Haigazoun:

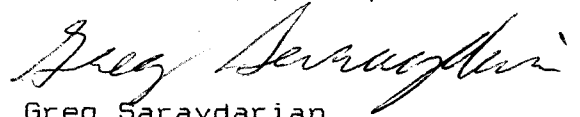
I am happy to say the minutes of our meeting on January 10-11, 1987 are finished. There was a lot of information to go through so please go over it carefully. I will keep a running list of the Certificates of Appreciation we have decided to award and bring it with me to our next meeting. I have also enclosed the minutes from the January 9th ANFC meeting.

Tony and I braved the cold and snow to visit Watervliet on the 18th. Both of us are enthusiastic about this new chapters potential. They will remain a part of the New England Region.

Now that the spring semester is about to begin I will not be able to put as much time into the programs I have been working on. Between now and our meeting in March I will concentrate on setting up the guidelines for the Advisory Committee. I will also keep in touch with Greg Kumkumian on the Archbishop's Tournament. I also hope to have the structure for transferring our mailing list to the Diocese completed.

Remember I like to hear your comments, both good and bad (I prefer good of course).

Respectfully yours,



Greg Saraydarian
ACYOA Central Council
Recording Secretary

encls.



Central Council

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

9 Cliffway
Port Washington, NY 11050
516-883-0778

28 January 1987

Lisa Manookian
ANFC Chairman
2007 County Line Road
Ardmore, PA 19103

Dear Lisa:

Enclosed are the minutes of the ACYOA National Finance Committee (ANFC) meeting of January 9, 1987. There is one correction to be noted. On page 4 under C Mailings, paragraph 6 "The floater was..." should read: "The floater should be sent by the individual sellers in conjunction with a personal cover letter." Please read them over carefully, as there is a lot of important information about the procedure for selling the raffle tickets. If you have any questions please call Lisa Manookian at home 215-649-8426 or work 215-875-4000.

The next scheduled meeting of the ANFC is during the Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Annual Basketball Tournament being hosted by the Washington ACYOA chapter. I urge you all to attend the weekends events and hope to see you at the meeting.

The future of the ACYOA is in our hands, let's work together to make it the best!

Sincerely,

Greg Saraydarian
ACYOA Central Council

enc.
cc. Vicar General
Diocesan Council Liaison

29C
A189B

April 5, 1988

The Very Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Najarian, Pastor
St. Stepanos Armenian Church
1184 Ocean Avenue
Elberon, NJ 07740

Dear Fr. Haigazoun:Arnak:

We would be grateful for your presence at a special meeting of the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area clergy scheduled for April 13, 1988 at 12:00 noon (a luncheon meeting). On this occasion we will discuss two urgent concerns.

1. The present status of Karabagh.
2. The absence of youth in active parish life.

Kindly call our office to confirm your attendance. We look forward to seeing you and extend God's blessings to you and your loved ones.

Krisdos hariav ee merelotz.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

April 6, 1988

The Reverend Fr. Mardiros Chevian
Rector, St. Nersess Armenian Seminary
150 Stratton Road
New Rochelle, NY 10804

Dear Fr. Mardiros:

We would be grateful for your presence at a special meeting of the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area clergy scheduled for April 13, 1988 at 12:00 noon (a luncheon meeting). On this occasion we will discuss two urgent concerns.

1. The present status of Karabagh.
2. The absence of youth in active parish life.

Kindly call our office to confirm your attendance. We look forward to seeing you and extend God's blessings to you and your loved ones.

Krisdos haryav ee merelotz.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

29C
989B

April 5, 1988

The Very Rev. Fr. Houssig Bagdasian, Pastor
St. Mary Armenian Church
200 West Mount Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, NJ 07039

Dear Fr. Houssig:

We would be grateful for your presence at a special meeting of the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area clergy scheduled for April 13, 1988 at 12:00 noon (a luncheon meeting). On this occasion we will discuss two urgent concerns.

1. The present status of Karabagh.
2. The absence of youth in active parish life.

Kindly call our office to confirm your attendance. We look forward to seeing you and extend God's blessings to you and your loved ones.

Krisdos hariav ee merelotz.

Prayerfully,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church
4125 FESSENDEN STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20016

REV. VERTANES KALAYJIAN, PASTOR
TELEPHONE: (202) 363-1923

Jan. 16, 1988

Dear Douglas,

I am enclosing the literature I have mailed to the Young Adults of the Parish (Approx. 100-125) since Sept. 1987.

The jury is still out, but judging from the response so far, average attendance Approx. 20 young adults, is satisfactory.

I do hope that eventually, all parishes, or those which have ACYOA SR. groups active, will adopt "The Third Sunday - Young Adults' Sunday" as an ongoing program.

The scheduled activities sound great. I will attempt to encourage participation. Best wishes.

Prayerfully

V. Kalayjian



21 76 Street
North Bergen, N.J. 07047
February 21, 1988

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Soorpazan Hayr,

After returning from an incredibly rewarding and fulfilling weekend sponsored by the Senior ACYOA, I wanted to write to thank you and all others responsible for all your help and encouragement. These are exactly the types of programs the Armenian Community needs at all levels to foster awareness, debate and, above all, love for our culture and faith. The need for inspiring speakers who can motivate, challenge and give direction to us as to the future of the Armenian Church and Community is urgent, particularly in areas which can be potentially dull unless properly presented. This could be augmented by the use of teaching aids such as maps, samplings of an author's writing, class handouts, visual aids, films, slides, demonstrations, subject summations, and suggested readings.

Your presentation of Gomidas was particularly arousing because it captured a fine balance of live demonstration with the pertinent information it conveyed. Proceeding also in a very interesting fashion, Dr. Dennis Papazian and Rev. Karekin Kasparian were highly successful and well received. This method can be applied in Art, Architecture, Music, Literature, Geography, History, etc. And rather than skimming over vast chunks of Armenian History, we should perhaps savor its various periods with their unique architecture, poetry, artists, kings, and clergy. We can then take with us a well-defined concept of who we are and where we have come from, so that we can best make plans for where we are going to.

Respectfully,

Gary Aram Assadourian

Gary Aram Assadourian

*Doug.
Thank You*

8240 Belle Vernon Drive
Novelty, Ohio 44072
February 23, 1988

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese Of The Armenian Church Of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016-4885

Dear Archbishop Manoogian,

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Cleveland ACYOA, to thank you and the Diocese for being such gracious hosts during the Cultural Weekend. All of us found the weekend to be not only interesting and educational, but uplifting and rewarding. We feel very fortunate to have had such an opportunity to learn more about our Armenian heritage and appreciate the generous comforts we were provided with throughout the weekend.

We are all in unanimous agreement when it comes to deciding who gave the most entertaining seminar! Our knowledge on Gomidas Vartabed has expanded to a point that it is easy to understand now why he is a genius. Sunday evening was a very special time for us as we felt privileged to be in your presence not only in a educational manner, but in a social one as well. We also cannot express to you enough our heartfelt gratitude for treating us to that delicious mezza at Dardenell's restaurant.

Unfortunately, many of us left early on Monday morning and did not get an opportunity to join in on your birthday celebration, but please accept our belated "Happy Birthday" and may the upcoming year bring you much happiness and health.

Sincerely,

Jill A. Arslanian

Jill A. Arslanian
Cleveland ACYOA Seniors

SAMPLE ONLY - NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

Mr. & Mrs. Hagop Doeian
street address
city, state, zip

Dear Hagop and Zabelle:

It is on behalf of the ACYOA that I write to you today. As you know, this fine organization has undoubtedly affected each of our lives in many different ways. For those of us who were members, the ACYOA has provided us with memories and friendships that last a lifetime. (Many of us met our spouses at ACYOA functions!) For others, it is an organizations to which our children belong, involving them in the Armenian community and giving them the opportunity to grow, learn and participate. For the church community as a whole, the ACYOA is the organization that assures us that our priceless faith and heritage will be carried on by future generations.

The current leaders of the ACYOA are committed to training future church leaders, teaching religious education, and instilling in our young adults a sense of pride in Armenian history and culture. The success of their 1988 AYCOA HYE HERITAGE series is described in the enclosed brochure. If these young people are willing to give their time and energy toward educating their peers, the least we can do is provide lasting financial support. It is our responsibility to help develop the hearts and minds of our Armenian youth.

Toward this end, my wife, Helen and I are committed to establishing the ACYOA Endowment Fund, a subset of the Armenian Church Endowment Fund. We ask that you take a moment to consider the importance of this endeavor and join us by sending your gift today. Your contribution will be a worthwhile, lasting investment in the future of our youth and in the future of the church.

Sincerely,

Edward Mardigian

HEADLINE: INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: ACYOA HYE HERITAGE

"Most importantly, you must have visions and goals. Then you must have the enthusiasm and the energy to carry a project or concept forward."
-Barry Zorthian

We are all familiar with the visions and goals of the Armenian Church in America. For the past four decades, the Armenian Christian Youth Organization of America (ACYOA) has been instrumental in developing committed church leaders and faithful church members who strive to maintain these goals. It is, however, becoming increasingly difficult to reach young American-Armenians who are being immersed in mainstream America and the values it offers.

Our young people surely will accomplish much, but we must instill in them pride and understanding of our faith and heritage. They should draw upon Armenian values when making life decisions concerning their families and their futures, thereby preserving and perpetuating the visions and goals of our community.

Members of the ACYOA have provided the energy and enthusiasm necessary to develop two programs, both of which are part of the new ACYOA HYE HERITAGE educational series: The Cultural Weedend and The Christian Leadership Weekend. Each attracted 50 participants. The establishment of these high quality religious, educational and cultural programs which reach out to our youth across the country, has proven to be an effective means of conveying the values and beliefs of the Armenian Church.

In addition to energy and enthusiasm, programs of this caliber require financial support. Frequency and geographic diversity of the programs are necessary. To insure the continuation of ACYOA HYE HERITAGE series, it is imperative that a lasting means of financial support be established. An endowment, under the umbrella of the ACEF, would generate the income necessary to fund these programs annually.

The importance of this endeavor is clear. The ACYOA must educate young American-Armenians so that they might become leaders and active participants in our churches. Please make your gift to the ACYOA Endowment Fund today. Help keep the visions and goals of the Armenian Church alive. Our future depends upon your support.

TEAR OFF

consider putting mardigian
photo and endorsement quote
here...

Marc Janigian, Providence, RI: "As a result of the weekends, I feel much more knowledgeable and aware of Armenian issues, religion, history and culture. I not only feel proud to be Armenian, but also feel compelled to inspire and inform others of what I hve learned."

Pam Hajinian, Springfield, PA: "Unlike some of today's Armenian cultural endeavors, which tend to concentrate effort on fueling the emotions rather than addressing present-day concerns, the approach of the ACYOA Cultural Weekend appeals to the intellect without neglecting the heart."

Margarite Davidian, Cleveland, OH: "It wasn't just the lectures that were so interesting. What made this such a rewarding experience were the open, honest and straightforward discussions and the dialogue among the participants."