



from the office of the

**Diocese of the Armenian Church of America**

630 Second Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016, tel: (212) 686-0710

# news:

Contact: Anthony Barsamian  
(212) 686-0710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ACYOA ARMENIAN CULTURAL WEEKEND TO BE HELD IN WORCESTER

The Fourth Annual ACYOA Cultural Weekend will be held in Worcester, MA on Presidents' Day Weekend, February 15th through 18, 1991. This year's Cultural Weekend will explore "100 Years of Armenian Church and Community Life in America."

Forty participants will join together in Worcester, MA—the site of the first Armenian Church in America, the Armenian Church of Our Saviour—to discuss the evolution of the Armenian Church and community in the United States. The weekend has special significance to Worcester, as the Armenian Church of Our Saviour is this year celebrating the centennial of its consecration.

The 1991 Cultural Weekend will include classroom seminars, as well as a "hands on" approach to Armenian culture. Excursions have been planned throughout New England to examine the oldest Armenian communities in America. Other activities include a tour of the new Armenian Library and Museum of America (ALMA) in Watertown, and visits to the Armenian Churches and community centers of Greater Boston.

This year's lecturers will include Dr. Richard Hovanessian, Professor of Near Eastern Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles; and The Very Rev. Dr. Krikor Maksoudian, Director of the Krikor and Clara Zohrab Information Center at the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America in New York City.

The cost of the entire weekend package—including meals, hotel accommodations and tuition—is \$90 for ACYOA members, and \$100 for non-members.

Applications for this year's ACYOA Cultural Weekend can be obtained through:

Laurie Onanian  
ACYOA Central Council  
650 Huntington Avenue, Apt. 24J  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 734-6140

-more-

Or

ACYOA Office  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
630 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10016-4885  
(212) 686-0710.

Space is limited, so please apply early.

—1/2/91



from the office of the

**Diocese of the Armenian Church of America**

630 Second Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016, tel: (212) 686-0710

# news:

Contact: Christopher H. Zakian  
(212) 686-0710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ACYOA CELEBRATES 45TH ANNIVERSARY IN BOCA RATON

The 45th anniversary of the Armenian Church Youth Organization was celebrated in grand style on January 24-26, in Boca Raton, FL. Members and alumni from throughout the Diocese joined in the festivities.

The highlight of the weekend was the Anniversary Ball, held on Saturday evening, at the Mardigian Hall of the St. David Armenian Church. Prior to the dinner and dance, a hrashapar service led by His Eminence Bishop Khajag Barsamian was held. This marked the first time that the Primate presided over a service at the St. David Church. Other participants included His Eminence Archbishop Sion Manoogian, the Very Reverend Father Vasken Tatoyan, and the Rev. Dr. Zaven Arzoumanian. Following the Service a cocktail party was given for all the banquet attendees. More than 250 attended the banquet, while an additional 150 arrived for the dance.

During the program, welcoming remarks were delivered by Anniversary Ball Co-Chair Rena Jebejian, Anniversary Ball Treasurer Melanie Mikaelian, and Rev. Fr. Arzoumanian, pastor of the St. David Church. Mr. Khachador Kazarian—an ACYOA alumnus—was master of ceremonies. Central Council Chair Lisa Manookian acknowledged the accomplishments of the ACYOA during the past 45 years. She also thanked Edward and Helen Mardigian for their great love and support of the organization. She then presented to them a gift on behalf of all ACYOA members: a Tiffany emerald-cut crystal paperweight, which was inscribed "Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mardigian—Jewels of the ACYOA."

In addition to the speakers, musical selections in Armenian and English were performed by Shami Arslanian and Steve Weisbert and the Karatsayn Singers. The Roger Krikorian Ensemble performed during the dance, with Shami and Steve belting out top hits from the 50's to the 90's at intermission.

On Sunday, His Eminence Bishop Barsamian celebrated the Divine Liturgy, during which he ordained three seminarians—Dikran Bohajian, Robert Boyajian, and Krikor Doudoukjian—to the rank of Subdeacon. The church was filled to capacity. Following services, a delicious Farewell Brunch was served.

—2/26/91



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

# news!

Contact: Christopher H. Zakian  
(212) 686-0710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ACYOA ARMENIAN STUDIES TOUR TO DEPART JUNE 19TH

The Armenian Studies Program—the educational tour of Armenia sponsored by the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America—will depart from St. Vartan Cathedral on June 19th, 1991. The tour group will travel to Copenhagen Denmark, Moscow and Leningrad, and will study four weeks in Armenia. The all-inclusive cost for this year's tour is \$1800.

This year's group will hold discussions with Armenian University students and young professionals in Yerevan. They will also distribute religious supplies to villages, and interact extensively with the people of the motherland.

The ACYOA has undertaken an effort to raise funds for art supplies needed by young adult artists in Armenia. The group will present these supplies to those young adults along with the church materials greatly needed.

The tour group will also experience "hands on" Armenian Life and Culture. They will have the opportunity to visit Armenia's ancient churches and monasteries, museums, Opera House, and other historical sites, while interacting with their fellow Armenians.

The Armenian Studies Program has been bringing young Armenian from America back to their roots for twenty years; there is still room for those who wish to take part in this exciting experience. For application information, please contact the ACYOA Office, 630 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10016; (212) 686-0710.

—4/15/91



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

# news!

Contact: Christopher H. Zakian  
(212) 686-0710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ACYOA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND SPORTS WEEKEND TO BE HELD IN HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

The 1991 ACYOA National Assembly and Sports Weekend will be held at the Farmington Marriott hosted by St. George ACYOA of Hartford. The convention will begin on Wednesday, August 29, 1991, with the opening of the ACYOA Annual Assembly presided over by the Primate, His Grace Bishop Khajag Barsamian.

The one hundred delegates including clergy and youth leaders will discuss contemporary issues relating to Armenian Church Religion, Culture and Education. The assembly sessions attract young adults from all over North America, including the Western Diocese and Canada. Organizers hope that the convention will again be honored by the presence of His Eminence Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian, Primate of the Western Diocese and His Grace Bishop Hovnan Derderian, Primate of Canada.

The Sports Weekend will begin on Friday, August 30, 1991, with Hartford's traditional "Cafe Hagop." This evening includes an Armenian buffet and live entertainment.

On Saturday, August 31, the Sports Competition begins. Teams from as far as Los Angeles and Vancouver will compete against their sister chapters from the Mid-West and East Coast in basketball and volleyball competition and many other sports. On Saturday evening Armenian Music will be provided by Richard Berberian and his ensemble featuring Mal Barsamian on clarinet.

The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Sunday, September 1, as young adults come to worship together at the St. George Armenian Church in Hartford. The final team competition for the weekend will also take place on this day, as will the Sports Weekend Banquet, which will feature Mr. Richard Hagopian and the "Kef Time" Ensemble.

On Monday, September 2, a traditional "Armenian Farewell Picnic" will again feature Richard Hagopian and the "Kef Time" Ensemble.

For more details and convention package information, contact Christine K. Shooshan, Co-Chairperson, St. George Armenian Church, 22 White Street, Hartford, Connecticut; (203) 534-56547.

—4/26/91



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

# news:

Contact: Christopher H. Zakian  
(212) 686-0710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 1991 ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

This year's Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Invitational Tournament was held May 10-May 12 at the Loew's Glenpointe Hotel in Teaneck and at Dwight Englewood High School Gym in Englewood, New Jersey. The St. Thomas ACOYA acted as hosts, in conjunction with the 89th Annual Diocesan Assembly. The event was sponsored by the ACOYA Central Council.

Social events included two dances at the Hotel and a Mothers' Day *Yertak Parov* lunch at the St. Thomas Church grounds in Tenafly. The weekend provided an opportunity for the youth of the Diocese to meet and become acquainted in a social and sports atmosphere.

This year's Tournament consisted of twelve mens' basketball and four co-ed volleyball teams. Participants included teams from churches around the Diocese, including the St. Thomas, the St. Stepanos Church of Elberon, NJ; the St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Church of Wynnewood, PA; the St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Church of Providence, RI; the St. Leon Church of Fairlawn, NJ; the Holy Martyrs Church of Bayside, NY; the St. Mary Church of Livingston, NJ; the St. Mary Church of Washington, D.C; and the St. Peter Church of Watervliet, NY.

His Grace Bishop Khajag Barsamian presented trophies to the winning teams. The team from Holy Martyrs Church took first place in basketball. Second place in basketball went to St. Sahag and St. Mesrob of Wynnewood, PA.

First place in volleyball went to the team from the St. Mary parish of Washington, D.C; and second place in volleyball went to the St. Peter Church athletes.

The success of the weekend is attributable to the hard work of the St. Thomas host parish co-chairpersons, Chris Jamgochian and Karen Saraydarian, as well as their subcommittee members, Darren Amerkian, Glenda Arslanian, Linda Atamian, Levon Altiparmakian, Henry Hagopian, David Kasparian, Thomas Kasparian, Andrew Martaian, and John Zakar. Lynda Chagachbanian served as ACYOA Central Council Liaison.

The host parish took great pleasure in welcoming all its guests from their fellow ACYOA's and look forward to next year's Tournament.

—5/15/91



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

# news:

Contact: Christopher H. Zakian  
(212) 686-0710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ACYOA CHAIRPERSONS MEET IN WATERTOWN, MA

Thirty-five young adult leaders of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America met at St. James Armenian Church in Watertown, MA, on Saturday, June 8, to discuss the new directions for youth ministry in the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America.

Twenty chapters and the Central Council of the ACYOA gathered at the behest of His Grace, Bishop Khajag Barsamian. The meeting followed on the heels of the Primate's announcement at the 89th Diocesan Assembly in May of his intention to restructure the various educational and youth related Diocesan departments under the banner of a unified Department of Youth Ministry (DYM). The Primate's objective for calling this meeting of young adult leaders of the Armenian Church was to initiate dialogue with them and to understand their needs and concerns. Recommendations and considerations which arose during the discussion will be considered as a part of the restructuring.

Comprehensive discussions about the DYM and its relation to other Diocesan educational departments continued throughout the all day program. The chapter chairpersons and young adult leaders expressed the need for more young adult coordinators at the parish and regional levels. A priority of the new Department of Youth Ministry will be to have coordinators interact more in the parishes with young adults and to implement educational programs. A suggestion was made that special programs be implemented to educate non-Armenian spouses about the Armenian Church and its doctrines.

The ACYOA chapters represented at this meeting included: Watertown, MA; Cambridge, MA; Worcester, MA; Springfield, MA; Hartford, CT; New Britain, CT; Bayside, NY; Westchester, NY; Watervliet, NY; Tenafly, NJ; Fairlawn, NJ; Wynnewood, PA; Washington, DC; Boca Raton, FL; Cleveland, OH; Detroit, MI; Evanston, IL; Racine, WI; Greenfield, WI; Richmond, VI.

Discussion of this meeting's topics will continue at the ACYOA Assembly hosted by the St. George ACYOA chapter of Hartford, Connecticut. The convention will be held at the Marriott in Farmington, Connecticut, on August 28-30, 1991.

—6/25/91



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

# news:

Contact: Christopher H. Zakian  
(212) 686-0710

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ACYOA REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CANADIAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION

Representatives of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America traveled to Vancouver, British Columbia to join in the National Assembly of their Canadian counterparts. This Assembly of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of Canada (ACYOC) convened during the weekend of June 27 through July 1.

The ACYOA observers had been dispatched to Canada by His Grace Bishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America. In his advice to the delegates prior to their departure, Bishop Barsamian reminded the ACYOA observers that beyond their official duties, they were acting as ambassadors of goodwill, whose mission is to foster a spirit of cooperation and family between the youth organizations of the two Dioceses.

Charles Shooshan—the Vice-Chairman of the ACYOA Central Council—and Anthony Barsamian—the Acting Executive Secretary of the ACYOA—served in the capacity of official observers to the Canadian proceedings, attending all of the Assembly sessions and consulting on a variety of issues presented therein. Upon their arrival, they were welcomed with fatherly affection by the Primate of the Diocese of Canada, His Grace Bishop Hovnan Derderian.

Messrs. Shooshan and Barsamian emphasized that their participation in the Canadian Assembly is only a part of the close working relationship that exists between the two sister organizations. It is a relationship which has been actively promoted by the Primates of all three North American Dioceses since the summer of 1990, when His Eminence Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian joined Bishop Barsamian and Bishop Derderian in Cleveland, Ohio for the ACYOA's own National Assembly. The three Primates strongly encouraged further interplay among the respective diocesan youth organizations.

As a result of these endorsements, a number of inter-diocesan activities are being developed, which will bring together young Armenians from the Eastern and Western United States and Canada. Such inter-diocesan programs will be the subject of discussions at the upcoming 1991 ACYOA

—more—



National Assembly, which will be held in Farmington, CT in late August. Representatives of the Canadian and Western Dioceses will also attend these sessions.

Incidentally, there is still time to join in the festivities of the ACYOA National Assembly and Sports Weekend, which will be hosted by the St. George Armenian Church of Hartford, CT, and will convene August 28 through September 1. For more information, please contact the ACYOA Executive Secretary at the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, 630 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10016-4885; or call (212) 686-0710.

—7/19/91