

**HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH
UNION CITY, N.J.**

**1992 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING
FEBRUARY 7, 1993**

The Annual Parish Assembly Meeting was called to order by Chairman of the Parish Council, Nubar Dorian, with sixty members present and presided over by Father Carnig Hallajian. Also present was Father Arnak Kasparian. Mr. Dorian asked for nominees for the election of officers of the Assembly. Mr. Armen Kalbian and Ms. Satenig Karagosian were elected Chairman and Secretary respectively.

Following a delicious luncheon prepared and served by members of the Women's Guild, the meeting proceeded.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Chairman Nubar Dorian presented the report. He stated that all business assigned to it by the 1992 Assembly was successfully concluded.

On the subject of parish priest, he acknowledged that while there is a shortage of clergy, the parish council is working diligently looking for potential candidates to be assigned as our pastor. The Search Committee hopes to accomplish this within the next year.

The exterior of the church was painted, windows were replaced in the parish house and a new copy machine was purchased for the office.

Last year's picnic, which was held jointly with the St. Leon Church in Fair Lawn, was a success. It will be held jointly again this year.

The bazaar was also a success thanks to the efforts of Gary Burggraf and Ed Sahagian, Co-Chairmen.

This year's main raffle was cancelled because of the 90th Anniversary Celebration.

The VISION is printed regularly and the Bulletins are made available to parishioners every Sunday.

The Armenian School is progressing nicely, and has tripled in enrollment. The Sunday School, however, is lacking in students and more emphasis must be placed to enroll them.

The 90th Anniversary Banquet was a huge success. It was presided over by both Primate of the Eastern and Western Dioceses, Abp. Khajag Barsamian and Abp. Vatche Hovsepian, respectively. We were also honored by having one of our dedicated and hard working parishioners, Harold Azmelian, receive the St. Nersess Shnorhali medal and an encyclical from His Holiness Vazken I.

REPORTS OF CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

Arpena Sbarbaro, Chairperson of the Guild, thanked the Executive Committee for its excellent work during the year. She also thanked Nector Kalustian, Isabel Keshguerian and Mary Kharpertian for running the flea markets.

The Women's Guild presented the Parish Council with a \$10,000 donation. A correction was made in last year's Assembly minutes: The Women's Guild donation to the Parish Council was \$10,000 not \$5,000. Motion was made and passed to amend the minutes.

On behalf of the Women's Guild, Arpena Sbarbaro stated that the Women's Guild had donated \$5,000 to the Armenia Missionary Fund at last year's meeting. This amount was given with the intention that it be an addition to the \$15,000 pledge made by the Parish. After discussion, the Assembly voted that this \$5,000 be considered part of the \$15,000. Arpena Sbarbaro asked that her dissent on behalf of the Guild be recorded.

The Senior Citizens presented the Parish Council with a \$500. donation.

A motion was made and passed to accept the organization reports as presented.

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Armen Kalbian stated that the Auditing Committee examined the books and records of all the organizations. He thanked them for their outstanding record keeping; especially citing Harold Azmelian for the church records and Artemis Koundakjian for the Women's Guild. It was announced that Artemis Koundakjian was retiring as treasurer of the Guild and Mr. Kalbian commented that it was going to be very difficult to fill her shoes. The Assembly commended her for her fine work during the many years that she held the position and gave her a standing ovation.

Harold Azmelian went over the Financial Report for the Church. The missionary fund in 1992 was over \$21,000. and the donation to St. Nersess was \$3,000.

The amount of \$15,000 in the 1993 budget for missionary work was questioned by Philip Arpiarian. He wondered where this was coming from. He said we would have to run more affairs and our parishioners would have to donate more in order for us to give this amount. The Assembly passed a motion to raise \$15,000 for Missionary work. Any short fall will be covered by Church funds.

Der Carnig spoke about his raising funds in this area for Armenia. It can be done either independently or through the Holy Cross Church. Philip Arpiarian stated that you can make checks payable to Holy Cross and designate for "Armenia Fund".

A motion was made and passed to donate \$3,000 to St. Nersess Seminary.

The 1993 Budget was presented with a \$10,000 shortfall which will be covered through the interest of the Endowment Fund. Motion made and passed to accept the 1993 Budget. If we get a permanent pastor, the 1993 budget would have to amended to reflect the new situation.

A question was raised by Mary Kharpertian regarding late distribution of the collection envelopes for 1993. Zaven Hovsepian suggested that a note be included by each parishioner in the envelope stating their year-to-date contribution so that the amount may be properly recorded.

NEW BUSINESS

The idea of having a soup kitchen for the needy in Erevan was discussed by Der Carnig. He said our church should sponsor a soup kitchen and this could eventually be extended to other cities later.

After some discussion on this subject, a motion was made and passed to have a special soup kitchen fund sponsored by our church so that we could get credit. even though there are several committees formed by the Primate.

ENDOWMENT FUND

For clarification purposes, it was again stated that this Fund is for the sole purpose of perpetuating our church as a religious and historic site and was not to be touched. The interest from this Fund can be used. Harold Azmelian was commended for doing an outstanding job as Chairman and Treasurer along with his committee, Armen Kalbian and Philip Arpiarian.

ELECTION RESULTS

Forty-three ballots were cast and results are as follows:

PARISH COUNCIL

Philip Arpiarian
Harold Azmelian
Robert Borgersen

Gary Burggraf
Edward Sahagian
Arpena Sbarbaro

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Diana Burggraf
Armen Kalbian
Arax Karagosian

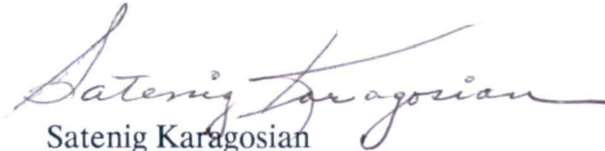
AUDITING COMMITTEE

Lucy Bozoian
Dawn Donofrio
Satenig Karagosian

Philip Arpiarian thanked both Der Arnak Kasparian and Der Carnig Hallajian for supporting our parish during the past year.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30PM with a closing prayer by Rev. Fr. Arnak Kasparian.

Respectfully submitted,


Satenig Karagosian
Secretary