

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

1996 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

MARCH 3, 1996

The Annual Parish Assembly meeting was convened immediately following services in the Church at 11:50 A.M. The Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. Armen Kalbian, conducted the meeting in the absence of Mr. Nubar Dorian, the Chairman, presently hospitalized. Mr. Kalbian asked for nominations for Chairman and Secretary of the Parish Assembly. Both Mr. Philip Arpiarian and Ms. Kay Derderian were unanimously elected to their respective positions.

The meeting was adjourned to the Church Center and reconvened at 1 P.M. after lunch served by the Women's Guild. Our Pastor, The Very Reverend Vazken Karayan presided as President.

The Chairman requested a motion to close the ballot box. A motion was made seconded and passed to close the balloting at 1:15 P.M.

The Chairman dispensed with the reading of the minutes from last year's annual meeting and invited our Parish Priest Very Rev. Fr. Vazken Karayan to present his report.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Hayr Soorp expressed his gratitude and appreciation to all Parishioners who contributed to his advancements during the period of time he has been serving as Pastor. He reported he had had several goals, many of which were achieved. Dues paying membership was maintained at 104.

The ACYOA was active throughout the year, but plans are underway to increase the membership of the youth.

CLERGY MEETINGS - attended monthly meetings at various Parishes at which meetings discussions were held on many issues. Hayr Soorp reported meetings were informative and that our Parish was not alone with problems. All Parishes have some positive and negative issues.

VISION - the official newsletter of our Parish is extremely important. It is the bridge of communications that brings to our Parishioners Pastoral messages and other important news about community activities. It is presented in both English and Armenian. Hayr Soorp was pleased with the improvement of its contents and quality.

WOMEN'S GUILD - attended meetings, provided guidance and assistance. Hayr Soorp stated the Women's Guild is the most active group in the Parish, and the backbone of the Church. The Women always work with unselfish dedicating deserve the sincere gratitude of all.

PARISH COUNCIL - The Chairman then invited Mr. Armen Kalbian , Vice Chairman of the Parish Council to present the Council report. The report was reviewed in its entirety The being no questions, the report was accepted as presented.

WOMEN'S GUILD - Mrs. Diana Burggraf, Chairperson, expressed her appreciation and commended the members for their endeavors.

SENIOR CITIZENS - Mrs. Bertha Najarian, Chairperson, expressed appreciation to Pastor and Parish Council for their support and to the membership for their continued aid and contributions, and invited others to join.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Ms. Caroline Ak, Sunday school teacher, in the absence of Ms. Sylvia Bozoyan, Superintendent, spoke briefly. She reported the attendance on Sundays was sporadic, She stressed the importance of religious education and that parents can help the situation by bringing their children to school and church. Ms. Ak expressed appreciation and gratitude to Hayr Soorp for his moral support.

CHOIR - Ms. Ann Dadaian, our choir director, thanked the Pastor and Parish Council for their continued support and stressed the need for more participants.

ARMENIAN SCHOOL - Mrs. Alice Yigitkurt, the superintendent, presented an overview of the school operation. It was noted that the heavy cost of the operation of the school was at no expense to the Church as the necessary funds were raised by payment of tuition and a Dinner-Dance fund raiser. Mrs. Yigitkurt acknowledged with appreciation the efforts of Hayr Soorp and the teachers, Sela Nazarian, Maggie Nazarian and Hayganus Ceherci on behalf of the Armenian School.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Mr. Harold Azmelian, our Treasurer, reviewed receipts and disbursements for the year of 1995. Pertinent questions were responded to and the report was accepted with appreciation.

PERMENANT ENDOWMENT FUND - Mr. Harold Azmelian presented the latest status of the Fund. He reported that interest and dividend income for the year of 1995 was over \$87,000.00; realized gains about \$17,000.00 and unrealized gains about \$96,000.00. \$40,000.00 of the interest and dividend was transferred to the Church operations account to offset the shortfall in our budget. The overall return of the activities gave our Parish a return of 16.18% for the year. We have been very fortunate in attaining the desired result of the Fund. The assembly thanked Messrs. Harold E. Azmelian, Philip Arpiarian and Armen Kalbian for overseeing our Fund in a most competent manner.

BUDGET - The Chairman invited the Treasurer to present the proposed budget for 1996. (A copy attached hereto). Following several questions and clarifications, the new budget was adopted unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

PICNIC - The Chairman reported Parish Council will discuss with St. Leon's Church the possibility of holding our picnic on their grounds

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY - many members expressed a desire to reinstate our Christmas party. Following discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Edward Sahagian and seconded by Mr. Armen Kalbian to hold a Christmas party in 1996. The motion passed and the Chairman announced a committee will be appointed to plan the function.

BAZAAR - Our bazaar held on October 27 and 28, 1995 was a total success both socially and financially. The Chairman and his committee were acknowledged for their Herculean effort.

Hayr Soorp was pleased to announce that the sum of \$10,560.00 was realized from the Dinner-Dance chaired by Mrs. Alice Yigitkurt and Apraham Bogosian for the Mesrobian Armenian School on June 17, 1995.

He also announced that we have a total of 104 dues paying members in connection with the "voting membership dues" adopted at the 1995 assembly.

Before proceeding to new business, Mr. Arpiarian commended all organization for their efforts.

NEW BUSINES

ARMENIAN MISSIONARY FUND - Mr. Philip Arpiarian reported the amount of \$1,225.00 in the fund and recommended that \$625.00 be given to FAR (Fund for Armenian Relief) and \$600.00 be donated to Palisades General Hospital which has treated, at their expense, our faithful parishioner Mr. Levon Manoukian for a lengthy period of time with much care. This recommendation was enthusiastically received and unanimously approved.

RENOVATIONS - Mr. Arpiarian invited Mr. Andrew Avedesian, Chairman building committee, for the latest status regarding renovations. Mr. Avedesian reported the renovations to the rest rooms; painting of school classrooms and auditorium; new gates at entrance doors of center and some renovations in the Parish House.

CHURCH CENTER - A survey on the merits of selling the center was conducted which generated much discussion. The approximate cost of renovations to the Center is estimated to be between \$100,000 to \$120,000. The cost of operating the Center is about \$12,000.00 yearly. It was the desire of the survey to fully understand the feeling of the community as to whether or not to expend this money. After a lengthy discussion the majority of members were not in favor of selling the center.

ELECTION RESULTS - The Chairman asked the Nominating Committee for the results of the election. The committee reported 40 ballots cast with the following results:

PARISH COUNCIL

Alice Yigitkurt
Nubar Dorian
Sylvia Bozoyan
Mari Can
Yetkin Pashalian

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dianne Burggraf
Zaven Hovsepian
Arax Karagosian

AUDITING COMMITTEE

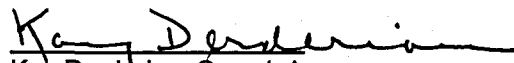
Lucy Bozoian
Armen Kalbian
Satenig Karagosian


Mr. Arpiarian called upon Hayr Soorp to offer the closing prayer. Hayr Soorp congratulated the newly elected members and offered the benediction.

Copies of "1995 Annual Report" and "Ballot Summary" are attached to these minutes.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Kay Derderian, Secretary


CHAIRMAN, PARISH ASSEMBLY