

ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Feb. 8, 1981

Parish Council Report

The Parish Council, concerning itself with matters of operating our Church, has closed out another year. It has not been a great year, nor has it been a poor one. Our voting membership total remained the same as last year at 87 members, having lost a few and picking up a few new members. However, with the increase in the minimum pledge voting requirement to \$100.00 and with a few more participants with smaller pledges, we had a net gain in pledge receipts this year. There was also a welcome gain in donations, which the treasurer's report will reflect.

The inside of our Church was painted and some additions were installed, on which Der Hayr will elaborate.

Quite a bit of work was done on the Parish House. The gutters and downspouts were replaced. Stormwindows and doors were installed along with aluminum siding and trim. The savings on future paintings and heat loss will more than pay for the work done this year.

Temple Beth Israel is still renting our parking lot for two evenings a week and it remains a source of income. Income was also derived from the following activities by the Parish Council. Easter Hantess, Martyrs Day Dinner and Program, Fathers Day Picnic, Cultural Day Dinner and Program, St. James Day Dinner and Program. Along with these traditional dinners, another one was held honoring our softball team, with the proceeds going to the team. Vartanantz Dinner and Program was omitted from those mentioned above because that affair is traditionally handled by the Knights of Vartan, and they turn all the proceeds over to the Church.

As you all know, we lost our State Fair Food Stand. Not because we wanted to give it up, but because the Fair had our area earmarked for other purposes. For the past 23 years it had been a good source of income for our Church. More emphasis must now be put on our Booth at Boys Club International Festival, which has the potential of eventually replacing the income lost from our Stand at the Fair.

As in past years, the largest project of our Church was the Annual Food Festival, and this past one was the most successful one yet.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to once again thank John and Sam Baronian, Co-Chairmen of the past Food Festival. Thanks also to Mrs. Shnorig Soghoian, Chairlady of the Boys Club International Festival; to the Ladies Aid who, under their Chairlady, Mrs. Virginia Bandazian were always more than cooperative when asked to prepare a dinner; to Virginia Greene, who has been volunteering a day a week doing Church secreterial work; to Andy Garabedian, who has been looking after our supplies; to Murad Kerneklian, Manager of our Softball Team; and last but not least, one member who, for years, has always been ready to do most anything asked of him for the betterment of our Church. You can find him here most any time doing something, Henry Magarian.

I personally would like to say thank you to Der Hayr and all members of the Parish Council who have always been most cooperative on all matters, but special recognition should go to our Treasurer, Barkev Baronian and his two assistants, Alice Darhanian and Linda Sharigian.

Gerry Sharigian
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Parish Council Chairman