

La Fédération de la Jeunesse Arménienne

Mrtsoum Seminar

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Chicago Homenetmen Chapter

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Homenetmen scouts isn't just an organization of girls and boys who come together every Saturday or Sunday and learn about the fundamentals of Homenetmen. It's more than that. Kouyr and Yeghpayr aren't just titles we give one another, it creates a family. All the kouyrs and yeghpayrs become one with the same mentality: "Partsratsir, Partsratsour & Mishd Badrasd". Being united with others who share the same values and live up to what our ancestors wanted to carry on for the future, especially for our unique culture, is what builds up Homenetmen. Over the summer, our chapters were able to participate in the life changing camp experience in Armenia. We were able to bond with our other fellow chapters and create tight friendships that would never break. However, 10 days was not enough, and luckily, the Chicago and Detroit chapters were able to have a mrtsoum seminar which took place at the Armenian All Saints Apostolic Church in Chicago and pick up right where they left off in Armenia.

From working hard with our group members during each task to pieing our khmpabedouhis, this mrtsoum seminar was able to bring out determination, laughs, and smiles. Each group received colored bandanas to represent their group. We then went on to creating team flags, which consisted of our team animal and our motto. For example, the Jarbig Ots team was very creative in drawing a very well-detailed snake, as well as the Dzovahen Entsaroudz drawing a ferocious cougar. Each team motto was uniquely put together, from "Homenetmen Havidian" to "Kheshkeshal archev, mi nayir yedev". Furthermore, our cooking skills were really put to the test that weekend. In determining who could make the best chocolate chip cookies, the Sevougners took the win on that one.

The Aris and Arenoushes had a chance to step outside and have fun participating in outdoor activities. We played a fun relay game where we had to keep a spoon in our mouths while we had to balance an egg on it. We had to be very careful while we walked to the other side, trying to finish quickly to get points for our team. We were all working diligently together, while also cheering each other on. As said before, we had the most fun pieing our khmpabedouhis. The farther you threw from the set line, the more points you got for your team. Later on, the Aris and Arenoushes played jeopardy, which was one of the games where the most points could be received to boost up one's team point status. Seeing each team think hard and getting excited after each question they got correct was one of the best parts. From scouting, to camping, to pop culture, we got the opportunity to learn new things in a fun and competitive way. Each team prepared to perform their best skit for the kharougahantes, being confident that theirs would win in front of the panel of judges at family night that evening. We all had a great time at family night dancing to music, laughing at each other's skits, and overall having a great time with other people outside of homenetmen and from the church.



The Armenian Youth Federation (AYF) ([Armenian](#): Հայկական Երիտասարդաց Դաշնակցութիւն) is the youth organization of the [Armenian Revolutionary Federation](#). Founded in 1933, the AYF became a global Armenian organization and stands on five pillars that guide its activities: Educational, [Hai Tahd](#), Social, Athletic and Cultural. Moreover, the AYF promotes social democratic values and a fraternal attitude of respect for ideas and individuals amongst its membership. Unity and cooperation are essential traits that allow members of the organization to work together to realize the AYF's objectives. The AYF is a full member of [International Union of Socialist Youth](#) and [Young European Socialists](#)....

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