



Zoroastrian Association of California

February 2012

2012-2013 Executive Committee

President – Tehmi Damania Vice President – Perinne Medora Treasurer – Rooky Fitter
Joint Secretaries – Parvez Erani and Deelnavaz Tarapore Program Chair – Prochi Mistry
Youth Coordinator – Merzi Limath

UPCOMING EVENTS

NAVROZE CELEBRATION: Saturday, March 17, 2012
(see Details inside)

Message from the 2012-13 Executive Committee

After the Holidays ZAC is usually slow to take off with the events allowing members who have travelled abroad to return to normal life. This year perhaps it is a little longer before we have our first event and the reason was..... the president was missing or gone AWOL! However, my travel plans had already been made before I decided to stay on the committee in 2012. I would like to mention that with the help of dedicated volunteers the Ladies Club, Hum-bundagi Sessions and Movie Nite did take place at the beginning of the year.

The last two years were spent acquiring the Center, collecting the money to pay off the loan while carrying out the necessary repairs and changes to make the Center functional. Many may think that the Center is not what they dreamed it would be and does not meet with their expectations but to some it has the potential to serve our needs (we served 318 people at the opening) without costing us too much or having to move too far out to get the land. Remember this is a work in progress. We built a functioning kitchen where there was none and that made life easier for all of us who love to eat. ZAC marches on its stomach and it was the first thing we attended to. As Rooky mentioned in the GBM, the next step is to make the Arjani Hall a state-of-the-art banquet hall that will enable us to have many enjoyable functions in the years to come. Every Zoroastrian Center in North America has a symbolic fire in a prayer room (dadgah) and we shall be working on building ours too. Some members have concerns about the prayer room and they have their own good reasons (I will be happy to listen to ALL of them) but I urge you stay united and understand that it is not a consecrated fire. We were fortunate to receive a donation of \$25,000 from Arda-e-Viraf and Hootoxie Minocherhomji to get us started and this was soon followed by \$50,000 which have been added to this purpose. The Prayer Room fund has officially started and we are on the way. I look forward to the community stepping up to the plate once more and make this happen as soon as possible. Once we have more details and a target we will be informing you of the progress of this project.

ZAC is YOU ... its members of all ages and we call upon ALL of you to come together and help us by encouraging us with your presence, your ideas, your most valuable time and your fantastic community spirit to make this a successful and enjoyable year for us all.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NAVROZE CELEBRATION: Saturday, March 17, 2012

Get ready for our first fun event of the year Our Navroze celebrations this year will be held at the ZAC Center in Orange on Saturday, March 17.

Program: Jashan 4:00 pm followed by Chasni

Main Event 6:30 pm

Members: \$25 Non-Members: \$40 Seniors and Student Members: \$20
\$15 children (5-10) children under 5 FREE

Please RSVP to Prochi Mistry at 661-284-3055 or email mistryprochi@aol.com no later than March 15th. You can also send in the attached form with your check.

HUM-BUNDAGI SESSIONS

FOOD FOR THE BODY, MIND & SOUL

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT 11AM FOR HUM- BUNDAGI, MEDITATION AND LUNCH STARTED SINCE 12/11/11 AT the ZAC HALL IN ORANGE at 1424 E. Walnut Ave. Orange, CA 92867

Hum- Bundagi: When an individual recites the prayer, it resonates a vibrational intensity of a single person praying. But, when two people pray together the vibrations of the same prayer multiplies a 1000 folds.

In Hum -Bundagi or the communal prayer, the efficacy of the prayer intensifies and the devotees' wishes and boons are granted as there is tremendous power lies in this unison, when we pray together in unity and harmony.

Meditation: Zarathustra was able to communicate with Mazda Ahura through meditative thoughts and Zoroastrianism was revealed to him in his heightened state of revelation. Similarly, in the spirit of togetherness we will meditate to cleanse ourselves getting rid of all the impurities, sickness and ailments etc from our minds and bodies, thus making ourselves receptive to absorb Ahura Mazda's wisdom, thereby attaining serenity of the mind with bodily health to live a long healthy, happy, productive and progressive life in this world.

Lunch: Tentative Menu- Dhanshak, Kabab, Kachumber,
(May be Vegetable Lagannu stew, Rotli and custard)

Requirements: Please come with a clean body and mind bring a topi or scarf to cover your head and kindly perform your Kusti prayers at the hall before joining the Hum- Bundagi.

Also, during the prayers we will be consecrating holy water for our and our loved ones health. Please bring a glass bottle if you would like to take some for your loved ones at home.

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience to: zbhandara@gmail.com or
562 331 9973

Ralphs Community Contribution Program

Please check the ZAC website and print the page and take it to Ralph's the next time you go there. Ask the cashier to scan the bar code at the bottom along with your Rewards card. From that point on, every time you use your Ralphs card, ZAC will receive a contribution.

Thank you for helping ZAC.

PAST EVENTS

The **HOLIDAY PARTY** on Dec 10 was a treat for our youngest members. Everyone enjoyed the carols, games, prizes, gifts and goodies as they awaited our very own Santa to stop by with gifts for all the good boys and girls of ZAC.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

ZAC started New Year 2012 off with a BANG (literally!!) There was much laughter, camaraderie and togetherness as we started the evening off with a delicious dinner from Noorani. This was followed by non-stop dancing and "dance-floor" musical chairs organized by Lily Mistry. DJ Dara rocked as we had non-stop fun on the floor under the disco ball and strobe lights. A toast at midnight ended the night.

A big THANK YOU shout-out to all our sponsors and donors and all those who worked very hard to make sure the New Year's evening was a success.

Thanks to Meherangiz Kateli for all her help and to Aban Kapadia for helping with the raffle.

Prizes and decorations for both events were generously donated by, Persis Choksy, Firouz Felfeli, Rooky Fitter, Gool Jesung, Aban Kapadia, Havi Lilaowala, Roshan Malva, Lily Mistry, Vira Santoke and two anonymous donors.

HAPPY 2012 EVERYONE!!

LADIES CLUB was held on January 29th. Thanks go out to guest speaker

Dilzeen Engineer, who spoke at length about fashion and gave the crowd invaluable tips on how to dress according to their body type. Around 15 ladies were present for the lovely presentation and thoroughly enjoyed the potluck lunch and the lovely talk.

MOVIE NITE was organized by the Gundevias on Saturday February 4.

ZAC - Dinner & Movie Nite started off with members socializing around 6-30pm.

Movie started at around 6-45pm after sumptuous Biryani was enjoyed by one and all.

With award winning beautiful songs, action and comedy, DABAANGG (meaning fearless) gave our Hindi movie fans an enjoyable evening.

This function could not have taken place without the help of Yasmin & Phiroze Gundevia and Vira & Burjor Santoke. A big Thank You to Santoke's for arranging "Biryani" for all and Yasmin for all her help.

Now looking forward to next available date in the end of March.

THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS!!

Large framed portrait.....Vispi and Rhoda Shroff

Religion books.....Dolly Kerawalla

Hand tailored prayer caps.....Rukshana Colabewala

Monajat CDs.....Mani Rao of Chicago (we forgot to thank her last time!)

A large, almost new dekchi with lidPerviz and Kali Patel

SUDRES AND KUSTIS FOR SALE:

A member has very kindly donated sudres and kustis which are available for purchase to ZAC members at a very reasonable price. The items are of very good quality, and are available in various sizes. All proceeds will go to the ZAC Youth Fund.

Please call Gool Jesung at 714-842-3032 if interested.

NextGenNow is pleased to announce one of its newest initiatives-- **Zoroastrians Stepping Forward.**

First Annual International Day of Service-- Zoroastrians Stepping Forward

Who? Zoroastrians...

What? Walk and Shoe Drop...

Where? Internationally

When? To Be Determined...

Why? Coming together as a community, while helping those in need.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Zoroastrians are known for their humanitarian work around the world. However, there has never been a concerted effort by our community to focus on a global issue. This is our first step toward global action.

Zoroastrians Stepping Forward: With this, as a community, we will take a leap toward helping others.

On a selected day in 2012 Zoroastrians around the world will partake in our day of service. Many of us take our shoes for granted. They enable us to get where we are going as well as accessorize. But could you imagine going without them; working on a farm, going to school, or traveling along the hot roads?

We want you to think about doing just that, but we aren't going to ask you to forgo your shoes. Instead, we ask you to join us in a walk to foster community unity around the globe while collecting both money and shoes for those who truly need it. Without shoes you are more susceptible to infection and diseases - often introduced through a small cut or scrape. Because of this, SHOES are the focus of Zoroastrians Stepping Forward: the 1st Annual Zoroastrian Day of Service.

If possible, please "Like" the Zoroastrians Stepping Forward face book page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Zoroastrians-Stepping-Forward/230954616948440>. As plans become solidified, more information will be available.

**Kindly contact Behrose Taraporewalla with any questions or comments:
626.378.5564/behroset@gmail.com**

Volunteers Needed: 1st International Zoroastrian Day of Service

Greetings All,

Zoroastrians Stepping Forward (ZSF) is an initiative to create an international day of service where local associations can come together to show unity and give back to the greater communities in which they live. For its inaugural event ZSF is encouraging associations to organize a day of fun and host a shoe drive to support local charities. This event will help raise awareness about the importance of shoes in enhancing the physical, mental and emotional lives of disadvantaged individuals. Furthermore, it is an opportunity for the Zoroastrian community to gather and celebrate philanthropy and health.

We are actively seeking out 4 to 6 volunteers to take charge and lead our community to a successful event for a worthy cause. We hope this committee is diverse with a good mix of elders, young adults, and youth participation. The board is happy to write letters of support for those youth who have community service requirements to satisfy.

Those community members interested in volunteering should contact Behrose Taraporewalla and Merzi Limath (zoroastrianssteppingforward@gmail.com and merzi.limath@gmail.com) no later than Friday, February 24th.

Thanks for your support!

PARSI NATAK BOOK - LAUGHTER IN THE HOUSE:

ZAC is planning to order some copies of "Laughter in the House!" and have them shipped to California in one consignment. Rewind...to your happiest memories of Parsi Theatre of the last century with this hilarious book. Written by Meher Marfatia, with additional photographs by Soonie Taraporevala, this handsome hardbound edition makes a collector's item. The book is carefully researched and lavishly illustrated with over 400 rare, archival photographs from the period spanning 1930 - 2000. Its sumptuous 300 pages are enhanced with a free audio CD containing 4 original soundtracks including the 1960 revue Hasa Has, Adi Marzban's Parsi qawwali and famous songs immortalized by the late actor, Dinshah Daji.

This is a heavy book weighing over 2 kg. Cost per book will be approximately \$65.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of this keepsake book, please reply ASAP to committee@zacla.org

AVESTA CLASSES

We offer classes to anyone from 2 years-adult. Our classes are divided into three age groups:

Pre-Navjote - ages 2-7 taught by Shazneen Gandhi. These classes center around the principles of our religion and the meanings of our kusti prayers. The children are taught through "hands-on" activities like arts and crafts, songs and chants.

Navjote-Post-Navjote - ages 7-13 taught by Jehangir Dastur. In these classes, students learn about significance of Zarthushti calendar, and celebrations such as Navroze, Mehergan, Gahambars, and jashan. They also learn about the historical contributions and influence of Zoroastrianism in the world. Students also learn about basic similarities and differences between Zoroastrianism and other religions.

Navar and Adult classes - age's 13-adult taught by Mobed Zarrir Bhandara. Mobed Zarrir Bhandara has trained 5 boys to be navars. He is in the process of training a sixth boy. In addition to priestly training, Mobed Bhandara offers classes in Zarthushti scripture and meditation for adults. Here, adults can learn about the Gathas as stated in Zarathushtra's own words. At the end, there is meditation.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call

Zarrir Bhandara - zbhandara@gmail.com

Jehangir Dastur - j_dastur@hotmail.com

Shazneen Gandhi - rabadis@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS CHEYENNE

On the weekend of January 6, 2012 Cheyenne Mistry, daughter of Jamshed and Prochi Mistry, competed in the Miss California Teen USA 2012 pageant in Palm Springs. She represented the city of Stevenson Ranch as Miss Stevenson Ranch Teen. After a personal interview, a swimsuit competition, and an evening gown competition, Cheyenne placed in the Top 20 out of 120 finalists.

CONDOLENCES:

Phiroza Dubash passed away on December 7, 2011, in Redlands, California. She was 91 years old. Our sincere condolences to the family.

13th Zoroastrian Games Registration Now Open

The Zoroastrian Society of Ontario (ZSO) and the Zoroastrian Sports Committee (ZSC) proudly announce that registration for this year's games is now open! We invite you to take advantage of our early bird deadline of **March 22, 2012** and register to attend and participate in the **13th Zoroastrian Games** in Toronto, ON Canada. We encourage you to register early as all spots for athletes, housing, and social events will be on a first-come-first-serve basis - and we tend to reach capacity very fast.

For more information and to register please visit any of the following websites:

www.zso.org www.zathletics.com www.zgames-2012.com

If you have any questions, please email us at: ZGames2012@yahoo.ca

What: The 13th Zoroastrian Games

When: June 29 - July 3, 2012

Where: The Magnificent York University

XVI North American Zarathushti Congress 2012

The **XVI North American Zoroastrian Congress** will be held in New York from Aug 2 - 5, 2012. Registration is now open and all Zarhostis are encouraged to be part of this Congress. **Early-bird registration ends on Feb.15, 2012.** Important links are:

Congress Website is: <http://nazc.zagny.org>

NAZC 2012 on Face book: <https://www.facebook.com/nazc2012>

NAZC 2012 on Twitter: http://twitter.com/_zagny

DONOR NEEDED FOR KIDNEY TRANSPLANT

Daraius Tarapore, a resident of Southern California, has a genetic kidney disease called Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD), which over the years progresses until the kidney functions get very low and the person would need dialysis and kidney transplant.

Daraius' kidney function is now below 15%.

Thus his nephrologist feels that within 6 months he would need to go on dialysis. Since, this is a genetic disease his immediate family members including his sisters or sons are not good candidates. Furthermore, his wife being diabetic cannot help either.

Thus, the family's hope is to find a good Samaritan who will be willing to be a living donor so that Daraius does not have to go on dialysis. It is because this specific transplant is more effective when performed before a person is put on dialysis.

Daraius is listed with UCLA Kidney donor program and during the orientation for transplant procedure was advised the following:

- 1. The typical wait time for cadaver kidneys is approximately 8 to 10 years and that living donor is the preferred method.**
- 2. People with Polycystic Kidney Disease, Diabetes and other chronic disease would be unacceptable.**
- 3. Donors would have top priority and would get at the top of the waiting list if they would need an organ in the future.**
- 4. UCLA also has a paired exchange program where they match other donors with recipients if the original pair is incompatible.**

This means that any prospective living donor whose blood type does not match with Daraius can also participate.

Please note that Daraius has full medical coverage that will take care of all the transplant related expenses. His medical insurance will also pay for all the expenses for the donor including hospital stays and laboratory tests.

For more information regarding the transplant please call: **1-866-672-5333** and leave a message using **Darius's** name and **ID# 2154022** and they will return the call.



Zoroastrian Association of California

MEMBERSHIP FORM January to December 2012

Please Select Type Membership(s):

Quantity

<input type="checkbox"/> Life	Husband/wife & children under 18	\$1000
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	Husband/wife & children under 18	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	Adult (over 18)	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior	Over 65 Years of Age	\$30
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	Full time Student	\$25

Make check payable to “Zoroastrian Association of California” and mail to address below, or complete this form online and pay with credit card at www.zacla.org

TITLE ___ FIRST _____ LAST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE ___ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) ____-____-____ DOB ____/____/____ EMAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: ___ life ___ family ___ individual ___ senior ___ student

TITLE ___ FIRST _____ LAST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE ___ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) ____-____-____ DOB ____/____/____ EMAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: ___ life ___ family ___ individual ___ senior ___ student

TITLE ___ FIRST _____ LAST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE ___ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) ____-____-____ DOB ____/____/____ EMAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: ___ life ___ family ___ individual ___ senior ___ student

TITLE ___ FIRST _____ LAST _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE ___ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) ____-____-____ DOB ____/____/____ EMAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: ___ life ___ family ___ individual ___ senior ___ student

Please mail this form along with your check to:
Zoroastrian Association of California
1424 E Walnut Avenue, Orange, CA 92867



ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

2012 NAVROZE function

Saturday, March 17, 2012

at the ZAC Center in Orange

Jashan at 4:00 pm

Main Event 6:30 pm

Members Adults \$25

Seniors/Students \$20

Children 5-10 \$15

Children under 10 FREE

NON-MEMBERS and Members after March 15th \$40

FAMILY NAME: _____ Phone Number _____

ADDRESS: _____

	Individual Names	Veg /Non Veg	Adult/Child/Senior	Amount Paid
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				

TOTAL PAID:

Please send in your payments before March 15th to:

The Treasurer – Rooky Fitter
Zoroastrian Association of California
1424 E. Walnut Avenue, CA 92867

or

Call Prochi Mistry at 661-284-3055 or email mistryprochi@aol.com no later than March 15th.



Zoroastrian Association of California

Contributions Towards Center Improvements / Maintenance

I, We _____, wish to make voluntary contributions towards the ZAC Center Improvements and Maintenance in the amount of \$_____ Monthly / Quarterly / Annually starting from _____ and until further notice.

Payment Options:

1. By Check or PayPal on ZAC Website

___ I /We will make regular payments of \$_____ by check /PayPal sent in on the _____ day monthly.

___ I /We will make regular payments of \$_____ by check /PayPal sent in on the _____ day quarterly.

___ I /We will make regular payments of \$_____ by check /PayPal sent in on the ____/___ day annually.

Signature _____

2) Monthly By Credit Card Through ZAC

I, _____, hereby authorize the Zoroastrian Association of California (ZAC) to charge my credit card in the amount of \$_____ the ____ day of each month.

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: ____/____ CVV Security Code: _ _ _

Credit Card Billing Address:

Name: _____ Telephone _____

Street: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

As the credit card holder, I hereby authorize the Zoroastrian Association of California (ZAC) to charge my credit card account for the amount indicated above. I promise to pay such amount noted above subject to and in accordance with the agreement governing the use of such card. I acknowledge that any credit card processing fees related to this transaction will be charged directly to ZAC.

Cardholder Signature: _____ Date __/__/____

Your completion of this authorization form helps us to protect you, our member, from credit card fraud. ZAC will keep all information entered on this form strictly confidential.

Please mail completed form to:

ZAC
1424 E. Walnut Ave, Orange, Ca 92867



1424 E. Walnut Ave.,
Orange, CA 92867

TO:

Rates for advertising in the ZAC newsletter are as follows:

4 Consecutive Issues:

\$ 200 Full Page

\$ 110 Half Page

\$ 60 Quarter Page

\$ 40 1/8 Page

One Time Advertisement:

\$ 60 Full Page

\$ 40 Half Page

\$ 25 Quarter Page

\$ 15 1/8 Page

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of FEZANA, the Journal will be publishing a special colour issue for the FEZANA celebrations at the North American Congress in New York, August 2012.

In addition to the subscribers, this issue will be distributed to all the participants at the FEZANA gala August 2nd, 2012.

If any of you would like to send FEZANA Special Greetings on this occasion, we will be very happy to print it in colour : Full page \$400; half page \$200; quarter page \$100; Business card \$50.

Your message or greetings with any art work (preferably in pdf) should reach us by April 1st 2012 because of the tight printing schedule.