



# Zoroastrian Association of California

## July 2012

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### 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

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Parsi New Year Celebration (See form attached)

*Get ready for our Parsi New Year Function. We have an exciting evening planned with prizes, raffles, entertainment, dancing and fun! We are looking forward to seeing you there.*

**When: Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**Time: 6:00pm Sign-in; 6:30 pm Event Starts.**

**Where: ZAC Center in Orange.**

**Price: Members Pre-Paid by Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> by form or online - \$25**

**Members with RSVP only before Aug. 15 - \$30**

**Children 5 and under - FREE**

**Non-members - \$40** (Membership forms available online)

**At the Door (No RSVP - No Exceptions) - \$45**

**Send in Your CHECKS or PAY ONLINE NOW to get a BREAK!**

**RSVP: Deelnavaz Tarapore @ 909-606-0017 or email [dtarapore@hotmail.com](mailto:dtarapore@hotmail.com) or pay online for this event. Send in your checks and forms or pay online BEFORE August 15th.**

**After the 15<sup>th</sup> you WILL pay \$45. DON'T wait till the last minute!**

### PAST EVENTS

#### Movie Night:

Last Movie Nite went off well as usual with our regular Hindi Movie fans showing up for an early supper followed by movie. This comedy movie READY was enjoyed by one and all as it provided good entertainment by way of lovely songs!

For Dinner Pervin Chichgar made delicious curry rice and Yasmin Gundevia prepared masala chicken. Both were enjoyed by all present.

**THANK YOU to the Gundevias** for organizing this event and to all who regularly show up and support this event.

## **Jashan, Gahambar & AGM:**

Held on June 16 the AGM was well-attended by ZAC members. Over 150 members and non-members were present. Prior to the meeting a Jashan was performed followed by Chasni and a brief talk by Zarrir Bhandara on the rituals of death. The meeting started with a short report from our President Tehmi Damania as there was a long Agenda for this meeting. Phiroz Tarapore was acknowledged for auditing the accounts for 2011. He has agreed once again to continue as auditor for 2013 but said that it would be his last year. Our Treasurer, Rooky Fitter read the Treasurer's Report and once more urged very strongly to the community to please do a monthly automatic donation towards the Center. A lively discussion about the two resolutions (see attachment for wording) regarding the purchase of the adjacent land, was the highlight of the AGM. ZAC members also voted for the next Fezana President. In "other business" it was suggested that ZAC's website be changed to reflect the fact that ZAC's membership really extends throughout the Southland. After a discussion it was agreed to change the website and the web-address to zacsocal.org. This will be done over time so as not to confuse or disrupt the existing website which is zacla.org Young Shayaan Gandhi was congratulated for her innovative idea and successful fundraising for the walk-a-thon. The meeting was followed by dinner catered by Sheila Madon which everyone enjoyed. We hope to see more members attend such events and voice their ideas and be a part of the community.

The Committee would like to thank the Mobeds Zarrir Bhandara, Zerkxis Bhandara, Maneck Bhujwala and Fali Kanga for performing the jashan.

A big Thank you also to the following volunteers for Ravo, Malido, Sev, Fruits, Nuts and Cachumber: Parvin Amroli, Dogdo Arjani, Pervin Chichgar, Aban Commissariat, Nina Eduljee, Banoo Irani, Mitra Irani, Aban Kapadia, Roda Lakdawalla, Benaifer Limath, Hootoxi Minocherhomjee, Homai Mondegarian, Vira Santoke, Deelnavaz Tarapore, Perviz Tarapore.

The committee gratefully acknowledges the outstanding job done by Persis Choksey, Sheila and Sharook Madon with the food in the kitchen during the meeting. It is not possible for the committee to be able to help with the food at a general body and help from the community is always appreciated at such times.

If we have inadvertently forgotten to mention anyone we apologize for the omission. Please let us know so we can rectify it.

## **ZAC Youth Event – June 23<sup>rd</sup> - by Merzi Limath:**

The event was exquisite. Around 14 of us had gathered for this event. Hundreds of shoes as well as food were donated to the Orange County Rescue Mission. The energy was very positive and exciting. Tehmi Aunty was also there to show her support for the youth and the charity event. The people of the Mission were very nice and helpful. After the Mission, the youth went back to the hall to partake in fun and games. We all had Pizza Hut pizza and sodas which was catered to the vegetarians as well as the carnivores. Music was provided by ZAC sound system as well as youth volunteered iPods. We headed to Huntington Beach around 6:00pm to celebrate the summer by having bonfire. The weather was perfect, and we enjoyed Hot Dogs and Smores. When the weather turned cold, we all huddled around the fire for warmth. It was quite symbolic. After we all had to get off the beach at 10:00pm, we all went Downtown to Huntington Beach Main Street for Crepes at IHOP. Great times, great success!!!

**Ladies Club:** Held on July 1<sup>st</sup> was well attended by both men and women. Over 45 people attended the event and thoroughly enjoyed the pot-luck lunch and then the demonstration of Parsi Sev by Pervin Chichgar and the Biscotti by Roda Mistry. The ladies also got a demonstration of how to wear a sari by Dilzeen Engineer.

## **ZAC – 3rd Sports Day:**

A very big turnout of our young and old members came out to participate and witness the 3rd ZAC SPORTS DAY event on July 14th, 2012.

On this day not only did our active members get to participate in sports but they also got to enjoy gourmet snacks prepared specially by our very own team of dedicated volunteers. This event fosters a festive and friendly atmosphere and provides a very nice ambiance to socialize and catch up with our fellow members.

It was nice to see our youth rubbing shoulders with our experienced members on the Table Tennis table. There is no better way to raise money for our ZAC center than by having fun and enjoying freshly prepared home cooked snacks at the same time! In all a total of \$1117.00 was raised by our team of Donors/ Volunteers, thereby making this SPORTS DAY a very successful one.

No event can be a success without the continued support of our dedicated Donors/Volunteers and they are: Dogdo & Tehentan Arjani, Aban & Hosi Kapadia, Mrs Persis Rustomjee, Rhoda & Noshir Lakdawalla, Pervin and Maneck Chichgar, Lily & Darayus Mistry, Gulu & Khushru Dubash, Hootoxi & Arda-E-Viraf Minocherhomji, Nina & Adil Eduljee, Firuza & Hoshang Karwa, Havi & Rashid Lilaowala, Daisy & Hector Mehta, Shazneen & Hanoz.Gandhi, Meherengiz & Hanoz Katelli, Rooky & Khushroo Fitter, Chisti & Kavasji Dadachanjee, Vira & Burjor Santoke, Perinne Medhora and Jimmy Colabewala.

Congratulations to the winners! Thank you to Mrs Dogdo Arjani for giving away the prizes to the following winners.

Table Tennis Open Singles:

Winner – Rohinton Fatakia  
Runner up - Rohinton Garda

Table Tennis Rounders:

Joint winners:  
Rusbeh Daruwalla & Kushroo Fitter

Carrom:

Winner -Ron Merchant  
Runner up - Hanoz Katelli

Yasmin and Phiroze Gundevia would personally like to Thank one and all for their continued support for this event and would like more members to show up next time.....till then stay healthy & Fit!

*The committee congratulates Yasmin and Phiroz Gundevia and their team of volunteers for a very successful fundraiser. Great job everyone!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **ATTENTION ALL GRADS AND GRAD FAMILIES!**

#### **Urgent and Important – Information Needed.**

We will be honoring all our young high school and college grads at our Papeti/New Year function on August 18. We do not wish to leave out anyone so please send in your grad's details ASAP to **Tehmi Damania at 949-583-9973 or email [tehmid@hotmail.com](mailto:tehmid@hotmail.com).**

**Mr. Maneck Bhujwala** was elected as the new President of the Greater Huntington Beach Interfaith Council (GHBIC) on May 29, 2012, at its meeting held at the Huntington Beach City Hall in California. Other officers elected were Past-president Rabbi Stephen Einstein, Vice-president Tom Hohman, Secretary Mary Lou Hughes, and Treasurer Charlie Niederman, Members at large Dave Garofolo, Dr.Dale Braithwaite, and Rev.Tim Phillips. GHBIC members come from many different religious groups who strive to promote mutual understanding and respect among all races, religions and cultures. GHBIC has a meeting on the last Tuesday of each month at 8:00 a.m., and organizes/participates in programs each year, such as Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, Procession of Light, Thanksgiving service, Fourth of July Parade, visits to different places of worship, and community service events. Meetings and membership are open to the public. **For information about GHBIC call Maneck Bhujwala at (714) 369-9854.**

### **Congratulations Zane Commissariat!**

Zane Commissariat, 5 years old son of Xerxes and Diana Commissariat of Irvine, completed his first 5k (3.1 miles) run on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2012. A total of 400 plus runners participated in the marathon which was organized by the Woodbridge Village Association in Irvine. Zane was not a typical race contestant for the 5k run. He was the youngest participant at 5 years of age. He ran along with his parents Diana and Xerxes and finished the run in an excellent time of 42:41 minutes. Zane was later interviewed by the association and stated that this was his first run and he is going to participate in it again next year. He has been training for several months with his parents by running every weekend. **Way To Go Zane!**

## **450 Plus Lives Saved!**

### **World Blood Donor Day 2012 - Every blood donor is a hero**

June 14<sup>th</sup> was a World Blood donor day. On June 14, countries all over the world celebrated World Blood Donor Day with different events to raise awareness of the need for safe blood products like platelets, plasma, red cells and blood to thank blood donors for saving lives.

The theme of the 2012 World Blood Donor Day campaign was, “**Every blood donor is a hero**” focusing on the idea that every one of us can become a hero by giving blood. While recognizing the silent and unsung heroes like our own **Zarrir Bhandara who has donated blood and blood products over 150 times through American Red Cross alone, saved more than 450 lives (each time you donate you can save 3 lives). He was honored with a plaque from American Red Cross on June 6th.**

Zarrir Bhandara a vegetarian and a real life hero believes in saving lives without any strings attached and doing good for the sake of good. He experiences inexplicable joy by saving lives.

**Wish there were more people like him!**

### **THE HOLY DAYS OF UKTAD**

Festival of all souls- Muktd: Astad Roj, Spendarmad mah (**Wednesday August 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday August 17<sup>th</sup>**), to the fifth Gatha day. It is believed that during this 10-day festival the spirits (farohars) of our dear departed ones visit their near and dear ones in the physical world. The priests perform special rituals over cooked food, fruits and fresh flowers during which the spirits of our dear departed are invoked in order to seek their protection and blessings, in this world. In the last watch (Ushahin) gah of the Vahishtoishi Gatha day, a special afrinagan ceremony is performed, in honor of the farohars by way of gesture to bid the spirits a final farewell from this world. During these 10 days, the living must keep their homes and hearts extra clean and are in a state of heightened consciousness, to experience the presence of the spiritual beings. It is said, that the Muktd prayers should be offered for at least one generation that is for say, 16 to 30 years.

***This is our 21st consecutive year we are organizing the Muktd Festival in California. We take this opportunity to thank all of you (community members) for making this holy community event possible and so successful.***

**Prayers schedule Wednesday August 8<sup>th</sup> to Thursday August 17<sup>th</sup>**

The Muktd prayers will be performed everyday at **5.30 pm**, except on Friday the 11th the prayers will start at **4:30pm**.

Also the prayers will be performed on **Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> midnight** and a New Year Jashan will be performed on **Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> at dawn**.

***The prayers will be performed at 14801 Doncaster, Irvine, and CA. 92604.***

***Also, due to many requests from the community members we are restarting the tradition of putting the individual vase for an individual deceased person on the Muktd table, we will also have an Anjuman vase for all the collective departed souls.***

If you wish to have a separate vase to be kept for your dear departed family member or a friend please do send it to us by August 1st 2011. It will be our pleasure to include the names of your dear departed ones in the prayers during these holy days of Muktd.

Please email the names to us at **zbhandara@gmail.com** at your earliest.

Thank-you

Sincerely,

Zarrir and Zerkxis Bhandara



# Zoroastrian Association of California

## 2012 Parsi New Year Celebration

Saturday, August 18, 2012

At the ZAC Center in Orange

Sign-in 6:00 pm      Event Starts Promptly at 6:30 pm

Members: \$30 (for call-in members)

Children under 5 - FREE

At the Door (No RSVP - No Exceptions) - \$45

Pre-Paid by August 15 - \$25

NON-MEMBERS - \$40

FAMILY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill in the individual names of every person in your group.

	Individual Names	Veg /Non Veg	Adult/Children under 10	Amount Paid
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				

**TOTAL PAID:**

*Questions? Please call Deelnavaz Tarapore 909-606-0017*

Please send in your payments before August 13th to:

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

**COPY OF TWO RESOLUTIONS PASSED ON JUNE 16, 2013**

**Resolution Passed at the General Body Meeting of**  
The Zoroastrian Association of California, Inc.  
On June 16, 2012

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RESOLVED that the Zoroastrian Association of California Inc. purchase the land at 1430 Walnut Avenue, Orange, California, situated to the West of the Property owned by the Association, at a total cost not exceeding \$250,000;

RESOLVED FURTHER that the acquisition of the above land shall be funded only by donations received by the Zoroastrian Association of California for this specific purpose;

RESOLVED FURTHER that in making the acquisition no loan will be taken;

RESOLVED FURTHER that Tehemtán A. Arjani be authorized to execute the purchase documents on behalf of the Association.

**Resolution Passed at the General Body Meeting of**  
Zoroastrian Association of California, Inc.  
On June 16, 2012

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RESOLVED that the General Body approves that the two donations of \$25,000 each, from the 1127 Foundation facilitated by the trustee of the Foundation, Mr. Tehemtán A. Arjani, for the Prayer Room shall now be used for the acquisition of the land situated at 1430 Walnut Avenue, Orange, California, 92867.

## Condolences

**Mobed Mehraban Jamshid Zartoshty** (Saturday, July 6, 2012) It is with deep sorrow, regret to announce the passing of one of the greatest Zarthosti philanthropists of our time. He was also a life member of ZAC. Mehraban Zarthosty passed away peacefully in his sleep at home surrounded by his close family. We have been told that to the last minutes of his life he was quite alert and involved with his usual correspondence and efforts for Zarthushti causes. He was one of the greatest followers of Asho Zarthushttra. Though many may not know, Mehraban Zartoshty had touched the lives of almost all Zoroastrians in many ways. His passing is a great loss to all Zoroastrian communities around the world. Our thoughts and prayers reach out to the family and loved ones, in particular to his wife, Paridokht, his daughters, Homa, Vida and Mehbanoo. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

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**Aban Wadia Shah** (Nov. 15, 1940- May 24, 2012), of Parsi colony, Dadar, Bombay, India, expired Thursday, May 24, in Santa Barbara, California. She was the daughter of the late Ratanshah Wadia, and of Arnavaz Sukhia Wadia, currently residing in Santa Barbara, CA, USA, and the sister of the late Nadir Wadia. She was a very courageous and brave person, with a gentle smile and kind word for everyone around her. A wonderful, pure spirit, she had a beautiful soul and was generous to all. Her graceful presence and loving heart will be deeply missed. She is survived by her husband Arvind Shah, mother Arnavaz Wadia, daughter Sapna Marini Shah, and son-in-law Emiliano Marini. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the Shah Family for their loss. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

### New Address & Telephone No:

Mehernaz & Rahzin Irani **and** Zubin, Anahita & Hoshedar Kolah.  
The Towers  
8775 Costa Verde Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92122  
Phone No. 858-352-6826

### Rates for advertising in the ZAC newsletter are as follows:

4 Consecutive Issues:	One Time Advertisement
\$ 200 Full Page	\$ 60 Full Page
\$ 110 Half Page	\$ 40 Half Page
\$ 60 Quarter Page	\$ 25 Quarter Page
\$ 40 1/8 Page	\$ 15 1/8 Page



1424 E. Walnut Avenue  
Orange, CA 92867

**To**

**ZAC Upcoming Events at a Glance**

*All functions are at the ZAC Center, Orange, CA*

<b>Parsi New Year Dinner:</b>	<b>Saturday, August 18, 2012</b>
<b>Whist Drive/Fun/Bhel:</b>	<b>Sunday, August 26, 2012</b>
<b>Senior Event:</b>	<b>Sunday, September 2, 2012</b>
<b>Ladies Club:</b>	<b>Sunday, September 9, 2012</b>
<b>Casino Night:</b>	<b>Saturday, October 13, 2012</b>
<b>Halloween:</b>	<b>Sunday, October 28, 2012</b>

*At the General Body we had 27 members show up without an RSVP.  
This becomes a problem for the committee to organize events properly.  
Please act responsibly and send in your response in a timely way.*