



Zoroastrian Association of California

July 2013

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

Shehenshai New Year: Sunday August 18

Come celebrate the New Year at the Center in Orange. Jashan at 11:00 am followed by a simple Parsi Lunch of Dhun Dal Patio, Sev & Dahi. **Donation of \$10 ages 12 and up will be appreciated. RSVP to Deelnavaz Tarapore @ 909-606-0017 by August 15th.**

As usual we need volunteers for ravo, malido, fruits, nuts, etc. If someone can make good Mithu Dahi please volunteer as it will be great with “sagan-ni-sev”. We are also looking for volunteers to bring Dal or Rice for about 25 people.

ZAC 2013 Youth Show: Saturday August 24

The 2013 Youth Show will be held on **Saturday August 24, 2013 @ 6:30pm @ Golden West College Theater, 15751 Gothard Street, Huntington Beach, CA.** An evening of music, dance, & entertainment by the talented YOUTH of our community. **Tickets available for \$20/\$40.** Please contact Rooky Fitter at sharox2@aol.com or 714-840-7398 or Phiroze Gundevia at Phiroze.gundevia@gmail.com or 949-419-1096. You can also purchase tickets online at www.zacla.org. **Please use the attached Sponsorship & Advertising forms and support our kids.** For Map & Directions go to www.gwctheater.com.

Senior Event: Sunday, September 8 at 4:30 pm

Once again we invite all our seniors to come to the ZAC Center and allow us to give them a special day. We will start at 4:30 pm and stay till the wee hours of the morning so you can kick up your heels and show the younger members how to have a real good time! Food and entertainment will be provided and we would love to take your ideas and make it happen so call Prochi Mistry at 661-284-3055 and tell her your suggestions.

Halloween For our little Goblins! Sunday, October 27 at 3:00 pm

Did you have fun last year? Let's do it again! Fun starts at 3:00 pm with a Bouncy House, Games, Candy and prizes for your creative costumes. We need volunteer parents to help out with this one. Please call Prochi to volunteer 661-284-3055.

PAST EVENTS

Jashan/AGM: Saturday June 1st

The AGM was well-attended by ZAC members. Around 120 members and non-members were present. Prior to the meeting a Jashan was performed followed by Tea & Chasni. The meeting started with a talk on Atash Kadeh by Kobad Zarolia, President of the North American Mobed Council who attended as a guest. This was followed by a short Executive Committee report. Phiroz Tarapore was acknowledged and thanked for auditing the accounts for so many years and a small token of appreciation was presented by treasurer Rooky Fitter. She then read the Treasurer's Report and once more urged very strongly to the community to please do a monthly automatic donation towards the Center. This was followed by the appointment of an Election Officer, Zarir Bhandara who

was nominated by the Executive Committee and confirmed by the General Body. An update was given by Arda-E-Viraf Minocherhomjee and Tehmi Damania in the absence of Sohrab Charna on the plans for our Atash Kadeh. Dhunmai Dalal gave an update on the upcoming Congress. Many questions were raised in response to DhunMai's talk and the community felt that the President of ZAC should be included in the Congress Committee. The meeting was followed by dinner catered by Sheila Madon which everyone thoroughly 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, Behram Deboo, Fali Kanga and Arda-E-Viraf Minocherhomjee for performing the jashan.

A big Thank you to all our volunteers who are always willing to bring the Ravo, Malido, Fruits, and Nuts The committee gratefully acknowledges the outstanding job done 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.

Ladies Club Meeting followed by Proud to Be a Zarathushti Series: Sunday June 23

The **Ladies Club** meeting was held on June 23. Special thanks go to Zerine Khambatta for giving a cooking demonstration of an all-time Parsi favorite....patra-ni-machhi (authentically prepared with banana leaves), and to Dogdo Arjani for organizing the event.

Talks by Malcolm Bhesania

In the series "Proud to be a Zarthushti: Learning from the past, looking to the future" on June 23 and 30 were well received by members of all ages. Malcolm, in very inspiring and humorous presentations, gave an insight on the women of the Shahnameh and narrated several romantic interludes as described by Firdosi. The witty and fun-filled love stories of Zal - Rudabeh, Rustam -Tahmineh, and Bizhan - Manijeh, were enjoyed by all.

The presentation on July 21 was devoted to the exploits of RustamMalcolm covered the lesser known stories associated with this great Pehalvan, much to the amazement of all who attended.

Watch out for the email blasts announcing the date of the next talk in this lecture series not to be missed!

July 4th at the Hollywood Bowl.

To celebrate July 4, a group of about 50 members and friends went to the Hollywood Bowl to listen to the LA Phil with guest conductor Sara Hicks. After picnicking in the sylvan reserved spot our group moved to their seats, high up in the Bowl. The first half included music by American composers as well as a "whistle-along" to our favorite Colonel Bogey March. Then, after intermission, the stage was taken by Josh Groban and several of his invited soloists. The evening ended with a spectacular fireworks display accompanied by patriotic marches. A good time was had by all who came.

ZAC Annual Sports Day

The 4th Annual ZAC Sports Day (T/T and Carrom tournament) was held on July 14th at the ZAC Center. We had 42 Participants in TT & 20 in Carrom. With ample home cooked delicious food & dessert for sale it was very difficult for some to have a go at TT & Carrom!

Following are the winners in TT, Carrom & Rounder's categories.

Table Tennis:

Mr. Rohinton Fatakia - 1st prize
Mr. Ron Taraporewala - 2nd prize

Rounders:

Mr. Mehernosh Gundevia- 1st prize
Mr. Ruzbeh Daruwalla - 2nd prize

Carrom:

Mr. Malcolm Bhesania - 1st prize
Mr. Porus Mistry - 2nd prize

Anticipating a big crowd this time the Sports Day was held in ARJANI HALL to accommodate 70+ people who showed up. All in all it was a very enjoyable afternoon meeting friends and having a game on the side.

Our lucky winner for the Raffle ticket to DISNEYLAND was none other than Vira Santoke!

No event can be executed without the support of donors, volunteers and help from family members.

The organizers would like to thank the following for their cash, gifts & food donations.

Cash donations

Hutoxi & Farhad Contractor, Chisti & Kavasji Dadachanji, Rooky & Khushroo Fitter, Aban & Hosi Kapadia, Sanober & Noshir Mundroina (Oregon).

Gifts donations

Yasmin & Phiroze Gundevia, Hoshang & Firuza Karwa, Dolly Malva, Vira & Burjor Santoke & Meher Tavariva.

Food Donations

Dogdo Arjani, Xerxes & Diana Commissariat, Hutoxi Contractor, Chisti Dadachanji, Yasmin Gundevia, Firuza Karwa, Katy Khambatta, Rhoda Lakdawalla, Silloo Mehta, Hootoxi Minocherhomjee, & Ferhiz Sidhwa

A big thank you to Havi Lilaowala for sale of raffle tickets.

A total of \$1,815.00 was collected which includes sale of food and raffle ticket.

Many thanks to all the donors and volunteers, participants and cheer leaders, for making this event such a huge success! We hope to see more ZAC members at the next SPORTS DAY.

The ZAC Executive Committee would like to thank Phiroze & Yasmin Gundevia for organizing this event.

NAZC 2014 Congress Fundraiser

The Bollywood Night fundraiser held on July 20 at the CZC was an enormous success. A crowd of around 240 ZAC & CZC members and many friends attended the event organized by Farida Lakdawalla and her team of volunteers: Saleem Baakza, Hutoxi Contractor, Shazneen Gandhi, Meherangiz Kateli, Jim Lakdawalla, Lily & Darayus Mistry, Diana Taraporewalla, Merzi Taraporewalla & Vira Santoke. Everyone had a great time dancing and listening to *Nauzad Sadry* along with singers *Kainaz & Rhea Pandit* (a 14 year-old future sensation) and music produced by *DJ Zubin*. It was a great evening of music, dance, delicious appetizers and dinner.

The ZAC Executive Committee would like to congratulate and thank the NAZC Committee, led by Khushroo and Farida Lakdawalla and their team of supporters for organizing a great event and the outstanding entertaining all evening long. Many thanks also to CZC for allowing us the use of their Center for this event.

First ever Graduation Party -- July 27th at the ZAC Center.

What took place that night could never have been expected. It was a Youth Revelation, an Uprising, a Movement, a Revolution. Approximately 33 of the ZAC Youth got together at the Hall to form a tight united group that will come together for days to come. We celebrated our Graduation accomplishments, and looked forward to the future as one. We ate delicious Thai Food that was comprised of Phad Thai Noodles, Fried Rice, Orange Candy Chicken, Cake, Soda, and Vegetarians were accommodated as well. We had Music, Dancing, Table Tennis, Indian Games (Carrom), Instrumentals, and Visuals were put on the Projector. Everyone came together to throw the Party of a lifetime.

Come join us next time and don't miss out – Merzi Limath.

Announcements

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADS!

Zerkxis Bhandara graduated from Irvine High School and will be attending Irvine Valley College starting this September to pursue an Associate degree with emphasis in Religious Studies. He is planning to graduate in Comparative Theology with post graduate work in Zoroastrian Studies.

Farhad Choksy graduated from the University High School in Irvine. He will be attending the Scholars program at The Ohio State University majoring in Political Science with a minor in legal studies.

Kurush Dubash graduated from La Mirada High with 3.7 GPA and will be attending University of California, Berkeley in the fall.

Roxanne Fitter graduated from University of Wisconsin, Madison. She is getting ready to do her Master's in

Public health.

Raemin Katrack graduated from UCI with a Bachelors of Science.

Cheyenne Mistry graduated with honors from West Ranch High School. She also graduated from the Air Force Junior ROTC program as a cadet Major. Cheyenne received numerous awards, including 2 national medals for outstanding community service with exceptional leadership and one for high academic achievement. Cheyenne plans to attend UCSD as a Human Biology major on a full ride scholarship from the Air Force.

Jasmine Mistry graduated from University of California, Irvine, with a major in biology and minor in psychology.

Neville Tarapore graduated with honors from Chino Hills High School and will be attending UC Irvine this fall as a Psychology major.

Rishaad Taraporewalla graduated from UCSD with a B.S. in Biochemistry and Cell Biology.

Zena Taraporewalla graduated from Los Osos High School in Rancho Cucamonga and will be attending UCLA this fall.

Congratulations to all our grads and best wishes for every success in the future. You Rock!

The Cyrus R. Fatakia Memorial Scholarship

This Scholarship which was created by the Fatakia family to honor and cherish the loving memory of their beloved Cyrus by providing Zoroastrian students with financial assistance to study at institutions of higher learning within the United States. This year the recipients of the Cyrus R. Fatakia Scholarship are *Behnaz Colabewala, Behroze Dalal and Zena Taraporewalla*. They will receive a check for \$3000 each at the ZAC Youth Show on August 24th. ***Congratulations and best wishes for a successful future.***

Way to go Zane!

The Commissariat Family once again participated in the July 4th 5-K run. Zane beat his time from last year. He finished the run in 36 minutes and 39 seconds. Well done and congratulations at beating your own record from last year. We are all so proud of you. Keep it up!

Maneck Bhujwala was unanimously re-elected to a second term for the fiscal year 2013-2014, as President of the Greater Huntington Beach Interfaith Council (GHBIC) which has 33 representatives from various religious organizations (representing about 10,000 congregants) and individuals, as paid members.

Our Atash Kadeh . . .

As you all know ZAC has undertaken a monumental task of building an Atash Kadeh at our Center in Orange. The work will be done in two phases and there is a very extensive cost involved. We officially started fund raising for this project in June last year when we sought the approval of the General Body to build a separate building where our members could stand before an atash and pray.

We are happy to report that the Afarganyu and items donated to ZAC by the Jalna Agiary have arrived and are at our Center in two large wooden boxes. We have had donations from people in Pakistan by members asking their family to help us raise funds. So please do not be embarrassed to ask your friends and family worldwide to contribute towards our Atash Kadeh. The Committee would be very happy to show you how you approach your family and friends to get donations.

At this time, we make a correction to our earlier announcement. We acknowledge and thank Firdosh Mehta for initiating, managing, orchestrating and supporting this project, Panthakee Saheb Nariman Dalal of Patel Agiary Mazagaon Mumbai for providing the storage of materials and his wife Bakhtavar for locating the available Afarganyu at Jalna, and the Trustees of the Jalna Agiary, especially Mr. Dinyar Navroz Jalnawalla for their generous donation of the Afarganyu, Mr. Dinshaw Tamboly of WZO India Trust Funds for transport in India, Mr. Homi Ustad to arrange the crating and freight forwarding, Mr. Zersiss Buhariwalla of Buhariwalla Logistics for packaging and shipping and Firdosh's brothers Dinyar and Adi for their supporting the procurement of additional items to complete the set of implements via their contacts in Mumbai, and Ervad. Dr. Arda E-Viraf

Minocherhomjee to be the contact and consignee of ZAC. Many thanks for their assistance in making it possible for us to receive such a wonderful and much needed gift.

Ralphs Community Contribution Program

Have you signed up yet? 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. Once again ZAC received \$134.49 from all your purchases. *Thank you for helping ZAC. Keep it coming!*

This is YOUR Newsletter. *If you wish to "share" events in your life (Births, Deaths, Navjotes, Weddings, etc.) with the community via newsletter, please send an email to dtarapore@hotmail.com or dtarapore@zacla.org.*

Obituary

Keki Amaria, one of the founder members of ZAC, passed away on July 4th, 2013. Keki was born and raised in Navsari, India and went on to study Architecture at the JJ School of Arts in Bombay. Keki was proud to be the consulting architect who designed the California Zoroastrian Center in Westminster, California.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to his wife Perin, his daughter Yasmin, son Marzban and his wife Karen and their two children, Cyrus and Ashley.

May the soul of our dear friend and member, Keki rest in eternal peace.

ZAC Upcoming Events at a Glance

All functions are at the ZAC Center, Orange, CA

Shehenshai New Year: Sunday August 18 at 11:00 am

Senior Event: Sunday, September 8 at 4:30 pm

Halloween: Sunday, Oct. 27 at 3:00 pm

Jashan/General Body Meeting: Sunday, November 17 at 11:00 am

AT GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE THEATER

ZAC 2013 Youth Show: Saturday August 24 at 6:30 pm