



Zoroastrian Association of California

March 2010

2010-2011 Executive Committee

President – Vira Santoke Vice President – Tehmi Damania Treasurer – Rooky Fitter
Joint Secretaries – Persis Choksy & Sheila Madon Program Chair – Lily Mistry
Youth Coordinator – Mehernosh Gundevia

UPCOMING ZAC EVENTS

LADIES CLUB

Ladies club will be meeting at the Santoke residence (19071 Bikini Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92646) on Sunday, April 18, 2010.

Meeting starts at 12:30 p.m. Our guest speaker is Dilzeen Engineer who will be giving a talk on “*Style and Size, based on your body shape*”. Dilzeen is a qualified dress designer and has studied advanced Fashion and Clothing Technology. If you have a favorite outfit, wear it or just bring it to the meeting, so Dilzeen can share her expertise with actual samples.

Bring your favorite pot-luck dish to share. RSVP: Vira at 714-963-1301 or vsantoke@zacula.org

WALK-A-THON / PORA-PAU PICNIC (see attached flyer and sponsorship form)

Get your sneakers out of the mothballs - It's time for our annual WALKATHON/PORA-PAU PICNIC on Sunday, **May 2, 2010** in beautiful Mason Park, 18712 University Drive, Irvine, **shelter #6**. Sign-ups start at 11.00 am, with the walkathon starting at 11:30 sharp.

Prizes will be given to the oldest, youngest and 1st runner to complete 1 lap, maximum laps walked and lots of other prizes. A grand prize will be given to the person who brings in the maximum amount in pledges and we encourage all ages to participate. We promise you a relaxing fun-filled day, so do sign up to enjoy the good weather and fun times with your ZAC family.

Wow your friends with your awesome culinary skills by providing your favorite pora mixture; ZAC will provide the eggs, oil and bread. We would appreciate everyone bringing along a skillet/frying pan and 'tavatho' to flip the poras with. Those who wish to, could also bring a side-dish to share (masoor and other delicacies are always a big hit!)

We will also be holding our popular dessert competition showcasing the talents of our budding pastry chefs. Please contact our event coordinator, Lily Mistry at 949-559-5809 and let her know what you will be bringing.

All this will be followed by an exciting cricket match. We already have 8 people signed up, but need a bunch more! Please contact Sheila or Sharook Madon: 858-675-1017 / smadon5@sbcglobal.net. We encourage every cricket lover to take part. If you have wickets, pads, gloves, etc. that we can use in the game, please bring them along.

Our Walkathon coordinator is Chisti Dadachanji, so please contact her at 858-481-8476 to sign up or donate/sponsor. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE.

AGM / JASHAN / GAHAMBAR will be held at the CZC hall on Sunday, June 6, 2010.

Jashan starts at 3 pm. sharp. AGM starts after the chasni, at 4:30 pm. Agenda includes reading and approval of the minutes of the general body meeting of Nov. 2009, reports from the executive committee and finance committee, hall project update, youth update, and other business. Phiroz Tarapore has very kindly agreed to serve as auditor for a second term. If any member has anything relevant to bring up for discussion at the AGM, please send in a request in writing to Vira Santoke, so that we can add it to the agenda. Items brought up from the floor will only be allowed 3 minutes to the member.

Dinner will include Parsi food served after the AGM.

Suggested donation - \$8 per person

We need volunteers for ravo, malido, fruits, nuts, etc. Also, if you would like to help in the preparation of dinner (rice, dal, side dish, dessert), please call Sheila.

RSVP: **Sheila at (858)675-1017** if you will be attending

HOLLYWOOD BOWL: July 10

By popular demand ZAC is once again planning a trip to the Hollywood Bowl on Saturday evening, July 10, 2010. The program is titled "A Beatles Celebration". Unfortunately there are no fireworks with this show. Tickets are \$14 each and include a reserved picnic spot.

As usual we will picnic before the show with our usual pora-pau, cutlets and other Parsi favorites.

We have a few tickets remaining. Please call **Burjor Santoke** at **714-963-1301** or email **bvhm.santoke@verizon.net** if you are interested in going.

DIRECTORY: As most of you know, every 3-4 years we publish a directory for Zoroastrian residents of Southern California. We would like to include every person in the community, whether you are a member or not. If you haven't done so already, please email/phone Sheila: 858-675-1017, smadon5@sbcglobal.net with your details: name, spouse, name(s) of children living with you, address, email(s) and telephone number(s).

PAST EVENTS:

Our 1st event of the year, the **NAVROZE FUNCTION** was a big success, thanks in part, to all who attended. We thank Ashoka for the excellent dinner, Zubin Chichgar for the music, and all the participants of the *Bawa-bawee Junior* competition. The cute winners were: Noshir Eduljee, Yashna Chichgar & Meherzeen Engineer. Thanks also, to the anonymous donor of airline tickets, that we managed to raffle and offset some of the cost. We look forward to attendance and participation in even greater numbers at our next function.

Youth Trip: Many of our youth enjoyed a sunny day at Sea World in San Diego on March 27. The trip was subsidized by the ZAC Youth Fund. If your young would like to join these trips or other activities please contact Mehernosh Gundevia, mgundevia@gmail.com

APPEALS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DONATION TO IRANSHAH:

We, at HDFC Bank have opened an account for on-line donations for IRANSHAH UDWADA. Amounts will be directly credited to Iranshah Udwada's account from anywhere and through any credit card or net banking for HDFC customers. Please find the below mentioned link for the donation purpose.
<http://www.iranshahudwad.a.org/donation.html>
Best Regards,
Yazdi Gandhi

URAN AGIARY: ZAC has received an appeal from Kersi Sooi to donate generously to the Umrigar agiary in Uran, which today is in very poor shape due to lack of funds. Uran is a small fishing village across the harbor from Bombay. All donations will be used towards the maintenance and upkeep of the agiary and for assuring a regular supply of much needed firewood for the atash.

Send your checks made out to ZAC (marked Uran agiary) to Rooky Fitter, 4611 Stellrecht, Huntington Beach, CA 92649.

FKS FOUNDATION: We have received an appeal from Mrs. Roshan Sholapurwala & the trustees of the FKS Foundation, Mumbai, to donate generously to their fund so they can continue with their numerous charitable contributions to the needy. Some of their projects include a charitable homeopathic clinic run by Dr. Farida Talati, paying school and college fees for deserving students, providing medical aid for serious & chronic ailments, giving merit scholarships, sports aid, and aid to some minority associations. Please send your check made out to ZAC, to Rooky Fitter, 4611 Stellrecht, Huntington Beach, CA 92649.

Flute Recital: Mahfrin Santoke will be giving her graduation flute recital on Friday, May 7 at 5 pm, at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music, California State University, Long Beach. Admission is free (except for parking) and all are welcome. Program will include works by Bach, Mozart, Shostakovich, Robert Dick, and Sarasate. If you wish to attend, please call for directions: 714-655-3821 or email msantoke@csulb.edu.



CONDOLENCES

Perin Raimalwala, Mahrukh Bhujwala's mother, passed away on February 23, in Mumbai, at the age of almost 90 years. Born in Udwada, to Dorabji and Banoobai Sidhwa, she was married to the late Dadiba Framroze Raimalwala of Nargol. She is survived by four children: Gulestan, Mahrukh, Kyanosh, Viraf, and five grandchildren: Shehnaz, Kamal, Toranj, Arzan & Kaizad.

Khorshed Mody, wife of the late Jimmy Mody passed away in New Jersey in March 2010. Khorshed and Jimmy were long-time residents of San Diego.

Katy Phiroze Dalal passed away in Pune on March 18. Katy was an eminent Parsi caterer and author of the "Jamva Chaloji" recipe books.

Minoos Ponchkhawalla, father of Gool Noshir Jesung, passed away in Mumbai on March 20.

Our sincere condolences to the families of the bereaved.

Message from Cowsie Malva:

Cowsie Malva, along with the Malvas, Kapadias and Norwoods, wishes to thank ZAC and the entire community for the kind and loving support given during the passing away of his wife, Jeroo on December 28th, 2009. Jeroo always said to celebrate her life, once she passes away.

The family would like to thank Ervad Zarrir Bhandara and his son Ervad Xerxes, Ervad Dr. Khushroo Unwalla and Ervad Fali Kanga for helping with the prayers. Cowsie especially wishes to show his sincere appreciation to the entire Unwalla family of Highland for the solid support and help given to Jeroo and him during Jeroo's entire grave illness. They have been real dear friends since the time they have moved into the neighborhood.

With AHURA MAZDA'S BLESSINGS AND BEST WISHES TO ALL

Please consider this great opportunity for our youth. Address all questions to Mr. Eric Engineer, WZCC Youth Director... erice_79@hotmail.com

Mr. Umeed Kothavala (Umeed.Kothavala@extentia.com) who recently won the WZCC award for Outstanding Zarathushti Entrepreneur would like your help in promoting his company's International Internship Program among Youth in your community. He is seeking bright, motivated Zarathushti Youth who *reside outside* India but are seeking international work experience *inside* India. The internship is open to English-speaking college students and mid-career professionals alike. Internships are available in multiple functional areas including software development, marketing, engineering, and graphics design.

Interested candidates can learn more and apply at <http://connect.extentia.com>.

CALLING ALL PROFESSORS...

Dear Friends,

This is related to the FEZANA Journal's upcoming summer issue on Dynamism in the Zoroastrian Diaspora. In addition to a short article focusing on a few Zarathushti academics who have excelled in their fields, I have been asked to compile a list of Zarathushti academics - instructors, professors, researchers, deans, provosts, etc. at colleges and universities in the US and Canada. The list will include: name of individual, title and department, name of college/university and its location.

If you are a faculty member or administrator or researcher at a US or Canadian university/college OR know someone who is one OR heard of someone who is one, anywhere in the US or Canada, including recently retired academics, please respond to parastu3@gmail.com with this information so that we can create a comprehensive list and not leave anyone out. We are working on an extremely tight deadline so your prompt assistance is greatly appreciated.

Thanks in advance for your help,

Parastu Dubash
Shrewsbury, MA

CALLING ALL IIT GRADS

Dolly Dastur is preparing a FEZANA issue which will be focusing on The Zoroastrian Diaspora to North America. In connection with this, Edul Daver is preparing an article highlighting the contributions of Indian Institute of Technology graduates in North America. All Zoroastrian IIT graduates please send Edul Daver daver@acupowder.com information about themselves including Name, address, E-address, IIT location, Year of graduation/Major and a very brief paragraph (100 words) about their highest/proudest accomplishment. Edul will use this to come up with a very general article. Please pass this information on to other IIT grads you may know of.

ZOROASTRIAN GAMES: The 12th Zoroastrian games will be held from July 1- 5 2010 at the beautiful Cal State University, Long Beach. To register online and find out more about this event please visit <http://www.zathletics.com/>

If you have any questions, contact the sports committee at: zsc@fezana.org

NORTH AMERICAN ZARTHUSTI CONGRESS

The 15th North American Zarthushti Congress will be held in Houston, from Dec. 29-31, 2010. The theme is *Preserve the Past, Protect the Present and Perfect the Future*. The registration form can be found at their website http://zah.org/nazc-10/registration_form.htm.

YOUTH SHOW VIDEO

If you would like to own a copy of the ZAC Youth Show / Natak – 2009, please contact Rooky Fitter at 714-840-7398. Cost is \$10 per DVD.

Our grateful thanks to Zubin Khambatta for recording the performance and making the DVDs that will stay in our memories forever!

FEZANA SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are invited for the 2010-2011 FEZANA Academic Scholarships. All scholarships are open to Zarthushtis who have obtained admission for attendance at institutions of higher learning (accredited degree-granting colleges or universities) in USA or Canada. Application forms are available from the FEZANA website www.fezana.org or Dolly Dastoor: dollydastoor@sympatico.ca

PRAYER BOOK

FEZANA has published a prayer book that contains short Hama Anjuman prayers to be recited for the Navruz festival. All prayers are in English, Farsi & Gujarati. This has been assembled by Ervad Soli P. Dastur of Florida and is a humble effort to bring all Zarthushti Groups together in a common prayer environment. A nominal contribution of \$5 is requested to defray some of its printing costs. Please contact Vira at 714-963-1301 or vsantoke@zacla.org if you would like to purchase a copy.

YMZA COINS

Young Mazdayasnian Zoroastrian Association of Karachi, Pakistan, is selling a limited number of commemorative coins to celebrate its 100 years of glory, for Rs. 2,000 per piece (while stocks last). Each Coin is pure silver, 15 grams in weight and represents YMZA's contribution to the Zoroastrian youth of Karachi. Please contact Mr. Dinshaw Avari for more information: dba@avari.com, headoffice@avari.com, www.avari.com

GUJARAT DAY

On May 1, 2010, the Gujarati community in Southern California will be celebrating the golden jubilee of the formation of the state of Gujarat in India. Celebrations will begin at 5 p.m. and go on till midnight, at the Excelsior auditorium in Norwalk. There will be a parade, live Gujarati music, dances, comedy kings of Gujarat and a vegetarian dinner. The organizers have invited participation from Parsis. *Tickets: \$15.00, \$20.00, \$25.00 & VIPs dinner included.* Call Tehmi Damania 949-583-9973 (tehmids@hotmail.com) for information and tickets.

HELP AVAILABLE: Zoroastrian lady is willing to provide full-time, live-in services to the elderly, for a reasonable salary. Please call 909-965-0664 if you are interested.

THE ZARTHUSHTI STIMULUS PLAN (www.zorostimulus.org) has 170 registered Zoroastrians who are un/under-employed and seeking a job. Registrants are from all over the world, and several are in our own local community. Help them by posting a job opening if your company is hiring or by reaching out to those who are registered for the program. You can also register to be an official Mentor at the website.

If you have any questions / concerns, email the Zoroastrian Stimulus Plan team at zorostimulus@fezana.org

It is time again to apply for the Cyrus R. Fatakia Memorial Scholarship which was created to honor and cherish the loving memory our beloved Cyrus.

**CYRUS R. FATAKIA
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**



To Live in Hearts we leave behind is not to die.

~ Thomas Campbell, Hallowed Ground

The Scholarship provides Zoroastrian students with financial assistance to study at institutions of higher learning in California. Please contact the ZAC committee if you would like to apply for this scholarship.

Good Luck & God Bless!

Sincerely,
Rohinton, Erna & Darius Fatakia

Remembering You, Cyrus ~

At the rising of the sun and its going down, we remember you.

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember you.

In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring, we remember you.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer, we remember you.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends, we remember you.

As long as we live, you too, shall live, for you are always a part of us, as we remember you.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember you.

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember you.

When we have joy we crave to share, we remember you.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make, we remember you.

When we have achievements that we want to share, we remember you.

As long as we live, you too shall live, for you are always a part of us, as we remember you.

We love you, our precious Cy and we will always, remember you.



4611 Stellrecht
Huntington Beach, CA 92649

TO:

Upcoming Events

Ladies club - April 18

Walk-a-thon / pora-pau picnic - May 2

AGM / Jashan / Gahambar - June 6

Hollywood Bowl - July 10

SAVE THE DATE – Saturday, July 24 – Special Karaoke Night

Details to follow.

RIDES NEEDED: Many of our seniors cannot attend ZAC functions due to lack of transportation. Some areas where we have had requests in the past are: San Pedro, Irvine, Anaheim , Laguna Woods and San Diego . If you need a ride or can help give someone a ride, please let any committee member know.

March 2010

