



Zoroastrian Association of California

May 2014

2013-2014 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

Ladies Club: Sunday, May 25

Potluck lunch at 12:30 pm after Humbandagi. There will be a demonstration on draping a sari. Those interested, please bring your blouse and petticoat. Saris will be provided. There will also be a demonstration on making Bhakras. **RSVP and info: Dogdo Arjani at 818-545-8161**

Jashan/AGM: Saturday June 7

Jashan starts at 4:00 pm sharp followed by the AGM after the Chasni at 6:00 pm. Agenda includes: Reading and approval of the minutes of the November 2013 GBM, Executive Committee report, center update, congress update and other business. **If any member has anything relevant to bring up for discussion at the AGM, please send a request in writing to Tehmi Damania, tdamania@zacla.org by May 28, so that we can add it to the agenda. Items brought up from the floor will only be allowed 3 minutes per member. *The Executive Committee regrets that, as per normal practice, we have been unable to send the audited FS for 2013 in the newsletter. As you know we have a new accountant checking the work this year and there has been an unavoidable delay. We will present them to you at the AGM on June 7th. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.***

Dinner will be served after the AGM. Suggested donation \$10 per person (Children under 5 yrs. – FREE). We need volunteers for Ravo, Malido, fruits, & nuts/dry fruits.

Kindly RSVP to Prochi Mistry at 661-284-3055 before June 1st if you will be attending.

Walk-ins/calls/emails after June 1st will be \$20 per person, regardless of age.

PLEASE BRING A DESSERT PER FAMILY TO SHARE.

Shenshai New Year/ Khordad Sal Function: Saturday, August 23

As usual this event will be at the ZAC Center. There will be a jashan followed by an evening of Entertainment, Food and dancing. Details will be published in the next newsletter.

PAST EVENTS

Fundraiser for the World Zoroastrian Symphony Orchestra (wzso)

On March 1, 2014, the ZAC Ladies Club organized a very successful fundraiser under the able leadership of Dogdo Arjani, for the benefit of the WZSO to perform at our Congress this December. The orchestra, under the baton of its dynamic conductor, Maestro Farobag Cooper of Chicago, unites Zarthushti musicians from all over the world, providing unforgettable musical experiences to attendees at Zoroastrian Congresses. A performance of this magnitude requires a large budget and thanks to FEZANA and other sponsors from around the country, and the efforts of several ZAC members, we have now raised enough money to bring the orchestra to fruition.

The evening started with several games of bingo, followed by entertainment provided by our very young members, and a sumptuous Parsi dinner of shrimp curry rice, masala chicken, kachumbar, Russian salad, falooda and cake. All had a good time.

We would like to thank the following members for their contribution towards the event:

Food donated by: Prochi Mistry, Rhoda Lakdawala, Dogdo Arjani, Perin Engineer, Yasmin Gundevia, Chisti Dadachanji, Vira Santoke, Silloo Mehta and Tehmi Damania.

Prizes: Katy Khambatta, Aban Kapadia, Cheherazad Raetz

Entertainment: Zane Commissariat, Shanaia Cowasji, Sarosh Mistry

MC: Dilnavaz Shroff

Set-up: Jimmy Colabewala, Vira and Mahfrin Santoke

Entrance money collected by Perinne Medora

Our grateful thanks to Deelnavaz Tarapore, Jimmy and Eric Colabewala for their help in the kitchen and above all to Malcolm Bhesania for heating up all the food and making sure dinner was served on time!

Navroze Function

The ZAC community enjoyed a very pleasant evening celebrating Navroze on March 22 in the company of friends and family. All were greeted by the exquisite Haftseen Table contributed by Mahnaz & Parvez Erani who spent the whole morning decorating and setting up the delicious goodies and beautiful flowers with their helpers. The Jashan was enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to our Mobeds – Zarir & Zerkxis Bhandara, Maneck Bhujwala, Mino Katrack, & Arda-E-Viraf Minocherhomjee. Around 275 members – young & old – had a great time. Since it was also ZAC's 40th birthday a lovely power-point presentation done by our very own ZAC President Tehmi Damania and a good history of the ZAC presented by Roshan Malva was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The ZAC Executive Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the Navroze function.

Dolly Malva for bringing the jashan nu saman and the dahi

Dogdo Arjani for the Malido

Rukshana Cowasji and Perviz Tarapore for the nuts

Vira Santoke and Mitra Irani for the fruit

Vira and Burjor Santoke for chalk at the entrance

Shirin and Dinyar Irani for their outstanding Falooda which was enjoyed by all.

Mahnaz and Parvez Erani who meticulously performs a labor of love each year and shop for all the flowers, fruit and all the goodies and spends hours decorating a table that is a joy for us all.

Roxanne Fitter and Roshan Malva who helped to set up the tables and chairs for the event.

Diana and Xerxes Commissariat, Cheyenne Mistry, Kaizad Mehta, Mehernosh Choksy and others who helped pick up the tables and chairs and decorations after the event.

Vistasp Shroff for managing crowd control and keeping the food lines moving smoothly.

A big Thank You to Roshan Malva for spending hours putting together and presenting the 40-year History of ZAC and Vira Santoke for providing the pictures and collaborating with Roshan on the project.

Above all we would like to thank you the community for your patience and understanding despite the crowded conditions. We hope you all had a good time.

If we have inadvertently missed mentioning anyone please accept our sincere apology and do let us know.

Walk-a-thon

We had an awesome response to our annual Walk-a-thon event. Around 200 members and non-members had a great fun-filled day. Members took to heart our Mantra – **Walk with your feet....Open your heart....Donate with love.** Thanks to everyone's effort and generosity we collected around \$10,783.

Shayaan and Jedd Gandhi did an awesome job once again and collected \$3,207.

Food Sponsors - Cooking: Dal – Dinshaw Fanibanda, Yasmin Gundevia, Lily Mistry, Prochi Mistry and Vira Santoke,

Rice - - Rhoda Lakdawalla, Najoo Panthaky, Sanober Raghina, Ferhiz Sidhwa and Bacchi Writer

Kabab -- Dogdo Arjani (Veg.), Mahnaz Erani, Katy Khambatta, Prochi Mistry, Hutoxi Parabia

Kachumbar -- Rukshana Cowasjee, Chisti Dadachanji, Mitra Irani, and Benaifer Limath

Water, Pizza and Prizes Sponsors – Xerxes and Diana Commissariat, Farhad and Hutoxi Contractor, Cyrus and Nashita Dastur, Dinyar and Shireen Irani Hoshi and Aban Kapadia, Hoshang and Katy Khambatta, Havi Lilaowala, Dolly Malva, Burjor and Vira Santoke, Dr. Rohin and Arnavaz Talati, and Kayleene Writer

Volunteers for Sale Items: Dogdo Arjani, Dolat Bodhanwala, Tehmi Damania, Perin Engineer, Mahnaz Erani, Zenobia Master, Hootoxi Minocherhomjee, Dilnavaz Shroff, and Dinaz Shroff

Donors -- \$500 -- Godrej & Arnaz Khambatta, Hoshang & Katy Khambatta, and Yazdi Pithawala **\$1000** -- Chisti & Kavasji Dadachanji

Volunteers – Farhad & Hutoxi Contractor, Chisti & Kavasji Dadachanji, Khushru Dubash, Behroze Irani, Mitra & Noshir Irani, Anita Karanjia, Hoshang Khambatta, Merzi Limath, Sheila Madon, Hoshang & Zenobia Master, Prochi Mistry, Lily Mistry, Rohinton Panthaki, Vira Santoke, Kaylene Writer, and last but not least, the ZAC Committee.

Prize Winners -- Mehli Bhagalia, Iyanna Bodhanwalla, Diana Commissariat, Xerxis Commissariat, Zane Commissariat, Zara Commissariat, Ashtad Engineer, Varun Engineer, Shayaan and Jedd Gandhi, Jay & Alex Karanjia, Navaz Kerawalla, Sharook Madon, Diana Mistry, Dilber Mistry, Sarosh Mistry, Riasa Morena, Rusi Siganporia, Shayan Siganporia, and Homi Writer.

Dessert Competition Winners -- Dilber Mistry and Sanober Raghina

The committee would like to thank the walk-a-thon organizers, Katy Khambatta and Prochi Mistry for their hard work and dedication which made this event a success. Finally, thanks to a wonderful community, with your vision and support our Atash Kadeh will soon be a ---- REALITY!

Ladies Club

Armaity May's talk on April 20 at Ladies Club Meeting was well attended. She talked about the advantages of eating vegetarian food. Meat is loaded with hormones, chemicals etc. which result in many diseases. Lot of questions was raised and Armaity responded appropriately. Armaity also distributed a GUIDE TO CRUELTY-FREE EATING.

Condolences

Cawas Irani, husband of Farah, father of Sarah and Cayaan, son of Gul and Boman Iranpur and brother of Fowzia passed away on February 19, 2014. May his soul rest in eternal peace in His Heavenly abode.

The ZAC community extends heartfelt condolences to the family.

Dinshaw Rustom Irani, (known affectionately as "Dallu"), born in Bombay, India on September 30, 1939, left us this year, on February 28, to join his beloved wife, Shirin Irani, in their heavenly abode. Dinshaw and Shirin are survived by their two daughters, Moti and Piroja, as well as by their two adoring granddaughters, Soraya (8 yrs. old) and Sophia Shirin (3 mo. old). May Dinshaw and Shirin rest in peace, eternally in each other's loving embrace.

Our sincere condolences to Moti, Piroja and their families on their loss.

Rustum Savaksha, age 83 years, husband of Goolu, father of Sheila (Sharook) Madon and Roxanne (Percy) Madon (Mumbai), passed away in Mumbai, India, on March 3, 2014 at 2:40 pm. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Alysha, Rohan & Ria of San Diego and Rishad & Raynah of Mumbai, India.

Our dad will always be fondly remembered for his jovial nature, his love of life, laughter and his great generosity towards others. He doted on his children, grandchildren, sons-in-laws, and gave his all to them.

Dad, wherever you are, I hope you are cheerfully sharing your Times of India tidbits with everyone around. You will be greatly missed and always loved. Sheila & Sharook.

Our sincere condolences to Sheila, Sharook, Alysha, Rohan and Ria on their loss.

Minoo Jehanbax Gandhi, passed away in Pune (India) on April 12, 2014 / Jamiyad Roj. He is survived by his wife Kerba, son Homayar, daughter & son-in-law Pearl & Sohrab Jokhi and grand children Zehan & Parinaz. He was a loving & caring husband, dad and grandparent. He will be missed by one and all. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Our sincere condolences to Homayar and his family on their loss.

Bhikhaji K. Mistry, husband of Tehmi, father of Darayus, Bakhtawar and Yazdi, father-in-law of Lily, Hoshi and Jasmine and grandfather of Porus, Jasmine, Ruksin, Hanoz and Cyrus passed away in Mumbai on April 19, 2014. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Our sincere condolences to the Darayus, Lily, Porus and Jasmine on their loss.

Hoshang Pavri passed away on May 16, 2014 in Colorado. Hoshang and Margie had relocated to Colorado. He passed away peacefully with his family by his side. May Hoshang's soul rest in eternal peace.

Our sincere condolences to Margie and the family on their loss.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A NEW INITIATIVE TO BENEFIT ZAC MEMBERS

As you know, physicians and surgeons in many communities make themselves available to respond to questions of the members, one on one.

At Dogdo Arjani's suggestion, the ZAC Executive Committee thought it was a good idea for us to do the same starting in 2014. A few of the Doctors Dogdo has approached, have all already agreed to participate. She is in the process of sending e-mails to all the doctors so that they may confirm whether they would participate and also indicate their medical specialty.

ZAC plans to arrange these informal visits on Sundays before the Ladies Club meetings.

More details will be forthcoming from Dr. Sherri Treasurywala who has kindly agreed to coordinate this service. She will be the main contact with the Doctors and will let the community know details through ZAC newsletters and email blasts.

Congratulations, Jimmy

Jimmy Colabewala received his Mobedyar Certificate from course instructor Zarir Bhandara at the ZAC center in Orange. The Mobedyar course was initiated on January 20th 2013, in order to facilitate our growing Zoroastrian population in California and meet the demand to perform the religious ceremonies. This course was formulated so that our community will have trained people to assist the priests and/or perform the rituals and ceremonies in lieu of priests.

Congratulations, Maneck

Maneck Bhujwala was invited to join the Board of Directors of the South Coast Interfaith Council. He was also nominated as the FEZANA representative to the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN).

Change of Address

Jehangir Sachinvala. -- 107 N. Windy Pointe, Orange, CA 92869

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Zoroastrian Association of California

1424 E. Walnut Avenue Orange, CA 92867

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday, June 7, 2014

			Minutes
1. Call to Order	Tehmi Damania		5
2. Approval of Minutes GBM of Nov. 2013	Deelnavaz Tarapore		15
3. Executive Committee Report	Tehmi Damania		5
4. Treasurer's Report & Approve FS-2013	Rooky Fitter		10
5. Appointment Auditor for 2015*	Tehmi Damania		5
6. Prayer Room Update	Tehmi/Arda/Sohrab		15
7. Congress Update	Khushroo Lakdawalla		10
8. Other Business	General Body		30
9. Meeting Adjourned			

**After the audited accounts of the previous year are adopted by the General Body, an auditor is appointed for the following year to audit the accounts of the current fiscal year.*



1424 E. Walnut Avenue
Orange, CA 92867

To

ZAC Upcoming Events at a Glance

All functions are at the ZAC Center, Orange, CA

Ladies Club: Sunday, May 25, 2014

Ghambhar/AGM: Saturday, June 7, 2014

Whist Drive/Panna Party/Bhel: Sunday, July 6, 2014

ZAC Sports Day: Sunday, August 3, 2014

Shehenshai New Year/Khordad Sal: Saturday, August 23, 2014

Halloween: Saturday, October 26, 2014