



Zoroastrian Association of California

May 2016

2016-2017 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 – Shirley Limath

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual General Body Meeting: Saturday, June 18

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 at 5:00 pm. Tea and light refreshments will be served before the meeting and dinner will be served after the meeting at around 8:00 pm.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 18. The meeting will begin at 5:00 pm to check for quorum. An important discussion about the ZAC Center will take place during the wait for a quorum to save time during the meeting. The agenda will include the Approval of the minutes of November 2015 GBM, the Executive Committee report, Treasurer's report, Presentation of ZAC Financial Statement for 2015, Appointment of independent accountant for 2015 FS, Report on ZAC Center projects including the Atash Kadeh and approval of expenses and finally any other business. The Minutes of the GBM of November 2015, the Agenda and Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities will be sent out prior to the AGM in June.

If any member has anything relevant to bring up for discussion please send a request in writing to Tehmi Damania, tdamania@zacla.org by June 14, so it may be addressed in other business. Items brought up from the floor will only be allowed 3 minutes per member.

Annual General Body Meeting is for **members ONLY** so please inform us if you have a guest attending. **RSVP is a MUST and the suggested donation is \$10 per adult. Children under 5 are free.**

Please RSVP to Prochi Mistry at 661-284-3055 or mistryprochi@aol.com by June 14th. Walk-ins and RSVPs after June 14 by calls/emails will pay \$15 regardless of age.

Maidhyoshem Ghambar- Mid-Summer: Sunday, June 26

The jashan will start promptly at 11:30 am. Chasni and lunch will follow. There is no fee for a ghambar. If you would like to sponsor a Gahambar or a parabh Jashan and meal please contact Zarrir Bhandara or one of the committee members.

RSVP is requested in order to get a proper headcount for lunch by June 23rd.

Please RSVP zbhandara@gmail.com or call 714-512-8438 and leave a message.

PAST EVENTS

Ladies Club: Sunday, February 21

We had a rip-roaring time with our excellent speaker, **Sudha Tendulkar**, a certified, "laughter leader" who took us through a series of "yogic laughter" exercises, that helped us to destress and bring about a positive attitude to life. We all participated in the exercises and had a good laugh, at the jokes that were also shared in the meeting.

Everyone had big beaming smiles on their faces by the end of the session. Everyone was also very happy with the boxes of specially “roasted peanuts” that the speaker gifted to each and every participant in the class.

The meeting was preceded by a Pranayama Yoga presentation done by **Zarrir Bhandara and Hutuy Contractor from 12.30 to 1.00 pm**

Navroze Function: Saturday, March 19

The Navroz Function was attended by about 240 people and started with a traditional ZAC Jashan. Everyone arrived in the lobby to be greeted yet again by the beautifully decorated Haft Seen table by Mahnaz and Parvez Erani.

An excellent show on the Journey of the Parsees from Iran to the shores of Gujarat was presented by our religion class children in the age group. They were dressed in the early traditional costumes and performed flawlessly with clear diction and cute actions which won the hearts of all present. A VERY BIG THANK YOU to Mobed Zarrir Bhandara and Hutouxi Contractor for their hard work in tutoring the children for this beautiful presentation.

Once again an on-the-spot fund raiser was held - this time spearheaded by none other than our expert Hutouxi Contractor. Our members generously responded and in a short span of about 20 minutes an amount of \$45,000 was pledged for the Atash Kadeh. Another BIG THANK YOU to Hutouxi and Zarrir! Due to popular demand, we once again had the Goan food catered by Mandovi Restaurant for the dinner and the super appetizers which was appreciated by all.

Not to forget the ever popular punch made by our very own Prochi!

DJ Joel then created a great atmosphere with his strobe lights and music to get the members dance away into the night.

Ladies Club Meeting: Sunday, April 17

We were honored to have a **Tai-Chi session conducted by Angie Sierra**, a Tai-Chi instructor and Reiki Healer. It was a completely calming and well received interactive demonstration and everyone had lots of questions for the speaker, who everyone thought, was an exceptionally warm and wonderful person. Everyone participated in the exercises, young and old, and enjoyed the basic moves in the 24 form, Yin (internal) and Yang (external) style. Everyone felt relaxed, destressed and more positive, with the graceful meditative movements. All participants left in an extremely relaxed and calm mood.

The crowd enjoyed the pot-luck food which was aplenty and then really enjoyed the tea with the parsi chapats and snacks.

Maidhyozarem Gahambar (Mid-Spring) Jashan: Sunday May 1

The jashan started at 11.30 am and was an extremely well attended event and much appreciated by all. A good chasni and lunch was well enjoyed by all the attendees.

This ghambar was to commemorate the 6th death anniversary and honour the memory of our dear departed Rohinton Bamboat. Interestingly, a very emotionally uplifting epic movie, “Once in a Life Time” was also shown...and this movie had been given to Zarrir by Rohinton Bamboat...which was a perfect culmination of “timing and co-incidence”.

The movie was produced by BPP in 1999, and portrayed, the moving of the Atash Adaran - a sacred fire from Navsari and its enthronement at the Jokhi Agiary in Godrej Baug Mumbai.

"The congregation of nearly 5000 Parsis at the time of the consecration of the Atash Adrian at Godrej Baug was a testimony to the deep and powerful faith that Parsis of today have, which is albeit displayed on rare occasions such as this."

Everyone enjoyed the movie immensely and we all felt a tug of glowing pride at our heritage and our Zorastrian roots.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations & Welcome to Mehrzana

Congratulations to Nazneen and Adil Shroff on the arrival of their lovely daughter Mehrzana on Navroze day March 21, 2016! Farah is excited to be a big sister and is a great helper to mom and dad. Congrats also to proud grandparents Dr. Rohin and Arnavaz Talati on the birth of their second grandchild. The ZAC community is proud to welcome our newest member!

Change of Address:

Freny Munshi

Please see printed version of newsletter.

CUSTOM-MADE SUDREHS:

Mrs. Gulcher Paghdiwalla of Karachi is visiting her family in Southern California, and has offered to stitch sudrehs for Zarthushtis, per their specifications. She can also completely hand-stitch sudrehs needed for the navjote ceremony or make lenghas (pajamas) for everyday use. She is well-known in her work and we hope all Zarthushtis living in the diaspora, who can't always get sudrehs from the mother countries, will avail of this wonderful opportunity.

Please contact Gulcher at 858-525-5220 / zarinp@hotmail.com, if interested.

Learn How to Play Mah Jong

Banoo Irani is offering to teach Mah Jong American version game to anyone interested in learning it. It is a game played by 4 people but a group of at least 3 people can also play this game. It will be good to teach a group of 4 and more so they start to play soon but willing to teach one person also at a time. If Interested, please do call Banoo Irani at 714-761-8254 to schedule the timings and location (prefer ZAC Center) with her to learn the game & be pro-active.

Condolences

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of **Rostam Jahanian**, devoted husband of Merangiz, Beloved Father to Armita Dalal and Ariasb Jahanian, Grandfather to Shahyan, Arman and Shireen Dalal and Shanaya and Asha Jahanian, and Father in Law to Hormazd Dalal and Farangiz Radpour His ashes were returned to Iran. May his soul rest in eternal peace. Our sincere condolences to the family.

FEZANA AGM NEWS

The FEZANA Annual General Meeting took place in Novi, Michigan from Friday, April 29 to Sunday, May 1. There were three members of the ZAC community who attended the meeting - Tehmi Damania and Deelnavaz Tarapore from the ZAC Executive Committee who represented ZAC and Houtoxi Contractor representing the FEZANA Welfare Committee.

A very interesting pre-AGM session took place on the recent survey carried out for the seniors. The survey overwhelmingly revealed that many seniors felt they were missing out on meeting and participating in events at their respective Centers due to distances and lack of transportation. Associations should address the needs of seniors in planning activity and arranging rides for our seniors who seem to be unable to participate in events. Very few associations actually address the needs of seniors when planning their activities. If members have any ideas, suggestions or would like to volunteer to help with activities for our seniors, please send an email to committee@zacla.org.

The other most urgent and important item addressed was that in the 29 years of its existence FEZANA has not raised its membership dues at all. Although in 1993 a resolution was passed to increase membership to \$2 for each member in the Association, the resolution was never implemented. FEZANA has requested each Member Association to give an immediate interim contribution and the fees to be raised from 2017. The other reason for this "dire" need for funds was that there will be no NAZC in 2017 since ZSBC bowed out from doing the congress as originally planned.

If any individuals wish to contribute towards helping with this plight, pay back towards a scholarship received or in any way help the organization for FEZANA activities or causes, please visit the website: <https://fezana.org/funds/generalfunds/>. There is a whole list of funds you could choose from to support FEZANA activities and programs like Scholarship Fund, Welfare Fund, Sports, NGO, Religious Education Fund, etc. We also encourage businesses to advertise in the FEZANA Journal to help defray the cost of printing.

The new FEZANA Executive Committee is: Homi D. Gandhi, President; Arzan Sam Wadia, Vice-President; Nilufer Shroff, Treasurer; Percy Master, Secretary; Afreed Mistry, Assistant Secretary.

Other news: CZC were declared the hosts of the 2019 World Zoroastrian Youth Congress with ZAC-LA assisting them; Houston will be hosting the 2020 NAZC and the 2017 FEZANA AGM. ZAC had put in a request to host the AGM in 2017 but the majority vote went to Houston.

The 15th ZOROASTRIAN GAMES to be held June 30 - July 4 – Chicago

You can learn more about the 2016 Zoroastrian and register on <http://www.zgames2016.com/>. All events and program may be checked out on the website. Plan to arrive on June 30 for on-site registration. Finals and closing ceremonies will be held on July 4. For all updates and ongoing communications, please visit and 'Like' the Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/zgamesChicago2016. Please feel free to e-mail chicago.zgames@gmail.com with any questions or assistance.

Once again, we welcome students to apply for the Cyrus R. Fatakia Memorial Scholarship which was created to honor and cherish the loving memory of 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 students with financial assistance to attend Universities of their choice within the United States. This Scholarship is available for Undergraduate Students only. Please contact the Cyrus R. Fatakia Memorial Scholarship Committee at vsantoke@verizon.net if you would like to apply for this scholarship. Please note that all applications, transcripts and referrals should be submitted by the June 30th deadline.

Good Luck & God Bless!
Rohinton, Erna & Darius Fatakia

"The thankful heart will find, in every hour, some heavenly blessing." ~ Henry Ward Beecher

Touching Shoulders With You.....

*There is a comforting thought at the close of the day
When I'm weary, and lonely and sad
That sort of grips hold of this crusty old heart
And bids it be merry and glad.
It gets in my Soul, and it drives out the blues,
And finally thrills through and through.
It's just the sweet memory that chants the refrain,
"I'm glad I touched shoulders with you."*

*Did you know you were brave, did you know you were strong,
Did you know there was one leaning hard?
Did you know that I waited and listened and prayed,
And was cheered by your simplest word?*

*Did you know that I longed for that smile on your face,
For the sound of your voice ringing true?
Did you know that I grew stronger and better because
I had merely touched shoulders with you?*

*I am glad that I live; that I battle and strive,
For the place that I know I must fill;
I'm thankful for sorrows, I'll meet with a grin,
What fortune may send, good or ill;
I may not have wealth, I may not be great,
But I know I shall always be True,
For, I have in my Life, that courage you gave,
When once, I touched shoulders with you.*

The Atash Kadeh Project

We are getting closer to the realization of a dream and we are almost there! Please keep those donations coming in for the prayer room. We are still awaiting the pledges from the Navroze impromptu fundraiser. The exterior of the building is almost complete and it may seem that no progress is being made but this is because we are awaiting delivery of finishing touches like the columns and the stone veneer outside, the front door is still not delivered but the stucco and roof are now done. The next step is the hardscape and paving around the building. At this stage the conduits will also be laid to take power and networking cables across to the old building. We are also upgrading the power from single phase to 3-phase and awaiting transformers and the power connection from across the street. In the interior we are waiting for the marble, Kebla pillars, tiles, wood paneling and the light fixtures. The afarganyu and the rest of the Kebla items have now been sent for nickel plating and polishing. A donation towards this cost will be appreciated. Few items on our wish list are still outstanding and a few more have been added to the list. We would love to have this project to be 100% participation of members as far as donations are concerned. This project is the very soul of ZAC and deserves to have each and every member's name on the list. We look forward to seeing YOUR name added as you become a part of the project and a contributing member of the community. *Please see the attached Donor list and let Rooky Fitter know if we have made an error in the amount you have donated.*

The Building... Looking Good!



Donor Names in Categories

\$1 to \$1000*

Alamshaw Rusi & Chandrabala
Amaria Perin
Amroli Pervin
Bhandara Zerkxis
Billimoria Armine
Colabavala Jimmy & Meher
Contractor Yasmin
Dadachanji Diana
Dalal Phiroze & Dhunmai
Deboo Behram & Manijeh
Edujee Katy
Fanibanda Roshan & Nariman

Friedman Arthur
Irani Dinshaw
Irani Moti & Ian
Jesung Noshir & Gul
Kadribegovic Coomy & Neris
Kar Ava & Ashok
Karanjia Zarin & Neriosang
Karwa Porus H
Limath Kali & Benaifer
Mehta Hector & Daisy
Mehta Silloo
Rostami Parvin

Santoke Hanoz
Sinors
Tavaria Nawzer & Meher
Tushar & Binita Trivedi
Vevaina Sohrab & Tinaz
Wheeler Prochee & Vernon
Anonymous
Anonymous
IMO Kuka & Keki Billimoria
IMO Burjor Alamshaw &
Rohinton Bamboat
IMO Najoo Daruwala & Aran Aga

\$1001 to \$2500

Alamshaw Dhun
Arjani Jim & Kristen
Bacha Freny
Bamboat Parvin
Bhada Cush & Gulshan
Bhandara Zarrir & Tinaaz
Bhot Aban & Manek
Bhujwalla Manek
Bodhanwala Homi & Laila
Chichgar Maneck
Choksy Persis & Mehernosh
Dadachanji Kavasji & Chisti
Daruwalla Ruzbeh & Anahita
Dastur Khurshed & Meher
Dastur Soli

Fitter Freddy
Gandhi Hanoz & Shazneen
Hadulla Roshen
Irani Mehernaz
Irani Dinshaw
Irani Meher
Irani Sohrab & Banoo Jangi
Jijina Aloo & Minoo
Kakalia Zarin (Karachi)
IMO Fali Kanga
Kapadia Samanaz
Karwa Hoshang & Firuza
Khambatta Hoshang & Katy
Malva Dolly
May Dhun

Medora Perinne
Merchant Rohinton & Sherie
Mistry Roda & Aspy
NAMC
Raghina Roomy & Sanobar
Rustomi Nariman & Goolcher
Shroff Vispi & Rhoda
Sidhwa, Farhad & Ferhiz
Siganporia Rusi & Daisy
Anonymous
IMO Hosi Amroli
IMO Rohinton Bamboat
IMO Mahrukh Bhujwalla
IMO Jerbanoo Rustomji
IMO Naval B. Sidhwa

\$2,501 to 10,000

Alamshaw Katy & Dhun
Arjani Tehemtan & Dogdo
Bhada Jehanbux
Birdy Jal & Sunoo
Bisney-Shah Feeruza
Coachbuilder Pheroze & Deenaz
Commissariat Aban & Nauzer
Commissariat Aban & Parvez
Commissariat Xerxes & Diana
Contractor Dr. Farhad & Houtoxi
Cowasjee Minocher & Rukshana
Damania Manek & Tehmi
Gandhi Adi & Freny
Kapadia Aban & Hosi
Lakdawalla Noshir & Rhoda

Lilaowalla Rashid
Madon Dr. Sharook & Sheila
Mehta Hector & Daisy
Mehta Kaezad & Ruzbe
Mistry Cyrus & Sherri Treasurywala
Panthaky Rohinton & Najoo
Pithawalla Daisy & Malcolm
Rudina Family of Minnesota
Santoke Burjor & Vira
Talati Dr. Rohin & Arnavaz
Tarapore Perviz & Phiroz
IMO Cyrus R. Fatakia
IMO Dinshaw & Shirin Irani
IMO Homai N. Irani
IMO Khurshid Soli Pithawalla

\$10,001 to \$25,000

Ahu Trust
Dinshaw Perin Julian (Karachi)
Jijina Aspandiyar (Aspi)
Dastur Jamshed & Shireen
Skyline Nev Fund – S Qureshey

\$25,001 to \$50,000

Baxter Behram & Rena
Eleven Twenty Seven Foundation
Fitter Family
Mody Jehangir & Avi
Sethna Hilda & Rumi (WZO)
Vadoli Nosh & Behroz
Anonymous

\$50,001 to \$100,000

The Incorporated Zoroastrian Charity of
Hongkong, Canton and Macao

\$100,001 to \$250,000

Minocherhomjee Arda-E-Viraf & Hootoxi

**This category names will be kept in a digital display format.*

IMO = In Memory of

The above ONLY includes funds received as of April 30, 2016.



1424 E. Walnut Avenue
Orange, CA 92867

To

ZAC Upcoming Events at a Glance

*All functions at the ZAC Center in Orange unless marked**

***Walk-a-thon – Sunday, May 15, 2016
(Shelter #1, William Mason Park, Irvine)**

Annual General Body Meeting on Saturday, June 18

Maidhyoshem Ghambar - Mid-Summer: Sunday, June 26

SAVE-THE-DATE – ZAC Sports Day, Sunday, July 31

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