



Zoroastrian Association of California

October 2012

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

JASHAN/GAHAMBAR and General Body Meeting: Sunday, November 18, 2012 @ 11:00 am

As the meeting will follow the Jashan and there is a lot of business to cover, we would like to keep the flow moving smoothly. If any member has anything relevant to bring up for discussion at the meeting, please send in a request in writing to Tehmi Damania (tdamania@zacla.org). Items brought up from the floor will only be allowed 3 minutes per member.

The General Body Meeting is for Members ONLY. Attached is the Agenda, the donor policy for the Prayer Room and information regarding the North American Zoroastrian Congress 2014.

This will ensure we do not spend too much time at the meeting.

Lunch will be served after the jashan.

Suggested donation - \$10 per person. Children under 5 FREE.

As usual we need volunteers for ravo, malido, fruits, nuts, etc.

Please RSVP by November 15 to Deelnavaz Tarapore at (909)-606-0017 so that we may have a head count.

Holiday Party: Sunday December 16th @ 4:00pm

It's the MOST wonderful time of the year...Caroling, ZAC Christmas tree lighting, Games, Food, Santa Claus and more! Join us for a joyous holiday celebration. Everyone is welcome, young and old alike!

SANTA GIFT! That's right! Santa will be stopping by the ZAC Center with gifts for all the good boys and girls. HO-HO-HO! To participate in the gift exchange, please bring a small gift for your own child and drop it off in Santa's sack by the door. Make sure the gift is wrapped and labeled with your child's name so Santa can deliver it to the right child! ZAC welcomes donations of seasonal decorations, prizes and items that will help make our holiday party more fun. If you wish to donate such items, please contact Prochi so that they may be received prior to the party.

We would like each child to bring in an ornament to hang on the Christmas tree (something they made at school maybe?)

Cost: \$10 per person; \$15 ALL at-the-door. Kids under 3 -- FREE! And \$7 for kids: 4 through 7

So that we get a head count, please RSVP by December 13th to Prochi Mistry @ 661-284-3055

The Youth Social – November 24, 2012 -- POSTPONED

The Youth Social tentatively arranged for November 24th has been postponed to sometime in the summer. There was a response from only 10 and 2 of these were actually adult volunteers. We realize that it may be difficult to predict your plans for the short thanksgiving holiday. Please suggest the best month to do this next year. Please let us know if you think it is a good idea to have a social for all the youth including CZC. You can volunteer to help organizing it to your liking so that you can have a good time and mingle with other Zoroastrian youth.

PAST EVENTS

Whist Drive and Bhel Party – September 23, 2012

The event was enjoyed by all who came. Though only around 30 members attended this event, all had a great time including yours truly – Deelnavaz Tarapore – who for a change got to participate and play. Thanks to Burjor Santoke who ran the Whist Drive extremely effectively though with a lot of razzing by those who were playing and to Tehmi Damania and other volunteers who took care of serving the Bhel Puri and the delicious Kulfi.

Casino Night Black and White Party – October 13, 2012

This fundraiser for the ZAC Prayer Room was a real FUN-raiser for all who attended. There was a mixed crowd, just under 100 people, who came in and had a great time. The casino company, The Real Deal Casino Party went out of their way to teach people the games and made it real easy for the nervous types who came in to support the cause but did not have a clue what to do. The best part is it wasn't their own money so they had a great time playing without a care in the world!

A surprise guest, provided the most fun for the ladies. A ZUMBA teacher who come along and donated prizes (free lessons) and ran a session from the stage and everyone enjoyed that and the dancing that followed. The appetizers, drinks and food were plenty and enjoyed by all. There was a sense of euphoria all round and everyone was smiling as if they were in *Disneyland!*

This was a “first” for ZAC and the committee is grateful to all who attended in the true spirit of FUN and brought their friends and neighbors along to this event to make it a success. The committee wishes to acknowledge the help and support from Dilnavaz and Vistasp Shroff who assisted in organizing the event, Chisti Dadachanji for the Appetizers, Sheila Madon for the delicious Chicken and the Veggie Biryani, Prochi Mistry for the Masala Potatoes and Mahnaz Erani for the delicious Kababs. A fundraiser does not raise any funds without **SPONSORS** and we are grateful to our *Gold Sponsors*: Dogdo and Tehemtan Arjani, Rena and Behram Baxter, Silloo and Firoze Dordi, Aban and Hosi Kapadia and our *Bronze Sponsors*: Hanoz and Shazneen Gandhi, Soonoo and Fali Kanga with Deelnavaz and Daraius Tarapore, Rashid Lilaowala and Daisy and Hector Mehta, for generously supporting ZAC.

Harvest Festival and Halloween Party – October 28, 2012

Fall started off with a “Carnival” atmosphere with a Bouncy House and lots of carnival games and goodies. Around 50 adults and 20 children attended this FUN event. The kids looked adorable in their creative outfits and treats and prizes were given out to all. The committee is grateful to Shazneen Gandhi and her team of parents who volunteered to organize the games and for all the hard work put in by them. Everyone enjoyed the pizza, salads, chicken and Prochi's delicious cupcakes before going home.

Announcements

ZAC has closed escrow on the land adjacent to the Center and ZAC now owns the lot which is situated at 1530 East Walnut Avenue, Orange, CA 92867.

We gratefully acknowledge the projector donated by Gus Hamsayeh which has now been installed overhead in the Arjani room. It was tested on the big screen to rotate the ads placed by our sponsors of the Casino Night. Now all we need are wall speakers for the Arjani room to complete the audio visual component.

Congratulations to Xarah Master, daughter of Jimmy and Kashmira Master and granddaughter of Dinshaw and Silloo Patel who had her Navjote ceremony on August 4, 2012 in Diamond Bar, California.

Congratulations to Varun Engineer, son of Ashtad and Dilzeen Engineer who had his Navjote ceremony on September 30, 2012 at the Sethna Agiary in Mumbai.

Congratulations to Godrej and Arnaz Khambatta who were married on July 7, 2012 in Toronto, Canada.

Congratulations to Homi Gandhi. Homi was elected as interim Vice President (2012-2013) for FEZANA. He takes the position which has been vacant since Katayun Kapadia became president last August.

Directory Update: Change of Address & Phone Numbers.

Please let us know any changes to your address, phone numbers, or email addresses so that you do not miss out on ZAC Communication.

Also inform us if you do not want to publish this information in the newsletter or directory.

Hoshang and Zenobia Master
4639 Executive Dr., Apt #68
San Diego, CA 92121

Tel: 858-412-6732

HM Cell: 858-205-8967 ZM Cell: 858-886-6934

RELIGIOUS SEMINAR: Mobed Fariborz Shahzadi

Sunday, November 4, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at California Zoroastrian Center in Westminster

The topics I am going to discuss in this Seminar

A short re-cap of the topics covered in the first seminar
and the following topics:

Zoroastrianism - a short history Asho Zartosht's family

Asho Zartosht and His Prophecy

A short History of the Iranian and Indian Zartoshtis

The Amesha Spentas

The Gathas - Structure

The Gathas and location in Yasnas

The Ahunavaiti Gatha - a brief discussion

Peace and Happiness

Mobed Fariborz Shahzadi

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Zoroastrian Association of California

1424 E. Walnut Avenue Orange, CA 92867

GENERAL BODY MEETING Sunday, November 18, 2012

			Minutes
1. Call to Order		Tehmi Damania	5
2. Approval of Minutes	AGM – June 2012	Deelnavaz Tarapore	15
3. Executive Committee Report		Tehmi Damania	10
4. Treasurer's Report		Rooky Fitter	10
5. NAZC 2014 Report/Q&A		DhunMai, Khushroo & Darayus	15
6. Prayer Room Update		Sohrab & Arda-e-Viraf	15
	Donor Policy – Discussion/Approval	Tehmi & General Body	15
7. Other Business		General Body	20
8. Meeting Adjourned			

ZAC PRAYER ROOM DONOR POLICY

Our New Prayer Room will give us a unique opportunity to honor and remember our parents and loved ones in a permanent way when we donate to the Prayer Room Building fund.

The Prayer Room will have common plaques in each of the categories (except the \$100,000 and above) enabling such acknowledgements to our dear ones and these will be graded as follows:

\$1,001 to \$ 2,500

\$2,501 to \$10,000

\$10,001 to \$25,000

\$25,001 to \$50,000

\$50,001 to \$100,000

\$100,001 and over shall be individual plaques

Pledges will be accepted from the date of the General Body Meeting November 18, 2012 until midnight on March 18, 2013 for those interested in the naming rights for the prayer room. The amounts of the pledges considered for naming the prayer room should be a minimum of \$100,000 and in increments of \$25,000. The highest pledge will have naming rights to the Prayer Room and will be announced at the Navroze function in March. This is not an auction and all pledges made shall become payable.

As in the case of the Center, there will be a digital list which will be maintained for the Prayer Room, which will acknowledge donations under \$1,000.

Taking into consideration the size of the project and the amount required for it, this donor policy is independent of the one in existence for the main building. The above Donor policy for the Prayer Room shall be read before the General Body for approval on November 18, 2012.

CONGRESS COMMITTEE NOTICE

By the 2014 Congress Co-chairs, DhunMai Dalal, Khushroo Lakdawalla and Darayus Mistry

Please be sure to give your latest e-mail addresses to ZAC as well as those of your children, family and friends. Residence addresses would also help us distribute the News.

We want all to participate and volunteer for the XVII North American Zoroastrian Congress in 2014.

Thank you for your co-operation.

SAVE THE DATE!

31st December 2012 - 8 P.M TO 1 A.M.

PRE-CONGRESS NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH

BRING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS

AT THE HILTON HOTEL

IRVINE/OC AIRPORT

18800 MACARTHUR BOULEVARD

IRVINE - CA.92612

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS

Purposes of the Congress

The main reasons for holding Congresses in North America have been to meet and make friends, review developments affecting our worldwide community and religion, learn from co-religionists and scholars, and make plans for the future. This still remains important, but now all of these functions are more or less occurring throughout the year at various local gatherings, regional meetings, religious conferences and planning workshops; and at FEZANA Annual General Meetings.

Future Congresses therefore need to provide a North American focus not only on the evolving vision of the community, but also on the role of FEZANA in making this vision come true. Two of the continuing themes of our discussions have been: (1) to define the place of the Zarathushti religion in North America; and (2) to provide smooth transition of our leadership from one generation to the next. The first theme includes issues such as unity, religious studies, public relations and outreach to the wider North American community, and building a viable infrastructure to sustain and manage all our activities and religious institutions. The second requires mentoring, nurturing and cultivating leaders with vision and ability to ensure the perpetuity of our religion and communal values.

Mission of the Congress

Based on the preceding discussion, the mission for the Congress is to provide a platform to the entire North American Zarathushti community to review and discuss issues related to unity, religious studies, public relations and outreach to the wider North American community, and building a viable infrastructure to sustain and manage all our activities and religious institutions. Secondly, the congress must provide opportunities for mentoring, nurturing and cultivating leaders with vision and ability to ensure the perpetuity of our religion and communal values in North America.

Integral to this mission is to recognize individuals who have contributed most to the betterment of our as well as the greater North American community, and to honor achievements; and of course, to have fun and merriment.

An Appeal

THE B.D.PETIT PARSEE GENERAL HOSPITAL

25th Annual Fund Raising Drive

Respected members of the community,

It is that time of the year once again, when our community gets together to help the indigent and sick members of our community in Bombay.

The Parsee General Hospital of Bombay provides medical services to the community in general, and in particular to our less fortunate brethren. This is the only hospital in Mumbai that is exclusively for the Parsees. The hospital now has 180 beds of which 52 beds are for free patients and 25 beds are highly subsidized. A free patient receives 100% of free medical care, including medicines, diagnostics and/or surgery. The total cost of providing free and subsidized medical care during the last year was Rs. 8.42 crores. The hospital is able to provide such a large volume of free care to the poor only because of the continuing financial support from kind and concerned members of the community.

We would be grateful if you would join our efforts by donating generously for this cause.

Our donation does not impact our lives much at all, but it makes a huge impact on the lives of the needy patients.

Let us join together once again to do our share of “good deeds.”

Your donation will be applied to the Corpus Fund, the interest from which is used to provide medicines and medical supplies without cost to the deserving free patients of the hospital.

100% of the donations collected will be sent to the hospital.

With gratitude,
Dr. Homai Kasad
Arvand Kasad

Please make your tax deductible checks to **ZANC**

And mail to:

Dr. Homai Kasad
6 Somerset Ct.,
Belmont, CA 94002

IMPORTANT -- Please Help ZAC Save Money

The costs of printing and mailing newsletters keeps going up and in this day and age we have so many ways to transmit information speedily and efficiently. We do not want to scrap newsletters, but we would like to cut costs. We would like to send members a blast saying “Newsletter Attached”. There are a few who do not have email accounts or are simply not online and we will continue to send them newsletters by mail.

We are requesting you to help ZAC by sending an email to tdamania@zacla.org and put “Do Not Mail Newsletter” in the subject line. We will stop sending you newsletters and check that we have your correct email address at the same time. Thank you for helping ZAC cut costs and save paper.

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.*



1424 E. Walnut Avenue
Orange, CA 92867

To

ZAC Upcoming Events at a Glance

Jashan and GBM: Sunday, November 18, 2012 at 11:00am -- ZAC Center
Holiday Party: Sunday, December 16, 2012 at 4:00pm – ZAC Center

Congress Event

New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance: Monday, December 31, 2012 – Hilton, Irvine

A Book For Every Zarthusti Household – The History of Zoroastrianism

ZAC is extremely grateful for the donation of 22 books from the family of our late member **Mobed Mehraban Jamshid Zartoshty**. The History of Zoroastrianism is a hard bound 1985 edition of the book written by Maneckji Nusservanji Dhalla and published by the K R Cama Oriental Institute, Bombay. The books are offered by ZAC for a donation of \$20 each plus \$5 for shipping in the US and the proceeds will go towards the ZAC Center Prayer Room project.

This book will be a great gift for any Zoroastrian.