



# Zoroastrian Association of California

## October 2014

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### 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

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Halloween for our little Goblins! Saturday, October 25 at 4:00 pm

It's ghosts and goblins time!!! Time once again for our wee ones (and not-so-young) to participate in our Halloween funfest. Adults please feel free to dress up and join in the fun too? Prizes will be given to the most inventive costume, as well as myriad other prizes. Fun and Games begin at 4:00 pm followed by a BBQ with Master Chef Xerxes making Hamburgers and Hotdogs. The Parade will start at 7:00 pm. Parents who wish to volunteer to help with the games etc., please contact Prochi Mistry.

**Cost: Children under 12 yrs – FREE. Everyone else pays \$10 per person.**

**So that we get a head count, please RSVP by October 22 to Prochi Mistry at 661-284-3055**

### SAVE-THE-DATE: Ladies Club: Sunday, November 9

Please save the date - Sunday, November 9, 2014 for the next Ladies Club Lunch and Speaker Series. Lunch at 12:30 pm will be followed by a Health-related presentation and question/answer session. Details on the speaker and topic will be sent soon. Ladies AND Gentlemen are invited to attend.

### Jashan/General Body Meeting: Sunday, November 16 at 11:00 am

Jashan starts at 11:00 am sharp followed by Lunch/Tea. The General Body will start after lunch/tea at 2:00pm sharp after the obligatory one hour adjournment in case we do not have a quorum.

**If any member has anything relevant to bring up for discussion at the General Body please send a request in writing to Tehmi Damania, [tdamania@zacla.org](mailto:tdamania@zacla.org) by October 31, so it may be added to the agenda.** Items brought up from the floor will only be allowed 3 minutes per member.

**General Body Meeting is for Members ONLY.**

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

As usual we need volunteers for Ravo, Malido, Fruits, Nuts, etc.

Anyone who wishes to volunteer for the GBM, please contact Prochi Mistry.

**So that we get a head counts for Lunch please RSVP by November 13 to Prochi Mistry at**

**661-284-3055. Walk-ins /Calls/E-mails after November 13 will be \$15 per person, regardless of age.**

## PAST EVENTS

### EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL BODY MEETING

An extra ordinary general body meeting was called on July 27, 2014 at 2pm at ZAC Center to vote on the following resolution pertaining to the Atash Kadeh, proposed to be built on the grounds of the ZAC Center. The following Resolution was put forward:

**Resolved that, the Zoroastrian Association of California's (ZAC) Atash Kadeh shall be accessible to all ZAC members as well as their families and all guests.**

**Resolved further that, any person entering the Atash Kadeh shall respect and observe the regulations posted at the entrance.**

Out of a total of 403 voting members of ZAC, 101 members attended the meeting. After a brief discussion on the pros and cons of the resolution, the proposal was put to vote by show of hands.

The following was the final vote count:

Votes in favor.....91

Votes against.....7

Votes abstained.....3

The proposal was therefore passed with a majority of votes.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to all the members who took time to attend this important meeting for the community.

## **Sports Day**

The 5th Annual ZAC SPORTS DAY (T/T and Carrom tournament) was held on Sunday, August 3, at the ZAC Center. This annual event not only raises funds for ZAC but brings together young & old to test their skills in Table Tennis & Carrom. This year not only did we get to witness Michelle Zhou & Ron Fatakia at their best, but our TT enthusiasts also got a few tips from Michelle who was Women's Table Tennis Doubles Champion in China, prior to migrating to USA recently.

What better way to enjoy an afternoon than play a game with family and friends and end it with home cooked dhansak, chicken, cucumber, custard, & falooda. We also sold very tasty home-made kebabs and kheema pattice, which were very generously donated by our wonderful members.

As usual we had an excellent response from the community at large & raised \$2672.00 in one afternoon!

The results are as follows:

TT Single's champion: Mr. Rohinton Garda

TT Single's runners up: Mr. Farhad Pagdiwala

Carrom champion: Mr. Khushroo Lakdawalla

Carrom runners up: Mr. Ruzbeh Daruwalla

TT Rounder's champion: Mr. Hector Mehta

TT Rounder's runners up: Mrs. Dilber Mistry

No event can take place successfully without the help and participation from Donors, Volunteers, Sponsors & our ZAC members. The organizers would like to acknowledge and thank the following for their donations and support for this worthy cause.

## **Grand Raffle Sponsor:**

\_.Notebook (Samsung) donated by Mr. Hosi & Aban Kapadia (won by Mrs. Dilber Mistry)

## **Raffle Prize:**

Butterfly TT bats donated by Mr. Rohinton Fatakia (won by Porus Karwa)

## **FOOD DONATIONS:**

DHAN SAK DAR: Yasmin Gundevia; CACHUMBAR: Xerxes and Diana Commissariat;

CHICKEN: Chisti Dadachanji, Meher Dastur, Anu Dungore, Mahnaz Erani, and Vira Santoke;

RICE: Aban Commissariat, Rooky Fitter; CUSTARD: Rukshana Cowasjee; KEBABS: Prochi Mistry;

PATTICE: Rhoda Lakdawala; FALOODA: Shireen Irani; WATER: Cyrus and Sherri Mistry; PIZZA:

Hutoxi & Farhad Contractor; TEA: Deelnavaz Tarapore

**VOLUNTEERS:** Jimmy Colabewala, Freny Dastur, Anu Dungore, Rooky Fitter, Firuza and Hoshang Karwa, Havi Lilaoowala, Reshma Rustomi, Mehernosh Gundevia, Rayomand Gundevia.

### **CASH DONATIONS:**

\$500.00 Dogdo and Tehemtan Arjani  
\$200.00 Rooky and Khushroo Fitter  
\$101.00 Havi & Rashid Lilaowala  
\$101.00 Mehernosh and Rayomand Gundevia  
\$51.00 Gulu and Khushroo Dubash  
\$51.00 Katy and Hoshang Khambatta

### **GIFT CARDS:**

\$100.0 Aban and Hosi Kapadia  
\$20.00 Rukshana and Minoo Cowasjee

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 and more ZAC members at the next SPORTS DAY.

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

### **Informal New Year Celebration**

An informal New Year get together was held on Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. An email blast invited everyone to come to the ZAC Center -- **Shenshai Sal Mubarak Chalo Nava Varas par Apre Badha Malye Ne Saathe Hali Mali ne Jamye!**

About 70 members – young and old - gathered at the ZAC Center to celebrate the Shenshahi New Year on a working day. After Humbandagi, there was some socializing and then everybody enjoyed a potluck dinner including sagan-nu dhandaar, patio, sev, dahi and an assortment of desserts. It was a wonderful feeling getting together with the community on this auspicious day. The evening concluded soon after dinner as it was a working day for most of us. Hope to see more members come together to celebrate such auspicious occasions.

### **Shenshai New Year/ Khordad Sal Function:**

Once more a record number of members attended the New Year/Khordad Sal Function on August 23. Approximately 280 members and non-members enjoyed the evening. Jashan was performed at 5:00 pm by Mobeds Zarrir & Zerkxis Bhandara, Maneck Bhujwala, Jimmy Colabewala, Arda-e-Viraf Minocherhomji and Minoo Katrack. The main function began at 7:00pm with a welcome address by our President, Tehmi Damania along with the delicious appetizers served at the tables, followed by the presentation of the Cyrus R. Fatakia Scholarships by Darius Fatakia, the congratulations and gift presentation to the Grads by Tehmi Damania and Perinne Medora. Dinner was served around 8:00 pm followed by the DJ and entertainment.

Thank you to Xerxes & Diana Commissariat, Freddy Fitter, Kaezad & Ruzbe Mehta, Cheyenne Mistry, Amy Shroff, Vistasp Shroff, & Reanna Unwalla who helped to rearrange and clean up the Center after the function. Above all the Executive Committee 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.*

### **Hama Asho Farohar Jashan**

The first Hama Asho Farohar Jashan was performed on September 5 (Farvadin Mahino/Farvadin Roj) by the Mobeds of our community. Around 55 members of our community participated in the Jashan to remember and honor our Fravashis. This was followed by a dinner of Dar-Chawal and stew along with other potluck items brought in by the members.

*The ZAC Executive Committee would like to thank the organizers **Ervads Zarrir and Zerkxis Bhandara** for organizing this event and all the **Mobeds and Mobedyars** who participated in the **Jashan Ceremony**.*

## **Ladies Meeting**

Ladies Meeting held on Sunday, September 21, was well attended by the community. After enjoying a lovely pot-luck lunch, all present attended an informative session regarding 'How to navigate through the maze of Medicare Home Health and Hospice Benefit' presented by Binita Trivedi. A big thank you to Dogdo Arjani for organizing the event.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Subsidy for North American Zoroastrian Congress for ZAC Children and Young Adult Members**

The ZAC Executive Committee has agreed that in honor of ZAC hosting NAZC 2014 a subsidy should be granted to young ZAC members.

#### **The qualifying criteria**

**Age Limit:** All children up to 25 years only.

**Membership Requirement:** Members of ZAC in good standing for 2012-2014.

**50% of Early Bird Congress registration price** shall be paid in any category to full time students only. This subsidy does not extend to the Gala night or any other optional events.

A copy of the Registration receipt must be submitted to the ZAC Treasurer.

Children under 12 must have at least one parent also registered for the Congress.

The attendees will receive their subsidy immediately after the congress closing ceremony.

*The Subsidy Form is now available on the ZAC website – [www.zacla.org](http://www.zacla.org)*

### **Change of Address:** Farhad and Ferhiz Sidhwa

Please see printed version of newsletter.

## **Youth Show 2015**

Once again next year we will have a Youth Show.

The ZAC Executive Committee requests volunteers to step forward to form a Youth Show Working Committee in early January.

We are looking for interested members...preferably young adults who would take on the mantle of coordinating the whole show assisted by the ZAC committee members in this effort.

Those interested in joining this Youth Show Committee please email us **at [committee@zacla.org](mailto:committee@zacla.org)** as soon as possible but definitely by the end of this year. We have plenty of talent in our community and this is one way in which to showcase it to the audience at large.

**SO HERE IS A CALL FOR ALL OUR talented young adults and others to get together to create their YOUTH SHOW and present something unique next year.**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO FORMING AN ENTHUSIASTIC YOUTH SHOW COMMITTEE VERY SOON!**

## **Cyrus R Fatakia Scholarship Recipients**

Khordad Sal Mubarak! This is our 7th year of Scholarship Awards for our Students, and we are pleased to announce the recipients of the Cyrus R Fatakia Scholarship for the year 2014-2015.

### **Behroze Dalal:**

Behroze Dalal is enrolled as a junior at the Good Samaritan College of Nursing in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her goal is to become a Neonatal, Intensive Care Nurse. She is above average in her academic ability, organizational skills and personal integrity. She has dedicated her time in helping the elderly at various nursing homes. She has volunteered her time at the Baltimore-Washington Medical Center and at the Fairfield Mercy Hospital. She received a Scholarship from the Ohio Nurses Foundation in 2013 for academic excellence. Behroze is a bright and hard-working student who shows much promise and enthusiasm and is very deserving of this Scholarship.

### **Behnaz Shahukar:**

Behnaz Shahukar will be a freshman at the Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. Her goal is to earn a BA in Music Education. Behnaz has done community service at the Nativity House, at the homeless population of Tacoma through operation "Keep 'em warm n fed", and at the Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community to help the elderly at the Lutheran Home. She received the Michelle Gaussian Memorial Scholarship in 2013-2014, the Outstanding Senior String Musician (Viola) in 2014; the Bernice AB Keyes Charitable Trust Scholarship, 2014; and the Solo Ensemble WIMEA State Contest Superior Award, 2010 thru 2014. There is no doubt in our minds that Behnaz will excel in her field of Music and she is a worthy recipient of this Scholarship for the 2014-2015 school years.

### **Zerkxis Zarrir Bhandara:**

Zerkxis Bhandara will be attending the California State University in Fullerton. He is an exemplary young man who is a caring, trustworthy, and dedicated to the service of the Zoroastrian community, as a Zarthushti Mobed. In 2012, at the North American Zoroastrian Congress, Zerkxis received a well-deserved Community Services Award from the North American Mobed Council. He is planning to graduate with a Major in Religious Studies and pursue a career in Secondary School Education. We are indeed proud to award our Scholarship to this fine, up-standing, young man - our very own Mobed, Zerkxis Bhandara.

### **Eiraj Zandi:**

Eiraj Zandi is a senior at the California State University, Long Beach, CA. He is a Political Science Major with a concentration in Global Politics, and a Minor in Communication Studies. He was on the President's Honor's List at Cal State University Long Beach in 2013. He has helped teenage groups to raise funds for the less fortunate, in both Iran and in the United States. He has volunteered as an unpaid Intern campaigning for John Goya, to gain experience in the political arena. Eiraj plans on pursuing a Master's Degree in Political Science, as a stepping stone to get into Law School and eventually campaign for Public Office. We are very happy to award the Cyrus R Fatakia Scholarship to this very enthusiastic and ambitious young man.

### **Bezon Rustomi:**

Bezon Rustomi is from Sunny Hills High School in Fullerton where he graduated with a 4.44 GPA. He will be a freshman at the University of California in Riverside, and hopes to eventually earn a Degree in Medicine; Bezon competes in, and teaches Taekwondo; He has shown leadership qualities in this field of Martial Arts and has earned his 4th degree Black Belt in Taekwondo. He is a great Instructor, and a knowledgeable, responsible and passionate human being with an impeccable character, who has demonstrated a love for young children and has earned the respect of his peers and his fellow instructors. Bezon has also volunteered packing bags and distributing food to the "Giving Children Hope" program

for underprivileged youth in Orange County. We are happy to acknowledge this fine young man and to award him the Cyrus R Fatakia Scholarship.

Congratulations to all of the above candidates! We wish you the very best of luck and much success in your careers!

“Remember, that the choices you make today, will usually affect you tomorrow. So choose wisely! And take time to laugh, for it is the music of the soul”.

Thank You! And God Bless!

The Cyrus R Fatakia Scholarship Committee

## **Condolences**

### **Zarmehr Nawzer Tavaría (August 27, 1983 - September 9, 2014)**

"Zarmehr was an incredibly loved and well-respected son, brother, uncle, friend & human being. Despite the many health challenges he endured during his short 31 years, he managed to live an extremely meaningful life. He had an immense passion for basketball; and a love for all types of sports. Amongst many other attributes, he was the "electronics' guru", and the "Mr. Fix-it" handy-man for the Tavaría household. His love and care for his family & friends were selfless. He has taught us the true values behind strength and perseverance. Our dearest Z, you are missed every second of every day."

In Zarmehr's memory, please help future medical advances by donating to the following organizations:

- The Transplant Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center
- CCFA; Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America

*The ZAC Family extends heartfelt condolences to the family for their loss.  
May Zarmeher's soul find eternal peace.*

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**Dolat Homi Vandrewala**, wife of late Homi Vandrewala, passed away peacefully on September 30, 2014 at Cummer Lodge Nursing Home in Toronto at an age of 101. She is survived by her children, late Arnavaz Kerr, Behram Baxter, Najoo Panthaky, and Aban Mistry (Toronto), son-in-laws, Rohinton Panthaky and Eruch Mistry (Toronto), daughter-in-law Rena Baxter, grand children, Elizabeth Kerr, Naaz Kerr, Anaita and Shiraz Panthaky, Jasmine Kanga (Toronto), Farah Baxter, and great grand children.

May Ahura Mazda rest her soul in peace.

*The ZAC Family extends heartfelt condolences to the family for their loss.*



# Zoroastrian Association of California

1424 E. Walnut Avenue Orange, CA 92867

## GENERAL BODY MEETING Sunday, November 16, 2014

		Minutes
1. Call to Order	Tehmi Damania	10
2. Approval of Minutes AGM – June 2014	Deelnavaz Tarapore	15
3. Approval of Minutes EGBM – July 27,2014	Deelnavaz Tarapore	10
4. Executive Committee Report	Tehmi Damania	10
5. Treasurer’s Report	Rooky Fitter	10
6. Investment of Endowment received	Ruzbeh Daruwalla/ Perinne Medora	15
7. NAZC 2014 Report/Q&A	Khushroo Lakdawalla	10
8. Other Business	General Body	20
9. Meeting Adjourned		



1424 E. Walnut Avenue  
Orange, CA 92867

**To**

## **ZAC Upcoming Events at a Glance**

*All functions are at the ZAC Center, Orange, CA*

**Halloween: Saturday, October 25, 2014 @ 4:00pm**

**Ladies Club: SAVE THE DATE – November 9th**

**Jashan/GBM: Sunday, November 16, 2014 @ 11:00 am**