



Volume 25: Issue 7

July 2012

SUNDAY SCHOOL

PLACE: ZHCC, 8787 W. Airport Blvd., Houston, TX 77071 Tel: 713-270-9339

TIME: 11:30 a.m.

DATE: July 8, 2012

Children's Session: **Sunday school session will start at 10.30 am.** Vehishta will host this session on Bucket Fillers with Zoroastrian precepts.

11 am to 11.30 am – 'Let's Learn Gujarati Together' Session. We will review alphabet, songs, colors and learn 2 new alphabets (Da and Dha). Please bring show and tell items from these.

11.30 am - noon – Sunday School Project

Middle Group: This group is for the children in the middle school. Last year they learnt about the ceremonies, this year they will be learning the Kusti prayers and their meanings. If your child falls in this age group, do please bring him/her to the Sunday School.

Senior Group: Sarosh Collector conducts this session. See a write up by the Youth Vice President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Sunday - 07/07/2012 - 07/08/2012 - Middle group lockin

Sunday – 8th July - Rumva Chaloji 1-2-3-4

Saturday, 21st July - ZAH Fundraiser - Chaiye Hame Zarathosti - Minocher Na Kaarastan. **See attached flyer.**

Ticket Prices: \$100.00/\$50.00/\$35.00

(Ticket prices include snack at intermission and dinner after the natak)

To purchase tickets please contact:

Cyra Kanga: Tel: 281-969-8057 or email crkanga@yahoo.com OR

Arnavaz Sethna: Tel: 281-499-1832 or email asethna@comcast.net

Sunday, 29th July – Table Tennis Tournament . *See details in flyer*

Saturday, 18th August – Navroze Humbandagi and Celebration. *See attached flyer.*

Requesting Participants for the Navroze Function Entertainment – Talent Show

If you would like to showcase your talent on stage, by playing a musical instrument, singing popular songs or dancing please send an email to Farrokh Firozgary at firozgary@yahoo.com or leave him a message at 281-685-7245. Each participant would get 3 minutes to perform.

MEETINGS

GOLDEN GROUP	Fourth Sunday of each month. Interested? Please call Zarine Balsara at (281) 304-6611
LIBRARY COMMITTEE	First Sunday of each month at 11:00 AM. Interested in helping? Or would like more information, please call Aban Rustomji at 281-493-1275 or e-mail her at aban@coatingindustries.com

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT (By Jehanbux Mehta)

- Revised Operating Guidelines, prepared by the Building Management Sub- committee, replacing those prepared several years ago, were approved by the EC at their meeting held on June 10, 2012, and come into force as from that date. A copy appears on our website and for the convenience of those who do not have access to a computer, a copy has also been placed on our Bulletin Board located outside the Prayer Room. Members, please note that the use of fobs for entering the premises will apply after the security system is in place. We will keep you apprised.

- Little did we realize that setting up an electronic entry and surveillance system would be so arduous! Our team, working with Kersi Engineer and his technical expert continues to make progress. In addition to cameras, signs and dusk to dawn lights at strategic places are being installed. The aim is to make the system not only a deterrent to unwanted persons but to also make it user friendly and one that is manageable in-house.

- During the period from September 2011, the beginning of our fiscal year, to May 2012, ZAH received donations for general fund from their members totaling \$13,094. EC would like to recognize with pleasure the following for their generosity:

Eddie & Sherry Berana	Viraf & Rashna Bharucha
Noshir & Avan Bhathena	Farokh & Huty Billimoria
Noshir & Khurshid Challa	Sarosh & Pearline Collector
Chesley & Tanaz Chaudhary	Homi & Nargis Cooper
Villie Daboo	Phiroz & Nilufer Darukhanavala
Neville & Farida Divecha	Homi & Aban Erani
Shadpur & Shahnaz Farkish	Khodadad Peshootanzadeh
Jehangir & Vera Jamshedji	Sarosh & Vehishta Kaikobad
Rashid & Anahita Kapadia	Kershaw & Nazneen Khumbatta
Kelly & Shernaz Mama	Mehrdad & Shahin Mehrabanizadeh
Aban Rustomji	Dinshaw & Perviz Sethna
Roshan N. Sethna	Noshir & Bapsi Sidhwa
Sunavalas	Aderbad & Sanober Tamboli
Katie Tamboli	Ketty and Aspi Wadia

and five others who wish to remain anonymous.

- In our last report, we had happily announced having met, and exceeded, through donations, our target of tables and chairs to replace those damaged over the years. It is not late to acknowledge those, including seven youngsters of whom three are not yet in their teens. Hats off to the following:

Sarosh & Pearline Collector	Rayomond, Dina & Kayaan Collector
Kersi & Nargis Daroga	Minoo & Kamalrukh Gandhi
Jehanbux & Sillie Mehta	Nerius & Natalya Mehta
Savak & Aban Patel	Aban Rustomji
Friyana & Yazad Sidhwa	

and one couple who wishes to remain anonymous

- Wait a minute! We are not through thanking. The EC joins our Sports Committee in recognizing the following for their contributions for sports equipment, including two table-tennis tables during the current fiscal year to May:

Kurush Aga	Percy & Roshan Behramsha
Sarosh & Pearline Collector	Behroze Daruwalla
Rustom & Yasmin Engineer	Gary & Mahnaaz Firozgary
Jal & Zenobia Guzder	Jehangir & Sharmeen Irani
Percy & Jasmine Katrak	Noshir & yasmin Medhora
Faroakh & Avan Rajkot	Aban Rustomji
Kayomarz & Farzana Sidhwa	

And a couple who would like to remain anonymous

- All air-conditioner thermostats are now equipped to automatically adjust to pre-set temperatures which should help in lowering our energy bill. Facility exists for members [groups] using the Center to adjust the temperature to desired levels and although the thermostats will kick in at the pre-set intervals, members cooperation is requested in resetting them at 84F [summer] and 68F [winter] on leaving the premises.

LIBRARY REPORT (By Jangoo Mistry)

Upcoming event

On the day that ZAH will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of FEZANA in the evening, the Library Committee is planning a special event during the day, featuring two reputed scholars from outside Houston – Dr. Touraj Daryae and Dr. Yuhan Vevaina. The event is planned for Saturday, October 27 from 10am to noon, and from 1pm to 3pm. The next day, Sunday October 28, will feature an informal roundtable discussion from 11pm to 1pm. More details for the gala will be forthcoming as we approach the dates, but please mark your calendars now for what promises to be another enjoyable and memorable event

YOUTH GROUP REPORT (By Zenia Sunavala – Youth President)

The youth had a great kick start to the Summer of 2012!

First off, for the past few months of Sunday School the youth have been put into groups and giving presentations on the rulers and eras of our ancient Persian History. This month we had presentations on the Zoroastrian History in Iran and the Parsi History in India. Prior to our Sunday School session, we also had a telecast session with Soli Uncle which consisted of a continuation of his question and answer session from the last time.

Secondly, the youth had a successful lock-in in Galveston. A big thanks to the Illavias for always generously allowing us to use their space. A huge thank you to our chaperones for attending and helping out. And last but not least, this lock-in would not have been possible without our amazing Sunday school teacher, Sarosh Uncle and his lovely wife, Pearline Aunty. We had many interesting sessions by Sarosh Uncle, as well as presentations by Rayomand Katrak. All in all, the Galveston lock-in had the perfect balance of education and fun, making it a success.

Thirdly, the youth are also taking part of the Zoroastrians Stepping Forward (ZSF) initiative. There was an e-blast sent out regarding how YOU can take part and help us meet our goal. If you have old, gently used shoes that you are able to donate, please either bring them to the youth room during a Sunday School session or drop them off at the following locations for your convenience:

1. 16811 Sandestine Dr. Houston, Texas 77095 (Katrak's house, for everyone living in the North part of town)
2. 2630 Kismet Lane Houston, Tx 77043 (Balsara's house, for everyone living in the Memorial area)
3. 5826 Autumn Fall Ct Sugar Land, Tx 77479 (Sunavala's house, for everyone living in the South side of Houston)

In addition to this project, we are also continuing our Project RenewTech, in which we collect old keyboards, computers, etc to help those without access to technology. You can bring these items to the youth room during Sunday School or drop them off at the following locations:

1. 16811 Sandestine Dr. Houston, Texas 77095 (Katrak's house)
2. 19 Waterford Pointe Cir Sugar Land, Tx 77479 (Tamboli's house)

Lastly, our historians are in the process of making/ finishing up a scrapbook that will hold all of the wonderful memories of this year. When completed, this scrapbook will remain in our youth room for all to see.

MIDDLE GROUP REPORT (By Katie Master)

The Zoroastrian Heritage & Cultural Center is where many events take place including Sunday School every second Sunday of the month. We have Sunday School for every age of youth, from 3-19.

The middle group consists of kids who are in 5th grade and have had their navjote. Our teachers are Arnavaz Sethna, Pearline Collector, and Zeeba Kayani. Arnavaz Aunty always gives us a topic to choose, such as ceremonies, history, festivals, etc. We start at 11:30 and finish with Ahunavar (Yatha Ahu Vairyo) and Ashem Vohu at 12:45. After that we all gather for lunch, or play outside. That's the best part.

Sunday School has always been a part of our lives since we were very young. Its fun to know that you learn so much with your friends and about your culture. You get to understand what people did and still do, what makes our traditions so fun, interesting, and different from others, and the reasons we have for worshipping Ahura Mazda; his wisdom and guidance in the prayers we know and learn.

Another fun activity we enjoy having is lock-ins. Here, you get to hang out, eat, dance, and of course you need to have a study session. In this time the teachers let us watch an educational video, or let us talk and discuss the subject they have planned. In most cases, there is a project to be done, like cleaning the prayer room, making cards for veterans, supporting the cure for breast cancer by making posters, etc. We also play games like jeopardy. We make teams and there are questions about our religion, history, and anything we've learned. We have dinner, free time to do what we like, then we say our prayers and its lights out at 2 o' clock.

Sunday School is really fun and interesting since you get to be with friends and learn so much about our religion, culture, and heritage. We all make an effort to attend since it is a community gathering. We all look forward to it!

SPORTS COMMITTEE REPORT (By Kayo Sidhwa)

It's time for our much sought after and feature event of the year. We are very pleased to announce that we shall be hosting our "ZAH Table Tennis Tournament" on Sunday, July 29th 2012 at our ZAH Center.

Please fill up the entry form by clicking on the link "Online" in the flyer and send it over to Percy Katrak (along with the check if paying by check) at the address mentioned in the flyer or to zahsportscommittee@gmail.com. Also please go to <http://zah.org/> ----> Events ----> TT Tournament and book your spot online for RSVP for food whether you are paying via paypal or offline by check so we can have an accurate count for RSVPs for food as well as for the Tournament draws. If you need any help with the entry form or online booking please call any of the Sports Committee members and we will be glad to help.

The last date for receiving RSVPs is July 25th 2012 so please hurry up and start booking your spots. We are very excited about this event and hope to see you all in large numbers. As you all know we have two brand new tables and Paddles/Balls will be provided so come on over, match your skills with your family and friends and let's have some fun.

RUMVA CHALOJI - This Sunday School day, July 8th we will have our regular Rumva Chaloji event after the Sunday School classes finish. We expect you all to come over, support us and match your skills with our friends and have some fun. We will have Table Tennis, Carrom, Checkers and Whist Drive available for all ages. This is also our last chance to practice for the "ZAH Table Tennis Tournament". **In order to make it easy and accessible for all, we will have the physical copies for the Entry Forms available, so just get your check books/cash or your credit card and we will assist you complete the formalities this Sunday.**

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT (By Yasmin Medhora)

The Shahenshai Dae Mas Gambhar took place on June3, 2012. This Gambhar was sponsored by Feroze and Shernaz Bhandara and Noshir and Bapsi Sidhwa and their families to commemorate the 100th birthday anniversary of their mother, Tehmina Peshotan Bhandara. The Sponsors paid for all the expenses of the gambhar and hence all proceeds received at the gambhar of \$1,330/- were given to ZAH.

The prayers were conducted by our Ervads Bahmanshah Sanjana, Khushrav Nariman, Maneck Sidhwa, Shapur Pavri, Zubin Kotwal, Bahrom Firozgary, Noozar Boomla and Viraf Nariman. The prayers were followed by a talk given by Ervad Bahmanshah Sanjana explaining the meaning of Gambhar. Later, ZAH EC member, Jehanbux Mehta thanked the Ervads and the Sponsors for their kind gesture. Jehanbux paid a tribute to Tehmina (mother of Bapsy and Feroze) stating that she was from a very noble family and she married into one also. She had a great attitude, she was very gracious, charming, unassuming and a philanthropic lady. She believed in charity and Bapsi and Feroze have carried on this tradition.

Chasni of delicious malido, fresh fruits and mixed nuts was enjoyed by all. The attendees raved the mouthwatering Goat Meat Dhansak, Turkey Kabobs, Kachubar and Cake served for lunch prepared by our very own Master Chefs, Naushad Mehta and Rustom Setna.

The Sponsors have expressed their appreciations of the heartfelt and sincere jashan prayers conducted by the Ervads. They have also thanked the Entertainment Committee, the EC and all the volunteers who put in tremendous work to make the function flow smoothly.

Last but not the least, the Entertainment Committee and the EC would like to thank the Web Team to make the Gambhar as their Pilot project for the ZAH RSVPs and online payment. Thanks to all of you who logged in and hope you will continue to reply and make payment online in future.

MISCELLANEOUS

JUNE SUNDAY SCHOOL

At the Children's June Sunday School, Rayomand Katrak did a very informative and engaging session on the Navjote ceremony where he presented the different steps in the ceremony as well as talked about its significance. He showed the different parts of the 'Sudreh' and 'Kusti' to the children and explained its meaning. The children saw pictures of the Navjote ceremony of Rayomand as well as Yazad Sidhwa. The session was very interactive and hands-on with the children saying some of the Navjote prayers themselves, asking/answering questions, seeing and understanding the different elements of the 'Ses' and Navjote items. The session ended with the children making flower garlands. A BIG THANK YOU from the Sunday School parents, to Rayomand Katrak for taking the time and effort to present the Navjote ceremony to the children and thereby deepen their understanding of the Zarathushti religion. Sunday school parents also convey their thanks to Farzana Sidhwa for sharing the beautiful pictures of Yazad's Navjote ceremony.

NEW SATELLITE OFFICE

Darius F. Wania, MD is pleased to inform the community of his new satellite office in the Richmond/Katy area at Health One
5510 W. Grand Parkway S (Hwy 99)
Suite B-5
Richmond, TX 77406

Dr. Wania will be seeing patients at this location every Wednesday from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Appointments can be made by calling his main office at 281-495-5050.

FEZANA ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2012

FEZANA Academic scholarship applications are now available on their website: <http://www.fezana.org/>

There are 2 new scholarships this year:

- Purvez and Aban Rustomji Endowment Scholarship
- Morvolid Guiv Endowment Scholarship

Changes for 2012 are as follows:

- The Kapadia Endowment Scholarship has been increased.
- In recognition of the 25th anniversary of FEZANA, MEHRABAN AND MORVORID KHERADI (MMK) ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, THE FEZANA SCHOLAR has been increased to \$10,000 for this year only.

Completed application forms should be sent electronically by August 1, 2012 to academicscholarship@fezana.org

ZORASHTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON

Presents their annual Fundraiser

MINOCHER NA KAARASTAN

A HILARIOUS PARSİ GUJRATI NATAK



Venue : ZAH , 8787 West Airport Blvd, Houston TX

Date : 21st July 2012

Time : 730pm Sharp (Doors will open for seating at 700pm)

Ticket Prices : \$100.00/\$50.00/\$35.00

(Ticket prices include snack at intermission and dinner after the natak)

[Click Here for Online RSVP](#)

To purchase tickets please contact.

Cyra Kanga: Tel: 281-491-0944 or email crkanga@yahoo.com OR

Arnavaz Sethna: Tel: 281-499-1832 or email asethna@comcast.net



"TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT"



- Day and Date:** Sunday, July 29th 2012
- Time:** 10 am onwards
- Venue:** ZAH
- Prizes/Awards:** For all categories
- Categories:** U-12, U-25, U-50 & O-50
- Events:** Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles
- Lunch:** Please indicate choice of sandwich on entry form
- Dinner:** Dinner from Alings Chinese Restaurant
- Total Charges:** **Members** - \$16, U-12 - \$12
Non-Members - \$25, U-12 - \$18
Walk-ins will not be entertained

RSVP: Please RSVP/pay [Online](#) & send entry form to Percy Katrak, 16811 Sandestine Dr. Houston TX – 77095 or zahsportscommittee@gmail.com
If paying by check please include check & entry form attached and mail it to the above address



Last Date for RSVP: Payment/Checks should be received by **July 25th 2012** payable to ZAH with Sports Committee in memo field without which Bookings will not be considered

Entry Form for Table Tennis Tournament at ZAH on July 29th 2012

Please select the category and events you would like to participate in from the table below and send the forms (with checks if paying offline) to Percy Katrak at 16811 Sandestine Dr. Houston TX-77095 or zahsportscommittee@gmail.com

PARTICIPANT NAME/S:

CATEGORY	EVENTS	Name/s
Under 12 (5 & over)	Mixed Singles(Girls and Boys)	
	Mixed Doubles (partners will be randomly chosen)	
Under 25	Mixed Singles(Girls and Boys)	
	Mixed Doubles (partners will be randomly chosen)	
Under 50	Men's Singles	
	Ladies Singles	
	Men's Doubles (partners will be randomly chosen)	
Over 50	Men's Singles	
	Ladies Singles	
	Men's Doubles (partners will be randomly chosen)	
OPEN	Mixed Doubles	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All age groups can participate with at least one participant Over 25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every pair MUST have one Men and one Ladies participant Please choose and include your partners name in the box on the right 	

Lunch - Choice of sandwich : Chicken (C)

Pork (P)

Beef (B)

Some rules to follow:

- One form per family is allowed but please specify names against each event for every individual separately
- Every participant can enter in all events but **ONLY** in one CATEGORY except for Open Mixed Doubles
- If we do not receive your RSVP with PAYMENT IN FULL by July 25th you will not be considered for draws and hence will not be able to participate
- If you do not wish to participate in any event (spectator only) please indicate the name of the individual on the form so we do not include them while making the draws
- Partners will be allotted to you randomly by draws in all Doubles events except for OPEN MIXED DOUBLES
- If you wish to participate in OPEN MIXED DOUBLES (at least one player over 25) please indicate your partner
- Registration/Play will begin at 10 am and Walkovers will be handed over to your opponent if your name is announced and you are not on ZAH premises. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS
- The rules will be announced on the day of the tournament and ALL decisions taken by the Sports Committee will be final and binding
- **All birth certificates will be thoroughly scrutinized (especially Over 50s wanting to participate in Under 12s) ☺**

Shahenshahi Navroze Celebration
August 18, 2012
At The Zarthushti Heritage and Cultural Center
Let's Celebrate!

Live Entertainment!! Sumpuous Food!! BYOB

Humbandagi Prayers: 7:15 p.m.
Entertainment starts promptly at 8:15 p.m.

RSVP
We request you RSVP and pay online for this event. Please click on, or copy and paste the link below to your browser:
<http://zah.org/events/humbandagi-navroz-function/>
If you do not have access to a computer, or have any questions, or concerns please contact:
Roshan Engineer: 281-545-3467 or ryengineer@comcast.net
Your checks must be received by 8/12/2012, at :
ZAH
Attn: Nazneen Khumbatta
8787 West Airport Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77071.

RATES
ZAH Member* : 11 years and up - \$25 (Under 3 yrs free)
ZAH Non-Member : 11 years and up - \$40 (Under 3 yrs free)
Member Children (3-10 yrs) : Pizza - \$7; Regular food - \$12
Non-Member Children (3-10 yrs) : Pizza - \$11; Regular food - \$16
Senior (Age 65+) : Member* : \$21 Non-Member : \$40
IF PAYING BY CHECK- PLEASE WRITE (IN THE MEMO FIELD):
- No. of ZAH members/non-members (11 yrs and up),
- No. of ZAH members/non-members (11yrs and up) for pizza.
Adult rates apply
- Number of children (3-10yrs) for pizza or regular food
- Please write "Shahenshahi Navroze 2012" on the envelope

PLEASE NOTE
-Non-member rates apply for all RSVPs received after 8/12/2012.
-Kids over 18 years must have separate membership from their parents
-Member rates apply to out-of-town house-guests of members (if RSVP and check received by 8/12/2012)
-Should anyone over 10 years want to opt for pizza, please inform at the time of payment. **Adult rates apply.**
-“We have held the line on a rate increase as long as we could, but with food price and operating cost inflation we must increase our rates this year in order to remain financially viable. Our goal remains to keep these functions as affordable as possible so you as a ZAH member can attend and enjoy. However if you feel that you are unable to attend solely due to the cost increase please let us know. We have donations in place to subsidize your cost and we will guarantee confidentiality. Financial ups and downs are a part of most families life cycles. In a way, they are a blessing because they allow innovation, dedication and hard work to take root in oneself. Please use this facility and in better economic times, there will be plenty of opportunities to remember and help your own community members and your own association a thousand times over”. This benefit is available to ZAH members only.
Organized By: ZAH Entertainment Committee

CALL SOON AND LOCK IN YOUR RESERVATIONS



ZORRO CRUISE - 2013

COME JOIN US FOR A SPECTACULAR CRUISE TO THE BEST THAT SOUTH AMERICA HAS TO OFFER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

CRUISE STARTS FROM SANTIAGO CHILE & ENDS IN BUENES AIRES , ARGENTINA
THE 13 DAY CRUISE DEPARTS ON FEB 12TH AND ENDS ON FEB 25TH
EXTENTIONS AVAILABLE FOR MACHU-PICHU, THE AMAZON OR RIO

RATES START FROM

\$1495FOR AN INSIDE CABIN

\$1745.....FOR OUTSIDE CABIN (OBSTRUCTED VIEW)

\$1955FOR OUTSIDE CABIN (NON OBSTRUCTED)

\$2395.....FOR BALCONY..... (\$2199 ALSO AVAILABLE FOR PAST GUEST, IF INVITED)

\$2895...FOR MINI SUITE..... (LOWER RATE AVAILABLE FOR PAST GUEST, IF INVITED)

TO THIS ADD APPROX \$800 MORE THAT INCLUDES, TRANSFERS, INSURANCE, GRATUITY, PORT CHARGES & TAX

ALL DEPOSITS ARE REFUNDABLE ON OR BEFORE NOV 29TH LESS \$250

WE WILL BE SPENDING TWO DAYS BEFORE & TWO DAYS AFTER THE CRUISE AT SANTIAGO & BUENOS AIRES

CALL AND BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW...DEPOSIT IS FULLY REFUNDABLE TILL SEP 30TH , 2012

&

LESS BY \$250 BETWEEN SEP30 & NOV 29.

THE GROUP SPACE IS LIMITED AND CABINS ARE ON A FIRST COME FIRST BOOKED BASIS.

CALL TO BOOK YOUR SPACE FOR MORE INFORMATION @

281-491-4000

PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO YOUR ZORRO FRIENDS ON YOUR MAILING LISTS.....