Zoroastrian Association of Houston
8787 W. Airport Blvd.
Houston, TX 77071
SUNDAY SCHOOL

PLACE: ZHCC, 8787 W. Airport Blvd., Houston, TX 77071   Tel: 713-270-9339
TIME: 11:30 a.m.
DATE: August 14, 2011

Children’s Session: This month the “Let’s Learn Gujarati Together” session will start at 11 am and we will continue with the “Gujarati Alphabet”. Please bring at least one item each, beginning with Cha and Chha for the show and tell. **Sunday school will begin promptly at 11.30 am.**

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

**Friday, September 9** – Library Event - “Parsi Identity….Lost” a talk by Sarosh Manekshaw
**Sunday, October 2** - Fasli Mehrgan Gahambar. Kids upto 3 years is gratis. **RSVP at zahrsvp@yahoo.com**
The rates will be determined by mid-September based on donations received in an effort to keep the charges as nominal as possible. If you would like to donate towards the gahambar, please send an email to ZAHRSVP@yahoo.com.
**Saturday, October 22 & Sunday October 23, 2011** – Annual Library Event
**Sunday, November 6** - Annual Cricket Day (including families)
**Saturday, November 12** – Dinner Theater-Fundraiser
**Sunday, November 13** – Annual General Meeting
**Friday, December 2** – Library event

MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOLDEN GROUP</th>
<th>Fourth Sunday of each month. Interested? Please call Zarine Balsara at (281) 304-6611</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIBRARY COMMITTEE</td>
<td>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 <a href="mailto:aban@coatingindustries.com">aban@coatingindustries.com</a></td>
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REPORTS

LIBRARY REPORT
By Jangoo Mistry

For the ZAH Library's annual gala event of the year, we are proud to bring you a world-renowned scholar and authority on the Gathas.
Dr. Stanley Insler, Professor of Sanskrit and Philology at Yale University, has agreed to come to Houston and share his knowledge with us on Saturday, October 22 and Sunday, October 23. Dr. Insler is a recognized luminary in his field and has authored books and articles on the Vedas, the Avesta, and Sanskrit classical and epic poetry. His translation of the Gathas, entitled the *Gathas of Zarathustra: Text, Translation, Commentary*, is the foremost scholarly work that lucidly translates and reveals the intricate meanings of our religious text.

We are delighted that we have managed to secure such a world-renowned scholar on the Gathas to share his knowledge on a topic that is so important to us. *It is rare that we get such a unique opportunity to connect directly with a distinguished scholar. In a matter of hours, we gain the knowledge and wisdom that he has accumulated through lifelong learning and study.* Such an opportunity is not to be missed. So please put it on your calendars now, and look at the attached flyer for further details.

Youth Report
By Fram Sheroy Haveliwala
Z.A.H. Youth President
2010 ~ 2011

As Noshir Uncle conducted the Sunday school class for August, we discussed the fundamentals of our religion: what makes up our beliefs and ideas. If we had to create an ideal religion, what concepts of Zoroastrianism would we include in our utopian religion? Yes, thinking good thoughts, articulating good words, and performing good deeds are a must, but the Youth went deep beyond our essential basics. There must be respect, humanity, charity, being forgiving, caring, and most importantly, always striving for that supreme excellence which lies within to portray ourselves as a well-rounded leader and as Sarosh Uncle always says, “A true Mazdayasni Zarathusti.”

This year was quite different for the Z.A.H. Youth Group, and I can sum it up in three words: being ambitious, proactive, and diligent. Our key goal at the beginning of the year was to raise funds to financially aid the Youth and their parents and lessen the cost of our Youth Zoroastrian Congress in Vancouver. Through the fall and spring car wash, sari raffles, painting raffles at the NAZC, and of course our “Hollywood meets Bollywood Night” Extravaganza, none of this would have been possible without the help from you – our community. The Youth and I would like to thank each and every one of you for continuously supporting us and for always being there by our side. Also, a grand thank you to the following people:

- Sarosh Uncle for imparting us knowledge for so many years now and dealing with us delinquents every second Sunday of the month
- Behroze Aunty for teaching sometimes when our professor is out of town and also being a fine mentor when needed for emails or communicating with other people
- Hoshang Uncle for also teaching the class this year by Sarosh Uncle’s side
- Zal Setna for being our new assistant Sunday school teacher
- Jenistineen for being an amazing mentor with planning/organizing events and anytime we had volunteering opportunities
- Our Youth mom Tanaz Aunty for helping our Youth whenever we needed aid, for helping to organize events and lock-ins, and for always being there by our side
- My officers: Cyra Byramji, Viraf Nariman, Zenia Sunavala, Rayomand Katrak, Cyrus Byramji, Shayan Bhatena, and Ziba Colah for putting up with me, being there for meetings, taking time out to constantly plan & organize, and incredibly leading a great group of young adults
- And of course a big thank you to our parents for our back-and-forth “taxi service”, our personal bankers, and for never leaving our sides when we needed help

Well, this all comes to an end now. The past Sunday school was our last Sunday school class for our year. In September, we will do our elections and there will be new office bearers for the year and you will be hearing from your brand new Youth president in October. On a personal note, I would like to thank each and every member who read our reports which let us know that our Zarathusti community was listening and staying involved with our generation. By starting the Youth write-ups, I hope the next group of officers carry on this tradition and continue the shining legacy of not only our Youth, but our entire Zoroastrian future.

Until next time!
Zoroastrian Association of Houston Celebrates Navroze

By ZAH Entertainment Committee

Zarathushtis throughout Houston prepared for the Navroze celebrations over a period of several days, starting with the Muktad Prayers, which were conducted at the Zoroastrian Association of Houston’s Zarathushhti Heritage & Cultural Center (ZHCC) in the mornings as well as in the evenings for ten days. All families who attended the Muktad Prayers were treated to a feast organized by various volunteers. Ervad Peshotan Unwalla held the Paachli Raat (late night) prayer on Friday, 8/19/11 morning at 4:00 a.m., followed by a beautiful Hambundagi and Maachi later on that evening by Ervads Noozar Boomla, Noshir Khumbatta, Shapur Pavri, and Bomanshaw Sanjana. ZAH is proud of all the young Ervads who prayed at the various prayers.

On Saturday evening, 8/20/11, Percy Katrak, Co-MC for the Shahenshahi Navroze Function held at the ZHCC, welcomed the enthused crowd of 355 attendees and started the function with a benediction recited by Yazad Sidhwa. The evening was packed with a lot of activities.

Darius Tamboli, Co-MC from the Youth group, gave a presentation of the Vancouver Youth Congress attended by 33 youth from the vibrant community of Houston (of which six were Ervads). The youth enjoyed the informative sessions, interacting with other Zarathusti youth, loved the fun outings and the gala.

The First Indoor Sports Day awards were presented to the winners of the Whist Drive, Carrom, Checkers and Dart games. The competitions were stiff, but most enjoyable. The awards were presented by Sarosh & Pearlina Collector, Kersi & Nargis Daroga, Sarosh & Vehishta Kaikobad, Noshir & Yasmin Medhora and Hoshang & Arnavaz Sethna. The names of the winners were announced in the August Manashni.

The community then recognized the High School graduates for the 2011 year, each of whom were felicitated with a cash gift. Most graduates are going to attend various Texas universities. The names of the graduates were announced in the June and July Manashni.

Farrah Gandhi, Chair of the ZAH’s Public Relations Committee introduced Josh Blake, the representative of Congressman Pete Olson, who read out a special proclamation issued by his office.

Sarosh Collector then recognized eleven Boy Scouts who had achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, and One Gold Rank Girl Scout, to date at the ZAH. A shield listing the names of these young adults was presented to ZAH to be showcased at the ZHCC. Sarosh proudly mentioned that the majority of these scouts had worked on projects at the ZHCC to achieve their ranks.

Kaemerz Dotiwalla presented the Manijeh Pherozeshaw Dotiwalla Community Service award for the year 2011 to Homi and Nergish Davier. Homi had been instrumental in developing ZAH’s new directory, which was presented the same evening.

Farrokh Mistree described the selection process for the winners of the WZC2000 Legacy Award program. This award was established as a result of the funds from the success of the WZC2000 (World Zarathushti Congress 2000) held in Houston over ten years ago. Ervad Bahrom Firozgary presented the WZC2000 Legacy Outstanding Student Award to co-winners Mitra Khumbatta and Ervad Viraf Nariman. Anahita Desai presented the WZC2000 Legacy Cyrus Rohinton Desai Award for Freshman college student to Fram Haveliwalla. Cyrus was a well-rounded student who was very anxious to go to college but his dream of college life never materialized as a dreadful cancer befell upon a promising future.

After the program ended, the crowd enjoyed the delicious Indian-Chinese food catered from Ahling’s Restaurant, mori dal prepared by Nazneen Khumbatta and the delicious dessert catered from Cillie’s. Houstonians danced until the wee hours of the morning to the fun-filled music provided by youth volunteer DJ Ervad Noshir Khumbatta.

The ZAH Entertainment Committee would like to thank our precious volunteers who helped before, during and after the function. A very special thank you to Yezdi Engineer for taking pictures of the event thereby capturing the moments and turning them into memories.

DISTRIBUTION OF ZAH DIRECTORIES

Please note that at the next Sunday School, September 11, Manek Nariman and her team will be distributing the remaining directories in the following manner.
One complimentary to each paid up membership
One complimentary to each advertiser
Additional directories can be purchased at $5 each

Beautiful Shahnameh cards with blank inside are also available for sale - a set of 4 cards for $5. Only a few left, however, we will take orders if we find that there is interest from the members.

Please make use of this distribution effort and pick up your directories. After this, the next time the directories will be distributed at the AGM in November.

Finally, if for any reason you cannot come, please authorize someone to pick them up for you.

THANK YOU
The ZAH EC would like to thank everyone who worked on the new ZAH directory, especially Homi Davier and his team of Hoshang Sethna, Arnavaz Sethna, Persis Behramsha, Fiona Setna, Manek Nariman, Nergish Davier, Pervin Sagar, Arnavaz Kharas

EMBROIDERY/NEEDLEWORK/SEWING CLASSES by NAZNEEN KHUMBATTA
As a child and as a young adult, I have enjoyed creating many embroidery, crochet and sewing projects over the years. Planning and executing these projects helped me develop many valuable skills and the praises and complements received for the completed projects boosted my fragile ego during my youth. Embroidery also helps develop fine motor skills and an eye for color and shapes.

I would love to pass on this love of fine needlework to our young and old community members. Creating a beautiful and unique object is such a joy, both during its creation and for the skills it teaches us. I would like to volunteer to initiate a Embroidery/Needlework/Sewing class held at the ZAH from 1.30pm to 3.30 pm on the 2nd Sunday after Sunday school. At present the format I am considering is an open format where each participant (aged 8 to 18) can come forward with their project of interest and I can help them design a unique piece based on their level of skill.

Simple embroidery stitches can be creatively put together to make many simple items.

Please do contact me at NazneenKhumbatta@yahoo.com if your child would be interested in participating in this class at this time and venue. Additionally please do contact me if you have any questions or comments or are interested in helping with the class in any way.

MANA OF ANGELS – THE RECIPE BOOK BY KZBM
The much-acclaimed Recipe Book published under the auspices of the Karachi Zarathosti Banoo Mandal (KZBM) has now been reprinted and is for sale for $30.00. Limited number is available from Arnavaz Sethna. Please call in your order to Arnavaz at 281-499-1832 or e-mail her at asethna@comcast.net. All proceeds go to KZBM. KZBM is a philanthropic organization in Karachi, Pakistan and has helped a many Zarathushtis over the past few decades.

NEW BUSINESS CORNER
REIKI MASTER – SHARMEEN BARIA
Are You Tired, Overworked, Stressed, Sleep Deprived or Have Chronic Pain?
Welcome to Sacred Moments...Stepping Stones to healing where you will experience complete relaxation by letting go of stress that each of us experience due to the hectic lifestyles we lead. You will have the opportunity to instead connect deeply with your inner self by allowing the healing art of Reiki (pronounced ray-key) to balance your body’s natural flow of subtle energy which will melt away tension and stress and also aid in healing your mind, body and spirit.
Please call Sharmeen Baria, Reiki Master at (281) 340-1748 or (713) 425-9957-cell for your private and confidential session. You may also want to check out more details on our website www.sacredmomentsreiki.com.
By appointment only – Thursday & Friday 6:30-8:30 pm and Saturday & Sunday 11:00-4:00 pm ($60.00 for 1 hr session, $35.00 for ½ hr session). Call for monthly promotional offers.
Sacred Moments...stepping stones to healing
(Inside Alex Burton Salon)
2545 Town Center Blvd. Suite 148
Sugar Land, TX 77479

SPEAKER, AUTHOR, ENTREPRENEUR – NOZER BUCHIA
My new website... Nozer Buchia – Speaker, Author, Entrepreneur is finally up and running. Do check it out. Views, suggestions and comments are always welcome.

www.nozerbuchia.com

Do visit my new professional Face book page as well (there is a link from the website itself). If you like the page would appreciate if you would endorse it by selecting ‘LIKE’.

My book WHY ENTREPRENEURS REALLY FAIL will be available very soon... it is with the printers in final stages of assembly and printing. Will keep you posted.

There will be several book signing announcements soon.... Stay tuned

OBITUARY
Frainy Irani, 93, wife of Dr. Rustom Irani and mother of Amy Balsara and Nergish Irani, passed away on August 20, 2011 in Mumbai.
MANASHTNI and its readers convey their heartfelt condolences to the Balsara and Irani families.

Dr. Mehraban Bakhtiari, 86, husband of Manijeh Boostani passed away on Saturday August 20, 2011 in Houston, Texas.
MANASHTNI and its readers convey their heartfelt condolences to the Bakhtiari and Boostani families.
FASLI MEHRGAN GAHAMBAR

WILL BE
CELEBRATED ON OCTOBER 2, 2011
COMMENCING WITH JASHAN CEREMONY

AT

ZARATHUSHTI HERITAGE
AND CULTURAL CENTER

JASHAN STARTS PROMPTLY AT 11:00 A.M.

CHARGES: Will be announced at a later date, taking into account donations/sponsorships received
(Children upto 3 yrs - gratis)

RSVP by 25th September to: ZAHRSVP@yahoo.com

Donations/Sponsorships requested for following items:
- Flowers
- Table covers
- Paper products
- Beverages
- Contributions towards food

Please email to ZAHRSVP@yahoo.com, the amount that you would like to donate towards the Gahambar or if you would like to sponsor an item above.

ZAH EC gratefully thanks all those who have already come forward and generously donated towards the Gahambar and hopes that more members of our community will do the same, so that we can continue the tradition of nominal charges for our Gahambars
The Essence of Zarathustra’s Teachings in the GATHAS

Lecture Series
By Stanley Insler Phd
Salisbury Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology
Yale University

Dr. Stanley Insler is the Edward E. Salisbury professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology at Yale University. A recognized luminary in his field, Professor Insler has authored books and articles on the Vedas, the Avesta, and Sanskrit classical and epic poetry. His translation of the Gathas, entitled the Gathas of Zarathustra: Text, Translation, Commentary, is the foremost scholarly translation that lucidly translates and reveals the intricate meanings of our religion text.

Yasna 28.1 (Wikipedia)

PROGRAM

Saturday, October 22, 2011
Presentation: 10:00 am
Q & A
Lunch

Sunday, October 23, 2011
Informal Discussion:

Lecture is free
Lunch is $10.00

Zarathushtri Heritage and Cultural Center
8787 W. Airport Blvd
Houston, TX 77071

Contact: Arnavaz or Hoshang Sethna
Tel: 281.469.1322
Email: aseetha@comcast.net
For more information click on the link below.

www.tacklebonecancer.com