SUNDAY SCHOOL

PLACE: ZHCC, 8787 W. Airport Blvd., Houston, TX 77071  Tel: 713-270-9339
TIME:  11.30 a.m. – Different times for different groups.
DATE:  April 13, 2014

Children’s Session: Sunday School starts at 10.30 am. Topics for this month - Kisse Sanjan in detail with role playing reinforcing the learnings from The Farohar. Gujarati songs, animals, mcdonald song, picture/object words - Please bring a picture/object to show the class and we can learn the gujarati word for it. Chaiyye amhe zarathushti song

For the Fish Pond at the carnival, please bring a gift (not wrapped) per child of around $5. For the egg-hunt at the carnival, please bring a dozen stuffed eggs per child.

Middle Group: This group is for the children in the middle school. If your child falls in this age group, do please bring him/her to the Sunday School.

Senior Group: Sarosh Collector conducts this session.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 13, 2014 – 16TH ZAH Annual Carnival – See flyer
Saturday, May 3, 2014 – Oral History Interview Project
Sunday, June 1, 2014 – Maidhiayarem Gahambar (Shehanshahi Dae Mahino)
Saturday, June 28, 2014 – Indoor Games – Carrom, Mahjong, Darts, Chess

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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</thead>
<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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EC REPORT

Coming Soon
ZHCC 3.0

We are very excited to announce that the ZAH is about to expand our Zarathushti Heritage and Cultural Center.

We have two new projects starting very soon. Aban Rustomji and Family have donated $200,000 to start phase III, which will consist of a new classroom and a multi-purpose /multi-media room to be named the Purvez Shiavax Rustomji Room. This room will be big enough to accommodate 150 people (theater style) and will be wired for multi-media and conferencing facilities. Phase III will also include upgrades to the kitchen and bathrooms.
At the Special General Body meeting on April 6, 2014 the members were asked to vote on a proposal to build an Atashkadeh at the ZHCC. We have a donor who is willing to fund the entire construction cost, but we need to raise additional money for operations in addition to a 25% maintenance reserve.

We had a record number of members present for the meeting and a vote was taken on the following motion: **The General Body authorizes the Executive Committee to collect funds, finalize plans, get bids and to construct the Atashkadeh on ZAH property**

The results of the Vote were: The Total Ballots cast were 186.

   Yes: 148, No: 37 and Abstain: 1

An overwhelming majority of 80% approved the motion and this vote now allows us to proceed with the collecting funds and start construction of an Atashkadeh at ZAH.

Also presented at this meeting was a new 7 year financial plan and strategy, aptly named, Vision 2020 by Treasurer Kayo Sidhwa, detailing the additional money we need to raise for both projects. Our financial goals are:

1. Additional funds for phase III: $150,000 (includes $75,000 reserve)
2. Bathroom and kitchen upgrades: $125,000
3. Atashkadeh - 5 yr operations and maintenance reserve: $175,000
4. Building Maintenance Fund reserve: $250,000

We are kicking off the fundraising with a new **Commit for 5 program**, and hope that all can participate at a level that they are comfortable with. See Treasurer’s report for more details on this program.

Stay tuned for updates on the progress of our fund raising efforts, and the planning and construction of ZHCC 3.0.

Aderbad Tamboli
Chair, ZAH EC

**From the Treasurer’s Desk**

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Did you know that the “total cost” for the Nouruz function was around $22.91 pp?
All our Sub-Committees work very diligently on the budgets in close collaboration with EC for every event that they host. They make sure that all expenses are covered and taken care off without any burden on our coffers. As per our established processes for the past couple of years our Sub-Committees include a certain % into the event cost to defray the expense for operating overheads incurred during the course of the event. So please attend, support ALL our events and have fun with your family and friends.

**VISION 2020 – Planning for the future**
As presented on Sunday, April 6th, Vision 2020 is our Strategic 7-year Revenue Plan / Roadmap from 2014-2020 to build and secure our financial foundation to sustain and grow ZHCC for present and future generations. I am attaching a couple of key slides that were presented to reinforce the importance of this plan and encourage each and every individual to contribute towards this plan and make our vision of financial independence a reality. As mentioned, we will be accepting pledges for our new **Commit for 5 program** on Sunday, April 13th at the carnival and beyond.
Oral History Project

The time has come for us to conduct our very first in the series of interviews in the Oral History project. Saturday, May 3, we plan to interview twelve of our members. Each interview will be two hours long and during the entire time period, that is from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm we will be recording in four different areas of the Center. The Library, both classrooms and the Main Hall is reserved for this undertaking and we seek your indulgence to help us keep the place absolute free of background noise. Each area will have a sign to indicate recording is taking place and we need it quiet.

Houston Zarathushtis have moved here from different places, with different backgrounds and experiences. It is in our interest to record our stories and have them on file at the Rice University. This will be an ongoing process for some time, and we are always open to accommodating other participants in any capacity who want to be involved. All of us have a story to tell and collectively our experiences will be archived and preserved for researchers as well as for families to access these recordings for generations to come.
**Book donations**

Firdosh Mehta, Past President of FEZANA and a good friend of ZAH, has donated his personal book collection to FIRES. Thirty books are added to our library. The rest were duplicate titles for us and hence they are donated to ZANT (Dallas), ZAA (Alberta) and ZSBC (Vancouver). We thank Firdosh and Rushna for their generous donation and sharing a wealth of information in books collected over a long period of time and appreciate the valuable titles that are now out-of-print and priceless.

**ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

*By Farrokh Firozgary and Yasmin Medhora*

**Navroze Function:**

The *Navroze function celebrated on Saturday, 3/22/14* was a grand success with 360 people attending. The Atrium looked beautiful with the arrangement of the Haft Seen table which was set up by Kian & Khodadad Pashootanizadeh, Shahnaz Varahrami and their Iranian friends. The attendees enjoyed nibbling the goodies on the table which was refilled all evening.

The festivities started with the entertainment by the Zoroastrian Sunday School children. Vehishta Kaikobad (Director) and the parents of the young kids had organized a lively play for the evening called “The Farohar”. All the young children did a fabulous job. The next entertainment which followed was the song “Let It Go” from the movie Frozen sung by a young talented girl Shanaya Vakil. She was confident and captured the audiences’ attention. Next in line was our violin expert Farzad Sarkari who played a tune called “La Folia”. As always he did a great job. Following Farzad was our little doll Jesil Bharucha who captivated the audience with her Bollywood dance moves. She danced to the song “Nagada Sang Dhol” from the movie Ram Leela. The next act in line was the beautiful voice of Tehmi Dastoor who sung “Ek Pyar Ka Nagma Hai”. Finally our entertainment concluded with the fine young dancers of Rhythm India, Alyssa Tamboli, Freya Daroga, Friyana Sidhwa, and Natalya Haviewalla who wowed us with their “Bahara” dance. The entire entertainment was enjoyed by all.

Following the entertainment, we had delicious dinner that was catered by Savoy Restaurant and helped serve by our very own community members/volunteers. The scrumptious food was devoured by all, followed by carrot halva, strawberries and nice cold ice cream to sweeten our palates.

Thanks to Kian & Khodadad Pashootanizadeh for donating a painting for the silent auction.

Following dinner we had a live band, “David and Friends”, who thoroughly entertained us with their fun performance for about two and a half hours. The dance floor was filled with people of all ages with popular songs being played by the band. The band provided their services gratis once again. Band members comprised of: KR – Vocals and Guitar; Farrokh Firozgary – Keyboards; Sushim Shah – Vocals; Ashdin Medhora – Guitar; Tehmi Dastoor – Vocals. The dance floor looked colorful with the LED finger lights and glow bracelets.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the video of the live band performance. Following the band performance aapro “DJ Gary” entertained the young at heart fans with additional dance music into the wee hours of the morning.

The entertainment committee thanks all the attendees and the volunteers who helped in making this event a grand success.

**Third Annual Ava Yazad Parabh:**

ZAH celebrated the *Ava Yazad Parabh* on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at the residence of Ronnie and Elvia Patel in Sugarland. It was a gorgeous evening with peaceful setting of the waterfalls in the back ground. The jashan was attended by 44 adults and 3 kids.

We would like to thank Ervad Sanjana for performing the jashan. This was followed by an informative speech explaining the history, tradition and the significance of water in Zoroastrianism. Also, a piece of dal pori was immersed in the water for Avan Yazad Parabh.

After the jashan the guests enjoyed the chaasni, potluck snacks, falooda, tea and a variety of desserts. The attendees were entertained by Anjalee Patel with her song "Let It Go" from the movie “Frozen”.

ZAH would like to thank the Patel family for opening their home for this event and for making excellent arrangements for the evening. We hope more families can attend the Ava Yazad Parabh in future years.
YOUTH GROUP REPORT  
By Natalya Haveliwalla

In the month of March, the youth group volunteered at the Asia Society Center with Vehishta to represent Navroze to the crowd. A few of the youth performed as well as helping with various arts and crafts activities. In April, we will have our annual carwash and food stall at the Carnival on April 13th. Come and bring your cars to be cleaned for only $10! We will also be selling pizza, hot dogs, snacks, and homemade desserts at our stall. From April 18-20, we will be having a lock-in at the center with a volunteer activity. Since January, the script committee has been working hard to put together our youth show. This year on Saturday July 26th at 7:00PM the youth group will be presenting a modern version of the Shanameh Story: Zal and Rudabeh. Tickets will be on sale at the carnival. Mark the dates on your calendar and get your tickets fast because you don’t want to miss this show!

SPORTS COMMITTEE NEWS  
By Farrokh Firozgary

On March 29th, 2014 we held our much awaited Outdoor Sports Day event at the Center. The wonderful spring weather was an added reward for the day. It was truly remarkable to see individuals ranging from ages 5 to 74 participate in good spirit and cheer and encourage each other. The fun started with the running events and Zoro’s of all ages were competing for a spot in the ZAH records. Pre-lunch sporting activities included Track, Lemon and Spoon, Long Jump, Three-Legged and Sack Race. Warm delicious sandwiches were catered by Zersis and Anita Kavina who had set up ample quantities of food and related fixings ready for the hungry Zoro’s. The Sports Committee would like to thank the Kavina family for their excellent service and for their generosity in providing hot dogs and cake slices gratis! After a little relaxation, post lunch activities resumed with Shot-Put, Basketball and Volleyball. The awaited event of Tug-of-War was the grand finale of the day and drew enthusiasm from everyone. Pulls were made based on public demand including; Boys vs. Girls, India vs. Pakistan, Sugar land vs. the rest of Houston.

Tea and snacks followed thereafter with the award ceremony. Click Here to view the results. The Sports Committee appreciates everyone attending and hopes to see more Youth participation at future events. We would like to give a warm thank you to all the volunteers and donors, including our family members for making this event a huge success! We were all further blessed and fortunate to be injury free!!

CLICK HERE to see the pictures of the event, a big thanks to our photographer maestro Percy Behramsha for taking everyone in action.

Stay tuned for our next event Indoor Games - Carrom, Mahjong, Darts, Chess, etc. scheduled for Saturday June 28, 2014.

The Sports committee would like to hear more about your interests for future events, and encourage you to get in touch with us at zahsportscommittee@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS

congress 2000 legacy

APRIL 1, 2014

It gives us immense pleasure to announce that this year 2014 we have our two awards of $3000 each for the congress 2000 legacy awards. We at ZAH recognize and honor our youth going off to college for their excellence in the Academic Arena and their contribution to the ZAH center through Community Service.

All applicants will pass through the full award selection process set by an executive judgment of the Legacy Planning Committee Team and acknowledged by the ZAH-EC.
THE 2014 congress 2000 legacy AWARDS ARE
The congress 2000 legacy award

The award recognizes young ZAH students who are studying at the University level and who have achieved excellence in their scholastic studies, in extra-curricular activities and who have made substantial contribution to ZAH community affairs.

&

The Cyrus Rohinton Desai award

The "Cyrus Rohinton Desai Award" was set up by the Desai family in memory of their son Cyrus who lost his battle with cancer. **This award is given exclusively to the person who is going off to college for the first time!** This award also recognizes young ZAH students who have achieved excellence in their scholastic studies and who have made a substantial contribution to ZAH community affairs.

With our best wishes,

The legacy committee (Homi Davier, Percy Behramsha, Pearlne Collector, Farrokh Mistree, Aban Rustomji)

The congress 2000 legacy is an award program of the Zoroastrian Association of Houston.

FOR INFORMATION & THE APPLICATION FORM CLICK HERE

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YOUTH EVENT – JULY 26, 2014

After tremendous success from last year's youth show "Blast From The Past," the ZAH youth group returns once again with something new, something different, something that has never been done before.

The ZAH Youth presents "Shahnameh - the Ballad of Rudy and Zal": a modern day twist to the Shahnameh story Zal and Rudabeh.

So mark your calendars and save the date - 26th July 2014

**The rates are $100, $50, $35 and includes dinner after the show. Seating is reserved and seat numbers will be allocated.**

For tickets please contact Cyra Kanga at 281-969-8057 or at crkanga@yahoo.com. Tickets will also be on sale at the April 13th carnival.

So don't wait book your tickets now.............You don't want to miss this

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THE ART CORNER
By Khushnaz Gotla

The Art Corner was an idea that was conceived with the understanding that everyone sometimes needs those ‘a-ha” moments in their lives at their most poignant and vulnerable moments.

Khushnaz specializes in abstract art (oils, woods, fabric, glass & others) that gives its beholders that emotional quotient and sparks a different sensibility every time you see one of her creations.

Khushnaz’ s art style and abstract creations are formed on the cornerstones of originality and a passion that exudes simplicity and varying complexity that appeals to the viewer's sensibility and mood shades.

Her paintings have that unique blend that captures the imagination of both the discerning art connoisseur and the one-off buyer who are looking to improve their home décor.
Khushnaz understands the buyer’s perspective intimately and creates the perfect balance and overtures in her creations that stirs one’s emotions leading to the wow response from her customers. To stir your emotions! Contact Khushnaz at 571-484-2639 / khushnaz101@gmail.com

NERVOUS REX BAND
By Adil Mistry

We like to share amongst all those that may be interested in the ZAH community that Xerxes A Mistry, past student of the Zoroastrian Sunday School, Houston, of the early 90s, performs with his band ‘Nervous Rex’. They play frequently at Sugarland’s Baker Street Pub & Restaurant in the Town Center as well as in many locations, city, counties and a few states wide.

The band "Nervous Rex" is owned, managed, booked and operated by Xerxes, and performed for many years in Houston. Xerxes played professionally here since the early 90's, when he was first spotted in a High School, Church Dance performance and picked to join a professional Rock & Heavy Metal original band when 14 years old. We accompanied him to many gigs where he had to wear 2 wrist bands in alcohol serving establishments, years before graduating Kingwood High School.

He studied music passionately since elementary school performing in many Mardi Gras Parades and once with The New Orleans Symphony as well as other performances.

As in his previous five Bands over the past 20+ years, they play different venues from Clubs, Restaurants, Festivals (including S x SW Austin), St. Patricks Day Street parties, Charities, Private Parties, Country Clubs (Woodlands), Kemah Boardwalk, Kingwood River Center, Pleasure Pier, Galveston, other cities & States, as well as one overseas tour in Japan for the US bases. Currently he owns, manages, books, operates and is the percussionist.

At all venues there is never a cover charge, where ages 21 to Octogenarians & beyond are carded, spotted and welcomed. For hours and locations, please check schedules and info at Band's website: nervousrexband.com

CHANGE IN TELEPHONE NUMBER:

Ervad Peshotan and Kamal Unwalla’s telephone number has changed to (281) 849-3370

MILESTONE

BIRTH

Baby boy, Zain, born to Vera and Cyrus Daruwalla on Friday, March 14, 2014. Grandparents, Yazdi & Shahnaz Siddha are on cloud nine. Congratulations, Veera & Cyrus and Yazdi & Shahnaz.


NAVJOTE

Arnaz Irani, daughter of Gulnar & Shahrkh Irani, had her Navjote ceremony on April 5, 2014. Arnaz’ grandfather Dr. Aspi Surveyor from Mumbai, India and her Uncle Vispi and Aunt Perses from Sydney, Australia came specially to attend this auspicious occasion in her life.
16TH ANNUAL ZAH CARNIVAL
SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2014 AT 12:45 P.M.
(After Sunday school) at ZHCC
Bring your FAMILY and FRIENDS

Enjoy the fun and festivity, variety of food to-go and eat at the event.
Egg Hunt, Piñata and Fish Pond by Vehishta’s Sunday School;
Fun Games in the Atrium by the Middle Group;
Sodas, Pizza, Hot Dogs, brownies, cookies, etc. by the Youth group;
Games for adults & kids on the stage, Tarot Card reading, Gift Certificate
Walk, BINGO, Plant Sale, Sale of gift items, Adi Tamboli CDs and a lot more.
Enjoy kaleji, freshly grilled chicken tikkas, yummmy bhel pauri, beef pattice,
paatra fish, shrimp and meat kabobs, dhansak, curry rice, haleem, paapri,
chicken corn soup, chicken pulav, potato poori, sali chicken, beef rolls, green
chutney, limbo chutney and achaar, etc. Delicious lagan nu custar, kulf,
mithoo dahi, shrikhand, faloodo, calinger juice, tea, etc. Take any above
items to go plus Kheemo, Masoor, other

ALL ABOVE PROCEEDS GO TO ZAH

Visit the Rented Tables for more parsi food (cutlets, daars), parsi snacks like
batasa, bhaakhra, daar pori, murrabo, hand made crfts, paintings, etc.
If you wish to rent a table for display or sell arts & crafts, the rates per table
are:
ZAH $35; Others $100/-

Contact: Yasmin Medhora at 713-466-3908 to rent tables and donate food
items
Donations are always welcome

Go home with a clean car by supporting our Youth for their
CAR WASH (proceeds for Youth group trips)
WILL BE CELEBRATED ON
SUNDAY JUNE 1, 2014
SPONSORED BY
ARNAVAZ GODIWALLA & FAMILY

JASHAN STARTS PROMPTLY AT 11:00 A.M.

If registered by 5/25/14 CHARGES: $7 per person
Children upto 3 yrs. - Gratis
Ages 4-10: $7 - Please Specify Pizza or Regular Food
Starting 5/26 thru 5/30 charges for all $15/-

RSVP Information Will Be Provided Shortly

For questions please call Nozer Dungor at
281-350-1002 (up to 9 p.m. only)

Donations To ZAH Are Welcome In Memory Of
Late Adil Godiwalla

ZAH Community gratefully thanks our Ervads
for performing the Gahambar Jashan

Organized By: ZAH Entertainment Committee