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: May 11, 2014

Children’s Session: Sunday School starts at 10.30 am. Topics for this month -
- Project for Mother’s day
- A glimpse into the lives of 2 great Zarathushti women.
We will have gujarati interwoven through the session and will also end with a gujarati song for mothers day.

Please bring the children by 10.30 am so that they can participate in the project before the 2nd topic starts. This will allow the project to dry before session ends.

This Saturday 10th May is Family Day at Asia Society, 11 am to 5 pm, celebrating Asia Pacific American Heritage month. Many interesting activities lined up. Do visit if you can.

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, June 1, 2014 – Maidhiyarem Gahambar (Shehanshahi Dae Mahino)
Saturday, June 28, 2014 – Indoor Games – Carrom, Mahjong, Darts, Chess
07/12/2014 - 07/13/2014 - Z-Camp 2014

MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOLDEN GROUP</th>
<th>Fourth Sunday of each month. Interested? Please call Zarine Balsara at (281) 304-6611</th>
</tr>
</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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EC REPORT

From the Treasurer’s Desk

DID YOU KNOW?
Did you know that our utilities amount for approximately 22-24% of our annual operating expenses?
We would like to request you to please use the lights, A/C, water, etc. very sparingly, sensibly and with utmost care to assist us in our endeavor to keep the costs down.
“ADOPT A UTILITY A MONTH” PROGRAM

As you all know by now, we have launched a new initiative called “Adopt a Utility a Month” program where you can adopt a utility or utilities for one or more months and defray the utility costs, or even for general maintenance, thereby supporting our “Center”. We are so pleased to inform you that we have started getting a very favorable response and we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude again to all the donors for their tremendous gesture. If you have any spare change for May and onwards please do not hesitate to send in your contributions.

- General Maintenance
  - $100 per month from Mar 2014 to Feb 2015 by Roshan & Zarir Sethna
- Gas - $60 per month
  - Mar to Dec 2014 by Parvin & Mehraban Dinyarian
- Security - $80 per month
  - Mar to Dec 2014 by Parvin & Mehraban Dinyarian
- Telephone - $230 per month
- Water - $300 per month
- Trash Collection - $300 per month
- Lawn moving & Landscaping - $800 per month
- Electricity - $1,200 per month

Thank you very much again to all the donors and to all others who are thinking to adopt a utility or utilities for a month or more!!!

**LIBRARY REPORT**

_by Jangoo Mistry_

*They Came to Tell Their Story*

On Saturday, May 3, we fired the first salvo on the ambitious and “historical” endeavor of the ZAH Library’s Oral History Project. Previous write-ups in Manashni have talked in detail about the attempt to document and preserve the rich backgrounds and experiences of our fellow Zoroastrians in Houston.

In this project, guided by Rice University, on May 3 at the Center, we began collecting oral histories of first-generation Zoroastrians. We had set up interviews with an initial batch of twelve senior members of our community in 2-hour segments beginning at 10 am and ending at 4 pm. Each senior was interviewed by two younger volunteers who had undergone an intensive 6-hour training by Rice earlier. During each interview, audio recordings were made that will also be transcribed and entered into the Zoroastrian Archive at Rice.

We are encouraged by the positive response we have received for this project. We have more people ready to interview those who are willing to share their interesting experiences and recollections of personal, religious, and historic events, as well as their daily lives dating back to early years in their homeland, and as immigrants to the U.S. Generations to come will cherish the valuable collection of real-life struggles and events, the successes and failures, the fears and concerns of their forefathers who had the courage to change the destiny of their children and grandchildren.

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. You can participate by calling Pervin Sagar (pervinsagar@yahoo.com, or 713-436-0518).

**Notable New Books**

- *Discovering Cyrus: The Persian Conqueror Astride the Ancient World (Iran’s Age of Empire)* by Reza Zarghamee is hailed as the most comprehensive study to date of the life and times of Cyrus the Great, to be welcomed by scholars and the general public alike. The book is not just on Cyrus, but on the beginning of Iran and the Achaemenid Empire. In his vast sweep, the author draws on sources of every kind, describing the background of the Persian people, the turbulence of the times, and the roots of Cyrus’ policies. The result is a living, breathing Cyrus standing atop a distant world that played a key role in shaping our own.
- *Law and Identity in Colonial South Asia* by Mitra Sharafi explores the involvement of Parsis, or Zoroastrians, in the colonial legal system of British India. From the late eighteenth century until India’s independence in 1947, the Parsis acted as lawyers, judges, lobbyists and legislators, shaping what was to become Parsi personal law in the areas of marriage, inheritance and religious trusts. It is a fascinating account, scholarly but immensely readable and interesting.
ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT  
By the Entertainment Committee

16TH ZAH CARNIVAL (Write-up by the Entertainment Committee)

The 16th Annual Carnival celebrating the anniversary of the ZAH Center was held on April 13 after Sunday school. With the combined effort of all of you, a total of $6,150/- plus was donated to the ZAH.

Thanks to each and every one of you who attended the Carnival, purchased food, played games, volunteered your time, cooked food and donated items. The team work at every stall was super!

Grilled Chicken Tikkas, Bihari Kabobs & trimmings by Rustom & Fiona Setna; 53 pieces each Meat Pattice, Paatra Macchi, Shrimp Kabobs by Tanaaz & Edul Chikhliwala; 3 dozen meat kabobs by Arni Ilavia; Chicken Liver by Farzana Sidhwa; Additional tray Chicken Liver by Roshan Gazdar; Paapri and Haleem by Villie Daboo; Dhansak dal and rice Jasmin & Yazdi Mistry; Sali Margi, bread and 10 bottles Limboo Chutney/Gajjar Meva achaar Minaz & Nozer Dungor; Bhel stall by Maharukh & Rohinton Deputy; bhel mix, sev, flat & round poories, dahi, channa, chaat masala, Spicy and Sweet Chutnies; Jasmin & Percy Katrak took care of all Paani Poori section; Shrimp Curry by Tenaz Sunavala; Rice for curry Yasmin Engineer & Yasmin Haveliwala; Masala Potato Kamal Unwalla; Chicken Pulav & Raita Nina Edulji; Chicken & Corn Soup Kamalrukh Gandhi; Beef sandwiches Nargis Cooper. To-Go Kheemo 5 boxes Kamalrukh Gandhi. To-Go Masoor 8 boxes and Peanut Brittles Delna Minwalla; To-Go 1 box each Paapi, Kheema, Masoor Arni & Piloo Ilavia and To-Go Chicken Curry 5 boxes Diana Balsara.

Falooda, icecream and all trimmings by Roshan & Percy Behramasha; Parsi Custar 3 trays Tehmi Dastoor; 1 tray custar Arnaz Mistry, Watermelon Juice Khrsheed Dastur; Shrikhand, Kuli, Sweet Yogurt & Tea Yasmin Medhora.

2 large trays of Kachoobar onions for curry & dhanksak by Shernaz Boomla; Boiled Potatoes for bhel 5 lbs. each by Nergish Davier, Zenobia Guzder, Farida Merchant, Villoo Gonda and Zarina Elavia; Onions for bhel stall, Nazanin Sarkari and Ava Bhathena; trimmings for kachoobar and raita Yasmin Medhora. Thanks to Becky & Kershaw Byramji for paying for 200 rotties, 100 poories and table cloths; Thrity & Kersi Engineer for paying for paper products used at the Carnival and Neville Divecha for the décor items.

Gracias to our Youth group who planned and worked together to sell Pizza, Hot Dogs, Brownies, Sodas and more. Thanks to all the kids and their parents for contributing towards the expenses and pitching in to help at the stall. They also sold tickets for their upcoming fund raiser. The Car Wash went off very well and they collected a decent sum for their trips.

A big thanks to the Middle Group kids and parents who managed a variety of fun games in the Atrium coordinated by Arzin Italia, Sharaine Vakil and Khursheed Hormuzdi. The general comment was that the Atrium was buzzing with kids and activities! The game, “Guess The Weight of the Cake” generated good money and the cake was donated by Naushad Mehta. Thanks to Sheroy Haveliwala to coordinate the Board Dart game which the kids enjoyed. Unfortunately due to unfavorable weather the kids could not take Motorbike rides.

Vehishta Kaikobad and all the parents of her group donated gifts and managed the Fish Pond stall. Meher & Arish Rustomji and all the parents of Vehishta’s group took care of the 2 Pinatas and Egg Hunt which is the favorite of all young kids. Thanks parents for your team work and donations.

The gift certificate walk on the stage was coordinated by Nargis Cooper. The gift certificates were donated by the Cooper. Music during the event was monitored by Firdaus Dastoor and Gary Firozgary. Bingo number nicknames were called out by Roshan Sethna which makes the game interesting. The Bingo ticket sale was done by Meher Rustomji. The first prize for 2 Bingo games was donated by Naushad Mehta and 1 game by Aban Rustomji. The second prize for 2 Bingo games was donated by Thrity & Kersi Engineer and 1 game by Farida Divecha. Thanks to Roshan for making several announcements.

Photo Booth stall was a new add by Fiona Setna. It was fun to pose for pictures with various accessories. All pictures were taken by Percy Katrak. Merci to Arna Sethna for her popular stall of Tarot Card Reading. A gift stall added money to the Carnival pot manned and set up by Adil Edulji with most items donated by Aban Rustomji and some by Arna Sethna and Farida Divecha. Thanks to Yazdi & Roshan Engineer for the Plant sale and yummy green chutney made in remembrance of Yazdi’s mom, Coomi Engineer. This stall made very good money this year. Rustom Engineer sold Adi Tamboli and Minoo Bharucha CDs and money was donated to the ZAH. Thanks also to our volunteers who took pictures, Noshir Medhora, Percy Katrak and Yazdi Engineer.
We very much appreciate the generosity of Cillie & Jehanbux Mehta for renting the table and giving a donation of $500/- to the Carnival. The rental stall by Dilnavaz Meer always gives a variety of purchases at the Carnival. Thanks to Gulmohar Bharucha for cooking yummy food items for their rental stall (sponsored). Rental table by Khushnaz Gotla had a neat display of her art work – paintings on wood & canvas, fancy envelopes, knickknacks.

A big thank you to some donors who gave a check to ZAH towards this event - Bakoo & Koko Kermani ($101/-) in memory of her mother’s 30th anniversary; Yasmin & Shapur Pavri ($101/-) and Ketu Tamboli ($51/-).

The proceeds collected by each stall were directly given to the assigned Accountants for the day. Thanks very much to Rohinton Deputy, Bomi Gazdar to count those thousands of $1/- bills. Of course Kayo Sidhwa is the chief who makes sure the calculations are right.

More precious volunteers who helped at the event – Arzin, Zara & Zal Italia, Percy Master and Noshir Medhora for setting up the hall the previous day and so many other chores; Aban Chhor, Farida Divecha, Scheherazade Dastur, Minaz & Nozer Dungor, Frey Engineer, Edul & Tanaaz Chikliwala, Nazanin Sarkari, Roshan Gazdar, Sherry Sethna, Ouvi Mehta, Fred Bhader, Jamshed Bharucha, Villoo Gonda, Neville Divecha, Shernaz Boomla, Sanobar Tamboli, Yasmine Engineer, Nina Eduji, Nali Desai, Noozar Boomla, Farzana Sidhwa, Kamal Unwalla, Nargis Cooper, Nergish Davier, Zenobia Guzder, Noshir & Ava Bhathena, Yasmin Haveliwalha, Mahnaz Irani, Lyla Daroga, Jasmin Katrak, Manek Nariman, Tenaz Sunaval and many more.

THANK YOU     MERCI     GRACIAS     DHANYAWAD     GRAZIE

YOUTH GROUP REPORT
By Rhea Engineer - Historian of Youth Group

The youth achieved a lot during the month of April. On April 13th we had our annual car wash at the carnival. It was a lot of fun and we raised about $500! From April 19th-20th, we had our youth lock-in. Thanks to Friyana Sidhwa, we got to volunteer at the Houston Food Bank. The enthusiastic people and the loud music made our experience very enjoyable! Our lock in was a success, as usual. One of our main mentors, Darius Byramji, announced that he got accepted to med school, and that was the last lock in he would attend. We would like to congratulate him and also thank him for everything he has done for the youth. We wish him a great successful year ahead!

This year, for the fundraiser, we are doing a play that puts a funny modern twist on the Shahnameh. The show will be on July 26th. Practice makes perfect, so the months of May and June will be solely dedicated to practice for the fundraiser. Last year, our youth show was a great success. We have big shoes to fill, but with hard work we will reach our goal, and this show will be another hit!

SPORTS COMMITTEE NEWS
By Farrokh Firozgary

Indoor Games: Carrom, Mahjong, Whist Drive, Darts, Chess, etc.: June 28, 2014: Please mark your calendars for our next scheduled event, Indoor Games, to include Carrom, Mahjong, Whist Drive, Darts, Chess, etc. which will be held on Saturday June 28, 2014. Stay tuned for additional sign-up and event related details. We look forward in you joining us along with your family and friends!!

ZAH Table Tennis Summer Camp: The sports committee is pleased to announce that after an extremely successful camp last year, we are looking forward to organizing again the ZAH Table Tennis Summer Camp on six Friday sessions, spread across June and July this coming summer. Our talented Oak family has once again graciously agreed to coach this event and we should indeed take advantage of this generous opportunity! The fee for all six sessions will be $75 for ZAH members and $100 for non-members. Prior to finalizing this camp we need at least 10 persons to sign up to make it worth the time and effort for the Oak family. Please send us an email at zahsportscommittee@gmail.com by May 20, 2014 if you or a family member will be interested in attending this camp. Once again we encourage you to avail of this incredible opportunity which we will hold at our Center!!

Cricket: Weather permitting the Sports Committee will continue to organize cricket over the weekend. The Dallas team was provided an invitation by us, and they could be coming down for a friendly match and stay overnight during the weekend before the Thanksgiving holiday. We will provide additional details as we find out their plans. We encourage our cricket enthusiasts and fans to join us for practice and to continue our winning streak 😊
Open House Indoor Games: We will continue to have the open house with indoor games which includes table-tennis, mahjong, carrom, etc. that we hold from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. on select Fridays of each month. Two Sports Committee members are present to help facilitate this community opportunity, please refer to the Schedule that is posted on our website. If you have any questions please contact any of your Sports Committee members.

In conclusion, we encourage you and your loved ones to participate, enjoy, and volunteer in all Sports Events.

Sincerely,
Your ZAH Sports Committee

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SCHOLARSHIP

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.

Scholarships are listed on our website and due dates are coming up soon. Do take advantage of this and apply in time (Legacy 2000 is due 1st June) http://zah.org/college-education/

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
VAKSHOORI SCHOLARSHIP

The Vakhshoori scholarship board would like to remind all potential applicants that Vakhshoori scholarship application deadline is June 15th. After this date, we would still accept applications until July 15th, but those applications which have reached us by June 15th date would receive higher priority. For a copy of the application, please go to http://www.vakhshoori.org. For specific questions, please contact Koorosh Vakhshoori at scholarship@vakhshoori.org.

Regards

Member of Board of Directors,
Vakhshoori Scholarship
Koorosh Vakhshoori


Our ZAH Z-Camp is back after loads of fun and tremendous success our kids had last year. As requested by a lot of kids and parents we will be holding an overnight camp this summer during the weekend of July 12th and 13th 2014. This year we have extended our invitation to the ZANT (Dallas) Board, Austin and Chicago (besides San Antonio) for their kids to attend the Z-Camp. As they would probably be coming in on Friday, there may be a remote possibility of the Z-Camp starting after dinner on Friday night (July 11th) but we shall confirm the same well in advance. Vehishta's group kids will begin the Z-Camp on Saturday, July 12th morning like last year. This will be a great opportunity for our kids to interact with kids outside of Houston and make long lasting friendships.

The Z-Camp will include a lot of fun as well as educational activities conducted by professionals in their respective fields. Like last year, participants will be broken up into teams and will be awarded points for various activities along the duration of the camp. It will be an overnight camp and the nominal participant dues will include all meals, all activities, medals for winners / runners up and a special gift for every participant. Awards and prizes will be given away at the end of the camp.

This year we will be incorporating some new sessions including for the age group between 18-25 yrs. (to be confirmed) and pertinent details regarding them, registration, etc. will follow hence please plan your vacations / trips accordingly so the kids don't miss out on the fun. We are aware it's on a Sunday School weekend and the Sunday School classes will be incorporated as part of the Z-Camp.

Your ZAH Z-Camp Core Team

ZAH YOUTH FUNDRAISER

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

The ZAH Youth Group
SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Vehishta Kaikobad will be hosting the Summer Enrichment Program 2014 for children 5 yrs and up at ZAH Center. Many children have already registered. If you have not signed up your children and are interested, please do sign-up quickly as the program is getting filled fast. All the younger ones will have their own age appropriate activities and experiences. There are excellent volunteers lined up who love the younger kids and help take very good care of them. (It also includes our own Tanaya Behramsha).

MESSAGE FROM FEZANA WELFARE COMMITTEE

A Zoroastrian family living in Canada is going through a real financial hardship. The 55 year old husband is suffering from a rare form of Terminal cancer, which he has been battling for over five years. His cancer is considered a rare type and not much is known. It’s called METASTATIC SYNOVIAL SARCOMA. Over the last five years, he has had his right leg (below the knee) amputated, half of his left lung, the lower part of his right lung and a part of the diaphragm removed. He has had quite a few chemotherapies with different chemicals.

This year he was admitted on 22 of Jan in Mt. Sinai till the 24 of Feb for further investigation and treatment. Presently he is home. For his comfort, the family has rented a hospital bed, a commode, a walker, a wheelchair with a rental charge of $516 a month. The cancer makes him anemic due to the bleeding of his sarcoma, and he gets blood transfusion every few weeks. Due to his weak condition, he has to be transported by an ambulance, for which there is an additional cost of $200. The wife had to give up her job to look after the husband as he is on OXYGEN all time, which needs to be monitored.

The couple has two children, full time students attending University.

FEZANA Welfare Committee appeals to your generosity to alleviate this family’s financial burden. Please give whatever you can. It’s truly a sad situation.

Any questions may please be sent by e-mail : hosimehta@aol.com or huty.contractor@gmail.com # 412-445-1533

Your donations can be made to FEZANA Critical Assistance Fund:


By check, made out to FEZANA with the memo: "Welfare Appeal – May 2014".

Checks are to be mailed to:

Ratan Mistry, FEZANA Treasurer
1258 Water Lily Way
San Jose, CA 95129

BIRTH

A boy, Darius Burzeen Karanjawala, to Burzeen and Tina Karanjawala, grandson to Kamal Mehta & the Late Kersi Mehta (Willoughby Hills, OH) and Eruch & Lily Karanjawala (Santa Maria, CA) in Houston, TX on March 13, 2014.

OBITUARY

Bhikhaji Kaikhushru Mistry, husband of Tehmina Mistry, father of Darayus Mistry (California), Bakhtavar Sahier (Mumbai), and Yazdi Mistry (Sugar Land, TX), father-in-law of Lily and Jasmine Mistry, and grandfather of Porus, Jasmine, Rukshin, Hanoz, and Cyrus Mistry passed away in Mumbai on Saturday, April 19, 2014 at the age of 84.

All prayers are being conducted in Mumbai. Please keep the Mistry family in your thoughts and prayers.
SHAHENSHAHI DAE MAS (MAIDHYAREM) GAHAMB

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

Click here to RSVP on the ZAH Website

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
June 16th to 20th - **Masquerade**
- Creating masks and other artifacts revealing the cultures of Africa, Hawaii, Oceania, Indonesia, Hopi, using various artistic mediums including painting, clay modeling, canvas, beadwork etc.
- Fun and feast with an on-site **carnival!**

June 23rd to 27th - **Zootopia**
- Zoology for all ages!
- Exploring the wonders of animal life through arts, crafts and literature
- Field trips to the Zoo
- An extraordinary hands-on experience with scientists from HCC.
- Discovering wild life in art through works of famous artists.

July 14th to 18th - **Travel through Time**
- Students will experience travelling through the centuries from Babylon, to wonders of Leonardo’s inventions in the Renaissance period, to modern art and architecture.
- Crafts include fun filled time machine concepts to creating sophisticated (usable) artifacts.

July 21st to 25th - “**All things great and small**”
A unique session which introduces students to social awareness focusing on:
- Creating food bouquets for a homeless shelter
- Visit to an animal shelter
- Creating art cards for children who are cancer survivors
- Appreciating famous personalities known for their humanitarian services.

* The sessions will include guest speakers, yoga, dance and music and fieldtrips. Each two week session will end with a feast.*