The MANASHNI team wishes its Readers a Very Happy and Healthy New Year

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME: 10:30 a.m. - Children’s group; 11:30 a.m. - Middle Group.

DATE: January 10, 2016

Children’s Session: Sunday School will be held at 10:30 a.m.

Middle Group: This group starts at 11:30 a.m. and is for the children in the middle school.

Youth Group: Sarosh Collector conducts this session. Age group – Senior school

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, January 30, 2016  Jashn’e’Sadeh – See attached flyer
Saturday, February 27, 2016  International Night
Saturday, March 19, 2016  Dal Pori Bake
Monday, March 21, 2016  Jamshed-i-Navroze Humbandagi and Maachi
Thursday, March 24, 2016  Ava Yazad Parab Jashan
Saturday, March 26, 2016  Jamshed-i-Navroze Celebration

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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REPORTS

LIBRARY REPORT

By Jangoo Mistry

Happy New Year

The Library Committee wishes all our members a very Happy 2016 and the fulfillment of all your wishes and dreams.
This time of year, we are prone to make resolutions that sometimes last longer than a whole week! But there is one New Year’s resolution that you will find easy to keep.

At various times in 2016, the Library Committee will present events that you will find interesting. It will be very gratifying for us if you make a resolution to attend **at least one Library event** in the New Year. We feel that just this minor effort on your part will make you a “repeat and loyal customer” of our programs. And you will be proud that you were able to keep your resolution so easily. See you in 2016!

**ZAH Library’s February 5 Event**

You will recall that in 2014, we launched the ambitious and “historical” Oral History Project that recorded and preserved the rich backgrounds and experiences of our fellow Zoroastrians in Houston. A little over 30 seniors were interviewed, who graciously shared 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.

The project, conducted through the guidance of Rice University, has given us audio recordings that were transcribed and entered into the Zoroastrian Archive at Rice. We expect that 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.

On February 5, the ZAH Library will present a fascinating session that will be based on this Oral History project. Come and hear snippets of the most interesting recordings and find out how you can listen to other (sometimes surprising, and sometimes shocking) stories of your fellow ZAH members. *Bring the youngsters in your family with you.* They will gain an appreciation of our first-generation friends and realize their sacrifices and achievements. Please mark your calendars.

**ZAH Library’s Calendar of Events**

The ZAH Library (home of FIRES) has just finished another year of events that were much appreciated and well attended. Building on our success, we are planning to bring you seminars and presentations this year that are sure to interest you.

**April**

Following the February event mentioned in detail above, the ZAH Library plans to have an event in April that recognizes our Friends of the Library who have so graciously and consistently supported our efforts through the years.

**October**

As always, there will be an annual gala event that will cover 3 days on a weekend in October. You will recall that last October, the ZAH Library organized a 3-day event that addressed the important topic: “Survival of Zoroastrianism”. Watch for more details about this upcoming 2016 gala event in future issues of Manashni.

**December**

Tentatively, we are planning to organize an event that addresses the many customs, practices, and other religious differences that distinguish the Parsis of the Indian subcontinent from the Zarathustis of Iran. The intention is to promote an understanding and appreciation of each other’s culture and practices, breaking down the barriers that prevent the two groups from assimilating.

**YOUTH REPORT**

*By Katie Master  
Secretary, ZAH Youth Group*

The new year has begun and the Zoroastrian Association of Houston Youth Group does not intend to change its habits! The ZAH is diligently working to serve its community and to keep the community’s bond strong. As part of our yearly traditions, the Youth Group hosted a Christmas party on December 13th.
Through generous donations by the Behramshas, Engineers, and the Dungors, we had a scrumptious lunch with all the kids' favorites including pizza and cookies. We also played games such as musical chairs and had Santa present gifts to the younger children. Not excluding the older kids, we had white elephant in which everyone participating was required to bring a gift worth $10 or under. Lastly, not forgetting to spread our Christmas joy, the kids made holiday cards to give to patients at the local hospital. All in all, the party was another success and all the kids were able to celebrate the holidays.

Aside from the Christmas party, the Youth Group encouraged people to continue bringing nonperishable items to deliver to the Houston Food Bank. Continuing on the theme of drives and helping our community, the Youth Group coordinated with Interfaith Ministries and asked people to bring simple games such as crossword puzzles and Sudoku along with warm items like blankets and jackets for unfortunate senior citizens.

For the upcoming year, we have planned a trip to the Houston Food Bank on January 24th where the youth will volunteer in the warehouse. We will be sorting nonperishable items for them to be packaged and shipped out to families.

Thank you for your interest in the Youth Group and we look forward to updating you with more of our projects.

SPORTS COMMITTEE REPORT  
By Sheroy Haveliwala

On December 13th, we had a Cricket & Dhansak Day that was planned way back in the year. The weather did not co-operate with us and even though it dampened the pitch and did not allow us to play outdoors, it certainly did not dampen the spirits of the 66 attendees who indeed had a blast with the indoor games like Table Tennis and Carom.

Of course not to mention the wonderful Dhansak that satisfied our culinary inkling for good food, together with nice hot tea. With such delicacies, at the end of the day, we had many Happy Zoros.

Earlier in the year, we also had a Bowling evening that was attended by over 75 members. This event was sponsored by the Sports Committee and FREE to members. Young ones, middle aged ones and also some old fogies came by, some to show off their bowling skills and others to watch and enjoy the gathering. This event was memorable in the fact that many youth attended and made for an exciting evening.

Towards the year end, a new member, Noshir Medhora, joined the Sports Committee.

Now let us move forward to the 2016! We want to make 2016 a banner year where we see member participation rise to levels that we have never seen before. This applies to all ages but especially to the youth and the young adults.

Below is a preview of the activities planned for 2016;

- An Outdoor Sports Day to coincide with the ZAH Picnic to be held at the Sugarland Park on Sunday April 24th
- A cricket day either on May 7th and 8th or May 14th and 15th. We shall confirm these dates with the visiting teams and will give you a final date shortly.
- A bowling evening on June 8th
- For Sunday Sept 25th, we are planning another exciting offsite activity. If you have any suggestions contact any of the Sports Committee members below. Keep watching this space for further details!!

ZAH Sports Committee:
Percy Behramsha, Sheroy Haveliwala, Nosh Medhora and Ronnie Sarkari
OUR MISSION

CARE’s purpose is to establish a process with the help of community volunteers “social workers” who have the experience and ability to assist and/or direct help to any Houston based Zarathushti family in a crisis situation.

THE PLAN

CARE’s CORE TEAM is galvanized to take immediate action when required. Volunteers will be from within the ZAH membership and may even include individuals from Mainstream America & NGO’s.

ZAH is a 600+ strong, vibrant and proactive community and as we continue to grow we see a need to address some of the issues that are evident as a need for our community, its seniors and even within the young families too.

Fezana has an assistance program, extremely effective, which is an organizational body that offers only monetary assistance & relief. However, it just cannot assist hands on. Hence we saw a need for OUR members who require assistance and that is how CARE has evolved.

ZAH’s social workers have been identified, approached, are eager to get this program in motion. The team will have active and also retired individuals who understand the need and are eager to help jump start this valuable tool for ZAH.

We are delighted that all the volunteers have come in right away and required no persuasion. They read the memo, saw the need and joined up! However, volunteers will be accepted only if there are no prior ZAH regulatory concerns or unresolved issues.

In ending, YES, we are serious, motivated, our intent is professional and we are in operation!

‘ZAHCARES’ SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY ‘VOLUNTEERS’ CONTRIBUTING THEIR TIME AND PERSONAL RESOURCES. WE WILL REQUIRE A SIGNED WAIVER AND RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITIES FOR ANY INCIDENT WHEN THEIR SERVICES ARE BEING PROVIDED.

CARE’s social workers consist of volunteers from Social, Medical, Education, Legal, Insurance, Accounting, Technology, etc. team will be available to assist in helping to get relief in need based situations and all decisions will be based on a three or more committee member’s consensus. The guidelines shown below will be followed:

‘CARES’ CAN …

1. Social, business, tax & legal mentoring using ZAH & City services.
2. Professional Psychological support system (kept confidential)
3. Assist in domestic challenging situations & provide referrals to city services.
4. If and when required provide referrals for social, legal and other services.
5. Provide transportation to ZAH functions.
6. Assist at the time of need and bereavement.
7. Make doctor’s appointments and drive members over for appointments.
8. Help get groceries/ Pick up medications
9. Provide emergency assistance, if required, for visiting families of Zoroastrians residing in Houston
10. Accept donations, but will be directed and be disbursed by the ZAH treasurer ONLY

‘CARES’ CANNOT ….

1. Provide ongoing day to day assistance to individuals.
2. Guarantee services when volunteers are not available
3. Services provided will be for crisis situations only and will have time limitations
4. Be available as a short time caretaker for babysitting under emergency situations only or
5. Volunteer Physicians will not offer a second opinion to avoid a conflict with another doctor/provider.
6. Perform any service without a signed waiver form
7. Disclose any names of people they are providing services to the general membership.

INTERESTED ZAH MEMBERS WHO WISH TO USE THIS SOCIAL SERVICE MAY CONTACT US AT zahcares@gmail.com

ZAHCARES program is available for all community members and the best way is to write to us at zahcares@gmail.com and a single person will receive this message and distribute your request for assistance ONLY to the ones living closest to you or one who can best address your specific request and/or need.

We do intend to also have a crisis hot line phone number that will be released in due course.

Until then please feel free to call any of the individuals listed below………..

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Behramsha, Persis Cell: 713-294-7747
Balsara, Diana Cell: 281-794-2080
Collector, Sarosh Cell: 713-882-8465
Davier, Homi Cell: 832-428-4285
Dungor, Nozer Cell: 832-758-8331
Engineer, Yasmin Cell: 832-276-0502
Italia, Arzin Cell: 713-679-4998
Italia, Sorab Cell: 713-679-4997
Rustom, Shaheen Cell: 713 301 1356
Sagar, Pervin Cell: 832-531-2100
Sarkari, Shirin Cell: 281 844 1284
Setna, Roshan Cell: 832-372-5433
Setna, Fiona Cell: 281-546-8166
Vakil, Sharaine Cell: 713 298 5559

EDUCATIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – FROM ZAGNY (Zoroastrian Association of Greater NY)
We invite applications for financial assistance (Scholarship Loan) for the academic year 2016-2017 from members who are studying at accredited institutions in the United States. Applicants should be full-time students. **The last date for filing an application is January 15, 2016.**

Full details and other information can be downloaded from the [Scholarship page of ZAGNY website](#). Additional information can be obtained from the Scholarship Committee Chairperson and ZAGNY Board Member: Kerman Dukandar: kerman@zagny.org

**BIRTH**

Baby boy, Sarosh Rayomond Collector, born December 24, 2015; 6lb 11oz, to Rayomond and Sarah Collector. Grandparents Sarosh and Pearline are overjoyed with the new family member.

**NAVJOTE**

Darius B. Dastur, son of Khursheed and Barjor M. Dastur and brother of Mahtab B. Dastur, had his Navjote ceremony on 24th December 2015, Roj Adar, Mah Amardad, 1385 y.z. at Rustom N. Faramna Agiary, Dadar, Mumbai.

**NAVAR**

By the Grace of Ahura Mazda, Ervd Neville Kanga, son of Shahrukh and Kermeen Kanga, twin-brother of Natasha Kanga, and grandson of Adi and Perviz Kanga, and Dadi and Aloo Bharthania, was ordained as a Navar on Saturday, December 26 (Roj Khorshed, Mah Amardad, 1385 Y.Z.) at the Vaccha Gandhi Agiary in Mumbai. Neville learned his Navar prayers under the guidance of Ervd Peshotan Unwalla in Houston, Texas.

**WE HAVE MOVED**

Kamalrukh and Minoo Gandhi have moved. Their new address is:

4903 Anthony Springs Ln
Sugar Land TX 77479

Cell:
Minoo – 713-501-1561
Kamalrukh – 281-799-7938

**OBITUARY**

Manochehr (Minoo) Kayani, 78, father of Mahnaaz Firozgary passed away in Pune, India on Friday December 4, 2015. He is survived by his wife Govher; children Parichehr, Mahnaaz, Danesh and Gulestan; grandchildren Karishmeh, Shahdaan, Gohar, Bahrom and Nauzer. All prayers are being held in Pune. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Minoo N Bamjee, h/o (late) Dinaz Bamjee, f/o Anita Nadeer Contractor, Lyla Ramie Daroga (Houston, TX), Natasha Adil Tarapore and Phiroza Kaezad Setna, passed away on **Friday January 1, 2016.**
ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON

2016 ZAH MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME: __________________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: ______________________________________________________________________

CITY: __________________________ STATE _______ ZIP: ________________________________

TEL (h): __________________________ TEL (other): _________________________________

E.Mail: ________________________________________________________________________

CATEGORY OF MEMBERS (PLEASE TICK ONLY ONE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY)

PATRON MEMBER. – FAMILY .................................................. $500.00

PATRON MEMBER – SINGLE .................................................. $250.00

PATRON MEMBER – FAMILY SENIOR .................................. $250.00

PATRON MEMBER – SINGLE SENIOR .................................. $125.00

FAMILY MEMBER ............................................................... $275.00

FAMILY ASSOCIATE MEMBER ............................................. $275.00

SINGLE MEMBER HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD ................................ $150.00

SINGLE MEMBER ............................................................... $135.00

FAMILY SENIOR MEMBER .................................................. $ 65.00

SINGLE SENIOR MEMBER .................................................. $ 40.00

STUDENT MEMBER ............................................................. $ 25.00

Additional Surcharges
MANASHNI SURCHARGE - FOR PRINTED/MAILED COPIES $ 15.00

SURCHARGE (ONLY IF PAYING BY VISA/MASTERCARD) $ 10.00

NO SURCHARGE IF PAID BEFORE JANUARY 31, 2016

DONATION

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: $______

FAMILY MEMBER: PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18

FAMILY SENIOR MEMBER: WHERE ONE SPOUSE IS OVER THE AGE OF 65

SINGLE SENIOR MEMBER: AN INDIVIDUAL OVER THE AGE OF 65
SINGLE MEMBER: AN UNMARRIED INDIVIDUAL OVER THE AGE OF 18
SINGLE MEMBER HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD: SINGLE PARENT WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18

MEMBERSHIP YEAR: CALENDAR YEAR – JANUARY TO DECEMBER

PLEASE SELECT THE CATEGORY APPLICABLE TO YOU AND MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO:
ZAH Treasurer,
8787 W. Airport Blvd.
Houston, TX 77071

We also accept VISA and MasterCard credit cards; however kindly note that a $10 surcharge will be levied on all credit card charges (donations exempted) to cover our additional processing costs.

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Jashne Sadeh
Saturday January 30, 2016
At the Zarthushti Heritage and Cultural Center

CLICK HERE TO RSVP

Please RSVP and Pay Online
LIMITED CAPACITY

Prayers: 6 p.m.
Sadeh Fire: Immediately Following Prayers

RSVP Deadline 1/27/2016
We request you RSVP and pay online for this event.
Your check payments must be received by 1/27/2016, at:
ZAH
Attn: Jashne Sadeh 2016
8787 West Airport Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77071

IF PAYING BY CHECK, PLEASE WRITE (IN THE MEMO FIELD):
- No. of Adults (11 yrs. and up),
- Number of children (3-10 yrs.),
- Please write "Jashne Sadeh 2016" on the envelope

RATES (3 yrs. and under free)

IF RSVP AND PAID BY JAN 27, 2016
Adult Rate (11 yrs. and up) - $15
Children Rate (4-10 yrs.): Regular food - $10

WALK-INS / CHARGES AT THE DOOR
Adult Rate (11 yrs. and up) - $30
Children Rate (4-10 yrs.): $15

ZAH COMMUNITY GRATEFULLY THANKS OUR ERVADS FOR PERFORMING PRAYERS AT THE JASHNE SADEH FUNCTION

ZAH COMMUNITY GRATEFULLY THANKS ALL DONORS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE COST OF THE JASHNE SADEH FUNCTION

Organized By: Our Irani Zarthushti Friends and ZAH Entertainment Committee

If you have any questions please contact:
Arzin Italia:
(713) 673-8598
or Email:
sorabitalia@yahoo.com