SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME:  11.30 a.m. - Middle Group/ 10:30 a.m. - Children’s group.

DATE:  May 8, 2016

Children's Session: Sunday School session "Let the Children Speak - Part 2" as follow:

11 am - 11.30 am - Breakfast for kids, moms, dads, families.
11.30 am to 12.30 pm - "Let the Children Speak - Part 2"

We have invited some guest speakers from our community for a mini version of the Oral History project initiated by Rice University and introduced through the Library event by Debra Kolah at ZAH in February this year.

This child friendly and interactive session will involve short rotations of discussions between children and speakers. Parents are highly encouraged to attend with their children. Questionnaires will be prepared for facilitating the flow and relevancy of the conversations.

Visitors and extended family members are welcome. At the end, the floor will be thrown open to any adults (for a few minutes) if they wish to share their story.

The aim of this Sunday School session is to inculcate/develop community awareness and pride by listening to firsthand accounts of Zoroastrians living in their midst.

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

Youth Group: Sarosh Collector and Kaemerz Dotiwalla conduct this session. Age group – High School age

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 21, 2016  ZAH Cricket
Sunday, May 29, 2016  Maidhyarem Gahambar (Dae mahino)
Saturday, May 21, 2016  ZAH Cricket
Sunday, May 29, 2016  Maidhyarem Gahambar (Dae mahino)
Saturday, July 2, 2016  Tirgan
Saturday, July 9, 2016  Annual Youth Show
Friday, July 29, 2016 to Sunday, July 31, 2016  ZAH Z-CAMP 2016
Sunday, August 7 to Tuesday August 16, 2016  Muktad Prayers
Wednesday, August 17, 2016  Navroze Humbandagi and Maachi
Saturday, August 20, 2016  Navroze Function
MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEETING</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOLDEN GROUP</td>
<td>Fourth Sunday of each month. Interested? Please call Zarine Balsara at (832) 288-2436</td>
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<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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Percy Master

FEZANA AGM Report

The FEZANA AGM was held in Novi, Michigan, from 4/29 – 5/1/16. Prior to the AGM, a Pre-AGM session was held discussing the results of the survey of seniors carried out a few months ago. Although there are pockets of sadness, most Zarathushti seniors are active and healthy in general. Loneliness and lack of transportation are major issues, along with housing rental options. Houston’s Golden Group’s best practices are sought out by other associations and are being emulated.

A special session on the FEZANA General Fund, which has been depleting for some time, was also held prior to the AGM. Income has remained steady while the expenses are trending upward. Membership fees are flat (they have not been changed for 29 years) while donations are volatile.

All member associations presented an overview of their activities over the past year. Atash Kadehs are in the process of being built in Southern California and Houston. A new dar-e-mehr was just inaugurated in New York.

All associations have regular get-togethers to celebrate Navroze.

The new FEZANA Board was introduced at the start of the AGM:

- President – Homi Gandhi
- Vice President – Arzan Wadia,
- Treasurer – Nilufer Shroff
- Secretary – Percy Master
- Assistant Secretary – Afreed Mistry

Highlights of FEZANA activities over the past year:

- There are now 29 member associations of FEZANA, of which 16 sent representatives to this AGM.
- The youth remains a focus of FEZANA:
  - FEZANA spent a total of $21,000 to send 36 youth to the 6WYC in New Zealand.
  - 13 youth from 7 countries (including one from Iran for the first time) attended the last Return To Roots trip to India, which provides a once-in-a-lifetime immersive experience to youth to experience Zarathushhti life in the mother country. A similar trip to Iran in the next two years is being planned. It was reiterated that such visits bolster Zarathushhti identity and all associations were urged to donate to this worthy cause – as an example, ZAGNY donates $5000 to each such trip, regardless of whether a youth from New York is attending a specific trip or not.
  - Currently, FEZANA awards 6 scholarships annually (3 undergraduate, 3 graduate) in addition to endowed scholarships.
- Katayun Kapadia, the outgoing FEZANA President, was named the chair of the next FEZANA Congress Committee.
- The faculty position in Zoroastrian Studies at Stanford has been committed to be supported for the next 3 years by FEZANA; 10 associations (including ZAH) have pledged financial support.
- The size of the FIRES collection is now 1004 catalog resources and 1146 holding records, and growing with donations of books and other materials.
- Daily, an average of 620 visitors from over 100 countries visit the FEZANA website, for a total of over 226,000 clicks. The website handled over 180 FEZANA Journal subscription renewals in 2015. The FEZANA Bulletin goes out to over 1500 readers. The Facebook page has over 1,700 subscribers.
- New books have been published - *My Mother Used to Say* and *My First Navjote*.
- FEZANA participated in over 16 Interfaith activities throughout the year, representing Zarathushties.
- The next World Congress will be in Perth, Australia, the last week of May 2018.
- The 2019 Seventh Youth World Congress was bid for by ZAPANJ and CZC and was awarded to CZC.
- Plans are being developed for the FEZANA Office building and senior housing in Chicago.
- The 2017 FEZANA AGM venue was bid for by ZAC–LA and ZAH, and awarded to ZAH. The 2017 AGM will coincide with the 10-year anniversary of ZAH’s Legacy 2000 Scholarship Award program.
- The findings of a survey of demographics of Zarathushties were presented. There were 7 major findings for declining demographics: late marriages, lack of community unity, unable to find a suitable partner, inter-married couples, acceptance of inter-married kids, absence of marriage and non-acceptance of spouse.

**LIBRARY REPORT**

A full report on the documentary film “Path of Zarathushtra”, FIRES report presented at the FEZANA AGM and more details about other Library events/matters will be reported in June MANASHNI.

**YOUTH REPORT**

*By Alyssa Tamboli Youth Group Historian*

The Zoroastrian Association of Houston Youth Group continues to have an eventful and successful year as we move from April into May. On April 10th, the youth participated in the annual ZAH Carnival. We set up a food stall with hot dogs, nachos, and an assortment of other treats in addition to washing about 35 cars at our annual car wash! Our stall and car wash both proved to be very successful! A tremendous thank you to the parent drivers at the car wash and the ZAH community for always supporting the Youth Group!

In the month of May, the Youth Group plans to attend the Park Manor - Quail Valley Senior home after Sunday school on May 22nd. The youth will spend time, talk and play games with the seniors. The experience promises to be fun and enjoyable for all involved.

Once again, the youth would like to thank the wonderful ZAH community for their unwavering support of the Youth Group!

**ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

**18TH ZAH CARNIVAL (Write-up by the Entertainment Committee)**

The 18th Annual Carnival celebrating the anniversary of the ZAH Center was held on April 10 after Sunday school. With the combined effort of all present, an impressive sum of $7,500/- was donated to the ZAH. The success of this event was because each of you with your family and friends attended the Carnival, cooked food, purchased food, played games, volunteered your time and donated items. The team work at every stall was superb!

Bhel, Sev Poori and Dahi Poori stall by Maharukh & Rohinton Deputy; 100 Turkey Pattice, 90 Patra Macchi, Turkey Kheemo and Gor Paapri Tanaaz & Edul Chikhliwala; Dhansak dal and rice Jasmine and Yazdi Mistry; Goat Meat and Sali Minaz and Nozer Dungor; Beef and Chicken Haleem with trimmings Aderbad and Sanober Tamboli; Beef Rolls Nargis Cooper; Chicken Biryani Tenaz Sunavala; Dahi Raitoo Farida Divecha; Masala Potato Kamal Unwalla; Chicken Liver Farzana Sidhwa; more Chicken Liver prepared by Persis Buchia and ingredients donated by Zarina Elavia, Abby Erani and Persis; Cashew Chicken and Lagan Stew Villie Daboo; Chicken Curry Diana Balsara; Rice for curry Yasmin Engineer; Turkey Kheemo Kamalrukh Gandhi; Masoor and Peanut Brittles Delna Minwalla; Chicken Kheemo Empanadas Nikita & Eric Gagrat; Beef Kabobs Nina Eduljee; 1 large box each of Papi gos, okra gos and green peas gos Anonymous. Falooda & trimmings Roshan Behramsha; Parsi Custard 3 trays Tehmi Dastoor and 1 tray Arnaz Mistry; Ravo Avan Rajkot; Tea, Shrikhand and Pista Kulfí Yasmin Medhora; Evening Delight (mukhwas) Kati Tamboli.
1 large tray sliced Onions for curry and dhanksak Shernaz Booma; Boiled Potatoes for bhel 5 lbs each Nergish Davier, Farida Merchant and Zarina Elavia; Mangoes for Bhel Shaheen Rustom; Onions and Kothmir for bhel, limboo, cucumber, tomatoes for curry/dhanksak kachoobar Yasmir M. 

Thanks to the following for paying for various items - Becky & Kershaw Byramji table cloths and some supplies ($100); Rustom Engineer To-Go containers (box of 150) and more $50/-; Jasmine Katrak, To-Go containers (box of 150) and more ($50/-); Pervin Sagar Décor items and some paper products ($30/-); Neville Divecha for 60 poories ($30/-).

Gracias to our Youth group who sold Hot Dogs, Nachos & Cheese, Cookies, Sodas and more. Thanks to all the youth and their parents for contributing towards the expenses and pitching in to help at the stall. Also a big thank you to the Youth group who planned the Car Wash and donated all the money they collected to the ZAH.

Kudos to the Middle group who added a large amount to the kitty this year by selling food at their stall. Thanks to Arzin Italia and Khursheed Hormuzdi and all the parents who contributed and helped the group at their stall – Chicken Cutlets, Beef Sheesh Kabobs and water bottles. Arzin’s family made Chicken Alfredo Pasta bake and Chocolate Mousse cups. The group also made money in the game “Guess the Weight of the Cake”. The cake was donated by our generous Naushad Mehta.

This year the Little group were in charge of the games and festivity in the Atrium. All the parents of Vehishta’s group contributed towards the Fish Pond, the 2 Pinatas and Egg Hunt which is the favorite of all young and older kids. Meher, Elvia and all parents kept the Atrium lively with fun games. Zia, Sonia, Nali and Elvia took care of the Gift Certificate Walk on the stage in the Hall and they donated the gift certificates too. Thanks to all parents of the Little group for their team work and generous donations.

Thanks very much to Tehmi Dastoor for Tarot Card reading. This is always a popular stall.

Bingo tickets were sold by Nozer Buchia. The fun Bingo numbers for the games were called by Nozer Buchia and Villi Bhappu. The first prize, $25/each for 2 Bingo games was donated by Naushad Mehta and 1 game $20/- by Naomi Bhappu. The second prize for 1 game of $25/- by Avan & Faroakh Rajkot; $15/- each for 2 Bingo games by Thrity Engineer. The Third prize $15/- by Kersi Engineer and 1 for $10/- by Villi Bhappu. Khushrav Nariman and some others took care of music and announcements.

We very much appreciate the generosity of Sillie & Jehanbux Mehta for renting the table and giving a donation of $500/- to the Carnival from the sale of dal polies, batasas and other parsi goodies. Also thanks to Yazdi & Roshan Engineer for renting a stall and donating $51/-. They sold yummy green chutney, plants and lagan/navjote patlas. Thanks to Gulmohar & Meheryar Bharucha cooked yummy food items for their rental stall sponsored by Anonymous. The Rental table by Homi Davier displayed his artistic paintings which are available at “daviersgallery.com”. Rental table by Azita had a variety of yummy Iranian desserts.

Thanks to Aban and Savi Patel for donating $100/- towards this event; $13/- Anonymous. New ideas - Sweta Sethna brought some Game boxes and donated $60/- to ZAH; Firdaus Dastoor made beautiful wooden motorized toys and donated $410/- to ZAH. The children loved all the toys that were displayed.

The proceeds collected by each stall were directly given to the assigned Accountants for the day. Thanks very much to our capable Rohinton Deputy and Bomi Gazzdar who counted all the dollar notes collected. The money was given to our ZAH Treasurer Mitra Khumbatta.


THANK YOU  MERCI  GRACIAS  DHANYAWAD  GRAZIE
ANNOUNCING VAKHSOOIRI SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS

Each winner has shown exceptional leadership in his or her respective academic field, community, and life in general. We invite you to visit [www.vakhshoori.org](http://www.vakhshoori.org) to view short video clips that some of the winners have provided detailing their personal views, life experiences and pledges.

**Vakhshoori Scholarships 2016-2017 Call for Applicants**

The Vakhshoori Foundation invites young Zoroastrians to apply for scholarships for the academic year of 2016-2017. These awards ranging between $10,000 and $1,000. For more details and application form please visit the foundation web site at [www.vakhshoori.org](http://www.vakhshoori.org).

**OUR GRADUATES**

**HIGH SCHOOL**

**Freya Daroga** - graduating from Clements High School in Sugar Land, Texas, attending the University of Houston as a business major in the fall of 2016.

**Rayhan Nariman** - graduating from Clements High School in Sugar Land, Texas, attending Pennsylvania State University as an electrical engineering major in the fall of 2016.

**Serena Setna** - graduating from Cinco Ranch High School in Katy, Texas, attending the University of Houston as a hotel and restaurant management major in the fall of 2016.

**Kyle Jensen** - graduating from Ridge Point High School in Sugar Land, Texas, attending the University of Texas, San Antonio, TX as a Psychology major in the fall of 2016.

**Ava Sanjana** - Graduating from Stephen F. Austin High School and will be attending Baylor College in Waco. Business Major declared.

**DOCTORATES**

**Dinsha Mistree, PhD.** Princeton University. Politics. Current: Post Doc @ Stanford.

**Fareeza Doctor** (wife of Dinshaw Mistree), LLM. University of California, Berkeley.

**Behram Mistree, PhD. Stanford.** Electrical Engineering. Current: Startup.

DONATIONS FOR GAHAMBAR – See attached flyer

"The Maidhyarem Gahambar (Dae Mahino) is scheduled for Sunday, May 29, 2016. This is a call for donations to buy sukhad/loban, malido, flowers, fruits, dried fruits, table cloths and other expenses towards this gahambar.

Please inform Yasmin Medhora at chiefyas1@sbcglobal.net by 4/30/16 or call her at 713-466-3908 for the donation you would like to give, so that the Entertainment Committee can figure out the rate to charge for the gahambar.

A NEW & UNIQUE BUSINESS

Rustam & Farida Wadia from Charlotte, started a new business last year. They have a very unique product called Hangeroo - it is a picture hanging guide - it is a unique and simple device that helps to easily hang a wired picture, especially a large one, onto a common picture hook. The device is unique and very inexpensive. Check out their web site (link below) and if you feel you can use one, you can order it from Amazon or from several other places. You will also see from their web site that Rustam and Farida are very community conscious folks - they use an outfit called InReach - a Charlotte based non-profit that provides support to persons with intellectual and development disabilities for fulfillment. Over and above providing the employment, they also donate $1 to InReach for every kit sold.
SHAHENSHAHI DAE MAS (MAIDHYAREM) GAHAMBAR

WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SUNDAY MAY 29, 2016

JASHAN STARTS PROMPTLY AT 11:00 A.M.

If registered by 5/22 midnight, charges: $10 for adults
Children up to 3 years gratis.
Ages 4-10: $7
Starting 5/23 thru 5/26 charges for all $15

PLEASE RSVP AT THIS LINK

We request you RSVP and pay online for this event

For questions please call Yasmin Medhora at
(713) 466-3908 or email her at:
chiefyas1@sbcglobal.net

SPONSORED BY:
Meer and Tamboli families in memory of their dear Dilnavaz Meer

ZAH COMMUNITY GRATEFULLY THANKS OUR ERVADS FOR PERFORMING THE GAHAMBAR JASHAN

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 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. Please note this is only available to current ZAH Members in good standing.

Organized By: ZAH Entertainment Committee

Donations to ZAH for the Gahambar are welcome. Thank you!!