



**Volume 28: Issue 1**

**January 2015**

**The MANASHNI team wishes its reader a very Happy New Year**

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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

**TIME:** 11.30 a.m. - Middle Group/ 10.30 am - Children's group.

**DATE:** January 11, 2015

**Children's Session:** Sunday School starts at 10.30 am. Achaemenid Dynasty power point presentation for the kids. This presentation was a huge success at the North American Zoroastrian Congress in Los Angeles, CA. Gujarati objects, songs, alphabet

**Middle Group:** This group starts at 11:30 a.m. and 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. They now have their own "governance" and have officers who are elected by the kids. It is a very interactive group and children have fun while they learn.

**Youth Group:** Sarosh Collector conducts this session.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday, January 31, 2015, 6.30 pm – Jashne-Sadeh – details to be announced**

**Sunday, February 8, 2015, 1 pm – Car Rally**

**Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:00 am – Dar-ni-Pori**

**Saturday, March 21, 2015 – 6:30 pm – Norouz Humbandagi**

**Saturday, March 21, 2015 – 7:30 pm – Jamshed-i-Norouz Celebration**

**Wednesday, March 25, 2015 – 6:00 pm – Avan Yazad Parabh Jashan**

**Friday, April 3, 2015 – Library Event**

**Sunday, April 12, 2015 – ZAH Annual Carnival**

### **MEETINGS**

<b>GOLDEN GROUP</b>	Fourth Sunday of each month. Interested? Please call Zarine Balsara at 281-304-6611
<b>LIBRARY COMMITTEE</b>	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>

## **REPORTS**

### **EC REPORT**

*By Percy Master - Secretary*

#### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Executive Committee (EC) thanks all members who attended the AGM on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, and ensured that the required quorum was met. The community was presented the annual financial reports as well as reports from the various subcommittees. An election was held for 3 open positions on the EC, and the community elected Diana Balsara, Rohinton Deputy and Sheroy Haveliwala from the four candidates running for these positions. Percy Master ran for secretary unopposed. The EC deferred voting on the two motions that were on the agenda since a number of members had already cast their vote and left the meeting. The chair thanked Kersi Daroga and Manek Nariman who had completed their terms of office. Aderbad Tamboli was unanimously reelected as the new EC chair for 2014-2015.

#### **YOUR ZAH MEMBERSHIP IS ABOUT TO EXPIRE**

We are truly blessed by Ahura Mazda to have such a beautiful Center, the home of ZAH, donated by the generosity of our fellow Zarathushtis. Our home cannot function without our support through ZAH membership dues and individual donations. So we urge all of you to renew your membership and also ask all of your Zarathushti friends who are not members to join today. Annually, our Center's total operating expenses far outstrip ZAH's membership revenue, which is one of ZAH's primary revenue generators.

ZAH memberships for 2014 has now expired on December 31, 2014. We request all members to please renew their memberships for Calendar Year 2015. Renewing your membership is easily done online: simply visit <http://zah.org/events/zah-annual-membership-2015>, or mail your check along with a copy of the attached membership form to: The Treasurer, ZAH, 8787 W Airport Blvd, Houston, TX 77071.

Please recognize the need for your support and contribution and pay your membership dues by January 1, 2015. As in previous years, we will waive any surcharges for online membership payments if membership is renewed by January 31, 2015.

Those who have already renewed their membership, we thank you very much. It is only with your support that our Center can be maintained.

There are several important issues that the ZAH Executive Committee will need to discuss with the general membership in early 2015, such as the building of the proposed new Atash Kadeh and other important bylaw amendments. Under the Bylaws of the ZAH, only members with paid-up membership dues for the current year (i.e. 2015) will be eligible to participate in and vote on decisions related to bylaw amendments. Please ensure that your membership is current so that your voice can be heard.

### **LIBRARY REPORT**

*By Aban Rustomji*

At the NAZC 2014 meet in Los Angeles our Zoroastrian Association members were well recognized as participants, speakers, chair and program directors. And while it is with great pride that we recognize each individual's contribution, FIRES would specially like to thank Kamalrukh Gandhi for her script writing and coaching four of our youth members in a short play, Vispi Katrak, Tanaya Behramsha, Rayhan Nariman and Friyana Sidhwa to reenact the goals and objectives of our library program during the FEZANA session. The audience was captivated by this novel way of reporting the potential of FIRES to be an international center for Zoroastrian Studies. What we do well and what we are building, are programs for specialized Zoroastrian collection, the Zoroastrian community and scholars of Zoroastrianism. And what makes FIRES distinctive and full of promise are the dynamic programs that reach Zoroastrians across America through mail, digital and our newly designed web. So here is looking forward to a wonderful New Year ---filled with great books and time to read them.

## **YOUTH GROUP REPORT**

*By Serena Setna - ZAH Youth Group Treasurer*

The ZAH youth group has continued to be successful as the year goes on. Continuing our goal of community service, we made cards for the patients at the North Cypress Medical Center and Memorial Hermann Sugarland at our Christmas celebration on December 14. Food cans were also donated for the Houston Food Bank during the Christmas celebration. We are still collecting kitchen utensils for Vispi Katrak's "I lead" project, so please continue bringing those in. We would like to thank all of the parents and kids who helped us to have a spectacular Christmas party, and a special thank you goes out to Minaz and Nozer Dungor for graciously donating the lunch. Lunch was followed by games, crafts, and letters to Santa. Santa even dropped by to deliver a few presents to our younger ZAH members.

To close off the wonderful year, the ZAH youth group will be attending the congress in Los Angeles. All of us are very excited as we will get to meet new people and form new friendships. After the congress is over, we will enjoy a few tourism activities and then make our way back home. Thank you to everyone for continuously supporting the youth group and its activities.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **MIDDLE GROUP FUNDRAISER**

We are planning on a fundraiser for the ZAH middle group. This fundraiser will be organized and put together by the middle group kids. We are planning to put together a recipe/cook book. These are recipes provided by our middle group kids and will be put together by them. The money we collect will be used towards the items needed for the new Sunday School room for the Middle Group.

We are planning on putting a recipe book together with almost 150 recipes. At this point we are looking into an online company to print the book at an economical price.

We are looking for donations to help cover the printing cost of the book. We will be typing the recipes and submitting it online to save costs.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would be able to help with any donation. Not only does this support our kids, but would give them more confidence to tackle bigger projects in the future.

Thank you,  
Khursheed Hormuzdi, Sharmeen Irani Sharaine Vakil, Farzana Sidhwa, Arzin Italia

### **CAR RALLY**

**(See attached flyer for details)**

Yes, the Car Rally is back and is scheduled for **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 08, 2015** – Cost \$8.00 per person.

Clues to be unraveled  
Riddles to be solved  
Items to be brought  
And some to be bought  
Form your team and give it a name  
Win this Rally and rise to fame

### **HAPPINESS UNTO HIM WHO GIVES HAPPINESS UNTO OTHERS**

*(Homage unto Ahura Mazda by M. N. Dhalla)*

Unquenchable is man's thirst for happiness, Ahura Mazda. In this thine wide world, there is enough room for all to live and food to eat and good things of life to enjoy and be happy. At the gray dawn of history, Zarathushtra gave thy message to mankind that the individual's happiness depended upon the happiness of all, and gave out thy golden rule that happiness came to him who gave happiness to others.

In this world of joy and sorrow, happiness and misery, life would be intolerable if it were not for the sympathy, kindness and affection of man for man. Unbearable is the burden of life when unaided. It loses its crushing weight when men live in fellowship with their fellowmen and share one another's burden. Life is incomplete when man lives for his own self, oblivious of the happiness of others. Life is best lived when it is lived for others. Thus preached our beloved prophet, the first among thy holy prophets to teach this universal truth.

Thy sainted souls of all time and clime have loved others more than themselves and have held that the greatest pleasure of life consisted in making others happy. They have lived for others, worked for others, spent their lives for others, risked their *all* for others, endured everything for others, and died for others, that their fellow human beings may be happy.

Give us wisdom, O Wise One, to see that our interests are served the best by working for the common welfare in cooperation for the common good. Teach us to seek our happiness in the happiness of all, to regard the sorrows and sufferings of others as ours and to hasten to assuage them. Enable us to see that we are all fellow-mariners steering the common barque across the sea of life and that a common fate to swim or sink awaits us. Inspire us to feel that common is our goal to reach and common our ideal to realize in thy divine dispensation.

Strengthen us to stand united in thee one with another, and be mindful of the eternal fact that we are brothers and sisters all and belong to one great human family and are children of one father that art thou, Ahura Mazda.

## **CALIFORNIA CONGRESS – ACCOLADES**

**Vehishta Kaikobad** has made a name for herself at the North American Zoroastrian Congresses. She was once again invited to the North American Zoroastrian Congress in Los Angeles, CA to run a mini-congress for the children ages 5 to 15.

Vehishta, with the help of Naasha Dotiwalla, “kept the children thoroughly engaged and enthralled and the parents could not be happier by all that they learned and did” said the Congress organizers when thanking Vehishta for all the work that she and Naasha did.

## **ACCOLADES**

Dr. Avan Shroff, daughter of Cavas and Goolu Shroff of Karachi, was recently awarded Doctorate of Education. An alumnae of the Mama Parsi Girls' High School, Avan made her career in teaching. For the better part of 30 years she has devoted her heart and soul to educating younger students, most of whom come from underprivileged backgrounds. Along with her school commitment, for the last seven years she researched and developed methodologies in teaching math skills to young children, the thesis for her Doctorate. Congratulations Dr. Avan Shroff! And best wishes for a successful future.

## **BIRTH**

Vivian Cyrus Irani, born to Lillian and Cyrus Irani, on November 18, 2014. Proud grandparents are Adil Bharucha (Houston) and Fareida and Behram Irani (Dallas).

## **WE HAVE MOVED**

**Zerin Namdarian** and her son Ardeshir have moved. Their new address is

9839 Primrose Park Lane,  
Cypress, TX 77433  
E-mail Address Zerin: [zfnam@yahoo.com](mailto:zfnam@yahoo.com)

**Lillian and Cyrus Irani** and their new born daughter Vivian have moved. Their new address is:

4115 Ruskin St.  
Houston, TX 77005



# Jashne Sadeh

Saturday January 31, 2015

At The Zarthushti Heritage and Cultural Center



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

**Dance the Night Away!!**

**RSVP and Other Details To Follow**

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



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



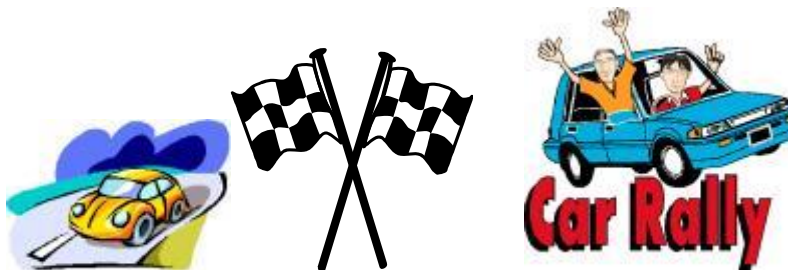
Organized By: Our Irani Zarthushti Friends and ZAH Entertainment Committee



# ZAH CAR RALLY

AFTER A HIATUS OF FIVE YEARS  
CAR RALLY/SCAVENGER HUNT IS BACK  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 08, 2015**  
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 1:30 P.M.  
COST - \$8.00 PER PERSON

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CLUES TO BE UNRAVELLED  
RIDDLES TO BE SOLVED  
**ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT**  
**AND SOME TO BE BOUGHT**  
FORM YOUR TEAM AND GIVE IT A NAME  
WIN THIS RALLY AND RISE TO FAME

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SEND YOUR TEAM NAME AND NAMES OF PARTICIPANTS TO  
**ARZIN ITALIA** at [sorabitalia@yahoo.com](mailto:sorabitalia@yahoo.com)

NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 5, 2008

PAYMENT TO BE MADE AT THE TIME OF REGISTERING  
BOXED LUNCH WHILE YOU DRIVE

UPON RETURN TEA AND SNACKS WILL BE SERVED WHILE  
JUDGES ARE REVIEWING THE SUBMISSIONS

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL (h): \_\_\_\_\_ TEL (other): \_\_\_\_\_

E.Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>CATEGORY OF MEMBERS (PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY)</b>
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PATRON MEMBER. – FAMILY .....	\$500.00
PATRON MEMBER – SINGLE .....	\$250.00
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

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