



ZANT NEWS

A Publication of Zoroastrian Association of North Texas



www.zant.org

November 2011

ZANT EVENTS

- 11/05/11: Diwali Mela
- 11/08/11: Meet special guest
- 11/13/11: Children/Teen Religious class
- 11/13/11: Vahu Manah Group
- 11/13/11: Children/Youth Sewing & Art/Craft class
- 11/20/11: ZANT Ladies Club, Cookie making & baking
- 11/25 & 11/26/11: Lock-in Youth Camp
- 12/03/11: Maidyoishema Gahambar
- 12/10/11: Guest Speaker: Nozer Buchia
- 12/11/11: ZANT Ladies Club Indian Movie

ZOROASTRIAN CALENDAR

- 11/24/11: Jashn-e-Adargan (F)
- 11/27 to 12/01/11 : Maidyoishem Gahambar (S)
- 12/17/11: Jashn-e Yalda
- 12/26/11: Zarthausht No-Diso (Dar Gozasht Ashu Zarthosht)
- 04/06/11 to 04/08/11: Camping 2012

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>President</i>	Zal Parakh
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<i>Secretary</i>	Khurshid Jamadar
<i>Social Director</i>	Delnaaz Irani
<i>Director</i>	Afsaneh Samiya
<i>Director</i>	Boman Godiwalla

MESSAGE FROM THE ZANT PRESIDENT

Thanks to all the community members who provided their input for the ZANT Operating policies and guidelines that were approved by the community at the last GBM.

Thanks to all on the Operating Rules and Guidelines Subcommittee that served to create the documents and incorporated the community feedback.

If you would like to see changes in any aspect of ZANT, please share your input with the board and volunteer to make a difference.

All members are encouraged to communicate with the board and we welcome your feedback.

ZANT Board

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 271117
Flower Mound, TX 75027-1117

ZANT Center:

1605 Lopo Road
Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306

We welcome and encourage feedback from our community. Please send comments or suggestions to The Communication Representative or mail to ZANT, P.O. Box 271117, Flower Mound, TX 75027

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHILDREN AND TEEN RELIGIOUS CLASS

When: Sunday, November 13, 2011

Time: 11:15 am

Where: ZANT Center

1605 Lopo Road

Flower Mound, TX 7502

Children, please remember to bring your folders and caps/scarves to each religious class. We will begin each religious class with prayers in the Prayer Room at 11:15. Please come by **11:00 am** so you can sign-in your kids' names on a sheet that will be there, for *Tan Dorosti* prayers.

There will not be a religious class in December.

For further details, please contact *Pearl P. Balsara*.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SEWING & ART/ CRAFT CLASS

When: Sunday, November 13, 2011

Time: 1:30 pm-3:00 pm

Where: ZANT Center

We will have Sewing/Arts & Craft Classes once a month at the ZANT Center, all kids are welcome. There will be a fee to cover the cost of the supplies. **RSVP is required to assure we have enough materials for all the participants.**

There will not be a Art/sewing class in December.

For questions and to RSVP please contact *Dilnawaz Rustomji*.

VOHU MANAH GROUP

Date : Sunday, November 13, 2011

Time: 1:30 pm

Where: ZANT Center

"Vohu Manah" represents good thinking, and this is a learning and discussion forum to nourish our minds. Every jashan ceremony begins with the Atash Niyesh, and it is also recited by our mobeds when they light the fire in our prayer room afar-gaan. Many people also pray it regularly among their daily prayers. In part II of the Atash Niyesh lecture series, Ervad Poras will continue to give an overview of the meaning and help us understand the inspiring details. Come enlighten yourself!

There will not be a Vahu Manah forum in December.

YOUTH CAMP

When: Saturday & Sunday, November 25 & 26, 2011

Where: ZANT Center

ZANT is happy to announce that we will be hosting a youth camp during our upcoming Thanksgiving break on Friday and Saturday **November 26th-27th, 2011 at the Zoroastrian Center of North Texas , 1605 Lopo Road , Flower Mound Texas , 75027** . The camp will be in the form of a lock-in. All Zoroastrian youth age 11 years and older are welcomed to participate. **We have also invited youth from Houston to participate as our guest for this event.**

The event will be an over night lock-in for our youth and consists of teaching about our religion along with social sessions. The cost is \$20 for our ZANT community youths. This fee will include Friday's Lunch & Dinner, Saturday's Breakfast & Lunch, & tea/drinks/snacks during the camp. This event starts on Friday @12:00 pm and will end on Saturday at 12:00 noon. A detailed itinerary will be provided at a later date to all who RSVP. If you are interested please RSVP to Delnaaz Irani by **November 18th**. A late fee of \$10 per youth will apply after the due date. If there are any parent volunteers or community members interested to help during the camp, please let Delnaaz know. Our volunteers will also have to register and pay the \$20 fee.

We encourage all of our youth to participate, make new friends and create wonderful memories with your fellow community members.

UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED

ZANT LADIES CLUB (ZLC)

When: Sunday, November 20, 2011

Time: 2:00-4:00pm

Where: ZANT Center

Thirty ladies attended the September "MEXICAN FIESTA" and enjoyed Mexican food, games, dance, jokes and drinks. Our herb garden is up and running. Thank you to Jamshed Jamadar for putting up the bracket for our watering hose.

Our next event is "Cookie baking and exchange" event organized by Sherry Raghani and Rama Kaviani with our baking expert Rakhshande Dhalla.

RSVP and what to bring - via **evite invitation** (see contact information below)

Upcoming ZLC events:

December 11th, 2011 (2nd Sunday) - Indian Movie

January 30th, 2012 - Yoga and Nutrition (to be confirmed).

February 27th, 2012 - Learn how to wear a sari in several different ways.

March 25th, 2012 - Visit retirement home with Nouruz cheer.

April 29th, 2012 - Dallas Arboretum picnic.

May 27th, 2012 - Bowling.

All ZANT Ladies who would like to receive an **evite invitation** for all current and future ZLC events please e-mail your request to *Mary Tengra* and/or *Neenaaz DiLucci*.

All ZANT Ladies are Welcome!



CAMPING 2012

When: Friday, April 6th—Sunday, April 8th, 2012

Where: Lake Hugo State Park, Oklahoma

ZANT would like to plan ahead for CAMPING 2012 for its members. The date is set, Easter weekend, Friday, April 6th to Sunday, April 8th, 2011. Lake Hugo State Park in Oklahoma was a great location for our camping trip last year and we would like to make sure we reserve all 24 cabins this year. Their reservation process requires us to pay for the first night at the time of reservation and the second night on arrival. Therefore, we are asking all the families who would like to participate to send in their full payment ASAP, so that we can assure your cabin rental. Cabin types and prices are listed below, there is no refund policy. Last year we divided the meal planning and preparation duties between the families participating and had a great weekend. We will plan a similar weekend, sharing the cost evenly between all who participate. Cabins will be assigned on a first come first serve basis. The rates (2 nights) for the cabins are as follows: two room cabin (\$300), one room cabin with bathroom (\$120), and one room cabin without bathroom (\$90). Please send your money to **Delnaaz Irani**. If you have any questions, please contact Delnaaz.

MAIDYOISHEMA GAHAMBAR/GAHANBAR (SHENSHAI)

When: Saturday, December 3, 2011

Where: ZANT Center

Time: 6:30pm onward

Charlotte, Yazdi, and Rustom Kharas are sponsoring the Maidyoishema Gahambar/Gahanbar.

This Gahambar/Gahanbar is in honor of the creation "WATER". For more detail please refer to the attached flyer.

Please see Gahambar Flyer for details & RSVP to **Pearl Balsara** by **November 23, 2011** to avoid late charges".

COME AND MEET ZANT'S SPECIAL GUEST

A young lady from Japan, Noriko Katsuki, has written a PhD dissertation on the Parsis. An abstract of her thesis was published in Winter 2009 issue of the FEZANA Journal. Noriko also spent a few months in Mumbai staying with a Parsi Family to expand her knowledge, and experience the life of Parsis.

Noriko Katsuki is going to be in Dallas from Nov 7 to 10th and would like to visit the ZANT center and community members. ZANT has arranged an informal pot luck dinner on Tuesday November 8th at 7pm at ZANT Center. We invite all the community members to attend this meeting to meet Noriko Katsuki. A copy of the abstract of Noriko's thesis is available. Please contact Anahita Sidhwa for further information.

PAST EVENTS

Vohu Manah Group:

Here are some ideas from last month's Vohu Manah Discussion Group. The topic was the Atash Niyesh and its role in a jashan ceremony, presented by Ervad Poras Balsara. In the interest of space we are listing only a few of the many interesting things we learned. We hope this will entice you to come for the November presentation, when the discussion on the same topic will continue.

1. Religious ceremonies are performed to "inform your mind, reform your soul and transform the world."
2. The word "spiritual" is a combination of the words "spirit" and "ritual". When the body, mind and soul are all totally engaged, it produces a spiritually uplifting experience.
3. Jashan, Yasna, Ijasne, Yazashne are all words that mean worship or offering praise.
4. A jashan benefits its participants in many ways – but chief among them is the growth of our individual knowledge, faith and benevolence.
5. A jashan usually has three afringans, preceded by a dibacha. But the 2nd and 3rd dibachas are not in avesta, hence they are prayed quietly.
6. In many prayers we say the words, "yasnaicha, vahmaicha, kshnaothraicha, frashasteyecha" They mean – for proper understanding, for proper contemplation, for proper knowledge and the subsequent teaching– those are the blessings we are asking for.

Yard Sale: Our ZANT Yard sale this year raised \$805.47 for the ZANT General Fund. We would like to thank all those who brought in items to the ZANT Center so that we were able to turn them into someone else's treasure! The volunteers who came on many days to sort and sell these items are all so very appreciated, without you all the job could not have been accomplished. So we thank Saghar Behroozi, Roya Bidanjiri, Keshvar Buhariwalla, Delnaz Irani, Anaiza Irani, Darys Irani, Khurshid Jamadar, Nina Kalianivala, Pari & Rama Kaviani, Dilnawaz Rustomji, Manijeh Rustomji, and Mary Tengra. Special thanks to Keshvar Buhariwalla for organizing this event. Please start saving your items for the next Yard sale!

Mehregan Function: By Niessa Samiya

On October 1st with over 130 people, we celebrated our first Mehregan in our own center. Tables were beautifully decorated with "Sarv" branches and fresh grapes and pears. After a prayer from "Meher Niyesh" we played Mehregan Bingo and several winners were given prizes. We had an awesome feast brought by all and ended the night with delicious homemade Persian ice cream (Akbarmashti) and Mango ice cream..

Children/Youth Sewing & Art/Craft Class: We had a packed room and a very busy session with several projects going on at once: Learning cross-stitch, more yarn boxes being started, a pinata to get the hands messy, and t-shirts being cut up and accessorized with a beaded fringe. It was amazing to see the kids all line up for their sewing machine lesson with Dilnawaz. They worked on some small pillows that turned out great and were quick to put together. Never would have guessed that some of the kids were ready to operate a sewing machine already!

General Body Meeting Outcome: The ZANT General Body Meeting was held on October 23, 2011 to collect and count the votes on the ZANT Center Operating Policies and Guidelines. The results were as follows: Operating Policies: 76 yes votes, 23 no votes; Operating Guidelines: 87 yes votes, 14 no votes.

WZCC-NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

The World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce & The Zoroastrian Association of North Texas are proud to present: “Why Entrepreneurs Really Fail” by Nozer Buchia, Speaker, Author, & Entrepreneur, 1:30 - 3:30pm on Saturday December 10, 2011 at the ZANT center. For more detail, please refer to the attached flyer.

The 2011 issue of the WZCC’s annual magazine – Synergy Z -- has been released. For more information and to view this magazine, please refer to the following link <http://wzcc.net/e-synergyz>.

ZANT SUBCOMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

ZANT board is finalizing the guidelines for all the ZANT subcommittees in coordination with the subcommittee members. The current subcommittees are as follows: Building, Fundraising, Building Maintenance, Furnishing, Community Support, and Education.

The current ZANT club/Activity Group are as follows: ZANT Ladies club and Hiking group. Senior Club was discontinued due to lack of participation.

ZANT would like to thank the members of the Operating Rules and Policies Subcommittee for preparing the Operating Policies and Guidelines documents for final voting. The members of this subcommittee are as follows: Kamran Behroozi, Kali and Keshvar Buhariwalla, Delnaaz & Spenta Irani, Charlotte Kharas, Sherazade Mehta, Arbez Patel, & Anahita Sidhwa.

ZANT is looking for a volunteer to fill a position as a Card Key Access Manager. The Card Key Access Manager will be responsible for assigning card key to the community members and managing a list of the card key subscribers. For more information please contact Saghar Behroozi .

To volunteer in the subcommittees, newsletter or any other events, please contact Ruth Dinaz Sarkari.

ZANT MEMBERSHIP

New ZANT Annual Membership and Dues Form 2011-2012

As we start our new Accounting Year 2011– 2012, please note that your Annual ZANT membership is due for renewal and if you are not a member already, this is the time to join in! **The list of benefits is numerous:**

- ◇ Belonging to an organization that is promoting Zoroastrian religious beliefs, community & cultural heritage
- ◇ A platform for “Community Service”, sharing “Camaraderie”, and a sense of “Belonging” for our adults and kids
- ◇ Opportunities to influence the next generation of Zoroastrians
- ◇ Religious classes for children and adults
- ◇ Voting privilege in ZANT issues and elections.
- ◇ Monthly Newsletter—keeps you informed on the happenings/issues around the word and here at home
- ◇ Special privileges for members usage of our new Zoroastrian Center of North Texas (ZCNT)

Your current membership is effective until Oct 31, 2011. Attached is the new Membership form.

Please sign up and become a Member of ZANT for the Year commencing November 1, 2011.

WELCOME TO OUR “HERB OF THE MONTH” FROM THE GREEN SIDE

Written by Kashmira Mistry

It has been a hot and dry summer and with fall and cooler temperatures here, it is wonderful to get out and work the garden. I know this is about Herbs, but as a Zarthushti from the Indian sub-continent it is all about having “lasun nu edu” in the cooler months, so let’s get started with **GARLIC**.

October is the month of stinking/ aromatic delights and garlic is the most widely used stinker of the “Alliums”. Garlic is propagated by planting cloves, which are the small bulbets or segments, making up the whole garlic. In Texas, garlic is a perennial plant, and planted this month, we can indulge in the tops by December. You can plant the cloves of garlic in your flower beds or in a pot. The pot need not be very deep, as garlic is shallow rooted; so a 12 inch deep pot is perfectly ok (unless you need a lot of garlic!). I plant my garlic in my beds since I am an organic gardener, and as garlic tops are good in scrambled eggs, salads, “poras” and a whole lot of other appetizing goodies, I stagger the planting 7-10 days apart to ensure a regular supply. Soil should have good organic matter as it holds moisture and is not compacted. Heavy compacted soil prevents proper bulb expansion resulting in irregular small bulbs. One head of garlic can have up to 10 cloves. Planted in October, you can reap a crop by June,

Once your soil is ready, use a long screwdriver and make a hole 1-2 inches deep and 3-4 inches apart. I alternate the depth so that the bulbs can grow without being overcrowded. The pointed tip of the garlic clove should be facing upwards (vertically) and do not remove the thin husk/skin. The vertical placement of cloves by hand will ensure production of straight necked high yielding plants. Discard the center slender cloves as they will not produce a good bulb. Planting garlic in the fall when temperatures fall between 30 and 50 degrees for one to two months allows the bulb to form. This cold treatment is accomplished naturally throughout our winter. Water your “seed” well and water regularly. As the crop approaches maturity, stop the watering, so that the soil is dry for harvesting. This will be sometime between May and June, when you see the tops have become sort of dry and bent. A good place to get started is to buy your garlic at Costco. It is a product of the USA (read the label). The variety has a pinkish paper thin husk, and is inexpensive. This particular variety is also easy to peel. You can also buy garlic pods at Home Depot / Lowes, and I am sure these are suitable for our area.

While in the garden, plant some Dill seeds, maybe even some Cilantro seeds. Scatter the seed in a weed free area, cover with a little soil, water and enjoy the harvest. These are both quite hardy in our winter, as I had a bumper crop of both herbs all the way up to March. Always buy seed in packets that are specific for growing, as the coriander and dill seed from our Indian grocer has been irradiated for import to the USA and will not germinate. Look forward to recipes for garlic greens. Please feel free to offer your input and suggestions. We could use your knowledge for all things related to our garden and its bounty.

The kiss of the sun for pardon
the song of birds for mirth,
One is nearer God’s heart in a garden
than anywhere else on earth.....Dorothy Gurney



THE YOUNGEST ZANT MEMBER

ZANT would like to congratulate Stephanie and Shahveer Dhalla on the birth of their son, Landon Pesi Dhalla. Landon, 7 pounds & 9 ounces and 20 inches long, was born at 3pm on October 21, 2011. Stephanie and Shahveer are excited to welcome their baby along with the grand parents, Nozer & Rakhshandeh Dhalla.



KIDS' CORNER

A PRAYER

Do not pray for easy lives
Pray to be stronger men & women
Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers
Pray for power equal to your tasks
He who believes is strong
He who doubts is weak
Strong convictions precede great actions!

Source : Internet

Thoughts for the Month: ☺

No one can defeat us
Unless we first defeat ourselves
Mastering yourself is true power!

- Dwight Eisenhower

When I've heard all I need to make a decision,
I don't take a vote.
I make a decision.

- Ronald Reagan

Great crisis produce great men and great deeds of courage

- John F. Kennedy

Laugh... It increases your Face value! ☺

Religious Class:

Our Religious Class on October 9, 2011 started with Yazdi uncle lighting the fire and chanting the *Atash Niyaesh*... This was followed by the *Tan Dorosti* prayer during which he read the names of all children who were present. Thank you, Yazdi Uncle!



- I have heard there are troubles of more than one kind....

Some come from ahead and some
come from behind.

But I've bought a big bat.
I'm all ready you see.
Now my troubles are going to have
troubles with me!

- Be who you are and say what you feel
Because those who mind don't matter
and Those who matter don't mind!

The little kids' class completed their study of the 30 days of the month. This set of 8 days does not have just one focus. It refers to our religion, its holy words & the importance of justice, and the creation of sky & earth. We also read the story of *The Big Dipper* which teaches us the importance of being kind to all. We ended the class with the game, *A Day at the Zoo*.

Our middle-age group continuing with the last month's topic of discussion "**Categories of Fire-Temples**", watched the DVD "Once in a lifetime"..... A movie about the shifting of the Holy Fire from Tavri fire-temple of Navsari, in Gujarat State, India to the Shapurji Fakirji Jokhi Agiary in Godrej Baug, Mumbai, India.

Our teen/older children joined the middle-age group to watch the DVD.

- Today you are You
That is truer than true.
There is no one alive who is Youer than You!

- Dr. Seuss

Children's Religious Class:

Our next religious class will be held on **Sunday, November 13, 2011, at 11:15 am**, at the **ZANT Center** .

Children, please remember to bring your folders and caps/scarves to each religious class. We will begin each religious class with prayers in the Prayer Room at 11:15am ...

Please come by 11:00am so you can sign-in your kids' names on a sheet that will be there, for *Tan Dorosti* prayer.

For further details about the Religious Classes, please contact Pearl P. Balsara.

(Kid's Corner logo courtesy of Zoroastrian Studies, India)

GLOBAL EVENTS

*Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh was treated to a traditional welcome at 11am at the Zoroastrian Centre in Alexandra Avenue when Parsi and Iranian women in brightly coloured dress traced seven circles in the air in front of him with auspicious objects of prosperity – a coconut and an almond wrapped in a paan leaf. He was given a garland of flowers then met the Ervads, before being led into the hall for a Thanksgiving ceremony to mark the founding a century and a half ago of what would become the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (ZTFE). For more information please refer to http://www.harrowtimes.co.uk/news/9291952.Prince_Philip_visits_Zoroastrian_community_this_morning/

*A CPA firm in Houston is looking for a Bookkeeper/Tax Return Preparer. Knowledge of excel , accounting , and Microsoft program is necessary.

*The California Zoroastrian Center Teen Class has directed & performed a play called “Hamazoori”- Bringing 3700 years history of our ancestors to life. Both the Farsi (presented in 2010) and English (2011) version of this performance received excellent reviews from the audience. To view a copy of this DVD, please contact Saghar Behroozi at sjbehroozi@verizon.net.

YOUTH CORNER

ZANT Youth Lock– in Camp: ZANT is very excited to announce a joint lock-in with Houston Youths from Friday to Saturday, November 25 & 26th at our own center. Children over the age of 11 and the teenager group are invited to join. Please refer to page 2 for further detail.

Ball Hockey Players: Behzad Shroff, one of the Youth Olympic organizers, is searching for enthusiastic “ball hockey” players who are interested to form a team to take part in the Zoroastrian Youth Olympics in Toronto in July of 2012.

If you are interested in organizing and/or playing in a ball hockey team, please contact Behzad.



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November 2011

Keep this stub
for your records.

To: ZANT

Check # _____

Date _____

Amount \$ _____

Please detach and return this side
with your contribution payable to:
"ZANT" and mail to:

ZANT Treasurer
P.O. Box 271117
Flower Mound, Texas 75027

Accept my contribution of:

() \$10 () \$20 () \$30
() \$40 () \$50 () \$_____

For:

() General Fund () Building Fund
() Other _____ () Newsletter

FROM: _____

"Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community."
Help us pass on the good religion to future generations.

To:

ZANT NEWS

ZANT
P.O. Box 271117
Flower Mound, Texas 75027