ZANT NEWS
A Publication of Zoroastrian Association of North Texas

www.zant.org  October 2017

ZANT Upcoming Events

- Sept 24: Ladies Club—Tea Party
- Oct 1: GBM to discuss 3 proposals up for voting
- Oct 7: Jashn-e Mehrgan
- Oct. 8: Childrens’ Religion Class and Vohu Manah group
- Oct 15: GBM to vote on Bylaw amendments
- Nov. 4: Diwali Mela—fundraiser

Happy Jashn-e Mehrgan

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Board of Directors

President  Jamshed Jamadar
Vice President  Kashmira Contractor
Treasurer  Mehroo Madeka
Secretary  Anahita Kyani
Social Director  Pearl P. Balsara
Director  Persis Shroff Bahrassa
Director  Vacant

ZANT Address:
Zoroastrian Center of North Texas
1605 Lopo Road
Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306

We welcome and encourage feedback from our community. Please send comments or suggestions to president.zant@gmail.com or mail to ZANT, 1605 Lopo Road, Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306
Dear Friends,

The Board has received 3 proposed amendments to ZANT Bylaws in writing, seconded by at least 9 voting members.

Per Article 9.01 of ZANT Bylaws - Any Voting Member may propose an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws by sending a written amendment, seconded by 9 other voting members. These proposals must be sent to the Board of Directors at least 30 days before the next General Body Meeting – therefore before Sept. 15, 2017. The Board of Directors is obligated to inform all voting members at least 15 days before Gen. Body Meeting of this proposal – therefore before Oct. 1, 2017.

Per Article 9.02 of ZANT Bylaws a General Body Meeting will be held on Sunday Oct. 1, 2017 from 2pm - 4pm to give supporters and opponents an opportunity to present their views prior to voting on the proposals. Please note that the Proposals cannot be modified. The Proposal has to be voted on – either “YES” or “NO” as proposed.

Amendments to the Bylaws shall require the approval of at least 60% of the eligible voting members of the Association

Only members in Good Standing can vote. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

In light of the above the Board will be mailing out copies of the Proposed Amendments along with a Ballot Form to all voting members before Oct. 1, 2017. Included with this you will have “Instructions for Voting”, one Return Envelope with ZANT’s address on the front, and one small blank envelope for each voting member of the household. Please be on the look-out for this in your mail & contact any Board Member if you do not have it by September 25th.

You are requested to cast your vote either for or against each amendment.

You can either mail your vote back to ZANT in the provided return envelope (please add a stamp) such that it is received by the Board before the deadline date of October 15, 2017 or you can cast your vote in person at the General Body Meeting on Oct. 15, 2017 between 3pm – 3:30pm at ZANT Center. Detailed voting instructions will be mailed to you.

A General Body Meeting will be held on Sunday Oct. 15, 2017, to count the votes on these proposed amendments. Those wishing to vote in person, can drop-off their votes in the box, at the ZANT Center, on October 15, 2017, from 3pm to 3:30pm. A committee of volunteers will be appointed from those present, to count the votes beginning at 3:30pm & results will be announced as soon as the count is finalized.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

ZANT Directory Updates

Please know that we will once again print a directory for ZANT. We ask that you fill out your 2017-2018 membership forms with the most updated information so that we can double check your information for the directory. The new directory will be distributed at our NouRuz 2018 function. If you are aware of new families to the area, please encourage them to send in their information. ALL UPDATES TO THE DIRECTORY MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 31, 2018. You are welcome to send your updated information to Anahita Kyani at anahita_kyani@yahoo.com
**Announcement—Vacancy on the ZANT Board**

Effective Aug. 28, 2017, Monaz Karkaria has resigned from her position, as a Director on the ZANT Board, due to the increase in travel and demands of her business.

We want to thank Monaz for serving on the previous Board for 2 years and on this one for the past 14 months.

Per our Bylaws, since this resignation is within the first 18 months of this board’s term, we are requesting nominations for the vacant seat on the Board.

Serving on the Board is an honor and a privilege. The Board needs help and we encourage members to step up and help serve our community.

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**Childrens’ Religion Class and Vohu Manah Group**

Our next Childrens’ Religion class will be held on Sunday, October 8, 2017. Please be at the ZANT Center by 10:45 a.m. so we can have the Prayers & Tandarosti for kids in the Prayer Room at 11 a.m. For further details about the class please contact Pearl P. Balsara.

The Vohu Manah group will continue our study of the Gathas. Have some tea and snacks to feed your body and some enlightening conversation to feed your soul! The group will meet on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 2:00pm at the ZANT Center Library. For further details about the Vohu Manah Group, please contact Anahita Sidhwa.

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**Jashn-e Mehrgan**

It is time again to celebrate Jashn-e Mehrgan, the Autumn Festival of Harvest! Come and join us in the celebration:

*Where:* ZANT Center  
*When:* Saturday, October 7, 2017  
*Time:* 6:30pm onwards

We’ll have a short entertainment program followed by potluck dinner. Please bring your favorite main dish to share, deserts and drinks will be provided by ZANT.
ZANT News

ZANT LADIES CLUB— TEA PARTY

It has been awhile since the last Ladies Club event. On Sunday, September 24th from 3 to 5pm we will have a tea party. All ladies of ZANT are invited to put on your best tea party hat and come enjoy some traditional tea cakes along with cookies and tea sandwiches.

Nina DiLucci will be remembered at this event as she was one of the founders of the ZANT Ladies Club.

We will have some group games, tea, snacks and discussion about the future of the Ladies Club.

Please RSVP to marytengra@yahoo.com by September 20th. Hope to see you at this event.

THANK YOU ANNIE!

ZANT Board would like to thank our Chef Annie (Arnavaz Vakharia) for preparing dinner and helping ZANT collect $811 at the Muktd Jashan at the ZANT Center on August 13th and $507 at the Shenshai New Year celebration at the Center on August 17th.

Thank you very much Chef Annie (Mamaiji)!

ZANT Scouts

A Scout is Helpful. Some of our ZANT scouts are working towards their Action-Oriented-Service-Project for the "Zoroastrian - The Good Life" program.

The front garden at ZANT Center needed some new shrubs to replace the Knockout Roses that were infected by the Rose Rosette Disease epidemic that spread through most of DFW. ZANT scouts planted some drought tolerant shrubs such as Abelia ‘Kaleidoscope’, Ligustrum ‘Sunshine’, and dwarf Crape Myrtle ‘Okmulgee’ to spruce up the front landscape.

Future inquiries for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts (Cadettes and older), please email Armin Daroona at adaroona@gmail.com
**KIDS’ CORNER**

**Playing Cards**

Did you know that the Traditional Deck of the Playing Cards is the most ingenious form of a Calendar?

There are 52 weeks in the year and so there are 52 Playing Cards in a Deck.

There are 13 weeks in each Season and thus there are 13 cards in each suit.

There are 4 Seasons in a Year and 4 Suits in the Deck.

There are 12 Months in a Year so there are 12 Court Cards (Those with faces namely Jacks, Queens and Kings)

The Spades indicate ploughing/working.

The Hearts indicates Love thy crops.

The Clubs indicates flourishing and growth.

The Diamonds indicate reaping the Wealth.

(Source : Internet)

**Religious Class:**

At our September Religious class, our little ones learned about the celebration and meaning of Mehergan. They also discussed the celebration of Shenshahi New Year and shared how they personally celebrated it. We talked about kindness and different ways of helping people like the ones affected by the hurricane.

Next month we will talk about the meaning of Ashem Vohu and Yatha Ahuvairyo and start reading about Zarathustra's life.

**Our middle-age group** learned the meaning of our daily prayers during the 1st half of their class & the 2nd half will be dedicated to learning about eminent Zoroastrians.

At the September class, we learnt about -

- Importance of Praying in AVESTA
- Teachings from Ashem Vohu -
  - Righteousness is the best wealth that stays with us even after we die
  - Righteousness leads to Happiness
  - Be Righteous because it is the right thing to do, not for a reward or out of fear of consequences
- Teachings from Yatha Ahu Vairyo -
  - Ahura Mazda is the Be-All & End-All
  - Selfless deeds performed in Ahura Mazda’s name
  - Will bring us the gift of “Inner Strength” to do more GOOD!

- Yatha Ahu Vairyo is the MOST Beneficial Prayer & a talisman in all our difficulties
- This lead us to the popular story of “Zarathosthi Taro Thabaryo”.
- Our story of “Eminent Zoroastrian of the month” was JRD TATA! We learnt about his life & achievements. His contributions to India & awards he received in recognition of the same
- An important takeaway from our beloved JRD…
  - *When you WORK, work as if everything depends on YOU, When you PRAY, pray as if everything depends on GOD!*

We ended our class with a fun Crossword Game!

The teen religious class started in full swing with 14 attendees! We would like to welcome our new members Hormuz Bhuariwalla, Fariyan Irani, Zeena Karkaria, Zahira Raghani, Nima Samiya, and Cyrus Sarkari. With a large group of children with a wide age range, we have decided to conduct a “split class” so that we can address the needs of all. With some of the ‘freshmen’, I will be discussing the book The Z Factor and with the rest of them together we will begin our basic understanding of the Gathas.

Did you know that the root of the word Gatha is ga meaning song or to sing? With just 17 songs, 896 lines, and 5,560 words it is the centerpiece of our scriptures. To put it in perspective, an average middle schooler’s research paper is 1,000 words!

We are so happy that Anaiza Irani joined us from UT Austin for the class. She said she missed being with us! Thanks for giving up part of your weekend, Anaiza!

**Thank You!**

We are very grateful to our Parent Volunteers for catering lunch for our kids & adults & a monthly Birthday Cake, at each Religious Class. We’d like to thank the Sarkari family for September class kids’ lunch & B’day Cake & Mistry family for adults’ lunch!

**Children’s Religious Class:**

Our next religious class will be held on Sunday, October 8, 2017. Please be at the ZANT Center by 10:45 a.m. so we can have the Prayers & Tandarosti for kids in the Prayer Room at 11 a.m. For further details about the Religious Classes, please contact Pearl P. Balsara at ppbalsara@gmail.com
TREASURER’S CORNER

The donations and balances listed below are accurate as of August 31, 2017.

Fundraiser

Children’s Festival Book (Feb. 2016 to Aug. 2017): $6,505.57
Anand Bazar collection: $1,754

Donations

Prayer room donations: $765.85
Anita & Viraf Patel $1000
Cyra & Darius Shroff $25
Arbez & Hoshang Patel $550
Pervin & Percy Wadia $200
Ruth Dinaz & Vispy Sarkari $40
Karl Mistry $50
Shirin & Baman Dinyari $20
Keshmira & Mehelly Bam $101

New Members

Dilzeen & Ashtad Engineer

The cost of maintaining the center is approximately $2,500 to $3,000 per month. If anyone would like to help with that, please contact the board.

OBITUARY

It is with a heavy heart that we share the sad news of the demise of Dr Roshan Aspi Balsara, wife of Dr Aspi Behramshaw Balsara, mother of Dr Farhad Balsara and Navaz Prakash Jha, mother-in law of Prakash Jha and grand mother of Hrithik and Harshika Jha. Daughter-in law of Late Manijeh and Late Behramshaw, daughter of Late Tehmina and Late Fakirji Daruwala. Sister of Noshir and Rustomji Daruwala, Freny Jamshed Mohta, Zarin Hoshang Patel and Persis Darab Sidhwa.

Age: 69 years
May her soul rest in peace!
As the new school year begins, we have re-started our efforts serving the hungry children in our community at the weekend. We are now slowly expanding and are trying to help more children at each of the schools to which we deliver.

As our ZANT Food of the Month Club was such a roaring success, we would like to extend the invitation to you all once again to help us collect donations each month.

We are kicking off the new school year with the kids’ firm favorite, Easy Mac n Cheese! Also, below is a list of the foods we typically use on a weekly basis. Please help us by dropping off any donations in the Weekend Wonders 4 Kidz box at the ZANT Center, whenever you are there.

- Fruit – cans/cups
- Vegetables – cans
- Pasta – Chef Boyardee, etc
- Meats – Vienna sausage, chicken, tuna, etc
- Ramen noodles
- Breakfast – oatmeal, cereal, pop tarts
- Dessert – pudding, fruit gummies, cookies
- Snacks – goldfish, pretzels

(Individual servings please)

As always, thank you so much for your continued support of Weekend Wonders 4 Kidz and helping the children we serve. Please remember we can help with volunteer hours for school, scouts, etc. and we also give hours for donations!

As always, thank you so much for always supporting Weekend Wonders 4 Kidz and more importantly, helping the children we serve.

“Helping a person will not change the world, but it will change the world for that one person.”

...... thatonerule.com.
PAST EVENTS: ANAND BAZAR FUNDRAISER, AUG. 12, 2017
Past Events: Muktad Jashan, Aug. 13, 2017
Past Events: Shenshai New Year Day, Aug. 17, 2017
Past Events: ZANT Shenshai New Year Celebration, Aug. 19, 2017
Past Events: ZANT Shenhai New Year Celebration, Aug. 19, 2017
PAST EVENTS: ZANT RELIGION CLASSES, SEPT. 10, 2017
NOMINATION FORM

I, ____________________________________, wish to serve on the Board of Directors of ZANT for the position of Director (until the end of the current Board term).

Signature:_____________________        Date:___________________

Please mail this form to:

    Jamshed Jamadar
c/o ZANT
1605, Lopo Road
Flower Mound, Texas 75028

Please submit your biodata along with your form,

_______________________________________________________________________

According to our bylaws:
It is the responsibility of each candidate to confirm that his or her nomination has been received (Article 7.03).
Only Zoroastrian members are eligible to serve on the Board of Directors (Article 4.03).
Members of the Board of Directors must be 21 years of age or older and should be members of the Association in good standing for at least one year (Article 4.4).

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FEZANA APPEAL

Critical Assistance Special Appeal

Dear Zarathushtis,

Further to FEZANA Executive's email announcement on the tragedy caused by Hurricane Harvey, we have heard that some Zarathushtis have been flooded out of their homes and many have been mandatorily evacuated from their homes.

Funds are to be needed to help purchase supplies and provide resources for victims of this life-threatening flood emergency which is widespread, bringing to halt many large to mid-sized cities along the Gulf Coast.

There have been inquiries whether FEZANA Welfare committee has been collecting funds for the people affected by this natural disaster.

FEZANA Welfare & Critical Assistance Committee is now requesting for your donations for helping the people affected by this calamity. You can donate online by clicking on Donate Online or send in your checks to FEZANA Welfare and Critical Assistance Committee’s attention by mailing it to:

Shirin Jahanian,
FEZANA Treasurer
P.O. Box 185, 65 Kirkwood Road,
Gibbsboro, NJ 08026

Note: The funds collected will be used to help the people affected by this disaster but the final disposal of the funds collected will be at the discretion of FEZANA Welfare & Critical Assistance committee.

We thank you in advance of your anticipated generosity. For further information please feel free to contact, Hosi Mehta hosimehta@aol.com or Houtoxi Contractor huty.contractor@gmail.com