



Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York

April 2002 Newsletter

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Special Interest Articles:

- NAVROZE FUNCTION
- NEW ZAGNY BOARD



NAVROZE MUBARAK 2002

On March 23rd, 2002 ZAGNY celebrated Jamshedi Navroze for the first time at our new home, the Pomona Darbe Mehr. The celebration began with a Jashan which was performed by Xerxes Antia, Rohinton Dadina, Rohinton Madon, Pervez Patel, Meheroz Rabadi and Sam Sethna.

Following the Jashan, the Annual General Meeting was called to order by Gev Nentin, who thanked the outgoing Board for all its hard work over the last three years. The Treasurer, Jasmin Kotwal, presented the 2001 Financial Statement to the community.

Current ZAGNY members cast their votes, for the nominees of the 2002-2005 Board. The required quorum was met and the

new board was elected.

This was followed by a dinner and dance to ring in the New Year. The ZAGNY community thanks the previous Board for making this Jamshedi Navroze celebration most enjoyable and a success. We acknowledge the work done by everyone involved for setting up the hall and for helping to clean, after the function.

A special thank you to Sheroo Kanga for creating the flower arrangements and torans and to Temilyn Ghadially for her selection of the caterer and the DJ. Without your efforts, the function would not have happened. We thank you all.

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NEW ZAGNY BOARD 2002-2005

A new ZAGNY Board was elected for 2002 to 2005 term, on March 23, 2002.

Due to the number of enthusiastic people wanting to be a part of this Board, a resolution to allow 6 Members At Large was necessary.

This board has 3 primary mandates:

1. Bring awareness of who we are, and how we can participate in enriching the well being of the local community, and the community in the tri-state area.
2. Active participation in FEZANA activities.
3. Encourage and invite member participation in various committees established by the Board. Those interested, please get in touch with one of the Board members. Remember this is your association.

PRESIDENT

Homi D. Gandhi

VICE PRESIDENT

Fali Shroff

TREASURER

Jasmin Kotwal

SECRETARY

Arnavaz F. Patel

JOINT SECRETARY

Diana M. Dinshaw

MEMBER AT LARGE

Goolu Baria

Kamal V. Davar

Usheen V. Davar

Toni Ghadially

Cyrus F. Hirjibehedin

Vispi Kanga

Brief News...



ZAGNY invites applications for Financial Assistance (Scholarship/Loan) from members studying at institutions in the United States. Applicants should be full-time students. The last date for filing an application is September 1, 2002. Application forms and additional information can be obtained from the Scholarship committee chairperson, Cyrus F. Hirjibehedin, 600 W. 114th Street, Apt. 1W, New York, NY 10025; Tel. 212-854-9042.



For your reference, the 2001 Financial Statement has been incorporated into this newsletter.



Please bring any old eyeglasses that you may have to the May and June Prayer Religious Classes. ZAGNY will collect them and provide them to Yasmin and Jamshed Ghadiali, who will be taking them to July Congress for distribution to the needy in India.

We appreciate your donations...



GENERAL FUND	
Darius and Mehru Dubash	\$400
Nari and Dinoo Dastur	\$50
Homi and Gul Sarkary	\$100
Faruk and Daisy Presswalla	\$25
Rusi and Karen Udwadia	\$50
United Way from Rohinton Katrak	\$28.75
Darius and Sherna Bharucha	\$55
Hoshang and Renate Khambatta	\$100
Daraius and Freny Panveliwalla	\$50
Persis Shroff and Feraydoon Bahrassa	\$75
Paul and Tricia Johnson	\$25
Ashodad collected	\$118
Baji and Christine Palkhiwala	\$100
Gev and Aban Nentin	\$47
Hormuzdyar and Freny Dalal	\$50
Nazneen Mistry	\$40
United Way of Somerset from Rohinton Madon	\$97
NEW BUILDING FUND	
Rustom and Farangis Bhopti	\$200 (pledged amount)
Rohinton and Navaz Dadina	\$101
Ava Mehta	\$101
Dina Mehta	\$101
Xerxes and Jerilyn Sarkary	\$101
Rusi and Shernaz Sethna	\$ 60
Sarosh and Nancy Sukhia	\$201
United Way of New York	\$ 93
Soli and Naju Tavaría	\$ 50
Rustom and Farangis Bhopti	\$100 (pledged amount)
Anonymous in memory of Sorab Hommie Mehta	\$3000
CRITICAL ASSISTANCE FUND	
Sarosh and Nergish Hodiwalla	\$51
Faruk and Daisy Presswalla	\$100
Soli and Naju Tavaría	\$50
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	
Aspi and Zarin Bharda	\$20
Kayo and Katayun Mama	\$50
Faruk and Daisy Presswalla	\$25
Anahaita Kotval and Zubin Shroff	\$100
Sam Shroff	\$100
Viraf Mohta and Jennifer Bhatena	\$50



Announcements – News about our Members



Births:

Welcome to Ferzin and Rajan Patel's new baby boy.



Weddings:

Wishes to Friaan and Xerxes Kotval who wed on March 2nd.



Congratulations:

Rohit Bansal, son of Percis and Rakesh was inducted by a court of honor as an Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout is the highest honor that a scout can achieve. Only 2% of all scouts become Eagle Scouts. In his scouting history, which began in 1992, Rohit has held leadership positions as Patrol Quartermaster, Patrol Leader and Patrol Scribe just to name a few. He has won over 40 merit badges.



New Members:

Birjis and Zenobia Chinoy
65 Murray Drive, Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Afsaneh Amiri
1700 Chaladay Lane, East Meadow, NY 11554

Navroz Bharucha
4216 82nd Street, Apt 2B, Elmhurst, NY 11373

Rustom Italia
20 W. 64th Street, Apt 29T, NY, NY 10023

Zareen Hakim
104-21 68th Drive, Apt B17, Forest Hills, NY 11375

Tinaz Hakim
104-21 68th Drive, Apt B17, Forest Hills, NY 11375



Condolences To:

Freny, Dara and Zarin Sagar on the passing of Freny's mother, Khorshed Khudabaksh Irani, on February 5th, in Mumbai.

Pervez Bamji, his brother Dinshaw and sister Veera on the passing of their mother, Khorshed Bamji, on February 20th, in Mumbai.

Memorial Service for Feroza Marker

A memorial service will be held for Feroza Marker, daughter of Ambassador Jamsheed and Arnaz Marker, and sister of Nilufer and Sam Riefler, on June 3rd 2002.

For further information, please contact Mithoo Birdi e, at 917.861.0133.

Place CHURCH CENTER FOR THE U.N.
777 United Nations Plaza, 12th Floor
(Entrance on 1st Ave)

Date JUNE 3, 2002

Time 12.00 NOON for the Service
1.00 PM for the Reception

Search for a Donor...

Ardeshir Edalat, a Zoroastrian living in Washington State has been battling cancer for the last couple of years and is now in need of a matching blood donor.

In Ardeshir's own words, "I am turning to my "neighbors" here in U.S.A. - Zoroastrian, Iranian-Indian, Caucasian, Hispanic, Latino, Asian, Native American and all the other beautiful people of different races and backgrounds - and I encourage you to join the Donor Registry".

Contact your local Blood Bank, or visit <http://www.marrow.org> and find out how you can be part of this community and give someone a second chance at life.

Thanks for the support...

A message from Avan Patel...

Each year, my ZAGNY friends sponsor me as I work for a worthy cause, the American Cancer Society. This year, I collected more than \$500 dollars.

My family and I thank you very much for your support and donations. I am very sorry that I could not deliver the daffodils to you, personally, this year. On behalf of each of you, I donated your daffodils to nursing homes near my home. That brought cheer to many elderly patients.

Thank you once again and May God Bless you all.



ZAGNY

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Suffern, NY 10901

E-Mail

zagny_secretary@lynos.com

Phone:

845.362.2104

Fax:

201.670.6763

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.zagny.org

*Zoroastrian
Association of
Greater New York.*

Stories from the Shah-nama



The Earliest Kings - Gayomard

Note to parents:

Please explain to your children that stories in the Shah-nama are mythical and help them decipher metaphors and representations.

In the very beginning of things, Ahura Mazda who is goodness and light, created the world and all that is pure and beautiful in the universe. But for everything that Ahura Mazda created, Ahriman, who is darkness and evil created an opposite. And Ahriman put bad thoughts into the minds of people where there had once only been the truth of Ahura Mazda.

The first king was called Keyomurz or Gayomard. He lived in the mountains and his people ate wild fruits, which they picked and the roots that they pulled out. They wore skins of leopards and garments of leaves. Gayomard ruled his people justly and with kindness.

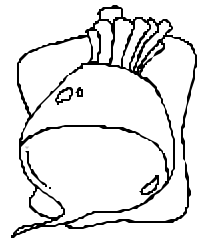
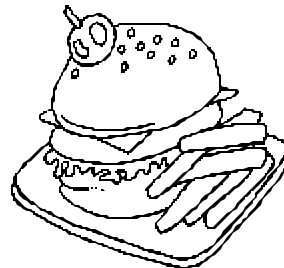
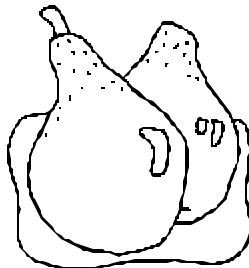
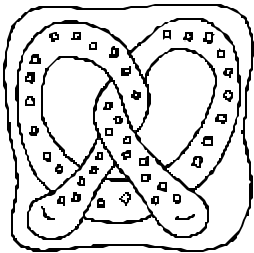
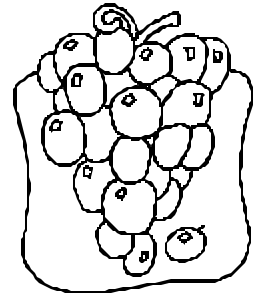
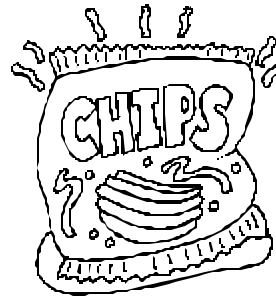
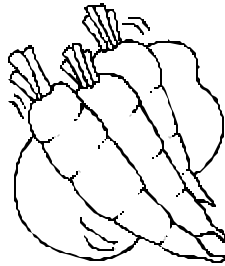
It made Ahriman very angry to see Gayomard and his people living a happy and peaceful life. So, he sent his soldiers to attack Gayomard and his people.

In a fierce battle Ahriman's soldiers killed Shiyamek, Gayomard's brave son. With the death of Shiyamek it seemed as though the evil of Ahriman would conquer the world.

Old King Gayomard sent for his grandson Hoshang, whom he loved greatly. He explained to him that it was now up to him to fight and defeat Ahriman's army. He said, "With the help of Ahura Mazda we shall be victorious and there will be peace in the world once again."

After a fearful battle, which shook the world, the brave Hoshang defeated Ahriman's army and once again there was peace and joy in the world.

Circle and color the foods they may have eaten during the time of Gayomard.



Ivy F. Gandhi Young Zoroastrian Camp Registration Form

I

Wednesday June 26th (7 pm on) to Sunday June 30th (12:00 Noon).

This year's Ivy Gandhi Young Zoroastrian Camp will be a special treat!

PLACE: New Darbe Mehr, Pomona

DATES AND TIMES: Wednesday June 26th (7 pm on) to Sunday June 30th (12:00 Noon).

AGES: six to eighteen. Younger children welcome if accompanied by a parent.

THINGS TO BRING: Sleeping bags, pillows, blanket (nights may be cold), flashlight, topi, sweat shirt, swimsuit, towel, insect repellent, camera, sports equipment, board games, and most importantly your cheerful spirit.

THE IVY F. GANDHI YOUNG ZOROASTRIAN CAMP, 2002

We, _____, allow our children:

Name: _____ Age: _____ M/F: ____

Name: _____ Age: _____ M/F: ____

Name: _____ Age: _____ M/F: ____

to join the camp and participate in all the activities offered, and we specifically understand that our children may be taken on a field trip to Bear Mountain or elsewhere.

Parents: I/we _____ would like to attend
from _____ to _____.

Any medication or sickness we should be aware of:

Any additional information:

Our check for \$ _____ is enclosed. (\$ 60 per person.)

Parent's name & address:

Phone #s: Home: _____ Work: _____

Name & phone for emergencies:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Please mail or fax this permission slip to Homi M. Byramji at:
1 Sheephill Rd., Boonton Twsp., NJ 07005. Phone: (973) 316-8636. Fax: (973) 263-0484.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



For additional information, see the Additional Events page or the Registration Forms, which are attached.

May 2002	June 2002				
<p>4 <i>ZAGNY Revlon Run/Walk</i></p> <p>5 <i>DMZT AGM and Election 12 pm</i> <i>Religious Class Day 2 pm to 4.30 pm</i></p> <p>19 <i>World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce:</i> <i>The Greater NY Chapter Meeting</i></p>	<p>9 <i>Religious Class Day 2 pm to 4.30 pm</i></p> <p>26-30 <i>Ivy F. Gandhi Youth Zoroastrians' Camp</i></p>				
<p>Upcoming Events</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>July 4 - 7, 2002</td> <td>12th North American Zoroastrian Congress, Chicago</td> </tr> <tr> <td>August 2 - 4, 2002</td> <td>Zoroastrian Young Adult Camp</td> </tr> </table>		July 4 - 7, 2002	12th North American Zoroastrian Congress, Chicago	August 2 - 4, 2002	Zoroastrian Young Adult Camp
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Additional Events...

ZAGNY Revlon Run/Walk

On Saturday, May 4, 2002 ZAGNY will participate in the annual Revlon Run/Walk in support for women battling breast and ovarian cancer. To participate and be a part of the ZAGNY team, please register by logging on to www.revlonrunwalk.com. When registering, please click onto "Teams" and then click onto "Join a Team". Our team name is Zoroastrian Association of Greater NY. The team captain is Usheen Davar. The team number is 1109. There is a \$20 fee to register and donations you collect are appreciated. Donations can be brought to the event the day of the run/walk. You will receive a welcome packet in the mail and a bib number that you must bring to the event.

Please note that we will be meeting at **7:30 AM on May 4th** on the corner of 47th Street and 6th Avenue. You will see one of our team members holding up a sign marked ZAGNY. The event starts in Times Square and ends in Central Park. Bring friends, colleagues, and family.

World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce : The Greater NY Chapter Meeting

The NY chapter of the WZCC held a major well-publicized meeting at the Darbe Mehr in Pomona. Edul Daver, President of Acupowder International gave an excellent presentation entitled "Asset Based Financing". It was a very informative presentation illustrating how people can leverage their limited finances to purchase relatively large corporation or business.

The next NY Chapter meeting is scheduled for **May 19, 2002 at 2:00 PM**, at the Darbe Mehr in Pomona. The speaker will be Mr. Noshir Dutia, the subject is **Equipment Leasing**. Edul Daver, Rusi Gandhi and Fali Shroff will also discuss the WZCC Business Conference in Chicago on July 3, 2002. All community members are welcome to attend. If you have any questions please call Rusi Gandhi 973-575-6005, Ext.117.

Ivy F. Gandhi Young Zoroastrians' Camp

The annual Young Zoroastrians' Camp begins on the night of Wednesday, June 26th and ends on Sunday June 30, 2002, at the Darbe Mehr. The camp is being held earlier in the year to accommodate families who vacation in July and August. We hope to have a great turn out! Please mark your calendars now!

The camp is great fun and a wonderful opportunity to strengthen old friendships and build new ones. There are many great activities such as hiking and picnicking in Bear Mountain, sports (soccer, volleyball, badminton, baseball, etc.) board games, arts and crafts, scavenger hunts, water fights. The highlight of the camp, the really fun skits put on by our talented children.

The camp is open to all children between the ages of 6 and 18. Younger children are welcome if accompanied by a parent. The cost is \$60 per person. Parent volunteers are needed, and if you would like to spend even part of the camp time with us, please let us me know.

If you have any questions, please call Homi M. Byramji at (973) 316-8636. The form is included in this newsletter.

12TH NORTH AMERICAN ZOROASTRIAN CONGRESS, CHICAGO

The 12th North American Zoroastrian Congress will be held in Chicago from Thursday, July 4 to Sunday July 7, 2002. The main registration form and some information were included in the last newsletter. For hotel and program information and online registration please visit their Congress 2002 website at www.zac-chicago.org.

"OCCASIONS OF LIGHT"

ACCLAIMED INDIAN MODERN ARTIST JEHANGIR SABAVALA: EXHIBIT, ART OPENING and DISCUSSION

* Exhibit: April 19-May 12 (ArtsIndia Gallery, 206 Fifth Avenue/25th St, 5th Floor NYC)

* Opening Reception: Friday, April 19, 6-9 pm (ArtsIndia Gallery)

* Film/discussion with Sabavala: Wed. April 17th, 7pm (6:30pm reception)

(Indocenter of Art/Culture, 530 W. 25th St, bet. 10th/11th Ave)

<http://www.artsindia.com> OR <http://www.indocenter.org>

"FAMILY MATTERS"

Rohinton Mistry's new novel *Family Matters* was released in early April in Canada. It is scheduled to be released in Britain, by the end of the month. A fall release is set for the United States. The cover features a photo by acclaimed screenwriter and photographer Sooni Taraporevala, from her self-published book *Parsis: The Zoroastrians of India - A Photographic Journey*.

Secretary's Report for March 2001 to March 2002

Good evening and Navroze Mubarak to you all. I will take a few minutes to report ZAGNY's activities during the past year. I begin with congratulations to all our newlyweds, and to children who had their Navjotes. My condolences to families who lost their loved ones and speedy recovery to those that are ill.

June 17th, 2001, will be a day to remember in the history of ZAGNY. We had the grand function of the closing of the old and opening ceremonies of the new Darbe Mehr. It was an emotional day, saying good-bye to our old home in New Rochelle and at the same time a very happy day celebrating the opening of this new Darbe Mehr in Pomona, NY. A farewell Jashan was performed at our New Rochelle Darbe Mehr by 10 priests, led by Ervad Pervez Patel, a tribute given to Arbab Rustam Guiv, a speech was made on the history of the New Rochelle Darbe Mehr by past ZAGNY president, Mr. Erach Munshi. At Pomona, the priests recited the Ataash Ni Niyash prayer and the Tao Ahmi prayer - blessings for a new home, led by Dr. Lovji Cama was recited by our religious class students. This function was a total success and for that thanks to each and everyone who worked hard to make it happen.

July 2001, we held the Ivy Gandhi Young Zoroastrian camp at the Pomona Darbe Mehr. Many children along with their parents attended this camp and had a lot of fun. Thanks to Homi and Ellen Byramji and to all the organizers, volunteers and parents for their efforts.

In August we held the Mukta prayers, adult camp and Pateti function. The Mukta prayers were attended by 60 members. Thanks to our priests Darius Antia, Rohinton Madon, Rohinton Dadina and Xerxes Antia.

The Adult Zoroastrian Camp organized by Xerxes Kotwal was attended by 20 members between the ages of 16 to 39 and some of them traveled from as far as Philadelphia and Boston. Activities included a short hike in Bear Mountain Park, hilarious after-dinner plays and interesting discussions on issues that challenged us as a member of the Zoroastrian community.

The Pateti function and a Jashan were held at the Pomona Darbe Mehr and was well attended and enjoyed by everyone.

Coming to September 2001, it was a sad month for everyone. A prayer meeting was organized on September 15th and was attended by 100+ members on a very short notice. Our priests recited the Ataash Ni Niyash for the departed souls and some of our members, affected by the tragedy talked about their experience and narrow escape from this disaster. At the meeting, everyone was informed about the fund drive initiated by ZAGNY for the victims of the World Trade Center, and thanks to your generosity, we collected \$8,000 which were donated to the Windows of Hope Charity. Another prayer vigil was held in Long Island on October 7th, 2001 organized by several Indian American associations. President Gev Nentin and Ervad Pervez Patel attended this meeting as representatives of ZAGNY.

In October we had a Gahambar Jashan - giving thanks to Ahura Mazda - the prayers in this Jashan included prayers for peace and safety of our Country and New York state, the home of our Darbe Mehr. Ervad Darius Antia led everyone in the recital of "God Bless America". Darius Antia and Lovji Cama spoke a few words on the subject of how Zoroastrians should cope with evil, as explained in our Kem Na Mazda prayer.

In November, the nomination form for the election was mailed out and we have a number of new members who will join the Board, and the good news is that the youth representation has doubled from two to four. I wish the new Board good luck and much success.

In December we had the New Year's Eve function that was attended by 100 + members and everyone had a good time.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every one of you for giving me the opportunity to serve the community for the past 8 years. I enjoyed working with ZAGNY and IZA board members and with the trustees of DMZT.

Before I end, I would like to acknowledge and recognize my fellow board members. We worked as a team, respected each other's views and made decisions that were in the best interest of the community. Thank you all for your service to the community. I would ask them to come up to the stage as their name is called (they are Dinshaw Bardoliwalla, Homi Byramji, Mahrukh Cama, Spenta Cama, Kamal Davar, Temilyn Ghadially, Vispi Kanga, Jasmin Kotwal).

A lot of what we did and accomplished as a board would not have been possible without the leadership and guidance of Gev Nentin, our outgoing President. When I needed ideas, approvals or just to vent out frustrations, he was always there. Gev, I thank you for everything.

Enjoy the rest of the evening, my husband Vispi and I wish you a happy and healthy year with peace and harmony within the community.

Sheroo Kanga