



ISSUE 21

ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK

JANUARY 2005 NEWSLETTER

ZAGNY BOARD ELECTIONS 2005 to 2008 TERM

In March 2005, the three-year term of the current ZAGNY board will come to a close and a new board will be elected on March 19th, 2005, at the Navroz function. Below is the absentee/mail ballot showing names of the nominees standing for election for various positions. On the day of the election you will have the opportunity to hear from each of the candidates and to vote for them in person. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, you may use the attached ballots to vote by mail, following the procedures given below:

- 1. Only dues paying adult members of ZAGNY are eligible to vote.**
- Please send your membership dues with the enclosed membership form to Jasmin Kotwal, if you have not already done so.
- Each adult (18 years old) member has one vote, with up to two votes per family membership. (*Reminder: Non-Zoroastrian spouses of Zoroastrian members are full voting members and are encouraged to vote*).
- 4. IMPORTANT:** Please fill out the Absentee/Mail Ballot, **seal it in an envelope with the names and address of the voting members written on the outside left corner of the envelope** and mail it to **Arnavaz Patel, 2077 Center Ave, Apartment 14E, Fort Lee, NJ 07024**, and postmarked no later than March 10th, 2005. **Unnamed envelopes will be disqualified.**

Note: If you vote by mail and are present at the election, you may revoke your mailed ballot and vote in person.

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ZAGNY BOARD:

ZAGNY_SECRETARY@LYCOS.COM

PRESIDENT

HOMI GANDHI

VICE PRESIDENT

FALI SHROFF

TREASURER

JASMIN KOTWAL

SECRETARY

ARNAVAZ PATEL

MEMBERS AT LARGE

GOOLU BARIA
KAMAL DAVAR
USHEEN DAVAR
TONI GHADIALLY
CYRUS HIRJIBEHEDIN
VISPI KANGA

ABSENTEE/MAIL BALLOT

If you are not planning to attend the Annual General Body Meeting, or if you would prefer to vote by mail, use this mail ballot to vote.

MAIL BALLOT - 2005-2008 ZAGNY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

		Confirmed (please check)
PRESIDENT	HOMI GANDHI	_____
VICE-PRESIDENT	NAVAZ MERCHANT	_____
TREASURER	MINOO BENGALI	_____
SECRETARY	KHURSHEED NAVDER	_____
JOINT SECRETARY	KERMAN DUKANDER	_____
MEMBERS AT LARGE:	VISPI KANGA	_____
	SHERAZAD MEHTA	_____
	FERZIN PATEL	_____
	MICHEL REID	_____

Mail to: Arnavaz F. Patel, 2077 Center Ave, Apartment 14E, NJ 07024

DONATIONS

Donors	New Building Fund	Critical	General	Scholarship	Library
Acupowder Intl, matching gift for Edul Daver	\$300.00				
Anonymous		\$101.00		\$25.00	
Aspi and Zarin Bharda		\$25.00		\$25.00	
Baji and Christine Palkhiwala		\$100.00			
Behram Buhariwala		\$50.00			
Bomi and Nina Dinshaw			\$100.00		
Cyrus and Farzana Cama		\$100.00		\$100.00	
Cyrus Hirjibehedin			\$51.00		
Darayes and Roshni Bharda	\$30.00		\$30.00		
Darius and Hilla Antia			\$50.00		
Darius and Mehru Dubash			\$400.00		
Darius and Sherna Bharucha			\$10.00		
Dinshaw and Gool Sachinvala	\$25.00				
Dinyar and Aashish Devitre			\$100.00		
Edul and Niloufer Daver	\$300.00				
Elchi Nowrojee and Janet Immermann					\$25.00
Farokh and Dominique Patel	\$50.00	\$50.00			
Farokh and Meg Irani	\$600.00	\$500.00			
Farzad Dutia		\$50.00			
Feroz Nentin		\$15.00			
Firoze and Khorshed Jungalwala		\$40.00			
Framroze and Armaity Patel		\$50.00			
Fred and Zahver Morris				\$100.00	
Hanoz and Shazneen Gandhi		\$250.00		\$250.00	
Homi Gandhi				\$50.00	
Hoshang and Renate Khambatta	\$200.00				
Hoshi and Nawaz Merchant			\$50.00		
Jimmy and Khursheed Wadia	\$1,000.00				
Katy Eduljee		\$10.00			
Kaykhosrow and Helga Hormuzdi			\$60.00		
Kerman and Jeroo Bharucha		\$50.00			
Removed by Request		\$50.00			
Khurshed Mehta			\$51.00		
Khushru and Farzana Irani	\$50.00		\$50.00		
Khushru and Roshan Hakim	\$100.00				
Lovji and Rupy Hakim	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Mehli and Mary Ann Rustom		\$20.00			
Nari and Dinoo Dastur		\$100.00			
Nariman and Dhun Deboo		\$100.00			
Navroz Gandhi	\$1,001.00				
Noshir and Dinaz Langrana		\$50.00			
Noshir and Kashmira Dutia	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Pallan and Carol Katgara				\$100.00	
Paul and Tricia Johnson			\$50.00		
Pesi and Daulat Bavaadam			\$101.00		
Phil and Dhun Shroff			\$50.00		
Rohinton and Yasmin Madon	\$25.00				
Ruyintan and Monica Mehta	\$100.00				
Sam Morris	\$500.00	\$1,000.00		\$500.00	
Satish and Phiroza Modi		\$101.00			

DONATIONS (continued)

Donors	New Building Fund	Critical	General	Scholarship	Library
Shahrookh and Aban Bodhanwala			\$20.00		
Sherazad Mehta			\$25.00	\$25.00	
Soli and Naju Tavarua		\$60.00			
Tehmasp and Zarine Dotivala		\$51.00			
Tinaz Hakim			\$156.16		
Thrity and Sharad Saraf		\$100.00			
Vira Saklatwalla		\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Vispi and Ignasha Cassod					\$100.00
Xerxes and Jerilyn Sarkary			\$101.00		
Total Donations for 2005	\$4,431.00	\$3,223.00	\$1,655.16	\$1,375.00	\$275.00

Correction: In the December 2004 newsletter an Anonymous donation of \$501 was recorded under the Scholarship Fund. It should have read Anonymous donation, in honor of Prof. K. D. Irani Scholarship Fund for \$501, to the Scholarship Fund. We regret the mistake.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2005	
06	ZAGNY SPONSORED GHAMBAR (details in this newsletter)
06	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES **** (2 PM START) During Religious Class there will be a session on dancing
12	DOCUMENTARY FUNDRAISER (details in this newsletter)
20	ENTREPRENEUR DAY - WZCC (details in this newsletter)
MARCH 2005	
06	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES **** (1 PM START)
19	ZAGNY NAVROZ CELEBRATION
APRIL 2005	
03	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES **** (1 PM START) During Religious Class there will be a session on making Daar Ni Pori
MAY 2005	
01	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES **** (1 PM START) During Religious Classes an expert from Matterhorn Nursery will speak about choosing plants REVLON RUN/WALK (date to be determined)
JUNE 2005	
05	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES **** (1 PM START) During Religious Class there will be a session on Zoroastrianism in Everyday Life

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GHAMBHAR IN FEBRUARY 2005

On Sunday February 6th ZAGNY will host a winter Ghambar. In the true spirit of a Ghambar, attendees will not be charged. We will start with a Jashan at 11 am followed by the traditional Ghambar lunch of Masala Dal, Rice, Kachumbar and Sali Chicken. The regularly scheduled religious class will take place following lunch. The entire congregation, members as well as non-members are invited to attend. **You must register your attendance via phone or email prior to January 28th. RSVPs received after January 28th or attendees at the gate will be charged a \$5 per person fee, for ZAGNY 2005 paid members and non-members will be charged \$10 per person fee. RSVP's to Jasmin Kotwal: 609-275-5952 or email jasminkotwal@yahoo.com.** Please join us in this event memorable by community participation.

All community priests are requested to take part in the Jashan. Ervads, if you are interested in facilitating the Jashan, please convey your intent to Goolu Baria at 203-353-8651.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS OF INFORMATION

- Kaykhosrow and Helga Hormozdi, 4600 Flagship Drive, #103, Fort Meyers, FL 33919
- Farzad Damania, 615 North Hester, Apt 13, Stillwater, OK 74075

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NAVJOTE

- Spenta Bamji on November 13th, 2004 in New Jersey
- Yezata and Tiraza Bhote on December 3rd, 2004 in Mumbai
- Sam and Cyrus Merchant on January 1st, 2005, in Mumbai

OUR CONDOLENCES TO

- Burgise and Khursheed Palkhiwala on the passing away of their daughter, Farah, on December 30th, 2004.
- Khurshed Y. Mehta and family on the sudden passing away of her Uncle, Jamshed Ranji (Husband of Freny, Father of Neville, Dinyar and Viraf and long-time ZAPANJ Member.)

ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASS

The ZAGNY monthly religious classes are going along well. The Board and the Teachers are pleased to see new faces joining every month. At the December class, yearly certificates were presented to all the children who attended classes in 2004. Our Priests, Teachers and Teachers assistants were also acknowledged and presented token gifts to thank them for their hard work and efforts in teaching our children about the Zarathusti faith. Our heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation go out to Pervez Patel, Sam Sethna, Lovji Cama, Teshtar Irani, Shiraz Anita-Unwalla, Avan Patel, Julie Bharcuha, Persis Commissariat, Sheri Nentin & Rushad Dutia. Because of their dedication, our classes continue to be a success.

WORLD ZARATHUSHTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - ENTREPRENEUR DAY

New or established business owners and professionals are welcome to exhibit products and professional services at this meeting, from 11 to 3 PM. Please take this opportunity to advertise your business and grow it within our community. Set up your booth and get exposure. There is no fee to enroll. However you must be a ZAGNY or WZCC member to participate. Become a 2005 member for a nominal fee of \$50 and take advantage of this exhibition. We encourage all Zoroastrians to attend and support Zarathusti businesses and this worthwhile organization.

Professionals from any and all fields are invited. Several participants have already registered. Please call Arnaz Maneckshana for details and to reserve your space early, (201)712-4615

arnaz.maneckshana@axa-advisors.com or amanecksha@aol.com

FEZANA TSUNAMI RELIEF FUND

After the Gujarat Earthquake and the Baam Earthquake, we are now faced with another natural disaster, the Tsunami Tidal Wave Earthquake calamity in SOUTH EAST ASIA. FEZANA will accept any donations toward the relief of the victims and their families. All United States donors should send their checks payable to "FEZANA" with a foot note "TSUNAMI RELIEF FUND", to FEZANA Treasurer **Rashid Mehin, 583 Beverly Place, SAN MARCOS, CA 92069-3763**. Tax deduction receipts will be issued upon request.

APPEAL FOR HELP FROM MUMBAI, INDIA

An urgent appeal to help Mr. Kersas Batliwala of Mumbai, India has reached the Zoroastrian community within North America. Kersas has been diagnosed with cancer of the lungs which has spread into the spinal cord. He was initially treated in the Parsi General Hospital for a week, where several tests were performed. He lost sensation in both the feet because of compression of one of the vertebrae in the spinal cord. He was transferred to Hinduja Hospital, where he underwent a spinal cord surgery to correct the compression of the vertebra in the spinal cord.

Kersas has already incurred astronomical medical bills between the two hospitals. He is expected to stay in the hospital for some time to complete the radiation and physical therapy treatments, which will add substantially to the medical bills. Kersas is the only earning member of the family of five, working in a local bank. With his financial means, he can not afford the astronomical medical bills. Please send your tax deductible check to ZAGNY, at the address at the end of this newsletter, with Kersas Batliwala in the memo field.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

■ **SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12TH 1PM - 3:30PM**

Are you ready to have a fun-filled afternoon, watch a hilarious Parsi natak/play, see a documentary that was shot in stunning Iran, eat some yummy Indian snacks, win raffle prizes that include Broadway tickets, saris, Indian costume jewelry & coffee-table books! ...All this to support a wonderful documentary about Zoroastrianism that has PBS's support? Of course you are!

The new documentary follows a Zoroastrian family as they leave Iran, because of discrimination, and make their way to the US. This story is contrasted to the thriving Zoroastrian community in North America. WGBH, the PBS station in Boston, (over 120 million national viewers) has expressed an interest in seeing a finished film. We need your generosity, help and support to make this happen!

Venue - Arbab Rustam Guiv Darbe Mehr, 106 Pomona Road, Suffern, NY 10901

For additional information and directions, contact Tenaz Dubash at Tdubash@aol.com.

Tickets start at \$25 and go up to \$100 for VIP'S (VIP's receive preferred seating and an autographed copy of a film that had breathtaking shots of Iran - including beautiful shots of "Bam" the city destroyed by the earthquake.) Money paid for all tickets is tax-deductible.

Here's some info about the hour-long play:

"TEHMULJEE IN TURMOIL" IS A HILARIOUS PARSİ COMEDY NATAK, PERFORMED BY A GROUP OF ZARTHUSTIS FROM NEW JERSEY. THE NATAK HAS BEEN ADAPTED BY FIRDOSH & MAHARUKH MEHTA AND PARYNAZ VIMADALAL FROM THE ORIGINAL "MEHERNOSH NI MOOZWAN", WRITTEN BY NARGISH TATA AND IS COORDINATED BY SHEROO KANGA.

■ **FEZANA PERFORMING & CREATIVE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The FEZANA Performing and Creative Arts Scholarship (P&CAS) provides financial support to Zarathustis who are performing artists in music, drama, etc. or practice other creative art forms like literature, poetry, fine arts, sculpture, painting, etc. The purpose of the scholarship is to enable the recipients to study with experts in their field and thus fine tune and enhance their talent and capabilities, BUT NOT FOR BASIC EDUCATION IN THE ABOVE FIELDS. Applications must be submitted by March 31 2005. Application forms are available on the FEZANA website, www.fezana.org.

■ **THE SHIRAZ BAGLI MEMORIAL FUND**

The Shiraz Bagli Memorial Fund for Basic Research in Ovarian Cancer at the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation opens a path whereby institutions, organizations and individuals can contribute to the search for a way to keep ovarian cancer from ending a life in its prime, through basic scientific research. The long-term goal of this effort is to establish an endowed Chair in Ovarian and Related Gynecological Cancer Research at Princess Margaret Hospital and the University of Toronto.

If you wish to support the fight against Ovarian Cancer, there are several ways you can help:

- For direct donations by mail, send a check/money order to The Shiraz Bagli Memorial Fund, c/o Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation, 610 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5G 2M9
- To donate by phone, please call toll free: 1-866-224-6560

■ **HOLIDAY PROGRAM FOR THE YOUTH (HPY) IN NORTH AMERICA:**

ZYNA is currently working on a youth camp program for all high school graduates who hope to move to college/university for further education. The camp will take place in Toronto, Canada from July 31 – August 7, 2005. The camp will involve some career counseling, teaching of public speaking skills, cooking, sports, debates and much more. Details will be announced in the New Year. For more information or to volunteer to help in the camp please contact ZYNAangels@aol.com.

■ **ZYNA EVENT IN VANCOUVER, B.C.:**

The next ZYNA event will be hosted by ZSBC/ZYBC in Vancouver, Canada. The event will take place over the Good Friday long weekend from March 24th evening until 27th, 2005. For more information, please visit <http://www.fezana.org> or send an email to ZYNAangels@aol.com

If you would like to announce an event that will occur within the next 3 months in the ZAGNY newsletter, or provide feedback or suggestions about this newsletter, please email zagny_secretary@lycos.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

XI NORTH AMERICAN ZOROASTRIAN YOUTH CONGRESS:

ZYNA is proud to bring you the XIth North American Youth Congress at Miami, Florida, from December 28-30, 2005. For more details, please visit <http://www.fezana.org> or email ZYNAangels@aol.com

WORLD ZARATHUSHTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS CONFERENCE-DECEMBER 2004

The 2004 WZCC AGM and Business Conference was held in San Jose, California in December 2004. Our WZCC and ZAGNY member Zubin Shroff gave the keynote address. His topic -"The Importance of Developing a Network in Establishing Careers- A Perspective of a First Generation American". Farrokh Patel and Roshan Patel, WZCC and ZAGNY members received an award of excellence for an Outstanding Zarathushti Entrepreneurs. Rusi Gandhi, NY Chapter Chairman gave an interesting presentation on "Buying and Selling Businesses". The informative presentation was on "Jump Start Your Business-In 60 Minutes!". The keynote address during lunch on December 31, 2004 was given by Honorable, Ayesha Nariman. She spoke about the "Business of Politics, an Immigrants Odyssey." The next WZCC Business Conference will be in London, June 2005.

DRIVE FOR WARM CLOTHING AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Thanks to the organizational efforts of our member Mehru Cama, ZAGNY donated six (6) bags of school supplies, eight (8) bags of warm clothing and one bag (1) of toys to the Rockland County charity, "People to People Inc.", in 2004.

Dolores Tregger, Executive Director, People to People Inc., wrote: "Your support of community service allows us to keep our promise to help families of Rockland County in their time of need". In turn, ZAGNY Board would like to thank Mehru Cama and all community members who donated for the drive.

13th NORTH AMERICAN ZOROASTRIAN CONGRESS, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA DECEMBER 29, 2004 TO JANUARY 1, 2005

Although the sky was overcast and it was raining outside on the morning of 29th December 2004 in sunny San Jose, California, the spirits were upbeat inside the Airport Doubletree Hotel when the 13th North American Zoroastrian Congress commenced with prayers and recitation of National Anthems of the USA and Canada. The morning ended with a rendition of Chopin's "Colonnade" by Phiroze Tarapore and all chorus "Chhaiye Hame Zarathushti". Throughout these 3 days, everyone enjoyed the abundant hospitality of the local association. They had put up an excellent program, catering to all different groups and all ages. The organizers had provided some interesting sessions although some may be with the recurrent themes. The theme of the Congress "Being Zarathushti: Looking at Issues, Searching for Answers" highlighted the approach of the organizers towards the whole issue and this was reflected in all they presented to us. Over 30 members represented ZAGNY and it was a great photo opportunity to include our out of town and past members.

The great pride for the ZAGNY community was the 2004 North American Zarathushti Community Awards lunch on December 30, 2004, where the following ZAGNY members received the deserving awards:

Rohinton Rivetna Outstanding Zarathushti Award

Framroze Patel

Jamshed Pavri Humanitarian Service Award

Mehru and Lovji Cama

Excellence in Performing Arts, Painting or Literature Award

Farobag Cooper

Young Zoroastrian Award

Susan Karani

Additionally, our member Farrokh Patel was awarded the Outstanding Zarathushti Entrepreneur award by the World Zarathushti Chamber of Commerce.

Our Congratulations to all the winners for these awards! And our thanks to the organizers of the 13th North American Zoroastrian Congress, Mr. Bomi Patel and his group of dedicated members of the Zarathushti Anjuman of Northern California, for a very enjoyable and well-organized Congress.

OPERATION EYESIGHT

Project Operation Eyesight was kicked off at the XIII North American Zoroastrian Congress, in December 2004. The aim of Operation Eyesight is to collect used and usable old eye-glasses/frames and send it to other countries, to help those in need but cannot afford it. Please do not deposit damaged or broken eye-glasses/frames. A drop box for collection of these items will be available at the Pomona Darbe Mehr. Our goal is to collect at least one pair per family. We request all Zarathushti families and individuals to help us spread the word about this project to all members, families and friends.

2005 ZAGNY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME: _____
Last name
First name
Spouse's name

CHILDREN:
Name _____ *Date of Birth (mm/yy)* _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____ **HOME PHONE/CELL/PERSONAL E-MAIL**
 _____ **Phone:** _____
 _____ **Cell:** _____
 _____ **E-Mail:** _____
Spouse's E-Mail: _____

MEMBER'S INFO.

SPOUSE'S INFO.

Originally From: _____
Company Name: _____
Profession/Title: _____
Address: _____

Business Phone: (____) _____ - _____ **(____) _____ - _____**
Business Fax: _____
Business E-mail: _____

Type of membership desired (check one):

- | | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|----|-------|
| Regular | Associate | | |
| Member* | Member** | | |
| [] | [] Family membership | \$ | 100 |
| [] | [] Individual adult membership | | 50 |
| [] | [] Senior citizens - per person | | 30 |
| [] | [] Full time student membership | | 25 |
| [] | [] Non resident membership | | 40 |
| | Donation | \$ | _____ |
| | TOTAL | \$ | _____ |

Please allocate my donation to the following fund(s):

\$ _____

General Fund _____

Scholarship _____

Critical Assist. _____

Library _____

* *Regular members: At least one member of the family is Zoroastrian*
 ** *Associate Members: No member of the family is Zoroastrian*
Family is Parent(s) and Their Children under the age of 21 years.
Individual Adult is anyone who is 21 years old and over.
Senior Citizen is anyone who is 65 years old and over.
Student is anyone who is enrolled Full-Time at an Academic Institution.
Non-Resident is anyone who resides outside the States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Please make your check payable to ZAGNY and mail this form with your check to:
Jasmin Kotwal, 12 Park Hill Terrace, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

If you would like to announce an event that will occur within the next 3 months in the ZAGNY newsletter, or provide feedback or suggestions about this newsletter, please email zagny_secretary@lycos.com.



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Suffern, NY 10901

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.zagny.org

**Zoroastrian
Association of
Greater New York.**