



## ISSUE 19

## ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2004 NEWSLETTER

### CALENDAR FOR 2004/2005

#### ARTICLES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS & DONATIONS	2
PAST EVENTS	3

OCTOBER 2004	
03	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES **** (1 PM START)</b> During Religious Class there will be a session on wearing a sari
24	<b>ANNUAL UDVADA ATASHBEHRAM LUNCHEON</b> (details in this newsletter)
NOVEMBER 2004	
07	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES ****(1 PM START)</b> After Religious Class there will be a mandatory (for kids and adults) costume party
14	<b>WZCC NY CHAPTER MEETING</b> (details to be provided at a later time)
20	<b>K. D. IRANI FELICITATION RECEPTION AND DINNER</b> (details in this newsletter)
DECEMBER 2004	
05	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES ****(1 PM START)</b> During Religious Class there will be a session on making holiday baskets/crafts
31	<b>ZAGNY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY</b>
JANUARY 2005	
09	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES ****(1 PM START)</b>
FEBRUARY 2005	
06	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES ****(1 PM START)</b> During Religious Class there will be a session on dancing
MARCH 2005	
06	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES ****(1 PM START)</b>
20	<b>ZAGNY NAVROZE CELEBRATION</b>
APRIL 2005	
03	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES ****(1 PM START)</b> During Religious Class there will be a session on making Daar Ni Pori
MAY 2005	
01	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES ****(1 PM START)</b> During Religious Classes an expert from Matterhorn Nursery will speak about choosing plants <b>REVLON RUN/WALK</b> (date to be determined)
JUNE 2005	
05	<b>ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES ****(1 PM START)</b> During Religious Class there will be a session on Zoroastrianism in Everyday Life

#### ZAGNY BOARD:

[ZAGNY\\_SECRETARY@LYCOS.COM](mailto:ZAGNY_SECRETARY@LYCOS.COM)

#### PRESIDENT

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#### VICE PRESIDENT

FALI SHROFF

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KAMAL DAVAR  
USHEEN DAVAR  
TONI GHADIALLY  
CYRUS HIRJIBEHEDIN  
VISPI KANGA

### ZAGNY'S CELEBRATION FOR ITS MOST ILLUSTRIOUS MEMBER, PROF. KAIKHOSROV D. IRANI

ZAGNY is proud to organize an event on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004 to honor **Professor Kaikhosrov D. Irani** for his illustrious, distinguished and yeoman service to the worldwide Zarathushti community and his achievements in the field of Philosophy.

We, in the tri-state area, are fortunate to have been the beneficiaries of his knowledge and wisdom through various lectures and religious classes over a long period of time. His connections to the academic world have provided ZAGNY with unique access to leading thinkers in the fields of Zoroastrianism and Philosophy. A teacher like Kaikhosrov is rare to find these days. He has imparted his knowledge of the message of the prophet with zeal, enthusiasm and clarity to young and old, without imposing his belief on any one. All of us have benefited from Kaikhosrov's knowledge, wisdom, and Vohu-Mano in one manner or another. It is now our turn to express our thanks and therefore ZAGNY Board of Directors have decided to honor him by expressing our reverence, esteem and admiration at a function on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004. A separate flyer with full details and reservation form is mailed to the community members in the area. Please mark your calendar and respond as soon as possible. Due to the space constraints, numbers are to be limited and therefore the tickets will be issued on a "first-come" basis.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DONATIONS

### UDVADA ATASHBEHRAM LUNCHEON

This annual luncheon will be held at the Pomona Darbe Mehr on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2004, at 11.30 AM. All are cordially invited to attend this worthy cause. Last year, this event raised over \$21,000.

Please contact either Kamal Davar, Mehru or Lovji Cama or Erach Munshi to register for or donate towards this event.

### YOUR INVOLVEMENT IS REQUESTED

The ZAGNY Board is interested in starting a Critical Care Assistance Program within our community. How will you be involved? Do you know if Zoroastrians within your local area that could use assistance with day to day functions? Do they need a ride to a doctor's appointment? Do you know someone that could may just need to have a cup of tea and some conversation?

If you are already showing your concern for a Zoroastrian that needs it, we applaud you. If you would like to assist us in developing this program and can offer guidance, please contact [zagny\\_secretary@lycos.com](mailto:zagny_secretary@lycos.com).

### ASSOCIATION IN DALLAS, TEXAS

The Zoroastrian Association of North Texas (ZANT) serves the Zoroastrian community residing in Dallas Fort Worth and surrounding areas. Please visit their website at [www.zant.org](http://www.zant.org). Also if you are aware of Zoroastrians planning to move to the Dallas/Fort Worth area, please feel free to have them contact **Saghar Behroozi**, Secretary - (972) 355-6607.

### WZCC - WILLS & ESTATE PLANNING MEETING

Provided By Arnaz Maneckshana

Mr. **Michael Rowland**, Attorney at Law, was the guest speaker at the WZCC, NY Chapter meeting held on September 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Darbe Mehr.

Simple techniques to preserve assets and protect wealth from death taxes were discussed. Maximizing on the allowed unified credit and reorganization of jointly held assets are common and effective ways of Estate Planning. He also described the more sophisticated tools of estate planning like gift giving strategies, life insurance trusts and second to die insurance policies. He talked about the importance of preparing three documents, a last will and testament, advanced medical directive (popularly known as living trust) and durable power of attorney. We thank Mr. Rowland for this informational seminar which was simplified in layman terms.

The delicious lunch was catered by **Sheroo Kanga** and we thank her for the super job as always.

We are happy to announce **Avan Patel** as our Youth Director. Welcome Avan!

### DONATIONS

CRITICAL ASSISTANCE FUND	
<b>2004 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,719.00</b>
Sarosh and Nergish Hodiwalla	21.00
GENERAL FUND	
<b>2004 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8666.65</b>
Ashodad	482.00
United Way – Tinaz Hakim	234.24
Framroze and Armaity Patel	100.00
Historical Society of Rockland County - Yasmin Ghadiali	100.00
Mehernosh and Tina Daruwalla	81.00
Xerxes and Jerilyn Sarkary	51.00
Thrity and Sharad Saraf	50.00
Kobad and Debra Malesra	50.00
Darius and Freny Panveliwalla	50.00
United Way– Virasp Davar	95.36
Gev and Aban Nentin	36.00
Rohinton and Yasmin Madon	30.00
Dinyar and Aashish Devitre	30.00
Rusi and Piroja Press	25.00
Noshir and Kashmira Dutia	25.00
Firoz and Piloo Mistry	25.00
Rusi Gandhi	21.00
Joseph and Pearl Ball	20.00
NEW BUILDING FUND	
<b>2004 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,074.00</b>
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	
<b>2004 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,836.00</b>
Farokh & Pouruchisti Hirjibehedin	501.00
LIBRARY FUND	
<b>2004 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 130.00</b>

### OUR CONDOLENCES TO

Farokh Hirjibehedin and family on the passing of Farokh's brother, Adi, on September 15th, 2004.

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Joseph and Pearl Ball  
11 Pleasant Avenue  
West Caldwell, NJ 07006

### CHANGE OF INFORMATION

Elchi Nowrojee  
80-82 Maolis Avenue  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

Dr. Cyrus Hirjibehedin for successfully completing the defense of his dissertation "Spectroscopy of Emergent States In 2D Electron Systems". Cyrus is on the ZAGNY Board and we all wish him well in his future endeavors.

# *An Evening of Indian Entertainment*

to benefit the Zarathushti Cultural Center

*Friday, November 26th, 2004*  
Ramada Inn  
Grand Crystal Ballroom  
999 Route 1 South  
North Brunswick, NJ  
5:30pm - 11pm

*Featuring:*  
Parsi Natak  
Music and Dances  
And much more

*Donation of \$100 per person includes*  
Open Bar, Non Veg and Veg Cuisine,  
and Entertainment (\$65 tax deductible)

*Formal Attire Recommended*

For more details and tickets, please contact anyone of the following:

Persis Bansal	(609) 799-4537
Freny Ranji	(856) 854-2251
Diana Dadachanji	(610) 275-2858
Tehmtan Tehsildar	(908) 281-7913



# *An Evening of Indian Entertainment*

for the Zarathushti Cultural Center

Friday, November 26, 2004

Ramada Inn

Grand Crystal Ballroom

999 Route 1 South

North Brunswick, NJ

5:30pm - 11pm

Please make check payable to the  
Zarathushti Cultural Center (tax deductible),  
204 Brompton Drive, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003.  
All questions can be directed to  
Anoo Sukia (856) 751-7233 or (215) 895-2093.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel #: \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Check attached: ☐ YES ☐ NO

Advertisement submitted through: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for submission of advertisement: November 5, 2004.

All camera ready art must be submitted with payment.

Please call Anoo Sukia for submission of Color Advertisement files.



## Advertisement Rates for Program Booklet

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 Business Cards	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> x 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub> inches
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$65 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Page	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> x 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> inches
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$80 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Page	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> x 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> inches
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100 Full Page	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> x 11 inches
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$200 Full Color Page	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> x 11 inches
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$300 Front Inside (Color)	Cover 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> x 11 inches
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$300 Back Inside (Color)	Cover 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> x 11 inches
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500 Back (Color)	Cover 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> x 11 inches
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1000 Sponsors of the Event	Special Banner, Full Page Ad

## PAST EVENTS

### **FAITH, FAMILY & FOOD ZOROASTRIANS REPRESENTED IN ROCKLAND COUNTY FAIR**

**Provided By Aysha Ghadiali**

The Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York participated in this year's Rockland County Fair on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004. The annual fair celebrates diversity in Rockland County by allowing various groups to share their artistic and cultural traditions.

The Rockland County Historical Society sponsors the annual event, and takes pride in making American history come alive through dressed enactments of revolutionary period daily life, as well as a live reading of the full Declaration of Independence in English and Spanish.

ZAGNY's exhibit table included examples and explanations of chalk design, the haft-seen Nowruz table, a ses, traditional gara and embroidered saris, various picture books, a faroher tapestry from Iran, and a short educational video on Zoroastrianism created for the help of the 3000th Anniversary celebration committee by **Tamina Daver, Kaizad Bhabha** and **Thomas Jackson**. Other exhibitions present were the history and traditions of Mexican piñata making, Ukrainian egg ornamental design and traditional baked cakes, Christian Orthodox Byzantine style painting, and artistic Bali food offerings. The guests were amused throughout the day with Indonesian traditional dances, Haitian drumming and traditional American BBQ.

Numerous local families joined in the festivities and many were curious about where our new Darbe Mehr was located and what our history was. While we tried to educate others, we were also educated ourselves by visitors who were extremely knowledgeable in ancient Middle Eastern civilizations. Special thanks to Homi Gandhi for helping us get in touch with the organizers, **Sheroo** and **Vispi Kanga** and the **Ghadiali Family** for organizing and preparing the exhibit table and greeting the visitors, and all ZAGNY members who were able to come out and support the event. In a post-9.11 world, it is more important than ever that we educate, and be educated mutually. It is the only way we will be able to find the underlying similarities in all of us. From the looks of the exhibits at the fair we should never underestimate the extreme universal power of faith, family and food in every culture and language. The Rockland Historical Society requested a book about Zoroastrianism for their library, and one will be donated for their permanent collection. Zoroastrians are now part of the history of Rockland County.

### **WHAT A WAY TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR!**

**Provided By Shazneen Gandhi**

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2004, the bell that marks the beginning of the trading day at the New York Stock Exchange was rung by ZAGNY President **Homi Gandhi** and five other employees of the NYSE. Mr. Gandhi and his associates were nominated by their colleagues in recognition of their community service work.

### **REVLON RUN/WALK FOR BREAST CANCER**

**Provided By Sheroo Kanga**

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004, twelve ZAGNY members, young and old, along with friends (total 16) participated in the Revlon Run/walk for Breast Cancer. We would like to thank all our members and friends who supported the team, raising \$5,525 for a very worthy cause.

### **ZOROASTRIAN YOUTH CAMP 2004**

**Provided By Anahaita Kotval**

Once again the annual Zoroastrian Youth Camp was a success. This year's camp took place in July at the Darbe Mehr with 15 campers in attendance. Despite the wide range in ages (we had campers from age 5 to 17!) – we managed to find something for everyone. From shaving cream fights to charades, Scrabble to soccer, the time flew by. The highlight of the camp was our annual trip to Bear Mountain state park where the group went hiking and boating for the day.

We are starting our planning for next year's camp with a survey to all youth to find out what types of activities they would like to see next year. If you have not received a survey or would like to send feedback, please e-mail **Anahaita Kotval** at [kotvala@gcm.com](mailto:kotvala@gcm.com).

### **AN ENTERTAINING WAY TO USHER IN THE NEW YEAR!!!**

**Provided by Toni Ghadially and Sheroo Kanga**

The Navroz celebration on the evening of August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2004, began with our esteemed priests Pervez Patel and Rohinton Madon reciting Atash-Niyash. After a brief welcome announcement by Homi Gandhi, the microphone was turned over to Fali Shroff who set the tone for an unforgettable evening variety show which provided a colorful array of songs, dances, poetry, special language skills, jokes etc.

Those in attendance were treated to performances by a mix of ZAGNY youth and teenagers from the **Bina Shah Dance School in South Jersey**. The visiting troupe, under the guidance and direction of Ms. Shah enthralled us with lively dance performances from popular Indian movies.

(Continued on page 4)



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Suffern, NY 10901

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**Phone:**  
845.362.2104

**Tina** and **Jasmine Dukandar** opened the show with a beautiful traditional Udisi dance. The Dukander Sisters were followed by a series of movie dances performed by special guests - Bina Shah Group; **Natasha Dusaj** who performed her own choreographed ballet routine to the song Somewhere Over the Rainbow to an enchanted audience. The **Randalia** Sisters, **Freya** and **Farah**, provided a unique musical sign language demonstration by signing the ABC's, while **Neville Dusaj** played the ABC tune on the keyboard. **Sam** and **Cyrus Merchant** eloquently recited some poetry and then made us laugh with their very clever jokes. This very entertaining segment ended on an upbeat note with Tina and Jasmine's grand finale dance, Mahe-ve.

The evening of entertainment was capped off with a Parsi Comedy Natak "TEHMULJEE IN TURMOIL". Our thanks to the performers, **Farokh Daruwala** (in triple role), **Behroz Dutia**, **Vispi Kanga**, **Firdosh Mehta**, **Armaity Patel** and **Parynaz Vimadalal** for their excellent performance. The natak was coordinated by **Sheroo Kanga**.

Our thanks also to - **Firdosh & Maharukh Mehta** and Parynaz Vimadalal for revising the script, including developing a new name for the natak. To our backstage helpers **Kamal Daruwala**, **Minu** and **Noshir Dutia**, **Khurshid Mehta**, **Maharukh Mehta** and **Hoshi Merchant**. Special thanks to **Viraf Commissariat** for his help in installing the microphones and to our MC **Fali Shroff** for the music.

Farokh Daruwala who played a triple role in this play, has recently finished acting as the lead character in a movie called "Bandhak - The Hostage", scheduled for release soon. Apart from this Farokh is associated with an Indian club "Manoranjana and Platform" in Edison and is also starring in his second film "Junoon". Let us make sure we all see "Bandhak - the Hostage" when it comes out.

This natak was dedicated to the memory of **Rohinton Davar** who passed away on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004. Rohinton had played a significant lead role in one of ZAGNY's fundraiser natak, "Pestonji naa Parakram" in 1995, which raised approximately \$20,000.

The performers of Tehmuljee in Turmoil, received an invitation to perform at the "FEZANA Welfare Committee Benefit Fund Raiser", on Labor Day Weekend, in Chicago. Of course, their performance was well received by the Chicago Zoroastrian Community.

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*We're on the Web!*

*See us at:*

**[www.zagny.org](http://www.zagny.org)**

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