



NEWSLETTER
THE ZOROASTRIAN SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

In Search of the Truth

Mar. 2007 –May. 2007

Volume XV, No. 1

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is nature's way of saying, "Let's party!" It brings warmth, happiness and the beginning of a new year. The Board of directors joins me in wishing you, your family and friends NoRooz Mubarak. Come celebrate NoRooz with your family and friends. ZSBC is hosting NoRooz celebration on Saturday, March 24, 2007 and I look forward to seeing you all that evening. (For details see page 2.)

The year 2006 rolled by in a jiffy. The New Year's Ball hosted by ZSBC was a success and cherished by all who attended. Your participation, encouragement, involvement and support keeps the enthusiasm uplifted in organizing more such events and get-together. The main idea of these events is to see our community in unity and harmony.

All this is not possible without the dedication, support and sacrifice from volunteers. I take this opportunity to thank each and everyone for their spirit of volunteering. Keep it up and keep supporting. I would appreciate if more and more youth came forward to volunteer. One concern that many youth addressed was lack of time due to their studies and job. The fact remains that no one has time but one has to make time. Together, we can make a difference.

ZSBC has been approached by the WZYC to host 5th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in 2011 in Vancouver. Zain Mavalvalla, our ZYBC President has taken this initiative to prepare for the bid. I would request community members to support our youth committee in whichever way possible towards their goal of bringing the World Zoroastrian youth to showcase our beautiful city, Vancouver. We will soon be organizing a brainstorming session on this event and I urge all youth and everyone interested to bring forward their valuable ideas. Let Spring brings in the spirit of youth in everyone.

Sharook Kapadia
President.

DIRECTORS OF ZSBC AND COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:

Sharook Kapadia	President	(604) 439-3066
Rostam Namdari	Secretary/Newsletter	(604) 715-9597
Farrokh Namdaran	Treasurer	(604) 926-9733
Mehernosh Kasad	Youth & Sports	(604) 214-0578
Jessi Partovi	Social Events	(604) 232-4401
Faramarz Soroushi	Maintenance & Seniors	(604) 518-0654

ASHO ZARATHUSHTRA'S BIRTHDAY & NOROOZ CELEBRATION

The Zoroastrian Society of British Columbia (ZSBC) Board of Directors invites you all to celebrate the NoRooz celebration with a Hawaiian Twist.

Saturday, March 24, 2007, 6:30 p.m. to midnight Asho Zarathushtra's Birthday and NoRooz Celebration: Please mark your calendar for this splendid celebration. We will have dinner, dance & entertainment at Coast Plaza Hotel, Denman St, Vancouver. We have invited Hawaiian dancers from world famous Paul Latta Productions to entertain us.

Cost of tickets	Members	Non-Members
Adults & youths 11 years & over	\$ 37	\$ 47
Youths 5 to 10 years	\$ 20	\$ 25
Children under 5 years	Free	Free

Ticket sales from March 1st to March 20th only. Seating is limited. Tickets will be sold on "First come, first served Basis." All tickets and payments are to be settled on or before March 20th. Please note no tickets will be sold at the venue.

For ticket purchase please contact:

- North Shore: Farrokh Namdaran: 604 926 9733
- Burnaby: Rostam Namdari: 604 715 9597
- Richmond: Dinaz Mizan: 604 270 4077

For more details contact Jessi Partovi @ (604) 787-8987. There will be cash bar. Please remember that "It is dangerous to drink and drive" and if you consume alcohol, we strongly recommend you have a designated driver to drive you or take a cab back home.

ADVERTISING RATES IN ZSBC NEWSLETTER:

1. Business card size ad in one issue \$30
2. Quarter page size ad in one issue \$40
3. Half page ad in one issue \$60
4. Full page ad in one issue \$100
5. To sponsor an issue and get recognition: \$300

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Family: Husband and wife, including children under 18	\$50
Senior (65 years and over)	\$15
Full time student	\$15
Individuals (18 years and over, even those living with parents)	\$25

Membership Fees Are Due For 2007-08.

ZSBC's fiscal year is for the period March 21 to March 20, of the following year. A society can function only to the extent that its members support it. The Directors urge you to pay your membership fees for the year 2007-2008, which are now due. Fees, can be paid by cash, or cheques made payable to the ZSBC. Cheques may be sent to the Darbe Mehr, in an envelope marked for attention of the Treasurer.

YOUTH CORNER:

MEHRABAN & PARIDOKHT ZARTOSHTY SCHOLARSHIP

Fariborz Rahnamoon, Bella Tata and Khodabakhsh Marzbani handed out Meheraban & Paridokht Zaratoshty Scholarships to twelve students on Sunday, January 7, 2007 at the Darbe Mehr. Nearly 70 members attended the event and the prayers for death anniversary of Madame Morvarid Guiv.

It is very inspiring and encouraging to see that we have such a dynamic youth resource within our community. ZSBC Board of Directors wishes each one of them a great success in all their future endeavors.

The Scholarship winners are Shirin Kiani, Raein Jamshidi, Marsha Malbari, Shahin Rostamirad, Shabnam Rostamirad, Shahrzad Rostamirad, Mehraban Poulad Noshiravan, Mehraban Rahnamoon, Shahin Sheidaei, Shirin Sheidaei, Pouya Bastani & Bahman Sotoodian



FOOD FOR THOUGHT: IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?

For a major emergency – like an earthquake or blackout or severe storm – you need to be prepared. You must be ready for at least 72 hours while emergency workers help those in urgent need. Do you have an emergency Grab-N-Go bag and first aid kit ready? For details on how to prepare your family for emergencies please visit, www.getprepared.ca

ZOROASTRIAN YOUTH OF NORTH AMERICA (ZYNA) –Events for 2007

1. ATTENTION: Medical, Pharmacy, Dental, Optometry, and Nursing STUDENTS: April 14-15, 2007 at Crossville, TN.

Come join ZYNA and dedicate yourself to serving mankind by providing free health care to people in remote areas of the United States. We are looking for 15 students and 3-4 licensed professionals to travel to Tennessee to provide healthcare to the underserved. This will be a wonderful learning experience for all students and what better way to learn than to be part of a group of Zoroastrian youth who will be providing outstanding community service! For further information and to receive an informational packet, please contact ZYNA at nikan2@aol.com

2. 14th North American Congress Toronto: June 29 to July 2, 2007;

Please visit <http://www.zoro-impact.com/> for more details

3. 4th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress – Australia: Dec. 27, 2007 to Jan. 3, 2008; Please visit <http://members.optusnet.com.au/smileycam/4wzyc.html>

4. Zoroastrian Youth Leadership Conference (ZYLC)

This conference offers talented young people the most authentic leadership opportunities in a real world setting today by testing abilities, improving confidence, and developing skills in a dynamic, hands-on atmosphere that will be both challenging and fun. ZYLC is expected to be held in 2008.

For further information please contact ZYNA at nikan2@aol.com.

FEZANA SUBSIDY FUND FOR YOUNG ZARATHUSHTIS

PREAMBLE

- 1 US\$ 10,000 have been approved by FEZANA to provide travel subsidies to 40 (Forty) Zarathushti youth from USA & Canada to attend the 4th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress (4thWZYC) in Ballarat , Australia.
- 2 FEZANA will match up to \$250 per person of the subsidy offered by a Member Association or Associate Member (Member).
- 3 Composition of FEZANA 4WZYC Travel Subsidy Committee (Committee):
 - o Co-Chairs: **Firdosh Mehta** and **Anahita Daryushnejad**
 - o Representative from ZYNA: **Freyaz Shroff**
 - o Representatives from Members: **Zain Mavalvalla** and **Usheen Davar**

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Recipients of this SUBSIDY Fund must be:

- a.) Individuals practicing the Zarathushti faith
- b.) Citizens, legal residents holding status in USA or Canada
- c.) Young Zarathushtis between the ages of 16 to 35 years*.
- d.) Have already registered to attend the 4th WZYC-07 in Ballarat, Australia.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Application form will be available on the FEZANA website or by email from the members of the Subsidy Committee. Two (2) copies by courier or electronic (PDF or word) copy of the application form with proof of registration to the 4thWZYC along with all attachments (including essay), must be submitted by March 15, 2007 to:

Firdosh Mehta, 313 Charlie Way, Weatherford, TX, 76087-2122 (USA) .
Tel: (817) 599-9609, Fax: (817)-599-9962 Email: fdjmehta@charter.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sunday's Basketball/Volleyball

Sunday's Basketball/Volleyball will be held at Delbrook gym located at 600 W. Queens Rd, North Vancouver between 10:00 am-11:15 am. The supporting fee will be \$5.00 per person; second members of the same family may join at \$3.00 per game.

A Zoroastrian song writer/singer

A very talented Zoroastrian song writer/singer is releasing his album in 20 different countries. Please acknowledgement his work by visiting his web site www.shayanitalia.com.

BIRTH

Tiana and Anita, twin daughters to Nooshin Kiani and Kouros Edalati, sisters to Kia, were born on January 15, 2007 in North Vancouver.

CONDOLENCE

Shahriar Zohrabi, 89 years, in West Vancouver on December 26, 2006. He is survived by his wife, Jahan, daughter Gitty Alayar Dabestani, sons Rostam and Niroomand, grandchildren and other members of the family.

Katayoun Harvesf, 78 years, mother of Homa Farahmand (North Vancouver) and Shirmard (Tehran), in Tehran on December 29, 2006.

NEWCOMERS

Please welcome newcomers to Vancouver:

- **Freddy and Manijeh Pavri** from Pune, India (daughters Tanaaz and Farishte to come in summer).
- Neville Dastoor from Toronto.
- Moti Marzbani from Toronto.

PAST EVENTS:

December 31, 2006: New Year's Eve Celebration

The function was held at the Chateau Cargill amidst a lot of hype and fun fare. Set in a unique castle like heritage setting it was very different from the regular venues ZSBC usually held their functions. The evening started off promptly at 7.30 pm and dinner was served at 8.30pm. Dinner comprised of 7 different types of salads, Salmon in Dill Sauce, Teriyaki chicken Vegetable Lasagne amongst other entrees and desserts.

After dinner we had a gracious presentation by Naria who presented a dance sequence, which was a fusion of Ballet and Russian dance. The highlight of the evening was auctioning of Blue tooth Headset for a cell phone donated by an anonymous donor. Mr.Houman Abtin forwarded the highest bid of \$100.00.

Immediately thereafter the much-awaited Ballroom dancing pulled the young and the old on the dance floor. It was heart warming to see so many young at heart take to the dance floor in such huge numbers.

This was just the beginning; the best was yet to come when we actually had a video camera on and all the live action being projected on a huge 100 inch screen through a projector, which was graciously provided by Mr. Sam Behramfram. We would like to thank Mr. Sam Behramfram for lending his expertise and helping out DJ Music with the awesome transition between live video feed and actual movie clips. It was heart-warming to see youth like Arzaan Balsara to come forward and help us with the video feed.

At the stroke of midnight we had streamers confetti and blowers to ring in the New Year. The festivities went well into the wee hours of the morning and we finally wound up the celebrations at around 1.30am. The music was a good mix of English, Rap, Hindi, Persian, and Konkani. It was truly music to cater to everyone's taste and the mix was such that all present, danced to all tunes and the dance floor was full and the crowd wanted more.

All in all it was another function that proved to be grand success. All through the night, as well as, a week after all we heard was accolade and what a great time everyone had. ZSBC has now rightfully established that it throws one of the best parties in town. ZSBC Board of Directors personally thanks each and every individual that came out in large numbers to make this occasion a GRAND SUCCESS.

Words of Appreciation and Encouragement by our member Deepak & Meher Jayakar

“It was a great pleasure to attend the ZSBC organized New Year Eve Bash. It was really wonderful, from start to finish. Everything was well organized and well set - all events, food, seating arrangement, entertainment, everything was well taken care of. This wouldn't have been possible without great teamwork and leadership. Enthusiasm of the team members was really high and we were impressed by their hard work and coordination. Well Done!”

January 20, 2007: Seniors Day at Darbe Mehr:

Seniors day had a good response. We had 20 participants who attended with enthusiasm and eagerness. We had volunteers pick up and drop off senior. Seniors were welcomed with Tea, Coffee, Bagel and Cheese. Each one of them made it a point to go to the prayer hall and pray for a while. Music was lingering to keep the spirits high and lively. The event began with Intro game, where each participant introduced themselves and mentioned one good fact about themselves. It was real fun. It was very obvious that all had a common goal, vision and motive in life, “To be close to their family, love them and give their utmost affection to their children and grandchildren.

Two bingo games and 10 prizes enticed the seniors with zeal to win. There was more music, card games, table tennis and stories of old times and a lot of fun.

Lunch served in China crockery, Tomato Soup with Croutons, Samosas, Ceasar Salad, Bean Salad, Grilled Chicken, Cauliflower, Garlic Bread, Bundi Ladoo was enjoyed by everybody. This sure made the seniors feel more special and cared for. This was followed by late afternoon Chai and tea biscuits.

All in all a great, fulfilling and satisfying day for Seniors and the volunteers too. All this would not have been possible without the enthusiasm of our Seniors to attend as much as our volunteers who helped during the event and for transportation.

ZSBC Board of Directors would like to thank Homi and Koomi Italia, Jersis Irani, Rostam Namdari, Shahrugh Bomanbehram & Mernooz Pithawala for their timely support and volunteering spirit.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

All events at the Arbab Rustam Guiv Darbe Mehr, 6900 Halifax Street, Burnaby – unless otherwise specified.

Apart from the events listed below, which are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, the Darbe Mehr will be kept open by a group of our members, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on **Vrahraum Eezad (Verahram Rooz)** which falls on Monday March 5, Monday April 9, and Wednesday May 9, 2007 and Friday June 8th, 2007.

The Darbe Mehr will be kept open on alternate Sundays when religious & Farsi classes will be held. Please contact Shiraz Italia (604) 274 4973 for schedule of these classes.

Tuesday, March 20, 6.30pm to 9.00 pm - NoRooz Prayers and Get Together. All are invited to attend this event and welcome each other (Deed-O-Buzzdeed) to the New Zarathoshty Year of 3745. Amou NoRooz will be giving away gifts to small children. Parents are requested to bring wrapped gifts (value not to exceed \$20) with the child's name duly marked on two sides of the gift.

Wednesday, March 21, 10.30am to 1.00pm – The DarbeMehr will be kept open for NoRooz prayers.

Saturday, March 24, 6.30pm onwards- Asho Zarathushtra's Birthday & NoRooz Celebration at Coast Plaza, Vancouver. (See details on page 2)

Sunday, April 1, 11.00am Sizdeh Bedar - Potluck party at Whytecliff Park, Horseshoe Bay. Please bring your own food and beverages.

Wednesday, April 25, 6.30 pm - Adar-nu-Parabh – The Darbe Mehr will be kept open for prayers followed by potluck dinner.

Sunday, April 29, 11.00am to 2.00pm - Maidyozarem Gahambar – Spring Gahambar. Prayers followed by lunch sponsored by Zartoshty brothers.

Saturday, May 12, 7.00pm - Birth Anniversary of Arbab Rostam Guiv, celebration of the life of a great philanthropist. Dinner will be served, courtesy of the Trustees. Any of our community members who is interested to have their own, or children's Sedreh Pooshi (Navjote) done during this event is encouraged to contact Fariborz Rahnamoon @ 604.986-2077 or Farrokh Namdaran @ 604.926-9733 for further information



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Other Languages: Hindi, Urdu, Gujerati & Farsi



PERVIZ MADON

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If you are thinking of buying a home, selling your current residence or looking for an investment property or business, please feel free to contact me at the above telephone numbers.

UPCOMING EVENTS (In Farsi)