ONTARIO ZOROASTRIAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Photo Credit: Courtesy of Wikipedia, a Haft Sen Table as seen at Laleh Hotel, Tehran

At a Glance...

Oct.	6	University	Fair_	Pa 8
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Oct. 23 Seniors' Day Trip to BAPS Mandir - Pg. 4

Oct. 26 Halloween Party—Pg. 2

Nov. 10 Jamva Chaloji Food Fair - Pg. 2

Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance—Pg. 10

Need a Mobed?

Our Mobeds are available to help in times of need to offer their guidance & services to the OZCF community. Please contact: Ervad Firdosh Bulsara (905) 824-7692

Ervad Xerxes Bamji (905) 702-1034 Ervad Jal Panthaky (905) 588-4946 Ervad Vehed Zerelia (647) 887 0212

Ervad Kobad Zarolia (647) 887-9213 Ervad Nozer Kotwal (905) 820-0461 Ervad Mehbad Dastur (416) 917-9195

If you have difficulty contacting a Mobed, please contact a Board Member.

ZRCC Contact Information

Prayer Room Access

Nozer Kotwal 905-820 0461

nskotwal1@gmail.com

Hall Rentals

Cyrus Gazdar 647-294 6462 cygazdar@yahoo.ca

Facility Management

Xerxes Bamji (905) 702-1034

ZRCC Coordinator

Armaity Anandasagar 905-271 0366 armaity@rogers.com

President OZCF

Firdosh Bulsara, 905-824-7692 firdosh@myescapades.ca

Webmaster

Rumi Jasavala 905-257-7864 rumijas@hotmail.com

President's Message

July and August seem to have passed by very quickly albeit with a flurry of activity throughout the summer months. We held our AGM and the Board is grateful to the general membership for their attendance at the meetings and their active participation. We were able to get your approval on several resolutions and are looking forward to the second year term with great enthusiasm.

OZCF is indeed indebted to the Hansotia family for their donations to the Foundation. On behalf of the community, I wish to publicly thank Kersy and Shiraz Hansotia, their son Mahyar and daughter-in-law Nazneen, for their kindness and generosity. As per their wishes, their donation of \$65,892.00 has been directed towards paying off the mortgage on the OZCF property at 1187 Burnhamthorpe Road East in Oakville. We highly appreciate this wonderful and magnanimous gesture on their part.

Following a series of town-hall meetings, the Place of Worship Advisory Committee presented their findings at the EGM. The board has been given the mandate by the general membership to move forward with the project and also the approval to spend up to \$35,000 towards professional services required i.e., architectural, structural and engineering plans, permits, etc.. Details of the same can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. I urge you to contribute generously towards our goal to build a house of worship on the OZCF land. I remain quite confident that we will see a proper Agiyari established during our lifetime, leaving a rich legacy for our children and their children to follow. Please make your cheques payable to OZCF and marked "POW Project".

The holy days of Muktad had the OZCF buzzing throughout the 5 days. Sincere thanks to all the Mobeds, volunteers, donors and participants. As usual, Erward Nozer Kotwal dedicated his full-time attention, ensuring that afringaan, farokhsi and stum ceremonies took center-stage followed by hearty and sumptuous meals thanks to the generosity of members who contributed wholeheartedly to the cause. And, a big thank you to all the members who generously donated in cash and cheques totalling in excess of \$14,000. It is truly admirable that our community always come forward when needed.

Our Entertainment Committee was instrumental in the success of the Navroze Gala, jointly held by OZCF and ZSO for the community at large. Here, I would like to recognize the superb efforts of Anaita Ogra who almost singlehandedly managed registrations from ZSO members. Unfortunately, my wife and I were on the other side of the country (in Alberta) but I am given to understand that a good time was had by all. At each Navroze function, the OZCF, traditionally recognizes individuals who have served the foundation in an outstanding fashion. This year, we recognize the many years of service by Jal and Meher Panthaky as well as by Khushroo Bharda. We acknowledge their selfless dedication to the success of OZCF, their valuable time and their hard work. Congratulations and well deserved honours folks! (continued on Page 2)

OZCF MAILING ADDRESS:

4244 Taffey Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario L5L 2J2

ZRCC PROPERTY ADDRESS:

1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd. E, Oakville, Ontario, L6H 7B3

UPCOMING EVENTS

OZCF ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE **Presents**



JAMVA CHALOJI

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Where: ZRCC

When: Sunday, Nov. 10, 2013

9 am - 1 pm

Stock up your freezers with all delectable foods. Please pre-order from the awaited list to avoid disappointment.

RSVP to: ozcfentertainment@gmail.com or

Jeroo (289) 997-6800

Or

Perveen (905) 821-0305





President's Message (continued from Page 1)

OZCF held a Golf & Dinner Fundraiser on September 15. It was our most successful golf fundraiser yet, raising in excess of \$26,000! Although we had a mere 37 golfers on the fairways during the day, there were 108 at the evening dinner. It was quite an enjoyable day that culminated in a grand raffle prize draw of an airfare-inclusive safari to South Africa, the lucky winners being Hosi & Benifer Patel. Congratulations to the couple.

So all in all, it was a good summer, a great organization to belong to and a healthy balance sheet to work with for the year in store for the current board.

Until next time,

Firdosh Bulsara, OZCF President

Tee-Off for OZCF!

What a wonderful day and what a lovely dinner to end it with. As you read in our President's message the event was an overwhelming success under the able leadership of Chisty Bulsara and dedicated hive of worker bees, Firdosh Bulsara, Kermin Byramjee, Gulrukh Patel, Cawas Patel, Niloufer Bhesania, Niloufer Mavalwala, Zarine Patel, Mahveer Javat and the Entertainment Committee . A few highlights for the day included team prizes going to:

Most Honest Golfers Top Scorers Lady Golfers Putting Competition Longest Drive & Closest to the Pin Zaheer Bulsara Steven Ho Dinaz Dadyburjor Neville Dastoor Steve James Farhad Bulsara Zubin Jasavala Krishna Sookrit

Krishna Sookrit Teosar Bhesania Rushad Amaria Jimmy Bhesania

There was an abundance of prizes being drawn throughout the evening ending with the Grand Prize draw for an amazing trip to South Africa which was won by Hosi and Benifer Patel.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

SHOUT OUT! We are always looking to our readers to provide valuable insight into the community and events that are important to you. If you would like to share a point of view, an interesting article, or important family news, please let us know! Please email all submissions for the next issue no later than November 1, 2013 to: ozcf.newsletter2012@gmail.com

Place of Worship Receives Strong Membership Support

On July 14th, 2013, in a historic decision the membership of the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation (OZCF) voted unanimously to build a consecrated Place of Worship, subject to approval of a detailed financial plan. Through the memberships' enthusiastic approval in principle at the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM), we will now proceed to develop plans for the first consecrated Place of Worship in North America that will serve to create the necessary religious infrastructure to sustain Zoroastrianism on this continent. This Place of Worship will be a House of God for ALL Canadian and North American Zoroastrians that will serve as an important focal point on this continent to provide for the religious and spiritual needs of the entire community.

The Place of Worship Advisory Committee presented its report of findings following two years of exhaustive research and holding five focus group meetings where the community was given the opportunity to express their views and ask questions about the feasibility of building a consecrated Place of Worship. A sixth meeting was held for members of the ZSO at the Darbe Mehr. The presentation at the EGM including a summary of each group's views, types of fires, customs and conduct, conceptual plans and draft financing models, which recommended the building of such a facility in two phases. In Phase 1, a consecrated Dadgah will be built that will enable priests to be ordained here in N. America for the first time. In Phase 2, an Adaran fire will be enthroned, requiring a paid on-site priest to perform all of the inner liturgical ceremonies.

As a next step, the membership approved the development of more detailed architectural and engineering plans, conducting planning studies and developing a comprehensive financial plan including costs and potential revenue sources which will be provided to the membership prior to final approval. The success of this project will depend on the generosity of Zoroastrians across Ontario, Canada and N. America. Fundraising will commence soon upon completion and approval of the reports.

We urge Zoroastrians everywhere to consider making contributions to this worthy project. We will be glad to assist anyone in arranging transfers of monies from other countries and similar religious associations that can be designated to this project, that is for all Zoroastrians in Canada and the USA.

The interim report is available on the OZCF website at www.ozcf.com, under "Projects – Place of Worship." For more information on this project or to make donations, please contact Phil Sidhwa, Chair, Place of Worship Advisory Committee, at philsidhwa@hotmail.com.

See Page 4 and learn how you can be a part of the progress at the OZCF!

The Canadian Cub Jamboree 2013

The week of July 28-Aug 3 held a special place for the 15 cubs of 100th Toronto and 100th Oakville Zoroastrian cub packs as they participated in the 3rd Canadian Cub Jamboree held on the grounds of Camp Everton (approx. 80 kms north of Toronto).

The Canadian Cub Jamboree is held every 3 years and this year's theme was "Celebrating Canada and its Diversity." The young Zoro participants ranged from the ages of 7 to 11, this being for some, the first Jamboree that they would attend and for others the last before they move up to the ranks of scouts.

The Jamboree was well planned and coordinated with precision for the 310 kids from all over Canada. Wake up was at 7 a.m. and our activities began sharp at 9.00a.m. ending at 5.00p.m. followed by dinner and campfire at the close of day. No day would be complete without hot chocolate and cookies being served just before bedtime, fondly called "Mug Up" in the scouting world.

The week was filled with lots of interesting activities and crafts from improving your nautical skills through different knots, to learning how to start and tend a fire safely, to T-shirt painting and honouring our Maple leaf, to name a few. Daily hikes on the camp grounds with evening entertainment comprising of educational programs like "Mad scientists", sessions on Reptiles and Birds of Prey, was enjoyed by kids and leaders alike. Badge trading, where group crests are traded by leaders and cubs after

dinner, was one activity that that gained popularity with each passing day.

Overall the camp was a great success as our youth braved the strong rains and cold weather coming out winners and honing their survival skills. It also re-iterated the importance of building trust and teamwork in our busy and hectic world. We owe a big thank you to both the group committees, to all the parents, the leaders and kids as this great adventure that our youth embarked upon for a week would not have been possible without their dedication and commitment. As remarked by one volunteer who has been involved with scouting movement for 40+ years: "the rainy weather blessed us with a full-rainbow during our opening ceremony and another one during our closing ceremony-blessed we are indeed!"



Kashmira Nagarwala on behalf of Khushroo Bharda, Hormuzd Chotia, Niloufer Jamshedji and Cyrus Banker.



Join a Place of Worship Sub-Committee

The Place of Worship Advisory Committee (PWAC) is commencing the next stage of its work to develop a more accurate financial model, with the assistance of architects, builders and accountants. We are also developing sub-committees that will undertake the many activities required to ensure success of this project. Some sub-committees will work steadily from now until project completion, while others will work intensely over shorter periods. As this is a community project, we encourage a collaborative effort from community members.



We are looking for volunteers within the community to participate and sit on sub-committees, who have areas of expertise and/or knowledge they can share in the following fields: Architecture; Building; Planning; Engineering; Project management; Communications and Media; Government affairs; Finance; Constitution and Governance; Information Technology. Please contact PWAC Chair: Mr. Phil Sidhwa via email philsidhwa@hotmail.com if you wish to volunteer on this project. The committee will notify those that have been selected. Thank you for your participation.

SENIORS NEWS

On a crisp Sunday morning September 8th, over 100 Seniors from across the GTA spent a very enjoyable afternoon at the OZCF's annual Seniors Appreciation Lunch. It was a fun filled afternoon with about 11 live singers, called the John T Singing Group who entertained our Seniors with songs from the 50's and 60's, and some of our very own Seniors making a debut of their own singing skills. We also had a free raffle where prizes were given out.

They were greeted at the door with Parsi welcome songs, by organizers, Havovi Bharda, Khurshid Engineer and Gulrukh Patel as well as our Entertainment Committee, headed by Mahveer Javat, Arnawaz Dhabhar, Hormuzd Engineer, Parveen Katila, and Jeroo Madan, without whose help this event would not have been possible. Special thanks to Khushroo Bharda and his children for giving rides to some Seniors who otherwise would not have been able to participate and also for his help through the afternoon. Thanks to Havovi Bharda for arranging to get this very entertaining group of singers.

There was delicious food of Chicken Dhan Shak, kababs, kachumber and Parsi Custard, all prepared and sponsored by Zarine Irani, who came with her family to help with the serving. We cannot find enough words to express our deep gratitude to her and her family for this very kind gesture. We look forward to having this event again next year.



UPCOMING SENIORS' EVENT

We are organizing a trip to the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha Mandir on October 23, 2013.

We will be communicating more details in the very near future, but those Seniors interested, please contact Gulrukh Patel at 905-542-0237 or Khurshid Engineer at 905-828-8324. Thank you.

HONOURABLE MENTION

CONGRATULATIONS to **Byram Avari** of Karachi Pakistan, who was a proud recipient of HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL which was presented to him by Jason Kenney the Minister for Employment, Social Development & Multiculturalism, on Sunday, September 15, 2013 in Toronto.

Mr. Avari has been Honorary Consul of Canada for 30 years and this was awarded to him for his services to Canada. Mr.Avari has been helping communities all over the world for many years now and we cannot forget his generosity in availing for free his Hotel Ramada in Toronto for our Religious Education Classes for many years. We wish him and his family all the best and are very proud of his achievements.

CALL TO ACTION!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT OZCF EVENTS AND FOR THE UPKEEP OF OUR COMMUNITY CENTRE!

Participate and volunteer in events with your family & friends and contribute to the exciting growth of the OZCF!

We need bright, outgoing, talented people LIKE YOU!

Contact any member of the Board or Sub-Committee TODAY at www.ozcf.com

[&]quot; YOU MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT YOU GET, BUT YOU MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT YOU GIVE." WINSTON CHURCHILL

DATES FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES - FIRST SEMESTER 2013-2014

Please note that the religious education classes for children will continue to be conducted at two locations as before; at the Darbe-Meher (MGDM) and at John Fraser Secondary School in Mississauga. The dates for the second semester at each location are as below:

MGDM JOHN FRASER SECONDARY

October 27 October 6
November 10 October 20
November 24 November 17
December 8 November 24
December 15

Regularly scheduled classes at the MGDM run from 2:45 - 5:15 PM and at John Fraser Secondary School from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

The address for John Fraser Secondary School is 2665 Erin Centre Boulevard, Mississauga (near Erin Mills Town Centre). The closest main intersection is Glen Erin Drive and Erin Centre Boulevard.

Parents of children registered in the classes are requested to be present at the general assembly, for the first class only, at respective locations at which their children are enrolled, for general instructions.

Joint sessions will be held at the MGDM for children from both locations. On these days the scheduled activities may require the children and/or parents to be present from mid-morning to late afternoon. Exact timings and schedule of events for these sessions will be communicated closer to the date.

Parents please note that our parent representative/catering coordinator for the MGDM location is Mrs. Dina Amroliwalla and for the John Fraser location is Mrs. Teenaz Javat. They will contact you with regards to the snack schedule for the children. Please extend your cooperation to them.

In case any further clarification is required please contact the following:

Ms. Kermin Mehta (416) 446-1417 or Mrs. Khurshid Engineer (905) 828-8324

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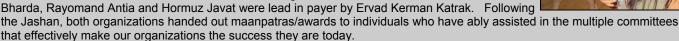
JOINT OZCF/ ZSO NAVROZE!



The Zoroastrian Society of Ontario (ZSO) and the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation (OZCF) came together, yet again to host a joint function to celebrate the Shahenshahi New Year on Sunday, August 18, 2013.

The spacious Woodbridge Banquet Hall made for a gracious venue, where dinner and dance was preceded by a Jashan performed by local priests.

Ervads Hoshang Udwadia, Khushroo Bharda, Rushad



Ervad Hoshang Udwadia, Roshan and Pervaze Rabadi, Neville Cooper and Teenaz Javat were honoured by the ZSO, and Khushroo Bharda, Jal and Meher Panthaky were honoured by the OZCF.



A live performance by Toronto-based singer Nilesh was the highlight of the evening as DJ Vishal delighted both young and old with a wide variety of songs.

The community and the OZCF Entertainment Committee would like to thank the twin entertainment committees for working together in making this yet another joint success.



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YOUTH NEWS

The OZCF Youth Committee would like to invite you to:

University Fair!

When: October 6th, 2013

Time: 11—1pm

Where: OZCF

Who: High school Students

This is a forum for high school students applying to universities/colleges and their parents.

colleges, the application process, and experiences from current students from various universities, including :

University of Toronto, Seneca, York, George

Brown, McMaster, Windsor, Waterloo, Western

many more.

To register or for more information please contact
Friya Bastani at 416-909-4219 OR youth.ozcf@gmail.com





Stay tuned for more details & specific dates.

Please join our email blasts by emailing us at youth.ozcf@gmail.com or join our group on Facebook — "Young Zoroastrians in Ontario".

Come on out to more of our events!

Kind regards, Zeenia Kola, Youth Committee youth.ozcf@gmail.com





YOUTH BBQ!

The Youth Committee hosted a great evening on August 10th, when they

hosted their BBQ Event. The evening was filled with juicy burgers, hot dogs, snacks, games and prizes.

The youth that were present mingled around and enjoyed playing Toss the Balloon game and Charades. As the games kept them hooked, the yummy BBQ-ed food made them ask for more and the music in the background set the perfect mood for the

event. This event was a huge success thanks to our talented committee, volunteers and all those who supported the youth committee with their donations.



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OZCF 5th Annual Cricket Dhansak Day

It was the 5th year in a row that we once again enjoyed cricketing festivities. And on July 7, we brought in participants ranging from 7 years old to 85 years old and we also had our first sole female participant, Tanya Bharda join us!

We lingered the possibility of calling off the event due to impending rain. Despite some very wet patches on the field, we soldiered on and the rain held off until the end. Indeed, the cricketing Gods were looking favourably upon us!

The pairings brought together some families who batted together, such as:

Bejan & Phil Sidhwa (father & son) Khushroo & Tanya Bharda (father and daughter) Rumi & Xarius Jasavala (father & son) Hoshidar & Freddy Bhathena (father & son)

Later, Dhansak and kachumbar wafted through the evening air signalling to the 55 cricketers and attendees alike that dinner time had arrived.

Many arduous days were spent mowing and raking the grass on the OZCF property to make the field playable. Thanks to all the fine volunteers who, without their hard work, it would not have been possible to bring this event to the Zoroastrians of Ontario again. It was an amazing day! Pictures can be found on the OZCF website (http://www.ozcf.com) under the Gallery section.

OZCF PICNIC

"A well-fed Zarthushti is a happy Zarthushti!"

Such was the case on Sunday, July 21 when 160 adults, 40 kids and 2 dogs spent the quintessential summer day lazing along Coronation Park by Oakville waterfront, while Mark and his angels laboured to do just that.

Conceived and organized by the OZCF's entertainment committee, the picnic kicked-off to a great start with families spread out across the lawn, on the beach and kids squealing with delight at the splash-pad nearby.



The boxed lunches of shami kavab and chicken biryani, watermelon slices and freshly brewed tea from stove-top to park bench, made for a great day in the sun.

The weather was on side cooling off the kids as they took in several games of beach volley ball.

A dual round of Bingo ended with a group photo-op and a promise from the committee to make this an annual event.



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MILESTONES

BIRTHS:

Ella May Cooper, daughter to Xerxes and Karen Cooper on June 24, 2013 in White Plains, New York. Granddaughter to Kersi and Aniheeta Cooper of Toronto, Ontario and John and Mary Tu of Niagara Falls, Ontario

Sophie Lynne Engineer, Daughter to Katie and Godrej Engineer on September 3, 2013. Granddaughter to Khurshid and Jehangir Engineer and Lynne and Roger Galvin and Great-Granddaughter to Perin Engineer.

Ava Jasavala, daughter to Zubin Jasavala and Holly Wilhelm on June 26th,2013 in Oakville, Ontario. Granddaughter to Armaity and Rayomand Jasavala and great granddaughter to Nergis Jasavala, Arnawaz and Burjor Golwala and Cathy and Tony Wilhelm.

Zara Jasavala, daughter to Ruzbeh and Bnaifer Jasavala, on July 24th,2013 in Oakville, Ontario. Granddaughter to Armaity and Rayomand Jasavala and great granddaughter to Nergis Jasavala, Arnawaz and Burjor Golwalla and Adil and Pilsi Desai (Vancouver)

NAVJOTES

Jasmine and Darayus Kanga were very pleased to celebrate the Navjote of their children **Zara and Cyrus**, grandchildren of Aban and Eruch Mistry and Dogdo and Minoo Kanga, with all of their friends and family on July 27, 2013.

Sofia Dell, daughter of Daren and Roshni Dell, Granddaughter of Marzi and Kermin Byramjee. Welcomed to the Faith and community by Jal Panthaky and Mashhad Khosraviani amongst a gathering of family and friends on August 3rd, 2013.

WEDDINGS

Farishteh Panthaky, daughter of Jal and Meher Panthaky to **Jamie Eriksson**, son of Ralph Eriksson and Nancy Newman on July 27th at Blue Mountain.

Sharon Natasha Byramjee, daughter of Zavar & Roshan Byramjee of Oakville and **Farokhzad Jamshed Gandhi**, son of Jimmy & Perviz Gandhi of New Brunswick tied the knot on New Year's Day, August 18, 2013, in Jasper, Alberta. The family thanks everyone that made the trek to Jasper and helped celebrate this wonderful occasion.

Mehraan Pavri, son of Shirin and Farokh Pavri to **Freny Jehangir**, daughter of Pervin and the late Rohinton Jehangir on June 28 ,2013 in Caledon, Ontario.

We wish all the young couples love and happiness as they embark on this new chapter in their adventures together.

IN MEMORIAM

Khurshed Bhikaji Birdie, husband of Phiruza Birdie, Father of Danny Birdie & Mithra Bharucha passed away on July 16, 2013, in Karachi, Pakistan.

Kuroosh Framroze Mistry passed away Sunday, July 7th, 2013, Bahman mahino, Din roj, husband of Purviz, Father to Roxanne and Darius, Father-in-Law to Phiroze, and Grandfather to Sofia.

Bomanji (Bomi) Shiavex Cowasji on August 15,2013 in Mississauga, Ontario. Husband of Dr. Freny Cowasji and Father of Shireen and Hormuzshaw Wania, Arnaz Cowasji and Shiavax and Vahishta Cowasji.

Arnavaz Mama, consulting editor of Parsiana, on June 5th, 2013. Mother of Khushrnum, Parizad and Ahahitis (deceased) Wife of Capt. Sam Mama and sister of Minoo Marshall and Freny Jehan Bagli (Toronto).

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