

VISION

August 2004

President's Message by Phil Sidhwa

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to wish all of you and your families a very happy Navroze full of good health, friendship and prosperity. May Ahura Mazda bestow his peaceful blessings on humanity worldwide.

Your board has been busily searching for land and I am pleased to announce that we have now identified a beautiful 10 acre site suitable for our purposes at the Mississauga/ Oakville border. The 10 acres will enable religious and cultural buildings to be built and expanded on a modular basis to accommodate an increasing Zoroastrian population in Ontario. With this size of land we will have the flexibility to provide enhanced religious and community services as required in the future. It will permit outdoor recreation, camping and picnic areas that will promote togetherness and foster lifetime friendships.

We are currently negotiating price and conditions and have met with the government authorities. We hope that with Ahura Mazda's blessings we will close this deal very soon. We will of course be coming to our membership for their approval as soon as an offer has been accepted. The excitement of accomplishing the first phase of our vision will see the beginning of our next phase, to actually build our place of worship and community centre for all Zoroastrians in Ontario.

I invite all Zoroastrians from every province, country, background and membership affiliation to join and celebrate this tremendous achievement together, as a unified Zoroastrian community worldwide. For it is only through collective strength, solidarity and peaceful means that we will be able to fulfill our ultimate vision for the betterment of our next generation. Zoroastrian influence through the annals of time are evidence of these distinct attributes.

The excitement of living on top of the mountain is only surpassed by the exhilaration of climbing it. Happiness and growth will come from this experience. So let us all join in and contribute time and money towards this worthwhile project, on our journey to build a better tomorrow, one step at a time, brick by brick.

"...the woods are lovely, dark and deep, but we have promises to keep, and miles to go before we sleep, and miles to go before we sleep."
(Robert Frost)

Best wishes and a joyous Navroze to you and your families.

Another Successful Picnic

As usual, the Annual OZCF Lamb Roast at Bronte Creek Provincial Park was a big success. With over 250 people attending, the OZCF raised \$5,330! Attendees enjoyed the delicious lamb, as well as the Jasavala's chicken chops and many other wonderful dishes. The heavy rain didn't dampen the spirits of the group, who still enjoyed sitting under the shelter to enjoy a game of Bingo and of course, a cup of mint flavoured tea!

This event was sponsored in its entirety and all food items that were used in the bake sale and picnic were donated, including salads, cakes, cookies and even home-made wax!

A big thanks to the large picnic committee, who helped with everything from ushering the crowd at the park entrance and setting up the picnic area, to barbecuing, serving and selling items at the bake sale. We look forward to it again next year.

Upcoming Events

September 18 - 3rd Annual OZCF Black Tie Gala. 6:00 pm at St. Volodymyr Cultural Centre in Oakville (see details below).

November 7 - 2nd Annual Craft and Bake Sale. 10:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Vic Johnston Community Centre, Streetsville (see details below).

December 31 - New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance, 8:00 pm. Location and cost to be determined.

Second Annual Craft and Bake Sale

Come out and show your support of our local talent, who will be selling their wares at this year's Craft and Bake sale. It's sure to be a day to enjoy mouth-watering food and a chance see the creativity within our own community. The event will be held November 7th from 10:00 am - 3:00 p.m. at the Vic Johnson Community Centre, located at 335 Church St. in Mississauga.

If you would like a table to display your items, please contact one of the following Entertainment Committee members as soon as possible:

Michelle Patel at 905-693-8876
Charis Wania at 905-274-9525

3rd Annual OZCF Black Tie Gala

It's time once again to come out to the Annual Black Tie Gala, which takes place September 18, 2004 at St. Volodymyr Cultural Centre at 1280 Dundas Street W. in Oakville. Those of you who attended last year's Gala will remember the great food, fabulous band and highly successful and exciting auctions! Last year, we raised \$139,000 that evening; we hope to have the same or better success this year.

Tickets are \$100 per person or \$1,000 for a table of ten.

It's not too late to book your tickets! Please call Niloufer Bhesania at 905-891-7561 or Kermin Byramjee at 905-845-3480 as quickly as possible!

As always we are looking for generous people to sponsor the many aspects of the gala. If you would like to help, please contact Kermin or Niloufer at the above numbers. The more items that are donated, the lower the costs are for the OZCF, thereby allowing us to place all the proceeds towards our goal of purchasing land!

If you are unable to attend the function, please feel free to make a donation to OZCF and you will receive a tax receipt for the full amount of your donation.

Condolences

With deepest regret and sadness, we inform you that Shiraz Bagli, wife of Alistair MacFarlane, daughter of Jehan and Freny, sister of Darius, has peacefully ended her journey to this world on July 28, 2004.

In lieu of flowers her family gratefully request that donations be made by mail or phone to the: Shiraz Bagli Memorial Fund for Basic Research in Ovarian Cancer, Princess Margaret Hospital, 610 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5G 2M9 Tel: 416-946-6566

Our heartfelt condolences go to the family and we pray that Ahura Mazda gives them the strength to bear their loss.

Milestones

Congratulations to **Shehnaz Pardiwala**, daughter of Soli and Perin Pardiwala, on her marriage to Joe Amato on August 7th, 2004. We wish the happy couple health, wealth, prosperity and many happy years together.

Alex Marshall, son of Pervin and Aspen Marshall of Ottawa, will be serving as a member of the Ceremonial Guard in Ottawa this summer. Alex was one of 31 recruits selected out of 140 applicants. He underwent basic military training and intensive drill training to prepare for his duties in the changing of the guard ceremony, as well as sentry duty at the Governor General's mansion.

Alex was recently selected by his fellow guardsmen and instructors as the Top New Candidate, and was awarded a certificate during a regimental ceremony. Alex recently graduated with honors from a Commercial Aviation program at Confederation College in Thunder Bay, and is hoping that his efforts with the Ceremonial guard will give him leverage to pursue a career as a pilot in the Canadian forces. He encourages interested individuals to apply to their local Armed Forces recruiting center, adding that "It is terrific summer employment, and no other summer job will give you more satisfaction and a feeling of pride."

WZCC Meetings for 2004

September 9 - at Port Credit Yacht Club.
RSVP by September 2nd.

November 11 - at Port Credit Yacht Club.
RSVP by November 4th.

Please note that all Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. sharp and will include snacks at a cost of \$15 per person. Non-members and guests pay \$20.

Cash bar is also provided. Driving directions can be found on the Port Credit Yacht Club website at <http://www.pcy.com/driving%20directions.htm> or contact the PCYC directly at (905) 278-5578.

Please RSVP to Xerxes Wania via e-mail at xwania@rogers.com. General information regarding the WZCC can be found at www.wzcc.net.

If you would like to view this newsletter electronically or get more information, please visit **[ozcf.com](http://www.ozcf.com)**.

Your donations are tax deductible.

Please send your donations to OZCF, 4244 Taffey Cres., Miss., ON, L5L 2J2

If you would like to submit an article or advertisement to appear in the next newsletter, please write to any of the following Newsletter Committee members:
Farida Bhesania
bhesania@arvotek.net

Michelle Patel
ron.michelle@cogeco.ca

Roshan Byramjee
zbyramjee@cogeco.ca



Up-Coming Zoroastrian Congresses

Just a reminder, it's not too late to register for the **XIII North American Zoroastrian Congress** to be held December 29, 2004 - January 1, 2005 in San Francisco. This Congress promises to be exciting and memorable for all attendees. Please see <http://zanc.org/congress/> for further details!

The 8th World Zoroastrian Congress will be held in London, UK in June 2005. This event is hosted by the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe and more details will be available soon at www.ztfe.com.

Preliminary congress dates will be as follows:
June 24-27, 2005 at the Wembley Conference Centre

June 28-30, 2005 at the Zarthosty Brothers Hall, New Zoroastrian Centre for Europe, Harrow

News From Abroad

To commemorate the one Hundredth Birth Centenary of Mr. J. R. D. Tata, his statue was erected at the entrance of the Juhu Airport in Bombay.

The statue is made of fiberglass and stands 7' 3" tall. JRD Tata, as we know was the pioneer of Aviation, amongst other industries in India.



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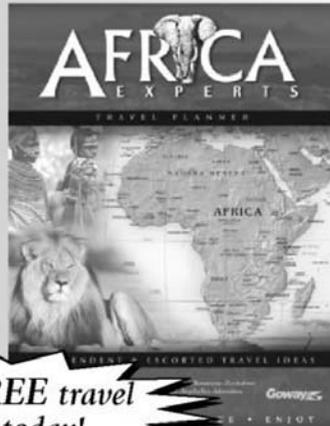
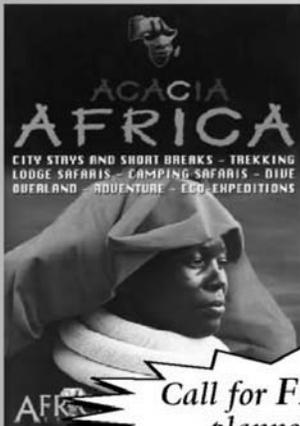
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