

VISION

APRIL
2010

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE!

April 23,24,25

FEZANA AGM - see inside for details on this very important event for the OZCF!

April 17

Karaoke @ ZRCC

May 2

Maidhyozarem Ghambar (F) (11am)
@ ZRCC

May 26

Zarthost-no-Diso (S) (7pm) @ ZRCC

June 26

Saris & Duglis Gala— 707 Banquet Hall,
Oakville (see attached flyer)

July 24

Scavenger Hunt Car Rally—ZRCC (see
attached flyer)

Newsletter Committee—Contact Info.

Contact Sam Bharda at bhardas@usa.net or
Michelle Patel at ron.michelle@rogers.com

Entertainment Committee— Contact Info.

Kashmira Laher at: 905-817-9792 or
Kermin Byramjee at: 905-845-3480

Need a Mobed?

Our Mobeds are available to help in times of need to offer their guidance and services to the OZCF community. We are enclosing a list of contacts in no particular order to assist you.

Ervad Firdosh Bulsara (905) 824-7692
Ervad Jal Panthaky (905) 568-4946
Ervad Xerxes Bamji (905) 702-1034
Ervad Kobad Zarolia (647) 887-9213
Ervad Nozer Kotwal (905) 820-0461

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

President's Message

Navroze Mubarak and wishing everyone good health.

The year has started off as if it had never ended when it comes to what is going on at the OZCF. Anticipation is that it will get even busier and more events will bring more people together.

I am sitting here writing this message on April 1st (yes Aprils fool day) and can definitely tell you that OZCF is not a joke. It is an amazing organization with amazing people who volunteer their time and give generously to achieve something they strongly believe in. I have over the last year asked people for help and am happy to say that I have never been let down, never been told no and in fact get people asking if they can help. This is an organization that is relatively new but growing in strength each day. Thank you all for making the dreams of everything we do a reality.

We are still striving to accomplish the goal of recouping the money spent on the paving (\$40,000) and have to date raised \$15,400 which leaves us with \$24,600 to go. Our goal of achieving the full amount by April 1 has not panned out, but fear not as I know that you know it will be done. Please do continue to support this paving project.

We have created two more very important sub committees / teams. One being the 'Facility Management Team (FMT)' and the other being the 'Long Term Planning Committee (LTPC)'. Both of these have already been actively engaged and an explanation for the role of these can be found later on in this newsletter.

We are excited in hosting the FEZANA AGM this year (April 23, 24,25) at the ZRCC. You are invited to participate and a full agenda is enclosed in this newsletter; if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

There are some really exciting events occurring during the spring/summer months and you are encouraged to come out with your families and friends and enjoy what we have to offer at the picturesque grounds of the ZRCC. Thank you once again for the wonderful support.

Rumi Jasavala

NEW!!!! OZCF Hours of Operation:

Mon. & Wed. 8:00am to 5:00pm
Tue. & Thu. 3:00pm to 6:00pm

MAILING ADDRESS

4244 Taffey Crescent,
Mississauga, Ontario. L5L 2J2

ZRCC PROPERTY ADDRESS:

1187 Burnhamthorpe Road East
Oakville, Ontario

VISIT THE WEBSITE:

www.ozcf.com

FEZANA 2010 AGM

Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America

Hosted by the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation

The Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation is proud to be given the opportunity to host the 2010 FEZANA AGM.

The FEZANA AGM is open to all Zoroastrians and below are details of the three day event which runs from Friday, April 23 to Sunday, April 25. Prices below are primarily to cover the cost for food & beverages.

To participate kindly contact **Rumi Jasavala** on **905-257-7864** or via email on **president@ozcf.com**

Friday April 23rd (session -1)

Meeting begins at the ZRCC at 5.30pm
Meetings ends at 8pm followed by dinner at the ZRCC
Cost for non-association delegates is **\$15.00pp**

Saturday April 24th (session-2)

Meeting begins at the ZRCC at 8am
Meeting goes on throughout the day until 5.30pm with breakfast, lunch, snacks, tea provided
Cost for non-association delegates is **\$10.00pp**

Saturday April 24th (evening)

A **dinner** is being held at the Holiday Inn, Argus Road, Oakville starting at 7pm.
Cost for non-association delegates is **\$45.00pp**

Sunday April 25th (session-3)

Meeting begins at 8am the Holiday Inn, Argus Road, Oakville
Light breakfast, followed by brunch
Cost for non-association delegates is **\$8 (breakfast) & \$20 (lunch)**

Sunday April 25th (session-4)

World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce meeting begins at 1pm and concludes at 4pm at the Holiday Inn, Argus Road, Oakville
Cost for non-association delegates is **\$5pp**

Package costs

To better serve the community, we can provide the following package that includes each session and the Saturday evening Dinner for **\$85**

Reservations

The OZCF is taking reservations for each day to facilitate ordering of food. Kindly remit names by **April 18, 2010**

Advertising & Sponsorship

Those wishing to advertise for these three days, kindly contact Sam Bharda at 905-602-9796 or bhardas@usa.net

Information

Further information may be obtained by contacting Rumi Jasavala or visiting our website at www.ozcf.com

Board of Directors Criteria

This year at the AGM, a new Board of Directors will be elected. The present Board of Directors would like to encourage our members to stand for election to the Board of Directors.

Some of the characteristics that are needed to be a Director are:

- Willingness to commit their time to attend meetings and to work on various sub-committees
- Willingness to participate in many of the functions organized by the BOD
- Capability of working with a diversified group of people
- Willingness to provide valuable input to the future of the OZCF e.g. planning and development of a prayer hall, meeting place, etc.
- Conscientiousness, a desire to work hard, cooperation, reliability, ability to withstand criticism, willingness to serve our members and community.

We are also looking for the following:

- Accountants (to fill the role of Treasurer)
- Priests (to provide guidance on religious issues and chair the Religious Sub-Committee)
- Youth (to provide the "youth input" and to liaise with the community's youth)
- Seniors (to provide the "elderly sage" and to liaise with the community's seniors)
- People with legal experience
- People with experience in construction/maintenance so as to assist with the day to day running of the OZCF's facilities

Board members have heeded the call of: "Ask not what the OZCF can do for you, but what you can do for the OZCF". They will tell you that while it can be challenging and hard work, the benefits our community experiences when we surmount these challenges are very rewarding as we collectively build our community of Zoroastrians, for now and for the future.



186 Robert Speck Parkway
Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 3G1
Bus: (905) 896-4622
Fax: (905) 896-4621
Cell: (416) 845-9796
TF: 1-866-797-4622
Email: maria.szabados@ssgmac.ca

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khurshid.engineer@rbc.com

Seniors Activity Program

Join the fitness fun! The OZCF offers a professional physical activity program specifically designed for Seniors supervised by Armeen Jasavala and Darius Dinshaw. Yoga sessions with Marook Sidhwa will continue every alternate week. Social Hour after each physical activity and Yoga session.

Place : ZRCC (OZCF) 1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd East Oakville
Dates : Every other Tuesday, from early Spring to late Fall as long as no snow on the ground. (check the OZCF website for dates, under News & Events)
Time : 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Cost : \$7.00 per person per turn for simple healthy meals will be provided by OZCF volunteers.



Seniors may suggest other activities that may interest them, such as playing cards, carom, etc. Contact: Coomi Sorabji by Email coomi.v@rogers.com or Phone 905-607-2913. *Please provide full name, contact phone #, Email address, and possible frequency of attendance.* **Attendance Notice required.** Please advise Coomi Sorabji a week in advance for catering purposes.

UPDATE ON BINGO!

As mentioned in the last newsletter, an intrepid group of volunteers has been working at the Oakville Delta Mayfair Bingo Hall to raise funds for the OZCF. This group of dedicated Bingo Slaves takes turns on weekends to work at the Bingo Hall.

This effort should raise approximately \$12,000 a year. All Charities taking part in working at the bingo hall share 45 percent of the net profits each month. The pot is proportionately divided according to the number of sessions that each charity does.

Now—we need your help! Come out and take part in this fun "fun"-draising activity! The more bookings we have—the more OZCF can benefit! More days have been booked and the current squad could use your help to cover these days. Please look around for volunteers and volunteer yourself! Contact: Kermin Byramjee at 905-845-3480 or Nozer Kotwal at 905-820-0461.

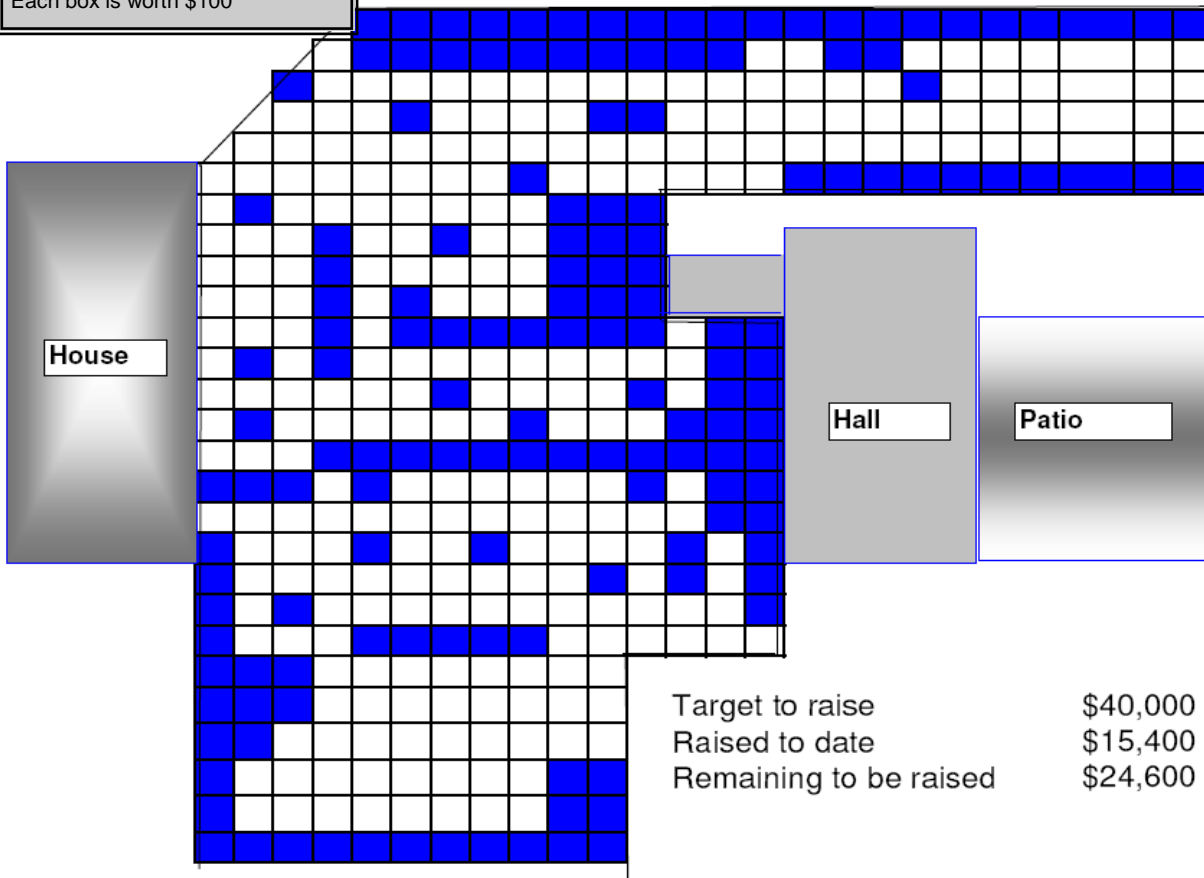
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Want to help save on postage costs for the OZCF and do your part for the environment? Request to view your copy online E-mail: ron.michelle@rogers.com for a notification when the newsletter is available on our website.

Paving Update—More Blank Squares to fill in and we need your help!

Area = 12,000 sq. ft.
Cost = \$14,000 or \$3.35 per sq. ft.
Each box = 30 sq. feet
Each box is worth \$100

P A R K I N G



Target to raise	\$40,000
Raised to date	\$15,400
Remaining to be raised	\$24,600

Long term Planning Committee (LTPC)

The Board of Directors have initiated a Long Term Planning Committee that will investigate and prepare options for the next steps we will take as an organization. The options will continue to follow our Constitution and Letters Patent and will be brought forward to the board of directors for review. This will in turn be brought forward to you, the members, for approval.

The process that the LTPC will take will be in-depth and involve the investigation of items such as the Town's current development timelines, what can we do now, what needs to be done for future ventures, time frames, estimated costs, etc. Each line item will be tabulated and dealt with on a professional basis.

We do not currently have a timeline for completion but we should be able to keep everyone informed of the progress in the next couple of newsletters. We have had two very constructive meetings so far and have two further meetings set for the month of April. This is not something that is going to drag on, but something we need to move on quickly, thus allowing the OZCF to continue its vision and to continue to move forward rapidly.

Facility Management Team (FMT)

The board would like thank all those who have shown interest in joining this group that is responsible for the maintenance of the ZRCC. This team of volunteers work very closely with the Board of Directors to achieve the maintenance, enhancement and running of the ZRCC by coordinating with events, budgets and procedures of the OZCF.

It's a group of hard working and forward thinking individuals who volunteer their time effortlessly in doing things that allow us all to enjoy what the OZCF brings. The team currently consists of the following: Jal Panthaky, Cawas Patel, Kobad Zarolia, Meher Panthaky, Gulrukh Patel, Cyrus Banker, Persis Banker, Khushroo Bhada, Cyrus Gazdar, Khushnama Doctor, Nozer Kotwal, Armaity Anandsargar and Rumi Jasavala

If anyone feels inclined in joining this team, kindly forward your name to Khushnama Doctor.

The team has started by working with others in doing a huge spring clean of the house and will soon focus on a full inventory of items. A great effort in very short time, thank you to all.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees for the year 2010 are now due. Thank you to those that have been diligent and paid up their fees, it is a great help.

We currently have 162 paid up members for 2010 and are aiming to complete the remaining 168 very quickly.

As a reminder, we will not be providing a donation receipt for membership fees. For example, if you pay a family membership fee of \$50, you will not be receiving a tax receipt for donation purposes for this amount.

Any other donations that you may give throughout the year to OZCF, you will be provided a donation tax receipt.

In addition to this, we will be having differential pricing structure for members versus non-members, where a member is classed as a paid up member for the year at the time of the event (in this case 2010).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Membership committee.

The **15th North American Zarathushti Congress** will be held in Houston, TX from December 29, 2010 – January 1, 2011. The theme of NAZC-2010 is "Preserve! Protect! Perfect! Preserve the Past, Protect the Present and Perfect the Future". The venue for the Congress is The Intercontinental Hotel, Houston.

NAZC 2010 Highlights include: Educational and interactive sessions encompassing segments related to youth, seniors, religious, cultural, and business issues, Dance and music performances, New Year's Eve gala banquet, Fashion show, Merchandize booths, a grand Jashan at the Zarathushti Heritage and Cultural Center along with a guided tour of the facility.

Take advantage of Early Bird Specials. For registration and details, please visit the ZAH website: www.zah.org, or e-mail Arnavaz Sethna at: asethna@comcast.net

The **5th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress** is to be held in beautiful Vancouver, Canada from **July 1 – 5, 2011**.

The Zoroastrian Youth from around the world will be able to discuss the 5 W's (who? what? where? when? why?) about Zoroastrianism. The Congress is to be held in the first week of July 2011, so we hope to see you there!

Please check <http://www.zsbc.org> for updates, as they become available.

Accommodation London UK!



Accommodation available in a welcoming family home located in Wimbledon, only 20 minutes from the centre of London. Walking distance to all amenities, including District & Northern Line Underground, British Rail, Trams and buses. Guidance is provided for getting around the United Kingdom, and a variety of room sizes are available at excellent rates.

Tel: 011-44-20-8542-7195 (home)
011-44-798-022-3874 (cell)
011-44-20-8241-7150 (fax)
Email: freny@jasavalaplus.com

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A referral resulting in a transaction of a property ensures, the sum of \$10,000 as a donation from me to OZCF.



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Did you know?

The ZRCC is now available to all Zoroastrian families for the observance of prayers. But did you know you could also rent the facilities for your private functions and special occasions?

The main hall can accommodate between 100 –150 people, and food can be brought in. Contact Cyrus Gazdar at 905-997-6462 to book your next event!



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NEW! - PRANAYAM YOGA CLASSES

The OZCF is pleased to announce that Pranayam Yoga Classes will be held at the ZRCC starting Wednesday, April 28th 2010.

Date: Every Wednesday (starting April 28-2010)
Time: 6.30pm to 8.30pm
Venue: ZRCC
Cost: \$2pp

Information

The key to practicing "PRANAYAM YOGA DAILY" is to *breathe in Oxygen properly through our nostrils, directly into our lungs*. Our heart pumps oxygen to all the blood cells throughout our body. That's what energizes us and counter-acts many known Ailments such as **STROKE, CANCER AND HEART PROBLEMS**.

All attendees should refrain from eating at least 3-4 hrs prior to class as we exercise our stomach - along with the rest of the Body.

We also recommend wearing loose jogging wear and bring a Yoga Mat if you are able to sit on the floor. Chairs are available for anyone unable to sit on the floor.

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Muktads – Code for Spring Cleaning

The Gathas represent the last five days of the Fasli Zoroastrian calendar. This year, these days fell on March 16-20. During these holy days, souls of the departed are invoked in prayers known as the Muktads.

Prior to commencing the prayers, the site at which they are held requires cleansing. In the past year, the recently constructed hall at the ZRCC has garnered all the headlines over our "Little House on the Prairie." Rustic and cozy, it certainly is not all that the modern and contemporary hall is. However, the house still accommodates our prayer room as well as serving as storage for other items. Thus, like its more renowned edifice, it too requires a proper cleaning from time to time. This inevitably falls in line with Muktad ceremonies.

Muktad rituals always seem to invoke a call to communal duty. Often, it is when a great number of volunteers charitably give of their time. This year was no different. Many volunteers came out in the days leading up to the Muktads, be it to clean, to cook or to donate supplies. And where would we as a community be without the efforts of our priests? Year in year out, they are omnipresent at the property performing liturgical services. Perceptibly every year, a number of younger priests take a greater role in performing the prayers, often during their spring vacation. This is indeed very admirable dedication by all! The OZCF thanks all those who fruitfully saw through the passage of these of holy days.

JAMSHEDI NAVROZE 2010

With the hall filled to capacity, the very first Jamshedi Navroz at the ZRCC was fêted by 150 members on the 21st of March. Seven Mobeds performed the Jashan to herald the arrival of spring and to celebrate the start of the Fasli New Year.

Omnipresent during the Muktad ceremonies, Ervad Nozer Kotwal thanked volunteers for cleaning the house, the property and the hall in the lead up to the Muktads, and to those volunteers who helped prepare food during these Holy Days. Also thanked were the priests, young and "not-so-young" who prayed at the Jashan and during the Muktads, most appreciably, young Mobeds who prayed at various times, be it at the crack of dawn or late into the night during their March Break. Very admirable dedication by all!



Lunch followed the benedictions. Many thanks to the Entertainment Committee for coordinating the event and getting the New Year off to a fine start. We wish everyone Navroz Mubarak and look forward to seeing an even greater number of members at other events over the coming months.

Far Left: Jashan ceremony; Top Right: Haft-Sein Table; Bottom Right: OZCF's youngest priest getting reward from OZCF president Rumi Jasavaia



ANNOUNCEMENT AND INVITATION FOR COMMI BHATHENA

Coomi Bhathena, one of the "Grand Ladies" of the ZSO and OZCF, turns 100 this year! Her family would like to invite one and all for an Open House Birthday Celebration in her honour.

Date: August 15th 2010

Location: Cummer Lodge , 205 Cummer Ave, Toronto

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tea, coffee and light snacks will be served throughout the morning.

Please come out to celebrate this momentous occasion.

VISION NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

\$80 for full page

\$50 for half page

\$30 for quarter page

\$15 for Business Card / \$50 for the year

Ads will only be in the black and white issues of the OZCF Newsletter, which is published 4 times per year. Contact Sam Bharda at 905-602-9796 or e-mail him at bhardas@usa.net to place your ad.

If you would like to submit any announcements, articles, or other advertisements to be included in our next newsletter, please contact Sam no later than May 15, 2010. All items received after this date will automatically be included in the following newsletter.

OZCF Presents...

Karaoke And Dinner

Date: Saturday April 17, 2010

Time: Starting at 6:30 pm.

Location: ZRCC

Price: Adults \$10, Children 4-10yrs \$7

Calling on all budding singers!

Join in the fun and sing along with Dinaz Hira & Sami Divecha in a musically filled evening of Karaoke.

Top off your evening with a Parsi Curry Chaval and Kachubar.

For tickets contact:

Gulrukh Patel 905 542 0237 or

Meher Panthaky 905 568 4946

OZCF Presents...

Saris & Daglis

A Gala Evening



Date: Saturday June 26, 2010

Time: Starting at 6 pm.

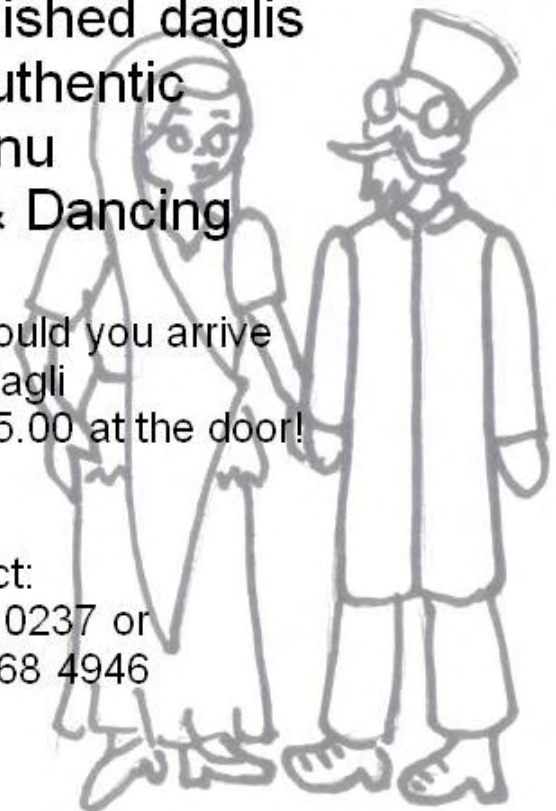
Price: \$75

Location: The 707 Banquet Hall
475 South Service Rd East, Oakville

Celebrate Parsi heritage
by wearing your
elegant saris & distinguished daglis
to an evening of authentic
Patra nu Bhonu
Followed by Music & Dancing

Dress Code is in Effect... should you arrive
without a Sari or Dagli
you will be charged an extra \$5.00 at the door!

For tickets contact:
Gulrukh Patel 905 542 0237 or
Meher Panthaky 905 568 4946





OZCF's first ever Car Rally

Date: Saturday July 24, 2010

Time: 10am

Location: Starting point - ZRCC

**Join in for a day of excitement and
adventure!**

Arrive with your team in the morning for coffee and donuts while you deck your car out in your team colours.

Then head out with your team and use clues to collect points.

Meet all the teams back at the start point for the Medal Ceremony.

End the day at the ZRCC by purchasing your lunch from a selection of food vendors.

A great family day out!

Call Kermin Byramjee at 905-845-3480 to RSVP
ASAP!

