



# ZANC

ZARTHOSHTI ANJUMAN *of*  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

## ZANC Board 2015

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Newsletter Date Jan - Mar 2015

Dear ZANC members,

As we end the year 2014 and look forward to 2015, we send you our good wishes for a very Happy New Year.

In spite of many challenges facing the situation at our Dar-e-Mehr, we were able to hold our children's Sunday classes there and that was a big relief for all of us. The PZO-ZANC joint planning committee, having met many times, has decided to consult a lawyer specializing in these matters in that area. The lawyer has looked at our case and will be giving her opinion shortly.

In the meantime, we've had a family camping trip to Hidden Villa, a field trip to the Chabot Space Centre, our annual costume party, our Navroze dinners and our much appreciated Ghambar feast. We hope to continue with all these and new and better events for the coming year.

Our March 21st Navroze dinner/dance party will be held at the newly constructed Mitchell Park Community Centre in Palo Alto with afghan cuisine, a DJ with musical entertainment, activities for kids and dancing for ALL. It promises to be a fun and festive event. We encourage everyone to come and dance the evening away!

We thank you for your confidence in us and for electing us to another term in office. I hope we can find a worthy successor, who will move our association forward. We need candidates who are committed, willing to give up their time, have the support of their family and have garage space!

The beginning of the year also means paying your dues! We hope you will continue to support your association and make it easy for us by paying in your annual dues early!

Wishing all of you a safe and healthy New Year

Nazneen & the Board

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



## Membership / Renewal Form 2015

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First : \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt #: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_ Profession Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Adult Children (18+) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Living at home or at university)

Children (under 18) 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Seniors / Parents (living at same address)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail addresses for the ZANC Yahoo-Group: \_\_\_\_\_

(The Yahoo-ZANC-Group is open only for members in good standing, and is under the strict control of the ZANC Board, with only two moderators. You may use more than one e-mail address, (his and hers). The Yahoo ZANC group is an important tool of communication within the community.)

We want to receive the ZANC Newsletter electronically: \_\_\_\_\_ hard copy by mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues 2014 : Family: \$ 120.00

Individual:	\$ 60.00
Seniors (over 62)	\$ 20.00 per person
Students	\$ 20.00
Life Membership	\$ 2,000.00
Donations	\$ _____

Make Checks Payable to ZANC and mail with this form to:  
Nazneen Spliedt: 12 Skypark Circle South San Francisco CA 94080  
Tel: 650-624-8888 E-mail: [nazehler@aol.com](mailto:nazehler@aol.com)

For online payments: [www.zanc.org/membership.html](http://www.zanc.org/membership.html)

# ZANC's Coolest Party!!

## Ice skating at Winter Lodge

(3009 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto CA 94306)

Bring your family and join your friends and enjoy ice skating at the only permanent outdoor rink west of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. It may even snow!!

When: Sunday Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 5.30 – 7.30pm.

Hot Cocoa/Tea and Dinner provided

Cost: \$18 per skater (skate rental included)  
\$12 per Non skaters

Please email [khurshidgandhi@yahoo.com](mailto:khurshidgandhi@yahoo.com) to register.

Provide names, ages, veg/non-veg and skater/non skater info.

**Registration deadline: Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

Please mail a check (payable to ZANC) to:  
Khurshid Gandhi, 321 W. Meadow Dr., Palo Alto,  
CA 94306

See you there!!!



## ZANC SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMPING AT HIDDEN VILLA RANCH

*By Dianne Patel*

This past fall (Sept, 26-28), several Sunday school families embarked on our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Sunday School Camping Trip at Hidden Villa Ranch in Los Altos. A total of nine families (18 adults and 14 kids) came together to enjoy a fun-filled 3day/2night weekend in the wonderful outdoors. Reservations had been made many months in advance and maximum 40 people could be accommodated as per restrictions of the venue.

This was a perfect location for the trip since it is conveniently located within a short driving distance, in the beautiful and serene Los Altos Hills. It is a working farmhouse with a huge modern kitchen, an adjoining dining/living room, shower/bathroom facilities & wood cabins with regular and bunk beds. There was also an outdoor fire pit and several long & short hiking/biking trails. It was a combination of rustic atmosphere with modern day amenities.



Of course, being a Parsi crowd, the eating arrangements had to be taken care of first!! ☺ Each day two families were paired up for each of the 3 meals of the day – and every single person (including the kids) did their share of the cutting, cooking and the clean-up. There was a fantastic array of food from crepes, chocolate pancakes, ravo, akoori & rotlis for breakfast to pork curry/pasta for lunch to kheema and dhan dal for dinner. And of course, no parsi festivities are complete without the desserts (ice-creams with toppings), tea and liquor.

Between the eating sessions & the food frenzy, there were also many activities for the young and “not-so-young”. There are several hiking trails on the property so every morning the group would take off for a strenuous hike for a few hours. Amazingly, there is no internet connection at the ranch (which is a blessing) so it was a great opportunity for the kids to bond outside of the Sunday school environment. They played board games & dominoes, showed off their musical skills at the piano, chatted endlessly with each other and best of all just “hung out” – running around, climbing trees, chasing each other etc. – this was the most endearing thing to see in this day and age! There was even a competitive cricket match between the adults and the kids (it is still debatable as to who won) ☺. Of all the activities, however, the highlight of the trip had to be making s’mores by the fire pit in the beautiful outdoors. The adults had a gala time sitting out by the fireplace and the kids had a blast eating the yummy s’mores they made. After the day’s activities tired out the younger generation, the “not-so-younger” generation got a chance to unwind and engage in their own “chit-chat” session till 4 am in the morning. The jokes and laughter was abundant with typical Parsi humor on this magical night.



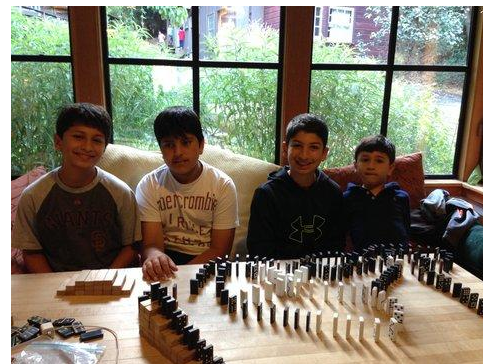


## ZANC SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMPING AT HIDDEN VILLA RANCH (contd.)

All in all, this was truly a memorable trip for everyone who was there and one that we will not forget soon. When we first put together this trip, we struggled to see how it would all work out, but everyone came



together with such gusto and enthusiasm that our meals/activities all just fell into place and made this trip into one fun party!! A big thanks to Shahnaz Jangi who helped me book this place (and it is quite an ordeal due to their strict restrictions) and Adil Engineer for helping us with purchasing the required insurance. We hope that we can continue this tradition of fun events for our Sunday school students so that the next generation can then sit around till 4 am talking about how much fun Bawa camping can really be! Hope to see a lot of you on our next trip!!



### UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
<b><i>Local:</i></b>		
North American Zoroastrian Congress	Dec 28, 2014 - Jan 1, 2015	Los Angeles, CA
ZANC Ice Skating Party	Feb 8, 2015	Winter Lodge, Palo Alto CA.
Jamshed -i- Navroze Dinner	Mar 21, 2015	Mitchell Park Comm. Ctr., Palo Alto,
Fun Day/ Hiking Day	May 2015 (TBD)	TBD
ZANC Picnic	July 26, 2015	Foothills Park, Palo Alto, CA
<b><i>National/International</i></b>		
FEZANA AGM	May 2, 2015	Philadelphia USA
World Youth Congress	Dec 2015	Auckland, New Zealand <a href="http://www.6wzyc.co.nz/">www.6wzyc.co.nz/</a>

# NAVROZE PARTY!

D J



Music



Get ready for a fabulous party to celebrate Navroze

21<sup>st</sup> Mar 2015, 6.00 PM

FUN!

Mitchell Park Community Center

(Newly constructed at 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303)

Afghani  
Food

DANCING!

Games

Tear Sheet

21<sup>st</sup> March 2015 Navroze Dinner Reservations

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Adult	_____	x \$ 32.00
Children 8 – 14yrs	_____	x \$ 16.00
Children 5 – 7yrs	_____	x \$ 8.00
Children under 5yrs	_____	free

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Vegetarians: \_\_\_\_\_

Please register before March 14<sup>th</sup> to [adileng@gmail.com](mailto:adileng@gmail.com)

Make checks out to ZANC and mail to:  
Adil Engineer  
6124 Oak Forest Way  
San Jose, CA 95120  
Tel# 408-246-0975



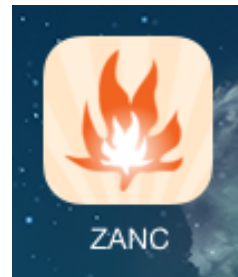


## The ZANC App - Check it out!

Yes, there really is an app for ZANC! Developed by ZANC member, Zal Billimoria and his team, you can now download the free ZANC app on your iOS and Android devices.

This is a closed app, so the data is not sold/used for commercial purposes (like other social networking apps) and the app is not accessible by anyone other than people who are part of ZANC.

The ZANC app can be used to get the news around quickly and communicate with other ZANC members, reply to participation at events, access contact info like email etc., check out the Zoroastrian calendar, encourage discussion on related topics and increase community involvement



## *How will you use it???*

Feedback appreciated. Please email Adil Engineer (adileng@gmail.com) with your comments/suggestions.

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## CHABOT Space and Science Center Field Trip

On Nov 16<sup>th</sup>, the ZANC Sunday school families as well as any other interested ZANC families went on a field trip to the Chabot Space and Science Center. It was a fun learning experience for all involved, with two excellent docent lead tours as well as educational movies. Hands on activities were fun and varied. They included a fossil hunt, 'making' a comet, differentiating space rocks from earth rocks, and observing sun spots. The rest of the museum afforded a look at the different telescopes there. Alas it was too cloudy to observe Jupiter (something the group was looking forward to) – maybe next time! The group also enjoyed the exhibits explaining about how astronauts live and work at the space station and the equipment that they need to wear to stay safe. Needless to say the bathroom system in outer space generated the most questions and comments from the kids!!!

All in all, it was a great way to learn and bond with other ZANC members young and old, as well as to broaden horizons and stimulate curiosity about our beautiful ever expanding universe.



Holding a comet!



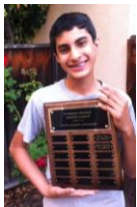
## Community News:

**Births:** A girl- ZINAYA to Delzin & Shiroy Choksey on October 27, 2014 in Los Altos. Granddaughter to Viloo & Sohrab Choksey and Thrity & Yazdi Tantra

A boy- JAHAN to Dilnavaz Bamboat and Abhishek Vanamali of Santa Clara, on November 24, 2014.

**Navjotes:** ZIA, daughter of Binaifer and Malcolm Dumasia on June 28, 2014 at Hyderabad, India

**Awards:** Congratulations to Nazneen Spliedt --- a recipient of the Humanitarian Service Award, which is one of the 2014 FEZANA North American Zarathushti Community Awards.



Congratulations to Jamsheed Mistri, on receiving the 2014 ZANC Outstanding Volunteer Award. He has been an eager and willing helper in various capacities, not the least of which is that he is the go-to person for providing the perfect music for our ZANC functions



Congratulations to Cyrus Deboo on completing his Eagle Scout award. he was inducted into the Eagle Scout Court of Honor on Dec 14th.

### E-Course on Zarathushti Religion

With the goal of providing sound knowledge of the fundamentals of Zarathushti Religion, the **Zarathushti Learning Center of North America** will offer an **E-Course on Zarathushti Religion** starting in January 2015. This e-course will be emailed free of cost to all interested individuals, one lesson each month.

The lessons are based on the teachings of Dastoorji Navroze Minocher Homji and were developed by Kayomars Mehta in Chicago over the last 30 years. The lessons concentrate on understanding the fundamental concepts of our religion, as expressed in our daily Avesta Prayers. Mastering these concepts will enable us to recite our prayers intelligently with full understanding of what they mean.

If you are interested in receiving these lessons of the **E-Course on Zarathushti Religion**, please send an email to [kayomehta@aol.com](mailto:kayomehta@aol.com) expressing your desire to register for the course.

### AUDIO RESOURCE



### Stories of Shahnameh

Now Available -- An audio book in English and Persian languages, created by Afshin Sepehri and Nusha Sepehri, with the goal of introducing the beautiful stories of Shahnameh.

[www.shahnameh-audio.com](http://www.shahnameh-audio.com)



# RECIPE CORNER

## Maleedo!:

(Contributed by Prochi Sethna, and enjoyed often by the ZANC community!  
Recipe is from the cook-book by Nergish Karanjia and Nergis Unwalla.  
Thanks!)

### Ingredients

1/2 cup oil  
1 cup cream of wheat  
1/2 cup bisquick  
1 tablespoon sugar  
1 1/2 cups water  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom  
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
1/4 cup almonds, blanched and slivered  
1/4 cup raisins



### Method:

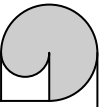
In a pan heat the oil over low heat. Add cream of wheat and stir cook till mixture is golden brown. Add bisquick and continue stirring cook for 2 minutes. Remove from heat and set aside.

In a pot, brown 1 tablespoon of sugar till it is dark brown. Quickly add water and bring to a boil. Add sugar and all the flavorings to the water and boil till the sugar is completely dissolved (about 5 mins). Remove from heat, and add cream of wheat mixture stirring all the time to prevent lumps from forming. Cook over low heat till done. Empty into serving dish.

Sprinkle almonds and raisins. Serve warm.

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**Want to see it in color?? Check out the ZANC newsletter in color at [www.zanc.org](http://www.zanc.org)**



Dear Community Members:

We would like to make this a true community newsletter and so we invite input from you. Please feel free to share what you think would be interesting to our community. Examples would be beloved (and hopefully easy) recipes, art/drawings made by children, photographs, accomplishments, information on graduations, awards, navjotes, births, deaths, weddings etc.

Please email Nazneen/Ehler or Khurshid with this information. Submissions may be edited for clarity, space etc. Final decision to publish content lies with the ZANC Board.

Thank you and looking forward to your input.