



# ZAPANJ



*ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY*

**Newsletter June 2011**

[www.ZAPANJ.org](http://www.ZAPANJ.org)

**President:** Freny Ranji

**Vice President:** Fali F. Sidhva

**Treasurer:** Shirin Jahanian

**Secretary:** Shahrukh Tarapore

**Joint Secretary:** Arnavaz (Anoo) D. Sukhia

Dear Members:

As of March 2011 the ZAPANJ community has elected a new Board for the next two years.

It is our pride and pleasure to send you the ZAPANJ community newsletter. We hope you will enjoy the articles and the photos of our events. As your new Board we are excited to serve the community and welcome any suggestions. If you receive this newsletter as a printed copy and would like to get it as an email attachment, please advise one of the Board.

Kind regards,

The ZAPANJ Board

**UPCOMING EXCITING EVENTS:**

Summer has begun and the ZAPANJ Board has scheduled some exciting outings. So please save the following dates...

**Sunday, June 26 2011- ZAPANJ Picnic at Marsh Creek** [marshcreeksp@state.pa.us](mailto:marshcreeksp@state.pa.us)

The address is 675 Park Rd, Downingtown, PA 19335

- Once again by popular demand Marsh Creek has been chosen for the ZAPANJ annual picnic.
- Please advise Anoo Sukhia (tel: 856-751-7233) if you will be attending.
- ZAPANJ will provide the traditional watermelon, paper products and sodas, and we look forward to potluck breakfast, lunch and snacks! Do come prepared with your swimsuits, if you or your family plan to use the community pool !

**Saturday, July 16 2011 - Children's Picnic at [Six Flags Great Adventure](#)**

- We anticipate a fun day for children and adults alike!! ZAPANJ will sponsor all children who attend the ZAPANJ religious class.
- Please respond to Fali Sidhwa (tel: 610-935-2857) by July 6th, with the number of attendees, so we may plan accordingly.
- Any children under 12 must be accompanied by parents. If you plan on appointing a chaperone, please send a note in writing and email to any trustee of the ZAPANJ board.

**Saturday, August 20 2011 - ZAPANJ Pateti Function at [Palace of Asia](#)**

**Sunday, October 2 2011 - Annual Ghambar at the [Palace of Asia](#)**

- As always our neighboring associations will be invited to attend.

**Saturday, September 10 2011 - Religious Class**

- Back to School!
- Location: Gibson Hall.

**Saturday, October 8 2011 - Religious Class**

- Location: Gibson Hall.

**Saturday, November 12 2011 - Religious Class**

- Location: Gibson Hall.

**COMMUNITY NEWS:**

**NEW LITTLE ADDITIONS TO THE COMMUNITY**

Congratulations to Marazban and Hutoxi Sarkari proud parents of little Rashna.  
And to Firoza and Gil Nusbaum, proud parents of son Gev

**2011 GRADUATIONS**

This has been an eventful summer for our academics:

- Darayus Toorkey graduated with honors in Business, and minored in Natural Sciences from University of Southern California.
- Amy Surti graduated Magna Cum Laude in Microbiology and Chemistry from University of Pittsburg.
- Kyra Singh graduated with honors in Statistics and Economics, making the Dean's List from Carnegie Mellon.
- Burjis Cooper graduated from high school and will be attending University of Delaware.

ZAPANJ extends its congratulations to all of our graduates – you make our community SO PROUD!

**NAVJOTES**

The following children have had their navjotes during the past few months. Our congratulations to the new Zarathushtis and their families!

- Yazad, son of Jehangir and Teresa Nakra
- Lauren, daughter of Neville and Leslie Ranji
- Sam, son of Khushru and Havovi Jokhi
- Jahan and Kashmira, children of Shahroukh and Riah Sidhwa

## WEDDINGS

It is with great joy that we congratulate the following members who tied "the knot" in recent months. ZAPANJ welcomes the new spouses into the community!

- Neville and Jaclyn Bharucha
- Cyrus and Heidi Kasad
- Amit and Pooja Bansal

## CONGRATULATIONS

- Lauren Ranji , who placed second in an equestrian Pleasure Pony Competition in PA.
- Tina Unwalla, who successfully collected nonperishable food items for the Salvation Army and collected money for Udwada priests.
- Deana Chhor, who sold tickets for the annual March of Dimes concert which is held in New Brunswick and who also participated in a walk-a-thon and collected over \$1000 for March of Dimes.

Kudos to all of you!!

## Other News

On June 10 the youngest members of the ZAPANJ Religion class with their families had a fun day at the Crayola Factory in PA. 24 members and children attended. From there the group proceeded to the mule drawn canal boat ride on the Delaware canal.



Above is a limited addition crayon on paper sketch by the soon-to-be-famous Arman Sidhwa. Also we have behind the scenes photo of Saena Sarkari and Yezad Nakra battling it out for the last spot on the newest reality television show Crayon Idol.

Our dear members Cawas and Ruby Cooper have moved to California to join their daughter Roshni. We will miss both of them, especially Ruby who taught many of us ladies the garba dances!

Khorshed, Jamshed and Ayanah Unwalla, who have been active members of our community, will be moving to Nairobi in July. The good news is that this is a temporary posting for Jamshed, and they will be back in the ZAPANJ fold after two years. I am sure that they will enjoy reading our newsletters, which continue to find them where ever they travel.

Congratulations to Kaizad Jokhi and Charles F. Patton Middle School for their award winning green project. The school was awarded a cash prize for their efforts in growing fresh vegetables for a Chester county food bank. Details and a video from NBC10 News can be found [here](#).

## CONDOLENCES

ZAPANJ would like to convey our most sincere condolences to:

- Freny Ranji, Neville and Leslie, Viraf and Jennifer, Dinyar and their families on the sad demise of Freny's sister Dolly Balsara in Miami, Florida.
- Marzban Chor, whose brother passed away in Bangkok.
- Dr. Pallon Ichaporla, his children Burjor, Farida, Aban, Rashna and their families on the sad demise of wife and mother, Hutoxi.
- Nilufer, Khushroo and Rohan Shroff, on the sad demise of Nilufer's mother in Mumbai.

## ZACUCE NEWS:

As announced by our architect, Cyrus Rivetna, at the 2011 Navroz function, our community center plans have been drawn and finalized. Presently the building committee of ZACUCE is working through a construction company to acquire various permits required by the township of Mt. Laurel.

Our fundraising continues and once again we earnestly request that our ZAPANJ families and friends come forth to make monthly pledges and donations. Please contact Jehan Kasad, Noshir Karanjia, Adi Kasad, Diana Dadachanji, Freny Ranji or Anoo Sukhia. No amount donated or pledged is small!

If anyone knows of potential donors please call one of the Board members listed above.

## ZAGNY NEWS

The Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York is hosting a Parsi Natak fundraiser for the upcoming North American Zoroastrian Congress. The performance takes place Saturday September 17 2011 at Queens Hindu Temple and on Saturday September 18 2011 at North Brunswick High School, NJ. Please contact Behroz (tel: 845-623-7479) or you can buy tickets online. Be sure to get your tickets early as there is limited seating available. Please visit <http://www.zagny.org/natak> for details.

## FEZANA NEWS:

It is with great pride that we would like to announce to our community that our member Katayun Kapadia has been elected Vice President of FEZANA. This is a great honor for ZAPANJ. Congratulations Katayun- and to Kersi, who supports her in all her endeavors!

FEZANA had its AGM in Montreal on April 22-24. Katayun Kapadia and ZAPANJ President Freny Ranji attended the meeting. There is an urgent request for youth participation in FEZANA. For more information please visit <http://www.fezana.org>.

## VANCOUVER WORLD ZOROASTRIAN YOUTH CONGRESS:



The dates for this congress are June 30th-July 5th 2011 at the University of British Columbia. The registration price for the congress is \$640.00 Canadian Dollars. There are only a total of **500** spots available for this congress. Registration includes accommodations, gala dinners, boat cruise, transportation, recreational activities, excursions and meals for all 5 days. More information can be found at [www.zsbc.org](http://www.zsbc.org).

**NOTE: ZAPANJ will also help subsidize the registration costs for any youth ZAPANJ member who plans on attending. A youth would be defined as a non-earning full time student who is between the ages of 16 and 35. Please contact the ZAPANJ Board for more details.**

## PAST EVENTS:

### **Navroze Celebration**

Our 2011 Navroze celebration and Annual General Meeting was held at Palace Asia on March 21 2011. The elections for ZAPANJ BOARD OF TRUSTEES were held for the 2011-2013 term. The board members are:

President: Freny Ranji  
Vice President: Fali F. Sidhva  
Treasurer: Shireen Jahanian  
Secretary: Shahukh Tarapore  
Joint Secretary: Arnavaz (Anoo) D. Sukhia

Many thanks to our past 2007-2009 board members Veera P. Karanjia, Arnavaz (Anoo) D. Sukhia, Rustom S. Dinshaw, Tina K. Mehta and Fali F. Sidhva. We appreciate all your hard work and dedication to the community!!! Thank you!!!!

Just before the wonderful dinner, Cyrus Rivetna made a presentation on the status of the community center and took questions from the audience. After dinner we enjoyed great music provided by our DJ and the kids had a fabulous time with the balloonist creating a variety of interesting animals.

Overall, the Navroze celebration was a big success. Everybody enjoyed a night of food, fun, music, raffles and dance with family and friends.

### **The North American Mobed Council**

The Mobed Council Meeting was hosted on May 14-15 by ZAPANJ at Gibson Hall. This is the fourth time that ZAPANJ has had the honor to host this event. 21 mobeds were in attendance some with their spouses. Our sincere thanks to Freny Ranji, Nergish and Noshir Karanjia, Viloo Nalawala, Zarine and Fali Sidhva, Riah and Shahroukh Sidhwa, Kamal and Cawas Desai, Havovi and Khushru Jokhi, Shirin Jehanian, Roshan and Jimmy Bharucha, Daulat Mewawala, Roshni and Percy Kanga, Hutokshi and Porus Cooper, Diana Darayus Dadachanji and Anoo Sukhia for providing the sumptuous meals.