We are pleased to report that planning for the 2018 FEZANA Annual General Meeting (AGM) -- hosted by California Zoroastrian Center (CZC), in Westminster, California -- is well underway. The three-day AGM will take place over the last weekend of April (April 27-29, 2018), with Pre-AGM activities planned for all day on Thursday April 26. There will also be a post-AGM session on the afternoon of Sunday April 29. See below for program schedule. The venue for the AGM and all events, unless otherwise stated, is CZC Westminster (8952 Hazard Ave., Westminster, CA 92683).

Representatives from FEZANA Member Associations and Corresponding Members, as well as FEZANA Committee Chairs and Committee members are encouraged to attend. The meeting is open to the public, however, all attendees are requested to register enabling accurate headcount for our hosts for various planned events throughout the weekend. Please inform FEZANA Administrative Office (admin@fezana.org) and FEZANA Secretary (secretary@fezana.org) if you plan to attend. Any Member Association wishing to put forward an item on the AGM Agenda, must email details to the FEZANA secretary before March 1, 2018.

Visit https://fezana.org/2018-fezana-annual-general-meeting/ for updated 2018 AGM info on the FEZANA website including transportation and hotel accommodation information. Contact FEZANA Secretary or FEZANA Administrative Office with any questions.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF AGM WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

**THURSDAY APRIL 26, 2018 / PRE-AGM ACTIVITIES**

10:00am -12:15pm  Jashan followed by presentation by North American Mobeds Council (NAMC)

2:00 - 5:00pm  Special presentations by FEZANA Committees

5:30pm  Social Event by CZC

**FRIDAY APRIL 27, 2018**

9:00am-5:00pm  FEZANA AGM DAY 1

6:00 pm  Dinner at ZAC-LA (1424 E. Walnut Ave., Orange, CA)

**SATURDAY APRIL 28, 2018**

9:00am-5:00pm  FEZANA AGM DAY 2

7:00pm  Gala Evening at CZC Westminster ($)

**SUNDAY APRIL 29, 2018**

9:00am-12:30pm  FEZANA AGM DAY 3

1:00 pm  Boxed Lunch

3:00 – 5:00 pm  POST-AGM event: WZCC meeting at CZC Valley Center in Los Angeles.

(Dates continued on page 4)
In January, many FEZANA Member Associations and small groups celebrated Jashn e Sadeh in various ways. This ancient celebration is part of our shared heritage and provides a wonderful occasion to anticipate the coming of Spring and the celebration of Nowruz!

Collective Giving....
A lesson taken to heart
“If it is to be, it is up to me”

One teenager from high school is making a difference in our world. Yasna Goshtasbi (ZAMWI) has so far raised twenty thousand dollars (sixteen thousand dollars for the American Cancer Society (ACS), and four thousand for ZAMWI), with support from her family, friends and the local Zoroastrian community.

A check of 5,200/ Dollars US, (Five thousand, two hundred dollars), raised on the Saturday of the November 2017 fundraiser, “Around the World in Five Hours”, was given to the ACS, at the Sadeh celebration held on 27 January 2018 held at the Kamran Dar-e-Mehr in Boyds, Maryland, USA, as part of this ongoing project.

The two minute video tells the story in Yasna Goshtasbi’s own words. https://youtu.be/aDoakCxHCqc

That evening, the representative from ACS made the community aware of support services provided locally to cancer survivors and their families. □
As Zarathushti migrants grow roots in North America and establish a unique new identity for ourselves in our new western Zarathushti diaspora, traditions are forming.

Harkening back to our countries of origin, to celebrate the New Year and the coming of Spring on March 21st (Jamshedi Navroz) we are suggesting that we tell our friends and neighbors who we are by sharing a snippet of our culture, and reviving the tradition of giving them a gift of ‘mithu mohnu’ – any sweet dish.

**HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE**

We suggest we make something sweet for six or more of our neighbors, gift-wrap it nicely, include a little write up (available from us upon request) in your gift box/plate/basket and deliver it personally to them on or the day before Jamshedī Navroz.

Suggestions for ‘mithoo mohnu' include: Khatai, ravo, badam pak, sev, dahi, mava cake, kumas, Parsi custard, mava ni boi, dar ni pori, badam-ni-boi, Persian toot, or any other traditional sweet dish. If you don't like to cook feel free to order it. Just ensure it is good stuff and authentic.

Try to chat about this project with your friends. It does not have to cost you the moon, the idea really is to share this simple tradition with your neighbors.

We got an email from Vera Springett sharing her idea of what she plans to do for her ‘care and share’.

Vera says: "I'll be making ravo and putting it in mason jars for the neighbors. Each mason jar will contain layers of ravo, then a mix of fried almonds and golden raisins, and so on till the top. I think it will look pretty and make it fun to eat. Maybe I'll provide a spoon too. Let's see. I'll tie the write-up around the lid."

For shipping to addresses in the USA, you may wish to consider ordering ‘badam-ni-boi’ (fish-shaped almond-marzipan) from Roshan Rivetna of Chicago area (RoshanRivetna@gmail.com, 630-340 8272).

For shipping to addresses in Canada, please contact: Niloufer Mavalvala of Greater Toronto Area, Author and Founder, [Niloufer's Kitchen](https://www.facebook.com/NiloufersKitchen) [www.NiloufersKitchen.com](http://wwwNiloufersKitchen.com), [www.twitter.com/NiloufersKtchn](http://www.twitter.com/NiloufersKtchn), [http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/niloufer-mavalvala](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/niloufer-mavalvala), niloufer.mavalvala@gmail.com, M: +1 416 301 9959

We would love to hear back from you, particularly from the Zarathushtis from Iran who are an integral part of the North American diaspora, with creative ideas and suggestions as we travel together on this fun journey and celebrate life.

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**BOOK AWARENESS**

**Valiant Parsis in War and Peace**

By Marzban J. Giara  
320p, 2017

Marzban J. Giara is our acclaimed community historian. He has 42 books to his credit, some authored, some compiled and some translated. His latest book covers highlights of Parsi servicemen during times of war and in times of peace. 550 Parsi names with 200 photographs, with a list of awards and medal recipients, makes this a reference book. A valuable resource of data and facts, recognizing the author’s personal effort to reach out to individuals to request biographical notes and pictures of their family members who contributed to India during the war years and in times of peace.

As Nowruz approaches in just a matter of weeks, we want to know how you and your community will celebrate Nowruz. From home parties with loved ones and haft-seen tables to parades in larger cities, we would like to know how beyond your association's gathering you'll be celebrating.

In the March edition of the FEZANA Bulletin, we will spotlight select pictures how Zarathushtis throughout North America are celebrating the advent of a new year. Here are some ideas depending on where you live:

- Haft-seen table decoration
- Show-and-tell at school
- Girl or Boy Scouts presentations
- Museum displays in larger cities
- Parades in larger cities
- Local newspaper, radio or television coverage
- Presentations at nursing homes

Pictures should be emailed and include names, spellings and a 1-2 sentence description. Email your photos to admin@fezana.org no later than Friday March 9!

Video: “It’s Not Me, It’s You”
FEZANA sent a team to the World Oceans Conference held at United Nations Head Quarters in June 2017. What did we learn?

In this short video clip we share one of the key take away points from our experience at the international meeting.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBc8nESSzf0

<<< Valentine’s Day. Sandra realizes she has been in a toxic relationship for too long and decides it's time for a break-up. What's more, she has found a new love ...

For more, or to take the pledge, visit: http://www.cleanseas.org/