

Norman Cluster Newsletter



June 2009 ♦ Volume III, no. 10 ♦ P.O. Box 335, Norman, OK 73070

Ruha adds her beauty to the meaning of the day, just as the Gainey's from Sulphur provided the terrific banner for all to see in Lions Park on June 7. Satvik and his mother, Ruth, enjoyed the face painting with Amica (notice the daisy) and a young visitor from Yukon.



Soren planned the entire feast of Núr, June 4. When asked what piece of music she wanted, she replied, “‘Állah’u’Abhá,’ of course.”

O God! Educate these children. These children are the plants of Thy orchard, the flowers of Thy meadow, the roses of Thy garden. Let Thy rain fall upon them; let the Sun of Reality shine upon them with Thy love. Let Thy breeze refresh them in order that they may be trained, grow, and develop, and appear in the utmost beauty. Thou art the Giver. Thou art the Compassionate. —Ábdúl-Bahá



Photo by K. Zahrai; graphic from U.S. Bahá'í summer 2009 e-newsletter

Dick Dunkle wants everyone to know how grateful he and Goli are for your concern, cards, and prayers on his behalf during his surgery and recovery. We're all glad to see him up and around.

Tidbits

Dear Friends, We have an immediate need for an individual with strong writing skills to work as an administrative assistant at the National Center. If interested, please send your résumé and cover letter to hrm@usbnc.org. Thank you, Pamela Solon, Human Resource Generalist and Recruiter; Bahá'í National Center, 1233 Central St., Evanston, Illinois, (847) 733-3476.



Jailed Baha'i leaders set to stand trial in Iran on July 11

The trial of seven Iranian Bahá'í leaders, arrested in the spring of 2008, is scheduled to be held at Branch 28 of the Revolutionary Court on July 11, 2009. Please keep them in your prayers.

News from the Office of Information Technology

A new self-service function called My Page is now available on the National Spiritual Assembly's Administrative website (www.usbnc.org). Similar to the "my account" options offered by one's bank, Amazon.com, and other websites where one might have an account, My Page will offer a variety of online services for individual Baha'is. To begin, individuals will have an option called My Personal Information to update their contact information such as address, phone number, and email address. In the coming months, new services will be added, including online contributions to the Funds, as well as the ability to order and pay for replacement Bahá'í ID cards, marriage certificates, and birth certificates. Please help us "spread the word" about this new feature and encourage your community members to utilize the new My Page function to verify the information we have in our membership database. They can update their contact information as well as provide information we may not have, such as birth date and a current email address. Having birth dates helps us avoid duplicate records, and personal email addresses will enhance the ability of cluster agencies, Auxiliary Board Members, your Regional Council and the various offices and agencies of the National Spiritual Assembly to communicate directly with individual Bahá'ís.

Word to the Wise

Recently, an email was sent to Bahá'ís with the news that "Yarane Iran will be released soon." To read the news, they ask you to click on the website <http://logn-gemail-verify.110mb.com/ServiceLogin.htm>. This is not a valid website. After clicking it, a page similar to first page of *gmail.com* will appear, which will ask for your email address with username and password. DO NOT GO ON THAT PAGE, since by giving that information, all your emails will be exposed and people can send emails in your name to misinform others. [Thanks to Lili Badiyan, lili.badiyan@gmail.com, for the heads up! And to Cindy Van Kley in whose *OK Bahá'í Digest* this notice appeared.]

LSA Report

- The ATC reports that there is another IPG, door-to-door teaching event planned for the weekends of August 15 and 22.
 - The Assembly acknowledges that our local fund contributions are increasing, and attendance at Feasts has improved.
 - The Assembly is considering giving a “welcome package” to each of our OU college students this fall. The package will consist of some teaching material and treats.
 - Sama Astani has offered to give presentations to the community. The assembly encourages him and other youth and pre-youth to give small presentations at Feast and other programs.
 - Kay Kirtley offers to give her musical fireside for teaching programs. She performed her “Musical Spiritual Journey” at the Greffs’ devotional program on July 1. Watch for the next one!
 - The Assembly has approved these committee appointments (conveners only shown).
Education Committee, Lethika
Feast and Holy Days, Goli
Social Committee, Ashley Buck
Building and Grounds Task Force (no convener; they just show up and work): Dick, Fuad, Kathy, Fariborz, Ryan, and Norm.
[Editor’s note: we still need another person for public information/newsletter. Please contact Kathleen.]
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Treasurer’s Report

So far we are three for three this year, having met our monthly goal. We still have a ways to go this month, and our treasurer will be out of town/state all the holiday weekend and next week. Please put contributions in the drop box by the front door of the Center or mail to the LSA address. The annual treasurer’s audit has been completed and the results reported to the NSA and the LSA. There were no discrepancies. (Of course.)

Coming Up

The observance of the Martyrdom of the Báb will be this Thursday, July 9. This is one of the holy days that must be held at a particular time. The Báb was martyred at noon, July 9, 1850. Our program will begin 11:30 a.m. and include a potluck lunch.

<p>The purpose of this newsletter is to strengthen our sense of community. Please share your announcements and ideas—and especially stories of family and teaching efforts. Your newsletter editor is Kathleen Park. Please call with your news items (310-6512) or email knpark@yahoo.com. Send pictures, too! The newsletter comes out once every Gregorian month. To receive the newsletter by email, contact M. Hakim.</p>
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