

by Kebi Boose

Annual General Meeting - April 30th, 2005

Saturday morning, April 30th at Meherana was crystal clear for the annual meeting - we all met down at the Tin Shed Kitchen as the caretaker's residence was being painted (don't forget to check it out and see how great it looks at the upcoming Spring Sahavas). There was a slight breeze and a bit of a chill but the coolness of the spring has allowed all of the wildflowers to continue in their profusion. You should have seen the swaths of larkspur in their vivid purple hue, and in one field, we counted 10 different varieties of flowers. The greenness of the hills and the colors of the flowers all melded together to create an incredible day.

We opened the meeting with the report from the President; Christi Pearson followed by the Treasurer's report which included going over the budget for the 2005-2006 fiscal year. The budget is an ambitious one with [lots of development planned for the next few years](#). From erecting tent cabins (like in Yosemite) for overnight visitors, to enhancing the current kitchen for individual use, to installing a new well and septic system, to a large toilet / shower building with power to be supplied through solar for electricity and propane for cooking and heating water.

The event that everyone was looking forward to was the counting of the 2005 Meherana Ballot voted on by active members. [Three directors were unanimously voted in: Mik Hamilton, Hermann Loew, and Kebi Boose](#). Mik and Hermann are returning board members and are gracious in continuing to give their time and support to Meherana. Kebi is new to the board and is excited to be a part of the new growth phase now in place. Mik, Hermann, and Kebi join other board members not up for re-election at this time: Chris & Christine Pearson, Mary Hamilton, and Roger Blewett.

Mary Marino and Betty Lowman were both re-elected to the Membership Committee, and Janice Rieman, Mike Comerford, and Tom Pearson were re-elected to the Nominating Committee. After the elections for these positions, we learned that the active members had also approved the annual operating budget, the annual capital expenditure budget, and approved the minutes from the 2004 AGM.

After this exciting time we all walked down to Baba's Cabin to admire the new doors made out of old-growth Yosemite sugar pine, to see the new screens for all the windows, and to admire how lovely the inside of the Cabin looks now that it has been sanded, stained and sealed. While in the Cabin, we got to participate in a very special treat. [Behind where Baba's Chair will be positioned was a small hollow in the cement floor and in this hollow each of us put some plaster and paint chips from Baba's Rooms at Meherazad - these were pieces that came off the walls of Baba's upstairs and downstairs bedrooms the first time they were painted after He dropped His Body - so these paint chips were special indeed. Also going into the hollow were some crystals picked up at Meherabad and Seclusion Hill in the early 1980's](#). It was a very touching moment and very special in feeling how linked Meherana is to Baba's Home in the East at Meherazad as well as to Meherabad, the site of His Tomb-Shrine. Afterward, the hollow was filled with mortar and the items will now become a part of the cabin for as long as it exists.

Then, it was on to a sumptuous lunch of turkey burgers on the newly donated outdoor grill where we were joined by others in our community: Paul Williams, the current Meherana

caretaker, Ralph Brown, now a local resident, and Gary and Mehera Kleiner (visiting from Meherabad), who delighted in introducing us to their new one (who is so surrounded by Baba's Love) four-month old Sofia Meher. A great time was had by all devouring the food as well as sharing stories and remembrances. Ah, isn't it great to spend time with other Baba Lovers, sharing in that indescribable connectedness of He who we call our Beloved!

All in all, the annual meeting was a great success, and we hope that more of you will be able to participate in future years as Meherana fully embraces its identity as "[A Retreat Center for the Awakening of the Heart](#)" dedicated to Avatar Meher Baba.

[Avatar Meher Baba Ki Jai!](#)