



YDPSA Akhbar

Young Druze
Professionals of South
Australia

Issue 2
October 2002

“Growing Together”

Ahlan Wa Sahlan to YDPSA Akhbar.

This newsletter aims to keep you informed of the activities of the YDPSA and to encourage your participation at our exciting Community events.

All YDPSA events are supervised and provide a welcoming environment that encourages friendship and interaction between all members of our Community. If you haven't been to one of our events, come and see what all the excitement is about.

Some of our successful past events have included: Annual Druze Mini-conventions; Annual Graduation Nights; Movie Marathons; Quiz Nights and Book Review Nights. Everyone is welcome! (HINT: Read more about our upcoming 'Faith Forums' inside this newsletter)

Motto

Our new motto is 'Growing Together'.

'Growing' reflects our ongoing pursuit of knowledge and our journey as Muwahideen towards purity. 'Together' reflects our strong sense of unity and our dedication to supporting each other through all situations.

Hello from the Executive Committee

The Annual General Meeting was held in June this year and we would like to introduce and welcome the following YDP Executive Committee members & Office Holders for 2202-2003.

- Ghassan Abi-Mosleh—Public Officer
- Slayman Abou-Hamdan
- Sally Andary
- Fadia Daou—Secretary
- Suzan Daou
- Eyad Hassan
- Samir Madi—Assistant Secretary
- Nawal Mashtoub
- David Najjar

Join us

You don't have to have a degree or an office job to join YDPSA. We are all 'professionals' in the sense that our first profession is our dedication to our faith and to each other. We are all equal at YDPSA, so if you are also dedicated to our faith, then come and join us!

Memberships start from only \$10 per year, and being a member has many privileges including discounts at YDPSA events. You can join, give a donation, or get further information about membership at any of our events.

Don't forget that all money raised by the YDPSA goes towards future events and activities to benefit the Community and bring its youth closer together.

Thank you

We would not be where we are today without the support of the Senior Committee of the Australian Druze Society and the Druze Community as a whole. We are your sons and daughters and we hope that by 'Growing Together' - with your ongoing support - we can make you all proud!

Ghassan Abi-Mosleh (Public Officer)

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- Jihan Tabet—Assistant Treasurer
- Ramsey Tabet
- Nizar Zeidan—Treasurer

The new Executive Committee hope to achieve a successful year in uniting our Druze Community and 'Growing Together'.

We would like to gratefully thank the outgoing committee members for their tireless efforts and hard work in uniting our community through the many functions organised.

Nawal Mashtoub



56th ADS Convention, Boca Raton, Florida

Well, where do I start? There was music, dancing, and singing.....and of course religious seminars and discussion groups.....then some more music, dancing, and singing.....

Seriously speaking, a good time was had by all. A lot of entertainment was provided, with day and night events incorporating a variety of Arabic music, dabke, and poetry recitals. It was a great cultural experience. We all enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate our Middle Eastern culture. Everyone had a chance to get to know each other, whether it was at the South Beach trip, the Picnic, or one of the Youth Discussion Groups.

But Conventions are not just about entertainment! There was a good balance between socialising activities and religious activities.

Discussion of religious topics and issues facing the Druze in Western societies was encouraged through a variety of forums.

Geographical distances between the Druze living in the USA, Canada and Australia, were quickly bridged as it became evident that Druze people all over the world share many things in common. Many new friends were made and email addresses were gathered from all over the globe. I am still in contact with the friends that I made at the 2000 ADS Convention in Beirut. It was great catching up with them at the Florida Convention this year.

I think we were all a little surprised to meet a few long lost relatives. It doesn't take long to figure out that you are related to someone that you have never seen (or even heard of) before. For people who believe Conventions to be an expensive one -week holiday, consider the long -term benefits. I wouldn't put a price on the friends that I have made, the relatives that I have discovered and the peace of mind that comes with knowing that Druze from all over the world share more than just the word "Druze" in common.

Sally Andary

Fadia & Sally with old friends and new at the Convention Ball.

YDPSA Movie Night Review.

Our Movie Marathon was held on 21st July at the Druse Hall and proved to be a great success attracting people of all ages. The first movie 'Harry Potter' was viewed at 3.00pm with an attendance of 25 people. It was followed by 'The One' starring Jet Li at 6.00pm with an attendance of 55 people.

The movies were shown on a Home Theatre Projector with full surround digital sound. Popcorn, chips and drinks were available throughout the night and games were provided to keep the children entertained prior to the movies and during breaks. Everyone who attended had a great time and we can't wait for the next 'Movie Night'. Keep on eye open for the up coming event which will be bigger and better! A very big thank you is given to the following people who donated equipment and supplies on the night.

We appreciate your support and generous contributions.

- Haitham Masri
- Zaher & Sally Hilal
- David Najjar
- Ghassan Abi-Mosleh

Another successful Movie Marathon was held on 6th October featuring the movies Monsters Inc & The Others. Thank you to everyone who participated and to everyone who donated their time and equipment for the day.

Jihan Tabet (Asst Treasurer)



What is a Faith Forum?

The concept of the Faith Forum is to provide members of the YDPSA an opportunity to learn more about our faith.

An important component of the Tawhid faith is the quest for knowledge and this can be bought about by sharing thoughts and experiences and discussing issues that are commonplace amongst Druze people living in Australia. We will also present chapters from various books written on the Druze faith and they will be discussed in detail. We encourage you to let us know if there is a specific issue that you would like discussed.

The Faith Forum will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month and is a foundation of the YDPSA. All members of the family are welcome. For further information on the next Faith Forum see our upcoming events column.

Fadia Daou (Secretary)

Members of our community having a good time at the Movie Marathon.

Community Profile...

Name: Jad Ghosn
Star Sign: Pisces
Age: 4½ years
Fav Colour: Red
Fav Movie: Harry Potter
Fav Football Team: Port Power
Fav Shop: Toys R Us
What do you want to be when you grow up:
 I want to fix cars with my Dad
Do you like Summer or Winter: Summer

What is your fav show on TV:
 The Simpsons & Everybody Loves Raymond
What is your favourite animal:
 Dogs, Cats & Birds
Fav music or song: ABC Song & Bob's Songs
Favourite Drink: Coca Cola
Chocolate or Vanilla: All Chocolate
What would you like the YDPSA to hold:
 Movies at the Hall and going to the park.

Business Profile

Name of company:
 K&R El-Awar Painting and Decorating Services

Services offered:

- Painting
- Decorating

Specialising in decorative finishes such as:

- Gold leaf,
- Marbelling
- French wash
- Scrumbling

Kamal is a member of the Master Painter Association and worked in Saudi Arabia and Lebanon before moving to Australia. Kamal works six days a week.





Young Druze Professionals of South Australia

c/- Secretary
153 Main Road
Blackwood SA 5051
Phone: 0403 445 666
Email: ydpsa@yahoo.com

'Growing Together'



**Email us at
ydpsa@yahoo.com
with any feedback**

Interesting web-links

www.nasibmakarem.html
www.druze.org - American Druze Society
www.ydp.com - Young Druze Professionals, USA
communities.msn.co.uk/ShababDruze - Discussion Group
www.beit-al-yateem.org.lb
www.druzeyouth.org - American Druze Youth
www.druzestudies.org - Institute of Druze Studies

If you know of any interesting links please send them to the Secretary at ydpsa@yahoo.com.

Druze prayer

A Prayer Expressing Thanks to God

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful!
Oh God! The p:
The One to call upon, tl
Wisemen and the n.
We are guided by You, we depend on You
and we are able to see because of Your light.
You are the source of forgiveness and help.
For all this we Thank You.

Diary Dates/Invite feedback

Hello Everyone

The next event will be a Quiz Night on Saturday 26th October at 7.30pm at the Druze Hall. Please see the attached flyer for further information.

We also look forward to seeing you at the next Faith Forum which will be held on Thursday 14th November at 7.30pm at the Druze Hall. If you have any specific topics you would like to discuss please let me know.

Watch this space for exciting news about our Big Weekend in January (Dates are to be confirmed but we are looking at 11th & 12th of January 2003)

We are in the process of organising this trip either for Sydney or the Riverland.

If you have any feedback regarding this Newsletter or any of our events please contact the Secretary on 0403 445 666 or ydpsa@yahoo.com.

The success of the YDPSA depends on you the members so please let us know if there are any particular events you would like us to hold or if you wish to contribute an article to the Newsletter.

Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you soon.