

BAAT NEWSLETTER

May 2011

BAAT CELEBRATES BURMESE NEW YEAR

Members and friends are cordially invited to come celebrate the Burmese New Year.

Agenda:

- Registration..... 11:00 AM
- Lunch..... 12:00 - 1:00 PM
- Dances & Entertainment.....1:00 PM
- Chinlone Tournament2:00 PM
- Tea Break.....3:00 PM
- Water Festival...4:00 PM

Fees:

\$5 for food [free if you bring food]
 BAAT membership fees are due
 [\$10/person or \$25/family]



Inside this issue:

Picnic Details	2
BAAT History	3
BAAT Officer List	3
Miscellaneous News	4

Special points of interest:

- Picnic details
- Announcements

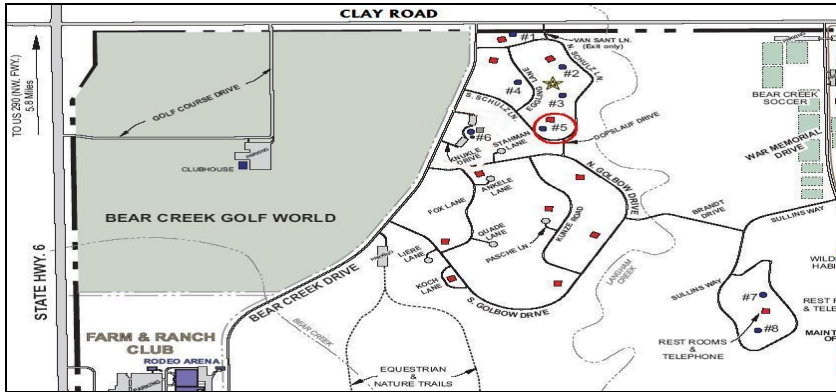
PICNIC INVITATION

Fun, sun, great food, music, fellowship and splashes

When: June 4, 2011 (Saturday)
11:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Where : Bear Creek Park, Pavilion #5

Pot-luck lunch.
 Bring your family members & friends.

PICNIC DETAILS



Directions:

From Belt Way 8, exit Clay Road and go west (towards High-way 6) for about 4 to 5 miles. Pass Eldridge Road and War Memorial Drive. Turn left on Bear Creek Drive into Bear Creek Park.

From High-way 6, turn right on Clay Road and go east. Turn right again on Bear Creek Drive into Bear Creek Park. Please see the map for further clarification.

If you need further assistance please call Ko Myo Aye Thane (281) 221-6255, Ma Thant Zin Han (832)-633-9598 and Ko James Yoe (832) 265-3400.

Schedule of Events	
Members/guests Registration	11:00 AM
Pot-luck Lunch	12:00 -1:00 PM
Welcome and Announcements	1:00 - 1: 15 PM
Dances & Musical Entertainment	1:15 - 2:00 PM
Games for Adults and Children	2:00 - 3:00 PM
Tea Break	3:00 - 3:30 PM
Continue Games	3:30 - 4:00 PM
Water Festival	4:00 - 5:00 PM
Clean Up	5:00 - 5:30 PM

To prevent dehydration, please bring extra drinking water and keep it in your car.
If you plan to participate in the water festival, please bring spare clothes.

SUGGESTIONS

LUNCH

Please bring **10 to 15 servings** of your favorite dish to share your excellent cooking with friends. Home-made dishes are very popular at the picnic.

If you need idea on what to bring, please contact Daw Lilian Min(832-633-9598) or Daw San San Myint (281-530-1898).

BAAT will provide white rice, drinks, tea, snack, and plastic utensils.

BAAT MEMBERS AND THOSE WHO CANNOT BRING FOOD CAN ENJOY LUNCH BY PAYING \$5.00 PER PERSON AT THE REGISTRATION DESK.

BURMESE STUFF

A variety of Burmese magazines, novels and tapes will be on sale at reasonable prices. All proceeds from this sale will be donated to BAAT.

IF YOU WISH TO SELL BURMESE MUSIC OR CULTURE RELATED ITEMS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO BAAT MEMBERS AT THE PICNIC, PLEASE CALL STEPHEN YOE (BAAT PRESIDENT) IN ADVANCE TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE BAAT POLICIES.

THE AUCTION

Every year, BAAT members find THE AUCTION very entertaining. You can earn extra cash by auctioning off your hidden treasures at the picnic and donating a portion of your proceeds to BAAT.

JUST CALL ANY BAAT OFFICER IN ADVANCE

BAAT IS GOING GREEN!

YOU CAN HELP BAAT AND THE ENVIRONMENT BY USING THE PLASTIC UTENSILS SPARINGLY AT THE PICNIC. THIS NEWSLETTER IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT.

 **THANKS FOR YOUR CONCERN FOR THE WORLD.**

TIPS FOR PICNIC SUCCESS

Register at the front desk and pick up your nametag, review your membership status and contact information.

If your address changed, please provide your new contact information so that you will continue to receive newsletter from BAAT.

Game timetable will be posted on a board. Please check it often to find out the exact time of a game.

BAAT APPRECIATES YOUR HELP IN MAKING THE PICNIC ENJOYABLE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS.

Water balloons are not allowed.

Please do not throw water at people who stay inside the pavilion or anyone who does not wish to get wet.

Please understand and respect the needs of others.

2011 BAAT OFFICERS

President:	U Stephen Yoe (281-265-3300)
VP-Executive:	Daw Thant Zin Han (832-633-9598)
Secretary I:	U Kyi Min
Secretary II:	U Myat Kyaw (281-409-3592)
Treasurer:	Daw Terry Win
VP-Finance:	U Robert Chan (281-242-8915)
VP-Social:	U Shwe Tun Aung (713-447-0438)
VP-Austin:	Daw Wa Wa Myint (512-451-2348)
VP-Dallas:	Daw Molly Win (817-292-3969)
VP-San Antonio:	U Tin Aung Hla (210-490-0519)
Resettlement Committee:	Daw Lilian Min (832-633-9598)
Past President :	Daw Aye Aye Kyi (281-565-0364)

MISSION STATEMENT

To establish a multi-ethnic, non-denominational activity center called the [Burmese Cultural Center of Texas](#) to promote [Burmese](#) culture, language, literature, and works of art by equipping it with a library in order to educate the public at large in [Burmese](#) culture through reading and self-exploration.

To sponsor and invite well-known [Burmese](#) scholars, artists, musicians, and religious and spiritual philosophers to conduct and present seminars, classes, and educational workshops with the purpose of promoting and educating the public on various facets of [Burmese](#) culture.

To promote and foster friendship, fellowship, and racial harmony between the [Burmese](#) and all other racial and ethnic groups living in the United States of America through cross-cultural social activities that engender cultural interactions amongst a diverse community.

To help eliminate prejudice and discrimination and establish fraternal relations amongst members of the community by encouraging and advancing cultural diversity and tolerance towards ethnic and racial differences through cultural awareness programs and social activities.

To assist the [Burmese](#) immigrants in learning the English language and provide the upward mobility necessary to improve their socio-economic conditions.

DO YOU KNOW HOW BAAT ORIGINATED?

Twenty six years ago, approximately 50 Burmese adults and children celebrated the Annual Water Festival on April 14 at Bear Creek Park in Houston, Texas. As if Thagyar Min (The King of the Celestial Beings) wanted to bless the Burmese folks for celebrating the first water festival in Houston, rain poured down heavily that day and doused all picnic participants. Never the less, the notion to plan a more organized celebration was born that day. In the following year, 1986, approximately 100 people attended an organized picnic at Bear Creek Park on April 20.

Three years later, a formal organization was formed and Articles of Incorporation for the Burmese American Association of

Texas (BAAT) was submitted to the Secretary of State of Texas in March 1989. The first Board of Directors were Norman Zaw Wong, Min Jack Tham and Peter Saw.

When was the first time you attended BAAT Thingyan picnic? How did you come to know about it? Do you remember the details? Please send your BAAT picnic story to member.services@baatx.org by August 31, 2011. The most compelling story will be featured in the next

BAAT newsletter.

"We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."

Albert Einstein

Please limit your story to 200 words.

Also you must be a paid member to submit your story. Please provide your full name, address and phone number in your e-mail.



**BURMESE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS (BAAT)
HOUSTON, TEXAS**

E-mail: member.services@baatx.org

Twitter: #BAATxOrg

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/burmese-american-association-of-texas-baat->

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/BAAT-Burmese-American-Association-of-Texas/218904241469693>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/BAATxOrg>

If you wish to receive e-newsletter and periodic e-mails from BAAT, please send an e-mail to BAAT.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

WEBSITES

If you would like to check out a new Burmese cook book, please go to, www.hsaba.com.

Do you know the botanical name of a popular Burmese leaf called Kadat? Check out www.tuninst.net/MyanMedPlants which has an impressive list of Burmese medicinal plants and botanical names.



BAAT picnic and November party exist through the dedicated effort of volunteers.

**Your service make a difference to
The Burmese-American Community.**

**DUES
ARE
DUE**

Single membership: \$10
Family membership: \$25

Pay your membership dues at the picnic or mail your check to U Robert Chan (VP-Finance) at 165 N. Hall Drive, Sugar Land, TX 77478. Checks should be payable to **BAAT**.

If you have not paid membership dues in 2010, please reinstate your membership. Members are not required to pay past dues for the years before 2010.

Do you have a talented child who would like to perform at the BAAT party in November?

Send an e-mail to BAAT mentioning the child's name and age, name of instrument that he/she plays and his/her availability.

