



LOHANA SAMAJ NEWSLETTER



LOHANA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

P.O. Box 927, Adelaide Post Station, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2K3

March 2007, Issue # 1

www.mylohana.com

Editor: Ricky Chandarana

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Anuj Tanna (President)
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Sahil Radia (Vice President)
(905) 567-6941

Sejal Thakrar (Vice President)
(905) 568-4340

Report from the Executive Committee **“BE PROUD, BE LOHANA”**

Jai Shri Krishna, Jai Raghuvanshi, Jai Jalaram Bapa & Jai Swaminarayan

The proud tradition of the Lohana community continues, we had a very successful passing of the banner to a new Executive Committee during the 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM). And we, the new members of the Executive Committee, are committed to promoting the cultural and social wellbeing of the Lohanas. All the Executive Committee members wish to thank the community for giving us the opportunity to serve you. We will do our best to meet the expectations of our community over the next 12 months.

The AGM was a great success,. The efficiently short meeting where all the Agenda items, and more, were dealt with in a quick and effective manner, attest to our professionalism; and the happy inter-mingling that followed highlighted that the AGM is more than just an administrative exercise.

We want to take this opportunity to identify the Executive Committee for the year 2007, with the responsibilities of the committee members indicated in parenthesis: **Kamlesh Thakrar** (President); **Sunit Radia** (Vice President & Youth Camp); **Lalithbai Kanabar** (Treasurer); **Beju Lakhani** (Secretary); **Deepakbhai Ruparell**; **Vipinbhai Mithia** (Navratri and Vice President of Lohana Mahaparishad); **Narendrabhai Pattani** (Diwali Dinner); **Shakuben Madhvani**; **Vishal Badiani**; **Ricky Chandarana** (Newsletter Editor); and, **Rameshbhai Chotai** (as a past-President, Ex-Officio).

And, more importantly, looking forward to our future pride, the leaders of the Youth group: **Anuj Tanna**, **Sahil Radia**, and **Sejal Thakrar**.

Many thanks to all who have agreed to take a lead role in various community's cultural, youth, social and welfare activities: **Kanitibhai Raja** (Chopda Poojan); **Jaswantbhai Saujani** (Picnic); **Dipak Dhrona** (Camp & Picnic); **Tushar Thakker** (Golf); **Prasannaben Tanna & Bhavnaben Radia** (Youth Camp); **Dhirubhai Madhvani** (updating database and the auto-dialer); **Vipinbhai Mithia**, **Kantibhai Raja**, and **Sureshbhai Thakrar** (Funeral Committee).

Many more members have indicated their willingness to assist us throughout the year, and we take this opportunity to thank you all in advance and we welcome

~ The best thing ~
 to
 give
 to your **enemy**
 forgiveness;
 to an **opponent**
 tolerance;
 to a **friend**
 your heart;
 to your **child**
 a good;
 to a **father**
 difference;
 to your **mother**
 conduct
 that will
 make her proud
 of
 you;
 to **yourself**
 respect;
 to all **men**
 charity.
 - SWAMI VIVEKANANDA -

you to be part of our open concept Executive Committee.

We want to extend our appreciation and thank you to our elder **Ratilalkaka** and the **Lakhani** brothers and family for offering us the charming Sapphire Banquet Hall, with delightful snacks, and a truly Lohana hospitality for the AGM.

We will provide you the dates for various events in the next newsletter after we have finalized the venues. At this point in time, in order to get the registration rolling as indicated in this newsletter, we do want to confirm that the Youth Camp will be held during the July 1, 2007 Canada Day weekend. Since the number of participants will be limited by the new venue, please pay particular attention to the registration deadlines.

We believe that the Lohana community's key achievement to date has been to hold on to our united community spirit and pride. However, we continue to be challenged by the somewhat disappointing absence of our second or post-boomer generation members as active participants in community activities. We are certain that all of our members, irrespective of age, do realize the tremendous benefits and advantages of being part of a cohesive Lohana community. We hope that more of the young adults come forward over the next few years as their young children grow up and they transfer to the next generation the pride and strong sense of belonging that our previous generations felt for the Lohana community.

Thank you and hoping to see you all at your Lohana community events,

Your 2007 Lohana Executive Committee

P.S. Please constantly check our website (www.mylohana.com) as we will be updating with all the Community happenings. We will also use e-mail for all our programs and updates as well and request your help in sending us your e-mail addresses as well to lohananews@gmail.com

EVENTS PLANNED FOR THE YEAR 2007

Kindly mark your calendars for the following events:

Date	Event
April 8	Youth ~ Laser Quest & Pizza, full details in the flyer & on our Website
June	Young Adult "Roobaroo" Night
June 29-July 1	Youth Summer Camp see full details in the flyer & on our Website
August 26	Summer Picnic
October 19	Navratri
November 9	Chopda Poojan
November 10	Diwali Dinner
TBC	LCA/LCF Golf Tournament & Dinner
January 2008	AGM 2008

LASER QUEST

Hey Youth,

We've decided to have our very first youth event of the year at Laser Quest!

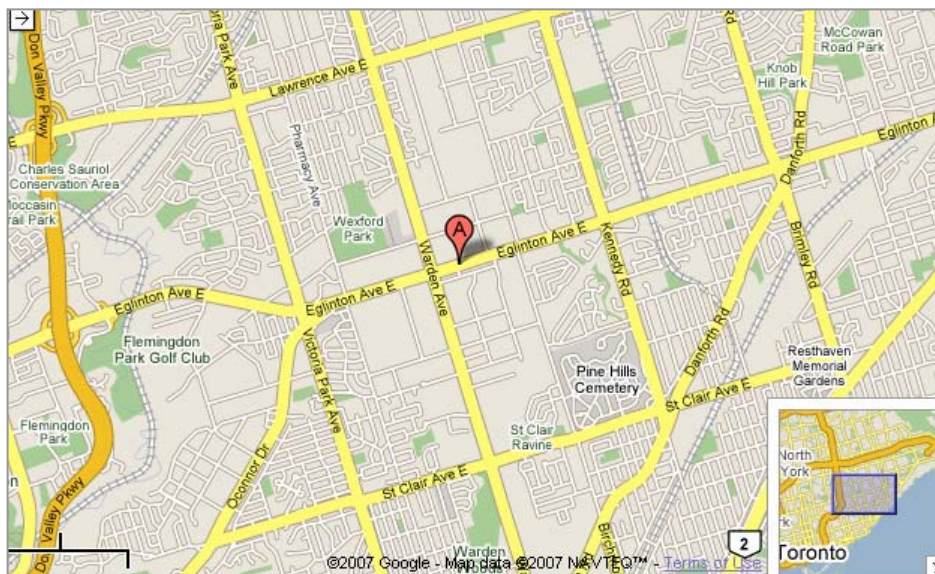
<i>Who</i>	Kids aged 11 and up
<i>What</i>	Laser Quest Laser Tag
<i>When</i>	Sunday, April 8, 2007 (Easter weekend)
<i>Time</i>	1:45 PM – 4:00 PM
<i>First Game</i>	Starts @ 2:00 PM Sharp
<i>Where</i>	Laser Quest 1980 Eglinton Avenue East Scarborough, Ontario M1L 2M6 (416) 285-1333
<i>Cost</i>	\$20/person

The price includes 2 games per person, pizza, and soft drinks as well. You must bring the \$20 on Sunday (April 8th) in cash. Space is limited, so it will be based on a first come first serve basis.

Please confirm your participation by e-mailing us at lcayouth@gmail.com with your name and age as soon as possible so that we can get you on the guest list. If you have any questions, please contact us by e-mail, or call:

Anuj Tanna (905) 430-1311 **Sejal Thakrar** (905) 568-4340 **Sahil Radia** (905) 567-6941

Thanks,
Your 2007 LCA Youth Committee



ROOBAROO – THE INTERACTIVE EVENT FOR YOUTH



-age-
18+



-dress code-
Dress to impress
Semi-formal



-includes-
Dinner



-date-
Friday June 15,
2007



-venue -
TBD



- cost-
\$25 per person

Y U V A

Youth ♦ Urban ♦ Vibrant ♦ Active

- presents -

roobaroo

Karaoke





Antakshari

Kaun banega corepati ?



JAM (just a minute)

~ an event for the youth (university students and young professionals).
~ an opportunity to socialize, interact, and participate.
~ an occasion to have fun, and come together. *Roobaroo*.

 www.yuva4u.com  info@yuva4u.com

YOUTH ADULT INFORMATION

We have started a Yahoo Group for Young Adults (19-35), if you would like to be in touch with news/events please send an email to

lohanacanada-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or vishalabadiani@yahoo.com

Thank you to **Neil Karia** and **Ricky Chandarana** for their assistance with this.

If you would like to assist with organizing any future events or have any comments/ideas please send us to the above email address.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Our Deepest condolences to the following families who have lost their dearest ones.

Thank you Kantibhai for providing this:

- ❖ **Ujamben Jethalal Radia**, mother of **Illaben Niranjan Devani** passed away on February 22, 2007, at the age of 92.
- ❖ **Nirmalaben Narshidas Kotecha**, beloved mother of **Priti Kamlesh Thakrar**, and **Nanima to Sejal & Shreeya** passed away peacefully at the age of 72 on Saturday, September 30th, 2006 in Leicester, UK.
- ❖ **Laljibhai Jutha Radia**, uncle (*fuva*) of **Majithia Brothers**, originally of Saroti Uganda, passed away last month in London, UK.
- ❖ **Dipenbhai Kotak**, brother of **Anjanaben Sachdev** passed away at a very early age of 45 on February 6, 2007.
- ❖ **Laxmiben Amritbhai Khanderia**, mother of **Vinaybhai Khanderia**, **Indiraben Sangani**, **Madhuriben Barai** and **Neelaben Karia**, passed away on January 31, 2007.
- ❖ **Dayaljibhai Ghelani**, father of **Kamlaben Ruparell**, **Illaben Karia**, **Surendrabhai**, **Jashubhai**, **Subhashbhai**, **Navinbhai** and **Bipinbhai Ghelani** and **Niruben Madhlani**, passed away on October 11, 2006
- ❖ **Rajni Lakhani**, brother of **Nayna (Nina) Dattani**, passed away in San Francisco, California on December 5, 2006 at the age of 59.
- ❖ **Nathalal Vithaldas Karia**, father of **Ajitbhai Karia**, passed away Leicester, England on September 14, 2006 at the age of 92.
- ❖ **Prasad Kotecha**, son of **Saileshbhai & Bhartiben Kotecha** passed away at the very young age of 15 in Toronto, Ontario on January 23, 2007. Prasad will be missed by all as he was a very charming and happy child and he taught lots to his family.

MANDIR ACTIVITIES

- ❖ The **Hindu Mandir** invites you to participate in their monthly **Jalaram Bapa Bhajans** on the **1st Sunday** of every month from **5:00pm to 7:00pm**. Every one from the Community is invited and most welcome. Maha Prasad is served immediately afterwards.
- ❖ The **Mississauga Ram Mandir** invites you to participate in their monthly **Jalaram Bapa Bhajans**. They are held every **3rd Thursday** of the month from **7:30pm to 9:00pm**. Every one from the Community is invited and most welcome. For further inquiries please contact **Alka Panchmatia** at **905-542-3332**.
- ❖ The **Vishnu Mandir** invites you to participate in their monthly **Jalaram Bapa Bhajans** on the **last Sunday** of every month from **5:00pm to 7:00pm**. Maha Prasad is served immediately afterwards. For sponsorship and donations, please contact **Prakash Badiani** at **905-737-3585** or **Dipak Bhayani** at **905-886-4800**.
- ❖ **Majithia Brothers** invites the whole community to **Jalaram Bapa Bhajans** on **Sunday, March 25th, 2007** at the Vishnu Mandir.
- ❖ The whole community is invited to celebrate **Yogiji Maharaj Jayanti** on **Sunday May 13th, 2007** from 3:00 - 5:30 PM at the **BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir** 61 Claireville Drive, Toronto, Tel: 416 798 2277. Event is sponsored by some of our community members. For further details please contact **Prabhudasbhai Radia** at **(905) 567-6941**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations are in order for....:

- ❖ **Sona**, daughter of **Mradulaben & Shantilal Ruparelia** of Mississauga, and **Amar**, son of **Savitaben** and (Late) **Vallabhdas Jethwa**, engaged to be married on April 21, 2007.
- ❖ **Agna**, daughter of **Hastibalaben & Arvindbhai Badiani** of Milton and **Sanju**, son of **Shobna Kumary & Gobind Ram Luthra** of Toronto, on their engagement in February, 2007.
- ❖ **Apna**, daughter of **Jaishreeben & Pravinbhai Thakrar** of Mississauga and **Khilan**, son of **Meenaben** and (Late) **Bhupendrabhai Patel**, engaged to be married on April 22, 2007
- ❖ **Shelina**, daughter of **Vidya & Mahmood (Salim) Devji** and **Ronak**, son of **Urmilaben** and **Sureshbhai**, engaged to be married on August 19, 2007.
- ❖ **Radhika**, daughter of **Meenaben & Prafulbhai Lakhani** and **Mandeep**, son of **Satwant Singh & Satpal Kaur Khosla**, engaged to be married on July 21, 2007.
- ❖ **Nikhil**, son of **Minaben & Shaileshbhai Raja** and **Uma**, daughter of **Minaben & Rajbhai Sudra** of Vancouver, B.C., engaged to be married in July, 2007.
- ❖ **Nishant**, son of **Minaben & Shaileshbhai Raja** and **Maria**, daughter of **Taminaben** and **Abdulbhai Rampuri**, engaged to be married in July, 2007.
- ❖ **Nimesh**, son of **Bhartiben & Harshadbhai Ondhia** and **Anoli**, daughter of **Kundanben & Jayantibhai Pabari**, of Dar-es-salaam Tanzania, engaged to get married on August 26, 2007, in London.
- ❖ **Asish**, son of **Ramilaben & Narendrabhai Ondhia** and **Inbal**, daughter of **Bilha** and **Rony**, engaged to be married on July 8, 2007.
- ❖ **Rashay**, son of **Meenaben & Bhikhubhai Jethalal** and **Suha**, daughter of **Pragnaben** and **Mahenbhai Shah**, engaged to be married on April 7, 2007
- ❖ **Jay & Vira Badiani** on the birth of their second daughter, **Nina**, born on October 17, 2006. Proud grandparents are **Nanubhai & Jasuben Badiani** of Winnipeg, Manitoba and **Virbalaben & Rajendrabhai** of Montreal, Quebec. Proudest of all is big sister **Tina**
- ❖ **Tejal & Kamal Kataria** on the birth of their daughter **Maya** on June 29, 2006. Proud grand parents are **Suryakantbhai & Dintaben Kataria** and **Vibhutiben & Rajeshbhai Madhlani** of Porbander, India.
- ❖ **Puja & Bharat Kataria** on the birth of their son **Anay** on August 14, 2006. Proud Grandparents are **Suryakantbhai & Dintaben Kataria** of Toronto and **Chandraguptbhai & Kirenben Raja** of London, U.K.

NEW GRADS – 2006

Lohana Samaj would like to congratulate the following new grads for the year 2006:

Name	Degree
<i>Radhika Bhayani</i>	Hons. BBA from Schulich School of Business York University
<i>Kalpa Dattani</i>	MBA from Wilfrid Laurier University
<i>Bella Karia</i>	Labour Studies from McMaster University
<i>Rickesh Kotecha</i>	Hons. BA Applied Economics, Finance Specialization from University of Waterloo
<i>Julie Raja</i>	Postgraduate in Teaching from University of Exeter
<i>Neil Raja</i>	Hons. BA in Sociology from University of Toronto
<i>Jignesh Ruparelia</i>	Hons. BCom from Ryerson University
<i>Nikin Popat</i>	Bachelor of Engineering (with minor in commerce) from University of Victoria
<i>Reema Thakkar</i>	Bachelor of Science Hons. Major in Neuro-Biology and a Minor in Psychology
<i>Rickin Thakrar</i>	MSc. Economics & Biotechnology from London School of Economics
<i>Leena Rani Vadera</i>	BSc Biology & Psychology from University of Toronto

2007 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ~ A FRIENDLY REMINDER

If you already have **not** paid your 2007 membership fees, please send in your payment. To ensure you continue to receive the Samaj Newsletters, Auto-Dialer messages and other membership advantages, please mail your membership dues - cheque made payable to:

**Lohana Cultural Association
P. O. Box 927
Adelaide Post Office
Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2K3**

**Annual Life Members Fee: \$25/-
Annual Membership (Residents of Greater Toronto Area): \$50/-
Annual Membership (Outside Greater Toronto Area): \$30/-
Life Membership: \$300/-**

Submitted by Jyoti Ondhia

Dear Fellow Members,

First of all, let's applaud the good work that all members and committee members (past and present) do and let's try to help and support each other for our community's future.

I am contacting yourselves to inform you and request your support. I am taking a year's leave of absence (2007-2008). During this time, I hope to travel within Australasia and also stay in India for an extended period and volunteer/donate to the cause of Vision Care. I am contacting you for travel networking contacts and donations. If you have traveled to Australia, New Zealand or Southeast Asia, I would like to hear from you.

For the last few years, Dilip and I have donated funds towards Vision Care in Patan, Gujarat at an eye hospital- Shree HimjaNetraJyoti Hospital. Our contact there, Dr. R. Gandhi (Ophthalmologist) also organizes eye camps in community and rural areas (funded by charitable donations).

As I am going there in person later this year, our target is a much higher one, and we are fundraising toward this goal. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please do so by cash or cheque (payable to Jyoti Ondhia). A receipt can be issued (acknowledgement of amount). This is NOT a tax receipt.

If you feel your personal, work, or corporate contacts can help in fundraising, please forward this information to assist us. Remember that every dollar adds up, so please try and give generously. It is greatly appreciated by us but even more so by the recipients.

If you have any questions, would like more information, or would like to support this worthy cause, please contact me at (416) 493-0194, or by e-mail, at **jyotiondhia@hotmail.com**.

A last request is to please try and get your donations in as soon as possible and at the latest by May 2007. Arrangements for collection can be made by contacting me. Some members are willing to help me with this in the GTA which is greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance for taking the time and trouble and for your support.

Jai Shree Krishna ne Jai Jalaram

Jyoti Ondhia

ADDRESS CHANGES

Due to privacy, the addresses have been removed for the web version



LCA SUMMER CAMP 2007

On June 29, 30 & July 1, 2007

Registration Form

Attach (staple)
camper's recent
wallet size photo
here

Kindly ensure you have followed the steps listed below:

1. Fill in ALL details on the form, and complete one form per camper in CAPITALS.
2. Attach one passport size photograph of camper in space provided.
3. Provide a front and back photocopy of camper's health card.
4. Provide credit card details in space provided (cost is \$125 per camper – payment by VISA only).
5. Mail it to **Sunit Radia**, 5978 Tweed Court, Mississauga, ON L5M 5S6 by **April 30th**
6. **Note:** Due to a restriction on the number of Campers allowed this year, first priority will be given to Lohana children only. Non-Lohana children will be accepted only after May 1st. Registration forms will absolutely not be accepted after May 12th.

CAMPER'S PERSONAL INFORMATION			
Name	first name	last name	
Birthdate	dd/month/yyyy	age (years only)	sex <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female
Address	Number, Street		
	City	Province	Postal Code
Contact info	Home phone	Email	

CAMPER'S PARENTS + PAYMENT INFORMATION		
Dad	dad's name	dad's cell number
Mum	mum's name	mum's cell number
Visa info	Name on credit card	
	Visa number	Expiry date (mm/yyyy)
A charge of \$125 will be made to the VISA card.		

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION (i.e. family / friend - in case either parent cannot be reached)		
Contact	name	relationship
	home phone	cell phone

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		
form fully completed and signed <input type="checkbox"/>	photo provided <input type="checkbox"/>	health card photocopy provided <input type="checkbox"/>
Camper's Id:	Cabin #:	

CAMPER'S MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please provide a front and back photocopy of the health card

Health Card	Health card no.	Version no. <i>(Found as one or more letters following the card number)</i>
Doctor Info	Doctor's name	Doctor's Phone

HEALTH HISTORY

Conditions	Diseases	Allergies
Frequent ear infections	Mononucleosis	Hay Fever
Convulsions	Chicken Pox	Poison Ivy
Diabetes	Measles	Insect Stings
Bleeding/clotting disorders	German Measles	Penicillin
Hypertension	Mumps	Asthma
Heart defects / disease		

Has camper ever required any psychiatric counseling or hospitalization?

Operations / Serious Injuries (with dates)

Disability / Chronic / Recurring illness

Dietary modifications /Allergies

Current medications (send with instructions)

Any specific activities to be encouraged or limited by physician's advice

Any other conditions / allergies / concerns:

PARENT'S DECLARATION

- The person named above has permission to engage in all prescribed camp activities except as noted.
- I have provided Lohana Charitable Foundation (LCF) with all the information concerning my child's health as might be required to provide such care and medical treatment as may be necessary.
- In the event of an emergency where treatment is necessary in the best interest of my child, I hereby give permission to a LCF representative to authorize physician(s) and hospital personnel(s) to provide whatever medical or surgical treatment may be necessary at that time.
- I understand and agree that LCF or representatives or volunteers assigned by them will not be responsible for loss or damage of any personal belongings.
- I will not hold any individual working on behalf of LCF responsible for any damage, or injury suffered by my child during the period of the summer camp.
- By signing this form, I agree that I have read and understood the declaration, and I authorize LCF to charge \$125 to my VISA credit card.

Parents name	Signature	Date
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LOHANA SUMMER CAMP 2007



On June 29, 30 & July 1, 2007

Counselor Application Form

Please fill out this form if you would like to apply to become a Lohana Camp Counselor. Please note that the camper registration form must also be filled out in addition to this one. There will be a total of 4 team leaders and 8 counselors selected for this year's camp. If you are selected you will be contacted via e-mail/phone. Thank you!

Please complete this form and mail it to the address below **no later than April 15, 2007.**

Sunit Radia

5978 Tweed Court, Mississauga, ON, L5M 5S6

CAMPER'S PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name	first name	last name	
Birthdate	dd/month/yyyy	age (<i>years only</i>)	sex <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female
Address	Number, Street		
	City	Province	Postal Code
Contact info	Home phone		Email
	CPR and first aid certified? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		

Please briefly explain why you would like to become a camp counselor

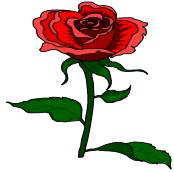
What previous experience do you have as a camp counselor?

What strengths would you bring to this camp?

What are some of your weaknesses that you would like to improve upon?

**Would you be free for one day during the Easter long weekend to have a counselor training session?
(circle one)**

Yes No



ROOTS & WINGS

*“The measure of your success is determined by
the ratio of what you are to what you can become.”*

-- Manoj Popat (Vancouver B.C.)

When I was growing up, my dad instilled in me that the purpose of a family was to give a kid roots. And, he said that school was to help a kid develop wings-to prepare him to be the best he could be.

This roots and wings principle is critical when you are young and searching for your place in life. Roots give you the springboard from which to spread your wings. Family roots are a very important foundation throughout life.

As I worked in our garden this spring and had time to think about where I am in life, the meaning of this roots and wings philosophy became crystal clear. They are very similar to our human life and follow the exact principals of roots and wings. Plants with weak roots didn't make it. They lost the foundation required to survive and never had a chance to blossom.

This same principle holds true in our lives, specially for some us who have moved from one corner of the globe to the other in search of greener pastures {i.e. from India, to Africa, to England and other parts of the world}. Whenever you loose your family roots, you sacrifice an essential part of your life. You can't live as a loner. You need strong root with people who love you and care about you.

In whatever you set out to accomplish in life, you must also develop the roots of learning and experience. If you fail to do this, you deprive yourself of the essential stepping stone to the next opportunity. It's difficult to bloom where you are if you don't have the roots and the nourishment that make it possible for you to blossom.

The interesting fact, however, is the flip side of this roots and wings creed. As we mature and develop roots in our work, these roots often clip our wings and make us too satisfied and complacent.

Just like us, many of our potted plants live around for several years. They survive and become then stagnant in their growth. When we remove these plants from their pots, we find that they are root-bound. They have ample root system but outgrow their environment. We repot some and plant others in the garden. When they have an opportunity to overcome their root-bound conditions, they spread their wings and grow with new enthusiasm. It's easy to get root-bound in life. We find a safe, comfortable place, and we stay there. We avoid change. We clip our wings. We remain in an environment where we have no opportunity or challenge to burst out of our root-bound living and sprout new wings.

There must be passion in life. It matters not whether you are 18 or 81. If you don't have the fervor for challenge, growth and excitement, you quickly become trapped. You'll be safe and comfortable. But your wings will shrivel. Your roots will protect you from risk and possible failure. But there will be no passion for living.

Wherever you are in life, take the time to establish roots with those who are interested in you, who love you and who care about you. Without these significant people in your life, you'll never develop wings.

Then look at your situation in life. Are you in an environment where your roots can flourish, where you can receive nourishment and have the opportunity to expand your wings? If not, make changes. Otherwise, you'll never experience the passion of life that makes living happy and worthwhile.

Perhaps you've permitted yourself to become root-bound and are too comfortable. Get yourself out of these confining surroundings. Reposition yourself where you can find new challenges, establish new roots, re-develop your wings and bring a new glow of passion into your life. {Doesn't this remind you of our plants who are root-bound and then we repot them in a different environment with love and care?} Step out. Do something new and different. Risk. Stretch. If you're afraid to do this, you'll be trapped; you'll never know what real passion for life is all about. And, without passion of life, you'll miss the happiness and personal fulfillment of becoming the very best you can be!