

Akhi, the beggar sage, sits at the city gates, instructing all in the dance of life.

Ask
Akhi...



Oh, I must tell you. I have moved.

"What?" You might say. "Do you no longer sit at the city gate?"

Of course I do. I have not moved far, just a few feet to the left of where I have been trying to get your attention for years. You see, I have recently noticed something. I was beginning to feel very uncomfortable where I sat.

"But Akhi," you will say, "sitting on the ground is supposed to be uncomfortable."

I agree, and I am accustomed to that discomfort. No, what I noticed recently was something very new. And when I moved my rug to see what it was I was now sitting on, I saw something green pushing up from the ground. Somehow, a bulb or a nut from the pack of a passing camel must have wiggled free and found a home in the very place where Akhi sits. So I have moved.

"But Akhi!" you might say. "This your place at the gate. You were here first. Surely you will uproot the intruder."

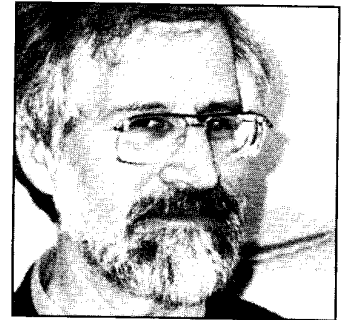
Thank you for looking out for Akhi. You are kind, but I welcome this newcomer. If it is a bulb, it will provide a beautiful flower and a most pleasant fragrance to bless Akhi from morning till dusk. If it is the first shoot of a nut tree, it will some day provide shade for Akhi and perhaps a harvest I can share with others at the gate.

The flower will return every year to bless me, even if I forget it is coming. The tree will remain long after Akhi has begged his last coin. No, this shoot is in its own place, and Akhi will move just far enough to allow it to grow, but stay close enough to enjoy its company. It makes for the dance.

Praise be Allah in all his living things.

Spotlight On: Stan Kozak

An original board member



Occupation: Sound systems consultant and sales rep. for Phil Reddish Sound; theater sound designer for Great Lakes Theater Festival and Porthouse Theater.

Relationship to Beacon Street: Founding board member.

Birthday: Yes. April 2 to be specific.

Family: Mother, Margaret; Brother, Tom, and sister-in-law Cynthia; niece, Ellett John.

Favorite Movies: *Field of Dreams*, *Doctor Zhivago*, The Indiana Jones trilogy, *Dances With Wolves*, *The Competition*.

Favorite Books: *The Brother Cadfael series*; *A Child's Christmas in Wales*; *Lake Wobegon Days*, by Garrison Keillor; J.R.R. Tolkein's *Lord of the Rings*; Leonard Bernstein's *Findings*; Thomas Merton's *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*.

Hobbies: Playing the piano and drums; model trains, theater, and audio and computer systems.

Best thing about working with BS: The chance to support wonderful friends and gifted performers. Yes, they are one and all the same.

Motto: "While life often serves up a diet of lemons, it behooves one to develop a craving for iced tea."

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