

# **RIACC** (Regional Indian American Community Center)

Hall of Worship & Amy Community Center. Non Profit Tax Exempt 501 c(3) {Tax ID: 62-1497843}  
PO Box 411, Kingsport, TN 37662 Tel No.: (423) 349 6515  
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## **NEWSLETTER QUARTER III 2010**

Date	Day	Time	Function
5-Sep	Sun	11:00 AM	Radha Krishna Havan
11-Sep	Sat	11:00 AM	Golf-Tournament **
12-Sep	Sun	11:00 AM	Ganesh Chaturthi
19-Sep	Sat	TBD	Vishnu Sahasranama
26-Sep	Sun	11:00 AM	Satyanarayan Katha
3-Oct	Sun	11:00 AM	Bhagwad Gita Discussion
8-Oct	Fri	TBD	Navratri Begins.
10-Oct	Sun	11:00 AM	Durga Havan
13-Oct	Wed	TBD	Navratri Garba
17-Oct	Sun	11:00 AM	Vijay Dashmi
24-Oct	Sun	11:00 AM	Satyanarayan Katha
31-Oct	Sun	11:00 AM	Vishnu Sahasranama

\*\* RIACC Golf Tournament will be held will be played Crockett's Ridge Golf Course, Kingsport, TN. The Fee per Player is \$80. The Golf Event will be followed by dinner at Saheb Restaurant at Johnson City. [For queries contact Andy Delwadia at \(423\) 288-8556 or Ashok Gala at \(423\) 288-8501](#)

The RIACC Youth Club continues to grow from strength to strength thanks to the effort by both the kids and the parents involved. This is a great forum with tremendous potential so please keep up your enthusiasm. We will continue to have many more exciting events and programs so stay-tuned. For any questions please contact Mrs. Parul Majethia at pridypam@yahoo.com

### **Friendly Reminder**

A big thank you to the members of the community who have paid their Yearly Membership fee of \$125 and a reminder to those who have not yet made the payment. Please do so at the earliest. Payment can be made via a check.

### **☀HOW Hours☀**

Sun-Fri: 10:30am-1:00pm; 6:00-8:00pm; ~On Saturdays Call Before Visiting~ Aarti at 12:30pm and 7:30pm.

## ***How to use proper RSVP Etiquette?***

*By Brinda Gala*



I am writing this on behalf of all the families who have recently hosted major weddings/events in the last few years. Honestly, they have not asked me to write this article. I have heard of horror stories about people not R.S.V.P'ing. Some of these folks had to resort to last minute phone calls to ask people if they were planning on attending so they could get a reasonable head count.

So, what does RSVP mean? RSVP is a French acronym that means "Repondez S'il Vous Plait" which is translated in English to mean "please respond or respond please".

Pay strict attention to the deadline. The host will set the deadline for the RSVP. It is important that you adhere to this because party preparations are made based on the number of RSVP responses received. The caterer needs to be notified and many require an advance notice. The wedding hall needs to be booked. If there is assigned seating that creates more problems. Don't wait until the day of the event. That is poor etiquette. I am going to give a real example of some folks that I ran into on the day (or a day before) one of the major events & asked them if they coming to the event, their answer was and I am not making this up – We shall see. I was wondering what they meant by that, did they mean we have replied yes but shall see if we feel like it or they meant we have not replied yet but will just show up. I wonder!! By the way...This also applies to RIACC hosted events. Here are some other guidelines -

- If the invitation says "Regrets only", you need to RSVP only if you cannot attend the event. Otherwise, the host has already counted you in. Remember to contact the host if you cannot attend.
- Do not answer yes to the RSVP & fail to show up. Only a matter of serious illness or death should keep you away. It is bad etiquette to RSVP stating you will attend and not show up.

### ***Words of Wisdom: FORGIVENESS***

- The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong. (Mahatma Gandhi)
- Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned. (The Buddha)
- Subvert anger by forgiveness. (Jainism)
- Be quick in the race for forgiveness from your Lord, and in the race for a garden wide as the heavens and the earth, prepared for the righteous [the righteous are] those who spend whether in prosperity or adversity, who restrain anger and who pardon all people. For God loves those who do good. (Islam)
- There is only one defect in forgiving persons...that defect is that people take a forgiving person to be weak. That defect, however, should not be taken into consideration, for forgiveness is a great power. Forgiveness subdues (all) in this world; what is there that forgiveness cannot achieve? What can a wicked person do unto him who carries the sabre of forgiveness in his hand? (Mahabharata)

## *Anniversary Celebration: Children Steal The Show*

*By G.S. Kumar*

One often hears doubts expressed about today's youngsters. That they are not like us, they are different. If the 2010 HOW Anniversary Celebrations, are any indication, they definitely are different. They are far; far superior to us! We can rest assured that this turbulent, messy world we see today, will see better days, once they grow up and take over the reins.

When I saw the beautiful anniversary program with details like, "Ashtotra Archana" at 5:05 p.m., "Ganesh Vandana" at 5:55 p.m., I said to myself "No way! This is fantasy! RIACC can't stick to that kind of a strict schedule" I was in for a surprise. Everything started and finished on time like clockwork. Congratulations to Megha Narang, the Executive Committee & countless other volunteers for this incredible feat. With time generally at a premium in this mad, mad, mad world, it is amazing that so many in the community came together and put up a fantastic show that will be etched in our memory for years to come. I take that back: we will have something even better next year, since these youngsters will be an year older.

Everyone did so well that it is impossible to name names. However, I will attempt to give a flavor of what you missed if you weren't there. Sonny Kadam was literally tied up in knots at one point in his thrilling "Magic Yo-yo Tricks", but he didn't lose his composure. He patiently untied the knots and continued. Then there was Sohum Belgode who was so calm, cool and serene, that he chewed gum and gave an exceptional violin recital at the same time. Such were the talented youngsters that performed during these two amazing days.

The first evening also featured a fantastic Bharat Natyam concert, done incredibly well, by mother - daughter team of Bhavani and Ranjani Murthy, Nila Patel, Gayatri Jaishanker, Rakshita Belgode and the rest of the "Group" as the program called it. These talented artistes should lay their claim on that title "Group" and they are sure to be in great demand all over our region.

The "prasad" for this memorable evening was a South Indian feast with mouth watering dishes contributed by too many talented and hardworking ladies to list.

Day 2 started with Lakshmi Venkatesh Havan under the new dome outside the auditorium. The dome is a welcome addition, well thought out by our eminent planners. One doesn't have to sit in the sun to participate in this sacred ceremony. Sunday was nippy and the hot "chai" with yummy snacks was just the thing the 'doctors ordered'. Mishraji has become almost as fluent in English as he is in Hindi and Sanskrit and gave a moving "Mother's Day" Speech. Bhajans were short and sweet during & after the Abhishekam (while the deities were being adorned).

The Fashion Show and the rest of the program too matched the tempo set the earlier day. It was thrilling to see Meena and Paul Dhaliwal round up the children's routine in an impromptu fashion, showing that we elders were not far behind the youngsters in humor, if not in talent.

RIACC Hall of Worship  
P.O. Box 411  
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### ***Important Announcements***

- **Congratulations to** Dr. Amol Sharma, son of Dr. Mahendra K. Sharma & Mrs. Rama Sharma, who recently married Dr. Seema Sharma, daughter of Mr. Praveen Sharma & Mrs. Rama Sharma from New Delhi, India. Amol graduated Dobyns-Bennett High School, Class of 2000. He obtained his Bachelor & Master Degrees in Biomedical Engineering from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH in 2004. He completed his M.D. from Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia in 2008. Presently, he is a Resident Physician at Temple University Hospitals, Philadelphia, PA. Dr. Seema Sharma completed her training in Naturopathy from New Delhi, India. She is an actively practicing Naturopathic Doctor, with concentration in yoga and meditation. She has treated many ailments such as arthritis, obesity, and skin diseases with a combination of mud, massage, hydrotherapy. Many members of the Tri-city RIACC community helped the Sharma family celebrate the marriage reception in Holiday Inn, Bristol, VA on June 5, 2010.
- **Congratulations to the Graduates 2010:** Ryan Sahni, Adi Suresh, Jiten Solanki and Samir Gala have graduated from Dobyns Bennett High School.
- **Congratulations to the new Dentists:** Dr. Anish Gala and Dr. Monica Delwadia who graduated from UT Health Sciences School with a Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree.
- **Congratulations** to Dr Anuj Sharma who has graduated Medical college, and is working as a Resident at Shands Hospital, UF, Gainesville, FL.
- **Farewell** to Megha, Nitin and Naman Narang as they move away from Tricities to sunny California. Megha you did a phenomenal job in the short time you were the President and we will surely miss you all.
- **Condolences** to Dr Puneet Goenka & his family on the passing-away of his mother . She was an avid temple devotees and her energy & spirit will surely be missed.

#### **Directions to the Hall of Worship:**

From Johnson City - Take I-26 towards Kingsport. Take Exit 6 (Rock Springs Exit). Take a left on the RAMP and see below

From Kingsport: Take I-26 towards Johnson City. Take exit 6 (Rock Springs Exit). Take a Right on the RAMP and see below

Drive about quarter of a mile and make a left turn on to Westfield Road, immediately after the Power building. Drive about half a mile and keep right on the fork onto Westfield place, the third building on the left is Hall of Worship.