

HARI Times...

Priest: R. C. Yagnik

SITA-RAMA * RADHE-SHYAM

February 2002

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President:

Mr. Ashok Agarwal 761-0784

Sr. Vice President:

Mr. Divyang Pathak 938-1769

Secretary/Treasurer:

Mr. Neeraj Deorah 691-7597

Vice Presidents:

Mrs. Malini Agarwal 728-7638

Mr. Avnish Gupta 737-3845

Miss Payal Parekh 428-3721

Mrs. Dina Patel 766-1775

Mr. Satyajit Saha 657-2061

Mrs. Ami Zumkhawala-Cook
697-2394

HARI School Director:

Mr. Hiten N. Amin 732-0513

Youth Forum Director:

Dr. Mukul Parikh 728-9801

Lunch Coordinator:

Mrs. Prabha Kulkarni 732-8127

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Chairman:

Mr. Dasa Gangadhar 763-8545

Members:

Mr. Janak Amin 540-5380

Dr. Ganesh Bal 732-0213

Mrs. Heena Barad 766-9165

Mr. Narendra Desai 741-4737

Mrs. Aruna Lal 732-5899

Mr. Pravin Patel 766-6256

Dr. V. C. Shah 732-6454

Mr. J. P. Sheth 299-5700

Mr. Ashok Shukla 737-1919

MONTHLY HAVAN

Saturday, February 9, 2002

Havan: 3:00 PM ~ 5:00 PM

Prasad by

HARI Executive Committee



SARASWATI POOJA

Sunday, February 24, 2002

Pooja at 11:00 AM

Aarti at Noon

Followed by Lunch Prasad

Sponsored by Bengali Families

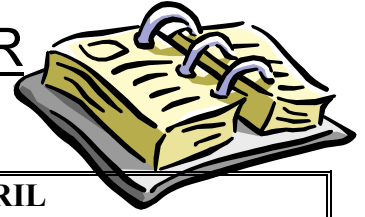
Goddess Saraswati is the powers of speech, wisdom and learning. She has four hands that represent four aspects of human personality in learning - mind, intellect, alertness and ego. She has sacred scriptures in one hand and a lotus (a symbol of true knowledge) in the second. With her other two hands, she plays the music of love and life on *veena*. She is dressed in white (sign of purity) and sits on a white lotus.

Saraswati worship is done round the year but certain specified periods of the Hindu calendar are regarded as especially propitious for her worship. ***Basant Panchami*** -- the fifth day of the fortnight following the new moon occurring during spring (*basant*) -- is observed as the day dedicated to the goddess. Rabindranath Tagore, the Nobel laureate for literature (1913), had organized such celebrations at Shantiniketan near Kolkata in West Bengal. The tradition started by him continues to this day. Wherever there is a sizable concentration of Hindus, there is bound to be a ***Basant Panchami*** celebration.

You are invited to attend the celebration!

301 Steigerwalt Hollow Road * New Cumberland * PA 17070 * (717) 774-7750

www.haritemple.org

COMMUNITY**CALENDAR**❖ **Ekadashi, Poornima and Amawasya Dates:**

	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
EKADASHI (Krishna)	2/8/02, Friday SAT-TILA	3/9/02, Saturday VIJYA	4/8/02, Monday PAPMOCHINI
AMAWASYA	2/12/02, Tuesday DARSH	3/14/02, Thursday	4/12/02, Friday DARSH
EKADASHI (Shukla)	2/23/02, Saturday, JAYA	3/25/02, Monday PUSHYA NAKSAMALKI	4/23/02, Tuesday KAMDA
POORNIMA	2/27/02, Tuesday, MAGHI PURNIMA	3/28/02, Thursday FAGUN PURNIMA	4/27/02, Saturday CHAITRA PURNIMA

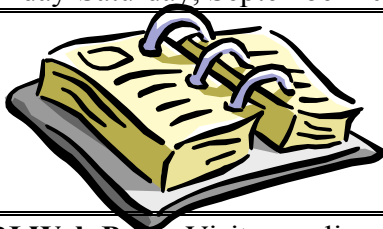
Note: *Panchangam* is available with Rev. Shastriji for reference.

❖ **HARI Sunday School will observe following holidays:**

2/17/02	President's Day (weekend)
3/31/02	Holi Celebration
4/07/02	Ramanavami Program
4/14/02	Sri Rama Katha
4/21/02	Sri Rama Katha
5/26/02	Memorial Day

❖ **HARI is booked for private events on the following dates for the year 2002.**

❖ Saturday, April 13 through Sunday, April 21 (nine days)
❖ Saturday, May 4
❖ Saturday, May 11
❖ Sunday, September 1
❖ Friday-Saturday, September 20-21

❖ **Actual Dates of Major Hindu Festivals:**

1/14/02, Monday	Pongal, Makar Sankranti
2/17/02, Sunday	Vasant Panchami
2/19/02, Tuesday	Rath Saptami
3/12/02, Tuesday	Sri Maha Shivaratri
3/28/02, Thursday	Holi
4/13/02, Saturday	Gudi Padva Ugadi, Telugu New Year
4/21/02, Sunday	Sri Ramanavami
4/25/02, Thursday	Mahavir Jayanti
4/27/02, Saturday	Sri Hanuman Jayanti
7/23/02, Tuesday	Guru Purnima
8/21/02, Wednesday	Onam Festival
8/30/02, Friday	Krishna Janmastmi
9/9/02, Tuesday	Sri Ganesh Chaturthi
10/7/02, Monday	Navaratri begins
10/15/02, Tuesday	Vijaya Dasami
10/25/02, Friday	Karva Chauth
11/4/02, Monday	Diwali

❖ **HARI Web Page:** Visit us online at www.haritemple.org. Please forward your comments and/or suggestions to HARI web site coordinator Dr. V. C. Shah at (717) 732-6454

President's Message

Namaskar Friends!

As you all know, we have scores of devotees providing their voluntary services to our magnificent institute. And, in every respect, it is fun to work with all these devotees. It is indeed a moment of pride when all these efforts transform into a nice program. But when it does not happen, it is equally disappointing. It is indeed very hard to witness all the efforts that have gone behind a program go in vain.

January 19th was such an event when we were compelled to cancel a program due to adverse weather forecast, the second time in over 10 years. After consultation with HARI Chairman Mr. Dasa, we decided to cancel the Pongal celebration. We tried to reach as many devotees as possible through email and telephone calls but, I do know, not all were contacted and we do apologize for any inconvenience that may have been caused by our decision. In retrospect, it was a timely and appropriate decision and we hope you support our decision. We also would also like to express our appreciation to all those devotees who were going to contribute to the program in various ways and capacities.

Anyway, it is behind us now and the Executive Committee is focusing on future programs. A comprehensive list of all programs is made available elsewhere in this newsletter. We hope you will be able to participate in all future programs.

May Lord Rama bestow His blessing upon all of us.

- *Ashok Agarwal*

IN RETROSPECT:

- ❖ Youth Forum's Annual Dance program was a great success. About 70 youth attended the event. Our sincere thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Durla & Shobha Lathia, Mr. & Mrs. Jitu & Vasanti Parekh, Mrs. Mala Williams, and Mr. Hiten Amin for providing their services for the evening.
- ❖ The first program of the year, the New Year Havan, was very well attended and was a huge success overall. Our earnest thanks to Mrs. Aruna Lal who performed the Havan ceremony. We would also like to thank all the devotees who provided lunch for the event.

OUR SINCERE THANKS TO:

- ❖ Although the Pongal program was cancelled, following devotees deserve our thanks:
 - Mrs. Vimla Sarma and Mr. Vidy Sahastrabhdhe for providing help in arranging Pongal program. Mrs. Sarma also arranged for the dance artist for the Pongal program.
 - Greater Harrisburg area South Indian families who volunteered to prepare food for the Pongal program.
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IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS HOLINESS SWAMI SRI SWANANDASHRAM

It is indeed with a great sense of sadness that we inform you about the demise of His Holiness Shankaracharya of Kashmir Gaddi Swami Sri Swanandhashramji. He was better known as "Swamiji" throughout his nearly 18 years of stay at HARI. Originally, he had arrived in USA with the intention of establishing a Shankaracharya Peeth in Stroudsburg, PA. Lord Rama, however, wanted him in Harrisburg, PA, and he arrived here soon after we opened our temple in West Fairview Township. His arrival was truly a Godsend event. He came to us when we needed a spiritual guru the most. He brought us the light during our dark days. It was the time when we were in our infancy. The temple was housed in an old, dilapidated townhouse that was surrounded by unfriendly environment. Swamiji's presence, however, created a sense of security among the devotee-visitors.

Swamiji had arrived in Harrisburg in 1978. He was a Prasthanatrayee in Sankara Philosophy, equivalent to MS in Sanskrit and Ph.D. in Sankara Philosophy. He taught Philosophy at Berkeley, California. He had a deep knowledge of Astrology and Philosophy. He practiced yoga and meditation regularly. In almost no time, he won the hearts of HARI devotees. They perceived him as their guru and a spiritual advisor. He directed us through all temple activities, helped us initiate celebration of many programs and showed us a proper way to celebrate them. He taught Vedas to many devotees and taught Hindu ethical values to HARI school children through plays based on Ramayan and Mahabharath. He started the custom of Sri Satya Narayan Katha on every full moon day that lasted for over 20 years. He oversaw several HARI camps where he educated participants in yoga, meditation, and Vedic teachings. Swamiji had become the cohesive force that had bonded a diverse community permanently.

Ironically, Swamiji carried out all these and much more at a time when we were unable to give much in return. He told us that his needs were minimal and asked us to save the money to build an authentic Hindu temple. Devotees were skeptical but with his blessings we were able to build our current temple that is dedicated to the worship of Lord Rama.

Although Swamiji considered the Harrisburg area his home, his deteriorating health and desire to serve the community of his motherland became the deciding factors of his departure in July 1995. He had established an ashram in Burdwan, in Bengal, India, near Shantiniketan. It is where he passed away peacefully in June 2001.

Swamiji will always be remembered as the first spiritual guru of HARI devotees. We were very fortunate that Swamiji became part of our lives. We pray almighty Lord Rama to bless Swamiji's soul with eternal peace and bliss. May his departed soul attain *param sadgati*.

Note: *K. Janardhana and Hiten N. Amin, both former HARI Presidents, have contributed to this article. A prayer service in his memory was held at the temple on Sunday, January 13, 2002. On behalf of HARI devotees, Mr. Deep Gupta, Mr. Arun Sanyal, Mr. Stan Maingi and Dr. Shashikant Patel eulogized Sri Swamiji.*

Chairman's Message

On January 13, 2002, a joint organizing meeting of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee was held. Nine committees were formed as stated in the January issue of HARI Times to handle the affairs of HARI. Under the leadership of these committee heads and with the cooperation of the committee members, I envision that we will work hard towards achieving the goals and objectives we have set for the year 2002.

Trustees filled the vacancy on the Board by unanimously approving Ashok Shukla to serve for a period of two years. Many valuable suggestions were received from the members that attended the meeting. These suggestions and recommendations are currently being evaluated for implementation.

I once again call upon all of you to get actively involved in serving our temple by enlisting on one or more of the Committees. Please attend all our temple's festivals and celebrations, cultural programs and spiritual discourses. Show that you are part of our temple and that you care. Volunteer your services to improve our temple so that we can all be proud of it. Your active participation is what makes our programs successful and all efforts worthwhile.

You can contact any of the following Committee Heads to enlist yourself to serve on one or more of these committees (provided they are not already at full strength):

❖ Audio-Visual Committee	Pravin Patel ...	717-766-6256
❖ Building Maintenance & Planning Committee	Ganesh Bal ...	717-732-0213
❖ Endowment Fund Committee	Ashok Shukla ...	717-737-1919
❖ Finance Committee	Janak Amin ...	717-540-5380
❖ Land & Lot Maintenance Committee ...	Pravin Patel ...	717-766-6256
❖ Priest Affairs Committee	Hina Barad ...	717-766-9165
❖ Public Relations Committee	Ashok Shukla ...	717-737-1919
❖ Security and Legal Committee	V. C. Shah ...	717-732-6454
❖ Website Committee	V. C. Shah ...	717-732-6454

Thank you and may Lord Rama bless us all.

- Dasa Gangadhar

OUR SYMPATHIES

- ...To the families of Mr. Harish Patel, Mr. Kamlesh Patel, Mr. Pravin Patel, Mrs. Sharda Patel, Mrs. Kokila Patel and Mrs. Dipika Patel as they lost their beloved father Mr. Babubhai C. Patel on January 1, 2002 in India.
- ...To the family of Mrs. Nayana Kishore Desai as she lost her beloved father Mr. Khandubhai P. Naik on January 14, 2002 in India.
- ...To the families of Mr. Praful Sanghani as he lost his beloved father Mr. Chhotalal Sanghani January 21, 2002 in India.
- ...To the family of Mr. S.K.Desikachar who passed away when he was visiting India last year.
MAY THE DEPARTED SOULS ATTAIN PARAM SADGATI

List of HARI members as of 01/31/2002:

2002 MEMBERS (ANNUAL):		
1.	Agarwal, Avdhesh & Kumud	55. Moola, Jagdeesh
2.	Agarwal, Manish & Neena	56. Mukherjee, Sandip & Sukanya
3.	Agarwal, Pankaj & Malini	57. Munshi, Ajit
4.	Aggarwal, Shiv & Alka	58. Nagar, Prabhavati
5.	Aggarwal, Sudha	59. Nakka, Prabhakar & Susheela
6.	Amin, Hemant & Sima	60. Nalluswami, Kumar & Ammu
7.	Amin, Hiten & Minoo	61. Parikh, Anil & Shila
8.	Amin, Piyush & Nalini	62. Parikh, Ashish & Viraj
9.	Antani, Ramesh & Jyotsna	63. Parikh, Mohit & Madhu
10.	Arora, Ajay & Aarti	64. Parikh, Parimal & Geeta
11.	Arya, Satya & Manisha	65. Parikh, Yogesh & Renuka
12.	Athia, Bhupen & Champa	66. Patel, Ajay & Nisha
13.	Bajaj, Rajesh	67. Patel, Amit & Dina
14.	Bakare, Pradnya & Niraj	68. Patel, Bharat & Jayashri
15.	Bal, Ganesh & Alka	69. Patel, Bhupendra & Kaushika
16.	Behari, Avinash & Kumkum	70. Patel, Bhupendra P. & Madhu
17.	Bhardwaja, Ramesh	71. Patel, Chandrakant & Ushma
18.	Bhargave, Ashutosh & Usha	72. Patel, Devang & Alpa
19.	Bharucha, Hareh & Abha	73. Patel, Dilip & Kunjani
20.	Bhatia, Pushap	74. Patel, Harish & Jyotsna
21.	Bhattacharya, Mahua	75. Patel, Jagadish & Ranjan
22.	Bhonde, Pankaj & Rashmi	76. Patel, Paresb
23.	Brahmbhatt, Mahendra & Jaya	77. Patel, Pravin & Shobhana
24.	Bhuta, Praful & Kailas (Seniors)	78. Patel, Rajesh & Daxa
25.	Chandra, Sanjay & Renu	79. Patel, Raman & Gita
26.	Chennupati, Ravindra, Suseela	80. Patel, Umesh & Dharmista
27.	Dasgupta, Swapna	81. Patel, Vallabh & Usha
28.	Deorah, Neeraj & Menka	82. Patel, Vijay & Lalita
29.	Desai, Hareh & Pushpa	83. Pathak, Divyang & Ashita
30.	Desai, Jigar & Nima	84. Patil, Subodh & Deepa
31.	Desai, Narendra & Daxa	85. Patel, Purushottam & Ansuya (Seniors)
32.	Desai, Sunil & Seema	86. Popat, Vaju & Anjana
33.	Doshi, Bipin & Pushpa	87. Roy, Ranjan & Rupali
34.	Goyal, Padma	88. Saha, Satyajit & Sima
35.	Hess, Robert	89. Sahi, Bhupinder & Priti
36.	Hoffman, Louise	90. Sanyal, Arun & Aneeta
37.	Iyer, Ganesh & Gayathri	91. Saxena, Narendra & Indra (Seniors)
38.	Jethwa, Vasant & Vinoda	92. Shah, Bharat & Trupti
39.	Jindal, Ramesh & Prabha	93. Shah, Chandrakant & Rashmi
40.	Kanabar, Anil & Indira	94. Shah, Kirit & Nayana
41.	Kanabar, Chandrakant & Shailini	95. Shah, Satish & Rupal
42.	Kanabar, Vinod & Anjana	96. Shah, Shanti & Urmila
43.	Khanna, Sardari & Saroj	97. Shah, V. C & N. V (Seniors)
44.	Kohli, Baldev & Poonam	98. Shukla, Ashok & Maya
45.	Kothari, Milind & Smeeta	99. Shukla, Rohit & Sharmista
46.	Krishna, Bijoy & Madhu	100. Singal, Mohan & Sudesh
47.	Lad, Rajnikant & Pravina	101. Srivastava, Naren & Poonam
48.	Lal, Sudarshan & Aruna	102. Srivastava, Pramod & Anju
49.	Luthra, Raman & Charu	103. Tadavarthy, Ranga & Ratna
50.	Maingi, Stan & Naresh	104. Trivedi, Virendra & Roshni
51.	Mehta, Narendra & Varsha	105. Vasisth, Vinod & Smita
52.	Mehta, Virendra & Hina	106. Venkatadri, Chamkura
53.	Mittal, Ujjawal & Renu	107. Vyas, Praful & Lina
54.	Mongia, Gagan & Amita	108. Vyas, Prakash & Damayanti
		109. Vyas, Vishnu & Kamini
LIFETIME MEMBERS		
		110. Agarwal, Ashok & Asha
		111. Asher, Ajit & Shankuntla
		112. Balhara, Yogindra & Sonia
		113. Barot, Chirag & Neeta
		114. Barot, Harish & Pratima
		115. Bhat, Anand & Shaila
		116. Bhatt, Abhaya
		117. Chadha, Raj & Santosh
		118. Desai, Jayantilal & Nalini (Seniors)
		119. Deshpande, Vijay & Priya
		120. Gangadhar, Dasa & Sujatha
		121. Godhania, Anil & Jana
		122. Kathiresan, Ray & Meenakshi
		123. Kulkarni, Mukund & Prabha
		124. Kundu, Sambhu & Bonnie
		125. Mahajan, Anand & Suzanne
		126. Mehta, Satish
		127. Mehta, Yogin
		128. Pangarkar, Rajeev & Manjiri
		129. Parekh, Jitu & Vasanti
		130. Parikh, Mukul & Neelima
		131. Patel, Bhupendra & Purnima
		132. Patel, Bhupendra & Surekha
		133. Patel, Girish (Lancaster)
		134. Patel, Harshad & Sudha
		135. Patel, Hemant & Daksha
		136. Patel, Kiran & Anandi
		137. Patel, Mahendra & Bhanu
		138. Patel, Naran & Damu
		139. Patel, Prakash & Smita
		140. Patel, Pravin & Mangla
		141. Patel, Premjibhai & Mina
		142. Patel, Shantilal & Madhu
		143. Patel, Shashikant & Vimla
		144. Patel, Uttam & Pushpa
		145. Patel, Vasudev & Kokila
		146. Patwardhan, Vijay & Shobhna
		147. Rastogi, Anil & Nita
		148. Sahasrabuddhe, Vidy & Mangala
		149. Sakaria, Shashikant & Gita
		150. Sarma, Srinivasan & Vimla
		151. Shah, Amratlal & Chandrakanta (Seniors)
		152. Shenoy, Vishnudas & Leena
		153. Sheth, JP & Chanda
		154. Tadavarthy, Raghu & Jyoti
		155. Thakrar, Anil & Neema
		156. Thattey, Shrikant & Lalita
		157. Trivedi, Harit & Dipti
		158. Williams, David & Mala
		159. Zaver, Navnit & Kailash

2002 HARI CALENDAR

February			
Monthly Havan	Saturday, February 9	Gayatri Havan	N/A
Basant Panchami	Sunday, February 24	Saraswati Pooja	Bengali Families
March			
Maha Shivaratri	Saturday, March 16	Bhajans By Dr. Usha Bhargave	Sharma and Vasisth Families
Holi Celebration	Sunday, March 31	Variety Program By School Students	
April			
Gudi Padva	Saturday, April 13	Pooja at 11:30 AM	Lunch by Maharashtrian Families
Rama Navami	Saturday, April 6 through Sunday, April 7	24 Hour Akhand Ramayan Pathan	HARI Committee Members
Mahavir Jayanti	Saturday, April 27	Bhajans By Mr. Ghanshyam Joshi	Mr. & Mrs. Bipin & Pushpa Doshi
June			
HARI School Graduation	Sunday, June 9	HARI School Program	HARI Students
Temple's 27 th Anniversary Celebration	Sunday, June 23 through Saturday, June 29	Srimad Bhagwatam Saptah, narrated by H. H. Akhilji Maharaj	
August			
Krishna Janmasthmi	Saturday, August 30	Bhajans By Mrs. Pushpa Doshi	
September			
Ganesh Chaturthi	Saturday, September 15		
October			
Navaratri Mahotsav	Monday, October 7 through Monday, October 14	Garbaa / Raas	N/A
Vijaya Dashmi	Saturday, October 19	Durga Pooja	
Karva Chauth	Friday, October 25	Pooja by Devotees	N/A
November			
Diwali	Saturday, November 9	Diwali Annakot, Annual Meeting	HARI Devotees
December			
Annual Holiday Dance	Saturday, December 28	Dance Program of HARI Youth Forum	N/A