



**INDIAN AMERICAN
CULTURAL CENTER**
8605 Merrillville Road
Merrillville, Indiana 46410

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CROWN POINT, IN
PERMIT #849

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



NORTHWEST INDIANA HINDU RELIGIOUS CENTER

15 January 2013

Page 1

Vasudhaiva
Kutumbikam

8605 Merrillville Road • Merrillville, Indiana 46410
Phone: 219-778-5502 / 219-778-5502 • Fax: 219-472-4340
www.iacc-nwindiana.org • www.bharatiyatemple-nwindiana.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Trustee Board

Chairman

Om Mandhana

Past Chairman:

Prakash Makam

Vice Chairman:

Surendra Shah

Treasurer:

Rakesh Mehta

Secretary:

Sanjeev Kumar

Trustee Board Members:

Vidya Arshanapalli

Ashwini Kumar

Harish Shah

Ilesh Shah

Hemendra Parikh

Amitha Garlapati

Ravi Bhagwat

P.R. Umni

(By Laws Committee Chair)

Executive Board:

President:

Anjali Joshi

President Elect:

Shailesh Bhatt

Past President:

Amala Reddy

Treasurer:

Sonal Shah

Secretary:

Sanju Rastogi

Executive Committee

Members:

Mita Bhojraj

Kaveri Warriar

Arun Balakrishnan

Venkat Saranadhi

Soumita Bandyopadhyay

Aruna Chaulbal

Temple Chair:

Shakuntala Sarma

Hall Chair:

Padmini Makam

Namaste.

I hope you all discover new joy...embark on new journey...and reach new heights in 2013. **I wish you all and your family a Prosperous and Happy New Year!**

With God's blessings, the year 2012 with all its events and festivities sailed by smoothly with due credit to the members of the Trustee and the Executive Boards, the Hall chair, the Temple chair, the Temple priest Vashishthaji, the office staff, the website manager, event coordinators, participants of various cultural programs and above all the numerous **VOLUNTEERS** who put in countless hours of dedicated service. My sincere thanks to all of them.

I would like to thank and appreciate the retiring members of the Executive Board, Mrs. Gayathri Iyer, Mr. Niranjan Patel Mrs. Bharti Shah and Mr. Rajesh Sharma for their excellent input for two years.

I welcome the new incoming members, Mr. Arun Balakrishnan, Mr. Venkat Saranadhi, Mrs. Soumita Bandyopadhyay and Mrs. Aruna Chaulbal. Together we will do our best as a team to plan and organize a very eventful and enjoyable year 2013.

Our Center is progressing rapidly each year. The Banquet hall is becoming a popular rental place with excellent review from customers. The Temple is becoming a favorite place of worship not only for the Northwest Indiana community but also for the out of state devotees with lots of poojas being performed inside and outside the temple.

In 2012, we have added the **Navagraha deities** to our Temple, **purchased a condo** for our Temple priest and installed a **new playground** on the east side of the building for our children to play and enjoy. A special thanks to all the donors who made this happen.

Our mortgage is being paid at regular intervals as the donations come in. We however still have a substantial mortgage balance to be paid off. Friends, **I urge you to consider contributing generously this year, either by donations, Interest free loans, pledges, yearly abhisheka sponsorships, dollar-a-day, sponsor-a-day at the temple, check-o-matic, poojas/archanas, etc. All your donations can now be accumulated towards upgrading your membership. Do take advantage of this opportunity.**

Please join us in this Year's Annual Gala coming up on March 23, 2013, at the Halls of St. George, Schererville, Indiana. We will showcase an evening portraying Modern India and its Globalization with fusion dances along with Live auction, India bazaar and Dinner. I encourage all of you to help out in the various planning committees and participate in the cultural program. Let us together make it a grand success.

Like every year, we will be celebrating several festivals in the Temple and Annual events at the Center. The tentative calendar of events for 2013 is on the following page. **Please mark your calendar, save the dates and plan on attending them.** Choose an event of your choice on the calendar and consider volunteering for it. No event can be successful without your involvement in it!

Please feel free to contact me on my email anytime with any queries, concerns or suggestions. **I eagerly look forward to working with you again this year and together let us make it an enjoyable experience!**

Thank you for your continued support.

With regards,

Anjali Joshi.

Email: president@iacc-nwindiana.org



TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2013

New year day Pooja	Tuesday, January 1, (Margashirsh Kr 4).
Bhogi Pallu	Sunday, January 13, (Paush Sh 2)
Makar Sankranti	Monday, January 14 (Paush Sh 3))
Vasant Panchmi	Thursday, February 14 (Maagh Sh 4)
Mahashivratri	Saturday, March 9 (Maagh Kr 13)
Annual Gala	Saturday, March 23
Holi Celebration and Holi ka Dahan	Tuesday, March 26, (Phalgun Sh 14)
Gujarati Samaj Anniv celebration	Friday, April 5
Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, Chaitra Navratri,	
Cheti Chand, Nutan Samvat	Wednesday, April 10, (Phalgun amavasya)
Telugu night	Saturday, April 13,
Vishukani- Malayali New year and	
Varashapirrapu- Tamil New Years	Sunday, April 14, (Chaitra Sh 4)
Akhand Ramayan	Saturday- Sunday, April 13-14 (Chaitra Sh 3,4)
Ram Navami	Saturday, April 20, (Chaitra Sh 9)
Mahavir Jyanti	Tuesday, April 23, (Chaitra Sh 12/13)
Hanuman Jayanti	Thursday, April 25, (Chaitra Pournima)
Devi Chowki	Saturday, May 11 (Vaishakh Sh 1)
Temple Anniversary	Friday-Saturday, June 14-15(Jyeshtha Sh 5,6)
Jain Pratishtha Anniversary	Sunday, July 21 (Aashadh Sh 13/14)
Shiv Puran saptah	Thursday-Sunday,Aug 8 – 11 (Shravan Sh 2-4)
Varalakshmi vratam	Friday, August 16 (Shravan Sh 10)
India Fest	Sunday, August 18
Raksha Bandhan	Tuesday, August 20 (Shravan Sh 14)
Janmashtami	Wednesday, August 28 (Shravan Kr 8)
Jain Paryushan	Monday-Monday September 2-9 (Shravan Kr1 Sh4)
Ganesh Chaturthi and Jain Samvatsari	Monday, September 9 (Shravan Sh 4)
Navratri	Saturday Sunday,October 5-13 (Ashwin Sh 1-9)
Dassehra	Sunday, October 13 (Ashwin Sh9)
Karwa Chowth	Tuesday, October 22 (Ashwin Kr 3)
Fall music program	Saturday, October 26
Diwali Pooja and Annakut	Sunday, November 3 (Ashwin Amavasya)
Diwali Cultural Pogram and Fundraiser	Saturday, November 9
Tulsi Vivah	Thursday, November 14 (Kartik Sh 12)
Holiday Party	Saturday, December 7
Geeta Jayanti	Saturday, December 28 (Margashirsh Kr 11)



MESSAGE FROM THE DEVALAYA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Dear Devotees,

Wishing you and your families a very Happy and Prosperous New Year! 2013.

With Sri Rama's blessings the Temple activities are going smooth. I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to all of you- devotees and volunteers for your time, effort, support and monetary contributions.

Temple is the place where our community is gathering celebrating festivals, attending spiritual discourses, attend different Satsangs, or just for a quiet time to contemplate. With the help of our Priest Vasishtaji, we are attracting students of philosophy and religion from Valparaiso and Purdue Universities. We are trying to make our Temple go green and we need all your support. We are trying to provide inside and outside Temple services to the needy devotees. Our community can arrange by calling our office or Amitha Garlapati @ 219-663-0839.

Now is my pitch for volunteers. Our Temple is running with all the support of several dedicated and committed volunteers who help throughout the year monitoring the desk and also help our priest. We still need more, to fill vacant slots in a month, so please let us know if you can commit a day in a month and help our Temple. With Lord's blessings and dedicated services of our priest, monthly Abhishekas are going well. Temple thanks you for your support and urge you to continue your support for the coming year. We are slowly establishing all the events at our Temple for the benefit of our community and encourage our children to be part of our rich culture and heritage. We need more sevaks to help the disabled and older parents to attend the events at the Temple. Tanaz and Shehnaz are doing a wonderful job in this aspect. They need more help from the community. Year around, we have dedicated and exceptional volunteers and if I do not mention their names it's a mistake on my part. I thank Ketan Patel, Dr. Rajaram, Jayant Chintamani and Dharma who help Vasishtaji during Abhishekas. I thank all the dedicated sevikas who does beautiful alamkaram for the deities every month and also sevikas who help with the flower garlands. I thank devotees who help us with prasadam seva and ghee seva whenever Temple needs and also on a continuous basis. I know we have a lot of talented leaders who can actively get involved in our Temple and therefore serve our community. I urge, please take an active role and volunteer for a good cause.

On a personal note, I have been blessed to serve as the Chairman of the Temple Committee of NWIHRC which has been a spiritually, and emotionally enriching experience. It was possible solely with the enormous help from the Temple Committee, staff, able assistance from the Boards, selfless service of countless volunteers, our learned priest Vasishtaji, and the enduring love and affection of friends and family.

Shakuntala Sarma

Temple Committee Chair.

Shakuntala Sarma



Yoga & Pranayama

Yoga is "a physical, mental, and spiritual discipline, originating in ancient India. The goal of yoga, or of the person practicing yoga, is the attainment of a state of perfect spiritual insight and tranquility while meditating on the Hindu concept of divinity."

Pranayama is the "extension of the prana or breath" or more accurately, "extension of the life force."

Yoga sessions at IACC include a series of asanas (postures) and sequence of pranayama (breathing exercise) for good health.

Children 12 and younger require parent participation.

Classes held at IACC

Saturdays 8 am – 9 am

Instructor: Mrs. Usha Ravi

Website: 46321.webs.com

Ph: 219-756-1111



Dancercise

Exercise while you dance yourself away to the mesmerizing tunes of Bollywood!

The Bollywood Dance phenomenon is taking the world by storm.

Bollywood is a blend of East and Western Dance steps, a fusion of Bhangra, Arabic, Western hip-hop and jazz funk. Better still, Bollywood Dancing is very aerobic and gives you a great workout! It is

a fun way of exercising every part of your body. You will not only be in shape but will be the Queen or King of the Dance Floor by the year end!! Join into the tunes of Jai Ho & Kolaveri Di!

Classes held at IACC

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9 am – 10 am

Instructor: Mrs. Tutul Chatterjee

Ph: 219-756-1111





NORTHWEST INDIANA HINDU RELIGIOUS CENTER

8605 Merrillville Road • Merrillville, Indiana 46410

www.iacc-nwindiana.org • www.bharatiyatemple-nwindiana.org

Page 12

HALL CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hari Om everyone!

Wish you all a very Happy New Year!

As the year ends, don't count what you lost, instead, cherish what you have & plan what to gain. The past never returns but the future may still fulfill the loss.

New Year is the time to unfold new horizons & realize new dreams, to rediscover the strength & faith within us, to rejoice in simple pleasures & gear up for new challenges. 2012 was a wonderful year- our IACC hall was the venue for numerous events from Baby showers to bridal showers, outdoor & indoor weddings, Jnana Yagnas, Receptions, sweet sixteen parties, graduations, retirement parties, elections, concerts & many more!

Thankyou you all for your continuing support & would like to seek your assistance to spread the word to friends & family to rent our beautiful & unique facility, where we have the opportunity to have Poojas at the Temple & Banquets in the hall next door!

Special gratitude to all the hall committee members for your help & support & hope to see more of you this coming year.

Delighted to announce that we are now offering 2 new packages - Entertainment & concerts, Regional Community events. Refer to package #6 & # 7 for more details.

May the good Lord continue to bless you and your family with things that matter most in life - a gift of good health, happy home and peace of mind throughout the coming year.

Pranaams

Padmini Makam



FOR RESERVATIONS CALL:

IACC Office 219-756-1111

Padmini Makam 219-808-3431

Pete 219-928-6311

ATTENTION

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Preparations for the Gala on March 23, 2013 have begun. Please call IACC @ 219-756-1111 or Anjali Joshi @ 219-614-5944 to sign up.

HELP NEEDED: To volunteer at the temple on weekday evenings 5 to 8 pm please contact Mrs. Shakuntala Sarma @ 219-663-3987

SPONSORS NEEDED: For the Alankar Seva for Temple Deities. Please contact Mrs. Shakuntala Sarma @ 219-663-3987

PRIEST SERVICES: For any private pooja at your residence please contact Amitha Garlapati @ 219-663-0839

YEARLY ABHISHEKS: Please sign up for the yearly Abhishek for Diety of your choice. Abhishek forms are available at the temple and IACC office.

MOVIE NIGHT: We plan to start a movie night at the center. Look out for the ad and come to enjoy the movie with family and friends.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION: The volunteers who helped with all the events of 2012 and 2013 will be recognized and appreciated during the temple anniversary on June 15, 2013.

EBLAST ANNOUCEMENTS: Our Eblast goes out every Monday with information about activities at the Hall and Temple. If you are not receiving our Eblast please send your email address to the IACC Office.

HALL RENTAL: Plan to celebrate a special occasion in your family at our well-equipped banquet hall. For reservations please call Padmini Makam @ 219-808-3431

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS: You can place a quarter page ad in the next newsletter for a donation of \$75.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR ALL EVENTS



RECURRING EVENTS FOR 2013

Every Saturday.....	Suprabhatam seva	8 to 9 am
First Saturday of the month	Sundarkand	9:30 to 11:30 am
Third Saturday of the month	Navagraha Abhishek	9:30 to 11:00 am
First Sunday of the month.....	Ganesh Abhishek	9 to 10 am
	Ammachi bhajan	10 to 11 am
Second Sunday of the month	Venkateshwara Abhishek	9 to 10am
	Jain Satsang	11 to 12:30 am
Third Sunday of the month.....	Shiva Abhishek	9 to 10 am
	Gujrati satsang	11 to 12:30am
Fourth Sunday of the month	Rama Abhishek	9 to 10 am
	Jain Bhajan	7:30 pm on wards
Fifth Sunday of some months	Sai Bhajan	11 to 12 noon
Fourth Wednesday of the month	Senior satsang	5 to 7 pm
Every Saturday of the month.....	Yoga Classes	8:00 to 9:00am
Every Tuesday and Thursday	Dancercize classes	9 to 10 am
Satyanarayan Pooja.....	Every Poonam day	5 to 6:30 pm
Sankashti Ganesh Pooja	Fourth day after Poonam	5 to 6:30 pm

**PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A YEARLY SPONSOR FOR
A DEITY OF YOUR CHOICE.**

**ALL YEARLY SPONSORS PLEASE TRY AND ATTEND THE
ABISHEKS ON SUNDAY MORNINGS.**

**FOR YEARLY SPONSORSHIPS PLEASE CONTACT
MRS. SHAKUNTALA SARMA @ 219-663-3987**



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

At the outset let me wish you and your loved ones a safe, fulfilling and healthy 2013.

By the grace of God and your active support and involvement the year 2012 was full of activities. **In addition to our regular activities, we were able to start Dancercize classes, install a playground and Navagrihas at the temple as well as acquire priest quarters.** We were also able to pay **\$ 300,000.00** towards our mortgage and interest free loan. We now owe **\$ 564,300.00** to Peoples Bank on our mortgage and **\$ 360,000.00** to our various community members on interest free loans. **Please join me in thanking outgoing Trustee board and Executive board members** Dr. Vijay Dave, Mrs. Suman Das, Mrs. Gayatri Balakrishnan, Mr. Niranjn Patel, and Mrs. Bharati Shah for their valuable contributions to our organization. Pratish Patel, though retired as Trustee continues to be our Comptroller.

The recently concluded Trustee Meeting and General Meeting:

- 1) recognized the need for greater involvement of community and resolved that **all previous donations** made by community members be applied towards membership payments. As a result of this we will soon start to review membership status and, where applicable, new membership status will be shared with concerned persons.
- 2) **approved fundraising opportunities** by placing picture(s) of (i) your beloved ones in the Multipurpose room or on the east wall of the Banquet Hall foyer; and (ii) your family deity in the Temple pradakshina; and (iii) your favorite temple in the Hallway leading from Banquet Hall to the temple. The Trustee board will soon come out with detailed guidelines on this.
- 3) elected Mr. Ravi Bhagwat, Mrs Amitha Garlapati and Mr. Rakesh Mehta to the Trustee Board and Mrs. Soumita Bandyopadhyay, Mrs. Aruna Chaubal and Mr. Venkat Saranidhi to the Executive Board.

Looking forward to 2013:

- 1) In keeping with recently approved fundraising opportunities, **it will be our endeavor to pay off a substantial part of our loans in 2013.** Since the spaces for the pictures may be limited, these will be handled on first come first served basis. Please feel free to express your interest to any member of the Trustee or Executive Board.
- 2) The Executive Board has planned a year full of activities. **Successfully running an organization of our size takes lot of dedication, time, money and leadership.** As a non-profit organization we depend on you, our community members, for everything – time, money and leadership. Please help us serve you better by:
 - **sharing your comments / thoughts / suggestions**
 - **joining in as an organizer, a participant, a supporter, or an attendee.**
 - **requesting and encouraging your spouse, children, colleagues, friends and community members at large to join and support IACC.**
 - **donating your time, skills and money**

With sincere gratitude,

Om Mandhana

e-mail Chairman@iacc-nwiindiana.org

*Tritiya Varshik Mahotsav
(3rd Anniversary of Bharatiya Temple)*



Friday- June 14, 2013

4:00 pm onwards-

- *Ganapati Homam*
- *Deepalakshmi Pooja*
- *Lalitha Sahasranamam*
- *Aarti, Dinner prasad*
 - *Raas Garba*

Saturday- June 15, 2013

8:00 am onwards-

- *Ganapati Homam*
- *Ramtaraka Homam*
- *Navagraha Homam*
- *Nakshatra Homam*
- *Sarva Devatha Homam*
- *Lunch prasad*

4:00 pm onwards-

- *Kalasha Pradakshina & procession*
- *Abhishekam for all deities*
- *Dhwaja & Kalasha Pooja & Arohan*
- *Sarva Devatha dorshan*
- *Mahamanglarti*



Mahavir Jayanti

April 23, 2013 – Tuesday

Jain Sadhana following Aarti at 7:15 p.m.

*For further information please contact:
Mrs. Bharti Shah @219-322-5149;
Dr. Kalpana Doshi @219-923-6001,
Mrs. Daxa Shah @219-934-9025*



Hanuman Jayanti

April 25, 2013 – Thursday

Pooja at 6:00 p.m. followed by Aarti & Prasad

*For further information please contact:
Mrs. Shakuntala Sarma @219-663-3987;
Mrs. Anjali Joshi @219-924-2341*



Devi Chowki

May 11, 2013 – Saturday

*Pooja 5:00 pm
Followed by Bhajans,
Prasad & Dinner*

*Grand Sponsorship \$501 -
Pooja Sponsorship \$101*

RSVP by March 6:

*Mrs. Mrs. Soumitha Bandyopadhyay @ 219-
Mrs. Shaku Sarma @ 219-663-3987,
Mrs. Bharti Agrawal @ 219-395-8609,
Mr. Rakesh Sharma @ 219-484-1595*





Vasant Panchami Celebration

February 14, 2013 – Thursday

*Let your children come and be a part of Aksharabhyas
and the Saraswati Pooja for Vasant Panchmi*



*Special Pooja 5:30p.m. to 7:00p.m.
followed by Aarti and Prasad
Special Archana \$21.00*

*For further information please contact :
Mrs. Sarla Unni @ 219-663-7211*

Mrs. Shakuntala Sarma @ 219-663-3987

Mahashivaratri

March 9, 2013 – Saturday

*Join us for an evening of Bhajans to sing the praise of
Lord Shiva*



*Bhajans from 7:30p.m. to 10:00p.m.
Followed by Aarti, Prasad, Faral and Bhaang!*

Abhishek Timings: 9:00 am

12:00 noon

7:00 pm

12:00 midnight

Special Pooja Abhishek \$51.00

For further information please contact:

Dr. Shreyasi Dalal @ 219-923-2929,

Bhavani Venkat @ 219-256-6151

Dr. Shailesh Bhatt @ 219-614-2514



Holi Celebration & Holika Dahan

March 26, 2013 – Tuesday

Celebrate the festival of colors with your family and friends.

Join us for Satyanarayan pooja, Aarti, Dinner prasad, Holika dahan and Colors.



Satyanarayan pooja 5:30 to 7:00pm

Aarti 7:00pm,

Dinner prasad 7:30 pm

Holika dahan 8:30 pm followed by Colors

Until March 24th. Members: \$8.00 per person

Non-members: \$10.00 per person

For all \$20.00 at the door

To RSVP please call

Mrs. Manju Mandhana @ 219-934-9072; Mrs. Soumitha Bandyopadhyay @ 219-
Dr. Shailesh Bhatt @ 219-614-2514; Mrs. Shakuntala Sarma @ 219-663-3987

Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, Cheti Chand, Chaitra Samvat

April 10, 2013 – Wednesday

People from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka celebrate their New Year as Ugadi,

People of Maharashtra celebrate it as Gudi Padwa,

Sindhis celebrate it as Cheti Chand and

People from North celebrated it as Nutan Samvat



Sri Satyanarayana Pooja – 6:00p.m.
(Sponsorship for Pooja - \$101.00)

Dinner at 7:30 p.m. — \$8.00/person(member), \$10.00/person(non-member)

To RSVP please call:

Mrs. Amala Reddy @ 219-662-1756; Mrs. Sarala Unni @ 219-663-7211
Mrs. Aishwarya Parulekar @ 920-558-4375; Mrs. Aruna Chaubal @ 219-308-1273



Vishukani and Varushapirrapu (Malayali and Tamil New Year)



April 14, 2013 - Sunday

Please visit the temple for Darshan during temple hours.

For further information please contact

Mrs. Girija Pillay @ 219-663-3909

Mrs. Sarla Unni @ 219-663-7211

Akhand Ramayan Paath

April 13, 2013 – Saturday – 10:00 a.m.

until April 14, 2013 – Sunday – 10:00 a.m.

(24 hour continuous)

Followed by Udhyan, Sri Rama Abhishekam & potluck lunch Prasad

For further information please contact:

Mrs. Sanju Rastogi @219-924-5696;

Mrs. Vaidehi Agrawal @219-803-4142



Ramnavami (Kalyanotsavam)



Celebration of Rama Sita Vivah

April 20, 2013 – Saturday

Gruhshanti Pooja - 5:00 pm

Baarat - 5:30 pm

Kalyanotsavam - 6:00 pm

Followed by Aarti & Dinner Prasad

For dinner \$8/person(members), \$10/person(non-members)

Grand Sponsorship \$251, Vivah Sponsorship \$101,

Archana \$21

RSVP by April 18, 2013

To RSVP please call:

Mrs. Amitha Charlapati @ 219-662-0839; Mrs. Shakuntala Sarma @ 219-663-3987

Mrs. Sarala Unni @ 219-663-7211; Mrs. Anjali Joshi @ 219-614-5944