



# Newsletter

May / June, 2010



[www.augustahts.com](http://www.augustahts.com)

P. O. Box. 204264  
Augusta, GA 30907.

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Augusta GA 30909.

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## Upcoming Events

**May 2 4:00 PM Carnatic Vocal Concert**

A concert by **Sri. Rama Varma** of Thiruvananthapuram, India will be held at 4:00 PM (sharp) at the Cultural Center.

Sri Rama Varma will be accompanied by **S.Varadarajan** on violin and **Patri Sateesh Kumar** on mridangam.

Admission : Free for Membership plus and \$10 for the others.



**May 9 10:00 AM Mother's Day Program**

**May 16 10:00 AM Graduation pooja**

Graduation pooja for all high school and college graduates will be held at HTS on Sunday, May 16th at 10 am. As per tradition, HTS will provide all pooja samagri and asks the participants to bring only fruits and flowers. Please be considerate to the HTS organizers and call or email Sheila Kamath (706-650-5751) [sheila731@yahoo.com](mailto:sheila731@yahoo.com) to confirm participation as soon as possible. All parents of students are required to n helping us make and serve the prasad. Traditionally, we have cooked as a group in the Temple. High school graduates may participate receive prizes for the following categories:

Highest SAT score (official scores need to be sent to Sheial Kamath address provided below)

Balshala volunteer

Youth Group participation

Best Essay : The essay topic this year is: Your favourite character from Hindu mythology. Essay should be typed, double spaced and be under 350 words. Deadline for submission is May10th. Please email or send typed version to Sheila Kamath, 612 High Hampton Drive, Martinez, GA 30907.

**May 23 10:00 AM Mata Ki Chowki (See Page 3)**

**May 28 6:30 - 9:30 PM Hindustani Vocal Concert**

Featuring Mrs. **Ashwini Bhide Deshpande** of Mumbai, India

Accompanied on the Harmonium by Mrs. **Seema Shirodkar**

And on the Tabla by Mr. **Vishwanath Shirodkar**

Admission : Free for Membership plus and \$10 for the others.



**June 12 5:00 PM Kathak Program (See Page 5)**

## **THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE MAHABHARATA**

The role of women in the Mahabharata makes an interesting study providing insight into the strengths and weaknesses of their character. In this epic, four women play crucial parts in the course of events.

The first is Satyawati who was the daughter of the chieftain of fishermen. As a young maiden, while ferrying sage Parasara across a river, he fell in love with her. She bore him a son, Vyasa. He was brought up as an ascetic sage, but before he returned to forest life, he promised his mother he would come and help her whenever she faced difficulty.

Later, the emperor Santanu fell in love with her. Her father consented to the marriage only on condition that her children would inherit the throne. Santanu's older son, the crown prince Bhishma, not only voluntarily relinquished his right but also took the vow that he would remain celibate so that he could not have any children who might lay claim to the throne in the future.

After Santanu passed away, Satyawati's two sons died young. The older one was unmarried, and the younger had two wives, Ambika and Ambalika, who were childless. This created a crisis for there was no legal heir to the Kuru throne. Bhishma did not relent from his vow because he considered it sacred.

At this juncture, Satyawati sent for her son Vyasa, who promptly responded per his earlier promise. Satyawati said the problem could be solved by his fathering a child through each of the two young widows. The son borne by Ambalika was Pandu who became the future emperor. The son through Ambika was Dhritarashtra who was born blind. As time passed, Satyawati sensed the animosity between the sons of Pandu and the sons of Dhritarashtra, and she foresaw a struggle for power with tragic consequences. She voluntarily retired to the forest.

After the Kurukshetra war was over, the Pandavas ruled for a short time and then handed over the kingdom to the only survivor, Parikshit, who was the grandson of Arjuna and the son of Abhimanyu. Parikshit ruled wisely and well until he was bitten by a poisonous snake and had eight days to live. During this time, it was to Parikshit that Suka, Vyasa's ascetic son, narrated the Srimad Bhagavatam, the great book on bhakti, the path of devotion.

Hence, it can be seen that Satyawati kept the Kuru lineage intact and unbroken, and also that she was responsible, though indirectly, for the Srimad Bhagavatam, a great scripture available for posterity.

To be continued.....

**- Dr. K. Ramesh Pai**

**Hindu Temple Society  
Is Proud to present and Invite Everyone to**

# **MATA KI CHOWKI**

**By  
Lakhbir Singh Lakha Ji and Party  
On Sunday May 23 At The Hindu Temple**



## **PROGRAM:**

**6:00-7:00 pm Dinner**

**7:00-10:00 pm Mata Ki Chowki**

**10:00-10:30 pm Ardas & Prasad**

**Mata ka Yajman Sponsor: \$500 and above**

**Mata ka Bhakt Sponsor: \$200 and above**

**Please participate and support this very special program.**

**For information & sponsorship, call Adarsh Gulati 706-650-2905**

**For help with Prasad, call Rekha Sareen 706-863-0328 or  
Nidhi Gulati 706-650-2905**

### May 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 9a Karthikeya Pooja 1p Defensive Driving class 7p Ganesh Pooja
<b>2</b> 10a Temple RSVD - Balshala 4p Carnatic Concert	<b>3</b> 7p Shiv Pooja	<b>4</b> 6:45p Karthikeya Archana	<b>5</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana	<b>6</b> 12p Priest off	<b>7</b> 7p Devi Pooja	<b>8</b> 8a Balalji Abhishek 11a Temple-RSVD- M'day practice
<b>9</b> 10a Mother's Day Prog. 2p Jain Pooja	<b>10</b> 7p Shiv Pooja	<b>11</b> 6:45p Ram Archana	<b>12</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana	<b>13</b> 12p Priest off	<b>14</b> 6:45p Devi Archana	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 10a Graduation Pooja	<b>17</b> 7p Shiv Pooja	<b>18</b> 6:45p Ram Archana	<b>19</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana	<b>20</b> 12p Priest off	<b>21</b> 6:45p Devi Archana	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 12p Priest Day off 2p Jain Pooja 5p MATA KI CHOWKI	<b>24</b> 7p Shiv Pooja	<b>25</b> 6:45p Ram Archana	<b>26</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana	<b>27</b> 12p Priest off 7p Sathyanarayan Pooja	<b>28</b> 6p Hindustani Concert by Ashwini Bhide 6:45p Devi Archana	<b>29</b> 10:30a Priest Busy
<b>30</b> Cul Cen - RSVD 10a Priest Busy	<b>31</b> 7p Shiv Pooja 7p Ganesh Pooja					

### June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 6:45p Karthikeya Archana	<b>2</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana	<b>3</b> 12p Priest off	<b>4</b> 7p Devi Pooja	<b>5</b> 9a Karthikeya Pooja
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7p Shiv Pooja	<b>8</b> 6:45p Ram Archana	<b>9</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana	<b>10</b> 12p Priest off	<b>11</b> 7p Devi Archana	<b>12</b> 8a Balalji Abhishek 5p Kathak Dance
<b>13</b> 2p Jain Pooja	<b>14</b> 7p Shiv Pooja	<b>15</b> 6:45p Ram Archana	<b>16</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana	<b>17</b> 12p Priest off	<b>18</b> 7p Devi Archana	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 10a 3rd Sunday Pooja	<b>21</b> 7p Shiv Pooja	<b>22</b> 6:45p Ram Archana	<b>23</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana	<b>24</b> 12p Priest off	<b>25</b> 7p Devi Archana	<b>26</b> 7p Sathyanarayan Pooja
<b>27</b> 8a Soup Kitchen 12p Priest Day off 2p Jain Pooja	<b>28</b> 7p Shiv Pooja	<b>29</b> 6:45p Ram Archana	<b>30</b> 6:45p Krishna Archana 7p Ganesh Puja			



## Kathak Dance Recital

by

Mrs. Kumud Savla and Party  
of

Nritya Natya Kala Bharti of Atlanta, GA  
on Saturday, June 12th from 5:00 – 7:00 PM  
at The Main Temple Auditorium



Admission : Free for Membership plus and \$10 for the others.

## Temple News

### Mahalaxmi Laksharchana (Vidya Sridharan, President-HTS Augusta)

The Mahalaxmi Laksharchana was conducted on April 16th, 17th and 18th. The community response was excellent. My heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers for their hard and diligent work.

I need to clarify why temple executives conduct fund raising events year after year. The Temple has an endowment trust fund initiated about 6 to 7 years ago. The goal is to collect about 1 million dollars and the plan is to use annual dividend returns from this fund for the day to day operation of the temple in future. Last year, \$200,000 of this fund was used to build the cultural center. So it is imperative to replenish this amount.

Please donate generously to your temple. Thank you all in advance.

### Sports Day

On March 28th, several balashala kids and their parents participated in Sports Day 2010. Kids participated in different events held at the Kelley Park. Three teams (GANGA, JAMUNA and SARASWATI) that participated in relay race are listed below.

#### *Ganga*

Ria  
Anish  
Anand  
Sameer  
Shreyu  
Rahul  
Anand M.

#### *Jamuna*

Anika  
Isha  
Nikhil  
Shivam  
Abhay  
Namit  
Anita

#### *Saraswati*

Sia  
Neha  
Jeyu  
Ashwin  
Isha K.  
Shinjini  
Rishab

Team Ganga won the race, while Saraswati edged out Jamuna in a photo-finish for second place. In addition to the relay race, kids and their parents enjoyed lawn-mower and leaf-blower races (aka wheel-barrel race and piggy back race, respectively). Winners of individual 108-meter dash were Sanjay, Sanjiv and Sunil (Parents), Anand M., Anita and Rishab (Older Kids), Anand, Sameer and Jeyu (Younger Kids).

## SCHEDULE

Mondays	7pm	Shiv Puja
Tuesdays	6:45 pm	Karthikeya (1 <sup>st</sup> ) / Ram Archana
Wednesdays	6:45 pm	Krishna Archana
Fridays	7pm	Devi Puja (1 <sup>st</sup> Fri.) / Archana
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	9am	Karthikeya Puja
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	9am	Shri Venkateshwara Puja
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	10am	Monthly Puja
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	2 pm	Jain Puja

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**The Hindu Temple Society**  
**P.O. Box 204264**  
**Augusta, GA. 30907**

**DONATE GENEROUSLY TO  
YOUR TEMPLE**

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THE LAST DAY OF  
INPUT FOR THE NEXT  
NEWSLETTER IS THE  
20<sup>th</sup> OF JUNE. PLEASE  
SEND YOUR INPUT TO

Bkrishnaprasad@msn.com

PLEASE  
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
BE A PERPETUAL DONOR