



Newsletter

January / February, 2012



www.augustahts.com

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

1421 Lukes Road
Augusta GA 30909.

Phone: (706) 860-3864

Upcoming Events

January 1	New year Havan & Ganesh Puja (10 AM, SUNDAY)
January 4	Vaikunta Ekadasi and Satyanarayana Puja
January 7	Dance Program (see page 3)
January 14 & 15	Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam & Kalyanotsavam
January 28	Saraswati Puja (see page 2)
February 12	Thaiposam (see page 2)
February 20	Mahashivaratri (see page 3)

Wednesday, January 4: Vaikunta Ekadasi 8:00 AM: Suprabhatam / Venkateswara pooja
7:00 PM: Satyanarayana Puja

Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam & Kalyanotsavam

Saturday Jan 14

7:00 AM: Suprabhatam

7:30 AM: Havan

9:00 AM: Sankalpam

9:15 AM: Abhishekam

12:30 PM: Aarthi/Mahaprasad

3:00 PM: Carnatic music concert

(see next page for details)

5:30 PM: Shayanotsavam

Sunday Jan 15

8:00 AM: Suprabhatam

9:00 AM: Sankalpam

9:15 AM: Kalyanotsavam

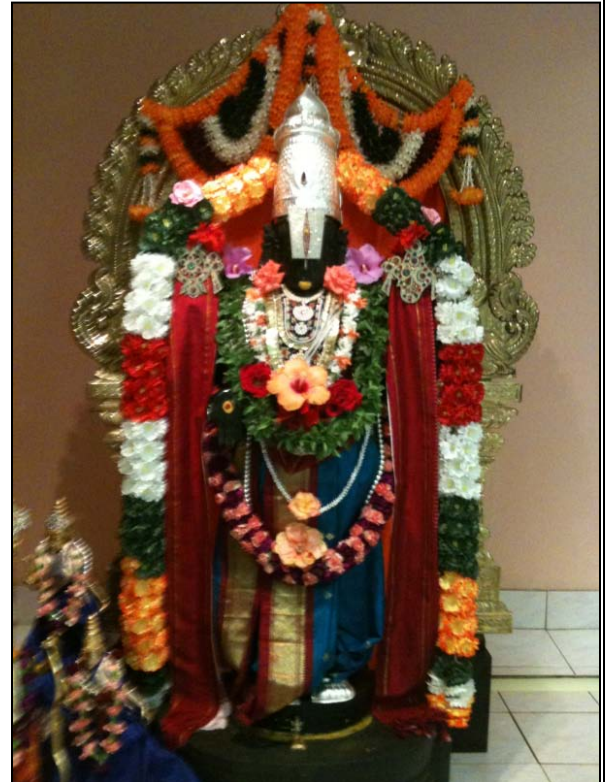
11:00 AM: Procession

12 Noon: Aarthi/Mahaprasad

For further details contact: T.N.Muralidhar (860-6856);
M.R./Vidya Sridharan (860-7160); Dharma Thiruvaiyaru (650-3176),
N. Rao Pasala (863-9350); Ram Shetty (868-5800)

Sponsorship for pooja: \$25 for each day

Please attend this auspicious function and receive the blessings of Lord Venkateswara.





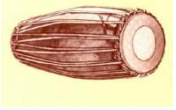
A Carnatic Vocal Concert by Sri. Salem Shriram



Sri. Salem Shriram will be accompanied by

Violinist &

Dr. Sriram of Atlanta, GA on **Mridangam**.



Concert will be held at HTS on Saturday, January 14th at **3:00 PM**.

This concert is **free** and all are welcome to enjoy this event.

Saturday, January 28

Saraswati Puja

- 10:00 AM: Puja
- 11:00 AM: Pushpanjali and Bhajans
- 11:30 AM: Children's Program
- 12 Noon: Aarthi & Mahaprasad

Puja will be conducted by Satyajji. Students may bring a book or a musical instrument to be placed at the feet of Devi Saraswati.

For additional information, contact Arunava Saha (706-955-9249) or Suparna Mishra (706-447-3919)



Sunday, February 12

Thai Poosam Festival Celebration



- 8:30 - 9:30 AM: Homam
- 9:30 - 10:00 AM: Kavadi Procession
- 10:00 - 12:30: Abhishekam & Bhajans
- 12:30: Aarthi & Mahaprasad

Abhishekam and Kavadi sponsorship	\$25
Yearly Abhishekam sponsorship	\$150
(1 st Sat. of every month)	

Please attend the function and receive the blessings of
Lord Subramanya.

Monday, February 20

Mahashivaratri

6:45 PM - 7:45 PM Public Offering of Milk

7:45 PM - 10:00 PM Panchamrita Abhishek,

Namasmarana Pooja, Pushpanjali and Aarathi

Note: - Milk for public offering will be provided by the temple.

Devotees can bring flowers and fruits.



Announcements

Dance Program

A special dance program will be held at the cultural center on Jan 7th (SAT) at 6:00 PM. This program features HTS youthgroup, Augusta area kids and moms who train at the Arya Dance Academy. Several HTS members who attended the Georgia state 'Arya Program' felt that Augusta kids' performances were the best at that show. This is your chance to see our local talent, if you did not attend the Arya program in Atlanta. This program will also feature light music by local singers. This event is free to all members and contact Varsha Kulkarni (706-993-3145), Niyathi Prasad (706-854-9488) or Radhika Subramanian (706-650-8158) for additional information.

Pranayama classes at the temple

Congratulations to Sanjeev Kapuria and his Pranayama students for successfully completing one year of the program at the temple. Sanjeev has been conducting Pranayama classes at the temple every Sunday for almost a year. Sanjeev Kapuria is an anesthesiologist by profession & Director of the Preoperative Evaluation clinic at the Medical College of Georgia. When he discovered that his Blood Pressure was on the high side, he preferred to practice 'Pranayama' rather than get relief with medicines. Surprised by the amazing benefits of Pranayama, he researched further about the various techniques & analyzed the various benefits as a physician. Dr. Kapuria decided to share his experience with others at the Hindu temple. He has started the Pranayama class at the temple. Several HTS members have been attending this class, held at 9:00 AM every Sunday at the cultural center. All HTS members are invited to attend this free class. With the popularity of Baba Ramdev and others, you may have heard about the benefits of Pranayama. We could benefit from a bit of motivation, a scientific perspective and encouragement from peers in the class. Feel free to take advantage of this class.

These classes are now included in temple calendar on the web. Guruji is a busy professional and sometimes travels outside Augusta to give lectures. Thus, the Pranayama classes may not be available every Sunday. Please check the temple calendar before making a trip to the temple. Here is an easy way to check if the class has been canceled on a particular Sunday. Visit temple web-site (WWW.AUGUSTAHTS.ORG). Click on calendar. When google calendar opens, click on the triangle at top right corner (next to AGENDA). Unselect all buttons except 'temple event' calendar. Pranayama classes are listed on Sundays in 'temple events'.

Soup Kitchen dates are Jan 29 and Mar 4 (Sundays). Contact Kiran Karanth (706-631-4250) or Susan Gopal (706-738-7060), to volunteer.

Gita Pravachan

The renowned spiritual speaker Gopika ji from Dallas, Texas will conduct discourse on Bhagwat Gita on **Saturday, February 11** from **10:00 am - 3:00 pm** at the HTS Cultural Center. The discourse will be mainly on Gita studies and guidance in the life application. There will be a session of questions and answers and informal group discussion after lunch.

Gopika ji has devoted the past 35 years of her life empowering her students to understand the true meaning of Gita. Gopikaji is well known to the Augusta Community for past 10 years. She has been guiding spiritual seekers to apply the messages of Gita to the simple and meaningful practices of their daily lives.

Lunch and refreshment will be served.

For further information please contact: Devinder & Renuka Mehta at 706 -8630055 (mehta345@hotmail.com)

Congratulations to Radhika Subramanian, Indrani Ganguly and the cultural committee for organizing an excellent dance performance by the members of Sri Ramana Maharshi Academy for the Blind. Also, thanks to the HTS members who generously donated to this organization.

Condolences

The Hindu temple and its community extend condolences to Dr. Bimal Shah and Ram Shetty for the loss of their mothers.

May god bless the departed souls and may they rest in peace.

Message from the President of HTS

As a new incoming temple executive committee for the new year 2012 we like to salute the community for the exhibition of the spirit which is the backbone of our hindu temple. Look at all the activities in the temple – starting from the Poojari down to each member of the community that exhibits the excitement and the willingness to come forward and do something for the common spiritual good, no matter what it is. Starting from the regularly scheduled poojas to miscellaneous activities.....Who run them -- that is you, the community. May it be special poojas, gita classes, swadyaya group, balashala activities, dance classes, yoga lessons, soup kitchen, Sai clinics, Golden Harvest Food bank services, veda and bhajan practices, garba celebrations or community services at large such as educating public and school/college children about Hindu religion, helping poor school children and so on. It is amazing when an eight year old boy comes and asks "Uncle, can I become a paid member of the temple?"—Why? – because he wants to become a volunteer like all other adult members. What a spirit!!! It was exhilarating to see little four year old kid jump in with his mother to clean-up the temple kitchen during deepavali clean-up. It was amazing that a medical doctor could devote her time to scrub the floors in the temple amid her busy schedule, then goes on to deliver the baby and comes back to continue and finish the scrubbing. Amazing spirit!!! Look at the dedicated bunch of women who get together and prepare food during the Arts in the Heart of Augusta who spend so many sleepless nights. Why? They want to do it. That is the community spirit. These are just some examples - we have many like this. Look at all the other volunteers – may it be the Executive Committee or the Board of Trustees, or people working behind the scenes who dedicate enormous amount of their time in service of our community.

That is what the community is all about. A selfless bunch of individuals trying to help the community to enhance the spiritual, moral and physical awareness through whatever it takes. Let us be a part of same spirit. Let us lend our hand in the same spirit. Let us work together.

I wish you, the whole community in advance, have a **Very Happy and Prosperous New Year**

Thank you,

Ram Shetty

Message from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees

It is with a deep sense of responsibility, humility, and, of course, pleasure that I have been offered the chance to serve as Chairman for the Trustee Board of the Hindu Temple Society for the upcoming year. Thank you for the support you have given me and for the trust you have placed in me, I will try not to let you down! I know that I succeed some distinguished predecessors and that I have some big shoes to fill; however, I will try my best to follow in these footsteps while creating a path of my own. The temple has played an important role in our lives for several decades and I have been blessed with the opportunity to experience the growth and development that has occurred in the preceding years. Although we have witnessed many positive changes with the temple, I believe that there still remains space for improvement. I know that together, as a family, we will be able to take our temple to a new level. This is going to be an exciting year. Thank you once again. I am truly honored.

- Achyut Patel

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Achyut Patel, Chair	Niranjani Reddy, Vice Chair
Hemant Yagnick, Secretary	Susan Gopal (BOP)
Nidhi Gulati	Dharambeer Sinha
Mannan Vakil	Kanchan Khosla
Padmajat Bapat	Suman Shah
Gyanendra Sharma	

Condensed Financial Statement For Year 2010-2011 ending at Diwali 2011

Total revenue	211147
Total Expenditure	150128
Delta	61019

Significant Revenue

Art in The Hearts	16930 (21710-4780)
Donation	26800
Membership	49270
Puja & Archana	26970 (35440-8470)
Havan	17160 (22000-4840)
United Way	16330

Significant Expenditure

Maint & Improvements	20400
Priest's Renumeration	34400
Utilities	42000
Misc-(Insur, Newsletter, Diwali, calling post etc.)	9500
Cultural Programs	7300

Investments with Morgan Keegan had an overall return of 3%.

AUGUSTA HTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2011-2012

President:	Ramkishan Shetty (706-868-5800)
Vice President:	Krishna Prasad (706-651-1928)
Treasurer:	P. Unnikrishnan (803-279-3996)
Joint Treasurers:	Debee Khadanga (706-284-4486), Harish Vyas(706-210-4739), Aparna Mummaneni (803-642-8543)
Secretary:	Mohan Wakade (706-863-3568)
Joint Secretaries:	Anupama Mikkilineni (706-651-1928), Arunava Saha (706-955-9249)
Puja Committee:	Sheila Kamath (706-650-5751), Kiran Karanth, Prasanna Jain, Bharathi Gowda, Arun Dutta, Karuna Pogula, Bharathi Bhavsar, Nimitha Shetty, Ram Shetty
Prasad Committee:	Samlesh Bansal (706-855-1174), Sudha Sinha, Santosh Rani, Swathi Wakade, Shashi Gupta, Hema Desai
Cultural Committee:	Indrani Ganguly (706-860-5586); Radhika Subramanian, Varsha Kulkarni, Radhika Mehta, Ranjana Rai, Suparna Misra, Dharma Thiruvaiyaru
Audio-Visual Committee:	Mukund Deshpande (855-6040); Shankar Seturaman; Nayan Shah; Suman Shah; Devendra Mehta
Publication/Web Comm:	Prasanna Jain (706-955-0481), Kiran Karanth, Prasad Puttur
Temple Development/ Maintenance Committee:	Kirit Bhavsar(706-855-9081), Mukut Sharma, Raj Dave, Nimitha Shetty, Bharathi Bhavsar, Ram Shetty
Balashala Committee:	Sandya Yagnik (706-284-6336), Vidya Sridharan
Youth Committee:	Shanta Gowda (868-7796), Chinmay Sharma (267-7607), Karthik Subramanian
Sports Committee:	Vinod Chudgar(706-855-8613)
Community Outreach:	Susan Gopal (706-738-7060), Sheila Kamath (706-650-5751)
Membership Committee/ Newcomer Facilitation:	Krishna Prasad, Giri Venkatraman, Varsha Kulkarni, Harendra Desai, Aparna Mummaneni
Soup Kitchen:	Kiran Karanth (706-631-4250)
Senior Citizen Comm:	Rekha Maurya (706-868-1437)
Calling Post:	Radhika Mehta (706-210-9054)
Ex President:	Amitava Ganguly (706-860-5586)
Special Volunteers:	Geeta Shah, Vatsala Unnikrishnan, Madhavi Chokshi, Kshama Shah, Anju Shah, Manohari Mallangi, Jyoti Kapuria, Aravind Shah, Sharad Purohit, Ratna Sadalge, Sureka Prasad, Urmil Batra, Mohini Vyas, Purnima Merai

January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10a New Year Havan and Ganesh Puja	2 7p Shiv Puja	3 7p Hanuman Chalisa	4 8a Vaikunta Ekadasi 7p Krishna Archana 7p Satyanarayana Puja	5 Priest Day off	6 6:15p Krishna Chanting 7p Devi Puja	7 9a Kartikeya Puja 6p Arya Dance Program
8 2p Jain Puja	9 7p Shiv Puja	10 7p Hanuman Chalisa	11 7p Krishna Archana	12 Priest Day off	13 6:15p Krishna Chanting 7p Ganesh Puja	14 7a Venkateswara Puja 3p Carnatic music concert
15 8a Venkateswara Kalynotsavam	16 7p Shiv Puja	17 7p Hanuman Chalisa	18 7p Krishna Archana	19 Priest Day off	20 6:15p Krishna Chanting	21
22 2p Jain Puja	23 7p Shiv Puja	24 7p Hanuman Chalisa	25 7p Krishna Archana	26 Priest Day off	27 6:15p Krishna Chanting	28 10a Saraswati Puja
29 8:30a Soup Kitchen Priest Day Off	30 7p Shiv Puja	31 7p Hanuman Chalisa				

February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7p Krishna Archana	2 Priest Day off	3 6:15p Krishna Chanting 7p Devi Puja	4
5	6 7p Shiv Puja	7 7p Hanuman Chalisa 7p Satyanarayan Puja	8 7p Krishna Archana	9 Priest Day off	10 6:15p Krishna Chanting 7p Ganesh Puja	11 9a Venkateswara Puja
12 8:30a Thaipooam 2 p Jain Puja	13 7p Shiv Puja	14 7p Hanuman Chalisa	15 7p Krishna Archana	16 Priest Day off	17 6:15p Krishna Chanting	18
19 10a 3rd Sunday puja	20 MAHASHIVARATRI 7p Shiv Puja	21 7p Hanuman Chalisa	22 7p Krishna Archana	23 Priest Day off	24 6:15p Krishna Chanting	25
26 Priest Day Off 2 p Jain Puja	27 7p Shiv Puja	28 7p Hanuman Chalisa				

SCHEDULE

Mondays	7 pm	Shiv Puja
Tuesdays	7 pm	Hanuman Chalisa
Wednesdays	7 pm	Krishna Archana
Fridays	6:15 pm	Krishna Chanting
First Friday	7 pm	Devi Puja
Saturdays	8 am	Suprabhatham
1 st Saturday	9am	Karthikeya Puja
2 nd Saturday	9am	Venkateshwara Puja
3 rd Sunday	10am	Monthly Puja
2 nd & 4 th Sunday	2 pm	Jain Puja

Temple Hours: **8 - 10 AM** and **6 - 8 PM**

Temple is open every day at these hours except on Thursday.

Temple is CLOSED on **Thursdays** and **last Sunday** of the month.

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

**DONATE GENEROUSLY
TO YOUR TEMPLE**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 426
Augusta, GA.

LAST DAY OF INPUT FOR
THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS
February 20th.
PLEASE SEND YOUR
INPUT TO:

htsprasanna@hotmail.com

**PLEASE
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
BE A PERPETUAL DONOR**