Hindu Temple Society of Augusta

www.augustahts.com

P. O. Box. 204264
Augusta, GA 30907

1421 Lukes Road
Augusta GA 30909

Phone: (706)-860-3864

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH -2015
1st SUN, 10 AM: RAMKRISHNA JAYANTHI
6th FRI, 7 PM: HOLI
21th SAT, 7 PM: UGADI/GUDI PADWA
28th SAT, 7 PM: RAMANAVAMI

APRIL-2014
4th SAT, 7 PM: HANUMAN JAYANTHI
18th /19th SAT/SUN, 10 AM: AKHANDA RAMAYAN PĀĀT
19th SUN, 6 PM: VISHU PUJA
26th SUN, 9:45 AM: ANNUAL HAVAN (Krishna Havan)

Lectures:
March 7th, SAT- 5 PM: Spiritual lecture by Brahmakumaris
March 15th, SUN-1:30 PM: A free lecture on healthy living.

HINDU OBSERVANCES

March 2015
1st (Sun) Amalaki Ekadashi
5th (Thu) Holika Dahan
6th (Fri) Holi
14th (Sat) Sheetala Ashtami
15th (Sun) Meena Sankranti
16th (Mon) Papmochani Ekadashi
17th (Tue) Papmochani Ekadashi
20th (Fri) Surya Grahan
21th (Sat) Yugadi, Gudi Padwa
22th (Sun) Gauri Puja/Gangaur
25th (Wed) Yamuna Chhath
28th (Sat) Rama Navami
31th (Tue) Kamada Ekadashi

April 2015
4th (Sat) Chandra Grahan, Hanuman Jayanti
14th (Tue) Solar New Year
15th (Wed) Varuthini Ekadashi
20th (Mon) ParashuRam Jayanti
21th (Tue) Akshaya Tritiya
25th (Sat) Ganga Saptami
27th (Mon) Sita Navami
29th (Wed) Mohini Ekadashi

Translation

Lord Kṛṣṇa said: of those who are endowed with firm faith of a special kind beyond material conceptions; fixing the minds on Me, always engaged exclusively worshipping Me. They are considered by me the most superior of all.
March 6 (FRI), 7 PM:  HOLI

Holika Dahan (Lighting of Bonfire) will take place on March 6, Friday evening in the front yard of the temple. Please come and celebrate. For further information, contact Praful Patel @ 706-863-1897 or Vinod Chudgar @ 706-855-8613.

March 21 (SAT), 7 PM:  UGADI – GUDI PADWA

Ugadi/Yugadi is the New Year’s day for people of Deccan Region of India. The name Ugadi/Yugadi is derived from Sanskrit words - ‘Yuga’ (age) and adi (beginning) – “the beginning of a new age”. Saka calendar begins with the month of Chaitra, and Ugadi marks the first day of the New Year.

March 28 (SAT), 7 PM:  RAMANAVAMI

Sri Ramanavami, birthday of Lord Rama falls on the ninth day of the month of Chaitra. This is also known as Chaitra Masa Shuklapaksha, and coincides with Vasant Navaratri or Chait Durga Puja. RAMA ABHISHEKAM will be held at 7 pm. For further details, please contact Mrs. Vidya Sridharan – (706) 860 7160.

April 4 (SAT), 7 PM:  HANUMAN JAYANTHI

April 18 and19 (SAT/SUN):  AKHANDA RAMAYAN PĀĀT

HTS is pleased to announce the Annual Akhanda Ramayan Pāāt, a continuous two-day recitation of Tulasidas Ramayan. The recitation will start at 10 am on the 18th of April and will conclude at 12.30 pm on the 19th of April. This will be followed by Aarti and Mahaprasad. Volunteers are required for the recital. Please contact Ms. Sudha Sinha at (706) 863-8878 for more information.

April 19 (SUN), 6 PM:  VISHU PUJA

Vishu is a Hindu festival celebrated in the Indian state of Kerala and in the Tulunadu region (Mangalore & Udupi districts), usually in the second week of April. It is considered a festival of light and fireworks, and decorating lights and bursting of fire crackers (Vishupadakkam) is part of the celebration. The most important event in Vishu is the Vishukkani, which literally means “the first thing seen on the day of Vishu after waking up”. The Vishukkani consists of a ritual arrangement of auspicious articles intended to signify prosperity, including rice, fruits and vegetables, betel leaves, areca nut, metal mirror, yellow flowers called konna (Yellow Flower), holy texts and coins, usually in the prayer room of the house. This year HTS will be celebrating the 3rd Vishu Puja on 19th April Sunday at 6.00pm. Please attend the puja with family and friends and seek the blessings of lord Krishna. For further information please Contact: Shaji Kamalasanan 803-295-3314
April 26 (SUN), 9:45 AM:  ANNUAL HAVAN (Krishna Havan)

Every year our temple performs a special puja or havan around April. There are two main reasons for this puja. One is to pray for the well being of all participants of puja and their families. The second goal is to raise funds for the temple. This year we will have Krishna Havan. Minimum sponsorship is $101 per family. Please donate generously, if you are able to afford beyond the suggested minimum sponsorship.

9:45 AM:  Ganesha Puja
10:00 AM: Mahasankalpa
10:30 AM: Havan
Noon:  Poornahuti, Aarati

Above is the mantra to be chanted during havan. For additional information please contact; Krishna Prasad (706) 231-6330; Shaji Kamalasanan (803) 295-3314; Unnikrishnan(803-279-3996); Kiran Karanth (706-631-4250) or Sheila Kamath (706-951-8245). Members are welcome to submit sponsorships to any Executive Committee member. All sponsored sankalpas will be offered during havan, even if you are unable to attend temple on havan day. Mahaprasad will be served around 12:30 PM, immediately following havan. Prasad will be sponsored by a group led by Geeta Shah.

Temple News

Sports News

HTS sponsored golf tournament was held on November 2nd at Jones Creek Golf Course. Congratulations to the winning team members; Achyut Patel, Mukund Deshpande, Ravi Jerath, and Devesh Patel.
Next Golf Tournament will be held on last Sunday of April and September. Please call Achyut Patel for details.

Newsletter

We are pleased to announce that Shaji Kamalasanan will be the new editor of this newsletter. As in the past, the newsletter will be published 6 times a year (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept and Nov). Please send your contributions to sunayshaji@yahoo.com, by 20th of the month before newsletter publishing date. Temple executive committee thanks Brinda Balan for her service as editor and for improving the format and content of newsletter. In spite of her busy schedule, she diligently made sure the newsletter was sent out on time.

Lecture by Brahmakumari group

A spiritual lecture by Sister Radhika from Hyderabad will be presented at the temple on March 7th (SAT) between 5-7 PM. Please attend this free lecture entitled ‘In god’s heart: Seeing with love’. Contact Shvetank Agarwal (803) 426-3582, for additional information.

A class on healthy living

A free lecture on nutritional rebalancing and healthy living will be presented by Nayna Mistry on March 15. This program will be in the cultural center at 1:30 PM (after 3rd Sunday Puja). Nayna Mistry has been a member of the HTS for more than 10 years. She was trained as an architect in England. Her family moved to US in 2004 and has lived in Martinez since then. After personal lifestyle experiences and realizing the benefits of Isagenix nutrition products, she has been an advocate of these products and life style. Information from recent clinical studies on health benefits of Isagenix will be presented. For additional information, contact Nayna at nmistry23@gmail.com or (706) 364-3814.
President’s Message

Dear HTS members,

On behalf of the HTS executive committee, I wish you all a happy Ugadi / Gudi Padwa. During last Diwali Celebrations, Sudha and Arvind Reddy donated the lot at 1417 Lukes Road (Reddy Garden) to the temple. The HTS community appreciates their generosity and it is up to us to develop this lot for temple activities.

The current plan is to use the grounds for sports and gardening, in addition to annual Diwali parking. Towards this goal, a significant portion of the lot was cleared in Nov 2014. In January 2015, volunteers from executive committee were able to get the trailer dismantled and removed. In February, temple volunteers and balashala parents helped in clearing several trees from the main area of the grounds.

Balashala plans to organize its sports day in this field on March. Three specific sports courts/field will be prepared for members’ use; volleyball, shuttle badminton and cricket. A group of volunteers led by Raju Patel (706-284-1632) will develop the volley ball court. Kiran Karanth (706-631-4250) and other volunteers are working on outdoor shuttle court. Cricket field will be developed by a team led by Shaji Kamalasanan (803-295-3314). Please contact these volunteers, if you wish to help in development work or wish to play this spring/summer.

A plot has been identified for flower and vegetable garden, with the help of gardening consultants (Mr. Nand Bansal and Ms. Neera Young). Parts of this plot will be allocated to motivated volunteers interested in gardening. Temple will provide water, fertilizer, tools and technical help. The lot area is limited and allotments are based on level of interest and priority of request. Please contact me at 706-231-6331, if interested. On a related topic, Mr. Pradeep Bapat (706-860-6704) will be starting an apiculture project in the woods behind temple parking lot. Those interested in participating or learning more about apiculture can contact him.

In spite of all the volunteer hard work, development of this lot has and will incur significant expenses. We intend to raise funds for this improvement project at the temple annual havan. This year the havan will be held on the new ground (see page 3 for more details). The havan will sanctify the grounds and hopefully neutralize any negative energies associated with prior activities on the lot. Minimum suggested sponsorship for havan is $101. However, members with means are requested to donate significantly towards this worthy cause. All temple trustees have volunteered to donate generously. Members of the EC and I will ensure that the funds are spent judiciously on lot development.

Hopefully, the outdoor activities at the temple will improve balashala and temple programs. I would like to thank all the volunteers and donors for their continued support of the temple.

Happy new year to those celebrating Ugadi and Gudi Padwa!

- Krishna Prasad
## March 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10a Ramkrishna Jayanthi</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7p Shiv Puja</td>
<td>3 6.45p Hanuman Chalisa</td>
<td>4 6.45p Krishna Archana</td>
<td>5 7p Satyanarayana Puja</td>
<td>6 6:15p Krishna Chanting 7p Holi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31 6.45p Hanuman Chalisa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## April 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>7p Shiv Puja</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.45p Hanuman Chalisa</td>
<td>7 6.45p Krishna Archana 7p Ganesh Puja</td>
<td>8 Priest Day Off</td>
<td>9 6:15p Krishna Chanting 7p Devi Puja</td>
<td>11 9a Venkateshwara Puja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>9:45a Krishna Havan 2p Jain Puja</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>7p Shiv Puja</td>
<td>28 6.45p Hanuman Chalisa</td>
<td>29 6.45p Krishna Archana</td>
<td>30 Priest Day Off</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Hindu Temple Society  
P.O. Box 204264  
Augusta, GA. 30907  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Puja</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Shiv Puja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>6.45 pm</td>
<td>Hanuman Chalisa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>6.45 pm</td>
<td>Krishna Archana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>Krishna Chanting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Friday</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Devi Puja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturdays</td>
<td>8 am</td>
<td>Suprabhatham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Saturday</td>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>Karthikeya Puja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Saturday</td>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>Venkateshwara Puja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Sunday</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Monthly Puja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Sunday</td>
<td>2 pm</td>
<td>Jain Puja</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.