The Path of Devotion

अभ्यासे पुय असार्थो 'सी मत-कर्मापरमो भव
मद्यर्थमणि कर्माणि कुर्वेन सिद्धमवाप्यति \| १० \|

Transliteration

abhyaśe 'py asamartho 'si mat-karma-paramo bhava
mad-artham api karmāṇi kurvan siddhim avāpsyasi

Translation

And if in the practice of remembering Me, you are also unfit then be dedicated in the performance of duties for Me and in performing activities for My satisfaction you will achieve perfection. 12:10

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER, 2015

1ST - SUNDAY - LIFE OF PARAMHANSA MOVIE
14TH - SATURDAY - DIWALI CELEBRATIONS
21ST - SATURDAY - SKANDA SHASTI
22ND - SUNDAY - TULASI PUJA/VIVAH
25TH - WEDNESDAY - SATYANARAYANA PUJA

DECEMBER, 2015

5TH - SATURDAY - AARPCLESS
12TH - SATURDAY - AYYAPPAPA PUJA
21ST- MONDAY - VAIKUNTHA EKADASHI
23RD - WEDNESDAY- DATTA JAYANTI
25TH - FRIDAY - SATYANARAYANA PUJA

HINDU OBSERVANCES

NOVEMBER-2015

02 Monday - Ahoi Ashtami
06 Friday - Rama Ekadashi
07 Saturday - Govatsa Dwadashi
08 Sunday - Dhanteras
09 Monday - Kali Chaudas
10 Tuesday - Diwali / Laxmi Puja
13 Friday - Bhai Dooj
17 Tuesday - Chhath Puja
21 Saturday - Kansavadh
22 Sunday - Tulasi Vivah
25 Wednesday - Kartik Poornima

DECEMBER 2015

02 Wednesday - Kalabhairav Jayanti
06 Sunday - Utpanna Ekadashi
15 Tuesday - Vivah Panchami
16 Wednesday - Dhanu Sankranti
21 Monday - Mokshada Ekadashi
24 Thursday - Datta Jayanti

Membership is valid for one year, from Diwali 2015 to Diwali 2016. Your membership fee is critical for the HTS to provide religious and cultural platform for people of Hindu faith in the Augusta area. In addition, the membership will give you to access priest services, rental of temple and/or cultural center and free newsletter. Only members can schedule priest services.
**Screening of the Life of Paramhansa Yogananda**  
**Sunday November 1st 4.00pm**

On November 1, 2015, the movie "Awake" about the life of Paramahansa Yogananda will be shown at the Hindu Temple cultural center at 4pm. This is a highly acclaimed and award winning film produced by Awake, a highly recognized American film production company. This will be a great opportunity for our local Indian community to see the life of a great yogi from India (second yogi after Swami Vivekananda) who came to USA in 1920 to spread the message of ancient Indian science and philosophy of yoga and tradition of meditation to the west.

He founded Self Realization Fellowship (SRF) to disseminate worldwide his teachings of Kriya Yoga and tradition of Meditation. There will be a short presentation of chanting and prayer by the local SRF group before the show.

Contact: Arun Dutta (706) 868-5373

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**DIWALI CELEBRATIONS**  
**Saturday, 14th of November**

5:00 PM: Lakshmi Puja  
6:00 PM: Diwali Program

(Includes General Body Meeting and Cultural Events)  
7:30 PM: Mahamangalarathi

As most HTS members know, Diwali is the biggest celebration organized at the Augusta Hindu temple.

This event is usually attended by close to 800 devotees and most people start or renew their membership on this day. Due to god’s grace and dedication of a number of volunteers, HTS is able to successfully organize this event year after year.

Diwali gathering between 6-8 PM will also serve as the annual general body meeting. An overview of temple finances and operations will be presented as part of this meeting. Any member can email the president (bkrishnaprasad@msn.com), if interested in additional information about temple operations.
Guidelines for Diwali Day:
1) Please bring thali, Lakshmi idol or coin and pooja samagri with you, if you plan to participate in the Lakshmi Puja.

2) Please plan to carpool, if possible.

3) As in the past few years, OVERFLOW parking after the use of the Temple and Reddy gardens will be at Sue Reynolds Elementary School. All members can go directly to the school (3840 Wrightsboro Road, Augusta GA 30909) and volunteers will assist you in parking. Shuttles will be available to transport you to and from the temple. If you prefer, you could drop off passengers at the temple and proceed to park at the school. Please do not park in handicap parking without a valid permit. For the safety of everyone, parking anywhere on Luke’s Road is not allowed. Two Richmond county police officers will assist us in directing the traffic and will give a CITATION to anyone that parks on Luke’s Road.

4) Once at the temple, please use shoe racks provided on either side of the temple building for your footwear. One rack is next to havanshala and the other is on the opposite side of temple.

5) Volunteers will be available in the temple foyer for you to renew your membership. There will be two separate tables for you to renew your membership. Please remember to bring your checkbook.

6) Please maintain silence during puja and cultural events.

7) Please note that temple allows only Georgia State Approved fire crackers and fire crackers will be provided by the temple. Please refrain from bringing your own fire crackers.

8) Shuttles and volunteers are available to transport you back to the school parking lot. Please be mindful of the traffic, in case you decide to walk to the school.

The Prasad committee of HTS has volunteered to spearhead the sumptuous Diwali dinner this year. Since we have been feeding a crowd of over 800 people, HTS would like to invite volunteers for help. All monetary donations of $250 or more are being graciously accepted to cover the cost of the dinner which in the past year was covered by one single generous donor and catered. This donation can be applied towards tax exemption.

Please call Samlesh Bansal 706-855-1174 or Sheila Kamath 706-951-8245 for help details.

Volunteers are needed for Diwali Temple cleaning on Saturday November 7th at 10.00 am and also for parking/ Shuttle service on November 14th.

Please contact Shaji Kamalasanan 803 295 3314 / Mohan Wakade 706 589 4171 for the same.
Skanda Shasti will be celebrated at the HTS on Saturday the 21st of November, 2015.
The details are as follows:
9:00 Homam
   Abhishekam
   Bhajans
Wedding of Lord Subrahmanya to his consorts (Devasena and Valli)
Aarati followed by lunch

Please attend the puja and receive the blessings of Lord Subrahmanya/Kartikeya.

Sponsorship details: $25.00 for sponsoring Abhishekam and Wedding on the Skanda Shasti Day; $150.00 for sponsoring Abhishekam during monthly Kartikeya Puja, for a period of one year.

Vivah is a ceremonial marriage of the Tulasi plant (Holy Basil) to Lord Krishna.

It is believed that Lord Krishna goes to bed after taking bath in hot water on Naraka Chaturdashi day, and wakes up on Utthana Dwadashi day.

Rukmini incarnates as Tulasi and marries Lord Krishna, who is an incarnation of Lord Vishnu on this day.

Tulasi vivaha signifies the end of the monsoon and the beginning of the Hindu wedding season.
Also, this can be considered as a celebration of the'Tulasi Plant' which has enormous medicinal values.
**Smart Driver Course Saturday, December 5th 2015**

As was done in the past HTS would again host the "Smart Driver Course" from the AARP on Saturday, December 5, 2015, starting at 9:30 am at the Cultural Center. It is a highly effective and popular one-day (6-hour) course with excellent audio-visuals. As before, participants get certificates that entitle them to ~10-15% reduction in auto insurance premium from most insurance companies. If interested please send an email to [baidyaroy@gmail.com] indicating number of persons intending to attend.

Note: Those of you who have previously taken the class in December, 2012 or earlier, need to take it again now.

Cost: for AARP members $15, Non-AARP members $20.

You may contact B. N. Roy @ 706-868-8233, if you need additional details.

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**AYYAPPA PUJA**

*Saturday, 12th December at 6.30p.m.*

HTS will perform Ayyappa Puja to coincide with Mandala Puja on Saturday, the 12th of December, 2015 at 6.30 pm.

Ayyappa (also called Sastavu, Manikandan or Sasta) is a Hindu deity who is believed to be an incarnation of Dharma Sasta, the offspring of Shiva and Vishnu (in the form of Mohini). He is generally depicted in a yogic posture, wearing a jewel around his neck, hence called 'Manikandan'.

Sabarimala Sri Dharma Sastha Temple, dedicated to Lord Ayyappa, is the most famous among all the Sastha temples in Kerala. The temple is situated on a hilltop named Sabarimala in Pathanamthitta district.

Pilgrims have to fast for 41 days (Mandala) to cleanse their minds before going to Sabarimala. Mandala Puja celebration begins on the first day of the Malayalam month Vrishchika (November-December) and culminates on the eleventh day of Dhanu (December-January).

Please participate in the Puja and receive the blessings of Lord Ayyappa. Mahaprasad (Annadannam) will follow after puja.

For further information please contact Mr P UnniKrishnan (803-270-5037) or Shaji Kamalasan (803-295-3314).
The HTS executive committee would like to thank ALL the wonderful volunteers who made the Indian Pavilion at the 2015 Arts in the Heart festival such an unbelievable success. It truly takes all kinds of help from volunteers to setting up, cleaning up, decoration, precooking desserts, cooking on site, making 5500 samosas and presenting a great program on the global stage. The Indian Pavilion won two prizes - the Judges award for food as well as Best Booth presentation. Our Mehendi tent was busy the whole weekend with long lines waiting to get henna designs. Due to your generous gift of time and money the temple is able to donate $10,000 of its profits this year to the Nepal relief. We truly appreciate this great team effort and hope you will make yourself available next year to serve on a committee and/ or donate money.

**DATTA JAYANTHI**

Datta Jayanthi will be celebrated on Saturday, the 23rd of December at 10 AM. Please contact Madhavi Chokshi (706) 868-8811 for additional information.

**SOUP KITCHEN**

Soup Kitchen makes a difference in the lives of many needy people. Volunteers are needed on a regular basis. While many of us are usually short on free time, the rewards of volunteering can be seen on the faces of those who come to the Soup Kitchen.

HTS Members will be volunteering on the following dates this year:

**NOV 1ST**

For further information, please contact Manuj Ahuja at manuj.ahuja@gmail.com

**CONDOLENCES**

Our heartfelt condolences to the family of following members of HTS for the loss of their beloved:

Vijay Kainth Son-In-Law of Mr Taggar
Malti Duggal Mother of Rekha Sareen

The above mentioned families wish to thank everyone who called and expressed their condolences.
## November 2015

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109 am AARP class

11 am Venkateshwara Puja 6.30 pm Ayyappa Puja

11 am Venkateshwara Puja 6.30 pm Ayyappa Puja

6.15 pm Krishna Chanting
The Hindu Temple Society  
P.O. Box 204264  
Augusta, GA. 30907

DONATE GENEROUSLY  
TO YOUR TEMPLE  
BE A PERPETUAL DONOR

The last day for submitting your input for the next Newsletter is 20th of December, 2014.

Please send your input to: Shaji Kamalasanan at sunayshaji@yahoo.com

SCHEDULE

Mondays
Tuesdays
Wednesdays
Fridays
First Friday
Saturdays
1st Saturday
2nd Saturday
3rd Sunday
2nd & 4th Sunday

7.00 pm  
6.45 pm  
6.45 pm  
6.15 pm  
7.00 pm  
8.00 am  
9.00 am  
9.00 am  
10.00 am  
2.00 pm  

Shiv Puja  
Hanuman Chalisa  
Krishna Archana  
Krishna Chanting  
Devi Puja  
Suprabhatham  
Karthikeya Puja  
Venkateshwara Puja  
Monthly Puja  
Jain Puja

Temple Hours: 8 - 10 AM and 6 - 8 PM
Temple is open every day at these hours except on Thursdays.
Temple is CLOSED on Thursdays and last Sunday of the month.