

Events @ A Glance

Mar 03	@ 6 PM	SPRITUAL TALK
Mar 08	@ 6 PM	MAHA SHIVRATRI
MAR 16	@ 10 AM	RAMAKRISHNA JAYANTI
	@ 2 PM	GREAT CARNATIC MUSIC COMPOSERS' DAY
	@ 6 PM	MASTI
Mar 17	@ 10 AM	SRI KRISHNA PUJA
Mar 29	@ 7 PM	HOLIKA DAHAN
Mar 30	@ 11 AM	HOLI COLOR

Volume 43

Issue 03

March 2024



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Nand Kumar Bansal	Vice-Chairman
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President's Message

कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन ।
मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते सङ्गोऽस्त्वकर्मणि ॥ 47 ॥

*karmany-evādhikāras te mā phaleṣhu kadāchana
mā karma-phala-hetur bhūr mā te saṅgo 'stvakarmaṇi*

You have a right to perform your prescribed duties, but you are not entitled to the fruits of your actions. Never consider yourself to be the cause of the results of your activities, nor be attached to inaction.

Bhagavad Gita: Chapter 2 Verse 47

Dear Devotees,

Namaste!

As we reflect on the past month, we are filled with gratitude for the divine blessings we received during the Thai Poo-sam special Kartikeya Puja. Our heartfelt thanks go to Dharma Thiruvaiyaru and the Tamil group for their pivotal role in making the puja a resounding success. We also experienced the grandeur of Sarasvati Puja, thanks to the Augusta Bengali Community, and celebrated Maha Shivaratri with unwavering devotion, supported by our dedicated devotees.

In addition to these joyous festivities, we were enriched by two spiritually uplifting talks by Swami Sadyojathah from Art of Living and Swami Yogatmananda, which drew a large audience eager for spiritual wisdom. We look forward to hosting another spiritual talk in April, further nurturing our spiritual growth.

Preparations are underway for our Annual Havan, and this year, our Puja Committee and EC have decided on a Special Maha Chandi Havan. More details regarding the Havan and its fundraising purpose will be shared in the coming weeks through our newsletter.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and dedicated service to our community and temple. Kindly consider signing up for the Soup Kitchen event planned for Saturday, March 30th. Let us also eagerly anticipate the upcoming Holika Dahan and the vibrant colors of Holi.

Please note that our Priest will be out of the country from March 30th to April 27th. Rest assured, our temple hours and puja schedule remain unchanged, with coverage provided by our dedicated volunteers.

In humble Service
Srinivasan Thiyagarajan
President,
Hindu Temple Society of Augusta

Upcoming Pujas & Events

March

Mar 01 Friday	Devi Puja @ 7 00 PM
Mar 02 Saturday	Kartikeya Puja @ 9 00 AM
Mar 03 Sunday	Spiritual Talk by Swami Yogatmananda @ 04 30 PM
Mar 04 Monday	Shiva Puja @ 7 00 PM
Mar 08 Friday	Maha Shivaratri 8 00 AM - 12 00 AM (Midnight)
Mar 09 Saturday	Venkateshwara Puja @ 9 00 PM
Mar 11 Monday	Shiva Puja @ 7 00 PM
Mar 16 Saturday	Ramakrishna Jayanti Celebrations @ 10 00 AM
Mar 17 Sunday	Third Sunday Sri Krishna Puja @ 10 00 AM
Mar 18 Monday	Shiva Puja @ 7 00 PM
Mar 23 Saturday	Krishna Puja @ 7 00 PM
Mar 24 Sunday	Satyanarayana Puja @ 7 00 PM
Mar 25 Monday	Shiva Puja @ 7 00 PM
Mar 28 Thursday	Sankashti Puja @ 7 00 PM
Mar 29 Friday	Holika Dahan @ 07 00 PM
Mar 31 Sunday	Holi Colors @ 11 00 AM

April

April 1 Monday	Shiva Puja @ 7 PM
April 3 Wednesday	Swami Sankarananda Saraswati Talk @ 6 00 PM
April 5 Friday	Devi Puja @ 7PM
April 6 Saturday	Kartikeya Puja @ 9 AM
April 9 Tuesday	Ugadi Puja @ 7 PM
April 13 Saturday	Venkateshwara Puja @ 9 00 PM
April 15 Monday	Shiva Puja @ 7 PM
April 16 Tuesday	Rama Navami Puja @ 7 PM
April 20-21 Sun-Monday	Akhand Ramayana
April 22 Monday	Shiva Puja @ 7 PM
April 23 Tuesday	Satyanarayan Puja @ 9 AM & Hanuman Jayanti @ 7 PM
April 27 Saturday	Krishna Puja @ 7 PM

SRI KRISHNA PUJA

Saturday March 17 2024

@ 10 00 AM

10.00 AM: Puja

11.00 AM: Bhajan

12.00 Noon : Pushpanjali & Arati

12.30 PM: Mahaprasad



HOLI @ HTS



Holikha Dhahan

Friday March 29, 2024

@ 06 30 PM

Holi Colors

Sunday March 31, 2024

@ 11 00 AM

Contact:

Devesh Patel @ (706) 951 4881

Krina Patel @ (478) 787 1009

Srinivasan Thyagarajan @ (678) 602 5613



Spiritual Talk

Swami Sankarananda Saraswati

Arise, Awake! Bliss is Who You Are!

Classical Yoga in the Modern Age - Theory, Principles and Practice.

Wednesday April 3 2024

@ 6 00 PM



Akhand Ramayan

Saturday April 20, 2024

@ 9 00 AM

09.00 AM: Havan, Ram Parivar puja,
& Hanuman Chaleesa

10.30 AM Ramayan Akhandpath Reading Starts

Sunday April 21, 2024

@ 10 30 AM

10 30 AM Ramayan reading conclusion
Ram Stuti, Hanuman Chalisa, Ramayan Arti,
& Bhajans

12. 00 Noon Maha Arti followed by
Mahaprasad

To schedule your Ramayan Reading service, Please Contact:

Sushma Sethi @ 706-951-9615 Nandi Shetty @ 706-414-1340, Sudha Sinha @: 706-951-8878



OMKAR DADARKAR HINDUSTANI MUSICAL CONCERT

Sunday April 28, 2024

@ 03 00 PM

Contact:

Swati Wakade @ (706) 267 6531

Lalitha Kavuri: @ (630) 518 5334

Srinivasan Thyagarajan @ (678) 602 5613

Satsang

Gita Satsang

Venue: Main Temple

Balshala Sundays

Time: 11 00 - 12 00 Noon

Every Tuesday

@ 7 00 PM

Virtual Ramayan Reading

Every Wednesday

@ 7 00 PM

Virtual Bhajans

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 824 7871 5596

Passcode: ramji

Contact: Shyam Verma (706) 373-4094

IT

The HTS Cultural Center WiFi access has been successfully reconfigured, and it's now operational, thanks to the dedicated efforts of the IT Committee, particularly Ragu Kannoth and Arun Kachroo, who dedicated at least ten hours to the task. A heartfelt thanks to the entire team for their hard work and dedication.

MAINTENANCE

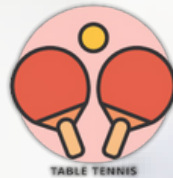
Over the past month, the Maintenance team has diligently worked on several tasks to upkeep our facilities. Here's a summary of their accomplishments:

- Replaced available filters and procured new ones for the remaining replacements.
- Successfully repaired the leaking faucet located outside the kitchen area.
- Installed new bulbs along the pradakshina path to ensure proper lighting.
- Initiated the creation of a maintenance log specifically for filter replacements.

Special recognition is extended to Gagan Bhatra, Sharad Prohit, and Mukut Sharma for their dedicated efforts in ensuring the smooth operation and upkeep of our premises.

Sports Augusta HTS | Table Tennis Club

"Bringing our community together through sports"



- All genders and age groups are welcome. **Only for HTS Members**
- **Wednesdays 6 pm to 8 pm and Saturdays 12 noon to 2 pm**
- **First session: 24th Feb, Saturday at 12 noon at the Cultural Centre**
- Equipment will be provided by HTS
- 2 tournaments planned in 2024 - April and October
- Club Organizers: **Vinay Kolar (706) 267-1849**
Arunachalam Lakshminarayanan (970) 430-8508

Registration Link: [Click Here](#)

One Free Archana

New Service For Our Esteemed HTS Members Only

At the outset, we would like to express our gratitude for being an HTS member. As previously communicated, as a token of appreciation for your membership, HTS will be offering ONE FREE ARCHANA PER FAMILY. Kindly assist us by completing this form, which will facilitate our connection with you to achieve this goal. Thank you for all your support Link to **[complete the form to register](#)**

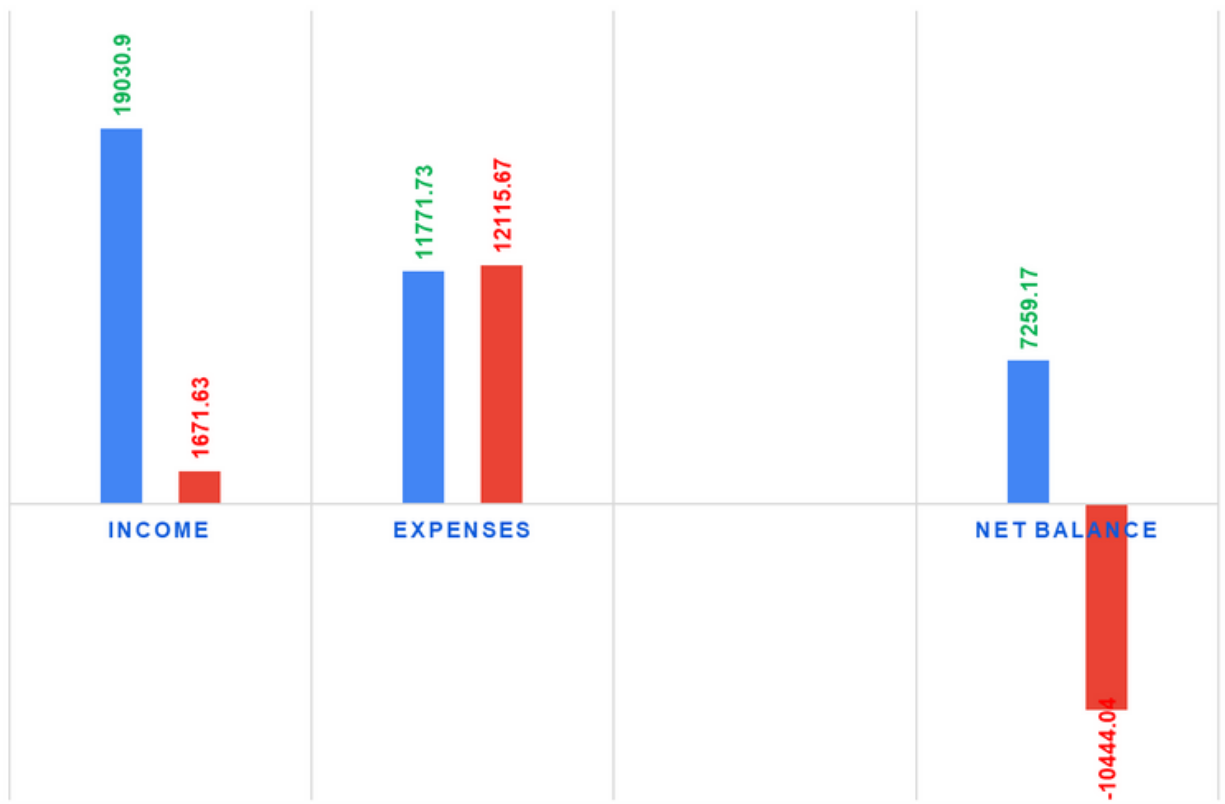
Financial Report

Financial Report January & February 2024

	January	February
Revenue	\$ 19030.90	\$ 1671.63
Expense	\$ 11,771.73	\$ 12,115.67
Net Balance	\$ 7,259.17	\$ -10,444.04

HTS INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

■ Jan-24 ■ Feb-24



As of 03/15/2024, 8:00 PM we have 331 members

Note : Any inadvertent errors and omissions will be rectified as soon as possible upon discovery.

DONATE GENEROUSLY TO SUPPORT OUR TEMPLE



augustahts@gmail.com

Puja

Thai Poosam



The divine trio of Lord Muruga, Valli, and Devasena was graciously brought to our temple by Shakuntala and Shanmuga Sundaram back in the year 2000, during the inauguration of the new temple. Since then, we have joyously celebrated two of the most significant festivals: Skanda Sashti and Thai Poosam. Thai Poosam holds particular significance for Lord Muruga, being declared a national holiday in Singapore and Malaysia. Visitors from Atlanta and Columbia often join us, sponsoring Kavadi and Milk offerings. Kavadi, a tradition initiated in Augusta even before Atlanta Temple, sees participants carrying ornate structures during the procession. This Thai Poosam was made even more special with the presence of Ravi Sankar Ji, well-versed in the formal procedures of Muruga Puja. Gratitude is extended to all donors and main sponsors Meena & Ravi Murugappan, and Madhu and Ram Ganesan. A special acknowledgment is owed to Dharma Thiruvaiyaru and Sankar Sethuraman for their efforts in organizing the special puja.



Puja

Saraswati Puja



Goddess of knowledge and wisdom, Debi Saraswati is worshipped in early spring every year in Bengal and other provinces in India. Saraswati is the daughter of Durga and wife of Lord Brahma. Though schools, colleges and universities mostly perform the Saraswati puja, it is also performed in households and neighborhoods (Barwari) scale. For the Augusta HTS puja, we collect a token donation from each family to cover the costs. We also had a grand donor this year. They are Dipankar Ash and Tamasi Roy Ash. We offer our deep gratitude to the Ash family.

The Bengali Community of Augusta (ABC) has been celebrating the Saraswati Puja for over 30 years. May the blessings of Maa Saswati remove all hate, prejudice and intolerance from this earth!

On behalf of the EC (executive committee) of ABC, we remain
Arun Dutta, Anuj Saha, Chandrani Chakraborti, Arpita Chatterjee, Tamasi Roy Ash.

Puja

Maha Shivratri @ HTS



MahaShivratri was celebrated in the main temple March 8th with Puja, offering milk to the Shiv lingam (idol), chanting prayers and meditating, and cultural program. It was celebrated marking a remembrance of "overcoming darkness and ignorance".

A special thanks to Master Ashwin for his Shiv Katha and Miss Kashvi Boga for her Nritya Seva.

Our heartfelt gratitude to all the amazing volunteers and collaborating organizations who made this event a resounding success. Your selfless service and boundless energy were the driving force behind the seamless execution.

Events

Spiritual Talk and Meditation

A lecture on Wisdom from Bhagwad Gita, followed by meditation with Swami ji Sadyojathah from Art of living was held at the main Temple Society of Augusta on Feb 29th, 2024.

Swamiji is a Senior faculty of the Art of Living Programmes which help in eliminating stress with special focus on restoring human values in society.

The event was successful despite being the weekday. Our deepest appreciation goes to all the volunteers who generously contributed their time and energy on behalf of HTS.



Spiritual Discourse by Swami Yogatmananda



HTS presented a powerful spiritual discourse by Swami Yogatmananda al on March 3, 2024. Swami ji is a resident minister of Vedanta Society of Providence of RI on Bhakti, philosophy, psychology and practice.

The event was a resounding success, and attended by a large number of members. A sincere acknowledgment and thanks to BN Roy, Sheela Kamath, Neha Punjabi and all other volunteers who helped make this event a success.

Community Outreach



GOLDEN
HARVEST FOOD
BANK

The Hindu Temple Society Community Outreach Committee and Youth Group are planning to serve at the Soup Kitchen (Golden Harvest) on Saturday, March 30th, from 10 AM to 12 Noon. If you are interested, please contact Jyoti Kapuria at 706-814-0539 or Chetan Patel at 718-532-6581. Click on this [link](#) to sign-up.

Youth Group



HTS Youth Group volunteers serving at the Saraswati Puja at the temple.

Youth HSS Meet



Kishore Milan

The HSS (Hindu Seva Sangh) Youth meet was successfully held on March 2nd, 2024. HSS not only brings our kids closer to their roots and culture, but also brings them closer to families by bonding them through fun activities together. The meet had about 14 youth and their families in attendance. First, we all did yoga, pranayama and Surya Namaskar. Then, we played some games, and finally kids engaged in a lively discussion on swastika symbol and its significance and relevance in Hinduism. This was led by a youth leader from UGA. We would like to thank the HSS volunteers who travelled from Alabama, Atlanta, and Columbia to help us with this event organized by Vineet Shastry and Samta Shetty .

For future HSS shakha events, please contact Vineet (813)8439281 and Samta (706) 414-1330



In the upcoming edition, we will feature:

- Information about the Annual Fund Raising Maha Chandi Havan
- Updates on the SRC Project
- Details regarding the upcoming Altar Improvement & Traditionalization Project, and much more.

HTS Membership/Renewal

HTS Membership runs from Diwali to Diwali and is now open for renewal for the year 2023-24. Any new families enrolling into membership now, will be members through Diwali 2024.

Regular Member (\$150/Year) Perpetual Donor (\$300/Year)

For more information on membership visit [HERE](#)

REQUEST FOR PRIEST SERVICES

For private/personal Pujas and all Rituals after confirming with Priest Shri. Govardhan ji (763) 447-7366 schedule your appointment using the link [Click Here](#)



TEMPLE & CULTURAL CENTER RENTAL

Contact: Shri. Sharad Prohit
Email: vicepresident@augstahts.org
(706) 294-2450

GAVEL CLUB

Gavel Club meetings are now held in person on Sundays at 5 pm in the HTS Cultural Center.

High school students interested in enrolling may contact Sharma Pogula @706-872-6146

DAILY TIMINGS

8:00 am – 10:00 am

&

6:00 pm – 08:00 pm

Temple is closed on Thursdays - Priest Off