



NEWSLETTER

November-December, 2015
Kartika-Margasirsa (Agrahayana)



www.augustahts.com

P. O. Box. 204264
Augusta, GA 30907

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Augusta GA 30909

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The Path of Devotion

अभ्यासेऽप्यसमर्थोऽसि मत्कर्मपरमो भव ।
मदर्थमपि कर्माणि कुर्वन् सिद्धिमवाप्स्यसि ॥ १० ॥

Transliteration

*abhyāse '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 - AARP CLASS
- 12TH- SATURDAY - AYYAPPA PUJA
- 21ST- MONDAY - VAIKUNTHA EKADASHI
- 23RD- WEDNESDAY- DATTA JAYANTHI
- 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.

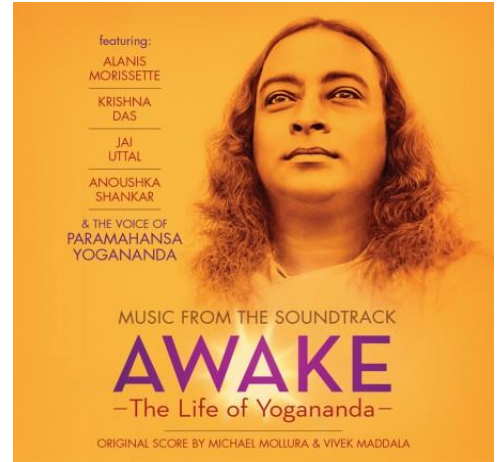
Screening of the Life of Paramhansa Yogananda

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

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' CELEBRATIONS FOR LORD SUBRAHMANYA

SATURDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER, 2015

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.

TULASI PUJA/VIVAH - SUNDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER (6 PM)

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.

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 Kamalasanan (803-295-3314)

Special Mention

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 4 pm Life of Paramhansa Movie	2 7 pm Shiva Puja	3 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	4 6.45 pm Krishna Archana	5 Priest Day off	6 6.15 pm Krishna Chanting 7 pm Devi Puja	7 9 am Venkateswara Puja
8 2 pm Jain Puja	9 DHANTERA 7 pm Shiva Puja	10 DIWALI 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	11 LAKSHMI PUJA 6.45 pm Krishna Archana	12 BALI PADYAM Priest Day off	13 6.15 pm Krishna Chanting	14 5 pm Diwali Celebration
15	16 7 pm Shiva Puja	17 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	18 6.45 pm Krishna Archana	19 Priest Day off	20 6.15 pm Krishna Chanting	21 9 am Skanda Shashti
22 Priest Day off 2 pm Jain Puja 6 pm Tulasi Puja	23 7 pm Shiva Puja	24 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	25 6.45 pm Krishna Archana 7 pm Satyanarayan Puja	26 Priest Day off	27 6.15 pm Krishna Chanting	28
29 7 pm Ganesh Puja	30 7 pm Shiva Puja					

DECEMBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	2 6.45 pm Krishna Archana	3 Priest Day off	4 6.15 pm Krishna Chanting 7 pm Devi Puja	5 9 am AARP class
6	7 7 pm Shiva Puja	8 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	9 6.45 pm Krishna Archana	10 Priest Day off	11 6.15 pm Krishna Chanting	12 11 am Venkateshwara Puja 6.30 pm Ayyappa Puja
13 2 pm Jain Puja	14 7 pm Shiva Puja	15 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	16 6.45 pm Krishna Archana	17 Priest Day off	18 6.15 pm Krishna Chanting	19
20 10 am Third Sunday Puja	21 11 am Vaikuntha Ekadashi 7 pm Shiva Puja	22 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	23 10.00 am Datta Jayanthi 6.45 pm Krishna Archana	24 Priest Day off	25 11 am Satyanarayan Puja 6.15 pm Krishna Chanting	26
27 Priest Day off 2 pm Jain Puja	28 7 pm Shiva Puja 7 pm Ganesh Puja	29 6.45 pm Hanuman Chalisa	30 6.45 pm Krishna Archana	31 Priest Day off		

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

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TO YOUR TEMPLE
BE A PERPETUAL DONOR

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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

PLEASE
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
AND
ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS TO BECOME
MEMBERS

SCHEDULE

Mondays	7 .00 pm	Shiv Puja
Tuesdays	6.45 pm	Hanuman Chalisa
Wednesdays	6.45 pm	Krishna Archana
Fridays	6.15 pm	Krishna Chanting
First Friday	7.00 pm	Devi Puja
Saturdays	8.00 am	Suprabhatham
1 st Saturday	9.00 am	Karthikeya Puja
2 nd Saturday	9.00 am	Venkateshwara Puja
3 rd Sunday	10.00 am	Monthly Puja
2 nd & 4 th Sunday	2.00 pm	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.