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Samaj Patra

Fall 2003

Editor Tej Dhakar

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Members,

On August 16, the Executive Committee held its Kickoff meeting to plan strategy for the upcoming year.

Shashank Dubey, Vice President stepped down from his position on July 29 due to personal commitments. Antony Epaphras was nominated and accepted to fill in. We will miss Shashank's contribution to the Association. Himanshu Desai will lead the Public Relations committee.

I identified the following goals to the Executive Committee:

- Improve our financial situation
- Increase our current membership
- Motivate members to join and work with committees
- Identify activities for the Public Relations Committee
- Make improvements to the web site

The following teams were identified to accomplish these goals.

Tony, Tej, and Seshu Putcha will lead the web site improvement effort. I request you to suggest improvements to our web site.

Tony and Tej, and Himanshu Desai along with other members of the Public Relations Committee will identify the roles and activities for the committee.

We are in a good shape with regard to the Public Service activities. Barinder Ahluwalia will lead the effort with guidance from Padma Mathur.

I will work with Karthi Chandra and help her set up activities for the Education Committee. We plan to offer more activities for our children in addition to the Spelling Bee Contest.

I will also help Deepa Mangalat to bring the best entertainment activities to our NH community. There is also an effort underway to add more functions to the list.

Vandana Dhakar, Membership Committee Chair has been assigned the responsibility to publish the Member Directory. The Member Directory will also contain the names of business and services in the area. Please help her with names of business you know that would be helpful. Vandana is also responsible to publish Samaj Patra.

Your participation in the committees is crucial. I request you to contact the Committee chair and offer your help.

Sudhakar Tadepalli, Treasurer has been tasked with filing the Bi-annual Financial Report with the State of New Hampshire. IANH and other Non-Profit organizations are required to file bi-annual financial reports beginning May 2004.

We will host the Diwali function on Saturday October 25 at the. I hope to see you all at the function.

Wish you happiness and peace.

Prithvi Kumar

President

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ Annual Diwali/ Garba Celebration at 4:30 PM on Saturday Oct. 25 at James Mastricola Middle School, Merrimack. See the attached flyer for further details.
- ✓ Please visit the IANH website www.ianh.org for more information on the upcoming activities.

NATIONAL SPELLING BEE WINNER

Vaibhav Shrishail was one of the Winners in the Junior Spelling Bee National contest organized by the North South Foundation on August 31 at the University of Maryland campus.

Earlier, Vaibhav Shrishail, was the first place winner of the IANH-NSF Junior Spelling Bee contest held at Manchester, New Hampshire on March 22. Vaibhav is from the Portsmouth area school. IANH Congratulates Vaibhav on his achievement!

SUMMER PICNIC – A HUGE SUCCESS

Vandana Dhakar, Chair, Membership Committee

IANH held its Annual picnic at the Bear Brook State Park on Saturday August 16. The picnic was postponed by a week due to rain.

Over fifty members and their families enjoyed a nice day of outing. Guests enjoyed playing Cricket and Volley Ball while some preferred to enjoy the comfort of shades. A few Picnic pictures are included in the

Samaj Patra. Additional pictures are posted on our web site <http://www.ianh.org/>.

GENERAL BODY MEETING

IANH held its annual General Body meeting on August 16 concurrently with the picnic. Ambassador George Bruno addressed the General Body. Mr. Bruno praised the efforts of IANH members for their effort in response to the NH State House Resolution on Kashmir. “Your News Conference on May 5 was very professional and exceeded all expectations. Now you should take on more and participate in political process at local level,” said Mr. Bruno.

Following the address, Tej Dhakar read the changes to the IANH By-laws. IANH By-laws were revised to include the conflict of interest clause required by the State of New Hampshire. We also added the Education Committee to the list.

The General body approved the changes to the By-laws. The General Body then approved the nominations of President, Vice President, and Education Committee Chair.

MEMBER PROFILE – AMBASSADOR GEORGE BRUNO

Editor's Note: Ambassador Bruno is a long-time member of India Association of New Hampshire.



George Charles Bruno is former Ambassador of the USA to Belize. Currently, Ambassador Bruno is a lawyer in private practice concentrating on business matters and immigration law. Ambassador Bruno is also the Managing Director of USA Group International, an international consulting firm serving

businesses and governments, with offices in New Hampshire and Washington, DC.

He continues to perform duties for the government as a lecturer for the State Department on Democracy and Human Rights while serving as the International Affairs Advisor at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, Fort Benning, Georgia.

Ambassador Bruno graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY, a law degree from George Washington University, and was awarded a fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. During law school, he served as a volunteer aide to Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

His first job after law school was as an anti-poverty lawyer with Newark (NJ) Legal Services Project in 1967. His first client was the cab driver whose arrest sparked the Newark riots that turbulent summer.

In 1971 he worked as a civil rights lawyer in Jackson, MS. At the age of 29, he won a case before the US Supreme Court resulting in a landmark opinion by Justice William O. Douglas protecting Social Security benefits from creditors.

Politically active, he was Chairman of the NH Democratic Party (1983-87), member of the Democratic National Committee (1983-96) and NH Co-Chair of the 1992 Clinton for President Campaign.

During the hard-fought 1992 NH Primary, he made numerous appearances with Gov. Clinton and served as one of his leading advocates in NH. In 2000, he coordinated surrogate speakers for Al Gore, worked on national security issues, and participated in the infamous Florida recount.

As US Ambassador to Belize 1994-98, he worked to increase trade, strengthen Belize's democratic traditions, stem the flow of illegal drugs and aliens, and promote friendly relations between the US and Belize.

Following his tour as ambassador, he served as Senior Advisor in the Army's international office at the Pentagon. There, in addition to being part of the US team to facilitate the transfer of the Panama

Canal related assets, he worked with NATO Allies and Partners for Peace in Eastern Europe to establish cooperation and civil military emergency planning systems and thereby strengthen democracy and stability in the region. In 2003, under contract with the Pentagon, he has worked with leaders in Tajikistan and the Republic of Georgia to promote their transition to democracy.

He has traveled to over 45 countries throughout Asia, the Subcontinent, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, the Middle East, Central America, South America and the Caribbean as diplomat and lecturer. He has served on election observation missions in Kosovo, Pakistan, and Romania, and participated in world forums on trade, human rights, democracy, military affairs, and administration of justice.

His honors include a Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Hartwick College in 1996. He has produced a weekly TV show, served as a radio host, and is a co-author of Democracy, Human Rights and Rule of Law, a book published in 2000 in honor of Nani Palkhivala, an Indian jurist noted for his strong stand on human rights. In recent months he has written a series of op-ed pieces on the India-Pakistan Kashmir dispute that appeared in national media.

Ambassador Bruno can be reached at GBruno1@aol.com

HOW TO WIN AN ELECTION – ADVICE FROM KUMAR BARVE

(Contributed by Siddhartha Das)

Editor's Note: Kumar P. Barve is the Majority Leader in the Maryland House of Delegates.

1. You need to get out and knock on the doors. Find out how many votes you need to win, multiply by two (because people are only at home half the time) and that is the number of doors you need to knock on. The rule is very simple, every person who meets you will probably vote for you. If you campaign with a volunteer, non-Indian volunteers will be best.
2. You have to be able to explain, IN ONE SENTENCE why people should vote for you. Tell that one sentence to EVERY person you

meet. Put that sentence on your literature. This is the hardest part of the campaign.

3. Do not waste money on buttons, nail files or bumper stickers. Instead, carry with you an attractive, picture filled piece of literature that has as few words as possible. Pictures of children and dogs are better than written material (which nobody reads anyway). This literature should be no more than one page. Include your home telephone number so they can call you back.
4. Accept advice from everyone. Ask advice from everyone. Even if it is worthless, it makes them feel good and makes them want to support you. Remember: listening ALWAYS gets you votes, talking usually loses you votes.
5. Argue with nobody. If you disagree, thank them, tell them you respect their opinion and WALK AWAY. You probably will not get their vote, so don't waste your time. DON'T SAY ANYTHING NEGATIVE ABOUT FELLOW MEMBERS OF YOUR PARTY. PERIOD.

SAI BABA KO, ABDUL KALAM KA SALAM

(Contributed by Prithvi Kumar)

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam after taking over as the President of India, sent two months of his salary to Sri Sathya Sai Baba as his contribution. The President sent his salary with a note: "Kindly accept this, Bhagvan. I am a bachelor, so I don't need this money. I don't want it."

Now look at Baba. He did not take it. He did not remit it to any Central Trust account. He gave instructions immediately that a gold medal be specially instituted in the name of Abdul Kalam, the President of India, and that a gold medal be given every year on the interest accrued on the two lakhs deposited in the bank.

Sathya Sai University is the only university in this country that has two gold medals instituted in the name of two Presidents of the country. They have a gold medal in the name of Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, the former President of this country, and

we are going to have yet another gold medal, instituted in the name of Dr. Abdul Kalam, the current President of India. This is all Baba's will.

He wrote in his letter to Swami and to the Vice Chancellor: "When I happen to come there, please do not place any seat for me. I want to squat on the ground along with other devotees. I come there in the capacity of a devotee."

On the historic day of the Convocation at Sri Sathya Sai University, the 22nd of November, that the President of India came out of the guest house here at nine 'o clock and started going everywhere in the north blocks, the sheds, and the auditorium.

The security staff had a terrible time. He said to them: "You go and, let me go". He went on moving everywhere and every one along the way would say "Sai Ram" to him. He started responding, "Sai Ram, Sai Ram" to everybody!

This is the only place and the only President who made himself accessible to the average Indian. "All are One, my dear son. Be alike to everyone" was translated in to reality and action. Kalam wrote in his letter to Swami: "It is only in this place that I experienced supreme Peace."

IANH MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO GROW

We welcome the following new members, who have joined the Association recently:

Life Members

Mohan & Karthi Chandra
Himanshu & Ina Desai

Members

Manish & Aparajita Manchanda
Maqsood & Nasim Rizvi
Prasanna Devi & Balaji Jayavelu

If you are not a member or have not renewed for the year 2003, please fill out the membership / renewal form attached to the Samaj Patra and mail with the membership dues to the address on the membership form.

For more information, please visit the Association website www.ianh.org or contact Vandana Dhakar,

Membership Secretary at (603) 668-9028 or dhakar@comcast.net

**ADVERTISE IN DIWALI BROCHURE /
SETUP A BOOTH / TABLE AT DIWALI
FESTIVAL**

We will be publishing a Program Brochure at the Diwali / Garba Celebration. It will be distributed to the 200+ Indian-Americans and their American friends expected at the festival. We invite you to send us your advertisement – be it to promote your business or simply to wish Happy Diwali to your fellow Indian-Americans. The rates are as follows:

Full Page Ad (7”x 4”): \$75
Half Page Ad (3.5”x4”): 40

If you prefer, you are welcome to setup a booth or table at the Diwali Festival to promote your business or your cause. Rates for the booth are as follows:

Booth (6’x6’): \$150
Table: (6’x3’): \$50 (\$40 for members, \$25 for Non-Profits)

Send your ad copy or your reservation for the booth/table by October 20, 2003 to:

Vandana Dhakar
20 Chad Road
Manchester, NH 03104

**OFFICERS OF
THE
ASSOCIATION**

Prithvi Kumar
President
(603) 472-5835

Antony Epaphras
Vice-President
(603) 624-9251

Prasad Kalyanapu
Secretary
(603) 623-0797

Sudhakar Tadepalli
Treasurer
(603) 488-2010

Deepa Mangalat
Chair, Cultural Committee
(603) 880-0185

Any questions, please contact Vandana Dhakar at 603-668-9028 dhakar@comcast.net.

IANH BALANCE SHEET

Balance Sheet		
Fiscal Year 2003 ending August 31, 2003		
	Income	Expenses
Cultural Committee: Spring Festival		
Spring festival ticket Sales	\$ 254.00	
Hall Rental etc. for Spring Festival		\$ 322.00
Spring Festival: Catering expenses		\$ 400.00
Spring Festival Snack Sales	\$ 560.00	
Total	\$ 814.00	\$ 722.00
Public Service Committee		
Donations received	\$ 550.00	
Cookout at New Horizons		\$ 125.00
Total	\$ 550.00	\$ 125.00
Educational Committee		
Donations received	\$ 484.00	
Trophies for Spelling Bee		\$ 50.00
B & N Gift Checks for Spelling Bee		\$ 200.00
Total	\$ 484.00	\$ 250.00
Membership Committee		
Memberships renewal	\$ 715.00	
Postal, printing and Samaja Patras		\$ 227.00
Picnic expenses		\$ 14.00
Web site rental		\$ 88.00
Banner		\$ 112.00
Total	\$ 715.00	\$ 441.00
Public Relations Support		
Public Relations fund donations	\$ 325.00	
Printing and mailing expenses :HCR 16		\$ 884.00
Total	\$ 325.00	\$ 884.00
Miscellaneous Income		
General Contributions received	\$ 173.00	
Life memberships	\$ 750.00	
Interest earned	\$ 10.00	
Total	\$ 933.00	
Grand Total	\$ 3,821.00	\$ 2,422.00

Barinder Ahluwalia
Chair, Public Service
Committee
(603) 472-4882

Karthi Chandra
Chair, Education
Committee
(603) 889-9512

Vandana Dhakar
Chair, Membership
Committee
(603) 668-9028

Himanshu Desai
Chair, Public Relations
Committee
(603) 472-3289

Tej Dhakar
Member
(603) 668-9028

Padma Mathur
Member
(603) 669-8564

Seshu Putcha
Webmaster
(603) 868-8985

Scenes from Picnic & General Body Meeting

August 16, 2003

Bear Brook State Park, Allenstown

