



North American Sankethi Association (NASA)
3943 White Rose Way, Ellicott City, MD 21042
<http://www.sankethi.org>

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Board of Directors

President

Dr. S. Sridhara
(410) 418-4024
ssridhara51@gmail.com

Vice President

Dr. Uma Ramakrishna
(301) 598-9330
Uma_r108@yahoo.com

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Dr. Keshava Kumar
(860) 648-9798
kbkumar@cox.net

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(919) 423-7369
mahesh.rao@alumni.duke.edu

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Rudrapatna

Govindaraju

(813) 920-5368

Raju@reliancecpa.com

Assistant Secretary

(Regional Meetings)

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(570) 708-0175

Stansatya@hotmail.com

Assistant Secretary

(Annual Event

Coordinator)

Lakshmi Jayaram

(301) 460-5938

lj@jhu.edu

Assistant Secretary

(Annual Event

Coordinator)

Shubha Dathatri

(650) 799-9744

shubha@stanford.edu

Dear fellow Sankethis and friends:

It is my great pleasure to write to you all again and to invite you to attend our popular NASA Annual Event in July. Based on our past experience from the annual events, we wanted to offer a refreshing change to both the location and food. We explored several interesting alternate locations for the annual event, came very close to signing up, but fell short of making a satisfactory arrangement for exciting food. Finally, we have decided to go back to New Windsor, MD, our well known cost effective facility this year as well. But we are very happy to tell you that we will have very authentic Sankethi food this year. We will keep this arrangement a pleasant surprise for you!

We want you all to mark your calendar for July 6-7-8 for the exciting annual event and attend in large numbers.

We encourage you to come on 5th night and stay at New Windsor so you have some time to relax and be ready for outdoor events on the 6th. Our regular food arrangements start on 6th evening. In line with last year's group recommendations, we have planned events targeted to all age groups. Lakshmi and Shubha are working on a delightful set of events as outlined in the following pages. As always, your friends and relatives are most welcome at NASA and we want to make them feel at home; they are "Sankethis by association." We will send another newsletter in June along with the notice of GBM and more details on the program.

The last 8 months have been very exciting and your BOD has worked hard to maintain contact amongst ourselves as well as with the NASA community more generally. As previous newsletters and news on our website has indicated, we have conducted three well attended Regional Meetings in Connecticut, Toronto, and Texas. Our life membership is growing with each event and we have met and included into our fold many new faces. Information and reports on all these events are available on our website (www.Sankethi.org). We have also forged a more warm relationship with Kowshika Sankethi Sangha, and have been posting many of their appeals and activities on our NASA website under a special tab titled "KSS." We intend to do the same with Bettadapura Sankethi Sangha, BSS. You can expect a detailed progress report on many of these and other new initiatives being coordinated through Special Teams and Committees at the GBM this year.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to celebrate your family and other happy events with us at NASA annual event by sponsoring meals or other programs. It is hard to find a more fit Sankethi group to share your joy with! Please call one of us for details.

We would love to see you all in July. On behalf of NASA BOD, I would like to wish you all a VERY HAPPY SARVAJITU NEW YEAR!

Warm regards,

S. Sridhara, President-NASA

1. NASA Annual 2007: July 6-7-8 at New Windsor MD

Bringing Generations Together in Cultural Celebration

Top Ten Reasons to Attend NASA 2007:

10. Nature Walk and Yoga!
9. Rummy / "28" Tournament!
8. Idly Eating Contest!
7. Singles Night Out!
6. Teen Day Hike!
5. Children's Fun Fair!
4. Fantastic traditional Sankethi food!
3. Socialize with Friends and Family!
2. Incomparable showcase of cultural talents!
1. Discovering and rediscovering our roots!

Overview of Schedule of Events (July 6-7-8)

We are looking forward to seeing you at this year's annual get-together and having the chance to spend the weekend together. We have many interesting and relaxing activities planned that we're sure you'll enjoy!

We will start the festivities with an early picnic lunch on Friday, July 6, at 11 am at a park/lake close to the Windsor Conference Center (about a 20-minute drive). After lunch, the teens will leave for their day hike with trained adult guides, and those interested in golfing can play at a nearby course. The rest of us will enjoy the day outdoors where we will have access to water slides, paddle-boating, and swimming at the lake. We will all convene at Windsor around 4pm when check-in begins. Friday evening will feature a delicious Sankethi-style dinner, family introductions, and a family tree activity. Late-night informal games and activities are also being planned, such as Karaoke, Dance Revolution, charades, and a basketball game.

Saturday morning, July 7, will begin with a nature walk, yoga, and chanting. During breakfast, we will have an "idly-eating" contest for all ages, so bring your appetites! In the morning, we will have a Fun Fair that features games and activities, such as balloon animals, face painting, arts & crafts, our traditional "races and contests," water balloons & sprinkler, and possibly a moon bounce, climber, and/or miniature obstacle course. The General Body meeting will run concurrently with the Fun Fair. Once the GBM concludes, we will have an intergenerational community building activity.

Saturday's lunch will feature another scrumptious Sankethi meal. After lunch we will have the first portion of the Cultural Program. In the mid-afternoon, we are planning an ice-cream and samosa social. During the second half of the afternoon, we will have the Children's Talent Showcase and the Graduation Awards. After dinner on Saturday night, an evening Cultural Program will culminate the activities of the day. If there is interest, we plan to hire trusted baby-sitters to provide on-site child care during the cultural programs. Saturday late-night activities feature Kannada movies, a "28" / Rummy Tournament, and a "Singles Night Out" to Baltimore or Washington DC (transportation will be provided).

Sunday morning will begin again with a nature walk, yoga, and chanting. The morning's activities will have a spiritual/religious theme. During programs for adults, we will concurrently have a mini-camp for children where they will hear traditional stories and learn to act them out, learn and sing bhajans in a group, or work on craft projects, depending on their age and interest. We will conclude the festivities with a delicious farewell lunch. Please look for further details about this schedule at www.sankethi.org closer to the time of the event.

Looking forward to seeing you in July!!!

NASA Annual 2007: July 6-7-8 at New Windsor MD
Conference Registration Form

Family Name: _____

Number of Participants:

Adults (Ages 21+) ___ Young Adults (Ages 13-21) ___ Children (Ages 7-12) ___ Young Children (Ages 6 and under) ___

Home Address:

E-Mail Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Expected Arrival Date*: _____ **Time:** _____

* Please check this box if you will be arriving in the Washington, DC area on Thursday, July 5, 2007 and would like for us to arrange your stay with a local host family or at New Windsor before conference activities officially begin.

Signature¹:

¹ By signing, you declare that you have the authority and consent of those you register. You consent that you and the participants you register will not hold NASA or its officers and representative liable for any injury, liability or damages arising out of this function.

Payment: Please make checks payable to NASA Inc. per the following schedule and mail along with these completed forms to

NASA, Inc.
3943 White Rose Way,
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Registration for children 12 and under is free.

Full Program Registration (arriving anytime Friday):

(1) Any person over the age of 13:

\$125 (registrations received before **4/30/07**), \$150 (registrations received after **4/30/07**)

(2) Temporary visitors and students from India: 50% of full registration rates provided above♦

Partial Registration (arriving anytime Saturday or attendance with no rooms):

(1) Any person over the age of 13:

\$100 (registrations received before **4/30/07**), \$125 (registrations received after **4/30/07**)

(2) Temporary visitors and students from India: 50% of partial registration rates provided above♦

♦ Please call S. Sridhara (410-418-4024) if you need any travel assistance or a registration fee waiver.

Please indicate your interest in participating in the following activities:

Teen Day Hike (age 13+, 7/6/07) – please indicate name & age of participants

Afternoon at the Lake (young children and adults, 7/6/07) – please indicate number of participants

Children: _____ Ages: _____
Adults: _____

Golf Outing (adults, 7/6/07) – please indicate number of participants: _____

Idly-Eating Contest (children and adults, 7/7/07) – please indicate number of participants

Children: _____ Ages: _____
Adults: _____

Children’s Talent Showcase (7/7/07) – please indicate name of participants, age, & talent(s) to be shared

Adult Cultural Programs, Special Presentations, etc. (7/6/07, 7/7/07, 7/8/07) – please indicate name of participants & provide a brief description of the program, presentation, etc.

28 / Rummy Tournament (adults, 7/7/07) – please indicate number of participants: _____

Singles Night Out (age 21+, 7/7/07) – please indicate name of participants

Child Care Service – please indicate names and ages of children

For questions regarding participation in any of these events, please contact our Event Coordinators:

Lakshmi Jayaram 301-460-5938 lj@jhu.edu
Shubha Dathatri 650-799-9744 shubha@post.harvard.edu

High School Graduation (HGA) and College Graduation Award (CGA) Candidates:

Name: _____ Indicate HGA or CGA: _____
Person who will speak about the Candidate: _____

Name: _____ Indicate HGA or CGA: _____
Person who will speak about the Candidate: _____

NASA 2007 Sponsorship Form

If you would like to sponsor any of the activities occurring at the NASA 2007 conference, please complete this form, make checks payable to NASA, Inc., and mail both to S. Sridhara, 3943 White Rose Way, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Name: _____

Home Address:

E-Mail Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Amount of Donation*: _____

*Your kind donation/sponsorship may be used to cover the costs of the following items/services. If you would like your donation to be used for a particular purpose listed here, please check the box next to the relevant items/services below.

- Snacks/Coffee/Tea/Cold Drinks/Fruits
- Late Night Snacks
- Lunch (Friday, 7/6/07)
- Breakfast / Lunch (7/7/07, 7/8/07)
- Dinner (7/6/07, 7/7/07)
- Van / Mini-Bus Rental
- Cultural Events / Activities
- Fun Fair Materials (i.e., balloons, art supplies, games, sports equipment, moon bounce/climber)
- Karaoke / Dance Revolution Equipment/Materials
- Child Care / Babysitting Service
- Other (*please specify:* _____)

Many thanks!!!

2. Regional Events Update:

Following regional events were held since July 2006 (Please visit www.sankethi.org for details and pictures from these regional events):

1. Navarathri get together at Bombe (Doll) Arathi & Navarathri Celebrations On September 30 2006, held at 11, Training Hill Road, Middletown, Connecticut 06457.
2. First Canadian Sankethi Get-Together held at Meadowvale Village Hall, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada (Toronto Region) on October 28, 2006
3. Sankranti celebration and Regional Meeting held at Houston, TX on January 13, 2007 at Drs. Eswari and Prasanna Murthy's House 1815 Sugar Crossing Dr. Sugar Land, TX 77478



3. New Life Members of NASA

NASA BOD welcomes the following life members to NASA:

1. Dr. Janardhan and Vijaya Janardhan, Manchester CT
2. Bangalore Neelakantiah and Leelavathi Neelakantiah, Wallingford CT
3. Channasandra Nagaraj and Sudha Nagaraj, Southwindsor CT
4. Nagaraja Rudrapatna, Anupama Nagaraja, Akshatha Rudrapatna, Nagaprasada Rudrapatna, Canada
5. Bettadapura Sheshachala, Vinutha Sheshachacala, Kushal Sheshachala, Nidhishree Sheshachala, Canada
6. Sri Sreekanth, Sudha Subbanna, Supritha Sreekanth, Susmitha Sreekanth, Canada
7. Eshwari & Prasanna Murthy, Sugarland, TX
8. Sudha & Umesha, Austin, TX
9. Chitra & Ashok Rao, Sugarland, TX
10. Raghuram & Pavani, East Amherst, NY



4. A request to all NASA members and non-members:

If your email address has changed or if you would like us to include your or your friends' email addresses in the distribution list, please send us a note with the current email address(es) to kbkumar@cox.net. If you have been receiving communication from NASA and your email address is correct no action is required.



5. KSS Link added to www.sankethi.org

As we receive communication from KSS the same will be posted under KSS link (found on the LHS of www.sankethi.org home page). Please visit the same for updates.



6. Community news:

WELL KNOWN SANKETHI PHILANTHROPIST H.C.SUBBA RAO PASSES

- Written by the President and Managing Committee Members of the Koushika Sankethi Sanga (KSS), originally published in the *Sankethi Sampada*, and translated from Kannada to English by Mr. M.N. Anantha.

We deeply regret to announce the passing of Shri. H.C.Subba Rao, at his residence in Bangalore, on the 21st of March, after a brief illness. He was 92 years old. With his death, the Sankethi Community, and the KSS in particular, lost a great social worker and philanthropist.

Born the eldest son to Late Sri. Chennakeshaviah and late Smt. Sundaramma of Handanahal, Shri HCS followed the principles of God Sri Rama throughout his life. The way he led his life has left a deep and indelible impression on not only his family members but on all those who came in contact with him. His simple living, truthfulness, sympathy for the poor (to the extent of giving away what he had to more needy people), and his generosity, caused him to be liked and respected by one and all in the Sankethi community.

His wife, Smt. Lalithamma (daughter of late Shri Thimmapaiah and late Smt. Sitalakshmi of Kuppahalli), provided him with continuous and whole-hearted support for the principles that HCS lived by during their 66 years of married life. Shri HCS and Smt. Lalithamma have one son and four daughters, twelve grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. All their children attained Doctorates in their educational life. His son Dr. Keshava Murthy and daughter-in-law Shylaja, settled in USA, returned to India over a year ago, only to look after his ailing father, and was at his father's bedside when Shri HCS passed away. Shri HCS's two daughters, Dr. Uma and Dr. Rajeshwari, are settled in the US with their husbands, Dr. Ramakrishna and Dr. Sridhar, respectively. His other two daughters, Dr. Vijayalakshmi and Dr. Savithri, are settled in Bangalore with their husbands, Sri. Bhaskar and Dr. Narasimha Murthy.

Shri HCS was associated with the KSS from its inception in 1945. He worked for the KSS very closely with his uncle, Dr. H. Krishnamurthy, in building the institution. He was the General Secretary of the KSS between 1980 and 1982. During this time, he visited the US and mobilised substantial support for the activities of the KSS from the North American Sankethi Association (NASA). Shri HCS was instrumental in establishing a relationship between KSS and NASA. He and his family have supported the KSS for the last 50 years through their personal efforts and monetary donations. KSS owes its present status to a few very dedicated and committed individuals, and one of them is Shri HCS.

On behalf of the community, we pray for "CHIRASHANTI" for his soul, and to also give the family the courage to face the loss of their beloved HCS.

