



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

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Dear friends:

I am very excited that we are so close to the best part of the year, our annual event on July 6-7-8 at New Windsor, MD! With excellent leadership from Lakshmi and Shubha, NASA BOD has arranged a lovely set of programs that is rightly characterized "*Bringing Generations Together in Cultural Celebration.*" We have activities for all: outdoor activities and picnic at the lake, music programs from young and upcoming Sankethi artists, exploration of our culture and roots, fine programs for young children, and what I expect as our best food cooked fresh on site by our own Sankethi family, and one meal catered from a famous Indian restaurant. While the "Night Out on the Town" and the Golf Outing provide refreshing additions, the acclaimed Sanskrit play "*Aham Brahmasmi*" on Sankaracharya directed by our own Divakar Rudrapatna will be shown on DVD on Sunday, setting the right tone for the religious theme of the morning. In order to coordinate concurrent activities for all ages, this year we have a pair of excellent child care providers who will also coach youngsters in Bangra and other dances as well as engage them in constructive and fun activities all weekend.

We have included an overview of all the activities in the following pages as well as the Notification of the 2007 GBM. We have inserted the minutes of the 2006 GBM and I encourage you to read it before you attend the 2007 GBM. We have included a short segment on the Emergency/Disaster Relief Fund as well as the KSS and BSS to enhance our awareness about their activities that support our communities back in India. We will also present the reports from NASA activities and other initiatives we took over the last year.

We have tried to keep the charges reasonable and make it more affordable to students and visitors from India at 50% of normal rates. I am prepared to consider any special requests on this front since this is not about making money, but about everyone's participation.

Finally, I encourage you to celebrate your family and other celebratory events with us at the NASA annual event by sponsoring meals or other programs. I am so happy to tell you that we already have five voluntary sponsorships and I look forward to many more from you all. A list of potential sponsorship events is attached. Please call one of us for any further details.

Well, now the ball is in your court! We want you all to come in large numbers and take advantage of the wonderful get-together of our community. I am also looking forward to hearing about your constructive ideas to grow our organization in a direction that is fruitful to all of us.

See you all at New Windsor soon!

Warm regards,

S. Sridhara, President-NASA

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

New Windsor Conference Center provides air conditioned rooms, beds, pillows, sheets and towels. Rooms in two of the three buildings have private bath rooms. Authentic food is being arranged thanks to one of our own Sankethi families. Saturday evening dinner is being catered from the famous Madras Palace of Gaithersburg, MD. Please let us know if you have any special needs by way of food or accommodation, and we will try our best to meet your needs. Accommodation, food and all programs are covered by the registration charges. None of these is permitted in New Windsor facility: Smoking in buildings, pets, alcohol, illegal drugs and firearms. For directions, please check:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&q=new+windsor+MD&ie=UTF8&om=1&z=15&iwloc=addr&num=10>

NASA 2007: *Bringing Generations Together in Cultural Celebration*

Program Highlights

Harsha Nagarajan Concert (Saturday Evening Cultural Program)

The evening cultural program will feature the vocal prodigy Harsha Nagarajan, a graduate student at Texas A&M University. He has won numerous prizes in Carnatic music competitions and has performed extensively in India and the US. His musical achievement is particularly remarkable and poignant given his young age. Harsha will be accompanied by two very accomplished and well-known Washington-area musicians, Sandhya Srinath on violin and Srinath Bala on Mridangam.

“Music of India”

At this year’s conference, we are very excited to present a very special musical treat featuring the Sitar and Mandolin along with percussion accompaniment. The Sitar will be performed by Ms. Sudha Iyer and the Mandolin will be performed by Vikram Keshav. Both of these musicians are inspiring and thrilling to hear.

Sudha Iyer is a gifted musician and has formal training in sitar in the North Indian classical style of music from Hamid Hussain of Baltimore, MD. Although her profession is in the field of toxicology, she has pursued music as a hobby for many years. Even though her first love is Indian classical music, she also enjoys experimenting with other forms of music. To date she has played with ensembles that included Japanese, Western, Middle Eastern and African instruments. In addition to performing, she also teaches sitar.

Vikram is the grandson of the great Sri R.R. Keshava Murthy and has studied Carnatic music under his grandfather’s tutelage since the young age of four. Vikram plays six different instruments and has trained in vocal Carnatic music. He will be playing the Electric Mandolin during this music presentation. Although very young, Vikram has given many concerts, and is most recently exploring fusion music. Vikram is a graduate student at Pace University.

“Aham Brahmasmi”

We are privileged to show a DVD presentation of the highly-acclaimed Sanskrit drama “Aham Brahmasmi” about Sri Shankaracharya directed by Divakar Rudrapatna. The presentation will be accompanied by narration during the showing and followed by discussion afterwards. For more information and reviews about the drama, please visit: www.kannadamma.com.

Children’s Religious Mini-Camp: “The Ramayana through Yoga”

On Sunday morning, we will have a religiously-oriented session for children where they will hear the epic story of the Ramayana in abridged form and then learn to depict the story through yoga poses. We will begin and close the session with prayers and children will also learn a few devotional songs. Children will later take the stage for a unique and original dramatic presentation of the Ramayana. In order for children to be comfortable learning yoga poses, we ask that they wear leggings or sweatpants, in either white, navy blue, or red, with a fitted white top.

“The Roots of the Sankethi Family Tree”

Throughout the weekend we have interactive intergenerational activities planned. Come prepared to be surprised, learn about our heritage and origins, laugh until your sides hurt, burst with pride, and reinvigorate your Sankethi ties.

Day at the Lake:

NASA has reserved a pavilion at the lovely Cascade Lake (www.cascadelake.com) for an enjoyable and relaxing day at the lake (please see page 6 for additional details). The venue offers swimming, boating on the lake, water slides, a splash park, volleyball/basketball/soccer fields, and intermediate hiking trails. The lake also features an area of beach entry that gradually deepens to four feet. Those who are interested in swimming in the lake (10ft+ deep) must pass a freestyle swimming test for 140 feet. The Teen Day Hike (with trained guides) will take place after lunch on location at Cascade Lake. Admission and Picnic Lunch (hulianna, sandwiches, fruit, drinks, etc) will be provided by NASA. When you arrive at the park, please inform the attendant that you are with NASA.

Golf Outing:

Golfers can enjoy a round at the beautiful and challenging Wakefield Valley Golf Course in Westminster, MD (website: www.wakefieldvalley.com/golf.html). Proposed tee times are 8am or 1:30pm on Friday, July 6, depending on player arrival times. Please contact Jayanth Jayaram (e-mail: jayanth.jayaram@gmail.com, cell: 240-997-2160) if you are interested in joining the group. The golf course is also located close to Cascade Lake and golfers will be able to join the Day at the Lake either before or after their game.

Night Out on the Town:

On the evening of Friday, July 6, interested members, ages 21 and older, are invited to a “Night Out on the Town.” This event is for both singles and couples. The selected venue is called “Tabaq Bistro” in the U Street area of Washington, DC (website www.tabaqdc.com). Tabaq is elegant, trendy, and the perfect place to renew old acquaintances as well as to make new ones. NASA has also made efforts to invite interested individuals from the local Kannada and Tamil associations in the Washington area in an attempt to foster broader social networks. In this vein, please feel free to invite any of your friends who are interested in joining us on this night as well. In order to coordinate carpool transportation from Windsor to Washington, DC and to make appropriate space reservations at Tabaq, please register for the annual meeting right away and indicate your interest in joining the “Night Out.” If you are planning to meet us at Tabaq Bistro, please RSVP to Lakshmi (lj@jhu.edu) or Shubha (shubha@post.harvard.edu) as soon as possible for planning purposes. This event promises to be exciting and memorable!

Children’s Fun Fair

The Fun Fair will feature games and activities for children, such as balloon animals, face painting, children’s manicures and pedicures, craft projects, our traditional “races and contests,” water balloons, a bouncer, and miniature obstacle course.

Program Schedule

Friday, July 6

8am or 1:30pm	Golf Outing at Wakefield Valley Golf Course
11am	Meet at Cascade Lake
12noon	Picnic Lunch at Cascade Lake
1-4pm	Enjoy hiking, water & leisure activities at Cascade Lake
4pm	Check-In begins at Windsor (families may arrive earlier as well)
6-6:30pm	Children's Dinner
6:30-7:30pm	Adult Dinner Hour
8-9pm	"The Roots of the Sankethi Family Tree: Family Introductions featuring our Villages of Origin"
9:30pm	"Night Out on the Town" – participants travel to Washington DC
9:30pm	Rummy and "28" Tournament
9:30pm	Teen Open Gym – basketball, board games, ping pong, music and more!
9:30pm	Feature Movie Presentation

Saturday, July 7

6:30-7am	Nature Walk
7-7:30am	Yoga
7:30-8am	Vedic Chanting
8-9:30 am	Breakfast
8:30am	Idly Eating Contest
9-11am	Children's Fun Fair
9:30-10:30am	General Body Meeting
10:30-11am	Update on Emergency/Disability Relief Fund, and Kowshika & Bettadapura Sankethi Sangha activities
11am-12pm	Interactive Intergenerational Games & Fun!
12pm	Children's Lunch
12:30-1:30pm	Adult Lunch Hour
12:30-2pm	Children's Movie Presentation
2-3:30pm	"Music of India" featuring the Sitar & Mandolin
3:30-4pm	Coffee/Tea/Snack Break & Ice Cream Social
4-5:30pm	Children's Talent Showcase & Graduation Award Presentation
5:30-6pm	Adult Talent/Light Entertainment Program
6-6:30pm	Children's Dinner
6:30-7:30pm	Adult Dinner Hour

8pm	Evening Cultural Program featuring Carnatic Classical Music
8pm	“Children/Teen Dance Workshop: Introduction to Garba & Bhangra”
10pm	Fireworks
11pm	Late Night Teen Movie Presentation
11pm	Poker Tournament

Sunday, July 8

6:30am	Nature Walk
7am	Yoga
7:30am	Vedic Chanting
8-9:30am	Breakfast
9-11:30am	Children’s Religious Mini-Camp: “The Ramayana through Yoga”
9-11am	DVD Presentation of “Aham Brahmasmi”
11-11:30am	Devotional Songs “Open Mic”
11:30am-12pm	Children’s Ramayana Presentation & Aarathi
12pm	Children’s Lunch
12:30-1:30pm	Adult’s Lunch Hour
1:30pm	Farewell Remarks & Musical Slideshow Presentation
3pm	Check-Out

**During the cultural programs, infants and toddlers may nap, be fed, etc, in a room just adjacent to the auditorium. For the most part, we have planned concurrent activities for preschool-aged children and up. However, children are always welcome to join the cultural programs in the auditorium. And if they become restless, we will also have quiet activities in the back of the auditorium to engage children as well.*

Note About Childcare and Meals:

Two known and trusted individuals (Lakshmi Jayaram’s personal acquaintances and babysitters), Sohni Sharma and Zeel Desai, will join our meeting to provide child care assistance throughout the weekend, and particularly at meal times, the fun fair, the religious mini-camp, and during cultural programs. Sohni and Zeel are both students at the University of Maryland – Baltimore County and are very caring, nurturing, and trustworthy individuals. Also, to our great fortune, they are skilled in Bhangra and Garba Dance and will conduct a workshop for interested children and teens on Saturday evening. Sohni and Zeel will be at Windsor at check-in time -- please introduce yourselves and your children to them. They are excited to meet you!

This year, we are trying something new with the meal schedule. We plan to have the children (10 and under) eat first at a “children’s table” where they can socialize and dine together. The children will be served traditional South Indian foods that are not spicy and an alternative vegetarian option (such as pasta) as well. Once the children’s meal is complete, Sohni and Zeel will keep them busy at their table with coloring, play dough, legos, etc, while the parents finish their own meal. If the children get restless and the weather permits, they may play outside as well.

Cascade Lake

www.cascadelake.com

3000 Snydersburg Road, Hampstead, MD 21074
(410) 374-9111 / (410) 239-4708



How Fun Is This Place!

Directions:

FROM BALTIMORE: I-695, exit 19 to I-795 to Rt. 30N to Hampstead, left on Rt. 482, right on Snydersburg Road.

ALTERNATE FROM BALTIMORE: I-83 to Mount Carmel Road (Rt. 137) to Rt. 30N to Hampstead, left on Rt. 482, right on Snydersburg Road.

FROM WESTMINSTER: North on Rt. 27, right on Rt. 482, left on Snydersburg Road.

FROM HANOVER: South on PA Rt. 94 or MD Rt. 30 to Hampstead, right on Rt. 482, right on Snydersburg Road.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&q=new+windsor+MD&ie=UTF8&om=1&z=15&iwloc=addr&num=10>

Directions from Cascade Lake to New Windsor Conference Center (copy will be provided at the lake)

Tabaq Bistro

<http://www.tabaqdc.com/>



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: \$150

(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: \$125

(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

Day 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, 7/6/07) – please indicate number of participants (and for which): _____

“Night Out on the Town” (age 21+, 7/6/07) – 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: _____

Looking forward to seeing you in July!!!

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
 - Music concerts (\$500 each session)
 - Sponsor student artist to the event (\$350)
 - Cascade Lake Program (\$400)
 - Other
- Fun Fair Materials (i.e., balloons, art supplies, games, sports equipment, moon bounce/climber)
- Child Care / Babysitting Service (\$300)
- Other (please specify: _____)

Many thanks!!!



2. New Life Members of NASA

NASA BOD welcomes the following life member to NASA:

1. Mr. Ravikumar Rama Rao, California

3. A Request of All NASA Members and Non-Members:

If your postal or 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 ssridhara51@gmail.com or kbkumar@cox.net. If you have been receiving communication from NASA and your email address is correct no action is required.

4. Website Updates – New Link

A link to organizations including BSS and KSS is being provided in www.Sankethi.org

5. Community News:

Sandhya Magge wed Ketan in May in Pittsburgh amidst a great Sankethi crowd that included many past Presidents. Best wishes to the happy couple!

Shalini and Ganesh Rao, and little brother Jathin, welcomed a baby girl, Kavya, in March. Congratulations to the family on their lovely new addition!

We deeply regret to inform you of the sad demise of the following three illustrious Sankethis. Our prayers are with the families to bear the loss.

Vedamurthy Brahmashri H.R. Subrayasastry, father of our NASA life members Dr. Ramaswamy and Dr. Sreekanth of Canada, passed away on May 16, 2007 at Hosahalli, Shimoga. The family requests to publish further details in our next newsletter. NASA extends their sincere condolences to the family.

NASA life member Divakar Rudrapatna's father-in-law Sri Harave Keshavmurthy passed away on May 21, 2007 in Bangalore around 7.27 P.M. He was staying with the Rudrapatnas in Canada for almost 6 months during this visit and helped AMMA (www.Kannadamma.com) to produce two great plays in Sanskrit. He was the main force behind the success of Bhasha Vaibhavam / Aham Brahmaasmi Sanskrit Plays produced by AMMA. He was the past President of Viswa Hindu Parishat for Mysore City and an ardent follower of RSS. During his previous two visits to Canada, he was kind enough to speak about Hinduism to the general public in various Temples in around the greater Toronto area. He had much appreciation for Toronto Kannada Sangha, its leaders, and its services to the public, particularly Kannada Janathe. During the NASA get-together in Toronto, NASA President Dr. S. Sridhara shared the platform with Sri Keshava Murthy when the latter gave a very informative presentation on famous Sankethis.

Sri M.R. Lakshminarayana of Doddamagge, Arkalgud Taluk passed away at 8:05 p.m. IST on June 9th, 2007 at his home surrounded by his family. He was the head of the extended Magge family who are all settled in U.S and brother-in-law of former NASA President Natesh Magge. He was the founder of Doddamagge High School and took a leading role in starting the hospital in his village. He was well known for helping the poor and under privileged classes in the village, especially to bring up and

educate the children of the backward classes in the village. In addition to helping the Sankethi community of surrounding villages, he built Sri Rama temple at Hiriganahalli and gave generously to the improvement of Keshava temple at Kowshika. He leaves behind his grieving wife, extended family, relatives and friends.

6. Notification of the Year 2007 General Body Meeting (GBM) July 7, 2007

Dear Members:

The 2007 Annual GBM will convene on Saturday, July 7, 2007 at 9.30AM at the New Windsor Conference Center, New Windsor, MD.

The order of business will be as follows:

1. Roll call
2. Reading/Confirmation of minutes of the preceding meeting
3. President's address
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Reports of Special Teams
7. Old and unfinished business
8. New business
9. Good and Welfare
8. Adjournment

Please note that per NASA bylaws only members in good standing as of the Record Date (June 25, 2007) may vote in any formal motion or election of office bearers. We would encourage nonmembers desirous of joining NASA to consider life membership instead of annual membership. Membership form may be printed from our website www.Sankethi.org. 2006 NASA GBM minutes slightly updated to correct the version published in our newsletter of July 31, 2006 is included below for your ready reference.

2006 NASA GBM Minutes

The 2006 GBM was held on July 2, 2006 at the New Windsor Conference Center at 1:30pm.

1. The GBM got off to an auspicious start by an invocation by Dr. Sridhara and Dr. Rajeshwari
2. Determined that we have at least 15 members, actual number being 41, and hence established quorum.
3. Homage to people passed away recently was offered. Five people: Nalini Sundaresan's mother, Radha Jayaram's mother, M.R. Balakrishna's mother, Kamalamma, and K. Nagaraja, President of Kowshika Sankethi Sangha (KSS). NASA expressed deep appreciation to these Sankethis for their contribution to our community. In particular the services rendered by K. Nagaraja, in support of building hostels, Vriddhashrama and Kalyana Mantapa, were noted with gratitude.
4. The 2005 GBM minutes were sent out to members as an attachment to NASA's Newsletter dated March 30th, 2006. Santosh motioned for approval of 2005 GBM minutes. Sundaresan proposed and Dathatri seconded the motion. 2005 GBM minutes were approved unanimously.

5. No committees were formed during the current BOD term. There was a question as to why an Audit Committee, as mandated by our bylaws, was not formed. A suggestion was made to modify the by-laws either to not require the audit committee or to explain why the audit committee was not formed. The President took personal responsibility for not forming an audit committee, and explained that, due to frequent moves of Directors and job pressures, it was not possible to form and follow up on an audit committee. He mentioned that, notwithstanding the lapse of the current BOD, it is very important for NASA's accounts to be audited as required by our constitution/bylaws and the IRS. He further proposed that the new BOD form such an audit committee sufficiently in advance so as to enable it to do the audit in a thorough fashion. Mr. Sundaresan was requested to lead that committee (which can be a one-person committee) to audit accounts through 2005, and "post-audit" the accounts for 2006 until the end of the current (2004 – 2006) BOD term of office. Mr. Sundaresan agreed to audit the 2004 and 2005 books. The President thanked Mr. Sundaresan for agreeing to lead the Audit Committee and suggested that the incoming president follow up on this.
6. A question was raised as to how members that have not completed payment on Life Membership are treated. Treasurer, Santosh Govindaraju responded that all moneys paid for such memberships have been converted into annual memberships and that, once the moneys are depleted, such individuals will no longer be members of NASA, unless they renew their membership. It was suggested that such action should be intimated to the affected members. Mr. Govindaraju replied that he will ensure that such a letter is sent out.
7. There was a question as to how historical audits, tax returns etc. will be handled by the new board. This issue will be addressed by the new BOD.
8. Because our current by-laws do not provide for a transition period, Mr. Sundaresan proposed that such a period be instituted as a means of ensuring a smooth transition between the old and new BOD. Details regarding length and procedures for such a transition are to be determined.
9. The titles of Officers (Directors) as used in NASA's letter-head do not conform to titles defined in the by-laws. The President was questioned as to why this is so and he responded that these titles were chosen to more aptly reflect the job functions performed by the Directors. The President did not see any impropriety in doing so. If we want to continue using these titles, it was suggested that the titles be changed accordingly in the by-laws, or else conform strictly to the titles as currently defined. The President agreed to propose to the incoming BOD to adhere to the titles as defined in the by-laws.
10. The fact that the NASA website was not current was questioned. No proper transformation of the website and of the email database has happened during the last BOD transition. The President explained that this could not be done due to reasons already explained earlier (i.e., mobility of Directors, lack of time, etc.). However, the President explained that, in recent months, considerable progress had been made in updating the website, thanks to the leadership of Keshava Kumar. He also noted that activity was in progress to outsource this activity to a third party at a very affordable price.
11. The contracted company for revamping the website needs to be provided with necessary data to bring it up to date. However, some members cautioned that that company should not have access to any confidential information. The President assured that confidential information would not be posted on the website. The President urged the new BOD to continue the work currently underway of developing the website.
12. The President informed members that the NASA directory was not updated and this was put off to a later date so that an updated address and e-mail database will be available in time (in 2008) for our Silver Jubilee Celebrations in 2009.
13. A question was posed regarding files being transferred. All files relating to financial transactions will be electronically transferred by the current Treasurer, Santosh Govindaraju, to the incoming President.
14. Santosh Govindaraju provided the Treasurer's Report. It was stressed that, in order to maintain our tax exempt status, it is required that minutes authorizing all transactions be properly documented. It was further recommended that to ensure conformity with our by-laws, NASA select a general counsel.
15. The Secretary's report was approved unanimously.

16. It is believed that Prof. Dathatri has IRS documentation recognizing NASA as a 5013C charitable organization. The incoming President is to request Prof. Dathatri to pass these on to him/her.
17. It was noted that, since 2000, no Tax Returns have been filed for NASA. Mr. Govindaraju, CPA, has kindly offered to help NASA file tax returns and also file with the IRS any additions to our by-laws. IRS requires that they have the latest by-laws of NASA in their files.
18. Mr. Sundaresan proposed making a request to donors to free up funds designated for long periods of time for specific purposes. This would help NASA in on-going tracking of such items that are not growing, such as the \$100/- and \$500/- accounts being held in special accounts specifically designated by donors. Mr. Srikantiah agreed to release his \$100/- to the general funds. \$500/- is from Mr. Ashwathnarayana and Mr. Srikantiah has agreed to work with him on releasing this to the general funds as well.
19. The President has, in the past, proposed starting a silver jubilee funds-collection. This fund already has \$100. The President urged the incoming BOD to pursue this funds-collection effort for the silver jubilee more vigorously.
20. The Treasurer's report was approved.
21. The President's Report was presented. The President, Mr. Srikantiah, recognized various people that had come from thousands of miles away and thanked them all for their support of NASA.
22. The President informed that, at present, the New Windsor Conference Center (NWCC) charges a flat reservation fee, regardless of the number of participants attending the annual meeting. This has hurt the bottom line of NASA for the last two years due to the less-than-anticipated attendance. The possibility of renting some of the space rather than not all of it has been discussed with NWCC, who are open to the idea, but the details need to be worked out. The President proposed that the incoming BOD consider entering into a long-term contract with NWCC, with flexible terms, if we want to continue to use their facilities.
23. Efforts made to bring Paschimavahini into NASA were discussed. The President reported that the West Coast Sankethis had desired to continue their gatherings on a rather informal basis and are, at the present time, not ready to be an integral part of a larger structure. The President proposed that efforts be directed to bringing in more Sankethis on the East Coast and in the Midwest as life members.
24. The President stated that NASA Life Membership has grown from a mere 4 to about 175 now. As such, it is only appropriate that we celebrate our Silver Jubilee in a fitting manner in 2009. He suggested that, to commemorate our Silver Jubilee, we should all work together to collect fairly large sums of money and give them over to large projects undertaken by Kowshika Sankethi Sangha, Bettadapura Sankethi Sangha and Sankara Eye Foundation which are all doing wonderful service to the communities they serve. In order for that to happen properly, the ground work and planning must begin now, he said.
25. The President's Report was accepted.
26. There were no reports from any other officers.
27. Recommendation to new BOD: Form a committee to look at the NASA constitution and make recommendation to BOD/GBM based on their review.
28. A question regarding whether the College and High School graduation awards should it be continued was brought up. The President proposed that he and Prof. Dathatri will look into this matter and make a recommendation. Mr. Sundaresan recommended continuing the practice, but removing the separate line item dedicated to this purpose.
29. New office bearers for the 2006-2008 period were elected to the NASA BOD. Details of elected BOD members are published under section 1 of the July 2006 Volume 23 No.3 Newsletter.
30. The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.

Dr. Keshava Kumar
NASA Secretary
June 9, 2007



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