



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

July 31, 2006

**Board of Directors**

**President**

**Dr. S. Sridhara**  
(410) 418-4024  
[ssridhara51@yahoo.com](mailto:ssridhara51@yahoo.com)

**Vice President**

**Dr. Uma Ramakrishna**  
(301) 598-9330  
[Uma\\_108@yahoo.com](mailto:Uma_108@yahoo.com)

**Secretary**

**Dr. Keshava Kumar**  
(860) 648-9798  
[kbkumar@cox.net](mailto:kbkumar@cox.net)

**Treasurer**

**Rudrapatna Govindaraju**  
(813) 920-5368  
[Raju@reliancecpa.com](mailto:Raju@reliancecpa.com)

**Assistant Secretary**

*(Back up secretary and treasurer)*

**Mahesh Rao**  
(919) 423-7369  
[mahesh.rao@alumni.duke.edu](mailto:mahesh.rao@alumni.duke.edu)

**Assistant Secretary**

*(Regional Meetings)*

**S.N. Sathyanarayana**  
(570) 708-0175  
[Stansatya@hotmail.com](mailto:Stansatya@hotmail.com)

**Assistant Secretary**

*(Web Management)*

**Shekhar Nagendra**  
(804) 364-2070  
[shekhar.nagendra@gmail.com](mailto:shekhar.nagendra@gmail.com)

**Assistant Secretary**

*(Annual Event Coordinator)*

**Lakshmi Jayaram**  
(301) 460-5938  
[lj@jhu.edu](mailto:lj@jhu.edu)

**Assistant Secretary**

*(Annual Event Coordinator)*

**Shubha Dathatri**  
(650) 799-9744  
[shubha@stanford.edu](mailto:shubha@stanford.edu)

Dear friends:

It gives me great pleasure and honor to write my first letter to you all as the new NASA President! I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all the past Presidents and their board members for their hard work and dedication in nurturing our small organization. I am very fortunate to be working with a panel of distinguished members on my board as well as to have the wonderful goodwill that many of you have expressed to me.

Many of our members feel we are at a cross roads. There are questions about what NASA stands for, what its focus should be, why the attendance at NASA functions is dwindling, whether we are keeping our youth actively interested in NASA activities, and what our annual events should be and where should they be held, to mention a few. It is very heartening for me to see the level of energy and the interest that the younger generation is showing in these matters, and I believe their input and efforts will be critical to the success of our organization and community. I urge all our members to take a look at the NASA Aims and Objectives which have been posted on our website (<http://www.sankethi.org/Policy/mission.html>) and also included in this newsletter. These aims and objectives articulate the spirit of our community and the culture that we are all striving to support.

During our July meeting, we prioritized the following initiatives as strategies to address questions such as those outlined above:

- Improve communication (e.g. update/upgrade NASA website, newsletter, and email/contact lists)
- Create regional programs throughout the year
- Ensure programs are relevant to various age/interest groups
- Archive community stories
- Increase membership size

In beginning to meet these priorities, first, I am happy to say that the NASA website is already up and running with current information thanks to diligent work by Keshava Kumar. It would greatly enhance our ability to communicate with the general membership if we have your e-mail addresses. Please assist us in this endeavor by sending your current e-mail address and any change of postal address to Mahesh Rao. Second, our first Regional Meeting has been planned in Connecticut during Navarathri on September 30<sup>th</sup>. We also have plans to hold future regional meetings in Detroit, Richmond, DC and in Texas. Finally, based on our past experience and the recent discussions at the GBM, I have appointed the following: Audit Committee, Constitution and By-Laws Review Team, Web Upgrade Team and Sankethi Geneology Project Team. Please look for further details on these groups within this newsletter. I kindly request your cooperation and support in these and other activities. As we make progress on these and other initiatives, we will share that information in our next newsletter and on the NASA website.

It is a humble beginning for the new board. Please reciprocate by showing *your support* by participating in our new initiatives and attending our regional and national programs in large numbers. Together we can revitalize our community!

Best regards,

S. Sridhara, President

# 1. Summary of July 2006 Annual Meeting Cultural Program

## NASA WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT.

Saturday July 1, 2006

The 2006 annual meeting of NASA was held at the New Windsor Conference Center from Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup> to Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. The get-together started off with the popular dosa picnic, which was followed by outdoor sports activities (coordinated by Mahesh Rao). Please see Section 2 of the newsletter, titled “Summary of July 2006 Annual Meeting Sports Activities,” for a synopsis of the winners from the sports competitions. After a relaxed dinner on Saturday evening, Nandini and Ranjini Srikantiah led the group in a Kolata session, which attracted participants of all age groups! The evening ended with a showing of a Kannada movie.

Sunday July 2, 2006

On Sunday, NASA 2006 attendees had the pleasure of hearing a very thoughtfully researched talk by Dr. Ramakrishna on “The Purpose and Values of Worship.” A copy is being posted on our website. This was followed by a very well-rehearsed and professionally presented bhavageete program by Smt. Vasudha Narayan (veena/vocal) and team, accompanied by Sushma Narayan on the keyboard and Sugshosh Narayan on the tabla.

This year’s General Body Meeting (GBM) ran smoothly; please see Section 3 of the newsletter, titled “2006 NASA GBM Minutes,” for minutes from the GBM. Congratulations to the 2006-2008 Board of Directors (BOD) – we expect great things from this group!

| <b>Position</b>                                | <b>Name</b>                  |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| President                                      | Dr. S. Sridhara              |
| Vice-President                                 | Dr. Uma Ramakrishna          |
| Assistant Secretary (Annual Event Coordinator) | Smt. Lakshmi Jayaram         |
| Assistant Secretary (Annual Event Coordinator) | Kum. Shubha Dathatri         |
| Assistant Secretary (Web Management )          | Sri. Shekhar Nagendra*       |
| Treasurer                                      | Sri. Rudrapatna Govindaraju* |
| Back-up Secretary/Treasurer                    | Sri. Mahesh Rao              |
| Assistant Secretary (Regional Meetings)        | Sri. Satyanarayana*          |
| Secretary                                      | Dr. Keshava Kumar            |

\* Member elected to BOD in absentia.

A model airplane building workshop, led by Srikanth Rao, was held for children and other interested participants in parallel to the GBM. Following the GBM, NASA children, parents, and grandparents showed their true competitive spirit during a NASA Jeopardy segment in which Dr. Jayaram played the role of game show host, Alex Trebek! NASA men rolled up their sleeves and folded up their *panches* to serve the Back to the Roots dinner in true Sankethi style! The evening’s cultural program began with a captivating poetry reading by Dr. M.S. Nataraja and was followed by a Kannada drama “Hi-tech Hyavadanachaari.” Our very own Keshava Kumar and Prema Kumar starred in the play along with Ganesh Rao’s father-in-law Srinivas Komarla! Other participants in the play, all of whom are from Connecticut, were Arun and Uma Dharwar, Subramu and Sharada Kanive and Leela Nilakantiah. The drama was quite hilarious and enjoyed by all.

Monday July 3, 2006

On Monday NASA members enjoyed performances by the youngest NASAites! It was heart-warming to see the enthusiasm of the young children. Below is a summary of the children’s variety show.

| <b>Name</b>         | <b>Talent Shared</b>                   |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Kiran Rao           | Piano                                  |
| Jennani Jayaram     | Bhajans and story of Krishna & Sudhama |
| Tejan Poage         | Songs                                  |
| Atideepth Bharadwaj | Shlokas                                |
| Mahathi Kumar       | Piano                                  |

Additionally during the children's program, Deepak Dathatri led the kids in a very enjoyable song/dance routine. Following the children's talent program, Smt. Rajeshwari and Sri. Sridhara led NASA 2006 attendees in a bhajan session enjoyed by all. This was followed by open discussion about what needs to be done to elevate NASA to higher levels. This session was initiated by Mr. Srikantiah and brilliantly moderated by Mayank Keshavaiah. A list of some 30 recommendations compiled by Shubha Dathatri, Srinivas Sridhara, and Lakshmi Jayaram some years ago was resurrected from hibernation and thrown open for discussion by participants. A subset of five initiatives was voted on heavily by the membership for follow up and immediate action. Teams were formed to discuss these five prioritized initiatives and the teams reported to the whole group on how best to pursue each of these initiatives. Please see the new president's message for further details on some of these initiatives.

The afternoon session on Monday began with a group rendition of the Sankethi Anthem lead by Smt. Geetha Dathatri (lyrics by Sri. M.S. Nataraja and music by Smt. Sitalakshmi Madhavan), and was followed by a series of four talks. These talks gave NASA members a chance to share in the interests and talents of the NASA young adults. The following list outlines the topics of each of the talks:

1. Family Tree Talk by Kartik Subbarao (Posted on our website)
2. Literary Discussion by Mayank Keshaviah
3. Music Composition by Ashwini Srikantiah
4. Religion: A Mode of Peace Communication by Aruna Viswanatha

**Information on the online Sankethi family tree (check out the section Sankethi Genealogy in our website)**

For those of you who may not already know, Kartik Subbarao has been leading the effort of creating an online Sankethi family tree and is now appointed to lead a Special NASA Team to popularize this activity. Please contact any of the following members on this Team to include your family in this project:

"Kartik Subbarao" <subbarao@computer.org>

"Keshav Sundaresan" <sundaresan08619@yahoo.com>

"Madhulika Nataraja" <madhulika\_nataraja@yahoo.com>

For additional information, please check out the online family tree (<http://www.ourroots.info/sankethi>)! A Yahoo Group for coordinating and discussing the family tree in detail has been established. If you are interested in participating, please feel free to join at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sankethi\\_family\\_tree](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sankethi_family_tree). If you would like to become an editor of the online family tree, please send an e-mail to the following address: [sankethi\\_family\\_tree-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:sankethi_family_tree-owner@yahoogroups.com).

**Sankethi Achievers**

NASA had the opportunity to recognize Professor Y.N. Dathatri for his recent award as Distinguished Service Professor. As Professor of Electrical Engineering Technology, Mr. Dathatri was one of two Farmingdale State professors selected as recipients of the 2006 Research Foundation State University of New York Research and Scholarship Award. He is recognized, both locally and nationally, for his exemplary service and work in developing solar energy as an alternative energy source. He is the founder and director of the Farmingdale State Solar Energy Center, which is the site of the first large-scale grid connected Photovoltaic system in the northeastern United States. Through Professor Dathatri's efforts, the Farmingdale State Solar Energy Center became the first accredited institution in the Northeast by the Institute for Sustainable Power (ISP). NASA congratulates Professor Y.N. Dathatri and wishes him continued success. Additionally, Varsha Rao (B.S.), Hema Magge (M.D.), and Suma Magge (M.D.) were recognized for their recent graduations. NASA wishes these graduates the best in their future endeavors.

**Sankethi Characteristics**

A new segment was added to this year's program to help the NASA family better understand who we are as a collective people. Smt. Uma Ramakrishna put together and led a panel (Smt. Geeta Nataraja and Prof. Y.N. Dathatri) on distinguishing characteristics of Sankethi people. Everyone was truly touched by the stories shared in this segment; we hope that discussions like these will become part of our yearly program.

Dinner on Monday evening was followed by sports awards and a music concert by our very own Smt. Geetha Dathatri (vocal) and Smt. Amrutha Viswanatha (Veena), accompanied by Sri. Lakshmisha on Mridangam. In spite of the challenge of combining a vocal performance and Veena, the artists showed their maturity in performance. Monday's program concluded with a grand display of fire works. Children of all ages enjoyed the finale to this annual meeting.

Tuesday July 4, 2006

The final day's program of the annual meeting started with Nature walk and Vedic prayers. Brunch and goodbyes followed.

## **2. Summary of July 2006 Annual Meeting Sports Activities**

Hats off to all the participants for making this year's sporting events so enjoyable! The children were especially enthusiastic about the races. The race that generated the most interest was the Parent/Child Spoon Relay Race, where the parent runs the first leg of a lemon spoon race, and then passes the lemon to their child for the last leg. Special thanks to Puneeth and Mahathi Kumar for helping organize and run the many events. The winners are:

### **Three-Legged Race**

#### *Children*

1. Atideepth Bharadwaj and Mahathi Kumar
2. Jennani Jayaram and Akhila Rao
3. Vinay Govindaraju and Tejan Poage

### **Spoon Race**

#### *Children*

1. Kiran Rao
2. Atideepth Bharadwaj
3. Jennani Jayaram

#### *Parent/Child Relay*

1. Jennani and Jayanth Jayaram
2. Tejan and Dale Poage
3. Zoe and Dana Gittings

#### *Adult Relay*

1. Bhargav and Chandan
2. Geetha Bharadwaj and Amrutha Viswanatha
3. Snayha and Sudhir Nath

### **Adult Back-to-Back Race**

1. Monica and Arun Murthy
2. Lakshmi and Jayanth Jayaram
3. Snayha and Deepika Nath

### **Children's Backwards Race**

1. Kiran Rao
2. Akhila Rao
3. Atideepth Bharadwaj

### **Children's Running Race**

1. Akhila Rao
2. Jennani Jayaram
3. Atideepth Bharadwaj

### **Children's Musical Chairs**

1. Priyanka Murthy
2. Kiran Rao
3. Mahathi Kumar

### **Basketball Free-Throw**

#### *Children*

1. Puneeth Kumar
2. Monica Murthy
3. Mahathi Kumar

#### *Women*

1. Geetha Bharadwaj
2. Shalini Murthy

### **Children's Badminton**

1. Puneeth Kumar
2. Monica Murthy
3. Kiran Rao

## **3. 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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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. Srikanthiah 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. Mr. Sundaresan proposed that minutes pertain more to disbursements than to legal issues.
21. The Treasurer's report was approved.
22. 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.
23. 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.
24. 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.
25. 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.
26. The President's Report was accepted.
27. There were no reports from any other officers.
28. Recommendation to new BOD: Form a committee to look at the NASA constitution and make recommendation to BOD/GBM based on their review.
29. 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.
30. The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.

#### **4. Bombe (Doll) Arathi & Navarathri Celebrations (Middletown Temple in Connecticut)**

Please join us with your family and friends for Bombe (Doll) Arathi and Navarathri celebration as a part of the NASA Regional Meeting.

Date: September 30, 2006

Time: 12 Noon-6.30 PM

Location: Middletown Temple (Connecticut)

11, Training Hill Road,

Middletown, CT 06457

Temple Phone: 860-346-8675

Temple Website: <http://www.cvhts.org/>

**This program is free of charge. Donations/sponsors are most welcome.**

Directions to Middletown Temple – from I-91 (North and South):

Take exit to Route 9 South

Take Exit 11 (Randolph Rd. and Middlesex Community-Technical College)

Turn Right at STOP sign and Pass traffic light

At the Traffic Light take LEFT to Saybrook Rd. or follow signs to Middlesex Community College

Take the next RIGHT to Reservoir Rd.

Pass STOP sign

Take RIGHT to 11 Training Hill Rd. Temple is across the college

Program Details:

12 to 1: Arrive, Lunch/snacks  
1:00 to 1:45 : Invocation, kids dance and music  
1:45 to 3:00 : Bharatha Vachana  
3:00 to 3:15 : Break  
3:15 to 4:15 : Music Concert  
4:15 to 5:15 : Lalitha Sahasranama, why we do Navarathri, Bombe arathi,  
5:15 to 6:30 PM : Dinner, good bye

We have several host families that can accommodate out of town friends for an overnight stay on Saturday. Please call Prema Keshava Kumar at (860) 648-9798 or email [kbkumar@cox.net](mailto:kbkumar@cox.net) for further information on this. Details of the program will be posted on our website ([www.sankethi.org](http://www.sankethi.org)).

**IT WILL HELP US IF YOU CAN CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDENCE EITHER BY EMAIL TO [kbkumar@cox.net](mailto:kbkumar@cox.net) or CALL PREMA KESHAVA KUMAR AT (860) 648-9798.**

## **5. Your Community News**

Geeta Prabhakara and Amarnath Rao's grandfather, Harave Srinivasiah passed away at the age of 109 in Bangalore on March 13, 2006.

Shalini Prabhakara, daughter of F.S. Prabhakara and Geeta Prabhakara married Ryan Conor Gough on April 8th, 2006 in Albany, New York. The newlyweds both recently graduated from Medical School at the University of North Carolina. They have since moved to Omaha, Nebraska to complete their residencies in Family Medicine.

Several families have volunteered to host other families, particularly younger families new to the area as well as students, in their homes to celebrate our festivals and other special days. This provides a means to engender a better sense of community in our organization. Please call one of the members of the BOD to locate a family in your area.

## **6. Other News**

Special Teams/Committees: Incoming NASA President, Dr. Sridhara has appointed the following Special Teams on July 24<sup>th</sup> in response to the recent GBM discussions:

➤ **Audit Committee:**

Keshav Sundaresan: Audit 2004 and 2005, and 2006

➤ **NASA Constitution and By-Laws Review Team:**

Srinivas Sridhara (Leader), Keshav Sundaresan, and Dr. K. Ramakrishna

Review/rewrite and recommend a new document to the BOD for review. Include time for feedback from a select group of past Presidents/members and later to the general membership before finalizing the document and presenting it at the 2007 GBM.

➤ **NASA Website Upgrades Team:**

Shekhar Nagendra (BOD-Leader), Keshava Kumar (BOD), Mahesh Rao (BOD), and Santosh Govindaraju

Phase 1: Take control of the NASA website and institute a written procedure to conduct updates and edits, define responsibilities to manage the site, delete old material, and load current material. This is currently in progress under Keshava Kumar's direction and he will complete this phase. Target time: 8/22/06.

Phase 2: Submit a plan and initial cost estimates for major upgrades to make the website both useful and friendly. In developing the plan benchmark other organizations similar to NASA. The goal is to make Sankethi.org a favorite place for members to go to for a wide range of useful activities in line with the NASA Aims and Objectives. Target time: 11/22/06.

Phase 3: If approved by the BOD, implement the new website. Target time: 3/22/06.

➤ **Sankethi Geneology Project Team:**

Kartik Subba Rao (Leader), Keshav Sundaresan, Keshava Kumar (BOD), Santosh Govindaraju, and Madhulika Nataraja

Publicize the project to NASA membership, Develop tools and provide assistance to populate information and make this project popular among NASA membership. Submit report in the next GBM in 2007.

## **7. NASA AIMS AND OBJECTIVES: (From NASA bylaws Article II – purposes)**

- a. To provide a forum for the members of the community to meet frequently and maintain religious, cultural, educational and social activities.
- b. To encourage the younger generation to understand the culture, language, and family relationships.
- c. To bring about a formal relationship with Sankethi Associations in the various parts of the world and participate in their activities suitably.
- d. To assist religious and cultural institutions in North America and elsewhere.
- e. To promote religious, social, cultural, educational exchange of scholars and artists from different parts of the world.
- f. To establish a charity fund for the benefit of cultural, educational and human service of economically disadvantaged people of the world.
- g. To aid in the education of the community children through suitable means.
- h. To sponsor suitable cultural programs of interest to members.
- i. To sponsor summer camps / trips for the youth.
- j. To increase the awareness of contribution of Sankethis to the society and country.