

## **Regional NASA Event – Ugadi Celebration in Raleigh, NC– April 11, 2009**

A regional NASA meeting was held in Raleigh, NC on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009. It was a fun filled day with NASA folks driving from far off places like CT, NY, NJ, DE and VA. Altogether about 45-50 attendees participated. The morning session, filled with sports events, was held at a park while the evening talent showcase was conducted in a local hall. In the morning, local NASA members prepared sumptuous food that ranged from paav bhaji to huli anna. Then the sports were a blast – organized by Mahesh Rao. It was the perfect mixture that made not only the kids but also the adults enjoy the games and competitions. Mixed into the fun was a game of informal cricket played by some of the NASA members, while others watched and cheered every shot that was hit.

Then all the folks went to Shubha and Ramesh Nagaraj's residence for coffee and snacks and to freshen up for the evening program. The evening program at a local hall started with a display of the wonderful talent of our own NASA kids which included songs on the keyboard, ballet, carnatic music and light music. The highlight of the evening was a carnatic music vocal concert by Smt. Smitha Prasad, who was accompanied by Sri. Sudhindra Rao on the mridangam. The program ended cheerfully with excellent food once again prepared by our beloved local NASA volunteers as well as a couple of items catered from the local Indian restaurant. NASA would like to thank all the volunteers who helped out in the food preparation and the sports function. Big thanks go to everyone who came and made the function a grand success.