

Celebrating Navarathri/Deepavali
Satyanarayana Temple, Middletown CT
Oct 25, 2014

On a bright, sunny day in October, NASA held a combined Navaratri/Deepavali program at the Satyanarayana Temple in Middletown, CT. NASA members were treated to a beautiful display of dolls, artfully arranged by Prema Kumar, Mahathi Kumar and Tara Rudrapatna. After light snacks and coffee, a group of about 20 ladies chanted the Lalitha Sahasranama and Ashtotra in unison, invoking the power of the Devi. During this time, the children decorated small rangoli patterns with paint and glitter. The Sahasranama was followed by Lakshmi pooja performed by the children, with Prema providing instruction. After conducting aarathi, everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck "habba oota." Many thanks to the families who contributed to our wonderful feast, including many of Prema's friends in Connecticut who are strong supporters of the Sankethi community! Our afternoon entertainment program began with storytelling by the children. Sudhanva Nagaraj, Jathin Rao and Tejan & Reyva Poage shared different legends related to Navaratri and Deepavali. Following the stories, we were all treated to a music program delivered by young and old members alike. The highlight of the program was a group singalong of light devotional songs led by Sandhya Nagaraja. During the function, we were proud to meet some new Sankethi families - Chandra Shekar & Meghana from Norwalk, CT, Madhusudan Krishnamurthy & Priya also from Norwalk, CT, and new life member, Vimala Srinivas from Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, who traveled with NASA President Divakar Rudrapatna to attend the event. We look forward to seeing you all at future NASA events! Thank you to Prema, Mahathi and Tara for leading the event, and to Nagaraj for taking beautiful pictures.



