

NEWSLETTER

KONKANI ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
18369 Van Ness Avenue
Torrance, CA 90504

Webpage: www.kasc.org
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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

Dear Konkani Family,

KASC Shivaratri Bhajan was on Saturday, Mar. 5th, 2016 in Los Angeles. We also had Holi Celebration in Arcadia on April 2nd, 2016 and Yugaadi celebration was on May 14, 2016 in Artesia. The write-ups describing these occasions are in this newsletter. Thanks to Priya Gadiyar for writing of Holi and Yugaadi.

This is year the commttee has decided not to have KASC Summer Picnic. Instead we will have a vocal concert by Balachandra Prabhu of India on Aug. 14th, 2016 in Brea. He was a featured artist and performed at our Konkani convention in Atlanta in July. He is an excellent singer at such a young age. The flyer is enclosed here. **Please RSVP via Evite and come and enjoy the wonderful program.** Hope to see you all there. Please contact any committee members, if you want to perform for the Diwali.

Those who have not paid their yearly dues, please mail the dues to KASC treasurer or give it to one of the committee members at the concert. Soon we will be mailing the new Konkani Directory of Members to all paid members. **We welcome more members to contribute the material for the newsletter.** Please send us any updates/corrections and information about new Konkanis in Southern California.

HAVE AN ENJOYABLE AND SAFE SUMMER!

Yours truly,



Vivek Ullal

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES:

Graduate:

Nivedita Keshav, daughter of Indira and (late) Prakash Keshav of Simi Valley, California, graduated with B.S. degree in Public Health and minor in Global Poverty from University of California, Berkeley. She is working in UCSF as a project assistant. She wants to go to a medical school in 2017. Best wishes for her bright future!

Wedding Bells:

Ashima Shenoy, daughter of Aravind and Beena Shenoy of Granada Hills, California, got married to **Ayush Singhania** on **April, 16, 2016** in **Pacific Palisades**. Ashima works in Kaiser Hospital in Woodland Hills as a hospitalist. Ayush has completed his MBA from Harvard Business School and works in private equity firm in the Los Angeles area. We congratulate the young couple and wish them a long and happy wedded life.

Silver Wedding:

Pradeep and Uma Gulvady of Saugus, California had their **25th wedding anniversary** on **July 6, 2016**. It was celebrated by her family members from all over the country in beautiful and mountainous Lyons, CO on July 9, 2016. It was a surprise for them, as there was a celebration with exchange of garlands followed by a musical program and dinner. Happy anniversary Uma and Pradeep, and hope you have many more anniversaries to celebrate in future.

Moved out of SoCal:

Ramchandra and Shaila Betrabet of Fontana, California have moved to Udupi, Karnataka State in India.

Change of Address:

Sachin and Kshama Agrahar, 3105 Griffon Court, Simi Valley, CA 93065
Tel. No. is (805) 526-6346

Shalini Kelkar, 18234 Chatham Lane, Northridge, CA 91326
Tel. No. is (818) 217-4480

Obituary:

Dr. Purandar Mallya, husband of Anuradha Mallya of Whittier, father of Suvarna Nadkarni of Australia and Mandar Mallya of Redondo Beach, California, passed away peacefully on **June 3rd, 2016** in Whittier, California. He is survived by his wife, two kids and their families. As most of you know, he was a very jolly and creative person. He had his witty nature till the end. We extend our condolences to family members and friends, and pray to the Almighty to bless his soul with everlasting and blissful peace, and give strength to his family members to overcome this colossal loss.

Konkani S sammelan 2016, Atlanta, Georgia

The 2016 Konkani S sammelan was celebrated on a grand scale in Atlanta. Almost 1500 attendees enjoyed the delicious Konkani food, interesting cultural programs, seminars, and hospitality of our local Konkani hosts. Audio visual aids on stage were phenomenal and made the programs interesting. There was no shortage of variety of programs. Our own KASC participants included Sridhar Rao (Karaoke), Devika Kamath (Bharatnatyam dance), and a well received and extensively praised play *Matsyagandha Express*, written and directed by Vishwanath (Vishy) Bhat. The play was a hilarious story of a trip between Mangalore to Mumbai on the *Matsyagandha express* train and had everyone in the audience in splits. The play was ably supported by the great performances by the likes of Srinivas Pai, Rajesh and Deepa Prabhu, Vishy and Jayu Bhat, Sapan Shenoy and their young kids and also supported by Gayatri Pai backstage with sounds and hilarious train announcement. Shyam Amladi (vocal) and Vivek Ullal (bansuri) presented a musical presentation "*Gokul ka Gwala*" based on *Raag Bageshri*. They were ably accompanied by Maitreya Padukone on tabla, and Nina Padukone (commentary). The music, the lyrics and the commentary were composed by the talented Shyam Amladi. Among the speakers at the well attended and commended Medical Seminar, our own Dr. Ramdas Pai, Professor of Cardiology, U.C. Riverside School of Medicine, presented a lecture. The highlight of the grand finale of the S sammelan was the promising and talented young konkani children's orchestra, followed by S sammelan banquet dinner, and then more songs and dances. The Konkani Association of Georgia and the American Konkani Association, partners of organization of the successful S sammelan, deserve our appreciation and congratulation for a job well done.

SHIBIR IN CHITRAPUR MATH, SHIRALI

Namaskaru,

Wishing you Season's Greetings.

With the Blessings of Parama Pujya Swamiji, it is a great pleasure to send you an invitation for the **Sanskriti Prachaar Shibir to be held in Shirali from December 22 to 29, 2016.**

The Shibir Committee in Shirali is currently preparing a detailed program for the 2016 Shibir and will be shared once available.

We would like to invite you to register at your earliest convenience - weblink to the Registration Form is <http://goo.gl/forms/rKeS6nvPGi>

Please note that there is no registration fee for the Shibir.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the **NRI Shibir in December 2016**. If you have any questions, please reply to this email:

Mangesh Hoskote mangesh.hoskote@gmail.com

Many thanks and best regards,

Mangesh Hoskote
Shibir Cooridinator

KASC SHIVARATRI BHAJAN 2016

Vivek Ullal, Simi Valley, CA

The annual Shivaratri bhajan was held at the residence of Meena and Jaidev Rao on Mar. 5th 2016 in Los Angeles. The function was well attended by over 50 individuals. The program was preceded by snacks and drinks. The program started with recitation of *Lingashtak* by Meena Rao and Pradeep Gulvady. Jaidev Chandavarkar gave an enlightening description of Meditation, giving its advantages and its global acceptance, even in the present day corporate world of USA. This was followed by Jaidev conducting all members through a brief meditation session.

This was followed by individual and group bhajans. The singers were of all ages. The presence of instrumental accompaniment of harmonium and tabla and good sound system enhanced the music. There was a brief instrumental music on bansuri. The bhajan was followed by *arati*, and then potluck dinner. Everyone felt enlightened with the therapeutic effects of meditation and devotional music. Both adults and children had a great time.

Special thanks to Raos for letting us have their home as a venue for the bhajan, committee members for setup and arrangements, volunteers for cooking, setup and cleaning after the function, the many talented singers, the instrumentalists, and the audience that made the function well attended and worthwhile.

KASC HOLI 2016

Priya Gadiyar, Irvine, CA

The day was April 2nd, 2016. The KASC family headed to Arcadia Park to celebrate Holi, the festival of colors with each other for the very first time. Everyone had one goal in mind- to make sure to not miss a single target and douse everyone in colors!!

Colors filled the sky and kids ran around, enjoying the freedom of getting as dirty as possible. The day was bright and hot but did nothing to curb our enthusiasm. Everyone gathered around the Dholak and sang Bollywood songs about colors and Holi while sipping on cool refreshments. The men were enticed to have a competition wherein they would write a “colorful” letter to their wives, describing her attributes in “colorful” detail. In the end, each man succeeded in professing their love to their wives in their own unique way.

Tasty lunch was then served following which everyone indulged in the popular konkani pastime of phardi-panchadik. It was a memorable get-together and everyone had a fun time meeting and enjoying the sunshine and colors. We hope that KASC Holi will be the beginning of a new KASC tradition.

KASC YUGAADI 2016

Priya Gadiyar, Irvine, CA

The new year, Ugadi was celebrated with pomp and circumstance by KASC this time around; with young and old all joining together to have a joyful evening with good entertainment, good food and a lot of fun! The venue was Tirupathi Bhimas - Banquet Hall in Artesia on May 14th 2016 and the time 4:30 to 10:00 pm. The event saw dances, songs and a very special skit performed by the talented members of KASC.

The event began with a social hour where all the members and their guests were welcomed warmly by the committee members. Everyone mingled with old friends and got acquainted with new ones over yummy snacks like Paneer Manchurian, pakodas and even a homemade birthday cake. The function formally began with the offering of prayers to God by little devotees- Atul Prabhu and Aadya Shenoy and an aarti ceremony where all attendees performed the Pooja to the sounds of a Bhajan .

The evening's entertainment was kick started by Suraj Pai, son of Sabita and Prasanna Pai, who gave an eloquent talk on how New Year is celebrated by different cultures. The other programs included a classical Shiva dance by KASC's professional dancer Devika Shenoy, Bollywood medley number by cousins Arna, daughter of Anand and Mohana Mahale and Arin, son of Rashmi and Vivek Pai and a Bollywood dance by Aadhya, daughter of Nisha and Srinath Shenoy. Musical numbers included a melodious Konkani bhajan by sisters Veda and Varsha Baliga, daughters of Vani and Venu Baliga, and also Piano pieces by Suraj Pai and Aadhya Shenoy. In between the different entertainment programs, Antakshari was also held pitting two teams formed of all the evening's attendees against each other in a friendly, yet fierce competition

There was then a performance of the Konkani Natak, *Matsyagandha Express*, which was also performed at this year's Konkani Sammelan in Atlanta. Written and directed by one of the recent member to KASC - Vishwanath Bhat, the natak was a hilarious story of a trip between Mangalore to Mumbai on the Matsyagandha express train and had everyone in the audience in splits. The natak was ably supported by the great performances by the likes of Srinivas Shenoy, Rajesh and Deepa Prabhu, Jayu Bhat, Sapan Shenoy and supported by Gayatri Shenoy backstage. The Natak ended the entertainment on a high note and everyone proceeded to have a sumptuous dinner including many North and South Indian delicacies.

The party winded down at 10 pm and everybody left with memories of time well spent. A Big Thanks to all the committee Members for their efforts to ensure that we all had a memorable get-together. It was a great Ugadi celebration, and may we have many more to come.



KASC PRESENTS

SHRI BALACHANDRA PRABHU CONCERT

Siddhivinayak Temple

201 West Ash Street, Brea, CA 92821

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2016
4:00 PM -- 7:00 PM**

**Tabla: Rupesh Kotecha
Harmonium : Bharat Kundaje**

Hello Everyone,

KASC welcomes you all to an Evening Classical Vocal Music featuring Bhajans in Multiple Languages by Shri Balachandra Prabhu (Kirana Gharana). Shri Balachandra Prabhu performed at the recently concluded Konkani Sammelan in Atlanta, GA.

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

Suggested Donation : \$10.00

Phone : (310) 467-6043

Please join us in supporting Konkani talent from India.