



AIA OF MADISON

 Association of Indians In America 



“INDIANS NETWORK”- NEWSLETTER MAY – AUGUST, 2010

Please visit AIA Website <http://www.aiamadison.com>

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Badri Lankella

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Krishna Sijapati

PRESIDENT’S NOTE

Dear AIA Members,

We have completed three quarter of our programs for this year and each event has been a great success with wider participation of our members. Thank you for being part of this organization and making each program a memorable event.

We had tremendous success on Mother’s Day with bigger participation with the introduction of Season tickets. In addition, this enabled organizing committees to plan better and gave participants more time to prepare for the events. Based on the success this year, we will offer Season ticket in coming years as well. The Annual Picnic was also a very successful event with a beautiful day and perfect location. Many people attending the picnic suggested hosting the annual picnic at the same venue next year as well.

We celebrated India’s Independence Day on August 14th on Martin Luther King Jr Blvd on the Capital square. This event was also an outstanding success, and we had really great turnout since the Farmers market was close to our program. We will use these factors as we plan for continued success of the India Day event.

As you all know, the next event is our Diwali Celebration. As listed in our previous newsletter as well as on Season tickets, this year we are celebrating Diwali on Saturday October 30th 2010 at the Middleton High School Performance Arts Center. Let’s make this event a memorable by celebrating with friends and family. Please visit our website www.aiamadison.com for more details, which will be posted soon.

Currently we are working on logistics to have fireworks as well as other cultural aspects at this year’s program. If you are interested in participating in our cultural programs or you are interested in setting up a stall at the Diwali event please contact our board members listed on our website.

Thanks

Badri Lankella

President - AIA

AIA CELEBRATED MOTHERS DAY

AIA of Madison celebrated Mother's Day program on Sunday May 23, 2010. The celebration included Indian ethnic food, music, poem reciting, and cultural programs representing various regions of India. The program was held at the Verona Performing Art Center in Verona. The AIA



recognized all participating mothers with a free dinner. AIA does a few of these bigger events each year with lots of participation from the Indian community.

The program began at 5:30 p.m. with refreshments and socializing followed by dinner. After the dinner various entertainment programs began. Welcoming all mothers and other participants, Anjali Sridharan highlighted the importance of Mother's Day. She emphasized that the celebration of Mother's Day brings the Indian community together to recognize the importance of mothers in family life. This is a family event with participation of the entire family to celebrate mother's day together.



The program began with the invocation song by Surya Ganesan followed by the Shabd Kirtan by Dr. Rubal Dhillon. The cultural program began with the bharatanatyam performed by Anupama

Bhattacharya. A number of dance schools in Madison and dance lovers participated in the cultural program.



A group of young children called little stars performed a dance choreographed by Chithra Kannan. The participating children were Akash and

Adhitya Dasaraju, Niharika Shyamkumar, Pallav & Prabhav G. Karri, Praneel Sai Nakkina, Reetu Teegala, Sowmith Bonda, Sreeja Bandireddy, and Sumedha Yarlagadda. A group of three students; Harish Prabakaran, Nitin Somasundaram and Sachin Suresh, performed a Tamil Rap dance



Along with the dance, people read poems to appreciate mother India. Sushil Bansal recited a poem titled "Mother India."



A group of young children performed Dhamaka

Dance. The parents were very excited to see their young children performing on the stage. Also a group of performers from the Kaalanjali Schools of Dance performed Bharatanatyam "Karunai Deivame. The dance was choreographed by Meenakshi Ganesan.



Amitha Domalappally choreographed a group of students who performed a dance of Suryanamaskar.



Students of Vijaya Desikan performed the dance called Tamil Thirupuzagh. Besides the traditional dances of India some young adults performed Bhangra Pop and

Rock and Roll Tamil Dance.

Before the end of the cultural program, a group of ladies performed a Rang De group dance. It was one of the hits of the cultural performance. The participants were Archana Dwa, Jaya Prabhakaran, Ramya, Natarajan, Ramya Raman and Sowmya Raghunathan.



At the end, AIA president of 2010 Badri Lankella thanked all participants, performers, food caterers and the people who made this program such a great success.

INDIA DAY CELEBRATED IN WISCONSIN'S CAPITOL

India formally gained independence on August 15, 1947 after centuries of British rule - and years of turmoil - and today we continue to celebrate the day



with joyful speeches, colorful parades and celebrations all over the world including here in Madison, Wisconsin.

Along with the celebrations, it is important to facilitate learning more about the events leading up to India's independence along with the leaders who helped the historic event take place. In addition, it's a great time to explore the traditional and modern customs that surround the holiday in India as well as in areas throughout the world where India's emigrants have made their homes.

The Association of Indians in America (AIA), Madison chapter organized a very entertaining program to celebrate India Day (The independence day of India) with various programs in Madison.

The program was held on Martin Luther King Boulevard of the State Capitol on August 14, 2010. Beautiful cultural programs were organized representing India's cultural heritage. A total of 16 vendor booths were set up on the both sides of the boulevard and cultural groups performed in the middle road which was closed for this special event. Eight performing groups from Madison and the surrounding communities participated in the cultural program.

The display booths, decorating hands with mehndi, religious and social organizations were present. Over 500 people observed the festival and cultural programs during the program which started at 10:30 a.m. and ended at 3 p.m.

In the beginning of the cultural program the



Kalaanjali School of Dance presented a Bharatanatyam dance for world peace. After that a

solo dance was performed to the music “Aaja Nachle”. India’s patriotic song “Bande Mataram” was also sung to celebrate the joy of independence. Besides the dance performance people also played instrumental music on the Harmonica.

A group of children performed the Dhamaka dance. Parents were very pleased to see their children perform at this event. A group of young girls performed the Medley dance. A group of young adults performed the bhangra dance, which is very upbeat and popular. The bhangra dance was a big

SUMMER PICNIC

Every year AIA organizes a summer picnic involving AHA and Tamil Sangam. The picnic is free for the members of all of the organizations involved. This year’s picnic was held on Sunday, July 25, 2010 at Vilas Park in Madison. There were



over one hundred people gathered in the park shelter who enjoyed socializing, games, sports, bingo, raffle prizes and of course delicious food.



hit in the cultural program. At the end of the cultural program, the national anthem was played.

At the end AIA President Badri Lankella thanked all of the dance companies and individuals for presenting beautiful performances. He also thanked all AIA committee members, display booth organizers, participants and other helpers. He appreciated everyone whose cooperation made the program such a success.

The weather was clear and sunny with low humidity, making the event even more enjoyable.



2010 HIGHWAY CLEANING PROJECT

Volunteers are the jewel of this nation. Every day millions of people are volunteering all over the nation. No matter where you go you will find someone volunteering. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that in 2009, 63.4 million



Volunteers Were -
S. Balachandran, Anant Baliga, Gurdip Brar, Shivjit Gil, Harpreet Gill, Raman Gill, K. Giri, Savreen Kaur, Badri Lankella, Sanjay Limaye, Ashim Mitra, N. Puviarasan, M. S. Rao, Selva Sivasankaran, and Nagen Sehgal

people, or 26.8 percent of the population, volunteered for many worthy causes.

Highway cleaning is an enormous task for the community, state and the nation. It can cost billions of dollars to keep the nation's highways, but thanks to generous and dedicated volunteer who help clean our highways we can all enjoy a clean and pleasant place to drive.

Since 2003 Association of Indians in Madison has taken the responsibility of cleaning a portion of highway 14 W with the stretch of one and a half miles from CTH MM (Oregon, WI) to the Byrne Road Bridge. The cleaning is done three times a year between April and October.

This year's mid-summer cleaning was held on Saturday, August 1, 2010. Volunteers gathered at Swaminathan Balachandran's house for breakfast at 9 a.m. The new volunteers were given a short orientation along with a WI DOT video about the activity for 10 min. All volunteers received instructions from Balachandran, divided into three groups, picked up vest and gloves, and proceeded to the work site at about 10 a.m..The work was completed in about one hour.

The next cleaning will be on Saturday, October 2nd or 3rd depending on the weather. If you want to volunteer please contact Swaminathan Balachandran at 608-342-1718 or send him an email at balachas@uwplatt.edu

COMING SOON

Diwali Celebration

Middleton High School - Performance Arts Center
ON OCTOBER 30, 2010



2010 MEMBERSHIP FORM

___ Annual (\$20/Family)
Family)

___ Life Membership (\$300 - Individual or

[Please make check payable to AIA]

MEMBER NUMBER:

Please Print:

Last Name _____ First
Name _____

Spouse: Last Name _____ First
Name _____

Children's Names

Street

Address _____

City _____ Zip

Code _____

E-Mail

Address _____

Home Telephone

Number _____



**Association of Indians in America
Wisconsin Chapter**

SEASON TICKET DETAILS

	ADULT		KIDS		Ticket Totals	MEM DUES	TOTAL
	x \$ 20=		x \$ 10=			\$ 20	

SERIAL NUMBER

ADULTS		KIDS	
1		1	
2		2	
3		3	
4		4	

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



The 2010 highway cleaning schedule has been out. The AIA of Madison has adopted 1.5 miles of 14W from CTH MM (Oregon, WI) to the Byrne Road Bridge to keep it clean throughout the year. Dr. Swaminathan and Lalitha Balachandran have coordinated this program for the last 6 years. It has been the tradition that volunteers gather in Dr. Balachandran's house and have breakfast before proceeding to the cleanup. The work takes about an hour and many garbage bags full of trash are collected and picked up by the city crew after the clean up work is done.

Every year, 40 to 50 volunteers clean the assigned areas 3 times a year in the spring, summer, and fall. The highway section to be cleaned starts from the sign and ends at the "Optimist Club" sign. Only one side of that section has to be cleaned; the other side is cleaned by other organizations

If you are interested please contact Swaminathan Balachandran
balachas@uwplatt.edu or phone 608-848-6780 (H)

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN AIA (ASSOCIATION OF INDIANS IN AMERICA, WI CHAPTER)?

YOU'LL

- ❖ COME TO KNOW YOUR OWN FELLOW COUNTRYMEN/WOMEN*
- ❖ BE IN THE MIDST OF ALL INDIANS UNDER ONE ROOF*

WHAT BENEFITS AWAIT YOU?

- ✓ LOWER MEMBERSHIP FEES STARTING THIS YEAR*
- ✓ ATTEND ALL ORGANIZED EVENTS AND MIX WITH YOUR KNOWN AND NEW FRIENDS &*
EXPAND YOUR NETWORK
- ✓ INCREASE YOUR SOCIAL ACTIVITY BY VOLUNTEERING YOURSELF FOR AIA EVENTS*

- ✓ *SHARE YOUR IDEAS & THOUGHTS WITH THE AIA BOARD FOR IMPROVING AIA AND ITS GOALS*

SO, IT'S YOUR CALL NOW. WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- *CALL ONE OF AIA COMMITTEE MEMBERS LISTED IN THIS WEB SITE*
- *CONFIRM YOUR WILLINGNESS TO JOIN AIA*
- *OUR COMMITTEE MEMBER WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST*

**PLEASE JOIN AIA
AND
BRING COMMUNITY
TOGETHER**

For your service please contact AIA of Madison
Badri Lankella
President
hellobadri@yahoo.com

Editor - Krishna Sijapati