

Dear Devotees,

July 2007

Namaste! 2007 is off to a great start and our temple is fast approaching its Fifth anniversary! Over the past four years, we have devoted much of our efforts to the inside of the temple – organizing pujas and festivals, Bal Vihar, Vanita Vihar and ever popular Anand Bazaar and its sister Chaat Bazaar. Now that the temple is five years old, it is showing signs of aging and we are looking at several projects, including painting of the interior, fixing concrete entrances in the back, fixing leaks on the roof and re-seeding of the lawn. We have already completed some of the projects like water well, sprinkler system and motion sensor lights for outside. We would like to thank Sam Bhagat, Harikrishna Sharma, Yogendra Desai, Kirit Patel, Mohan Kulkarni and Rohit Trivedi for their contributions in making these projects happen. We are also close to starting the priest quarters project. We look forward to your continued support in maintaining and improving our Temple.

Our next event will be Guru Poornima on July 29<sup>th</sup>. Guru Poornima is the day we celebrate and honor Vyasa, the original guru and traditional author of the Vedas, along with your own gurus or spiritual guides. The festival takes place on the full moon day of the Indian month of Ashad, corresponding to July-August of the Western calendar. Guru Poornima marks the occasion of sage Krishna Dvaipayana Vyasa's birth. The word *poornima* means "full-moon", hence the name Guru Poornima, "the full-moon day of the guru". For its connection with Vyasa, the event is also called Vyasa Poornima.

**July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

### **Guru Poornima Celebrations**

Sathyanarayan Pooja:	5:00 PM - 6:15PM
Aarthi	6:15 PM - 6:30 PM
Vishnu Sahasranamam Chant	6:30PM - 6:50 PM

We are looking for sponsors for this special Sathyanarayan pooja. The sponsorship amount is going to be used for Temple upgrade and maintenance. Sponsorship amounts are \$51. Sponsors should arrive by 4:45pm and bring fruit, flowers, and a coconut. We can accommodate up to 40 sponsors, so please call our priest to reserve your place in this once-a-year singular event.

Five years is definitely a milestone and we have planned a special 3-day event to celebrate our anniversary starting on August 17<sup>th</sup>. We have two other priests coming from Minneapolis, MN and Raleigh, NC to help our priest. On Saturday, we will have a very special Havan with 5 homakundas. All sponsors are welcome to sit and participate in the Havan. On Sunday, we will have Balaji abhishekam followed by Poolangi Seva -full flower alankar. Lord Balaji will be completely adorned with flowers. It will be the first time in our history where a deity is completely decorated with flowers. During the alankar time, we will have a cultural program by kids and a sari auction. You can sponsor an individual event for \$201 or you can sponsor the entire three-day celebration for \$501. All three-day sponsors will receive a souvenir silver coin along with a Sari and Dhoti pair. We have a limited number of Sari and Dhotis so please sign your name in the sign-up sheet at the temple.

### **Fifth Anniversary Celebrations**

**Friday, August 17 – Sunday, August 19, 2007**

Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM Ganesh Pooja and other preparatory pujas.

Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM Havan with 5 homakundas.

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM Haarathi

12:30 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch

7:00 PM – 7-15PM Hanumanchalisa

7:15 PM – 7 :30PM

Haarathi

7:30 PM – 8:30PM

Hinduism-Vision of Vedas and Bhagavad Gita by Shrihari Kadambi

Presentation followed by Q&A

Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Lord Balaji Abishekam

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Alankar / Cultural Programs

12:00 PM – 1:00PM

Lord Balaji Wedding

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Haarathi, Acharya sambhavanai & yajamana ashirvadam

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Lunch

Cooking Help Needed: We need volunteers to assist us with meal preparation for Saturday lunch. If you can help with any of the meals, please contact Suparna at 721-2668.

We are looking for new executive committee members. Rohit Trivedi has been President for 2007 and has done a wonderful job. He was instrumental in implementing several temple projects. Unfortunately he and his family will be leaving Wichita and we are looking for someone to fill that position. If you are interested in being part of the executive committee please talk to Ragu (721-2668) or Mohan (687-9918). We encourage all of you to be part of this wonderful and rewarding experience.

Chat Bazaar in May was a very successful fundraiser and we raised our goal of \$4000. Sanjay and Renu Gattani worked tirelessly to put together the event and they are now working on getting quotes and implementing the playground area project. Kudos to them.

As you may already know our priest Sriraman Kadambi is available for pujas at your home. The list of pujas /services provided by our priest is available at the Temple and in our web site. Please call well in advance to schedule pujas, particularly for weekends, so that arrangements can be made for someone else to open the temple.

HTGW and devotees would like to thank Mr. Radhakrishna for offering Yoga classes during his three month visit to Wichita. The devotees were very fortunate to learn yoga and pranayama from this expert yoga practitioner. We would also like to extend our thanks to Chirag and Shruthi for bringing his Dad and giving us the opportunity.



**Hindu Temple of Greater Wichita**

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**H T G W**

**Visit us on the Web at**

**[www.htgw.org](http://www.htgw.org)**