

HTGW Newsletter



H T G W

Dear Devotees,

Namaste! 2006 is off to a great start! We have had some great pujas and events at the temple. It takes many hands to make a successful event. You may have seen the signs requesting help or heard announcements during pujas for volunteers. Remember that this is a community temple. We need everyone's help and input. I believe that everyone has something to give – it can be time, talent or money. We are all at different places in our lives – some of us don't have a lot of financial resources but we're strong and active – donate your time by helping maintain the temple. Some of us are highly skilled in a particular area but we're also busy in our career – donate your talent – tell us what you're good at and how much time you can give us. I'm sure we have a small but important job that you would be perfect for. Some of us don't have time but can offer financial help – donate money. Life is cyclical – there will be times when we have more of one thing and not enough of another. All we ask is that you give when you can in however way you can. If each of us gives a little, it will go a long way in keeping the temple clean and running smoothly. Whatever you can offer, given freely and with joy, will be graciously accepted.

We are gearing up for **two special celebrations** this summer! The first celebration will be to commemorate the 4th Anniversary of the temple. We are blessed to be able to host **Swami Vidatmananda Saraswati** of **Arsha Vidya Gurukulam** (Institute of Vedanta & Sanskrit). Swamiji was an engineer working in the US when he decided to become a disciple of Swami Dayananda Saraswati (incidentally, Swami Dayananda was a disciple of Swami Chinmayananda). Swami Vidatmananda knows what it's like to live in the West and yet finds a down-to-earth way of helping us understand Hinduism. If you have ever wondered about the philosophy behind Sanatana Dharma, how to incorporate Vedanta into everyday life, how to teach our kids our culture, how to meditate or find peace in this stressful, fast-paced lifestyle, then join us for this very special event. The programs will run over a three-day period with some sessions focusing on specific audiences. In particular, we have **special sessions for children, teenagers & ladies**. However, everyone is welcome at all of the sessions. There is no cost associated with any of the lectures. There will only be very nominal charges for food.

Schedule

Thursday, June 15th

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Ladies Satsang - Ladies discussion with Swamiji on various topics, concluding with **Guided Meditation**

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch with Swamiji at HTGW

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Open Discussion - Swamiji will be available for private consultations on personal spiritual matters and/or further discussion

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Dinner with Swamiji at HTGW

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

"The Value of Values" - Lecture by Swamiji and Question & Answer Session. This talk addresses the ten principal personal values for success and happiness in this world.

Friday, June 16th

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Kids Satsang - Discussion group with Swamiji and kids (*This session is only for children 12 and below*).

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch with Swamiji at HTGW

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Young Adults Satsang - Discussion group of teens, college students and young adults

5:30 PM – 6:45 PM

Dinner at First Presbyterian Church (*525 N. Broadway – across from the old historic courthouse*)

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

"Success and Excellence According to the Bhagavad Gita" – Lecture and Q&A

Saturday, June 17th

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Open Discussion at HTGW

11:00 AM – 11:30 PM

Gurudakshina

11:30 AM – 11:45 AM

Prayers and Aarathi by Swamiji at HTGW

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Farewell Lunch with Swamiji

Sponsors Needed: There are costs associated with bringing Swamiji here. We are asking for donations to offset travel expenses, hall fees, etc. Sponsors will be recognized on a special Anniversary Souvenir booklet that will contain excerpts from Swamiji's lectures. Sponsors can make donations of \$101, \$151 or more. Please contact Ragu Tirukonda (721-2668) or Nayan Patel (685-1880) if you would like to sponsor the event.

Cooking Help Needed: We need lots of volunteers to assist us with meal preparation during the three day celebration. Krishna Mehta has generously offered to be the food coordinator. If you can help with any of the meals, please contact her at 942-6555.

Books for Sale: You can continue your study of Vedanta and Hindu philosophy long after Swamiji's departure. We will have books and some meditation tapes available for purchase during Swamiji's visit. We are also looking for volunteers to help staff the bookstore. Please contact Suparna Tirukonda (721-2668) if you can help.

Vishnu Sahasharanamam Celebration

The second celebration is to commemorate the chanting of the Vishnu Sahasranamam in our temple for over 1000 times. The celebration will take place on **July 21, 22, and 23**. The schedule is as follows:

Friday, July 21 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Pujas for Lord Ganesha and Vishwakshena, Kalashas, Yagnashala followed by Aarthi

Saturday, July 22 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Vishnu Sahasranamam Homam, Lord Balaji Hara Puja

Sunday, July 23

09:00 am – 10:30 am	Lord Balaji Abhishekam
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Cultural Program
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Offering of Hara and Aarthi
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch
05:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Lord Balaji Wedding
06:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Vishnu Sahasranamam Chanting and Aarthi

There are four levels of sponsorship:

\$501	Three-day sponsor including performing Havan on Saturday with priests
\$151	Havan sponsor including performing Havan with priests
\$101	Abishekam sponsor on Sunday
\$101	Lord Balaji wedding sponsor on Sunday

If you are interested in sponsoring, please contact our priest Sriraman Kadambi at 684-1556. Further details will be posted on the website. The hara that will be offered during this event was a collective effort by our priest, former WSU students, and Raghu and Rekha Reddy.

This summer offers something for everyone. Help make these events successful by attending and sponsoring these activities. If you can volunteer your time during these events, please call me at 721-2668. As always, more detailed information will be posted on the website. Please check it often for the most up-to-date information. Finally, thank you to Sanjay Shah for sponsoring this newsletter.

Ragu Tirukonda, HTGW President



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Visit us on the Web at
www.htgw.org