

**PLEASE NOTE THE SCHEDULES**

**Monday Through Thursday:** 9 am to 12 noon  
and 6 pm to 8 pm  
**Friday, Weekends & Holidays:** 9 am to 8 pm

# PASCHIMAVANI

**DIRECTIONS**

**From Freeway 580 in Livermore:**  
Exit North Vasco Road, left on Scenic Ave,  
Left on Arrowhead Avenue

## NEWS FROM THE HINDU COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER, LIVERMORE

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.livermoretemple.org>

SHIVA-VISHNU TEMPLE

OM NAMAH SHIVAYA

TELEPHONE (925) 449-6255 FAX (925) 455-0404

OM NAMO NARAYANAYA

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Devotees,

Namaste.

Let us support our Temple

The high stature of our Shiva-Vishnu temple, Livermore, California, is attributed to four guiding principles: firstly, our strict adherence to the agamic tradition in Hindu worship; secondly, the enthusiasm and dedication of our volunteers and devotees; thirdly, strict discipline in budgeting and expenditure control; and lastly the democratic system of management coupled with a desire for a perpetual improvement in temple operation. This high stature has made the temple the envy of many similar institutions.

At the Shiva-Vishnu temple, the Hindu religious traditions are the nucleus of our activities. The Cultural, Youth & Education and Human Services activities are rooted in and revolve around this nucleus. Ever since the temple's consecration in 1986, efforts are taken to perform all religious activities according to the agamic tradition. The priests contribute enormously in maintaining this tradition. The HCCC activities are publicized on our website, newsletters, and flyers. The office staff is dedicated and always strives to improve the devotee service.

Volunteers are the main fabric of our institution. Many activities, such as, making garlands; cooking for large events; controlling traffic; teaching Bhagavad Gita, Shlokas, Sanskrit and Yoga; conducting Health fair, publishing newsletter Paschima Vani and flyers; coordinating religious, cultural, human services, youth & education events; and maintaining the website current are performed by volunteers.

All expenses incurred are per the Executive Committee and Board approvals made in accordance with the bylaws. All accounts are well maintained and audited annually by certified auditors. The elections for the Executive Committee members, Board of directors, President and Chairman are conducted every year in a professional manner. The credibility of the organization is enormous due to these two annual activities.

You might have noticed that we have relocated the kitchen and have added an administration building and a multipurpose building with a new library, office, meeting rooms, and event halls. The events halls may be rented for private functions. All these are made possible by your generous donations and bank loans. We would like to pay off the bank loans as soon as possible with your help. If you are already a donor, please go the extra mile to stretch your donation. If you are not yet a donor, please become one today.

This is your temple and let us together make this institution the best in California!

Sincerely,

H.K. Narayan

*President*

*HCCC, 2012-13*



## FROM EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Devotees,

Hope you participated in the adhika masa, Sri Ganesha chaturthi festivities last quarter at the temple and herewith bringing glimpses of those memorable events and also the special events coming up in the next quarter. Please enjoy this edition of your favorite temple newsletter Paschimavani. Please give your feedback for any improvements.

M.S. Sathyanarayana, *Vice-President and Publicity Chair - HCCC*

email: mssathya@gmail.com, Cell : (408) 887-0473

### PLANNED SPECIAL EVENTS

DATE/DAY	EVENTS	TIME	ACTIVITIES
Oct 3rd Wednesday	Sankatahara Chaturthi	6:00 PM	Ganesha Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 04th Thursday	Krittika	6:00 PM	Kartikeya Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 05th Friday	Rohini	6:00 PM	Sri Krishna Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 06th Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Swarna Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Oct 06th Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	9:30 AM	Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji
Oct 08th Monday	Punarvasu	10:30 AM	Sri Rama Sahasranama Archana
		6:00 PM	Sri Rama Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 11th Thursday	Ekadasi	6:00 PM	Balaji Bhoga Murthi Abhishekam
Oct 12th Friday	Pradosham	6:00 PM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 13th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Muttangi Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Oct 13th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:30 AM	Tomala Seva for Lord Balaji
Oct 13th Saturday	Masa Shivarathri	5:00 PM	108 Kalasa Abhishekam for Lord Shiva
Oct 13th Saturday	Uttara Phalguni	5:00 PM	Ayyappa Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 14th Sunday	Mahalaya Paksha ends		
Oct 14th Sunday	Keeping of Kolu		
Oct 15th Monday	ASHWAYUJA		
Oct 15th Monday	Sharannavarathri Begins		Detailed Program at the end
Oct 16th Tuesday	Swati	6:00 PM	Narasimha Swami Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 16th Tuesday	Sun enters Tula 17-14		
Oct 19th Friday	Navarathri Vishnu Brahmotsavam - Day 1		Detailed Program at the end
Oct 19th Friday	Saraswati Puja		
Oct 20th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Rajatha Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Oct 20th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	9:30 AM	Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji
Oct 20th Saturday	Navarathri Vishnu Brahmotsavam - Day 2		Detailed Program at the end
Oct 20th Saturday	Shashti	5:00 PM	Kartikeya Sahasranama Archana
Oct 20th Saturday	Moola	12 Noon	Saraswati Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 21st Sunday	3rd Sunday of the Month	10:30 AM	Shiva Sahasranama Archana
Oct 21st Sunday	Navarathri Vishnu Brahmotsavam - Day 3		Detailed Program at the end
Oct 22nd Monday	Durgashtami		
Oct 22nd Monday	Chandi Homam		
Oct 22nd Monday	Maha Navami		
Oct 22nd Monday	Sravana	6:00 PM	Venkateshwara Sahasranama Archana
Oct 23rd Tuesday	Vijaya Dasami Aasthanam	6:00 PM	Aasthanam
Oct 23rd Tuesday	Madhwa Jayanthi		
Oct 24th Wednesday	Ekadasi	6:00 PM	Balaji Bhoga Murthi Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 26th Friday	Pradosham	6:00 PM	108 Kalasa Abhishekam for Lord Balaji
Oct 27th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	10:00 AM	Shiva Vastra Samarpana, Swarna Mukhavada
Oct 27th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	12:00 Noon	Pushpaseva for Lord Balaji
Oct 28th Sunday	Last Sunday of the Month	4:30 PM	Kala Bhairava Abhishekam
Oct 28th Sunday	Poornima	6:00 PM	Lalitha Sahasranama chanting by Devotees
Oct 29th Monday	Shiva Annabhishekam	9:30 AM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
Oct 31st Wednesday	Krittika	6:00 PM	Kartikeya Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 01st Thursday	Rohini	6:00 PM	Sri Krishna Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 02nd Friday	Sankatahara Chaturthi	6:00 PM	Ganesha Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 02nd Friday	Karva Chauth		
Nov 03rd Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Swarna Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Nov 03rd Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	9:30 AM	Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji
Nov 04th Sunday	Shiva Annabhishekam (Weekend Function)	9:30 AM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 04th Sunday	Punarvasu	5:00 PM	Sri Rama Abhishekam and Sahasranama Archana

**PLANNED SPECIAL EVENTS (contd.)**

DATE/DAY	EVENTS	TIME	ACTIVITIES
Nov 04th Sunday	Daylight Savings ends		
Nov 09th Friday	Ekadasi	6:00 PM	Balaji Bhoga Murthi Abhishekam
Nov 10th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Muttangi Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Nov 10th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:30 AM	Tomala Seva for Lord Balaji
Nov 10th Saturday	Uttara Phalguni	5:00 PM	Ayyappa Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 11th Sunday	Pradosham, Masa Shivarathri	5:00 PM	108 Kalasa Abhishekam for Lord Balaji
Nov 12th Monday	Naraka Chathurdasi (Snanam in the morning)		
	Deepavali	7:00 PM	Dhanalakshmi Puja
	Kali Puja		
	Swati	6:00 PM	Narasimha Swami Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 13th Tuesday	Lakshmi Kubera Puja	6:00 PM	Lakshmi Kubera Puja
	Total Solar Eclipse (Not visible in USA)		
	Amavasya		
Nov 14th Wednesday	KARTHIKA		
	Skanda Shashti Begins		Detailed program at the end
	Gujarati New Year		
Nov 15th Thursday	Sun enters Vrischika 16-01		
Nov 16th Friday	Moola	6:00 PM	Saraswati Abhishekam and Archana
	Ayyappa Mandala Puja Begins		Detailed program at the end
Nov 17th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Rajatha Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Nov 17th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:30 AM	Special Alamkaram (Pushpa Yaagam)
Nov 17th Saturday	Vishnu Pushpa Yagam		Detailed program at the end
Nov 17th Saturday	3rd Sunday of the Month	10:30 AM	Shiva Sahasranama Archana
Nov 18th Sunday	Skanda Shasti		Detailed Program at the end
Nov 19th Monday	Day after Skanda Shasti	3:00 PM	Murugan Kalyanotsavam
Nov 19th Monday	Sravana	6:00 PM	Venkateshwara Sahasranama Archana
Nov 19th Monday	Karthika Somavaram	5:30 PM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 22nd Thursday	Thanksgiving Day (Weekend times)		
Nov 23rd Friday	Ekadasi	6:00 PM	Balaji Bhoga Murthi Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 24th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	10:00 AM	Shiva Vastra Samarpana, Swarna Mukhavada
Nov 24th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	12:00 Noon	Pushpa seva for Lord Balaji
Nov 24th Saturday	Tulasi Vivaham		
Nov 25th Sunday	Pradosham	5:00 PM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 25th Sunday	Last Sunday of the Month	4:30 PM	Kala Bhairava Abhishekam
Nov 26th Monday	Karthika Somavaram	5:30 PM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 27th Tuesday	Poornima	6:00 PM	Lalitha Sahasranama chanting by Devotees
Nov 27th Tuesday	Krittika	6:00 PM	Kartikeya Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 27th Tuesday	Annamalai Deepam, Sarvalaya Deepam		
Nov 27th Tuesday	Karthika Poornima	6:00 PM	Group Satyanarayana Pooja
Nov 27th Tuesday	Karthika Poornima	4:00 PM	Sudharshana Homam
Nov 27th Tuesday	Rohini	6:00 PM	Sri Krishna Abhishekam and Archana
Nov 28th Wednesday	Penumbral Lunar Eclipse (4-14 AM - 8:50 AM) (Temple Opens at 10 AM)	6:00 PM	Lalitha Sahasranama chanting by Devotees
Dec 01st Saturday	Sankatahara Chathurthi	4:30 PM	Ganesha Abhishekam and Archana
Dec 01st Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Swarna Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Dec 01st Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	9:30 AM	Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji
Dec 02nd Sunday	Punarvasu	5:00 PM	Sri Rama Abhishekam and Sahasranama Archana
Dec 03rd Monday	Karthika Somavaram	5:30 PM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
Dec 06th Thursday	Kala Bhairava Jayanthi		Detailed program at the end
Dec 07th Friday	Uttara Phalguni	6:00 PM	Ayyappa Abhishekam and Archana
Dec 08th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Muttangi Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Dec 08th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:30 AM	Tomala Seva for Lord Balaji
Dec 09th Sunday	Ekadasi	5:00 PM	Balaji Bhoga Murthi Abhishekam and Archana
Dec 10th Monday	Swati	6:00 PM	Narasimha Swami Abhishekam and Archana
Dec 10th Monday	Pradosham, Karthika Somavaram	4:00 PM	Mahanyasam, Ekadasa Rudrabhishekam and Archana
Dec 11th Tuesday	Masa Shivarathri	6:00 PM	108 Kalasa Abhishekam for Lord Balaji
Dec 13th Thursday	MARGASIRA		
Dec 13th Thursday	Moola	6:00 PM	Saraswati Abhishekam and Archana
Dec 15th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Rajatha Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Dec 15th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:30 AM	Thiruppavada Seva for Lord Balaji
Dec 15th Saturday	Sun enters Dhanu 06-39, Dhanurmasa Puja Begins		
Dec 16th Sunday	Sravana	6:00 PM	Venkateshwara Sahasranama Archana

**PLANNED SPECIAL EVENTS (contd.)**

DATE/DAY	EVENTS	TIME	ACTIVITIES
Dec 16th Sunday	3rd Sunday of the Month	10:30 AM	Shiva Sahasranama Archana
Dec 18th Tuesday	Shashti	6:00 PM	Kartikeya Sahasranama Archana
Dec 22nd Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	10:00 AM	Shiva Swarna Mukhavada
Dec 22nd Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	12:00 Noon	Special Alamkaram
Dec 23rd Sunday	Vaikunta Ekadasi		Detailed program at the end
Dec 23rd Sunday	Geeta Jayanthi		
Dec 23rd Sunday	Rahu enters in Tula: 06-26; Ketu enters in Mesha: 06-26		
Dec 24th Monday	Krittika	6:00 PM	Kartikeya Abhishekam and Archana
Dec 25th Tuesday	Pradosham	5:00 PM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
	Ayyappa Mandala Puja Ends		
	Christmas (Weekend times)		
Dec 26th Wednesday	Rohini	6:00 PM	Sri Krishna Abhishekam and Archana
Dec 27th Thursday	Poornima	6:00 PM	Lalitha Sahasranama chanting by Devotees
Dec 29 Saturday	5th Saturday of the Month	9:30 AM	Shiva Vastra Samarpana
Dec 29 Saturday	5th Saturday of the Month	10:00 AM	108 Kalasa Abhishekam for Lord Balaji
	Punarvasu	5:00 PM	Sri Rama Abhishekam and Sahasranama Archana
Dec 30 Sunday	Last Sunday of the Month	4:30 PM	Kala Bhairava Abhishekam
Dec 31 Monday	Sankathara Chathurthi	4:30 PM	Ganesha Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 01st Tuesday	New Years Day (Weekend times)		Detailed program at the end
Jan 03rd Thursday	Uttara Phalguni	6:00 PM	Ayyappa Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 05th Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Swarna Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Jan 05th Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	9:30 AM	Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji
Jan 06th Sunday	Swati	5:00 PM	Lakshmi Narasimha Swami Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 07th Monday	Ekadasi	6:00 PM	Balaji Bhoga Murthi Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 09th Wednesday	Pradosham and Masa Shivarathri	6:00 PM	108 Kalasa Abhishekam for Lord Shiva
Jan 10th Thursday	Hanuman Jayanthi		Detailed program at the end
Jan 10th Thursday	Moola	6:00 PM	Saraswati Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 12th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Muttangi Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Jan 12th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:30 AM	Tomala Seva for Lord Balaji
Jan 12th Saturday	Sravana	5:00 PM	Venkateshwara Sahasranama Archana
Jan 12th Saturday	PUSHYA		
Jan 13th Sunday	Bhogi	5:00 PM	Balaji Bhoga Murthi Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 13th Sunday	Andal (Godha) Kalyanam		Detailed program at the end
Jan 13th Sunday	Makara Sankranti, Uttarayana Punyakalam		
Jan 13th Sunday	Dhanurmasa Puja Ends		
Jan 13th Sunday	Ayyappa Makara deepa Puja		Detailed program at the end
Jan 13th Sunday	Sun enters Makara 17:23		
Jan 14th Monday	Thai Pongal		
Jan 16th Wednesday	Shashti	6:00 PM	Kartikeya Sahasranama Archana
Jan 19th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM	Rajatha Alamkara for Lord Shiva
Jan 19th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:30 PM	Thiruppavada Seva for Lord Balaji
Jan 20th Sunday	3rd Sunday of the month	10:30 AM	Shiva Sahasranama Archana
Jan 21st Monday	MLK Day (Weekend times)		
Jan 21st Monday	Krittika	5:00 PM	Kartikeya Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 22nd Tuesday	Ekadasi	6:00 PM	Balaji Bhoga Murthi Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 22nd Tuesday	Rohini	6:00 PM	Sri Krishna Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 23rd Wednesday	Pradosham	6:00 PM	Shiva Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 25th Friday	Punarvasu	10:30 AM	Sri Rama Sahasranama Archana
Jan 25th Friday		6:00 PM	Sri Rama Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 26th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	10:00 AM	Shiva Vastra Samarpana and Swarna Mukhavada
Jan 26th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	12:00 Noon	Pushpa seva for Lord Balaji
Jan 27th Sunday	Last Sunday of the Month	4:30 PM	Kala Bhairava Abhishekam
Jan 26th Saturday	Thai Poosam		Detailed program at the end
Jan 26th Saturday	Poornima	5:00 PM	Lalitha Sahasranama chanting by Devotees
Jan 30th Wednesday	Uttara Phalguni	6:00 PM	Ayyappa Abhishekam and Archana
Jan 30th Wednesday	Sankathara Chathurthi	6:00 PM	Ganesha Abhishekam and Archana

**Nava Rathri Sri Vishnu Brahmotsavam**

DATE/DAY	TIME	EVENTS
Oct 19th Fri	4:00 PM	SamkalpAM, Deeksha and AnkurarpanAM
Oct 20th Sat	8:00 AM	Lord Balaji, Lord Shiva Suprabhatam
	8:30 AM	Agni Prathishta
	8:30 AM	Nava Kumbha Sthapana
	9:00 AM	Nitya Homa ,Bali and Sathumurai
	10:00 AM	Balaji AbhishekAM
	11:00 AM	Seshavahana Seva
	12:30 PM	Sathumurai, Theertha PrasadAM
	1:00 PM	Dwiguna Aradhana and Alaya Bali
	4:00 PM	Garuda Vahana seva for Balaji
	6:00 PM	Sayamkala Archana and NaivedyAM
	6:30 PM	Nitya HomAM
	7:30 PM	Ekanta Seva
Oct 21st Sun	8:00 AM	Lord Balaji, Lord Shiva Suprabhatam
	8:30 AM	Nitya Homa ,Bali and Sathumurai
	10:00 AM	Hanumantha Vahana Seva
	11:00 AM	Choorna Abhisheka
	1:00 PM	Avabrida SnanAM
	2:00 PM	Poornahuti
	4:00 PM	Pallaki UtsavAM for Lord Balaji with Goddess Sri Devi and Goddess Bhudevi
	6:00 PM	Mouna Bali
	6:30 PM	Rashtra Asheervachanam
	7:30 PM	Ekanta Seva

**Skanda Shashti Celebrations**

Nov 14 - 16	5:00 PM	Murugan Abhishekam
Nov 17th Sat	3:00 PM	Murugan Abhishekam
Nov 18th Sun	9:30 AM	Kavadi Pooja and Tiru Veedhi UtsavAM
	11:30 AM	Murugan Abhishekam
	1:30 PM	Pushpa AlamkarAM, Subramania Homam, Archana, Arathi, Theerta and PrasadAM
	5:00 PM	Skanda Shashti Vratam
Nov 19th Mon	3:00 PM	Valli – Devasena – Karthikeya Thiru Kalyanam, Mayura Vahana Seva

**Ayyappa Mandala Puja**

Nov 16 Fri	6:00 PM	SankalpAM and Archana; Maala Dharana for Deeksha devotees
	6:30 PM	Bhajan Starts
	7:15 PM	Bhajan Ends
	7:30 PM	Aarti, Harivarasanam, and PrasadAM
Nov 17th Sat	4:30 PM	Weekend Function; Ayyappa AbhishekAM and Archana
Dec 15th Sat	4:30 PM	Maala Dharana for Kids
Dec 25th Tue	9:30 AM	Irumudi for Deeksha Devotees
	11:00 AM	SankalpAM and Ayyappa Abhishekam
	11:45 AM	Bhajan Starts
	12:15 AM	Ayyappa Procession
	1:00 PM	Archana, Aarti, Harivarasanam
	1:30 PM	Maala Visarjana and Maha PrasadAM

**Sri Vishnu Pushpa Yaagam**

Nov 17th Sat	8:00 AM	Suprabhatam
	9:00 AM	Balaji Abhishekam
	11:00 AM	Pushpa Yaagam Starts
	12:00 Noon	Pushpa Yaagam Homam
	1:00 PM	Poornahuti
	1:30 PM	Theertha PrasadAM

**Kala Bhairava Jayanthi**

DATE/DAY	TIME	EVENTS
Dec 06th Thu	6:00 PM	Abhishekam
	7:00 PM	Archana
	7:30 PM	Theertha PrasadAM

**Vaikunta Ekadasi**

Dec 23rd Sun	8:00 AM	Shiva and Balaji Suprabhatam
	9:00 AM	Balaji Mula Murthy Abhishekam
	11:00 AM	Dwara Puja
	11:30 AM	Dwara PraveshAM for devotees
	1:00 PM	Samoothika Geetha Parayanam
	4:00 PM	Lord Venkateshwara Sahasranama Homam
	6:00 PM	Archana and Theertha PrasadAM
	7:45 PM	Ekanta Seva

**New Year Day 2013**

Jan 01st Tue	7:00 AM	Shiva and Vishnu Suprabhatam
	7:30 AM	Shiva and Andal Abhishekam
	7:30 AM	Maha Ganapati Homam
	9:00 AM	Single Line Darshan Starts
	10:00 AM	Hourly Archana for all deities
	to 8:00 PM	
	9:00 PM	Balaji Ekanta Seva

**Hanuman Jayanthi**

Jan 10th Thu	8:00 AM	Lord Shiva and Lord Balaji Suprabhatam
	8:30 AM	Sundarakanda HomAM
	to 4:00 PM	
	5:00 PM	Hanuman Abhisheka
	6:00 PM	Sahasra Kadaliphala, Nagavalli
	to 7:30 PM	Dala Archana Theertha PrasadAM

**Andal (Goda) Kalyanam**

Jan 13th Sun	3:00 PM	Edukkola Utsavam
	4:00 PM	Kalyanotsavam
	5:30 PM	Thiru Veedhi Utsavam, Thiru Kalyana BhojanAM for all devotees
		Ayyappa Makara Deepa Puja
Jan 13th Sun	5:00 PM	SankalpAM, Abhishekam
	5:30 PM	Bhajans
	6:30 PM	Thaalapoli
	7:15 PM	Aarti, HarivarasanAM and Maha PrasadAM

**Thai Poosam**

Jan 26th Sat	3:00 PM	Kavadi Puja and Procession
	5:00 PM	Murugan Abhishekam
	7:15 PM	Archana and Theertha PrasadAM

**Announcements**

**DONATION OPPORTUNITIES**

<b>1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
The building will be named after the donor or donor's family.	
<b>2. KITCHEN</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>
If there is a single donor, the building will be named after the donor or donor's family. If there is no single large donor, donations are accepted from 2 donors of \$250,000 or 5 donors of \$100,000 each, with the donors' or donors' family names written on plaques determined by HCCC management.	
<b>3. LIBRARY</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>
Donations will be accepted from a single donor of \$250,000 or 5 donors of \$50,000 or 10 donors of \$25,000, with the donors' or donors' family names written on plaques determined by HCCC management.	
<b>4. NAIVEDYAM KITCHEN</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>
Donations will be accepted from a single donor of \$250,000, 5 donors of \$50,000 or 10 donors of \$25,000, with the donors' or donors' family names written on plaques determined by HCCC management.	
<b>5. ROOMS</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
Donations will be accepted from a single donor of \$100,000 or 2 donors of \$50,000, 4 donors of \$25,000 or 10 donors of \$10,000 each, with the donors' or donors' family names written on plaques determined by HCCC management. The following rooms are available for donations on a first-cum-first basis:	
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (BUILDING C): Conference Room    BOD Conference Room    Computer Media Room    Retreat Cloak Room	
KITCHEN COMPLEX (BUILDING B): Reading Room    Class Room    Meeting Room    Dressing Room (MEN) Dressing Room (WOMEN)    Storage Room 1    Storage Room 2    Storage Room 3 Prayer Rooms	
<b>6. PARKING SPACE</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
There are 240 parking spaces being prepared. Donors' or Donors' family names will be written on plaques determined by HCCC management.	
<b>7. SPONSOR-A-SQUARE-FOOT</b>	<b>\$301</b>
Donations are accepted for the Hindu Community & Cultural Center's Development Plan consisting of Library, Naivedyam Kitchen, Annadana Kitchen, Puja Rooms, Class Rooms, Multi Purpose Event Halls, Storage Rooms, etc.	
<b>8. SPONSOR-A-BRICK</b>	<b>\$51</b>
Donations are accepted for the Hindu Community & Cultural Center's Development Plan consisting of Library, Naivedyam Kitchen, Annadana Kitchen, Puja Rooms, Class Rooms, Multi Purpose Event Halls, Storage Rooms, etc.	
<b>9. INTEREST FREE LOANS</b>	<b>\$25,000+</b>
Devotees can loan HCCC interest free in multiples of \$25,000, and HCCC will repay after 3 years on a monthly basis in 5 years.	
<b>10. AUTOMATIC MONTHLY DONATIONS</b>	<b>\$51+</b>
Devotees can subscribe to monthly automatic donations of \$51 or more to cover the construction costs. Donor recognition as per HCCC's Donor Recognition Policy.	

For further details, please call 925-449-6255 Extension 3

**HINDU CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTER**  
 1200-1232 Arrowhead Avenue, Livermore, CA-94551.



## Key Events Celebrated



### Pavitrotsavam

With divine blessings, devotees of Shiva-Vishnu Temple had the privilege of celebrating annual Pavitrotsavam event in a grand way. Event started with Sankalpam, Bhoomi Pooja and Ankurarpanam . Several devotees took Deeksha for this event. On Saturday, Special abhishekam was performed for Lord Balaji, Goddess Sridevi and Goddess Bhoodevi with utmost devotion. This was followed by Pavitra Adhivaasam and Lord Balaji Sahasranama Archana. In the evening Pavitra Mantapa Alamkaram was done with pavitra malas, followed by Meru Pooja. The day's events concluded with shanti homam. Special Abhishekam for Lord Balaji Mula Moorthi was performed followed by beautiful alamkaram and pavitra Samarpanam. The three day event concluded with Shanti Kalyanam on Sunday evening.

### Sri Krishna Janmashtami

Sri Krishna Janmashtami festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm

and religious fervor at Shiva Vishnu Temple. Special 108 Kalasha abhishekam was performed for Lord Sri Krishna. Sri Krishna Ustava murthi was taken out and around the Temple in a procession followed by a special Utti Utsavam, where priests tried to reach and break the Utti (pot filled with curd/milk/butter etc) as part of weekend function. In the evening, Lord Sri Krishna was placed in specially decorated mantapam and devotee had a privilege of getting darshan of Lord Sri Krishna in the swing. Prasadam was distributed throughout the day. Special cultural programs were held in Assembly hall, where Kids performed to various Krishna leela segments. Dinner was served to all devotee's with extensive menu. Evening program started with Geeta Parayan followed by various bhajan and musical programs by Bay Area artists. Pdt. Janma Kala Pooja was performed followed by distribution of special Prasad.



### Srinivasa Kalyanam



With divine blessings, devotees of Shiva-Vishnu Temple had the privilege of celebrating Srinivasa Kalyanam event in a grand way at San Ramon Dougherty Valley High School venue. A great amount of planning went into preparing for this first time event. The support and response from devotees was immense. Devotees were spiritually elated and profoundly pleased to witness the special Kalyanotsavam. Our Temple Priests did a phenomenal job and HCCC sincerely appreciates their hard-work and commitment. Sincere appreciation is due for Pachaka Srinivasan for preparing special neivedhyam for the event. Devotees participated in this event with great devotion in huge numbers and made it successful. HCCC extends sincere thanks to all volunteers, Sponsors, Office staff who helped before, during and after the event.

### Adhika Masa Sri Vishnu Brahmotsavam

Adhika Masa Sri Vishnu Brahmotsavam event was celebrated at Shiva-Vishnu Temple. Sri Vishnu Brahmotsavam festival is one of the most important and auspicious functions celebrated at Shiva Vishnu Temple. The Brahmotsavam event was performed over a three-day period. On the start of the first day, the rite of "Ankurarpanam" (sowing of the seeds to signify fertility, prosperity and abundance) was performed. The main activity on that day was the "Dhwaja Arohanam," the hoisting of the Garuda flag at the Dhvajastambham. This signifies the commencement of the Brahmotsavam. It is believed that Garuda goes to Devalokam and invites the Devas to attend the function. During the three days of this festival, various religious activities including daily homas and processions for the utsava murthies decorated with special alamkarams on different vahanas were performed. Ont the third the event concluded in a grand way with Choorna Abhishekam (special abhishekams



for the utsava murthi) and the Sudarshana Chakra is bathed and all the devotees were sprinkled with holy water by priests. The celebration officially concluded with "Dhwajavarohanam," the lowering of the Garuda flag. The Brahmotsavam celebration provided a unique opportunity for all devotees to participate in the festivities and receive the blessings of Sri Venkateswara Swami. Special alamkarams such as Vaikuntanatha alamkaram, Sri Rama Alamkaram were spectacular to witness. Sesa Vahana, Garuda Vahana, Hanumantha vahana and Pallaki seva were also performed for deities which were a divine experience for the devotees to participate.

### Ganesha Chaturthi Celebrations

With the divine blessings of Lord Ganesha, Shiva Vishnu Temple has successfully concluded the 2012 Ganesha Chaturthi Celebrations, which began with the 21 days Abhishekam leading to Ganesha Chaturthi and

concluding with Nimajjanam. This could have not been a success if not for our Sponsors, Priests, Devotees, Volunteers, Temple Staff and HCCC Management's sincere support, commitment, effort and guidance. Pdt. Subrahmanya Sarma was the lead priest for this event and performed 21 day abhishekams with great dedication. Alamkarams were truly celestial. HCCC sincerely appreciates priests hard-work and commitment in ensuring that all Religious activities were diligently executed to perfection. Devotees were spiritually elated and profoundly pleased with the entire Ganesha Chaturthi function. Devotees performed Vara Siddi Vinayaka vratam on Ganesha Chaturthi day followed by Mooshaka Vahana Seva. Special Dhurva Archana was performed. Several devotees participated in the Nimmarjjanam event. HCCC extends its sincere gratitude to all those many volunteers who helped us throughout the month long festivities from making beautiful garlands, spectacular alamkarams, gorgeous decorations, fantastic food, parking management, transportation of the idol, setting-up for the vratams, homas and dhurva pooja, assisting the priests during the 21 days of abhishekams and 5 days of alankarams, to helping with food preparations and packing. The passion with which Volunteers helped in making this festival a great success is highly commendable. Our volunteers are the pillars of this institution and HCCC is ever grateful for your humble services.



### Annual Seniors Day

Annual senior day on 18th of August at Hindu Community and Cultural Center Human Services division is participated by enthusiastic seniors. About 70 – 80 seniors and volunteers and their families were in present to perform various entertainment activities. It lasted for three hours and



each senior was given five minutes to show their talents. They came from different back grounds ranging from many languages and work experiences. Some are citizens, some immigrants and some visitors to this country.

It started with Slokas (prayer) and the program moved on to Bhajans, music, interactive speeches and riddles by very own seniors. They spoke about will power and hard work that drives them to move on with their lives. An educational lecture on arthritis and its types and root causes with some suggestions on prevention. Program ended with a trivia on origin of Rudraksha tree and its seed and color of the fruit.

Finally the program ended with sumptuous lunch prepared and served by temple. The motto of Human Services has been "serving the community at large by making a difference in the lives of people". Senior meetings are held every second Saturday of the month.



## Articles

### Om Namashivaya Rudraksha - facts

**Item 1 -** Rudraksha (also Rudraksh : Sanskrit: rudraksha - "Rudra's eyes") is a large evergreen broad-leaved tree whose seed is traditionally used for prayer beads in Hinduism. Meaning of the word - The word Rudraksha comes from the words 'Rudra' (Shiva) and 'Aksha' (tear). Rudraksha is said to be Rudra's (Lord Shiva) gift to the mankind. Anyone who wears this bead with devotion is said to be like Rudra himself

**Item 2 - Where does it come from evergreen tree -** The seed is borne by several species of Elaeocarpus, with E. ganitrus being the principal species used in the making of a bead chain or mala . Rudraksha grows in the area from the Gangetic Plain in foothills of the Himalayas to South-East Asia, Indonesia, New Guinea to Australia, WHICH COUNTRY GROWS OR HAS MOST TREES 70% Indonesia, 25% Nepal , 5% India. What COLOR OF RUDRAKSHA FRUIT - Dark Blue

**Item 3 -** Rudrakshajabala upanishad

Bhusunda addressed Kalagni Rudra thus: 'How is the origin of the Rudrakshas, and what is the effect wearing them?'

To Him answered the Lord Kalagni Rudra. When, for the sake of destroying the Tripura (the three cities), I closed my eyes for the period of a thousand divine years. From my closed eyes drops of water fell down on the earth. Then the Eye-drops have become the great Rudraksha trees of the vegetable kingdom for the sake of blessing the devotees.

The wearing of it does remove the sin of the devotees committed during the day and the night. Seeing it produces one lac of virtues, and handling it, one crore. The wearing of it produces in man one hundred crores of virtues, the wearing and making japa of it produce in man one hundred millions of virtues.

**Item 4 -** How many Mukhi ( face) rudraksha has?

The Shastras speak of 1 to 38 mukhi beads but normally only 1 to 14 mukhis are used for astrological purposes.

According to 'Yoga Sara', spiritual attributes and powers corresponding to the gods abide in the beads according to the number of faces or mukhis. This determines the suitable mantras to be recited upon the mala and the particular value of the mala for the wearer.

Next Bhusunda addressed the Lord Kalagni Rudra. Tell me the different kinds of Rudrakshas, their nature, the result of wearing them, and also their different faces; and those that drive out evils and these that give the desired objects.

He answered: In this these are the slokas:- The One-faced Rudraksha represents the Supreme Reality. Wearing it, one, with completely controlled senses merges in the Supreme Reality. The Two-faced one, O the best of sages, represents Ardhnarisvara (the Lord with half-male and half-female form). By wearing this Ardhnarisvara always becomes pleased with him. The Three-faced one represents the three sacred fires. The fire god becomes always pleased with him who wears this. The Four-faced Rudraksha represents the four-faced Deity (Brahma). The four-faced god becomes ever pleased with him who wears this. The Five-faced Rudraksha represents the five Brahmins (Sadyojata to Isana).

The five-faced (pancha mukhi) is the most common and readily available type of rudraksha. It is worn by religious devotees, sadhus, yogis and swamis alone. It is sacred to Shiva as Kaala-asi (kalagni), destroyer of Yama, god of death. It symbolises Lord Shiva in his five aspects or panchabrahma (Sadyajata, Vamadeva, Aghora, Tatpurusha and Ishana); and is said to ward off the five heinous actions (panchamahapataka). According to Shiva Purana, 'It is lordly. It bestows all sorts of salvation and achievement of all desired objects'!

The Six-faced Rudraksha has Kartikeya (Subrahmanya) as its presiding Deity. The wearing of it brings forth a great wealth and a very good health. The wise should wear it to obtain brightness of the intellect. The great men say it has also Vinayaka as its presiding Deity.

**Item 5 -** What is shape of one mukhi rudraksha?

ONE MUKHI RUDRAKSH - half moon shape

The single faced rudraksha (ekamukhi) is considered to be the incarnation of Lord Shiva himself. According to one legend, every year Lord Shiva endows three such seeds to the world- one passes to his most precious devotee, the second to a political leader, king or statesman, while the third is kept by the Lord himself. It is rare and precious and carries the properties of all other rudrakshas. Whoever wears it will be absolved of sin, and if self-control is practised, he becomes one with the absolute (pure consciousness). It bestows both pleasure (kama) and liberation (moksha).

**Item 6 -** WHAT IS DIFFERENCE OF NEPAL VS JAVA Rudraksha

Nepal beads are large and thorny and JAVA BEADS are smaller and smoother.

Om Namah Shivaya - Om Namah Shivaya.

*Dr. Kamalashankar*

PICTURE GALLERY



Aadi Krittika



Ganesha Chaturthi - Sahasra Modaka Homam



Guru Poornima Group - Satyanarayana Vratam



Janmashtami



Pavitrotsavam



Swarna Gowri Vratam

## PICTURE GALLERY



Back to School Saraswati Puja



Ganesha Chaturthi - Program



Workshop on Ganesha idol making



Sani Peyarchi - Nava Graha Shanti Homam



Sri Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam



Srinivasa Kalyanam



Garba



Adhika Masa Brahmotsavam



Garba



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