

## President's Corner:

On behalf of the executive committee and trustees of Vedic Center, thank you for your genuine support for all the events so far this year. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all the sponsors of various religious, spiritual, and wellness activities hosted by Vedic Center.

I am very happy to report good progress in meeting our 2008 goals for **Ahimsa Hall** (listed in my message in the January newsletter); three important actions have been completed without any additional financial burden to Vedic Center.

New stage curtains have been installed, thanks to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Rakesh Agarwal of Hendersonville, North Carolina. A new sound system has been generously donated to the Vedic center by Rajnikant and Pragnya Patel of Greer, South Carolina. Three windows near the altar were replaced with compliments from Kapasi Glass Mart. I thank all these families from the bottom of my heart.

Furnishing our new and much larger kitchen facility in Ahimsa Hall still remains to be done. I request you to come forward with generous donations to help us complete this task in 2008.

You may have noticed that we have been busy doing upkeep of our temple hall; this includes a fresh coat of paint, tiles in the entrance area, kitchen, and both restrooms, and replacing some windows and blinds in the temple area. We also installed a sprinkler system this year.

Your maintenance dues are **critical** for supporting this type of routine maintenance and improvement work in our Temple.

If you have not already paid your 2008 annual maintenance dues, please consider doing so soon to help support the upkeep of our Temple.

This year, the Telugu association and Kannada association celebrated Ugadi functions in our center. We had Gurudwara at our center, and conducted several religious and spiritual discourses. This was one of my goals – to bring the whole community together; I am happy to see that it is happening more and more.

We had a very successful health fair, thanks to the efforts by Dr. Vinita Srivastava. We do appreciate and thank her for her time.

As previously announced, major planning is underway for a ten day **Ramayana Katha** event by Pujiyashree Bhupendrabhai Pandya, which will take place from **June 27<sup>th</sup> to July 6<sup>th</sup>**. There are various opportunities still available for sponsoring this event. Please see the attached flyer or log on to the Vedic Center website at [www.vediccenterofgreenville.org](http://www.vediccenterofgreenville.org) for more details.

Also planning is underway for a **senior citizen** outing on **August 10**. More details will be posted on our website. This is going to be an exciting and fun outing; please take advantage of the opportunity.

Once again I thank you for your continued support, financially and by volunteering your time to make all events successful.

V.K.Shah  
President

### SAMACHAR

#### *Email notification system*

Vedic Center has launched a new email notification system to keep you abreast of current events taking place at the Center. To subscribe to the "Samachar" email notification system please send an email to:

[subscribe@vediccenterofgreenville.org](mailto:subscribe@vediccenterofgreenville.org)

### FRIENDLY REMINDER

#### **Maintenance Dues:**

If you have not already done so, it is time to send in your annual maintenance dues of **\$101**.

Please mail your checks to:  
Vedic Center of Greenville  
P.O.Box. 5311  
Greenville, SC 29606

## Calendar of Events - 2008

Date & Time	Event	Coordinator	Tel #
June 27 - July 6, 2008 <i>Thursday - Sunday</i> Time: 6:30 p.m.	Ramkatha	Nayan & Geera Desai JP & Ila Rama Shaunak & Hema Dalal Satish & Rashmi Kinariwala Jatin & Ragini Shah	963-9774 288-1617 236-7464 292-2276 244-5545
August 10, 2008	Senior Citizen Outing	Neela Vakharia Vimla Dave Ranjan Desai	297-5311 268-6097 268-8663
Aug 24, 2008 <i>Sunday</i> Time: 9:00 p.m.	Janmastami	Purnima Patel Rashmi Kinariwala Dr. Shashi Rishi Ila Rama Geera Desai	848-1626 292-2276 877-8666 288-1617 963-9774
September 7, 2008 <i>Sunday</i> Time: 5:00 p.m.	Ganesh- Chaturthi	Saroj Rege Hema Dalal	877-9029 236-7464
September 30 - October 10, 2008 <i>Tuesday - Friday</i> Time: 8:00 p.m.	Navratri	Purnima Patel Rashmi Kinariwala Mansi Pandya Ila Rama	848-1626 292-2276 987-9954 288-1617
October 11, 2008 <i>Saturday</i> Time: 7:00 p.m.	Dashera	Mansi Pandya Ila Rama Kashmira Patel Hema Dalal	987-9954 288-1617 989-0369 236-7464
October 18, 2008 <i>Saturday</i> Time: 7:00 p.m.	Sharad Purnima	Geera Desai Purnima Patel Ragini Shah	963-9774 848-1626 244-5545
November 1, 2008 <i>Saturday</i>	Diwali Celebration	V.K. Shah	923-2624
November 8, 2008 <i>Saturday</i> Time: 6:00 p.m.	Annakut	Lata & Manubhai Patel Geera Desai	675-3802 963-9774

## Community News

### Appreciation:

Our sincere thanks to Jyoti Garg of the "Taal School of Dance," for donating **\$1,551** from the fund raising event they held over the Memorial Day weekend to benefit the Vedic Center.

### Congratulations:

Surendra and Asha Toprani on the birth of their grandson Rohan Mathew Bullard.



*Congratulations and best wishes to all the graduating seniors in our community.*

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"The best way to find  
yourself is to lose  
yourself in the service  
of others"

..... Mahatma Gandhi

\*\*\*\*\*

## Scheduled Activities:

### Daily Aarti

Mon-Fri: 8:00pm – 8:30pm  
Sat and Sun: 7:00pm – 7:30pm

**\*\*\* Volunteers are needed!!\*\*\***

To sign up for aarti, please contact:  
**Purnima Mainkar at 676-9338**

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sri Venkateshwara Suprabhatam

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat of every month: 9:00 a.m.

Contact:

Shobha Vadoothker at 268-1963

\*\*\*\*\*

### Bal Vihar

Every Sun: 11:15 a.m.- 12:30 p.m

Contact:

Shobha Vadoothker 268-1963

Aruna Chandrasekhar 322-8598

## Volunteer Clean-up Day

The **last Thursday of every month** has been set-up to clean the altar and the kitchen.

The cleaning will take place from  
**1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in helping please contact:  
**Lataben Patel at 864-675-3802.**

*Please come forward and volunteer ☺*

## **BHARAT BHRAMAN-2008 at Vedic Center**

**After the successful "A TRIP TO INDIA" Summer camp last year,  
The BHARAT-BHRAMAN team is back!**

**This year we are celebrating.....**

### **UTSAV-2008 (Festivals of India)**



<b>CAMP:</b>	<b>UTSAV 2008</b>
<b>VENUE:</b>	<b>VEDIC CENTER</b>
<b>WEEK:</b>	<b>JULY 14<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup> 2008</b>
<b>TIME:</b>	<b>1:30 PM - 5:30 PM</b>
<b>AGE:</b>	<b>Grade 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>COST:</b>	<b>\$75</b>

**For Information and Registration**  
[bharatbhramancamp@yahoo.com](mailto:bharatbhramancamp@yahoo.com)

**Camp Coordinators**  
Nirjara Pillai \_\_\_\_\_ 286 3517  
Sandhya Manian \_\_\_\_\_ 329 1797

**Important:**

Seats are Limited "First come first serve" basis only.

Completed application form and full fee are required at the time of registration.

**LAST DATE OF REGISTRATION: JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> 2008**

### **Senior Corner:**

Don't miss this exciting planning meeting for the newly formed senior Citizen group (above 55 years of age).

**Date: Sunday, June 15, 2008**

**Time: 3:00 p.m.**

**Venue: Vedic Center of Greenville**

There will be sign-up sheets for volunteers as well as a brainstorming session for activities to be planned for the next few months. Mark your calendars for **August 10<sup>th</sup>** when the senior group will visit temples in Atlanta. More details will be discussed at the first meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

For more information about the Senior Group please contact:

**Mrs. Neela Vakharia at 297-5311**

## **Upanishads – A Brief Review**

The Upanishads form the core of Hindu philosophy. They form the last section of the literature of the Veda. It is here that we find all the fundamental teachings that are central to Hinduism — the concepts of "karma" (action), "punarjanma" (reincarnation), "moksha" (nirvana), the "atman" (soul), and the "Brahman" (Absolute).

The Upanishads also set forth the prime Vedic doctrines of self-realization, yoga and meditation. The Upanishads are summits of thought on man and the universe, designed to push human ideas to their very limit and beyond. They give us both spiritual vision and philosophical argument, and it is by a strictly personal effort that one can reach the truth.

The term "Upanishad" literally means "sitting down near" or "sitting close to", and implies listening closely to the mystic doctrines of a guru or a spiritual teacher, who has cognized the fundamental truths of the universe. It points to a period in time when groups of pupils sat near the teacher and learnt from him the secret teachings in the quietude of forest "ashrams" or hermitages.

In another sense of the term, "Upanishad" means "brahma-knowledge" by which ignorance is annihilated. Some other possible meanings of the compound word "Upanishad" are "placing side by side" (equivalence or correlation), a "near approach" (to the Absolute Being), "secret wisdom" or even "sitting near the enlightened".

There are 108 Upanishads (but some sources note that there are 112 or even more than 200). 13 to 15 Upanishads date from the Vedic period and the others are later works. Ten Upanishads have been identified as presenting the core teachings. They are *Chandogya*, *Kena*, *Aitareya*, *Katha*, *Mundaka*, *Taittiriya*, *Brihadaranyaka*, *Isa*, *Prasna*, and *Mandukya Upanishads*.

One of the oldest and longest of the Upanishads, the *Brihadaranyaka* says:

***Asato Ma Sat Gamaya, Tamaso Ma Jyotir  
Gamaya, Mriyora Ma Amritam Gamaya***

*"From the unreal lead me to the real!*

*From darkness lead me to light!*

*From death lead me to immortality!"*

The crux of the Upanishads is that this can be achieved by meditating with the awareness that one's soul ("atman") is one with all things, and that "one" is the Absolute ("Brahman"), which becomes the "all".

## **Pledges for New Ahimsa Hall**

**November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 thru March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008**

The following is a list of pledges and amounts received from our generous donors and well wishers.

If you would like to contribute towards the new hall please forward your contribution to:

Vedic Center of Greenville. P.O.Box 5311. Greenville, SC 29606.

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Pledged</b>	<b>Paid</b>
Amin	Dilip & Shaila	1,001.00	1,001.00
Arashinagundi	Siddesha & Kalpana	2,000.00	1,001.00
Balasubramanyam	Krishniah & Jhanavi	12,500.00	2,001.00
Bali	Madan	101.00	101.00
Bethi	Naveen & Manjula	25,000.00	13,000.00
Bhatnagar	Jayesh & Ajanta	1,001.00	1,001.00
Bhatt	Hemang & Sumita	3,001.00	
Bumb	Amar & Raj	1,000.00	500.00
Chand	Ugal & Anita	1,001.00	
Dalal	Sonak & Hema	3,000.00	3,000.00
Damera	Sitaram Rao & Leela	3,000.00	
Dattani	Hemen & Dipali	3,001.00	501.00
Desai	Ashok & Rita	3,001.00	
Desai	Janak & Pragna	1,001.00	1,001.00
Desai	Kaushik	1,001.00	1,001.00
Desai	Vinod Bhai & Ranjan	2,001.00	1,001.00
Dodhia	Priyesh & Tejal	1,001.00	500.00
Doshi	Ravindra & Mina	3,001.00	1,001.00
Gami	Neelay & Sujata	3,001.00	1,001.00
Gandhi	Vijay & Purvi	3,001.00	
Gavurla	Bhadriah & Kusuma	2,001.00	1,001.00
Gupta	Sri Prakash & Tulsi	1,001.00	1,001.00
Jain	Surendra & Neeli	15,000.00	15,000.00
Jariwala	Hareesh	7,501.00	3,000.00
Joshi	Anoop C. & Nomita	1,000.00	500.00
Kamdar	Rashmi & Veena	3,001.00	
Karamchandani	Atu & Mamta	1,001.00	1,001.00
Kinariwala	Satish & Rashmi	3,001.00	1,000.00
Malde	Anuj & Nutan	1,001.00	501.00
Matai	Bhisham & Neelu	3,001.00	
Matai	Vinay	501.00	501.00
Mathur	Shailendra & Bharti	10,001.00	2,500.00
Mehta	Ajay & Bharati	1,001.00	1,001.00
Mehta	Prasun & Priya	10,001.00	7,000.00
Naik	Hamant & Kirti	5,000.00	2,500.00
Naik	Rakesh & Lata	3,001.00	
Ogale	Amod A. & Varada	500.00	500.00
Pandya	Ragesh D	25,001.00	5,000.00
Pandya	Rajat & Sonal	3,001.00	

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Pledged</b>	<b>Paid</b>
Parikh	Anil & Daksha	3,001.00	750.00
Parimi	Sam	2,000.00	2,000.00
Patel	Amul & Kashmira	3,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Ashok & Madhumati	3,551.00	1,001.00
Patel	Balubhai V	5,001.00	
Patel	Bhavesh & Jignaben	7,501.00	
Patel	Bhupandrabhai Manubhai	501.00	501.00
Patel	Champakbhai M	10,001.00	401.00
Patel	Devang & Sonal	500.00	500.00
Patel	Dharmesh N	7,001.00	
Patel	Dineshbhai Lallubhai	5,001.00	2,500.00
Patel	Donika & Indravadan	1,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Jagdish	1,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Jagdish & Gitabhen	1,500.00	1,500.00
Patel	Jigar & Hema	2,501.00	2,501.00
Patel	Jitendra & Damini	5,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Kalpesh & Anshuman	7,501.00	
Patel	Kamlesh & Trupti	3,001.00	1,000.00
Patel	KantiBhai & Jasuben	1,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Kaushik & Priti	25,001.00	7,500.00
Patel	Kiran & Prema	2,500.00	1,501.00
Patel	Kirit V.	1,000.00	
Patel	Mahesh P.	500.00	
Patel	Manoj G.	10,001.00	
Patel	ManuBhai & Snehalata	30,000.00	10,002.00
Patel	Mehul B	7,501.00	
Patel	Mitesh & Monica	501.00	501.00
Patel	Narendra Kumar (Nathubhai)	10,001.00	2,000.00
Patel	Nareshbhai	3,001.00	
Patel	Neetish	1,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Nitin A	1,000.00	
Patel	Pankaj Kumar & Kalpana	1,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Paresh & Varsha	500.00	
Patel	Pradip & Ranjan	1,500.00	501.00
Patel	Priyangu & Sneha	1,000.00	351.00
Patel	Rajani R.	15,001.00	
Patel	Raju A	1,000.00	
Patel	Raju B	15,001.00	3,000.00
Patel	Ramesh(Ricky) & Shankuntala	5,000.00	5,000.00
Patel	Ranchhodbhai D	501.00	501.00
Patel	Ravindra B. & Hemlata R.	5,001.00	5,001.00
Patel	Sanjay & Varsha	1,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Shiddarth	1,001.00	1,001.00
Patel	Sudhir & Neeta	25,001.00	5,000.00

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Pledged</b>	<b>Paid</b>
Patel	SumanBhai & Bhartiben	3,003.00	1,001.00
Patel	Sunil N	1,000.00	
Patel	Suresh & Urvashi	504.00	504.00
Patel	Suryakant C	501.00	501.00
Patel	Urmish & Deepti	1,001.00	
Patel	Vallabhbhai	101.00	101.00
Patel	Vijay & Alka	25,001.00	5,000.00
Patel	Vikram & Amita	3,001.00	
Patel	Vinay - Motel 6	3,001.00	3,001.00
Patel	Vinod & Jyoti	10,001.00	
Prabhoo	Naresh & Dharmishta	2,001.00	2,001.00
Prabhu	Prashant & Kaumudi	1,001.00	1,001.00
Rama	Rama Family	201,001.00	200,018.82
Rege	Arun & Saroj	1,001.00	1,001.00
Rishi	Shashi & Vijay	1,001.00	1,001.00
Rughani	Govind & Kavita	2,500.00	1,000.00
Saxena	Naveen & Vinita	25,001.00	10,001.00
Shah	Ashok & Dipika	1,001.00	1,001.00
Shah	Gautam & Saroj	3,001.00	3,001.00
Shah	Jatin & Ragini	2,001.00	1,001.00
Shah	Ketan & Ragi	3,001.00	
Shah	Namesh & Hemani	501.00	
Shah	V.K. & Neeti	1,500.00	1,500.00
Sharma	Pawan Kumar & Neeti	501.00	501.00
Singh	Harishyam	10,001.00	
Vachhani	Harsukh & Saroj	501.00	100.00
Vadhar	Parimal & Mira	2,001.00	
Vakharia	Indu & Neela	5,001.00	1,001.00
Vashi	Ramesh & Bhartiben	1,000.00	1,000.00
Vivek	Naren & Madhu	25,001.00	5,000.00
Vudathala	Venugopal & Indiradevi	1,001.00	500.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>738,842.00</b>	<b>372,874.82</b>

### Community News (continued)

#### Condolences:

Our sincere condolences to:

- Sri Prakash Gupta and family on the passing away of his brothers Mr. Chatarbhuji Gupta and Mr. Dharamchand Gupta.
- Mythili Gopal and family on the passing away of her father, Mr. V. Thirunarayanan.
- Rakshaben Desai and family on the passing away of her father Mr. Pravinkant Shah.
- Achyut Vadoothker and family on the passing away of his father Mr. Vithal Vadoothker
- Usha Bilgi and family on the passing away of her father Mr. Ajita Prasad.

Vedic Center of Greenville

Profit & Loss

January 1st, 2008 thru March 31st, 2008

1st Quarter  
2008

**Income:**

Pledge Funds Collected	26,113.00
Diwali Collections	12,000.00
Annual Maintenance Dues	9,888.00
Aarti Offerings	3,590.00
Hall & Furniture Usage Fees	3,016.00
Balaji & Shiva Abhishekam Collection	1,893.25
2008 Healthfair Collection	1,845.00
Memorial Services Collections	888.00
Ugadi Collection	750.00
Other Misc Donations	569.00
Interest Income	286.38

**Total Income** **60,838.63**

**Expenses:**

Interest Payment on Loan	17,001.94
Diwali Expense	12,069.20
Painting Labor & Supplies	5,254.65
Gas expense	3,823.87
Electricity Expense	3,108.10
Landscaping & Grounds Maintenance	2,839.00
Flooring & Tiles Replacement	2,795.62
Other Repairs & Maintenance of Premises	1,731.04
Pest & Termite Control	775.00
Garbage Pickup	606.01
Cleaning & Shampooing Furniture	550.00
Telephone	354.28
Water/Sewer	329.00
News Letter Expense & Advertising	310.95
Postage & Stationary Expense	256.60
Electrical & Plumbing Repairs	220.00
Security System & Services	195.00
Misc Expense	100.65
Supplies	91.27
Janitorial & Cleaning Expense	60.00
Bank Service Charges	5.00

**Total Expenses** **52,477.18**

**Net Income** **8,361.45**

Vedic Center of Greenville

Balance Sheet

As of March 31st, 2008

March 31st,  
2008

**ASSETS:**

Checking Account - BB&T	59,183.61
Money Market Account - Greer Bank	46,287.84
Buildings	2,057,691.60
Land	55,000.00
Audio/Video Sound Equipment	7,000.00
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	20,234.97
Idols Ornaments	15,000.00
Moorties-Marble Idols (1993)	22,000.00
Utensils	7,000.00

**Total Assets** **2,289,398.02**

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY:**

Mortgage Liability Loan	998,531.45
Opening Balance Equity	110,044.85
Members Equity	1,172,460.27
Net Income	8,361.45

**Total Liabilities & Equity** **2,289,398.02**

Comments

- ❖ These Financial Statements are for 3 months starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 thru March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008
- ❖ Pledges collected and/or Paid after March 31<sup>st</sup> of 2008 are not reflected on these financial statements
- ❖ These are **Un-audited** Financials Statements for your review, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Bharti Mathur, Treasurer @ 864-297-3133

<b><u>Executive Committee:</u></b>			<b><u>Board of Trustees</u></b>	
President	V.K.Shah	923-2624	Surendra Jain	801-2877
Vice President	Ugal Chand	292-1396	Satish Kinariwala	292-2276
Treasurer	Bharti Mathur	297-3133	Shaunak Dalal	848-4522
Secretary	Jitu Patel	640-8737	Ragesh Pandya	987-9954
Rental Coordinator	Sri Prakash Gupta	213-9904	Manubhai Patel	675-3802
Aarti Coordinator	Purnima Mainkar	676-9338		
Religious Activities	Lata Patel	675-3802		
Member	Ajay Mehta	268-8828	*****	
Member	Amar Bumb	292-0048	<b>Driving Directions to Vedic Center:</b>	
Member	Minaxi Doshi	879-4945	From I-85 & I-385, take I-385 South take Exit 34,	
Member	Mythili Gopal	213-9322	(towards Mauldin), and take a left on Bethel Drive. Vedic	
Member	Anil Patel	561-7550	Center will be on your right before the STOP sign at the	
Member	Naren Hargeshwar	371-9534	intersection of Bethel Road & Bethel Drive.	
Ex-officio	Kaushik Patel	220 1333	*****	
<b><u>Committee:</u></b>			<b>Renting Vedic Center and Ahimsa Hall:</b>	
Communications	Nutan Malde	322-0318	For all your special events and functions please book our	
Fund Raising	J.P.Rama	288-1617	new <b>AHIMSA</b> Hall. For rental rates and reservations	
Membership	Arun Rege	877-9029	please contact:	
Newcomer Coord.	Neeti Shah	627-9080	<b>Sri Prakash Gupta at (864) 213-9904</b>	
Web Designer	Paras Kinariwala	884-1199		
Wellness Coord.	Vimla Dave	268-6097		

The Vedic Center  
P.O. Box 5311  
Greenville, SC 29606

INSIDE: RamKatha Program Details