



Samachar

**JAN - FEB
2014**

Official Newsletter of the India Association of Memphis

We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.- Edith Lovejoy Pierce

Namaskar,

Happy New Year to everyone, and I hope it has gotten off to a great start. Here's hoping that all your wishes and aspirations come to fruition this year.

It is with great pleasure that I usher in this New Year as President and continue to serve the Indian community of Greater Memphis with pride. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Navin Eric and his team from last year for their excellent work and smooth transition to the current team (see sidebar for details).

It is mid-February as I write this, and we have already celebrated Republic Day. The program was well managed by IAM team 2014 and volunteers, and highly appreciated by all those who attended this event. The second major event that has been accomplished is the formation of the Youth Committee. Every year, we get exceptional teenagers applying to be part of the junior wing of IAM, and this year was no exception. We are proud to have an enthusiastic and dynamic team that plans to bring significant change to the Memphis community.

This year, the IAM team is going to attempt a few new things, and we hope there will be good community participation. One of them is the introduction of several workshops, starting with a Financial Workshop for kids and sign up details will be forthcoming by email and on our Facebook page.

We have three new trustees this year, Naveen Mamidipalli, Nataraja Krishnaraju, and Himali Kumar who bring varied talents and accomplishments to the table. Anil Nair, continuing his final year as trustee has been elected Chairman of the Board. At this time I would like to thank the outgoing trustees, Vijay Rawtani, Srinivas Damaraju, and Aparna Bhatla for their dedicated service to IAM.

One of the great things about Memphis is the cohesiveness of the community despite the relatively large Indian diaspora. Despite the fact that we all come from different regions, there is an underlying thread that binds us all, a solidarity that is not seen in larger cities of the US with bigger populations. In order to build on this and further improve this we have had meetings with the Regional organizations in order to see how we can work together to better advantage. Our goal would be to have all members of the community support IAM and have an overwhelming showing at all of the events including, of course, the IndiaFest.

We will be forming an ad-hoc committee for going over the by-law amendments that we could not attend to at the general body meeting in December 2013. Announcement for that will be forthcoming shortly.

Finally, the new website is up and running, yay! Please visit the website when you have a moment. It includes member benefits, online registration, announcements, updates, photographs and so on. Many more updates are planned in the months to come so that the IAM website becomes a valuable resource to our community. With that, I would like to sign off, reminding everyone that we have a packed, fun-filled year ahead. Be happy, be healthy.

See you all at Holi celebrations March 29th at ICCT. Details will be communicated by email, on Facebook and on the IAM website.

Manjit Kaur
IAM President -2014

Executive Committee:

- President: **Manjit Kaur**
- Vice President: **Anil Karuhatty**
- Secretary: **Simanti Chatterjee**
- Treasurer: **Anil Menothu**

Committee Members:

- Co-Vice President: **Leena Wagle**
- Marketing Advisor: **Huzefa Mamoola**
- Marketing Director: **Leena Wagle**
- Youth Director: **Anurag Pagoria**
- Sports Director: **Vishal Chheda**
- Chief Editor: **Maya Nair**
- IT Advisor: **Sridhar Sunkara**
- IT Director: **Kuldeep Sharma**
- Creative Director: **Sravanthi Peruru**
- Media Director: **Srinivas Posinasetty**

Board of Trustees:

- **Anil Nair – Chairperson**
- **Himali Kumar ***
- **Naveen Mamidapalli ***
- **Nataraj Krishnaraju ***

Upcoming Events:

- **Youth Financial & Leadership Workshop - Mar 22**
- **Holi Celebration - Mar 29**

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From The Editor's Desk



After weeks of anticipation and preparation, we present to you the first issue of Samachar for 2014. The year 2013 has become a memory that we can revisit only in photographs. 2014 brings a New Year that gives us another chance for a new beginning. It gives an opportunity to start with a clean slate, to look into the future, aim a little higher and try with all our hearts to do something remarkable. Life is a constant trial and every new year can be used as an excuse to rejuvenate our inner self, try to iron out the crinkles and patch up the torn places in our lives.

In an attempt to write the first perfect letter from the editor, I have 5-6 different drafts floating around but nothing so far has pleased me. Sometimes I have no idea what I am doing. But I guess it's okay to be clueless as long as you are learning and figuring out how to get there. And that is among my goals for this year: Learn, grow, and evolve into a better person. Laugh more and lecture less. Be kinder and more forgiving.

In the midst of gathering reading materials for Samachar, I am beginning to understand what an honor it is to be here and to be a part of this endeavor. It is a huge challenge to follow footsteps of those dedicated people who started it and those who carried it forward. At the same time I feel proud and excited to be leading it. I believe I have taken a small step towards one of my goal by being Chief Editor which gives me the opportunity to meet and work with new people and learn new skills.

Remember this is your newsletter. We are actively soliciting input because Samachar needs you! You the reader should consider becoming an author and share your discoveries and thoughts with our community. Without member contributions, there's nothing worth printing. It can be anything from achievements like graduation, wedding, career/academic excellence or any other news that you would like to share with our community. With that said it is my deepest wish: send something perfect for me, please.

Meanwhile, I hope you enjoy reading this issue and celebrate all the wonderful people who contributed to it. Please feel free to send across any suggestions or feedback to help us improve. This is your organization and you can make it better. Tell us about something you'd like to see in Samachar, whether it be news, achievement, or insider info on Memphis happenings.

Thank you for the privilege to serve you.

Sincerely,

Maya Nair

IAM BY-LAW CHANGES and AD-HOC COMMITTEE

As a member of IAM, you are invited to send your suggestions for by-law changes or become a part of the ad-hoc by-law committee. This ad-hoc committee will have the responsibility for reviewing the existing and proposed changes to the by-laws.

In order to be a part of ad-hoc committee, we suggest that the member:

- be an IAM Life member,*
- should have served IAM as a Trustee or as a part of Executive Committee or have background/Leader in legal or other related fields,*
- should have some knowledge of "not-for-profit organizations" rules and regulations.*

Please reply to Trustees.iamemphis@gmail.com by March 22, 2014.

2014 Event Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Location
IAM			
Republic Day Celebrations	Jan 26	2:30-5:30 pm	Bert Ferguson
Youth Financial & Leadership Workshop	Mar 22	10:00-12:00 pm	Collierville Library - Halle Room
Holi Celebrations	Mar 29	1:00- 5:00 pm	ICCT
National Civil Rights Museum Parade	Apr 5	9:30- 10:45 am	Cooks Convetion Center
Self-Defence Workshop for Women/Teens	Apr 19	11:00- 12:00 pm	Karate 612 Poplar Av, Collierville
Special GBM IAM By-Law Amendments	TBD		Cordova Community Center
Sports Events	Mar-Nov		
Independence Day Celebrations - An event by Youth committee	Aug 17	3:00 - 6:30pm	Longinotti Auditorium
IndiaNight (India Unlimited-Diwali Special)	TBD		White Station Auditorium
Seva	Oct 11	10:00 - 4:00 pm	ICCT
IndiaFest	Nov 1	10:00- 7:00 pm	Agricenter
General Body Meeting	Dec 6	1:00 - 4:00 pm	Cordova Community Center
MidSouth Punjabi Heritage Foundation (MSPHF)			
Baisakhi	Apr 26		
Tian Festival	Jul 26		
Picnic	TBD (Sep)		
Kids Workshop	TBD (Oct)		
Malayalee Association of Memphis			
Movie Night	Feb 10	7 pm	
Sports Day	Apr 5	11am-3pm	
Vishu Easter Program	May 10	10am-4pm	
5K Run	TBD May		
Mid South food Bank	Jul 12	9am - 12 noon	
Onam Program	Sep TBD		
Xmas Celebrations	Dec TBD		
General Body Meeting	TBD (Dec)		
ICCT			
Vasantotsavam celebrations	Apr 12-14		
Narasimha Temple & Pushkarni Prathista	June 11-15		
Krishna Janmastami	Aug 16/17		
Ganesh Chaturthi	Aug 29		
Navaratri/Brahmotsavam	Sep 24 -Oct 3		
Vijaya Dashami	Oct 3		
Memphis Marathi Mandal			
Gudhi Padva (Marathi new year)	Apr TBD		
Ganesha Chaturthi	Sep TBD		
Diwali Celebrations	Nov TBD		
Mid South Tamil Sangam (MSTS)			
Chitirai Gallata	Apr TBD		
Drama (Tentative)	May TBD		

We will duly communicate detailed updates by e-mail, on our website and on our Facebook page ahead of each event

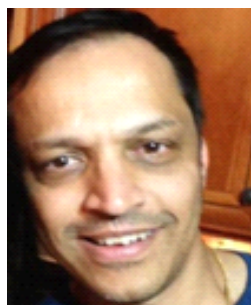
Our event calendar can also be found at: <http://www.iamemphis.org/>

An Introduction - 2014 Executive Committee



PRESIDENT: MANJIT KAUR

Dr. Manjit Kaur, her husband Dr. Sridhar Shankar and their kids Nikita and Rohan moved to Germantown 4 years ago from Boston. Manjit is a former Research Scientist DFCI, Harvard Med-School, and currently contribute part time at Methodist Healthcare. She has also worked as a radio announcer, a theater artist, hosted programs in India. She was the president of MS Punjabi Heritage Foundation 2012-13, vice-president IAM 2013 and was actively involved in IndiaFest 2012/2013. She enjoys painting, gardening, martial arts, and maintains a cooking blog (blog-zaikabharat.blogspot.com). Manjit and Sridhar are also skilled in artistic woodwork, and donate their creations to charitable causes.



VICE PRESIDENT: ANIL KARUHATTY

Anil Karuhatty, a resident of Lakeland, lives with his wife Saikrupa and 3 wonderful children (2 boys and 1 girl). Originally from Mysore, Karnataka, Anil has been associated with India Association for a few years as a volunteer. He is a professional Musician and Mrudangam player. He has been performing since the age of 8 and has been a part of a professional music group. Anil is excited to be part of IAM as Vice-President and looks forward to the opportunity to serve our community.



SECRETARY: SIMANTI CHATTERJEE

Simanti has called Memphis home since 2009. Dance is her "shortcut to happiness". She started learning Indian Classical Dance at the age of 3, and over the last 20 years she is trained in Odissi, Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Thangta Martial Arts and Shiamak Davar's Bollywood Style. She won a National Scholarship in Odissi from the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in 2003 and has been an active performer in India & US. Simanti loves teaching dance to her kiddie students and is a voracious reader, blogger & movie-buff. She works for Syntel Inc. as a Project Manager. She was the Cultural Director of IAM 2013 Team, and seeks to contribute to the community in every little creative way.



TREASURER: ANIL MENOTHUPARAMBIL

Anil Menothuparambil hails from Thrissur, Kerala. He is married to Hemalatha and have two cute kids Naidhrua and Srihavish. He has been in Memphis from last 14 years and has been involved with various non-profit organization as a volunteer or board member. He has previously served IAM as treasurer in 2012. He is once again looking forward to the opportunity to server our community through IAM.



CO-VICE PRESIDENT AND MARKETING DIRECTOR: LEENA WAGLE

Mumbai-girl, Leena Wagle, moved to Memphis after her graduate studies in 2005. Leena has a passion for dance, music and performing arts. She has volunteered at several IAM events since 2005 and also has performed at several diversity events like the River arts festival, Mid-South fair and the Pink Palace museum. When not rehearsing for the next performance, she designs and implements software of FedEx Services. A very passionate Indian at heart, she loves watching movies, reading and going for long drives. Leena's world is ruled by a very handsome boy, who has her heart, a very sweet and energetic 2 year old, Shree.

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An Introduction - 2014 Executive Committee

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MARKETING ADVISOR: HUZEFA MAMOOLA

Huzefa's experience of serving the Indian community in Memphis began with volunteering as a Marketing lead for India Fest 2010, which helped him complement the marketing theory he was learning during MBA. The fun, energy and the challenges of that experience led him to volunteer as a Marketing Director for India Fest 2011/2012 and Marketing Director for IAM 2013.



YOUTH DIRECTOR : ANURAG PAGORIA

Anurag Pagoria, originally from Agra, moved to Memphis 2 years back from Mumbai when his wife's company deputed her to Memphis. Their 5 yr old son Aryaman is studying at Lausanne. A resident of Germantown, Anurag works with T- mobile as Store Manager while working on his own startup on the side called MobiZoop, cross platform mobile messaging app for android & iOS. Anurag has been active in social and cultural activities all his life. He was a part of his college youth wing. Also was a volunteer at the Anna Hazare Jan Lokpal movement. Anurag is very excited to be a part of the Youth Committee of the IAM.



SPORTS DIRECTOR : VISHAL CHHEDA

Vishal Chheda, originally from Bombay (Bandra), did his Engineering from Bombay University in Electronics & Telecommunications and been working in US since 2000. He moved to Memphis in 2002 from Orlando and since then is working for FedEx as Business Advisor. He is married to Premlata, lives in Germantown and has a 9 yr old daughter Anjali studying in Dogwood Elementary. He is passionate about sports. At present he is a committee member of Memphis Cricket Club and Arkansas-Tennessee Cricket League and is looking forward to help raise Cricket awareness among Memphians.



CHIEF EDITOR : MAYA NAIR

Maya along with her husband Anil Nair, have been involved in Regional and IAM events since she moved from Mumbai 10 years ago. The Cultural Circuit has known Maya for a while for her choreographing talent. Her pass time lets her contribute articles for Samachar while volunteering for a charity's website as web master. Juggling her time between the role of a busy mother of two little kids Aditi and Aniket, and working at CTSI, Maya still finds time to devote to dancing as her hobby and being Chief Editor of IAM.



IT ADVISOR : SRIDHAR SUNKARA

Sridhar loves technology strategy and innovation. With 16 plus yrs of experience under his belt, he assists businesses in creating a technology road map. Sridhar's love for innovation does not stop there: he co-founded Launch Memphis and is a Mentor for Seed Hatchery. He also co-founded eBiz Solutions, is the Board Chair for Clean Memphis, a board member for Healthy Memphis Common Table, Start Co., and Sales & Marketing Society of Mid-South. He is also a Mentor at NEXUS (a mentor/protégé driven leadership program). He previously served on the board of NEXUS and MPACT Memphis. Sridhar is constantly working on ways to better the community.

An Introduction - 2014 Executive Committee

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IT DIRECTOR : **KULDEEP SHARMA**

Kuldeep came to the US in the Fall of 2010 for his Masters at University of Memphis. He is from Delhi, did his undergrad from Bangalore and worked there for 2.5 years. For past 2 years, he has been working for FedEx and since then he has been an active volunteer for India Fest. Kuldeep is excited at the opportunity to be able to support the IAM events as IT Director for the 2014.



CREATIVE DIRECTOR : **SRAVANTHI PERURU**

Relatively a newbie to Memphis, our Creative head, Sravanthi Peruru, is a Technical analyst by day, a wife, a home maker, an artist (she does acrylics on canvas), a home decor/DIY enthusiast round the clock and an active volunteer at the animal shelters. She moved to Memphis almost a year and a half ago after getting married to Maheshwar Nareddy. She is very excited to be a part of IAM 2014 team and feels privileged to have an opportunity to serve the Indian community in Memphis.



MEDIA DIRECTOR : **SRINIVAS POSINASETTY**

Srinivas is known for his photography talents and has been an active volunteer with IAM and Telugu Association of Memphis. He has been living with his family in Memphis for past 13 years. He loves photography and was a member of Media team for Indiafest 2013. This year he serves IAM board as Media Director and we look forward to seeing precious moments captured through his lenses.

2014 IAM YOUTH COMMITTEE



Congratulations to the new Youth Team!! We are looking forward to an increased level of Youth Committee activities this year. If you are a student interested in joining the IAM Youth Committee as a Volunteer, please contact us.

Also, calling all youth to contribute in any way you can, be it write, paint, draw or any achievement worth a mention to be showcased in IAM Newsletter.

Send your entries to mayamn78@yahoo.com

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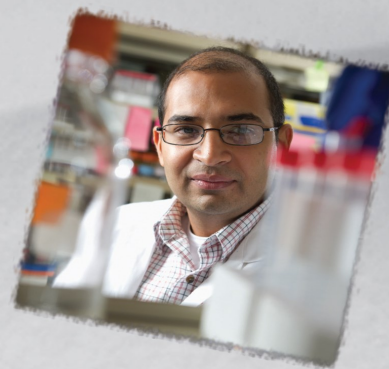
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MEET OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The IAM Family welcomes three new members to our Board of Trustees - Himali Varshney Kumar, Naveen Mamidipalli and Nataraja Krishnaraju. Anil Nair was elected Chairman of the Board for 2014. We are sure their talents will strengthen our team as we move forward and grow stronger in the coming year.



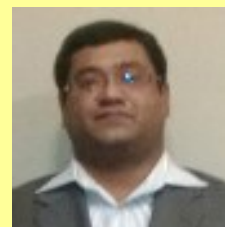
Himali Varshney Kumar



Naveen Mamidipalli



Nataraja Krishnaraju



Anil Nair

Congratulations to all the members of the board and we wish them all the best in their roles.

Become an IAM Member Today!

When you become a member, you support all events and activities that IAM organizes and at the same time gain a better perspective of our community as an individual or as a family, and simultaneously help the community to remain connected and united. For those of us with kids, IAM provides many opportunities to express their talents and expose them to Indian culture.

You can become a member at <http://iamemphis.org/User-Login>

Membership Fees:

Annual - Family \$20

Life - Family \$200

Annual - Individual \$15

Life - Individual \$150

Annual - Student Individual \$5

IAM provides social, networking, community and cultural development and other services for all its members. There are numerous round the year events for Indian community to stay in touch with the Indian Culture & Heritage like:

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- **INDIA REPUBLIC DAY**
- **HOLI**
- **INDIA NIGHT/ DIWALI SPECIAL**
- **INDIA FEST**
- **INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY**
- **SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS**



India Association of Memphis

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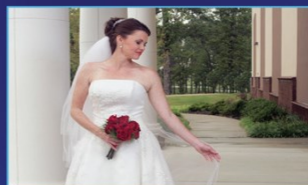
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"Quit India and Aam Aadmi in the Indian Scene"



By C. P. Chandra Das

C.P. Chandra Das is a former visiting professor at IIT Chennai



AAM AADMI

On the Republic day, my memory goes back. I now recall the QUIT INDIA slogan of the father of our nation on 8th Aug 1942 at Bombay. I am now comparing the AAM AADMI slogan linked to the party formed by ARAVIND KEJRIWAL on Gandhiji's birthday in the year 2012 and named as AAP on 24th Nov 2012. Both the slogans electrified the Indian population. The former aimed at ending the foreign rule in India. The latter focusses on purifying the nation by ending corruption at all levels in India. Quit India definitely served its purpose on 15th Aug 1947. Will the AAM AADMI slogan of 2012 help the most populous democracy in the world?

QUIT INDIA

It was on August 8 of 1942, the father of our nation moved the Quit India resolution, based on the support of the Indian National Congress, at Bombay. He did it for the freedom of our land. The United Kingdom was in the midst of World War 2, facing the challenge of Adolf Hitler. President Roosevelt and several countries were with the UK in the war against Nazism. Mahatmaji gave the call to the people of India to get rid of the foreign power through a civil disobedience movement, based on nonviolence. The Congress then was the greatest nationalist party in India. The Muslim league did not

toe the same line. The civil servants were with the foreign regime. The British Govt. took the challenge, in spite of the huge support to the Mahatma, and suppressed the movement by arresting all the leaders and more than one lakh followers at the national level. The president of USA was Roosevelt at that point of time. He advised the British Govt. to pay heed to the national sentiments. The conservative Govt. in office in UK did not yield to the sober advice of an important ally, and the struggle in India continued, while the leaders were in prison. It is true; there was a mild setback for the movement for the time being, but not in the long run. The British Govt. saw the writing on the wall and found that their dominance could not continue. The war ended when Winston Churchill was in office, and he had to quit office after the war. The successor Labor Govt. took steps to fulfill the aspirations of the Mahatma and the People of India, and our country became free on 15th August 1947. The movement was based on the principles of AHIMSA and even world leaders like Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King followed the same approach in their struggles in Africa and America. Mahatmaji's values have withstood the test of time till date.

This slogan is of recent origin. The slogan gives importance to the common man. These words have been linked to the political party formed by Aravind Kejriwal, a follower of ANNA HAZARE, who organized a people's movement, since 2011 to put an end to large scale corruption in India. His call again electrified the people of India. He adopted the same approach followed by Mahatmaji in struggles to eradicate the evil of corruption. He wanted the government to place in the statute book, a law, and as a crusader went on an indefinite fast in April 2011 and DEC 2013. The Govt. agreed for the legislation and he ended the fast. There was delay on legislation, and he again went on fast, aggrieved by the stand of the Government. The government passed the legislation and he called off the fast, confident of a change. In the meanwhile, Aravind Kejriwal, one of his followers, formed a political party on Gandhiji's birth day in 2012, and named the party as AAM AADMI party on 24th Nov 2012.

Anna Hazare was against the formation of a political party, and he did not approve of the same as well. In the recent elections, the AAP won 28 seats to the Delhi legislature, and AAP has formed the Govt., with the backing of the Congress party. (Continued ...)

"Quit India and Aam Aadmi in the Indian Scene"

continued...

The AAP wave is spreading to other parts of the country as well. He is now playing the role of administrator and agitator for the realization of his dreams. Very recently he called himself an anarchist as well, and he went on a dharna, which has become a constitutional issue in the Supreme Court of India. Will the AAM AADMI slogan stand the test of time and help the nation? The whole country is watching the day to day developments at Delhi.

THE RELEVANCE AND THE DIFFERENCE

Both the slogans are based on the Gandhian doctrine of nonvio-

lence. The Quit India struggle was to get rid of a foreign power. The AAM AADMI slogan is to purify the country as a whole. Both the concepts should stand the test of time. There is great relevance for both the doctrines. The aims are lofty. The Quit India movement finally was a success, and the British Govt. finally agreed to "liquidate their own empire". Will the AAP, in the role of administrator and agitator, be in a position to win the race in the present scenario, within the parameters of law, when their own friends do not completely agree with the ministers in office, on certain decisions taken by these ministers? People are silently watching the ministers at

every stage. If the ministers of the party can put an end to corruption, it is good. Will the AAP ministers be in a position to get the financial resources to bring about a Himalayan change to benefit the common man in the state of Delhi and translate this into action on a long term basis to fulfill the high expectations of the people? Will the government be in a position to halt the social crimes against women? There will be other questions as well. We will have to wait and watch. AAP will have to provide the answers.



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Baking soda – ¼ tsp
Salt -½ tsp
Sugar – ¾ cup
Dark Chocolate chips/chunks – ¼ cup
Chopped walnuts and pecans – ½ cup
Vanilla essence – 1 tsp



Cookies

Method:

Mix all ingredients in a mixing bowl. Pre heat oven to 350° F. Line a baking tray with parchment paper. Make 2" balls of the mixture and flatten into patties on the parchment paper. Allow space between cookies as they expand on baking. Bake for 15 minutes. Let them cool for about 45 minutes when the cookies will have a soft inside and crunchy outside texture. If you like it to have a texture like crunchy granola-chocolate bars, bake a little longer.

Recipe courtesy: Deepika Konakanchi

Deepika believes in healthy and holistic living. She is a volunteer for the Art of Living foundation and teaches Meditation, Sudharshan Kriya and vegetarian cooking for the Memphis community. Contact her at deep-ikak@artofliving.org if interested in Art of Living's Happiness program or Vegetarian cooking classes.



IAM NEWSLETTER "SAMACHAR"



FREQUENCY CHANGE

In the past years, IAM newsletters were issued bimonthly, or 6 issues in a year and were mailed out to IAM members every two months. In an effort to contain costs, we suggest that from now on the newsletters be published every 3 months, so there will 4 issues in a year.

Please send your feedback and suggestions to ec.iamemphis@gmail.com by March 22, 2014

HARDCOPY vs SOFTCOPY

Also, starting this year, would you prefer reading the newsletter online (on IAM website and emailed to members) or continue receiving a hard copy?

Please send your feedback and suggestions to ec.iamemphis@gmail.com by March 22, 2014

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Leaders of Tomorrow - 2014 Youth Committee



PRESIDENT: SWATHI GANESH

Swathi Ganesh is a junior at Collierville High School. She is the Vice President of the Speech and Debate team, former Vice President of the IAM Youth Committee, a member of 'National Honors Society' & 'ACT 30 & above club', and an anchor for her school's morning TV show. She is also involved in Key Club and helps Alzheimer's patients at Page Robbins Adult Day Care Center. She aspires to become a pediatrician and is excited to serve as the Youth Committee President. Her goal is to get youth members more involved in IAM in a way that gives back to the community.



VICE PRESIDENT: SIDDHARTH NAIR

Siddharth Nair is a junior at Christian Brothers High School and a LaSallean Scholar. He is an Eagle Scout, the President of CBHS International Club, a member of the 'National Spanish Honor society', 'Fencing team', 'Knowledge Bowl team', Science and Math Team. His dream is to work in the field of Neurosurgery and help find cures for life-threatening diseases. He is involved in several Community Service programs and would like to contribute his time and effort for the betterment of the community. He plans to take the IAM youth committee to a higher platform to launch service projects and make an impact in the Memphis community.



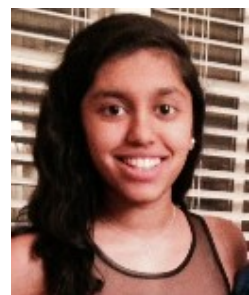
CO-VICE PRESIDENT: SAI-PRANAV DWARAMPUDI

Sai is a junior at Collierville High. He is active in BETA Club, Junior Engineering Technical Society (logistics leader), Health Occupational Sciences Association, Mu Alpha Theta, Youth Leadership Collierville, National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, Model UN, Key Club, UNICEF, Knowledge Bowl, and Tennis. He also devotes his time on weekends to volunteer at the Indian Cultural Center and Temple, and during the summer volunteers at the Baptist Memorial Hospital. He wants to be a cardiologist and is working on that goal by shadowing various doctors in Memphis.



SECRETARY : SAI MANIKONDA

Sai is a junior at Germantown High School. He spends his idle time by volunteering, playing, and watching movies. Sai is in various clubs in school including international club and Student Government Association. He likes to hang out with his friends and have fun during weekends. Sai wants to be in IT as it is his main interest. His main goal this year for IAM is to get more youth involved in IAM events.



JOINT SECRETARY : SWATHI PRASAD

Swathi will be a Junior in next school year. She is a people person, athletic, fun to be around. She has an older sister at Rhodes college and a younger brother at Bailey station. Both her parents work at FedEx.

Leaders of Tomorrow — 2014 Youth-Committee

continued...



COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIRECTOR: **VIDUSHI SINHA**

Vishushi is a junior in the IB Program at Germantown High. She is an extrovert, and a detail oriented person. Her hobbies include painting, running, cooking, and playing soccer, guitar and flute. She is proud to be a part of National Science Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, Model UN, Medical Club, International Club, Germantown Giving Group, Beta Club, etc. She wants to use her optimistic attitude to her advantage and hopes to spread awareness and instill within Memphians a sense of curiosity in the rich Indian culture.



IT DIRECTOR : **RAHUL DAMARAJU**

Rahul Damaraju is a junior at Houston High School and is very passionate about the volunteer work. He is a member of the Latin Club and is an athlete with participation in swimming, tennis, basketball, and cricket. He plays trombone in his School Honor Band. His goal is to develop finesse in organization skills, task management and help the community thru the youth committee.



SPORTS DIRECTOR : **VISHWESH RAVVA**

Vishwesh is a freshman at White Station High School. He has volunteered in various IAM events and for organizations like AAICT. He enjoys Indiafest and admires the amount of work that goes into it, from peers and adults alike. Vishwesh enjoys meeting and working with people. Some of his interest includes tennis, reading, public speaking and debate.



YOUTH EDITOR AND SPORTS CO-DIRECTOR : **SREE BOYELLA**

Sree Boyella is a junior attending White Station High School. At school, he is the current president of community service club and an officer in Model UN. He was the vice-president of his freshman class, the commissioner of publicity on the executive board of student council last year, and has held many other leadership positions through high school. He plays tennis for his school and loves watching and playing all sports from basketball to cricket.



CULTURAL TEAM : **KAVYA JAWABNAVIS**

Kavya is a freshman at White Station High School. She is the class vice president of Student Council and cherishes leadership positions. She loves dance and is very happy to be serving as a part of the cultural team. Dance and music lets her stay connected to the Indian cultural roots. She loves all kinds of dances but has been training in kuchipudi for past 6 years. As a little child she anxiously waited to perform for India Fest and India Night. She hopes to increase the involvement of youth and give them more opportunities to show off their talent while being connected to their culture.



CULTURAL TEAM : **ANJALI SINDHUVALI**

Anjali Sindhuvali is a freshman at Houston High school. Apart from being a member of the International Club, HOSA, National Honor Society, Speech and Debate, French Club, Honors Academy, Anjali takes interest in Carnatic music, yoga, oil paintings and loves dancing Kuchipudi, Kathak, and Bollywood. She hopes to bring new ideas to the IAM table.

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Republic Day 2014 - Flashback

-Maya Nair

IAM celebrated the 65th Republic day at the Bert Ferguson Community Center on Sunday, Jan 26th 2014, which was the same date as India's constitution first took effect. Below is the recap of the evening through my eyes.

More than 350 people attended the event which has been the best turnout ever for Republic Day as the event is organized in a very short span of time by the new team. We applauded the support shown to us and salute the spirit.

Around 85 kids participated in the Cultural Performances, Poster and Fancy Dress Competitions. We were delighted to see the parents encouraging their kids to contest. This was an opportunity for kids to con-

nect with their culture, know the values and history of the country from where their parents come from.

Kids proudly walked through the door with artistic masterpieces. Spectrum of colorful posters decorated with paint, crayons, glitters and collage screamed creativity at its best and provided well needed patriotic décor for the auditorium. Many Indian personalities like Mother Teresa, Jhansi ki Rani, Gandhi family, Kejriwal, Milkha Singh and even Sachin Tendulkar visited us in Fancy Dress Parade. It was a treat to watch the kids get immersed in the character they portrayed. Huge smile engulfed the faces of the audience watching these kids perform with ease. I am sure the

judges had a hard time in making a decision.

The program was emceed by Achint Choudhary and Saie Ganoo. There were national anthems, group songs, and dance performances. The evening ended with prize distribution ceremony where the winners were given certificates, trophies and goody bags from Eye Level Learning Center.

Although we couldn't reward first place to all, but definitely assure you that children have won hearts and appreciation of everyone present at the event. Kudos goes to all the participants who took on the stage in confidence. Special thanks to Eye Level Learning Center for sponsoring the gifts to the participating kids. (Continued...)



Republic Day 2014 - Flashback

...continued

Big Congratulations go out to the winners of Poster and Fancy Dress competitions:

Poster Competition	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Group A - 6-9 years old	Aanya Kabra	Anjali Cheddha	Aditi Nair
Group B - 10-13 years old	Ridha Mirza	Kriti Bomb	Nikita Iyer
Fancy Dress Competition	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Group A - 1- 5 years old	Shanaya Bokharna	Alayna Eric	Anvi Sampat
Group B - 1 - 5 years old	Sharav Shyam	Shree Pednekar	Aaron Dsouza
Group C - 6-12 years old	Kartik Bonb	Sachi Shyam	Alyssa Eric

Special thanks to all the volunteers who came early to help with setup, during the program and also stayed back to help clean up the premises. Above all, thanks to all the participants and their choreographers/coordinators who put efforts in providing us entertainment. To all who could make it to the event, we thank you for spending the evening with us.

Let us continue to strive to keep our cultural identity in the United States. Jai Hind !!

ANNOUNCEMENT

Anjali Pednekar-Hirurkar, trustee since 2012, has resigned from the 5 member board due to other time constraints this year. During her 2 years as the trustee, she worked with the Technology track and strived to get a better online presence for IAM. She feels satisfied with the progress made and wishes the best for IAM board.

IAM ANNUAL SPORTS EVENTS 2014

What does it take to conduct a successful Sports event in Memphis? It takes many things, including the right mix of people, money, and of course many teams of athletes. And it takes a driven Sports Director to lead the efforts. Our Sports Director Vishal has come up with comprehensive plans to raise the awareness of Indian sports among Memphians. He plans to introduce "MPL—Memphis Premier League" for the first time and requests participation from all organizations to make it fun and success. Some events may have already started by the time this newsletter gets to you, but you will still be able to register for the rest. Please visit IAM website at www.iamemphis.org and click on sports for more details.

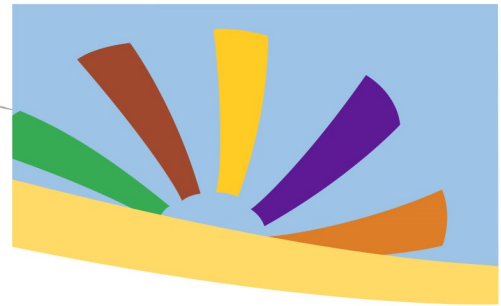
Event	Date	Time	Location
IAM			
Table Tennis	Mar 22- Mar23	9:00am-1:00pm	Hickory Hill Community Center
Tennis	Jun 17-Jul 20	6:00 - 9:00pm	LOG/G'town Pickering Center
Volleyball	Jun 28-Jul 29		LOG/G'town Pickering Center
Carrom, Chess	Jul 26- Jul 27	10:00 - 4:00 pm	Cordova Community Center
Cricket (Tennis Ball Tournament)	Aug 9-Aug 17	10:00- 7:00 pm	Hickory Hill Ground
Cricket (Women's Tennis Ball Tournament)	Aug 9-Aug 17	1:00 - 4:00 pm	Hickory Hill Ground
Cricket (Memphis Premier League)	Aug 23-Nov 16		Hickory Hill Ground & W.J Freeman Park

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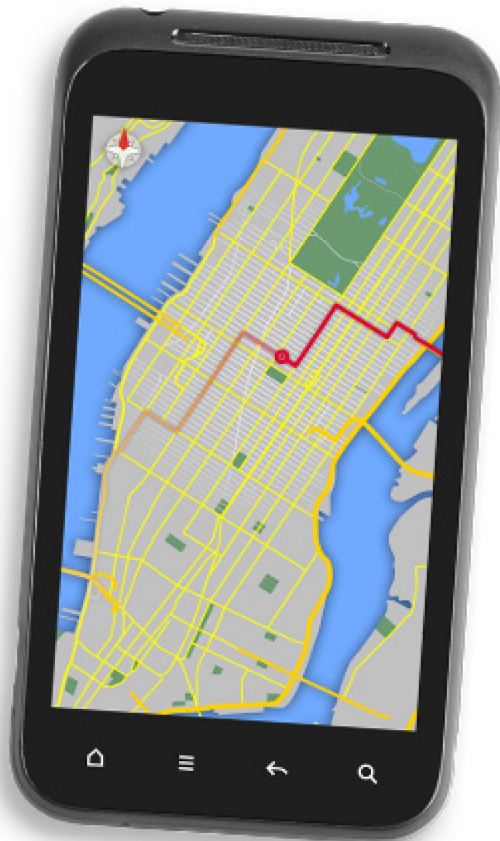
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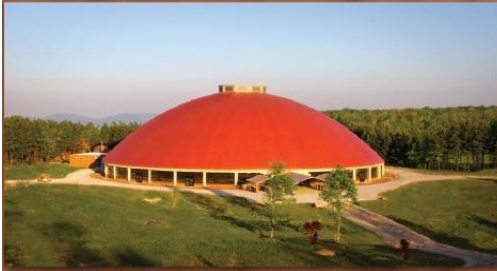
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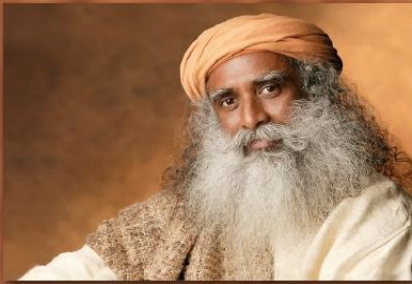
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