



**INDIA COMMUNITY RELIGIOUS &
CULTURAL CENTER, INC. (ICRCC)**
P.O. BOX 387 DEWITT, NY 13214
<http://www.icrcc.org/>
Founded 1985

Newsletter - February, 2007

President's Message

BOARD (2006-2007)

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I am honored for being elected as the President of ICRCC for the period 2006-2007. I am aware of the responsibility placed on me and I shall sincerely try to discharge it to the best of my ability and hopefully, to the satisfaction of the members of the community.

The success of an organization depends on the support extended by the members. I appeal to all the members of the community to lend us your active support in our endeavors. When one of us approaches you for assistance in specific tasks, on behalf of the board I request you to enthusiastically volunteer your services.

We are in the planning stages of the activities for this year. The different programs identified so far are given later in the newsletter. We are aware that ICRCC can expand its programs. If you would like to add any project please feel free to discuss it with one of the board members.

Membership is one of the keys to our success. Pratap Reddy has volunteered to take over the responsibility of membership coordinator from me. Please extend you support to him. If you have not already become a member please do so now.

On behalf of the board, I would like to express our thanks to the past members of the board and to all those who helped us in our activities last year.

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to work with a great group of people.

With best wishes for a Great New Year

N.V. Suryanarayana

ICRCC 2006 General Body Meeting Minutes

The General Body meeting was held on December 8, 2006 at the Manlius Library.

1. Ramarao, President presented the annual update.
2. Naresh Patel, Treasurer, presented the year-end balances of accounts, which resulted in a net earning of \$16,560.50 from investments and other sources.
3. On behalf of Suryanarayana, Membership Coordinator, Ramarao presented the membership report.
4. Jagannadha Rao Kandula, Secretary, conducted the elections for open positions on the board. For the four vacant positions three nominations were received. Pratap Reddy, N.V. Suryanarayana, and Ramana Adavikolanu were unanimously elected.
5. Atul Maini volunteered to chair the Building Fund Drive Committee to facilitate to have our own building. The Committee members are Pratap Reddy, Charu Saini, Ramesh Goankar, and Naresh Patel. Others - Dilip Bhole, Ravi Seth, Ravi Dabir, Mala Pal, Seetharam Malavalli, Lakshmi Kaveti, Umesh Patil - will be included as needed.
6. Pratap Reddy and Ramana Adavikolanu volunteered to be the Membership Coordinator and Web Administrator respectively.
7. Rekha Balaji updated about Inter Religious Council of CNY (IRC). Members strongly felt that ICRCC should support the IRC activities. Initial agreement is to donate 10 welcome kits, worth \$50 each, to the new immigrants. It was also suggested that we should collect used materials to support IRC. ICRCC will be represented on the IRC board. Rekha Balaji is our current representative.
8. Suryanarayana will continue to be the Newsletter Editor. Efforts will be made to increase the number of advertisements in the newsletter.
9. Ramesh Gaonkar suggested forming an ad-hoc committee for investment decisions.
10. Naresh Patel will enquire about auto-calling system and present the results to the board.



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Advertisement

Coronary Disease Among south Asian (Indians): A Call for Action
By Dr. Shakti Mookherjee, Professor of Medicine (Cardiology)

The other day I saw in my Cardiology Clinic a 26-year old student who had recently suffered a large heart attack and was successfully treated with coronary angioplasty and placement of a stent in one of his major coronary arteries at the University Hospital. Coronary disease affects Indians at an earlier age than among their non-Indian counterparts. Another news item may be rally an eye opener to many of us and needs serious and urgent attention due to this for obvious reasons. According to the World Health Organization 60% of the world's heart attack victims will be South Asians by the year 2010-2020 – an extremely sobering piece of news, indeed!

We are well aware that coronary disease is the 'main' culprit causing heart attacks that may result in untimely, often sudden, deaths among men and women not only in their 40's to 60's but even in their 20's and 30's. This deadly disease ruthlessly strikes more often than not our people at the very zenith of their careers and cause staggering emotional, financial, familial, and social disruption. The silver lining in this dreadful situation, however, is the current knowledge that we have from the results of several clinical research studies conducted over the last couple of decades. These have clearly shown that the disease, and obviously, heart attacks resulting from that are largely predictable and preventable.

Knowledge, indeed, is power and need to use that power earnestly in all our efforts to prevent and postpone early demise of the young people. We must strive hard to work with our people to let them enjoy their productive, quality lives as long as possible by significantly minimizing the chances of falling victims to this dreadful disease. Interestingly, nearly 50% of us are vegetarians and still we may be called the sitting ducks for heart attacks!

There are many places where excellent facilities dedicated to the diagnostics and treatment of all kinds of heart disease. I am myself deeply involved in patient care and teaching our students and younger colleagues to become better physicians. I urge my fellow Indians to take full advantage of the expertise available in the area. Let us work together and put our resources towards the prevention of cardiovascular disease and try hard to prevent the impending catastrophe striking our people in the foreseeable future.

I urge you to see your doctor and determine if you need further diagnostics in this area and take action if needed. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me personally, if necessary, in this vital matter without further procrastination.

Future Newsletters

Do you have any items of news – births, anniversaries, awards and so on that you would like to share with the other members? Would you like to contribute an item of interest on health, life in the US, cooking recipes etc.? A joke?

Send them to the Newsletter editor (nvsuryan@yahoo.com)

Invitation to Membership

We, at ICRCC, invite you to support it by becoming members. Currently we have less than 100 members. We need more members to bring high quality programs to the community. Please complete the form below and send it with your check to:

Pratap Reddy, 7338 Dartmoor Crossing, Fayetteville, NY 13066

The board is considering ways to make our programs more appealing the community. We welcome your suggestions. Please convey them to any member of the board.

MEMBERSHIP: 2006-2007

The ICRCC fiscal year starts October 1. **Time to renew your membership or become a new member.**

Membership dues are: \$45 (family) or \$30 (single). Life memberships: \$1000 (family) or \$750 (single). If you have any questions please contact: Pratap Reddy, Membership Coordinator, Phone: 210 6825, email

Name: _____

Spouse _____

Names of Children: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Office

Phone: _____

Email address _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

Programs for the year: As of now the following programs are on the drawing board.

1. Spring Festival: May 5, 2007 at the H.W. Smith Elementary School auditorium.

Abraham Thomas will coordinate all the festival programs.

- a. Entertainment program will be coordinated by Rekha Balaji. Please contact her at 682 7260 before April 10 if you would like to participate in the program. The food part will be coordinated by Kirna Shah (682 4820) assisted by Charu Saini (638 7395), Mala Pal (607 749 2726), and Usha Gokul (656 4227). Please show your culinary skills at this event.

2. Independence Day Picnic: August 18. We would like to have games – cricket, volley ball etc. If you have the equipment or can help in any way please contact one of the board members. We are also thinking of having some kind of competition for children. **We invite volunteers for this effort.**

3. Deepavali Program is tentatively fixed for November 3 or 17. Deepavali is from November 8-10. This year we are trying to reduce the cost of the tickets to around \$20 if our efforts to raise some funds from sponsors (external or internal) succeed. If any one is interested in helping us in this task please contact one of the board members.

The Central New York Community Foundation

An Introduction by Board Member Mansukh Shah, CLU, ChFC

We have made Central New York our home. We worked hard, raised families, sent children to good schools and have excelled in our professions, whether as businessmen, physicians, engineers, professors, etc. We prospered here. I strongly feel that the time has come to pay back to the society where we live. For that, I cannot think of a better institution than the Central New York Community Foundation, an organization that has served Onondaga and Madison counties since 1927.

The Community Foundation, as part of its mission, has encouraged the growth of a permanent charitable endowment during the past 80 years. It distributes nearly \$5 million in grants annually to not-for-profits in the areas of Health (to hospitals, medical facilities, etc.), Human Services (such as the Food Bank, Rescue Mission), Literacy (nearly \$1 million given to promote literacy during the past three years), Education, Arts & Culture and Civic Affairs. I would like to emphasize that most of the grants made by the Community Foundation go to organizations in Central New York. For example...

Huntington Family Center youths enjoyed the inaugural launch of their boat-building projects last summer! The boats were built through a *Youth In Philanthropy* grant awarded by Nottingham High School students and funded by the Community Foundation. *Youth In Philanthropy* is a special initiative that empowers high school students as grantmakers to carefully evaluate community agencies, as well as develop an awareness of philanthropy. Bob Harrison, Ed Beauford and Richard Brooks helped found Faith Hope Community Center in 2002 as a response to neighborhood violence. A recent Community Foundation grant enabled the center to purchase computers and software for its after-school program, where elementary school children receive help with homework and computer skills.

The photos in the Community Foundation's 2006 Annual Report - can be seen in its entirety online at www.cnycf.org

The Community Foundation offers many flexible giving options, such as:

- **Donor-advised funds** that offer great tax benefits and continued participation in charitable giving.
- **Field-of-interest funds** that support a focus area of one's choosing.
- **Legacy Society** for bequests, split interest giving and other deferred gifts.

The Community Foundation gives us the opportunity to reduce our tax burden through charitable giving. I set up a donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation several years ago. I can make contributions to my fund at any time. I can write one check (or use appreciated securities *to avoid capital gains taxes*) as a contribution to my fund and receive a tax deduction for the full amount. Community Foundation staff will make distributions to 501(c)3 public charities at my direction whenever I want – next month, next year or beyond. And my fund grows along with the Community Foundation's – its resources are prudently invested for the long term through a disciplined strategy. The average rate of return over the last 12 years has been 10 percent.

I am honored to serve on the Board of Directors at the Community Foundation. I believe that its knowledge of community needs and experience in community giving have made it a wise choice for my charitable giving. And I hope that you will consider the benefits of establishing a fund yourself. If you'd like to know more, you can call me at (315) 652-4448 or call Dirk Sonneborn at the Community Foundation, (315) 422-9538.



Syracuse
OPERA
presents



LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR

BY GAETANO DONIZETTI

Friday March 2, 2007 at 8:00pm
Sunday March 4, 2007 at
2:30pm



*Syracuse Opera's Lucia di Lammermoor stars
Marcellus native and international opera star
Dinyar Vania.*

Dinyar Vania has emerged as one of the greatest tenors of his generation. He has been noted for his rich lyric voice of gorgeous color and astonishing power. He recently made his lead role debut with New York City Opera and is sure to impress his hometown crowd as he comes to Syracuse Opera to perform the role of Edgardo in the upcoming production of *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

Dinyar Vania

The Opera:

Sung in Italian with projected English translations, Lucia di Lammermoor is a compelling opera filled with conflicting emotions. In love with one man but forced to marry another, Lucia spirals inevitably toward one of the most famous "mad scenes" of all time. Hauntingly powerful, this opera is based on the Sir Walter Scott novel The Bride of Lammermoor and stars Soprano Nikki Einfeld as the ill-fated Lucia with tenor Dinyar Vania as her unrequited lover.

Come and support Dinyar in his Syracuse Opera Debut!

ICRCC will offer discounted tickets

At \$52 per ticket (regular \$62)

Please contact

Jehangir or Dolly Vania (673 4389), Dilip Bhole (682 1855) or
Ravi Seth (303 4303)

Like to advertise in the newsletter? For rates and other details contact the newsletter editor at 446 7424 or by email at nvsuryan@yahoo.com.

Sathya Sai Baba Center, Syracuse.

**Education in Human Values Classes:
*“The end of Education is Character”***

Sri Sathya Sai Baba Center of Syracuse is offering classes on “Human Values” for children ages 6-15 years. The Sathya Sai Education in Human Values (SSEHV) is character building program that aims to develop the innate goodness in each child by awakening the innate Human Values like Truth, Love, Peace, Right-action & Non-Violence. These Spiritual Classes are Held every Sunday from 11AM – 12:30PM at 5 Lock Street, Baldwinsville NY 13027.

Seva Projects:

“The Hands that serve are Holier than the Lips that Pray”

Sathya Sai Baba Center of Syracuse is serving the Homeless people in Syracuse from the last 10 years. We make Sandwiches every second Sunday of the month and on the last Tuesday of the month Pizza, and serve them to the Homeless people at Oxford Inn in Syracuse.

**For further in please information please contact
Madhu Gupta (458-7680), Mansukh Shah (652-4448)
Sathyajit Chadha (652-7149), Ravi Dabir (638-7317)**

Children’s Club of CNY

The South Asian Children’s Club of CNY now meets twice a month (on Sundays 4:30- 5:30 p.m.) at the Hindu Mandir of CNY.

The club provides a meeting ground for children of South Asian origin. We use Hindu mythology to provide children a window into their rich cultural heritage. The children are grouped by age. Children between the ages of 4 and 12 years are welcome to join.

The club is steered by parent volunteers. For details, please contact:

Neerja and Ajeet Gajra – neerjajeet@hotmail.com

Charu and Rajiv Saini- charusaini@msn.com (638-7395)

Divija and Kaushal Nanavati – kbnmd@yahoo.com (720-1963)

BADMINTON

Anyone interested in playing Badminton

Onondaga Community College

Every Sunday. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm. Open to public. No membership required

Fayetteville YMCA

Every Tuesday. 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm. YMCA members only

Please contact Anil Verma at (315) 682-5826 or email vermamd@twcny.rr.com.

ICRCC
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Events Calender

Event	Date	Venue	Time
Movie: Guru (Abhishek, Aishwarya)	February 10	Palace Theater	3 pm
Dinyar Vania in Syracuse Opera	March 2 and March 4	Syracuse Opera	8 pm (3-2-07) 2:30 pm (3-4-07)
Desi Hungama	April 14	Hennegar High School	6 pm
Spring Festival	May 5, 07	H.W. Smith Elementary School	3 pm – 7:30 pm
Independence Day Picnic	August 18	To be decided	3:30 pm -
Deepavali	November 3 or 17 (tentative)	To be decided	4 pm – 10 pm

