



INDIA COMMUNITY RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL CENTER, INC. (ICRCC)

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<http://www.icrcc.org/>

Founded 1985

Newsletter-July 2009

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President's Message

President Dilip Bhole is away and is unable to contribute to this column.

Kudos to Mrs. Madhuri Sharma

We are delighted to learn that Mrs. Madhuri Sharma's book *Through The Eyes Of An Immigrant* has been recently published by Vantage Press, New York. Here is a write-up on the book given by her:

"This work of non-fiction is a true-to-life depiction of my experiences as an Indian woman transitioning to American culture in the 1970s when we arrived as immigrants to the U.S., and spent almost three decades of our life in Syracuse, New York. I have tried to portray to my readers a first-hand account of the real world of immigrants as seen through the eyes of an immigrant. It presents a tasteful juxtaposition of the Indian and American cultures and gives the reader an introspective view not only into the honesty of the presentation but also the willingness of the author to candidly share her experiences with her fellow beings in a country she has chosen to make her home.

There are also sections in the book for my vicarious readers describing our travels to distant countries that have served to widen our cultural horizons and view firsthand the wide variances that exist in human tastes and needs.

The last chapter titled 'Reflections' talks about the greatness of America as also the currently ingrained weaknesses in the American system that is gradually beginning to take root here."

The book is available at Amazon.com. It is available at Borders in Albany and is likely to be available at Syracuse Borders also.

Most you are familiar with her as she was a prominent member of our community in Syracuse and a very active member of ICRCC until a few years ago when she and her husband, Dr. P.K. Sharma moved to Albany. She served ICRCC as President and rendered services in many fields. In particular during her tenure as President, she took the lead part in getting our 2000 directory published and raising a significant amount of money towards the 9/11 victims. Later, as the membership coordinator she worked hard to get more than 140 members for the year 2002-2003.

Submitted by N.V. Suryanarayana

The Spring Festival

Spring Festival was a great success. We had a great turn out on Saturday. Every body that I met liked the cultural program and said good things about the program. One participant wrote “Thanks for coordinating especially the kids program, providing and making stage available for kids are great for the community. It always attracts more to ICRCC.” The food court did well. The support and enjoyment of food court was great!

Neerja and Anju had a very successful membership drive.

My most sincere thanks to all of you who helped us in making it a big success but special credit goes to Kaushal and Divija Nanavati for arranging the cultural program and Mrs. Mala Pal for coordinating the food.

Community News

Arangetram of Anjali Nayar (student of Rekha Balaji and daughter of Anita and Rajan Nayar)

Date: August 16th,2009

Venue: Wellwood Middle school

Time: Social hour from 2.15 to 3.15PM, Seating:3.15PM, Program begins:3.30PM

All are Welcome

On May 28, Syracuse Indian Community was saddened to hear that Mrs. Usha Seetharam passed away. She was born on November 30, 1946 in Pune, India and moved to the U.S. in 1979. All of us remember Usha for her great love for cooking and as a great friend. She will be deeply missed. She is survived by her loving husband of 37 years, Dr. M. Seetharam.

INDEPENDENCE DAY PICNIC
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2009

PACK YOUR AFTERNOON WITH FUN, GAMES, ENTERTAINMENT, AND
FOOD

Ryder Park, Dewitt

Start time: 3 p.m.

Program: The following is a preliminary program. The program will be finalized later.

3 p.m. – 4 p.m.: Free time for games. If interested in cricket, bring the equipment.
Only tennis balls can be used in cricket.

4 p.m. – 5 p.m.: Entertainment and Vote of Thanks. If you are interested in
performing, please contact Kumar Ashutosh at 446 3989 or Dr.ashutosh@verizon.net.

5 p.m. – Picnic will include special fun and Games for kids under 12.

Dinner to follow the games (*for the dinner, each family is requested to bring sufficient
food for themselves and three more people*).

**We need volunteers to be the lead persons to sing the U.S. and Indian National
Anthems. Please give your names to Kumar Ashutosh.**

Essay Competition: Essays are invited from students. There will be three groups of students;
(a) Elementary School (b) Middle School, and (c) High School. Subject for all the groups: “**My
Family.**”

The essays should be sent to Kumar Ashutosh at 26 Cross Road, Syracuse, NY 13224.
All entries will be recognized. Essays will be judged by a committee and a prize given for one
judged best in each category.

Directions to Ryder Park: From 481 take exit 3W, turn right on Erie Blvd. After Shopping
Town Mall, turn right on Kinne Road, immediately after crossing the overpass on 481, turn left.
After about a ¼ mile, Ryder Park Entrance is on the right.

Why should I become a member of ICRCC?

Many people ask why they should pay \$45 and become members of ICRCC. There are many reasons but some of them from my perspective are:

1. It provides a forum for all our community activities such as Spring Festival, Independence Day Picnic, Ras Garba, Deepavali and so on.
2. Without such an organization we will not be able to bring cultural programs - Shaheed Parvez' Sitar Concert, Dance performance by the Articulate Group and others.
3. We are able to raise funds for the victims of Gujarat Earthquake, 9/11, Tsunami, Katrina and so on.
4. Members pay reduced rates for events organized by ICRCC.
5. Its newsletter is a medium that allows the community to know some of the things happening in the community.
6. It provides an umbrella for many functions organized by individuals.
7. By involving in its activities we come to know many people in the community. This aspect is particularly useful to the new comers to the area.
8. Periodically ICRCC provides a directory of the Indian community at no cost.

On a personal note, my wife and I have benefited greatly by getting to know many of the people in the community. The relocation from Houghton, MI to Syracuse in 2002 was made easy because of this. Without it I doubt if we could have made so many friends here.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 315 446 7424 or our membership coordinator Anju Gupta.

To renew your membership please send your check or complete the form below (**block letters**) if you like to become a new member and send it with your check (\$45 for family and \$30 for single) to: Anju Gupta, 4911 Royal Crab Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13224 (amgupta@twcny.rr.com)

Name: _____ Spouse's name _____

Children's names _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ email address: _____

Suryanarayana

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U.S. Postage Paid
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Syracuse, NY
Permit No. 210

Events Calendar

Event	Date	Venue	Time
Independence Day	August 15	Ryder Park	3 PM –
Raas Garba	September 19	F-M High School	
Deepavali Dinner	Oct. 18 or 25		