



AALAYA SANDESHA

Subhamastu Avighnamastu Vijayostu

Sri Venkateswara Temple Newsletter

10401 McKinzie Lane, Corpus Christi, TX 78410

Phone [3612410550](tel:3612410550) "<http://www.svtempletexas.org/>"

4th Quarter 2016

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Sri Sai Manoj Mochavolu

EDITOR

Dr.Lalitha M.Janaki

Contact Info : [361](tel:3615499727)

[549 9727](tel:5499727)

drljanaki@gmail.com

WISH YOU ALL A
VERY HAPPY
&
PROSEPEROUS
NEW YEAR
2017

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Priest's Column

अन्न दानं परं दानं विद्यादानं अतः परम् ।
अन्नेन क्षणिका तृप्तिः यावज्जीवंच विद्यया ॥



Translation-

Providing food to poor and needy persons is the best charitable deed, but making people learned by teaching them is the supreme form of charity. Food gives momentary satisfaction, but the knowledge will empower them to lead a satisfactory life.



Balaji Kalyanam



Radha saphami



Maha Shiva rathri



Varalakshmi Vratam



Ganesh chaturthi celebrations



Ganesh Visarjanam





Dasara Celebrations



Temple Anniversary



Editor's Note



A decade and half in review

Vinayaka Chaturthi in year 2002 , was the most memorable one in my life.

I was making prasadam and getting ready for puja and the phone rang . It was Dr Subba Rao Burra on the other end wanting to come and visit us . As I was getting late to start the puja , have asked him to make it another time and hung up. Five minutes later the phone rang again and in hurry to pick it up I spilled hot oil on my right forearm. Somehow managed to answer the phone and it was Dr.Subbarao again .There was a change in his tone virtually requesting to make time for them that very day .I looked at my husband and he said let them come . Both Drs Lalitha and Subba Rao Burra visited us that day .

That was the very first serious meeting we had regarding building a temple in Corpus Christi.

My husband said " I have a very short fuse and you do not want me on the board but Lalitha will represent us. The very first 3 years were the most miserable years in my life and continued for another 2 years after the temple was built and inaugurated. It was a great but a very painful experience. South Texas Hindu Society was established in 2002. The F5 founding members are Drs Subbarao Burra, Lalitha Janaki ,Ramakrishna Mulukutla, MP Sudhakaran and Mr Bhanukanth Patel , and we all worked very hard. The board grew to a 17 member board today . Dr Chandrasekhar Rap Katragadda was the first one added to the board.After very intense meetings and fundraising we were able to buy the land and built the temple . Drs Burra , Janaki,Mulukutla, Katragadda and Mr Bhanukanth Patel , all pledged their personal assets as collateral ,borrowed 1.2 million dollars . We completed the project .

Temple inauguration and MahaKumbhabhishekam was in May of 2005. We raised a lot of money. The bank finally released us from the note about 4 or 5 years ago.The present principal loan balance is about \$870,000.

We came a long way ,Community grew. A number of devotees understood that it is not an easy task to build a temple and we are appreciated. We had 6 priests since the beginning and sponsored green card for whoever needed . We were successful to get them all established .All the priests present or the ones that left for personal reasons have been very appreciative of the way they were treated at our temple.

Having said that we are getting ready for Maha Kumbhaabhishekam in 2017. Every 12 years special ceremonies have to be performed to boost the power of the deities that we have installed .The date is set for May of 2017.It is a 5 day ceremony. Begins on a Saturday the 13th and ends on Wednesday the 17th. The reason for ending on a midweek is , according to sastra the ceremony has to end on the Sravana Nakshatram,Sri Balaji's birth star which falls on that Wednesday.

Plans are underway.We do like to see the community's participation .Please plan to attend .

Year 2016 had its own ups and downs .We lost some and gained some.

Priest Sri Sai Chandrasekhar has moved on to face different challenges. Priest Sri Sai Manoj Kumar joined the temple team.

Srimathi Anusha and Sriman Srinivasachary Garu have received their green cards. congratulations

On behalf of the board of trustees , I congratulate Dr Murthy Mangipudi for joining the board of trustees . Dr Murthy welcome on board.

My new year resolution is not to make one so I dont have to worry about breaking.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

GOD BLESS

Lalitha M Janaki,MD FACR