



# वन्दना VANDANA

44955 Cherry Hill Road • Canton, MI 48188 • (734) 981-8730

April 2009: Volume I

## THE HINDU TEMPLE NEWSLETTER

2009 Officers and Board of Trustees		2009 Committees	Chairperson	Co-Chair
Chairman .....	Manoj Sachdeva	Audit & Finance .....	Anil Sakhuja .....	Somil Shah
Vice-Chairman .....	Anil Sakhuja	Member Accounts .....	Daxesh Modi .....	Manoj Sachdeva
President .....	Nitin Desai	Bylaws/Constitution .....	Anurag Bajaj .....	Manoj Sachdeva
Vice-President .....	Anurag Bajaj	Community Affairs .....	Avinash Rachmale .....	Prakash Patel
Secretary .....	D. Prakash	Education .....	D. Prakash .....	Sailesh Patel
Treasurer .....	Jesal Shah	Food/Kitchen .....	Dalip Guglani .....	Navin Patel
Trustee .....	Ashwani Narula	Fund Raising .....	Avinash Rachmale .....	Babu Bhai Patel
Trustee .....	Babu Bhai Patel	Hall Rental .....	Ajit Shah .....	Navnit Patel
Trustee .....	Daxesh Modi	Health Care .....	Jatin Desai .....	Sarju Shah
Trustee .....	Shishir Kadakia	Library Management .....	Jesal Shah .....	Shastri Ji
Trustee .....	Bhupendra Desai	Long Range Planning .....	Avinash Rachmale .....	Manoj Sachdeva
Trustee .....	Dalip Guglani	Membership Directory .....	Jatin Desai .....	Ashwani Narula
Trustee .....	Avinash Rachmale	MIS/Web Page .....	Daxesh Modi .....	Ashwani Narula
Trustee .....	Sailesh Patel	Communication(Radio etc) .....	Subhash Kelkar .....	Shastri Ji
Trustee .....	Ajit Shah	Newsletter .....	Prakash Patel .....	Shastri Ji
Temple Administrator .....	Suresh Shah	Property Mangement .....	Dalip Guglani .....	Ajit Shah
Shastriji .....	Shri Shiva Kumar Bhat	Public Relations .....	Nitin Desai .....	Tom Patel(TBD)
Panditji .....	Shri Prasad Ishwara	Religious Affairs .....	Nitin Desai .....	Bela Patel
Kiranji .....	Shri Kiran Subramanya	Senior Activities .....	Balkisan Kacholiya .....	D. Prakash
		Youth Affairs/Bal Vihar .....	Bela Patel .....	Bhupendra Desai

*We apologize for any printing errors or omissions in this issue.*

**TEMPLE HOURS : Monday – Friday 8 – 12 Noon and 5 – 9 PM • Saturday & Sunday 9 AM – 1 PM and 5 – 9 PM**

The Hindu Temple is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, Tax ID #38-2699933.

Website: [www.thehindutemple.org](http://www.thehindutemple.org) E-mail: [info@thehindutemple.org](mailto:info@thehindutemple.org)

### Chairman's Message

Dear Devotees,

Hari Om! I am very thankful to all of you for giving me opportunity once again to serve you as Temple Chairman. With help of 2008 Board of Trustees, Officers and volunteers, we have made great progress in several areas such as celebrating all religious and cultural events in grand style, increasing youth involvement, conducting health fairs for our members, improving physical as well as spiritual health of our members as well as reviving senior citizens' activities. We will continue to make further progress in all these areas. As we make our way to 2009, I want to extend my sincere thanks to all former committee members, outgoing Board members and volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

By now, everyone should have received a new Temple calendar. The calendar reflects major events that we will be celebrating through out the year. Temple website is being updated on ongoing basis. Our special thanks to Board Trustee, Daxesh Modi for making this happened. Our existing facility is being used to accommodate multiple activities at the same time. To maintain/improve facility and provide the services needed for our growing community requires all of us to support the Temple's financials needs. I humbly request all of you to become a member or renew your membership as soon as possible. On behalf of the Temple, I would like to thank you all for your continued support and encouragement.

This year is going to be a year to remember in Temple history as we take the biggest undertaking of Temple Expansion and Renovation Project. All of you have been kept informed on a very regular basis during Sunday Prayers as well as during fundraising event and Annual General Body meeting regarding progress of this project. Plans have been completed, construction budget has been established and approved, financing for the project has been put in place and permits have been pulled. We are ready to go.

Once again, it goes beyond saying that we will need financial help from all of our devotees to make this dream come true.

In addition to financial help, I encourage our community members to get involved in "Seva". But it is very essential for all of us to know what "Seva" is!

As described by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, there are five types of Seva (service).

The first type is the Seva done when you do not even know that you are doing it. You do not recognize it as Seva because it is your very nature-you cannot but do it!

The second type is the Seva which you do because it is needed for the situation.

You do the third type of Seva because it gives you joy.

The fourth type is done out of your desire for merit-you do Seva expecting some benefit in the future.

And the fifth type is when you do Seva just to show off, to improve your image and to gain social or political recognition. Such Seva is simply exhausting, while the first type does not bring any tiredness at all!

To improve the quality of your Seva, regardless of where you start, you must move up to higher levels of Seva.

May the Lord guide us all, grant us the wisdom, and shower His blessings upon all of us. I look forward to your comments and suggestions.

Jai Ram Ji Ki  
Manoj Sachdeva  
Chairman

## **Bhoomi Poojan Celebration**

**Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 - 6:00 pm - Mata ki Chowki**

**Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**8:30 am Kalash Yatra**

**9:00 am Ganesh Pooja**

**9:30 am Kalash Sthapan Pooja & Vastu Havan**

**12 noon Pravachan**

**1:00 pm Poornahuti & Mahamangal Aarti**

**1:30 pm Mahaprasad**

**4:00 pm Children's Cultural Program**

**6:00 pm Kalash Pooja/ Udaka Shanti/ Kanakadhara Havan**

**8:00 pm Aarti followed by Prasad**

**Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**9:00 am Bhoomi Pooja/Vastu Pooja**

**10:30 am Brick Offering & Fund Raising**

**11:00 am Groundbreaking**

**11:30 am Aasheervachan**

**12:30 pm Mahamangal Aarti & Mahaprasad**

**5:00 pm Raas-Garba**

## **Gujarati Samaj of Detroit in association with The Hindu Temple and Kaplan, Inc. has organized a SAT / ACT Educational Seminar**

Targeted for children in 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades, This seminar will help in understanding:  
Why these tests are needed When & How to prepare for the tests How to get maximum score

**Saturday, May 30, 2009**

From 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

The Hindu Temple, 44955 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, MI 48188

**Agenda:**

Welcome and Proctoring Instructions SAT/ACT Combo Practice Test (students only)  
Workshop Seminar with Q&A (Parents & Students)

Seminar is free for GSOD and Temple members  
Registration information will be posted at the temple bulletin board

OR Call Jesal Shah @ 734-721-5703

## **Special General body Meeting**

**Date held: 12<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

**Minutes of the meeting are as follows:**

- 1. The meeting began with Prayers by Shastriji, Panditji and Kiranji.**
- 2. Invocation of Program by Shastriji, who extolled on the virtues of Building the new temple, benefits to devotees and the community**
- 3. Presentation of slide show describing Bhoomi Pooja**
- 4. Welcome to all members and devotees by Chairman Manoj Sachdeva**

**All Board members were present.**

**Agenda.**

**New Temple Project Update..... M Sachdeva, Avainash Rachmale  
Update of Construction.....Andrew Klein, Rand Construction  
Temple Financial Status.....Anil Sakhuja, Manoj Sachdeva  
Questions and Answers**

**Manoj Sachdeva began the meeting by describing the huge amount of work done by the Board and volunteers in planning the expansion of the temple.**

**Umesh Rohatgi, said that in any meeting the previous minutes should be Read and accepted. Manoj Sachdeva responded that the previous minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting were published in "Vandana". However a motion was made to accept the previous minutes. Motion passes, no questions.**

**Manoj Sachdeva quoted Sri Sri Ravi Shankar on "Relief from Anxiety" as follows:**

**Today many are anxious about how to deal with anxiety! Here are some of the ways you can manage it.**

- 1. Sing, dance and celebrate. The very intention to celebrate will pull you to a more harmonious state.**
- 2. Think about what you can do for others rather than about yourself. Get energized with service activities.**
- 3. Practice yoga, breathing and meditation.**
- 4. Know the impermanence of the world.**
- 5. Have faith in and surrender to the Divine. Know that there is a supreme power that loves you, is behind you and accepts you totally. Feeling secure comes with the sense of belongingness.**
- 6. Be courageous and invoke the lion within you.**
- 7. Have an attitude of sacrifice.**
- 8. Remind yourself that you are committed to a greater goal.**
- 9. Be unpredictable for a while. Anxiety is always related to some anticipated action so do something completely irrelevant and unpredictable.**
- 10. Be ready to face the worst. This will leave you with stability in the mind.**
- 11. Remember a similar situation in the past when you were able to overcome your anxiety**

**He also said that everyone was updated in quite detail about the temple expansion, both at the Annual Fund Raising meeting last November and at the Annual General Body Meeting in December 2008.**

**Since then, our Construction Management Team headed by Rand Construction assisted by Architects from Lindhout & Associates, have worked very diligently to complete 100% of the drawings, bid the entire project very competitively.**

**Initial cost was projected as \$8,400,000 which came down to \$7,880,335.**

**Avinash Rachmale was thanked for reviewing items, checking them and getting bids to keep the costs low. He also received various quotes, competitive bids From reputable contractors.**

**Andy Klein from Rand Construction, explained the process of working closely with neighboring communities, overcoming obstacles and making sure that the new temple is unique, beautiful, and economical and a sustaining project.**

**Jignesh Patel, from Lakeshore Engineering explained the process of estimation To create and build the best temple.**

## **Financial Updates:**

Anil Sakhuja, explained the budget that was presented to the General body. He went over the, receivables, expense projection for construction activities and Day to Day operating expenses.

The Board of Trustees and General Body had decided in previous general body meeting to restrict \$500,000 as contingency funds. The decision stands to continue with official reserve of \$ 500,000. Further, Anil Sakhuja went over the budget on a line by line basis.

Manoj Sachdeva said that Andy Klein from Rand Construction has put together a construction schedule on display at the General Body Meeting to start construction on May 25, 2009, completion by March 2010 and move to new Temple in June 2010

He also announced that the materials to be used are on display in the temple hall and everyone is encouraged to review these materials. All of these will be part of the temple construction.

A thousand bricks that will be used in construction have been delivered. These bricks will be offered by devotees with special prayers and blessings from our very own Shastri Ji and other Priests on Ground Breaking Day. All permits have been obtained and we are ready to break ground. He also said that all Life members will take part in the actual ground breaking ceremonies during Bhoomi Pooja.

## **Question and Answer session.**

### **1. From Mr.Brij Seth.**

He thanked the board for presentation of the budget

Q. He said that the temple debt will be 5.4mm at the end of 2012.

What is the board's strategy for getting rid of this debt?

A. Anil Sakhuja replied that temple will have 1.7MM in hand and just in case temple is not able to meet its obligations, a commitment has been obtained from board for 1.5MM. The temple hopes to receive additional funds in the next 3 years to repay all debt.

Manoj Sachdeva added that this project is to build a future for the children.

Few people have paid ahead of time. The Board has conference calls every Wednesday and the board meets every Saturday for Fund Raising Strategy.

We are building class rooms, once we have those class rooms, we can initiate a Charter School, but we are not projecting any income from this at the present time

There will be a new banquet hall that will be available for rent. Bal Vihar Activities will grow.

### **2. Mr. V.B. Bajaj**

Congratulations to the board, efforts are well recognized. He said that He could assist the temple in getting things like "OM" artifacts.

### **3. Mr. Umesh Rohatgi.**

Q. Instead of keeping \$500,000 as contingency funds in the bank, why not spend it?

A. We will evaluate the situation and we will try to repay the loan by Contributions from devotees

### **4. Mr. Tom Patel.**

Praised the board for a job well done. Board is very optimistic about collection of funds.

Q.Total commitment is 10.8MM. The mortgage payment and interest will amount to \$1MM/year.

A. Anil Sakhuja said that this is not correct; we will have 5.4 million due in 2012.

Tom: We still have to go for collections. If we hope to pay off 40% of the loan in 3 years that will be good. Planning started 4 years ago and we have supported the board.

Anil: We have people who are committed and will donate, so projections will be met. On Bhoomi Pooja day we will announce our collections and balance.

Q. If the projection of collection does not come about, then what?

Pledges are never fully recovered; the budget shows only figures for last 2 years. Realistically, projections should be for 4 years in the real world

A. Anil Sakhuja. Pledges will come. Plan is pledges are distributed over 10 years. The two years projection is due to current Michigan economy. So even if we do not get the Pledges, new money from new pledges is coming in. We did not show high operating revenues because of the bad Economy. We are hopeful that everything however will come back. We are all hopeful that donations to the temple will increase. The goal is to have a commitment to pay off the Mortgage in few years.

5. Satish Mistry.

Q. What board has done is commendable, we are limited by size and cannot do much. We still have a parking problem. We have 300 spaces but 2,000 people may attend functions. Demolition of this hall is a waste of 3MM dollars.

A. Suresh Shah:

Satish Mistry has given his input to me on several occasions. He has the right concern. We had a 15 member long range planning committee. 500 signatures were collected for not moving the temple and also not to sell the property, so General Body decided not to move. We spent 18 months to see how we can expand the current building. The cost was almost 4.4MM dollars as there were a lot of structural problems. The Altar area has a lot of problems, leaks etc. Because of all these problems we decided against spending 4.4MM to expand the current structure.

6. Q, Parking is always a problem. Major events need shuttle service.

Why can't we use neighboring church lots and solve the problem, 90% of the time Parking will suffice.

A. Nitin Desai: We have requested neighboring churches, but because of their Sunday services, they cannot accommodate us. Meijers will not allow us because of liability issues. There is no response from Farmer Jack. We don't want to park where we are not allowed. Bhoomi Pooja parking is in Plymouth-Canton Park site. The Aarti will be staggered so as to alleviate Parking.

Manoj: Traffic plan was presented to the township, we were given the go ahead. We had to satisfy neighbors. All questions were answered. We want to be a solution and not part of a problem

7. Meera Desai:

Q. Will the board commit to a community center for children and families in?

The new temple?

Will children have to pay?

A. Bela Patel:

Lots of kids have structured activities-Bal Vihar. We should have lot more activities for children who have the energy. College level activities. We want to have Adult participation to encourage children. Have a special committee for these activities as children are the future generation. This is the plan for the new temple. We want children to learn more about our religion and heritage. Shastriji, all should participate, have summer camps etc.

Manoj: We need help from Children. Be a Champion, be a mentor.

We need help from Mothers too, to guide the children. "Mothers can make anything happen"

8. Suresh Shah:

Q. What is the vision of the temple, 10 years from now? Provide input to Board.

A. Manoj: We need more people to engage in all temple activities

9. Mr., Bhagu Patel:

Q. There are long lines for turning left as you exit the temple, what are The improvements?

A. Wayne Count has made suggestions. We will have an entry lane and an Exit lane, when we have traffic plans developed.

10. Satish Mistry: Temple belongs to community, temple will always survive

Bela Patel: Temple will survive with younger generation

Suresh Shah thanked all the founders of the temple.

Manoj Sachdeva thanked everybody for attending the meeting and said we hope that everybody is now well informed. He continued to say that we look forward to all of you joining all of us in celebrating Bhoomi Poojan in grand style with 3 days of celebrations on May 15, 16 and 17<sup>th</sup> and thanked everyone for their generous support in helping to build a beautiful looking temple for Bhagwan Ji. He chanted "Tere pujan ko Bhawan Banaigae Mandir Alishan, Banaigae Mandir Alishan, Banaigae Mandir Alishan"

**"LET US MAKE IT HAPPEN TOGETHER"**

Minutes taken by:

D. Prakash  
Secretary

# The Hindu Temple

44955 Cherry Hill Road  
Canton, MI 48188

Phone: 734-981-8730  
www.thehindutemple.org

## TEMPLE EXPANSION PROJECT DONATION / PLEDGE FORM

I / We  (First Last)

(1) Hereby donate / pledge (Please check all applicable boxes; specify qty and remit appropriate amount):

Qty

\$ 2,501 for a **Gold Plated Kalash** Sponsorship

\$ 101 for a **Copper Kalash** Sponsorship

\$ 2,501 for a **Parking Lot Bench** Sponsorship

\$ 251 for a **Tree** Sponsorship

\$ 2,501 for a **Navagraha Platform** Sponsorship

\$ 101 for a **Birthday / Anniversary** (10 years)

\$ , to be paid \$  Monthly OR \$  Annually;

To be paid in full in  years on  (Month-DD-YYYY).

Qty

\$ 1,001 for a **Silver Kalash** Sponsorship

\$ 51 for a **Aarti Plate** Sponsorship

\$ 501 for a **Parking Space** Sponsorship

\$ 101 for a **Pooja Brick** Sponsorship

\$ 101 for a **Navaratan Packet**

\$ 21 for a **Navadhanyam** Packet

(2) Hereby **loan** the following amount to temple at 5% interest to be paid every six months. Please also fill out the form at [http://www.thehindutemple.org/Expansion/Final\\_Hindu\\_Temple\\_Promissory\\_Note.doc](http://www.thehindutemple.org/Expansion/Final_Hindu_Temple_Promissory_Note.doc).

\$ 50,000     \$ 25,000     \$ 20,000     \$ 15,000     \$ 10,000

\$ 7,500     \$ 5,000     \$ 2,500     \$

(3) Hereby donate / pledge \$  for sponsorship of the

**Room / Area.**

Please visit [http://www.thehindutemple.org/Expansion/Cost\\_Breakdown\\_by\\_Area.xls](http://www.thehindutemple.org/Expansion/Cost_Breakdown_by_Area.xls) for more information.

Select a **payment** method and provide all applicable information below:  Cash     Check     Credit Card

Debit from bank A/c (fill out [http://www.thehindutemple.org/Expansion/Pledge\\_automatic\\_deduction.doc](http://www.thehindutemple.org/Expansion/Pledge_automatic_deduction.doc)).

**Please make your check payable to The Hindu Temple and mail at the Temple address listed above.**

Total Amount: \$	Check Date: (MMM DD, YY)	Check #:
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Credit Card #:	Expiration Date: (MM/YY)	CSC #:
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**I authorize The Hindu Temple of Canton to charge my Credit Card Account mentioned above.**

**Please provide all of the information below in order for your account to be credited accurately.**

Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	E-mail:		
Signature:			Date:

The Hindu Temple thanks you for your continued support and generosity

The Hindu Temple is a Non-Profit Tax Exempt Organization; Tax ID #: 38-269993

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	INSTRUCTOR	PHONE
Sunday	Prayer	10:00 am – 12:30 pm		
	Balvihar Class	1 – 2:30 pm	Sharada Kumar	734 663-8912
	Gujarati Class	2:30 – 3:30 pm	Jesal Shah	734 721-5703
	Yoga Class	8 – 9 am	Rohit Patel	734 207-3520
Monday	Shiva Abhishakam	7 – 8 pm	Shastriji	734 981-8730
Tuesday	Bharata Natyam Dance Class	7 – 8 pm	Sudha Chandrasekhar	248 399-0993
	Hanuman Puja	7:15 – 8 pm		
Wednesday	Gita Class	8 – 9 pm	Sharada Kumar	734 663-8912
Thursday	Yoga Class	8 – 9 pm	Rohit Patel	734 207-3520
Friday	Durga Puja	7 – 8 pm	Shastriji	734 981-8730
Saturday	Vishnu Sahasranam Parayan & Abhishek	10 – 11 am	Panditji	734 981-8730
	Yoga Class	9 – 10 am	Rohit Patel	734 207-3520

## Hindu Temple Year 2009 Events

Event	Actual Date	Celebration Date
New Year Day	Thursday, January 1	Thursday, January 1
Makar Sankranti	Wednesday, January 14	Wednesday, January 14
India Republic Day	Monday, January 26	Sunday, January 25
Maha Shivaratri	Monday, February 23	Monday, February 23
Holi/Dhuleti	Tuesday, March 10	Sunday, March 15
Ugadi & Gudi Padvo	Friday, March 27	Friday, March 27
Ram Navami/Akhnand Ramayana	Friday, April 3	Saturday, April 4 thru Sunday, April 5
Hanuman Jayanti	Thursday, April 9	Sunday, April 12
Annual Health Fair	To be deretmined	
Bhumi Pooja and Murti Pratishta Anniversary	Friday, May 15 Saturday, May 16 Sunday, May 17	Friday, May 15 Saturday, May 16 Sunday, May 17
U. S Independence Day	Saturday, July 4	
Guru Purnima	Monday, July 6	Monday, July 6
Saraswati Havan		Sunday, July 12
Raksha Bandhan	Wednesday, August 5	Wednesday, August 5
Krishna Janamashtami	Friday, August 14	Friday, August 14
India Independence	Saturday, August 15	Sunday, August 16
Ganesh Chathurthi	Sunday, August 23	Sunday, August 23
Ganesh Visarjan-Anant Chathurdashi	Thursday, September 3	Thursday, September 3
Navaratri/Raas/Garba	Saturday, September 19 thru Sunday, Sept. 27	Saturday, September 19 thru Sunday, Sept. 27
Durgashtami/Chandi Havan	Saturday, September 26	Saturday, September 26
Vijaya Dashami/Dashehra	Monday, September 28	Monday, September 28
Karva Chauth	Wednesday, October 7	Wednesday, October 7
Rangoli/Fireworks Program		Saturday, October 10
Dhan Teras/Lakshmi Pooja	Thursday, October 15	Thursday, October 15
Deepavali/Mahalakshmi Puja	Saturday, October 17	Saturday, October 17
Annakoot/Govardhan Pooja		Sunday, October 18
New Year Day/Bhai Dooj	Monday, Octotber 19	Monday, Octotber 19
Tulsi Vivah		Saturday, October 31
Kartik Purnima Satyanarayan Pooja	Monday, November 2	Monday, November 2
Annual General Body Meeting	Sunday, December 6	
Temple Anniversary	Friday, December 25	Friday, December 25
Holiday Fun Night	Thursday, December 31	



**The Hindu Temple**  
44955 Cherry Hill Road  
Canton, MI 48188

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## **Charity Motors Donation Program**

(313) 255-1000

**Donate Your  
Extra Vehicle**

**Support  
Our Temple**



Please consider donating your extra vehicle to Charity Motors  
and designating the proceeds to The Hindu Temple.  
You will receive a tax deduction as well as support our temple.