

HAAS CONNECT

HAAS

Newsletter Jan 2009
Volume 1, Issue 1

Thank You!!

It is our privilege to be your new HAAS Management Committee (MC).

Following members make up the new Management Committee:

Chetan Bhat – President
Gaurang Haldipur – Vice President
Umesh Baliga – Secretary
Shanti Bhatt – Treasurer
Nikhil Baliga – Asst Treasurer
Ian Rao – Youth Coordinator

Please feel free to contact any one of us with any query or feedback.

We would like to remind you that this organization was established for everyone's benefit and you can play an important part on how it needs to be shaped and molded by participating constructively in various meetings, events and activities.

Meeting Minutes:

MC met on 26th-Nov to discuss how we should extend our activities and promote more participation and interaction at all age levels within our members. We have identified the following religious functions for 2009:

1. Satyanarayana Puja – January 11
2. Summer Bash – May 23 (preferred) or June 6
3. Janmashtami – Aug 15 (preferred) or Sept 5
4. Diwali – Oct 10 (preferred) or Oct 24
5. Winter Bash – Dec 19 (preferred) or Jan 16

In addition it has also been proposed to have:

- Picnic
- Summer Extravaganza
- Year-End Extravaganza

In these events we intend to have the youth participate in sports & literary competitive events, showcase their talents in singing, dancing, stand-up comedy, dramas, et al.

We also propose to drive engagement with our youth through following activities:

- Counseling & Shadowing to learn & understand various professions.
- Sandwich Seva to have the youth prepare sandwiches for the homeless & serve them

We are looking for volunteers to help drive these initiatives.

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Coordinators

The Management Committee proposes to identify coordinators for all events. The idea is to establish a single point of contact and gain good experience that can be imparted/transferred to backup coordinators.

The following persons have been identified:

Music – Umesh Baliga, Ramkrishna & Maya Prabhu

Sound Setup – Prashant Lotlikar, Kumar Sirur, Madhav Ubhayakar

Dramas – Gaurang Haldipur, Gauri Sirur

Food – Chetan Bhat, Gaurang Haldipur

Event invites & fees – Shanti Bhatt

We would like to get volunteers for each of these areas to serve as backup coordinators. If you are interested please let us know via phone or email.

Volunteers Needed for:

- Arrangements for events
- Coordinating monthly service programs
- Counseling Youth
- Promoting our organization and having more new families join us.

Eldridge Park Community Center
2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, TX

Satyanarayana Puja – January 11th (Sunday) - 10 am – 2 pm

This event will be held at the Eldridge Park Community Center (*please note: The venue is located on Eldridge Rd.*).

The event date is January 11th (SUNDAY) at 10 am.

The event is sponsored by Dr Prabhu's family.

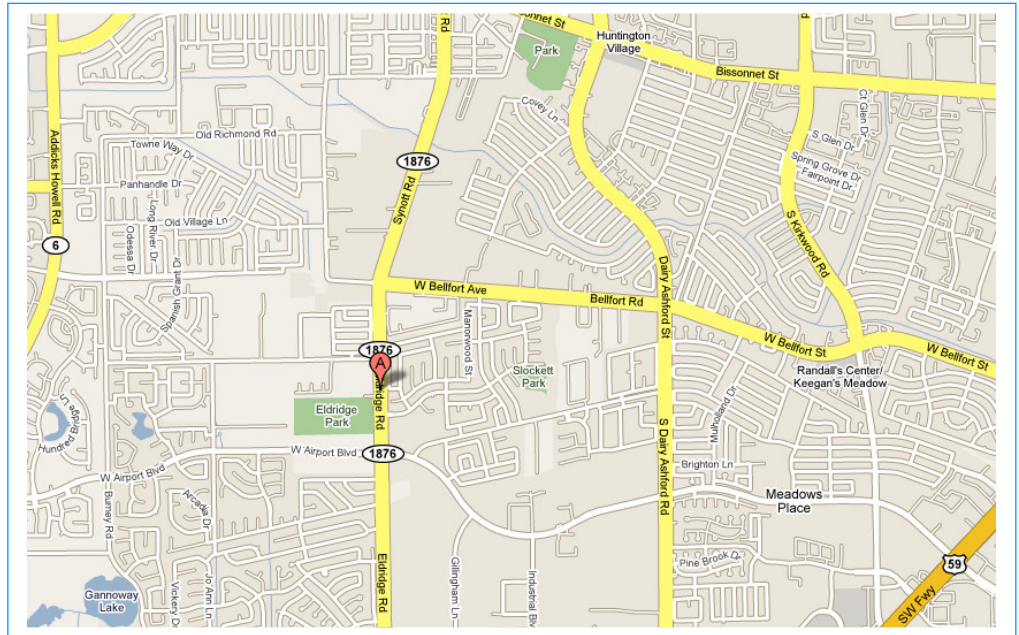
The puja will be performed by 10 families.

Entry Fee: \$5 per family (member)
\$5 per person (non-member)

We request you and your family's presence for this event.

Satyanarayana Puja is a ritual performed by Hindus on any major occasions. It is usually done on the Poornima day of every month (the day of the full moon). It is also done on special occasions and during times of achievements as an offering of gratitude to the Lord. In addition, it is said that a devotional performance of this pooja will bear children to couples trying to start a family.

The puja starts by a prayer to Lord Ganesha, the elephant God and remover of all obstacles that may occur as a result of incorrectly performing the puja. Another part of the prayer involves a prayer to the Navagraha's - the nine important celestial beings in the universe. They consist of Surya, Chandra, Angaraka/Chevaai, Budha, Guru aka Bruhaspati, Shukra, Sani, Rahu, and Ketu. The rest of the puja consists of worship to Satyanarayana, an extremely benevolent form of Lord Vishnu.



*Have you checked
out our website?
www.ourhass.com*

Ideas?

HAAS has been created to preserve and promote our culture so that we can pass it on to our future generation.

We would like to hear from you on how we can make our organization work for your benefit.

If you have any ideas *for good events* to drive youth involvement, member involvement at all age levels – we would love to hear from you.

Also if you have feedback on *how we can improve*, we would like to hear from you.

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Houston Area Amchigele Samaj

www.ourhass.com

HAAS has been formed to provide a common meeting ground for the Amchigele's residing in and around the Houston area.

Our mission is to

- Preserve and promote our culture, tradition and deep rooted heritage.
- Pass on the values and spirit of our culture to generations after us, and
- Provide an opportunity to network socially and professionally with other Amchigeles.