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<http://www.kcsmw.org>

Monthly Newsletter - April 2008

From your Editor,

Dear folks,

Here I am, once again, sending you greetings on behalf of KCS. I thank each and every one of you, who have sent me emails of appreciation of the previous Masika newsletter, and your comments. I always value constructive criticism, because they help to improve this communication. I have also received long lists of subjects that I could include to make this Masika more enjoyable, but as I said earlier, I do not want to make this a one-man show. What I mean to say is that I need contributions from you, our readers. It can be of any format, or any subject – your imagination is the limit. Please send your contribution to me by May 15 at roygd@aol.com



My special heartfelt thanks to those readers who took it to their hearts my personal experience that I shared in the last Masika. Again, wish you all happiness and joy, and looking forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Dr. Gabriel D. Roy

Editor

Malayalam Class

Malayalam Class Schedule for May and June 2008.

05/10/2008 – 2:00 – 4.00 PM

06/07/2008 – 2:00 – 4.00 PM

06/21/2008 – 2:00 – 4.00 PM

Venue:

East County Community Center 3310 Gateshead Manor
Way Silver Spring, MD 20904

For further information, visit www.kcsmw.org or
contact any of the committee members.



From your youth leaders...

Dear KCS community,

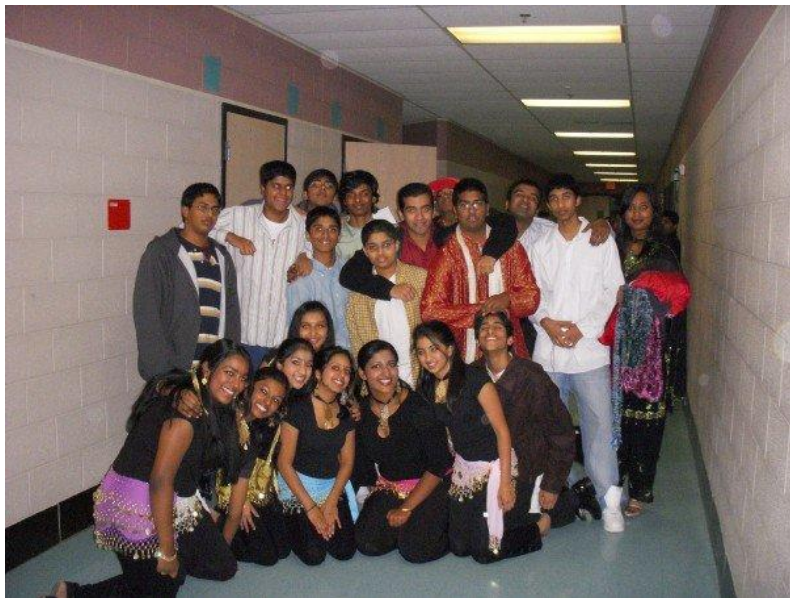
This year so far has been very exciting! With a great group of people, the youth community is looking forward to doing a lot this year. After having a slow start last year, the youth have really come together and gotten to know each other a lot better. We have been holding events such as movie nights and having meetings to make plans for various upcoming events.

Two main events to look forward to this summer is the bake sale at the Summer Dreams program and the Youth Meet/ Charity Basketball Tournament. The bake sale is the 2nd one the youth will have hosted. After the success of last year's bake sale, we are looking forward to doing well again this year. All the money we make from this bake sale will help us fund our big summer event, the Youth Meet. The Youth Meet is the big youth event of this year. We are hoping to reach all age groups especially the youth with this event. In the beginning of the summer, the youth plan to host a half day event where kids get a carnival experience indoors. There will be fun games for all ages and even special prizes. The older kids and even adults can participate in the Basketball Tournament. Most of the profits made from this event will go to charity. This is a good event for your kids to get a chance to come out and meet several of their peers in a good, fun environment while helping out the community at the same time.

If you have any questions feel free to email me at akkuchechy@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate to include your kids in the youth activities because they really will be missing out on a lot of fun.

Sincerely,
Anisha Davis



Our youth group

KCSMW Youth Day

Saturday, June 14, 10 am – 4 pm

Montgomery County, MD (TBD)

Activities:

- Main attraction: 3-on-3 basketball tournament
- Other activities: face painting / henna, musical chairs, pin the tail on the donkey, ring toss, and many more fun activities..

Anisha Davis (akkuchechy@yahoo.com)



Sad news...

We regret to inform you that Mrs. Meenakshamma, mother of Mrs. Mini Nair and mother-in-law of Mr. Suresh Nair, passed away on Thursday, 4/25/2008 due to a heart attack.

While we all share their sorrow, please support the grieving family by your consoling words and prayers.

Invitation to a dinner...

The Indian American Community of Greater Washington D. C. area is extending a very cordial invitation to attend a Felicitation/Reception in honor of Dr. Roy Cherian (Recipient of 2008 Pravashi Bharatiya Sanman and Community Service Award from India Abroad) on Sunday June 1, 2008 at 6 PM at the Bombay Peacock Restaurant, 10005 Old Columbia Road, Columbia, Maryland 21046, Tel. (410) 381- 7111. The donation for the event is 25 dollars per person or 50 dollars per couple and the check should be written in favor of ICCC (Dr. Cherian Felicitation) and mailed to Mr. Satish Gupta as soon possible as the space is very limited. Reservation for this event will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.



Please mail your reservation checks to:

Mr. Satish Gupta
1922 Carters Grove Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20904
(301) 529- 5757

For more information, please contact
Sunny Wycliffe (sunnywycliffe@gmail.com)

On the lighter side...

Prospective customer to a mortgage loan broker: Sir, unfortunately, I do not have money for down payment.
Loan broker: You see... The prices of houses are going UP.
So, I don't really care about DOWN payment.



The person I could never forget...

Gabriel D. Roy

When you think about a person, you could never forget most often the images of our parents, teachers, or leaders, and perhaps movie stars, come to our mind. But the person, who had a strong influence on me and whose fragile figure is always in front of me, does not belong to any of these categories.

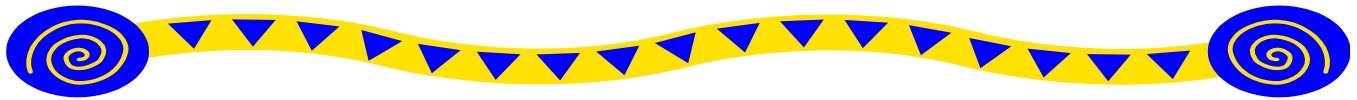
Almost three decades ago, I was a faculty at the College of Engineering, Trivandrum in Kerala. Every summer, one of us from each department get a faculty training program at the Indian Institute of Technology. I was selected on summer to attend such a summer program at the Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur. About 50 faculty members from various colleges from India attended this program. I was elected as the delegate leader and was responsible for organized functions and tours. We were free on one weekend and we decided to take a trip to Benares and possibly to take a dip in the Ganges and take a boat to Trivani Sangam, where the Ganges, Jamuna, and the third divine rivers meet.



Professor William Riley from Iowa State University, his wife, two of my friends (whom I met at the faculty program), and I took a taxi trip from Kanpur towards Benares. As we drove along the countryside, we were thirsty and hungry, but could not find a roadside restaurant, fruit stall, or any shop, where you can get some food. There were not many pedestrians either. Finally, we saw a very fragile man, only partly clothed with loin cloth on the curb, as if waiting for us. We stopped the taxi, and I asked him, whether we can get some water to drink. In front of his small hut, there was a fruit tree (I do

not even remember the name of the fruit; it was something like a plum). He offered us a warm welcome, and we sat on a small bench near the entrance to the small hut. He brought us water from the nearby well and fruits from his tree. He had a wife and three children, and the kids were looking at us. I offered one of the kids a fruit from the leaf basket on which he served the fruits. To this he said “No Sir, these fruits are meant only for travelers like you, and I don’t allow them to take these fruits.” I asked him why, and he told me that when he was young, his father asked him to plan a fruit tree and provide the fruits to travelers who are hungry. I asked him how old his children are. He did not have any sense of month or year. He said the youngest was born two summers before, the second one four winters before, and the first one he did not exactly remember. After we finished this refreshment, offered with such hospitality, Prof. Riley offered him ten rupees as a token of his kindness. To my surprise, the poor person answered “Sir, I cannot accept this from you, because I am not sure that I will meet you again and repay you this, because you are not from our area. And I don’t want to die as a debtor.”

I was amazed at this person’s magnanimous character, and every time I think about him I never fail to remember that goodness and greatness do not necessarily belong to the elite. I have learned the joy of sharing whatever little we have, and he seems to be “guru” to me.



SUMMER DREAMS

Do not miss Summer Dreams 2008!

Saturday, May 31 @ 5:15 pm

Venue:

University of Maryland
Shady Grove Campus
9630 Gudelsky Dr
Rockville, MD 20850

An entertainment extravaganza... Our local budding artists at their best!!!

For more information, please contact:
Chacko Daniel: 301-346-7051
Gopakumaran Nair: 703-652-3804



Scholarship Program

KCS MW has decided to start a Scholarship program for the poor students in Kerala. Depending on the fund availability and applicants Scholarship committee will decide the allocation.

To be eligible for scholarships, student should be currently enrolled or planning to enroll in the 2007-2008 academic year in a post-Higher Secondary course leading to a professional degree program such as Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry, Management, Nursing or Pharmacology.

Online or correspondence courses will not be considered for scholarships. Combined annual income of the student and the student's parents or guardians should not exceed Indian Rupees 50,000.00.

Applicants should have scored at least 75% aggregate marks in the Higher Secondary level (12th Standard) examination.

Applications for these scholarships may be submitted in the prescribed form available on the KCS website www.kcsmw.org

Applicants should not be related to KCS office bearers.

For more info, please contact: Sasidharan Menon at (202) 445-7487



KCSMW 2008 Calendar of Events

- Summer Dreams 2008 - Saturday, May 31
- Youth Day - Saturday, June 14
- Utsav 2008 - Sunday, September 14
- Picnic - Saturday, October 4
- Jingle Bells 2008 - Sunday, December 7

Become a Sponsor

KCSMW 2008 Sponsorship Rates

Mega Sponsor - \$1500

1. Felicitation in one of the three KCSMW cultural programs.
2. Multiple Sponsor announcements during KCSMW events
3. Cover Page advertisement in Vartha
4. Full page Ad in all program flyers
5. Advertisement on KCSMW Website with link to sponsor website
6. Advertisement in 12 monthly E- newsletters – reaching to 850 + email addresses in DC metro area
7. Banner placement and flyer distribution at KCSMW events.
8. Family Lifetime membership to KCSMW

Gold Sponsor - \$750

1. Felicitation in one of the three KCSMW cultural programs.
2. Multiple Sponsor announcements during KCSMW events
3. Full page advertisement in Vartha
4. Half page Advertisement in all program Flyers
5. Advertisement on the KCSMW Website with link to sponsor website
6. Advertisement in 12 monthly E- newsletters – reaching to 850 + email addresses in DC metro area.
7. Banner placement at KCSMW events.

Silver Sponsor - \$500

1. Multiple Sponsor announcements during the program
2. Half page Advertisement in Vartha
3. Banner Advertisement in all program Flyers
4. Banner Advertisement on the Website with link to sponsor website
5. Advertisement in 12 monthly E- newsletters – reaching to 850 + email addresses in DC metro area

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Anil Nair
Jayan Varyam

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Karthika Shajidas
Anisha Davis
Rajani Rajeev

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Public Relations

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Teji Manalel
Venugopal Unnithan
Chacko Daniel

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Pushpa Unnithan
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Sasi Menon

Scholarship Fund

Sasi Menon

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| Gopakumar Nair | gopanair@gmail.com | Joint Secretary |
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Teji Manalel
Loan Officer



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