



The

Oshwal Report



A Newsletter by the Halari Visa Oshwals of America

www.oshwal-usa.org

Issue 11: Fall 2008

Executive Board (2008-2009)

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President's Message

On behalf of Executive Committee of the Halari Visa Oshwals of America, I wish you and your family a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Sal Mubarak to all. I hope you all enjoyed Diwali festivities with your family and friends.

Executive committee members are always working to plan new events/activities and to keep you informed by website or email. We planned a fund raising for India and we are getting good response. Next Jaina Convention will be in Southern California and we will discuss for planning one additional day for our community activities. We have been in contact with area representatives. We are really happy that they organize social events and getting oshwals together. Last May, I attended a spring picnic in Dallas area. It was well organized and there was a good turn out of 60 people. It was a great opportunity to meet other oshwals and discuss future activities. We are a small community and your participation is very important. Take part in your area activities and keep in touch with our organization.

We had requested donations for three facilities/institutions in India. Details of fund raising are on our website. **This is our first general community wise fund raising effort.** As of October, we have received donations over \$32,000 from individual or family. We sincerely would like to thank all those who have donated generously for this worthy cause and we hope others will contribute soon to complete our goals. I would like to thank our committee members and other Oshwals who have done a great job for fund raising.

We regularly post our community news on website www.oshwal-usa.org. I ask you all to forward community news/information to us for posting on website and publishing in our newsletter. If you have any corrections, changes or additions to your information in our Oshwal directory, please, inform Surya and Satish Shah by completing the form available on our website.

At the end, I would like to thank committee members, area representatives and all members for getting involved in community activities and for their support and assistance. We also would like to thank Kush Shah of Memphis, TN for sponsoring newsletters printing and offering a discounted rate for postage.

Jai Jinendra,

Keshav Shah
Halari Visa Oshwals of America

Secretary's Notes

Greetings!!!

- We bring you this second newsletter for 2008. The executive committee tries their best every year to bring you exciting events. We would appreciate your feedback and any suggestions for improvements.

We are very appreciative of your continuing support, helping us grow bigger and better. We highly encourage you to actively participate in the programs by getting more involved in the events planned for the rest of 2008. As we proceed in our endeavors to bring new and exciting events, we renew our request for **RSVP** for all events.

Secretary's Notes and Announcements.

- Members can send in achievements and announcements to the Editors for inclusion in the Community Events section. This is a good way for the entire community to celebrate and take pride in the achievements of our members and their children.

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming events as follows:

- Annual Northeast Thanksgiving Get Together, November 29th 2008

Our annual Thanksgiving Gathering will be held on **Saturday, November 29, 2008**. All oshwals are invited to attend the event. Mark your calendar, plan your trip and join us at our extended Oshwal family gathering to renew our contacts. As always, local families will provide accommodations for people traveling from a distance. Let us know in advance for accommodation. Event details are as follows:

Location: Caldwell College, Student Center, 9 Ryerson Ave. Caldwell, NJ (Directions and maps will be posted on our website)

Time: 4:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Cost: \$15 per person, for Adults and Children above 13 yrs old.
\$10 per child, for children 6 to 12 yrs old.
Free for children 5 yrs old and under.

We are looking for entire or partial event sponsors. If anyone is interested, please contact one of the board members (contact information is under Executive Board). We also need head count ASAP - so please, send email at president@oshwal-usa.org or call any committee members.

If anybody would like to present or perform an item, please let us know in advance. We need to coordinate all activities

- Annual Summer Picnic for the Tri-State area (NY-NJ-CT), June 2009 (Father's Day).
- Pratishtha Mahotsav Tampa Bay Florida

Jain Center of Tampa Bay will be hosting guests for Pratishtha Mahotsav dated November 27, 28, 29 & 30, (Thanksgiving Weekend). Please log on to www.jainsociety.Tampabay.org. For more details contact Veni Shah at 813-431-7701

Past Events

Father's Day Picnic - Haverstraw, NY

The annual Father's Day picnic in the New York Metro area was held on Sunday, June 15, 2008 at Haverstraw Bay Park in Haverstraw, New York. Over 50 people attended and enjoyed catching up, with the Hudson River as a backdrop. There was plenty of delicious food, including jalebi-gathiya, bagels, tea, sweet corn, veggie-kebabs, bhel, and sandwiches.

Father's Day Picnic - Chicago, Illinois

On June 15, 2008 over 40 people come together to celebrate a special Father's Day with many friends and family at Dipak and Smita Shah's residence in Lemont, Illinois. Due to the weather, the planned picnic at the park was changed, but worked out for the best.

Community News

Merits

Congratulations to...

- Congratulations to Mehul Malde, son of Amubhai and Vijiyaben Malde of Santacruz (W) Mumbai, India. Mehul is graduating from Babson College of Boston, MA.
- Congratulations to Milan Dipak Shah (son of Smita & Dipak Shah) of Lemont, Illinois, on his graduation from Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois, with a degree in Business Administration and Accounting.
- Prina Shah, daughter of Chandrakant and Niru Shah, currently residing in Schaumburg, Illinois, graduated with double degrees: PharmD (Doctorate of Pharmacy), and MBA (Master of Business Administration) from Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, on May 18th, 2008.

Births

Congratulations to...

- Congratulations to Baiju & Ashish Chauhan of Chicago, Illinois on the birth of their baby girl, Annika Baiju Chauhan in May 2008 in Chicago, Illinois. Proud grandparents are Chandulal and Madhu Malde of Flint, Michigan and Late Hasmukhlalbai and Lalitaben Chauhan of Carol Stream, Illinois.
- Congratulations to Raju and Monica Shah on the birth of their baby boy Jainam in October 2008. Proud grandparents are Manu and Niru Shah of Maryland and Praful and Pratima Shah of Michigan
- Congratulations to Kush and Pooja Shah of Memphis, TN on the birth of their son Sohum in October 2008. Proud grandparents are Sanjay and Asmita Shah of Columbia, SC.

Weddings/Engagements

Congratulations to...

- Congratulations to Monisha Shah (daughter of Ramesh and Madula Shah of Waterloo, Iowa, paternal granddaughter of Mr. Premchand Bharmal Shah & Mrs. Jaya Shah, of Plano, TX and maternal granddaughter of Nemchand Punja Maru and Vijyaben of Mumbai) and Deepak Marwah (son of Shashi and Ashok Marwah of Pittsburgh, PA) on their wedding on October 18th, 2008 in Chicago, IL. We wish the couple all the best and happiness in their married life.

- Congratulations to Kushal Shah (son of Pravin and Pravina Shah of Austin, Texas) and Alvi Shah (daughter of Chandulal and Kantaben Shah of Mumbai, India) on their wedding on March 3rd, 2008. We wish the couple all the best and happiness in their married life.
- Congratulations to Sonia Shah (Daughter of Madhu and Hemendra Shah of Leominster, Massachusetts) and Adam Boardman (Son of Carol and Larry Boardman of Connecticut) on their wedding on Jun 14th 2008 at the Indian Pond Country Club in Kingston, MA.

Wedding Anniversary

- Our heartiest congratulations to Sudhaben and Chandulal Popatlal Keshavji of Irving, Texas for celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on November 8, 2008. We wish them a long healthy life.

Condolences

- Mr. Zaverchand Virpal Shah (Harania) passed away on September 30, 2008 in Kenton, London. He is survived by his wife Kusturben Z. Shah and 8 children. His daughter Naynaben Jay Shah resides in Sherman, TX.
- Makaben (Radiatben) Raishi Mepa Shah passed away on August 10, 2008 in Nairobi, Kenya. She was mother of Suresh Raishi Shah of Nashua, NH, and grandmother of Sneha, Aarti and Puja Shah of Nashua, NH. She was Masi to Shantilal Jhankhariya of Hackettstown, NJ, and Hasmukh, Dinesh, and Kiren Shah of St. Louis, MO.
- Mr. Narshi Punja Shah of Nairobi, Kenya passed away on June 21, 2008. He was a great asset to the Oshwal community in Kenya. He worked for many worthwhile causes for the enrichment of the Oshwal community. May his soul rest in peace.
- Devendra Virchand Raichand Shah passed away on 9th June 2008 in London following a heart attack. He too was great contribution to the London Oshwal community. He worked very hard to spread the Jain faith among young and old. May his soul rest in peace.

Tapasya

- Hita Shah of Celebration-Orlando did 8 days of fasting (uthai).

Treasury Report

At the beginning of this year, we had a balance of \$612.56. Since then we have paid \$504.39 for newsletter, web administration and bank charges. By October, we have received \$32,002.00 for India Fund Raising. This money will be sent to India before the end of the year. So, the remaining balance is \$108.17. Next year, we will need more money for administrative expenses.

Executive Committee (2008 -2009)

India Fund Raising Update

On behalf of the Halari Visa Oshwals of America, the Executive Committee had requested donations for three facilities/institutions in India. These are (1) Halari Visa Oshwal Boarding and Kanya Chhatralay, Jamnagar, Gujarat, (2) Oshwal Yatrik Gruh, Palitana, Gujarat and (3) Halari Visa Oshwals Mahajanwadi in Bangalore. **This is our first general community wise fund raising effort.** As of October, we have received donations over \$32,000 ranging from \$51 to \$10,000 from individual or family. We sincerely would like to thank all those who have donated generously for this worthy cause and we hope others will contribute soon. More information on the projects is available, here: <http://www.oshwal-usa.org/2008/05/03/fund-raising/>

We are slowly but surely moving forward to meet our fund raising goal of \$35,000 or more. Details of fund raising are on our website. Each need is unique and different from each other. We hope to meet our goal and we request everyone to donate soon. Your contribution will go long way and it will be beneficial to all Oshwals. Our association is a registered non-profit organization and therefore donations are tax-deductible. Deadline for fund raising was October 31, 2008. However, we will accept any donations afterward and forward to selected places. Donation check shall be made to The Halari Visa Oshwals of America and mail it, with a note for your selection/choice of place(s), to: Jay Bid. 3 Yale Court, Livingston, NJ 07039

DONORS LIST		
No.	Donors	City & State
1	Dodhia Manek and Madhu	Suffern, NY
2	Shah Satish and Surya	Plano, TX
3	Shah Kiran and Alpa	Plano, TX
4	Shah Manu, Niru, and Meena	Hanover, MD
5	Shah Raju and Monica	Hanover, MD
6	Anonymous	New York, NY
7	Sumaria Venilal and Debbie	Danvers, MA
8	Beed Jayesh, Bina, Seena and Shaam	Livingston, NJ
9	Bid Velji, Champa, Poorni and Jay	Livingston, NJ
10	Shah Keshav and Kanchan	Chestnut Ridge, NY
11	Gaggar Shilpa, Amit and Akash	Hoover, AL
12	Shah Nikesh and Neha	Danbury, CT
13	Dedhiya Ketan and Pallavi	Jamesburg, NJ
14	Shah Gulab and Anila	Scottsdale, AZ
15	Vora Nimish and Mehta Mita	Princeton, NJ
16	Shah Kalpesh, Rashmi, Chandni and Kareena	Hillsdale, NJ
17	Shah Mitesh and Tanvi	Edison, NJ
18	Gada Anita	Easton, PA
19	Shah Nilay	Philadelphia, PA
20	Shah Chandu and Meena	Springfield, NJ
21	Galaiya Jayanti and Vijya	Long Valley, NJ
22	Shah Sanjay and Asmita	Columbia, SC
23	Shah Rajesh and Shilpa	Plano, TX
24	Shah Rashmi and Sandya	Grapevine, TX
25	Shah Sharad	Eureka, MO
26	Shah Kamla, Leena and Neel	Jersey City, NJ

PRATISHTHA MAHOTSAV AT JAIN CENTER OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, LA

The Jain Center of Southern California (JCSC) arranged a grand Pratishtha Mahotsav from September 26 through October 6, 2008 to commemorate opening of a new Religious Complex in the city of Buena Park. Several Oshwal families living in the Los Angeles area actively participated in the celebration. Nina Aashit Shah of Carlsbad, Reena and Milan Shah of Aliso Viejo, Seema and Sujit Shah of Aliso Viejo, and Shilpa and Nitin Shah of Temple City were part of a large group of volunteers who helped in several activities to make this a memorable occasion. Sajjan, Riya and Anika (children of Seema and Sujit Shah) and Shivani

(daughter of Shilpa and Nitin Shah) took part in cultural programs which were very entertaining. Riya had also the honor of lighting a Diva to commemorate the beginning of Pratishta Mahotsav. Sushilaben Girishbhai Shah of Yorba Linda wrote, directed and produced an enlightening one act play titled “Jambu Swami’s Vairagya”. Her commentary and acting by members of the Swadhya Group including Girishbhai and their two sons – Bickey and Moulick, was truly commendable.

JCSC was established in 1979. At present, there are about 1,000 Jain families in the Los Angeles area. JCSC has embarked upon a very ambitious development program. The first phase consisting of a 62,000 square feet of Cultural Complex was started in 2002 and completed in 2005. The second phase consists of a 13,000 square foot Religious Complex which houses the new Derasar and the Ardhana Hall. The dome and ceiling in the Derasar were designed and fabricated by Nipul Gulabchand Shah of San Diego, CA. He started fabrication in his house with the help of his wife, Renuka, and son Amar. This project was made using a special mix of light weight materials. One has to see the dome and the ceiling to really appreciate his art work. In 2005, he designed and fabricated a Gabaro for the temporary Derasar in the Cultural Complex when the new Derasar was being constructed. He is presently working on the art work for a new Derasar being built in Atlanta. If you want to know more about the JCSC, please visit the following web site: www.jaincenter.net/newsite/. To see photos of the celebration, click on ‘photo gallery’ and to see videos of several programs click on ‘audio/video’ on the left. Some photos are also posted on our website: www.oshwal-usa.org

Submitted by: Satish Shah, Plano, Texas

If undelivered please return to

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