



This is our third edition of Sandesh (the e-newsletter for IAN) for 2014. The highlight of this issue is a featured article on the Emergency Response Committee.

The third Executive Committee (EC) meeting was held on 16 Mar 2014 at the Hindu temple. Preparations are on full swing for the bee contests to be held next month. Planning for the individual events, organizing volunteers and judges were the main topics of discussion.

Emergency Response Chairpersons Message:

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to write this month's editorial on behalf of the **Emergency Response Committee**. This is an emerging group that was created last year to respond, manage and help with all types of natural and sudden emergency needs of any fellow Indian who lives in Nebraska.

Most of us left our motherland and came to the United States to build a future. This endeavor has involved taking risks so we can grow and prosper in an unknown land. Life for us in this new home slowly evolved but we end up missing home and family. When uncertainty looms large and you need help, IAN's Emergency Response Squad will be there for you to take care of your emergency needs.

During the time of an Emergency ERS can –

Provide shelter, clothes, food, transportation and monetary assistance

Organize Medical assistance

Liaise with the Insurance Company and Indian consulate

Be a sanctuary of comfort, strength, and peace

Be the gateway for the community to help each other

At ERS we believe

Ask nothing; want nothing in return.

Give what you have to give; it will come back to you, but do not think of that now.

Best regards,

Muralidhar Chintapalli

Chair, Emergency Response, India Association of Nebraska

Highlights:

Last years' events

ERS volunteers spend tremendous amount of time helping victims in various ways. Being an integral part of IAN, which is an umbrella organization representing all Indians living in Nebraska, we work closely with all local and regional Indian Associations including student associations.

Last year we helped one consultants family, when they were faced his untimely demise. His family located in Denver was unaware of his situation. ERS volunteers worked with his wife providing immediate psychological comfort and with authorities to ensure everything proceeded smoothly.

There was another incident with a medical emergency. We worked with the government authorities in helping the persons parents come here and help with his long-term care. ERS and many community members volunteered time and other help to help the parents get settled in.

During the fire in Hillsborough apartments last year, two families were affected. ERS worked to help them find shelter and help with their other needs.

These efforts are not possible without funds. To this end IAN organized an Odissi dance program. The dancers very magnanimously donated all proceeds to the ERS.

The students of UNO organized a sweet sale, where they made laddoos and sold it. The money raised by them was also donated to the ERS. It is heartwarming to see the next generation step up to a good cause.

All of us recognize the problems with living so far away from India. When you are faced with difficult times ERS will be the family or friend that you need and stand by you to offer help in any way that we can.

Please consider donating (see link below) towards this noble cause to strengthen the ERS group so can help out even more.

<http://www.indiaassociationofnebraska.org/IANERFAMF.aspx>

Spotlight:

STATE: Karnataka

Karnataka is situated in the southwestern part of India. It is the eighth largest state by area and ninth largest by population. It has two major rivers – Krishna and Kaveri run across the state. Karnataka is bordered by Goa and Maharashtra to the north, Andhra Pradesh to the east, Kerala and Tamil Nadu to the south and the Arabian Sea on the west.



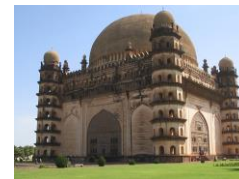
Bangalore is its largest city and capital. Other large cities include Hubli, Mysore, and Mangalore. Kannada is the most widely spoken and official language. While majority of the workforce is in agriculture, Karnataka is the manufacturing hub for some of the largest public sector industries like Hindustan Aeronautics limited (HAL), Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and the center for many premier science and technology research centers like Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Bharat Electronics limited (BEL), Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI). With the surge of Information Technology (IT), Bangalore has earned the title of Silicon Valley of India.

Many festivals are celebrated here like Ugadi (New Year), Makara Sankranti (Harvest festival), Ganesh Chaturthi, Basava Jayanthi (for the famed lingayat Basava). Rajyotsava day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of the formation of the state on Nov 1st. Dasara is celebrated with much gusto in Mysore.



The diverse linguistic and religious ethnicities native to Karnataka have contributed to the immensely varied cultural heritage. Yakshagana is a classical dance drama and one of the major theatrical forms of Karnataka. Some noted musicians are – Bhimsen Joshi, Hindustani vocalist and Purandaradasa, the grandfather of Carnatic music.

By virtue of its varied geography and long history Karnataka has numerous tourist interest spots ranging from ancient sculptured temples, scenic hills and endless beaches. The Gol Gumbaz in Bijapur is the second largest pre-modern dome in the world. Jog falls in Shimoga is India's tallest single-tiered waterfall.



Rice and ragi are staple foods. Some of the dishes that are popular are Bisibele bath (hot lentil rice), Ragi mudde (finger millet balls), Uppittu (roasted semolina porridge), Dosa and Mysore pak (gram flour sweet). The Udipi cuisine from coastal Karnataka is also very popular all over India.

IAN's Event Calendar for 2014

Event	Date	Location	Time
Solo Singing Competitions	1/26/2014	Hindu Temple Social Hall	2.30 pm to 4:30 pm
65 th Republic Day	1/26/2014	Hindu Temple Social Hall	5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
NSF Bee contests (Spelling, Math, Geography and Vocabulary)	4/26/2014 & 4/27/2014	UNO Mammel hall	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Odissi Performance	TBD	Hindu Temple Social Hall	TBD
ACT/SAT mock tests	Jun – Jul	Hindu Temple Social Hall	TBD
Sports Day	Jul	Multiple locations	TBD
Solo dance competitions	Aug	Hindu Temple Social Hall	TBD
68 th Independence Day	Aug	Hindu Temple Social Hall	TBD
Health Fair	8/31/2014	Hindu Temple Social Hall	TBD
Flu Shot day	Sep or Oct 2014	Bal Vihar classrooms	TBD
Rhythms of India	TBD	TBD	TBD

Please see next page for further details about the NSF bee contests

Appeal:

Please do renew your membership or signup for life membership if you are not currently life members. Membership can be obtained by filling the info at <http://www.indiaassociationofnebraska.org/Membership.aspx> and the payment is made securely thru PayPal. Your membership is tax deductible as IAN is a non-profit organization.

If you would like to volunteer for any upcoming IAN events please email info@indiaassociationofnebraska.org

If you are interested in contributing articles or have suggestions for Sandesh please email us at publications@indiaassociationofnebraska.org

Like IAN : <https://www.facebook.com/pages/India-Association-of-Nebraska/148111838633174>

THANK YOU

Articles gathered and edited by Mrs. Smitha Amar and Mrs. Malathi Balu

NSF's Bee Contests

The Indian Association of Nebraska, in coordination with the North South Foundation (NSF) Nebraska chapter is organizing four bee contests (Spelling, Vocabulary, Math and Geography Bee) for the kids of Indian origin. Registration is now open & the contests will be conducted on April 26th and 27th, 2014 at UNO Mammel Hall. **Register early to download the practice materials.** Qualified kids will get to participate in the NSF National Finals that will be held at Dallas, TX on 8/16 - 8/17/2014.

Spelling Bee	Junior	(For children in Grades 1-3)	4/26/14 8:00 AM
	Intermediate	(For children in Grades 4-8)	4/26/14 8:00 AM
Vocabulary Bee	Junior	(For children in Grades 1-3)	4/26/14 12:00 Noon
	Senior	(For children in Grades 4-8)	4/26/14 12:00 Noon
Math Bee	Level 1	(For children in Grades 1-2)	4/27/14 8:00 AM
	Level 2	(For children in Grades 3-5)	4/27/14 8:00 AM
	Level 3	(For children in Grades 6-8)	4/27/14 8:00 AM
Geography Bee	Junior	(For children in Grades 1-3)	4/27/14 10:00 AM
	Senior	(For children in Grades 4-8)	4/27/14 10:00 AM

Venue: Mammel Hall, UNO, Omaha

Date and Time: April 26/27th, 2014, 8:00 AM to 5:00PM

Contact: Ravi 402-617-3695, Babu 402-218-6702,
Sundar 402-315-0818, Joe 402-682-2724

Deadline for registration: April 12th, 2014

Registration: <http://indiaassociationofnebraska.org/ianspellingbee2014.aspx>

INDIA ASSOCIATION OF NEBRASKA AND NSF WISHES ALL THE KIDS GOOD LUCK AND CONGRATULATES THE FOLLOWING WINNERS WHO WENT TO THE NSF NATIONAL CONTESTS (FINALS) FROM NEBRASKA LAST YEAR: DEEKSHA SRIDHER, ESWAR RAMAMURTHY, SANKAR RAMAMURTHY, SRISAI TURANGI, ABHINAV BETTADAPURA, ESHAAN GIRI AND VIJAY MENON

Appendix A: Complete IAN Committee 2014

President	Mr. Joseph Selvaraj
President Elect	Mr. Srinivasarao Mallipudi
Secretary	Mr. Sundar Chokkara
Treasurer	Mr. Venu Potineni
Past President	Mr. Muralidhar Chintapalli
Permanent Member	Dr. Syed Mohiuddin
Permanent Member	Dr. Alekha Dash
Member 2014	Dr. Amarnath Natarajan
Member 2014	Mrs. Asha Deshpande
Member 2014	Mr. Gowridhar Madu
Member 2014	Dr. Meera Varman

Committee	Chair	Co-chair	Members
Banquet	Mr. Kantha Raju Etigi	Mrs. Deepa Kashyap	
Community Service	Dr. Alekha Das	Mr. Srinivasarao Mallipudi	
Cultural	Mrs. Swati Ponnappalli	Mr. Gowridhar Madu	Mr. Arun Prasad Mrs. Keerthi Ranjith
Education	Dr. Babu Guda	Mr. Tirumala Chengalasetty	Mr. Shankar Kuppa
Emergency Response	Mr. Sunil Singh	Mr. Muralidhar Chintapalli	Mr. Ravi Kumar Mr. Rony Kappuzha Mr. Shivashankar Yadav Mrs. Swarna Gopi Mr. Venkat
Finance	Mr. Venu Potineni	Mr. Pradeep Somavarapu	
Information Technology	Mr. Ishroop Aneja	Mr. Raj Deeduvanu	Mr. Jay Pawar
Long Range Planning committee	Dr. Sanjay Singh	Dr. Phani T Adidam	Past Presidents
Membership	Mr. Arul Nambi	Mr. Srinivas Nimmagadda	Mr. Ratish Gopal
Publications	Dr. Rakesh Singh	Dr. Vimal Kandasamy	Mrs. Anjana Mukherjee Mrs. Bhanu Sethupathy Mrs. Devi Kotaru Miss. Kinjal Vyas Mrs. Latha Kishore Mrs. Malathi Balu Mrs. Mrudula Potineni Mrs. Ramanpreet Aneja Mrs. Smitha Kizhake
Nomination	Mr. Muralidhar Chintapalli		
Public Relations	Dr. Meera Varman	Mr. Gowridhar Madu	
Schools/Universities	Mr. Sanjeevi Mariappan	Mr. Prasad Dharmavarapu	High School/University Students
Sports	Mr. Krishna Ravipati	Mr. Dilip Bhavani	
Youth	Mr. Venkat Kiran	Mr. Venkat Perla	
Volunteer	Mr. Vijay Anand	Mr. Vijay Varma	Mr. SriHarish Rajakumar