



ગુજરાતી સમાજ

Gujarati Samaj of Baltimore

Navneet

Gujarati Community Newsletter

A Non-Profit Tax-Exempt Organization

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Manu Shah, Editor

V10-06

November, 2010

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સાલ મુબારક - વિક્રમ સંવત ૨૦૧૭

દિવાળી એટલે દીપનો, અજવાળાનો, પ્રકાશનો ઉત્સવ. દિવાળી એ તો રાષ્ટ્રનો દીપોત્સવ છે. નિરાશા અને હતાશા દુર કરી, આ ઉત્સવ શ્રદ્ધા, આશા અને ઉમંગ સાથે ભાવિ તરફ ગતિમાન કરે છે. પ્રકાશ એટલે વધુ ઉજ્જવળ ભાવિ; વધુ સાદું સાત્વિક જીવન; પ્રકાશ એટલે શુભત્વ; પાવિત્ર્ય. પ્રકાશ એટલે સમજપૂર્ણ સમર્પણની ભાવના પણ ખરી.

દિવાળીના અવસર-પ્રસંગ પર પ્રગટાવેલા અગણિત દીવડાઓ ધોર અંધકારને હઠાવી પ્રકાશ ફેલાવે છે. આ પ્રેમ, શાંતિ, સદ્ભાવના, એકતા સાથે આત્મીયતા, અને દરેક ના દિલમાં દીપ પ્રગટાવવાનો અવસર છે. આવો, આ દીપોત્સવના શુભપર્વ પ્રસંગે આપણે સર્વ સહુ સાથે મળીને આત્મદીપ પ્રગટાવીએ અને જ્યાં અંધકાર છે ત્યાં આપણે આશા, પ્રેમ અને વિકાસનું નાનું કોડિયું પ્રગટાવવામાં નિમિત્ત બનીએ અને સાથે મળીને નવી દિશાઓ શોધીએ એવી અર્ચના, અભ્યર્થના અને અભિલાશા. સર્વના વધુ ઉજ્જવળ ભાવિ માટે પ્રભુ પ્રાર્થના.

I am very pleased with the overwhelming response for our Diwali Dinner Program and we want to inform everyone of the change in the venue. You should have received a phone call from one of our committee members/volunteers about the change in the venue. Please note that the new location is at **The Rendeveous Banquet Hall in Beltsville, Maryland**. For directions and the address, see elsewhere in the Newsletter.

I am also very pleased with the turnout and your support for our Navratri program, especially considering that we were in new locations this time. We thank Patel Brothers for sponsoring Prasad for all three nights. I also cannot thank enough our committee members, their spouses and all volunteers who have provided unconditional support for these events. *While it is very difficult to single out every volunteer who stepped forward to help us, I would like to specially recognize Bhavnaben, Meenaben, and Rekhaben for spending many hours to make Papdino-lot and Marcha which was very well received by our community.* We also thank the new facilities staff for working with us. For details, see elsewhere in the Newsletter.

I would also like to take time to inform you that we will be unveiling our new banner at the Diwali Dinner Program. Thanks to Sly Patel and Nimish Kadakia for working on the design of the new banner with a very short turnaround time. For a preview of the new banner please visit:
<http://picasaweb.google.com/GujaratiSofBaltimore/GSBBanner#5536210191775267762>

We will be holding our General Body Meeting on December 11, 2010 at Greater Baltimore Temple from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We will be presenting financial report for the current year and a report on the activities to date and our planning for the next year. For details, see elsewhere in the Newsletter.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all participants, volunteers and committee members and their spouses for their unconditional support and help.

Payesh Jhaveri

Volunteers

Manisha Bhatt
410-661-8737
Rushi Bhatt
410-581-9693
Mitu Dalwadi
410-517-2812
Suresh Dalwadi
443-629-3324
Nilesh Desai
410-489-6592
Nishith Gandhi
410-997-3917
Raghuvir Patel
443-710-9456
Raj Patel
410-998-9838
B. G. Thakkar
410-465-0955

Youth Committee Coordinator

TBA

Members

TBA

Diwali Dinner and Live Concert with Tina – November 13, 2010

Dinner: 6:00 p.m. sharp followed by concert. Venue:

The Rendeveous Banquet Hall, 10207 Southard Drive, Beltsville, MD 20705

Past Events

Navratri Programs

We had an excellent response from our community for all three of our Navratri Programs. Two of these events were held at Glenwood Community Center in Glenwood, Howard County. This is a great facility with not only a very large gymnasium that can accommodate up to 1,600 participants, but a commercial-size kitchen and very large multi-purpose rooms that provide additional area for our use. There is more than enough parking available at this facility. The refreshments provided during the event were well received by our community.

We also used Meadowbrook Athletic Complex at Ellicott City, Howard County for the second Navratri event and we almost reached the capacity of the facility. Parking was at a premium and we had to use the overflow parking at the nearby Park & Ride facility. We had to improvise on the amount of lighting available for the parking lots at the facility and we had rented portable lighting for our use. Due to the number of attendees, we were sold out on some food/refreshment items we had planned for our attendees.

We will be addressing some of the issues we have identified for next year. We ask our members to please talk to your children/teenagers about the adverse impact their actions may have on our community's good name. At Glenwood Community facility, we had three phone calls made to 911 by our children/teenagers using the public pay phone in the lobby of the facility. Needless to say, Howard County Fire Department responded in force as they were aware of the large attendance at our event and they did not want to take any chances.

At Meadowbrook Athletic Complex, we will try to address parking, lighting and the number of chairs available for our use. We can also do better with proper use of the patio and multi-purpose room for use as a refreshment area. We are in touch with Howard County staff and will be asking them to look in to providing additional lighting at this Athletic Complex. Also, there is a scenic walkway from the Park & Ride Lot to the Athletic Complex which we can use if it is lighted and properly signed. We hope we can encourage participants to use Park & Ride facilities for the overflow parking and use scenic walkway from the lot to the Complex.

For these events to come out the way they did require us to have all hands on board including all our volunteers. We cannot thank them enough for their time and unconditional support. We acknowledge very gratefully the help we received from all volunteers: Jagrutiben, Niruben, Kumudben, Rekhaben, Bhavnaben, Meenaben, Rajeshwariben, Seema, Bhanuben, Manishaben, Pravinaben, Raj (Bunty), Yogeshbhai, Bhupendrabhai, Raghuvirbhai, Nilesh, Nishith, Jaykant, Hareshbhai, Suresh, and Mitu. We also thank our supporter UMBC RAASCALS who helped us with the publicity and encouraging participation at our events. We are also looking in to making this a premier event and request your feedback on how we can improve the delivery of this program.

For the pictures of the Navratri events please visit our web site at the following link:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/GujaratiSofBaltimore>

Howard County Executive Ken Ulman's Visit to Navratri Event



We kindly thank our member Jaykant Parekh for inviting County Executive Ken Ulman to our Navratri event. For some time now, we have been looking for a home for our bigger events which would be central to all our members. It has been a very difficult task to find appropriate venues for our larger events. However, we believe that Howard County facilities are a key to our events. We had asked County Executive Ken Ulman to visit us so that he can become familiar with our needs and so that we can better work with the County Facility managers. For our members residing in Howard County, we kindly ask that you send a thank you note to the County Executive Ken Ulman thanking him for coming to our event and his willingness to look in to the issues we have identified and his willingness to help us in addressing them.

Navratri Pictures





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ABOUT DR. KAMLESH PATEL

Dr. Patel received his Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) degree in 1986 from the University of Pennsylvania, School of Dental Medicine, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He completed one year Comprehensive General Practice Residency at the V.A. Medical Center (1987-1988) Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Patel, then practiced General & Cosmetic Dentistry for 4 years treating all phases of General Dentistry. Dr. Patel, formerly, served as a Clinical Instructor, Department of Oral Medicine, Temple University, School of Dentistry, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dr. Patel, completed his Specialty training in Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics in 1994 at the Howard University, College of Dentistry, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Patel has been published in the "American Journal of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics" and the "Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery".

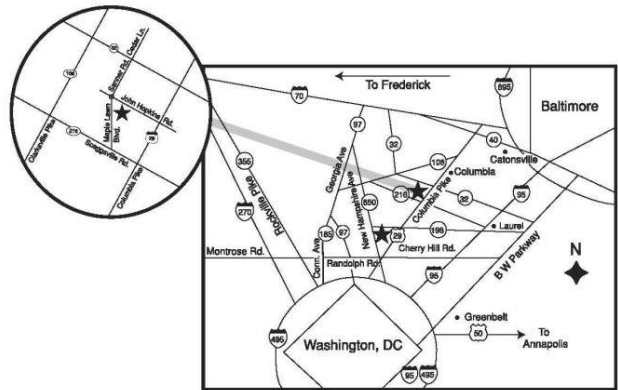
Dr. Patel is a member of the American Association of Orthodontists, the Maryland State Society of Orthodontists, the American Dental Association and the Maryland State Dental Association.

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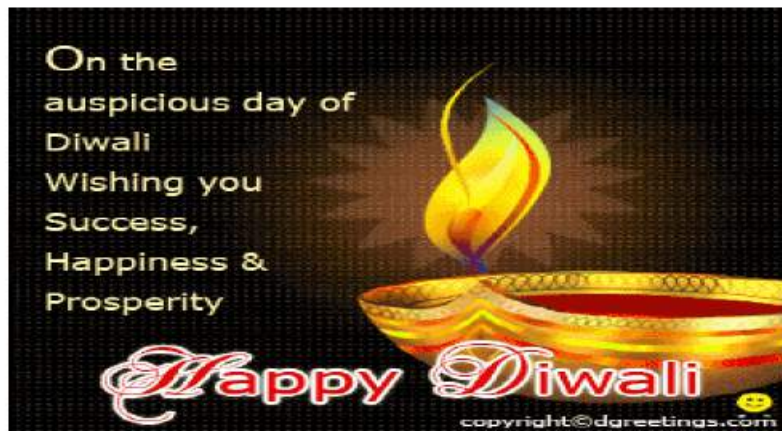
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જ્યાં અપેક્ષા છે ત્યાં ઉપેક્ષા ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં આગમન છે ત્યાં ગમન ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં અહમ છે ત્યાં અહંકાર ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં માન છે ત્યાં અપમાન ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં ચઢતી છે ત્યાં પડતી ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં મિલન છે ત્યાં વિયોગ ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં સર્જન છે ત્યાં વિસર્જન ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં પ્રકાશ છે ત્યાં અંધકાર ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં સવાર છે ત્યાં સંધ્યા ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં આનંદ છે ત્યાં અશ્રુ ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં આરંભ છે ત્યાં અંત ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં જીત છે ત્યાં હાર ની સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં સુખ છે ત્યાં દુઃખ ની સંભાવના છે

પણ

જ્યાં સત્સંગ છે ત્યાં ધર્મ-સમજણ ની પૂરી સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં સમજણ છે ત્યાં સ્થિત-પ્રજ્ઞતા ની પૂરી સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં સ્થિત-પ્રજ્ઞતા છે ત્યાં શાંતિ ની પૂરી સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં મન-શાંતિ છે ત્યાં સમાધિ ની પૂરી સંભાવના છે
જ્યાં સમાધિ છે ત્યાં પ્રભુ-પ્રાપ્તિ ની પૂરી સંભાવના છે

રતિભાઈ પટેલ, આરલિંગટન, વર્જિનિયા

થાકવું નહિ

હાથ ભલે થાકે, હાથ-દોરી બનતા થાકવું નહિ
પગ ભલે થાકે, પ્રભાત-ફેરી ફરતા થાકવું નહિ

આંખ ભલે થાકે, અમી-દ્રષ્ટી રાખતા થાકવું નહિ
જીભ ભલે થાકે, ગોવિંદ-ગીત ગાતા થાકવું નહિ

તન ભલે થાકે, શ્રમ-યજ્ઞ કરતા થાકવું નહિ
મન ભલે થાકે, સ્વાધ્યાય કરતા થાકવું નહિ

આચાર ભલે થાકે, વિચાર કરતા થાકવું નહિ
હૃદય ભલે થાકે, પ્રેમ વહેયતા થાકવું નહિ

બંદગી ભલે થાકે, ભગવાન ભજતા થાકવું નહિ
જિંદગી ભલે થાકે, જીવન જીવતા થાકવું નહિ

રતિભાઈ પટેલ, આરલિંગટન, વર્જિનિયા

Upcoming Events

Diwali Dinner Program:

Due to overwhelming/unprecedented response to our joint Diwali Dinner Program with GSMW, we had to scramble hard to find a larger venue for our event. Please note that the venue for the dinner has been changed to:

**The Rendevous Banquet Hall in Beltsville
10207 Southard Drive
Beltsville, MD 20705**

Directions:

From Baltimore, MD: Take I-95 S towards Washington, Merge onto Powder Mill Road/MD 212 E via Exit 29A towards Beltsville. Turn RIGHT onto Power Mill Road/MD 212 S. Turn RIGHT onto Baltimore Avenue/US 1 South. Turn LEFT onto Southard Drive. Banquet Hall is on the Right.

We are expecting a total attendance of over 875 people. We are planning for a very entertaining event for our members. Our vendor for the dinner is Chowpatty Restaurant of Edison, New Jersey. Tina Dalal of Tinaz Entertainment Station is our featured entertainer. When we met with her to plan for our event, we were very impressed by her willingness to work with us to provide an excellent entertainment program.

The ticket price was kept at \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members so that as many of our members as possible could participate but we would not subsidize non-member costs. This amount was jointly negotiated with GSMW. While the Joint GSB/GSMW Committee executing the Diwali Dinner Program has worked very hard to minimize the cost, we had to improvise as we planned for this event due to unprecedented demand for participation from our members. It had necessitated a change in venue to accommodate a larger participation and has required modifications in our vendor contracts. As of now, we are subsidizing each attendee by a cost of approximately \$5.00 which is more in line with what has transpired in prior years except for 2009. While we have not solicited any donations from our members, if you like the program we deliver, please feel free to make donations to GSB.

On October 30th, we had a joint Diwali Dinner Logistics meeting with GSMW to work out the details on planning and delivering of this program. Members from both of our Samaj have worked diligently to anticipate and address all items to deliver what we hope is a very good program to our members.

To make the most of this event, please try **to come on time or early**. The program will start at **6:00 p.m. sharp**. Tickets will be distributed at the door. No one will be allowed inside the banquet venue without a ticket purchased in advance. Parking is at a premium and you will be directed as to where you can park. Costco is nearby and even though they will be closed at the time our function starts, we have been informed by the Costco Management that any cars parked in their parking lot will be subject to towing.

General Body Meeting:

The General Body Meeting will be held on December 11, 2010 at The Greater Baltimore Temple, 2902 Bloom Road, Finksburg, Maryland from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We encourage your participation to help us plan for the coming year. We will be presenting the financial reports for the current year and a report on the activities held during the year. If you are unable to attend, we will appreciate your written comments.

Gujarati Samaj of Baltimore Banner:

We will be unveiling our new banner at the Diwali Dinner Program. For a preview of the banner, please visit the following link:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/GujaratiSofBaltimore/GSBBanner#5536210191775267762>

We are looking for your comments on the new banner as well as suggestions for a better design. We may hold a competition next year to come up with the best designs possible for our banner and our logo. We encourage you to send us your suggestions.

From the Desk of the Secretary:

Membership Database

Over the past several months, we have worked diligently to clean up our membership database. We now have over 500 records in our database. We have identified and addressed many issues for strengthening the integrity of our database. We are also trying to rebuild our e-mail list so that we can provide timely updated events information by e-mail to our members. Even though we had a very good working e-mail list previously, we were never provided that list by the members of the departing Executive Committee despite our repeated requests for the e-mail file.

To maintain the integrity of our membership database, we are now segregating the duties assigned on recording/adding new members to our database and making any changes to the permanent membership records. Manu Shah, as Secretary, is responsible for the membership record keeping as per our current Constitution. Kanu Patel, as our treasurer, is responsible for issuing a written receipt for dues payment by any new member and assigning a permanent membership number. All new life members will be recognized in our Newsletter. Kanu Patel has worked diligently to go back to all the records in his possession and has been able to assign a permanent number to all members since year 2000. As time permits, Kanu Patel will go back to the year of our formation and reconstruct the records as best as we can. In some cases, we will have to grandfather the member numbers we have already assigned if we cannot find any other records to validate the data we have. Atul Patel, our Auditor, has been assigned the sole responsibility for maintaining our membership database. The records are available on line to Atul Patel so that any changes can be made on the fly and an audit trail is maintained for any changes made.

To help capture any changes to member addresses, we are now working proactively with US Post Office to provide us with any change of address of members who have moved without providing us with their change of address. Even though the current Constitution puts the onus on the members to provide us with their change of address, we have tried to be proactive on this item. Any returned mail addressed to our members is investigated and where appropriate we make changes to our address file if we are able to find the new address. Otherwise, the record is made inactive. It becomes a time consuming exercise for us but it is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of our database.

We are asking for your help in cleaning up our membership records. Please ensure that we have your correct address, phone number and e-mail addresses. If you know someone who may be our member and who has moved recently, ask them to get in touch with us or go on line and complete a change of address form. If you know of someone who has recently moved in to our area, please encourage them to become members of our organization. If we are united, we can do a lot more for our community.

List of New Members for 2010

We welcome the following new life members:

Pankaj & Nayna Dave	Manish & Neha Patel	Vinod & Kumud Patel	Vaibhav Vyas
Harak & Nalini Gala	Amit & Shilpa Patel	Jignesh Rami	
Tejash Natali	Harshad Patel	Niraj & Shital Shah	
Dilip & Sangeeta Patel	Manish & Rupal Patel	Krish & Aruna Vaidya	

We welcome following annual members:

Mukesh & Nisha Bhatt	Jawahar & Jyoti Mehta	Nikhil & Chaula Mehta	Kamlesh & Arti Shah
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To encourage annual members to become life member, we will give credit for the 2010 annual dues towards life membership dues. Please do take advantage of this offer to become life members. We have been approached by members of the community to offer incentives to attract new life members. We will take this in to consideration as we plan for next year.

Membership Directory

Our last Membership Directory was completed in 1995. We are now exploring if there is a need to update the last membership directory. Please provide us with your feedback as an effort of this magnitude is time consuming and takes a lot of planning and executing time. We can make it a self financing event if we can get enough paid advertisements to off-set the printing cost. If you are interested in working on this effort, please let us know and read the paragraph below for additional information. We can always use your help.

Volunteering for Samaj

We are gratified at the interest shown by members in our activities and to those who have inquired about volunteering for the Samaj activities. For more on volunteering for the Samaj, please visit our web site:

<http://www.gujaratisamajbaltimore.com/Resources/Volunteer%20Information.pdf>.

When you contact us for volunteering, please be specific as to what areas you would like to help and what specific skills you can offer. We are always looking for members with various skill sets who can help us with the Samaj activities. We are certain that we can use your skills and will gladly try to get you involved as much or as little as you would prefer.

In the meantime, if you have time and are inclined, please provide us a short note on what kind of help you were thinking of offering or what kind of skill sets you can bring to the Samaj. We would like to provide you with an appropriate opportunity to help us do a better job in delivering our services to our members.

We are also trying to identify future leaders in our community who can lead us to bigger and better things. To this end, we have already done a Management & Team Building exercise very early in the year to develop a very cohesive team to deliver our programs. If we identify enough volunteers, we plan to offer such training again in the coming year. Come and be part of our team. It will give you an unbelievable high.

Community News

Our deepest sympathies to the family of Dini Parimal Dalal of Ellicott City, Maryland whose mother Devyani Pradyumna Dalal passed away on Wednesday, November 3, 2010. She was 94 years old and she is survived by three daughters and one son.

સાચવવા પડે એ સંબંધો કદી સાચા નથી હોતા ,
અને જો સંબંધો સાચા હોય તો એને સાચવવા નથી પડતા

વ્યવહાર નથી બદલાતા સંજોગો બદલાય છે ,
માણસ નથી બદલાતા ખાલી તેમના અભિગમ બદલાય છે

માણસને સાચા સ્વરૂપમાં ઓળખવો હોય તો
તેને સતાસ્થાને બેસાડો .

જીવન માં એટલી બધી ભૂલો ના કરવી
કે પેન્સિલ પેહલા જ રબર ધસાઈ જાય !

જીવન માં ફક્ત એક સારી વ્યક્તિ નો સાથ હોય તો આખી જિંદગી
પણ ક્યારેક ફક્ત એ એક સારી વ્યક્તિ ની શોધ માં આખી જિંદગી

આખી જીંદગી આંકડા તમે માંડો અને
છેલ્લે સરવાળો કોઈ બીજું જ કરી જાય એનું નામ
(બદ) નસીબ!

વ્યર્થ છે

વિનય ના હોય તો વાણી વ્યર્થ છે
નમ્રતા ના હોય તો વિદ્યા વ્યર્થ છે
ગુણ ના હોય તો રૂપ વ્યર્થ છે
દાન ના હોય તો ધન વ્યર્થ છે
ભૂખ ના હોય તો ભોજન વ્યર્થ છે
ભક્તિ ના હોય તો ભજન વ્યર્થ છે
હોશ ના હોય તો જોશ વ્યર્થ છે
સાહસ ના હોય તો સાધન વ્યર્થ છે
શ્રદ્ધા ના હોય તો શ્રવન વ્યર્થ છે
દયા ના હોય તો ધર્મ વ્યર્થ છે
સચ્ચાઈ ના હોય તો સફળતા વ્યર્થ છે
સંસ્કાર ના હોય તો સંતતિ વ્યર્થ છે
પ્રશ્ચાતાપ ના હોય તો પ્રાથના વ્યર્થ છે
શાંતિ ના હોય તો સુખ વ્યર્થ છે
પ્રેમ ના હોય તો સગાઈ વ્યર્થ છે
પરોપકાર ના હોય તો જીવન વ્યર્થ છે

રતિભાઈ પટેલ, આરલિંગટન, વર્જિનિયા

ગુજરાતી સમાજ

Gujarati Samaj of Baltimore

2010 PAST & UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Ski/Snow Tubing Trip to Ski Roundtop	February 13, 2010
Management & Team Building Training	March 06, 2010
Dinner & Drama – Chitkaar	April 10, 2010
Vraj Trip	April 25, 2010
50 Years' Celebration of Gujarat Statehood.....	May 08, 2010
Picnic	August 28, 2010
Navratri @ Glenwood Community Center.....	October 9, 2010
Navratri @ Meadowbrook Athletic Complex	October 16, 2010
Navratri @ Glenwood Community Center.....	October 23, 2010
Diwali Dinner and Live Concert with Tina @ The Rendeveous Banquet Hall.....	November 13, 2010
General Body Meeting.....	December 11, 2010

FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117

P.O. Box 687

Gujarati Samaj of Baltimore