

TRICIA NEWSLETTER

TRI-CITY INDIA ASSOCIATION, INC.

(A not-for-profit organization)

P. O. BOX 12094

ALBANY, NEW YORK 12212-2094

WWW.TRICIANY.ORG

ISSUE 01 JANUARY 2008

President

Haresh Bhatia

Phone: 878 8384

Vice President

Paul Uppal

Phone: 453 6367

Secretary

M. A. Waheed

Phone: 894 0071

Treasurer

Peter Thomas

Phone: 489 3190

Past-President

Renu Kallianpur

Phone: 210-5865

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Vijayan Aroumougame

Surinder Gupta

Sudhir Kulkarni

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Jyoti Mehta

Angana Patel

Arjun Patel

Tony Rametra

Jayanthy Sankrith

Chandra Sekhar

Rajesh Taneja

TYO COORDINATOR

Sujata Chaudhry

WEB DESIGN

Baswa Shaker

President's Message

Dear Friends,

I am humbled by the honor bestowed upon me as caretaker for TRICIA this year. Thanks to the efforts of my predecessors TRICIA has been doing rather well. I plan to continue the activities that have been successful and will strive to develop areas where there is opportunity for even greater success.

Children are our future; we must nurture them so they grow up to be leaders of our community and continue to cherish our culture. We want to catch them even younger this year as outlined by Sujata Chaudhry, our TRICIA Youth Organization (TYO) Coordinator. She has many good ideas for TYO. Please read page 4; it will surely encourage you to enroll your children in TRICIA's TYO.

Our Republic Day event is coming up in two weeks. Luckily January 26th is a Saturday so we get to celebrate it on the same day. This year we are holding this ceremony at new Hindu Cultural Center located at 450 Albany-Shaker Road, Loudonville NY 12211. Waheed and his team are hard at work planning this event and we request everyone to come out and join us.

Another event that we can get more people to participate in is our Annual Picnic on August 17th. This year we have some new ideas to spice it up. I request you to visit our website triciany.org regularly as that is most efficient way for us to communicate.

It is my goal to make TRICIA appealing to everyone in community and make our events more inclusive. TRICIA is vibrant and continually energized by ideas brought in by new members of TRICIA TEAM every year and this year is no exception. We have many new volunteers signed up to serve and I expect a great year ahead.

Jai Hind

Haresh Bhatia



Tricia Membership has its Privileges

By Archana Goel

Provide an opportunity to be involved
in community activities

Promote our heritage and culture

Children 11 and up get free membership to
Tricia Youth Organization

Free admission to member appreciation
events during the year

Reduced admission to annual dinner
and annual picnic

Receive newsletter in the mail
and updates by email

Estimated Annual Member Savings for a family of four

Movie-(free) Savings of 7.00/person = \$28.00

Picnic-- Savings of \$2.00/person = \$8.00

Annual Dinner
Savings of \$5.00/person=\$20.00

Total Annual Savings = \$56.00

Cost of Annual Membership = \$30.00
Net Savings = \$26.00

Cost of Life Membership = \$250.00
With a life membership break even
in 4.5 years!!

Great saving opportunities -
become a member today.

Memberships are for a calendar year
(Jan 1 to Dec 31)

Please mail your 2008 membership check to:
TRICIA
PO Box 12094
Albany, NY 12212-2094

UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2008

**TRICIA
MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY
MOVIE
MID MARCH 2008
(March 9th or 16th)**

**SPRING FESTIVAL OF INDIA
SUNDAY, JUNE 08, 2008
At Empire State Plaza, Albany**

**ANNUAL PICNIC
SUNDAY AUGUST 17, 2008
At Elm Ave Park, Delmar**

**ANNUAL DINNER
NOVEMBER 2008**

Please visit our website for more
details about our upcoming
events.

**www.triciany.org
TRICIA TEAM**

**60+ Group wishes everyone
a Happy New Year and may the
New Year be blessed
with peace and joy.**

**Please contact Sneh Chaudhry at 785 3126
for any information on 60+ Group**



Brief Compilation on Republic Day of India (January 26th)

The Constitution of India came into force, and India declared itself as a "Republic" on January 26, 1950, a date thereafter celebrated annually as Republic Day in India. The Constitution had been drafted by the Constituent Assembly which was set up when India gained its independence from the British in 1947. This, in fact, was a deliberate act: the 26th of January was initially India's "Independence Day", one of Mahatma Gandhi's many symbolic acts during India's struggle for freedom against British colonial rule, and the adoption of the Constitution on this date was felt able to strengthen its initial meaning, one calling for Indians of all ages to declare their freedom from the British Raj. It is one of three national holidays in India, the other two being the nation's Independence Day on August 15 (since 1947) and the birthday of Mohandas K Gandhi or Mahatma Gandhi on October 2. And so, after the disposal of the Empire of India, King George VI was the last and only "King" of modern India.

To mark this occasion, a grand parade is held in New Delhi, the Capital of India, beginning from Raisina Hill near the Rashtrapati Bhavan (Presidential Palace), along the Rajpath, past India Gate and on to the historic Red Fort in the old quarter of the city. Different infantry, cavalry and mechanized regiments of the Indian Army, the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force march in formation, decked in all their finery and official decorations. The President of India, who is also the Commander in Chief of the Indian Armed Forces, takes the salute. The Chief Guest of the parade is a Head of State of another nation. The parade also includes many traditional dance troupes, to symbolize the cultural heritage of India. It traditionally ends with a colorful fly-past by Air Force jets in a tiranga formation. Similar parades are held in the capitals of all the states of India, where the Governors of the respective states take the salute.

Links:

<http://republicday.nic.in/> <http://india.gov.in/knowindia.php> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_Day_India

Compilation by: Baswa Shaker Shamsabad (bshakers@gmail.com)

From the desk of TRICIA Support Group Chair

As Chair of the TRICIA Support Group, I am pleased to report that the Support Group is embarking on a promising schedule of activities for 2008. The Support Group has the following objectives:

- Provide individualized and personalized assistance with medical and family issues, **while maintaining absolute confidentiality**. The issues and incidents handled to date have included physical abuse, spousal relationships, child custody disputes and medical problems. Over thirty cases have been handled to date.
- Organize and conduct four to five seminars and professional presentations annually on a variety of social, medical, and financial issues that affect the Indian community.
- Serve as a resource for the Indian community to promote Indian cultural and social values, in conjunction with TRICIA, our parent organization.

If you or someone you know would benefit from such assistance, please contact me.

We have tentatively scheduled the dates for the seminars, and we ask that you reserve these dates on your calendars and try to attend. All seminars and presentations will be held on Wednesday evenings at the Marriott, starting at 7 pm, including dinner. As the dates for these seminars near, we will place a flyer regarding the seminar subject on the TRICIA Web site, www.triciany.org.

The tentative seminar dates for 2008 are: March 26, 2008, April 23, 2008, September 10, 2008, October 22, 2008

In addition, the Support Group annually honors high school graduates of our Indian community with a dinner. This year, the dinner will be held on June 25 (Wednesday). We need to compile a list of the graduates as a first step. If you have a son or daughter that will be graduating this year, or know of someone else, please call me as soon as possible so that we may have a complete list. That is always a difficult task for us, so please help by letting me know. We will then send invitations to the graduates and their families to attend this dinner to recognize our local graduates.

The Support Group welcomes contributions, which are tax deductible, to enable the Support Group to continue to be of service to our great community. Although an integral part of TRICIA, the Support Group does not draw funds from the parent organization. Please send contributions, payable to "TRICIA Support Group," and mail to Dr. Nirmal Jain, Treasurer, TRICIA Support Group, 12 Laurel Drive, Loudonville, NY 12111.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Uppal

Phone: (518) 453-6367



Dear Members,

Happy New Year to all of you! I wish all of you great joy and success for the upcoming year. I am very excited to be asked to be the TYO Coordinator for 2008. With the support of the parents, I look forward to working with the youths enrolled in grades 6-12. I am confident that with your continued support and enthusiasm, TRICIA is committed to assisting TYO in becoming one of the leading youth organizations in the capital district. Together, we can create good will in the community as well as have fun. I have no doubt that we have the young talent and leadership to achieve success.

As TYO coordinator these are some of the potential goals I envision in a youth organization:

1. Opportunities for service hours (Needed to qualify for National Junior Honor Society in all school districts) - schedule 3 events
2. Promoting events to network with peers in the Indian Community- schedule 2 events
3. Sponsoring workshops/seminars/guest speakers promoting the development of our young members. (Potential topics: leadership, study skills for SATs, seminar on selecting colleges, etc.)
4. Creating scholarship opportunities through academic achievement such as a possible spelling bee or essay competitions, etc.
5. Write articles for TRICIA newsletters to inform the community of TYO successes and activities.

TRICIA would also like to establish the following basic guidelines to facilitate TYO:

1. TYO officers are to be in High School.
2. Meetings are held every other month at the Comfort Inn.
3. TYO coordinator will be present at meetings only as guidance.
4. Adult supervision is present at TYO activities.

With the support of TRICIA's committee and board members, I look forward to receiving enthusiastic enrollment from all our 6-12 graders. Please call or email me with your name, academic year, school district, phone #, email address and any suggestions you have for TYO by January 31, 2008. I can be reached at 518-257-6230 or at chaudhry@nycap.rr.com.

TRICIA would also like to thank Rajesh Taneja for dedicating his time and effort as the TYO coordinator for 2007. His guidance and cooperation have been greatly appreciated.

With Best Regards,
Sujata Chaudhry
TYO Coordinator 2008

*amount of participation required is based strictly on each individuals personal time and commitment

** Greater detail on events will be published in future newsletters.

**POEM BY
RENU KALLIANPUR**

The year 2007 has drawn to a close
All year we've been running on our tippitytoes
You know how the old saying goes
"Just keep moving along with the flow"

We planned many events, we tried some things new
Some were well attended, some by only a few
But what is a poor Tricia President to do?
The onus of participation ultimately rests on you

And, we all had fun along the way
Felt a sense of accomplishment at the end of the day
But I'd like to make a request if I may
Volunteer; participate, membership does pay

So thank you Tricia Team for all you have done
Thank you new friends and thank you old ones
So, Haresh and Team 2008, I hand the baton to you
Good luck, have fun, Namaste, Adieu

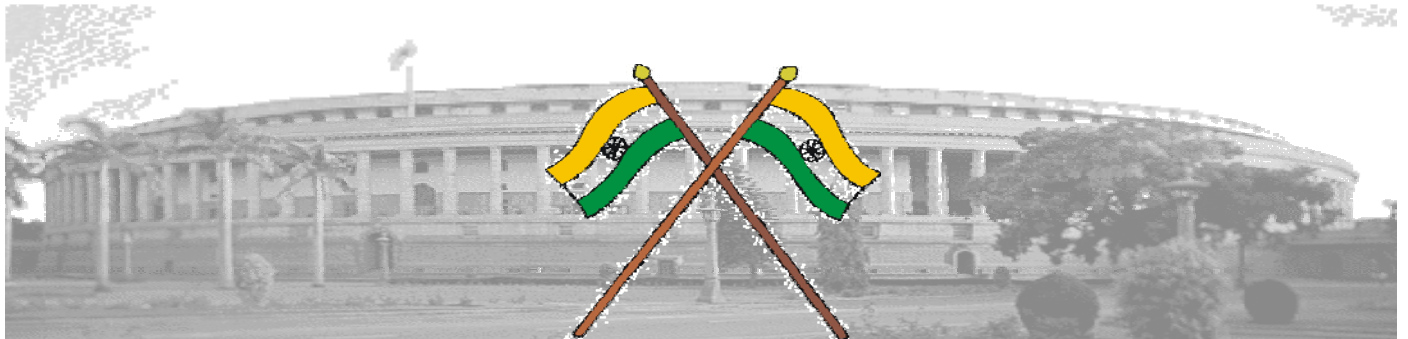
**SEE YOU ALL AT
REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION
ON
SATURDAY JANUARY 26, 2008**



TRICITY INDIA ASSOCIATION



REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA



**On Saturday, January 26, 2008
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

AT HINDU CULTURAL CENTER

**450 ALBANY SHAKER ROAD
LOUDONVILLE, NY 12211**

FREE ADMISSION

Cultural Program

Complimentary Snacks

For more information:

Haresh Bhatia 878 8384

Paul Uppal 453 6367

M.A. Waheed 894 0071

Peter Thomas 489 3190

Renu Kallianpur 210 5865

*WISHING YOU
AND YOUR FAMILY*

*A HAPPY AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
FILLED WITH HAPPINESS AND JOY*



TRICIA TEAM

**Tri-City India Association
PO Box 12094
Albany, NY 12212-2094**