

AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

Dear Members of AKKA,

The purpose of AKKA newsletter is to inform you through e-mail about the activities of AKKA, AKKA members, and various Kannada Kootas in U.S. and Canada who are charter members of AKKA. If you have any questions, please call us (Dr. Kudur Murali at 248-855-0043 and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda at 630-963-0923) or send an e-mail.

Items covered in this issue are:

1. Update on AKKA Charitable Foundation Fundraising Event.
2. Update on 2006 AKKA Convention.
3. India Day Celebration.
4. Function honoring Karnataka Artists.
5. Achievements of AKKA Members.
6. News from Charter Kannada Kootas.

1. Update on AKKA Charitable Foundation Fundraising Event.

For the year 2005, the charity theme is “Educate a Karnataka Child”. For this worthy cause AKKA has put together a formidable entertainment program lead by some of the stalwarts of Karnataka’s film industry and light music. For the first time in the history of Kannada Kootas in North America a combination of Kannada

Orchestra and leading film personalities will be entertaining Kannadigas. AKKA is grateful to all these artists who are performing in America FREE OF CHARGE. The collected funds will be used to help non profit organizations in Karnataka who are engaged in helping poor children to get a decent education.



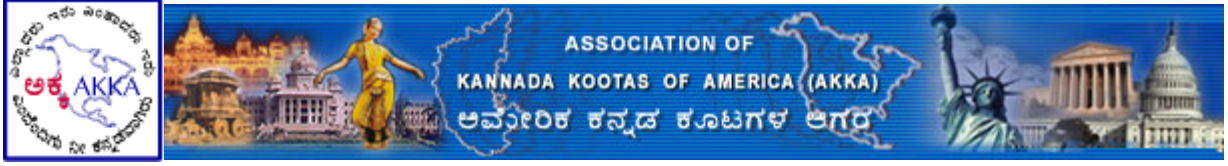
AKKA Charitable Foundation
Presents

Kannada Manoranjani
ಕನ್ನಡ ಮನೋರಂಜನಿ

A Scintillating Live Performance

An Evening of Enchanting Music, Skits
Rip-Roaring Monologues, Comedy & much more
from your favorite Cine Stars & Musicians

Ananth Nag, Ramesh Arvind, Sudha Bargur,
Shylaja Santosh, Ram Prasad, BR Chaya,
Yaswanth Halebindi and others



AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

The live performances will be held in the following 13 Kannada Kootas.

**Kannada Koota of N. California
San Francisco, California
Saturday, October 1, 2005**

**Sahyadri Kannada Sangha, Seattle, Washington
Sunday, October 2, 2005**

**Karnataka Cultural Association of S. California
Los Angeles, California
Saturday, October 8, 2005**

**Kannada Sangha of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona
Sunday, October 9, 2005**

**Nashville Kannada Sangha, Nashville, Tennessee
Friday, October 14, 2005**

**New York Kannada Koota, New York
Saturday, October 15, 2005**

**Mandaara New England Kannada Koota, Boston, Massachusetts
Sunday, October 16, 2005**

**Mallige Kannada Association, Charleston, West Virginia
Friday, October 21, 2005**

**Kaveri Kannada Association, Washington DC
Saturday, October 22, 2005**

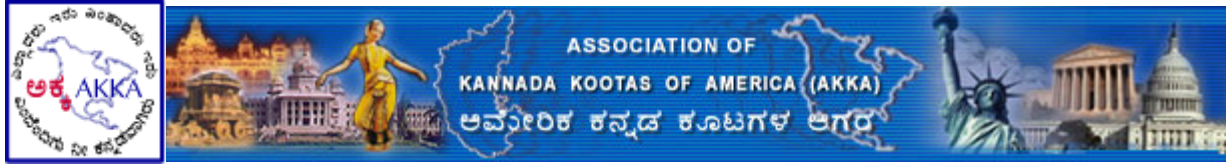
**Austin Kannada Sangha, Austin, Texas
Sunday, October 23, 2005**

**Sangeetha Kannada Koota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Friday, October 28, 2005**

**Vidyaranya Kannada Koota, Chicago, Illinois
Saturday, October 29, 2005**

**Pampa Kannada Koota, Detroit, Michigan
Sunday, October 30, 2005**

For contact information please visit our website at: www.akkaonline.org or contact your local Kannada Koota.



AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

2. Update on 2006 AKKA Convention.

Mr. Ravi Dankanikote and Mr. Suresh Ramachandran (Convenors of 2006 AKKA Convention) attended AKKA Board of Directors teleconference meeting held on Monday, August 1, 2005 and updated the directors on the progress of 2006 AKKA Convention hosted by Kaveri Kannada Koota. The highlights related to various convention issues are:

Facility: Baltimore convention center or Marriott in Washington D.C.

Programs: To send a program, please contact Mr. Suresh Ramachandran through e-mail (rama_suresh2003@yahoo.com).

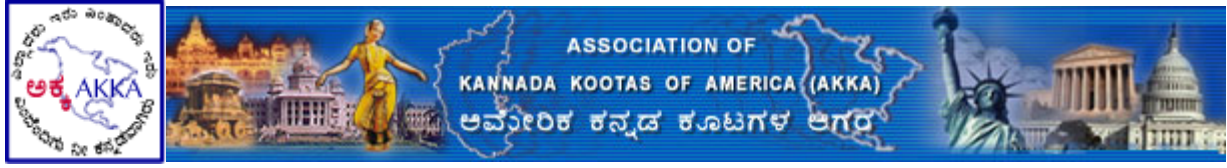
Mr. Ramachandra Rao, President, Kaveri Kannada Koota is the National Coordinator for the convention. Please contact him if you have any questions and/or to volunteer to serve in any of the convention committees through e-mail (rrao660@yahoo.com).

3. India Day Celebration.

AKKA in collaboration with India League of America had arranged a fantastic India day festival in Novi Expo in Metro Detroit. AKKA President Dr. Kudur Murali was the Co-Chair of this Mega Event. This was attended by more than 20,000 people, mostly Indians and few Americans. There were more than 100 vending booths of food, jewelry etc. Lots of activities for kids, entertainment all through the day, and was attended by several local politicians, congressman, mayor etc. Also, we had Dr. Subba Rao who hails from Bangalore who probably most of you know at age 13 worked with Gandhiji during the quit India movement and has been very active in the youth activities all over the world was the

guest speaker. They also had free health clinics, bone marrow registration, and blood bank from Red Cross of America.

Many of our AKKA members and also the board of directors were very active for the last 3 months to get this project done. Local AKKA members and the Pampa Kannada Koota members participated in the event. In particular Mrs. Vijaya Pandit, our board member, Mr. Shantharaj our Joint Secretary, Ms. Surabhi Pandit our Youth Committee chair and Mr. Amarnath Gowda was the chair of the fund raising. AKKA's name was all over the local radio and all the Indian stations.



AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

4. Function honoring Karnataka Artists.

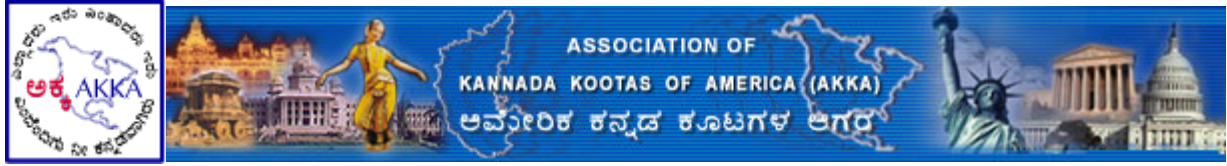
On May 12, 2005 in Bangalore, India, Dr. Renuka Ramappa (Chairperson of AKKA WKC 2004 and AKKA Vice-President) and Dr. G. M. Ramappa (AKKA WKC 2004 Fundraising Committee Chairperson) met with dignitaries and artists who had attended the WKC 2004 Convention in Orlando, Florida. Government of Karnataka Cultural Director, Sri. Muddu Mohan and artists such as Sri. R.R. Mitra, Sri. Bargur Ramachandrappa, Sri. Pitchalli Srinivas, Smt. Sangeetha Katti, and Sri. Nagesh were among those who attended this event. Dr. Ramappa thanked the artists for making the trip to Florida and making the convention a memorable one. As a token of appreciation, she presented a DVD set of the highlights of the convention to each of the dignitaries and artists present. Dr. Ramappa hoped that we would see the same level of enthusiasm and support from the Government of Karnataka for the 2006 AKKA WKC Convention to be held in Washington DC. She expressed full support from Srigandha Kannada Koota of Florida to assist in the preparations for the 2006 AKKA WKC Convention.

Dr. Somashekar Pallegar also spoke at the event and explained that over 200 hours of volunteer effort had been put into the creation of the 2 DVD set showcasing some of the highlights of the convention. He mentioned that the DVD has been very well received. He thanked Padmanabha Bedarahally for his efforts in leading this project.

It was also noted that a DVD set of the highlights of the 2004 Convention was mailed to all non-attendees and donors. The mailing was well received by absentees who appreciated a chance to view the convention proceedings.

This function was sponsored by Drs. Ramappas.





AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

5. Achievements of AKKA Members.

A. 2004 Engineering Excellence Honor Award



SVR Inc., the structural engineering firm located in Phoenix, Arizona owned by our own Kannadigas was recently awarded a National Honor Award for Engineering Excellence by the American Council of Engineers Companies (ACEC). SVR received one of 24 awards established to recognize the attainment of engineering excellence in any branch of engineering for projects anywhere in the world. The award is considered the “Academy Award” of the engineering industry. Criteria for judging included: 1) innovative application of new or existing techniques, 2) future value to the engineering profession provided and perception by public, 3) social, economic, and sustainable design considerations implemented, 4) complexity, and 5) exceeding client need and expectations.

SVR Inc. was recognized Monday, April 11, 2005 at the ACEC’s Annual Convention

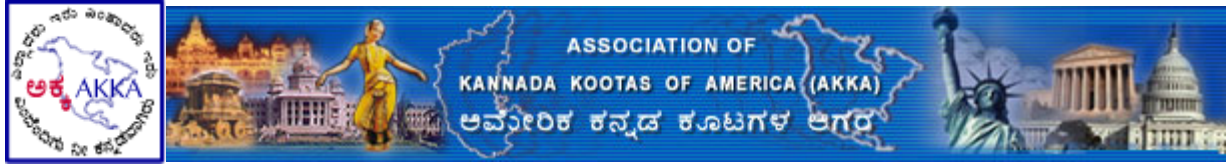
black-tie gala in Washington D.C. More than 500 guests attended the evening, including Elaine L. Chao, U.S. Secretary of Labor, and six-time Emmy Award winner, Ross Shafer, as the master of ceremonies.

SVR Inc. was founded in 1993 in Phoenix, AZ by Mr. Seetha V. Ramaiah, P.E., S.E. He was instrumental in founding AKKA and served as the first chairman of the AKKA board of Trustees.



Mr. Seetha V. Ramaiah along with his daughter Ms. Shantala V. Ramaiah, P.E. who joined SVR, Inc. after obtaining a Master’s Degree in Structural Engineering accepted the award.

On behalf of AKKA, we are proud to congratulate Mr. Seetha V. Ramaiah and Ms. Shantala V. Ramaiah of SVR Inc. on their attainment of this prestigious award.



AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

B. Sam Hobbs Service Award

The Sam Hobbs Service Award was founded in 1973. The purpose of this award is to honor Sam Hobbs, the founder of American Concrete Institute (ACI) chapter system and moving force in establishing the first chapter, the Southern California Chapter of the American Concrete Institute.

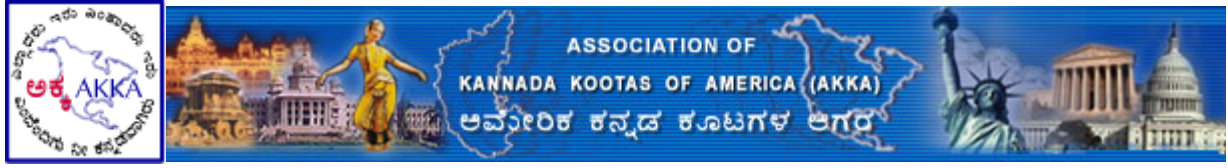
This award is presented annually to only one individual if the committee (comprised of previous Sam Hobbs Award recipients) feels a qualified recipient is available. The award is to recognize out standing individual service to both chapter and the concrete industry.

On January 27th 2005, American Concrete Institute of Southern California chapter had Sam Hobbs Awards and ladies night in the suburbs of Los Angeles, California. Awards night was attended by many members of ACI and spouses. Mr. M. Krishnamurthy, a member since 25 years was awarded Sam Hobbs Award. This was a surprise award given to individual member to recognize his out standing service to both chapter and concrete industry.

In addition, a plaque was presented to him for his out standing service to the board as a board of director from 2002 to 2004.

On behalf of AKKA, we are proud to congratulate Mr. M. Krishnamurthy (AKKA Treasurer) for receiving this prestigious award.





AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

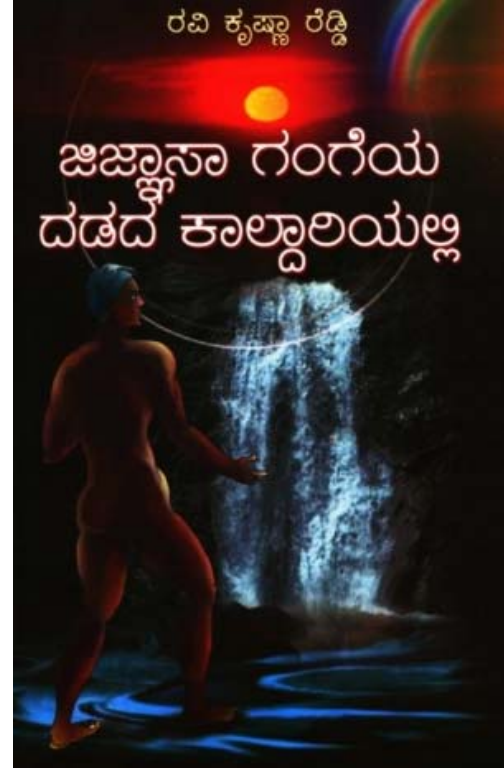
C. Book Release

Mr. Ravi Krishna Reddy, President of Northern California Kannada Koota and AKKA Director released his Kannada book "[Jignasa Gangeya Dadada Kaldariyalli](#)" on July 23, 2005 in Santa Clara, CA.

The book "Jignasa Gangeya Dadada Kaldariyalli" is a collection of poems, short stories, and articles.

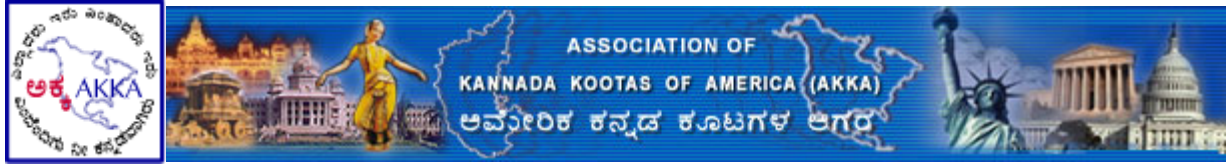
To order this book, please contact:

Mr. Ravi Krishna Reddy
408-956-1061
ravikreddy@yahoo.com



Mr. Prabhu Dev (AKKA Vice President) attended the book release function to congratulate Mr. Ravi Krishna Reddy and wished him all the best on behalf of AKKA.





AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

6. News from Charter Kannada Kootas

A. Sampige Kannada Koota, NC

Contributed by: Mrs. Supriya Desai, Sampige Kannada Koota President

It gives us great pleasure to announce that Sampige, the Triangle area Kannada Association in North Carolina, completes ten years after it was formed, and to commemorate that land mark, we are conducting a one day gala program of food, festivities, cultural and literary activities and other such events. We would like kannadigas from all over America to come and join us in this celebration. In particular we welcome proposals for program items from Kannada Kootas and kannadigas all over the country.

The following are details about the program:

- **Event:** Tenth anniversary celebration of Sampige, the Triangle Area Kannada Association of North Carolina
- **Date:** Saturday November 19, 2005
- **Time:** 10 A.M. to midnight.
- **Venue:** Hindu Society of North Carolina, Extension Hall, Morrisville, NC (near Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill)
- **Accommodation:** Discounted rates in local hotels will be provided for out of town guests.
- **Contact information:**
Supriya Desai 919-854-9989,
supriyadesai2000@hotmail.com or
sampigeeditor@yahoo.com
Website: www.sampige.org

B. Toronto Kannada Sangha, Canada

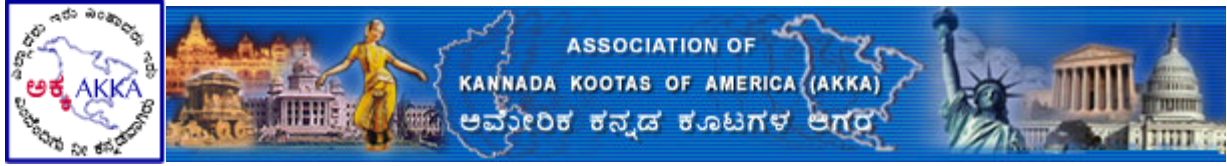
Contributed by: Mrs. Sharada Bhat, Outgoing President

Totonto Kannda Sangha held their annual picnic which included a well-enjoyed cricket tournament for both men and women, and various other games and activities for all ages. Also, a new executive committee for the year 2005-06 was elected. Mr. Mahesh Srinivasa was elected as President. On behalf of AKKA we would like to congratulate Mr. Mahesh Srinivasa as the new President of Toronto Kannada Sangha and would also like to welcome him on board as AKKA Director.

C. Kaveri Kannada Koota, Maryland, D.C. and Virginia

Contributed by: Mrs. Anitha Rao, Kaveri Kannada Koota Secretary

I would like to share some of the highlights of our accomplishments and aspirations this year. We have a planned list of events for the entire year which we share with our members. This year our focus is on children participation and their involvement in Youth-volunteering activities. As a consequence, our youth committee has won funds from Freddie Mac and Youth Venture organizations. We have balanced our activities for all ages. Ski-Trip for youth, an outing for Seniors, Naatakotsava for drama lovers and a picnic for all ages. Our on-line membership ticked off this year. We are proud to be improving our web site as needed. We are bringing out a D.V.D. on Kaveri Ithihaasa to ear mark the birth and growth of our Kannada Koota. The above



AKKA Newsletter Reporters: Dr. Kudur Murali – President and Mrs. Vasanthi Gowda – Secretary

mentioned activities exclude the festival celebrations such as Yugadi, Ganesha

Habba, Deepavali/Rajyotsava and screening Kannada movies.

D. For more information on the above Kannada Kootas and information on other Charter Kannada Kootas, please visit their web sites.

Kannada Sangha of Arizona

www.azindia.com/ksaz

Kannada Koota of N. California

www.kknc.org

Karnataka Cultural Association of S. California

www.lakannada.com

Kaveri Kannada Association, Washington D.C.

www.karnataka.com/kaveri

Srigandha Kannada Koota, Tampa, FL

<http://members.tripod.com/~srigandha/sri.htm>

Nrupathunga Kannada Koota, GA

www.atlantakannada.org

Mallige Kannada Association of Indianapolis, IN

www.members.tripod.com/~mallige/

Vidyaranya Kannada Kuta, Chicago, IL

www.kannadakutaillinois.com

Mysore Mallige Kannada Koota of Midwest, IL

www.mysoremallige.org

Abhimana Kannada Sangha, Louisville, KY

www.abhimaana.com

New England Kannada Koota

www.nekk.org

Pampa Kannada Koota, Detroit, MI

www.pampakannadakoota.org

Sangeetha Kannada Koota, MN

Not Available

Triveni Tri-State Kannada Assoc., DE, NJ & PA

www.triveniusa.org

New York Kannada Koota, NY

www.kannadakoota-ny.com

Sampige Triangle Kannada Association, NC

www.sampige.org

Kasturi Kannada Assoc. of NE Cleveland, OH

www.geocities.com/tokyo/bridge/1968

Kannada Balaga, OK

Not Available

Sangama of Pittsburg, PA

www.members.tripod.com/sangama/index.htm

Nashville Kannada Koota, TN

Not Available

Austin Kannada Koota, TX

www.kannadasangha.com/htm/austin/index.htm

Kannada Vrinda of Houston, TX

Not Available

Richmond Kannada Sangha, VA

Not Available

Rajkumar Kannada Sangha of Seattle, WA

Not Available

Mallige Kannada Balaga of Charleston, WV

Not Available

Milana Kannada Koota of Milwaukee, WI

Not Available

Kannada Sangha of Toronto, Canada

www.kstoronto.com

Kannada Koota of Montreal, Canada

www.geocities.com/kannadakootamontreal/