



# VASAVI VANI

A NRI VASAVI ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER

February 2017 issue

Dear NRIVA Family,

*From President's desk...*

I am happy to share with you that the developments NRIVA witnessed in 2016 has resulted in increasing our membership and growing interest in the community to come out and serve the organization. With the blessings of Vasavi Matha and your wishes, we are reviving our newsletter "Vasavi Vani" starting in February 2017. I thank and appreciate the efforts of Mannar Dhandapani in bringing out the issue.

As I mentioned in my new year message, the programs and events we organized thus far have been well received by the Vasavites in USA and India. We successfully hosted events and activities such as Vasavi Jayanthi, Adopt-a-Student, NRIVA Eedu-Jodu, Ugadi Vedukalu, Yoga, Walkathon, Diwali and a grand Cruise. My sincere thanks to all our Chapter leads, EC, Board, core volunteers and donors/sponsors for their support in making these events successful. Despite the few challenges our organization faced this year, I am happy to report that NRIVA journey continues with a great success focusing on its mission of "Dharmam-Seelam-Ahimsa". I request the members to visit <http://www.nriva.org> to get latest updates about all matters concerning NRIVA.

2017 is a convention year for NRIVA. Preparations are in full swing to host our 4<sup>th</sup> Global convention at New Jersey during the labor day week end, under the leadership of the Convenor Srinivasa Rao Tummalapenta, Co-Convenor Suresh Chatakondur and Convention secretary Praveen Thadakamalla. The trio team is set to take the convention to new heights with a strong team from the local chapter. Please look forward to more details about the convention in upcoming issues.

This newsletter is our humble effort to connect all our members and serve the world. This effort will not be successful without your contributions. Please send in your contributions, chapter event details etc., to the editor.

Jai Vasavi Matha!

**V.Nagendra Gupta President, NRIVA.**

## *In this Issue...*

**A look back @ NRIVA 2016**

**A Mile a day with NRIVA**

**Cruising to Bahamas**

**NRIVA Matrimony site gets an uplift**

Dear NRIVA Members,

I'm thrilled as we re-launch our formal publication, Vasavi Vani. Words are exceptionally the most powerful force available for communicating. Vasavi Vani will play a key role through these words as a communication platform in connecting and serving each other. NRIVA has grown over the past couple of years by leaps and bounds connecting with people across most of the united states. Even though, the modern communication tools have made a considerable difference for the instant gratification that many seek, Vasavi Vani will be very instrumental in communicating with vast number of Vasavites across all our chapters including people in India.

Under the banner of NRIVA, Vasavites are conducting vibrant set of programs throughout the year that is bringing us all together as one community to express ourselves our voice across the USA. These exciting set of programs required to be shared with all the Vasavites, not only provides local insights but nationally inspires many of us to do more. There are many accomplished set of individuals and collective teams play a role through these programs in connecting with many people who have deep aspirations to learn and contribute. There has been a need for a formal publication, I'm eager to see that Vasavi Vani will take the center stage in showcasing the best amongst us.

I would like to encourage every Vasavite to actively participate by publishing your local programs in making Vasavi Vani as a platform of choice for broader communication across the entire NRIVA community.

I wish best of luck to the editorial team of Vasavi Vani in re-launching it in 2017.

**Suresh Katta, Chairman, NRIVA**

Dear NRIVA,

It gives me immense pleasure to be blessed with such a great opportunity to serve our community by reviving Vasavi Vani.

An effort such as this will not succeed without the support from all of you. If you have feedback, suggestions and thoughts about the issue, please email me at [vasavivani@nriva.org](mailto:vasavivani@nriva.org).

Please encourage the youngsters in your family to read Vasavi Vani and contribute to show case their talents. I urge members to contribute and help educate our youngsters about our culture and traditions through this media.

I look forward to edit many more issues filled with information that benefits the community and show cases the talents of our members.

**Mannar Dhandapani, Editor**

**NRIVA Global Convention 2017**  
**Sep 2-4 2017, Garden State of NJ**

Dear NRIVA,

I am happy today that NRIVA is re-initiating Vasavi Vani to convey the message of Mother Goddess Vasavi Matha. I wish Vasavi Vani to be successful and become the mouthpiece of NRIVA spearheading the three principles of ideal life — “Dharma Seelam Ahimsa”. We have been highly successful in spreading this great message to the foreign land through conventions and other means. Vasavites and followers of this message today occupy all important positions in the world. We have been trying to further network these people in joining hands to serve the society for strengthening values in society and NRIVA successful so far with the growth in number.

NRIVA is a flagship organization of NRIs from five important states of India including Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Orissa who follow and pray Vasavi Matha. NRIVA is a proud organization for hundreds of thousands of Vasavites across the globe built from scratch (Purely made in America) in the USA to unite Vasavites to spread the message of Goddess Vasavi's message.

NRIVA also has helped several people with Jobs, Career guidance, immigration matters, education advice, tax consulting seminars, retirement strategies and in many other things. We always reacted positively whenever someone needed help. The growth NRIVA achieved in the last ten years strengthens my feeling how strongly we are committed to serving society beyond the region, religion, and other community factors. We are always in the forefront when it comes to service, and we will be in the future for sure. Today I am also proud to say that NRIVA has created a huge network and I never felt away from home when traveling out from home, I meet /see people all over the world and this was possible just because of NRIVA corporate networking methodologies. We are also determined to help back society in the motherland and committed for it.

Let us use Vasavi Vani to realize all our dreams and strategies for the benefit of our own and the world.

**Vijay Chavva, Founding Chairman - NRIVA**

Dear Editor,

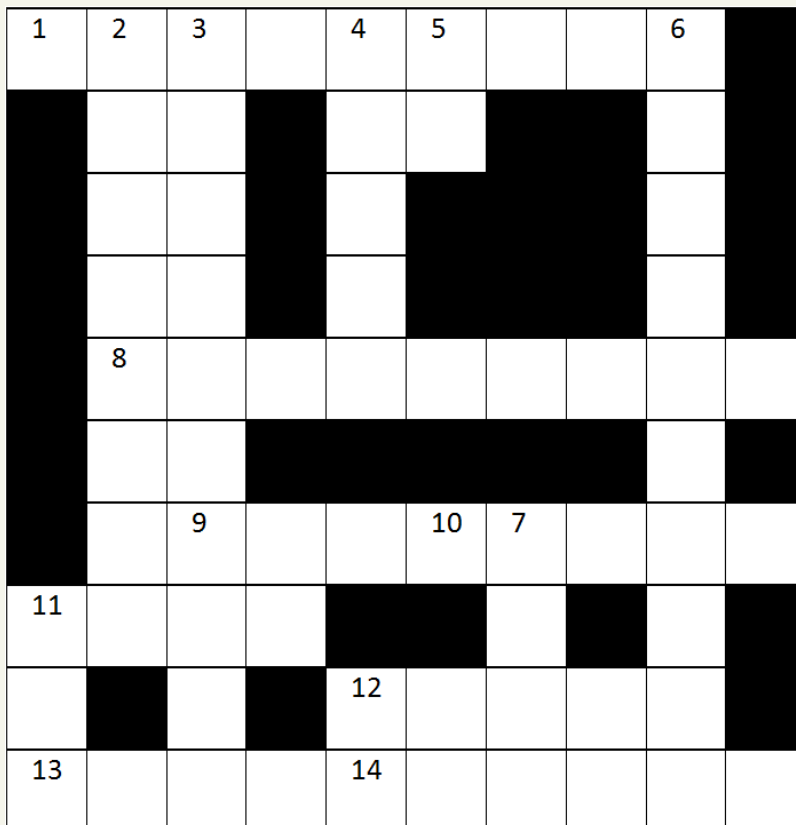
Thank you for having revived the long awaited Vasavi Vani, the communication vehicle of NRIVA, a platform available to connect Vasavites across the world.

My message to my NRIVA family members is, please make use of Vasavi Vani and contribute your messages, interesting articles etc to reach every Vasavite the in nook and corner of the world. It is needless to say that unless there is participation from each and every one of you, the effort cannot sustain long. It is your voice, it is your e mail and do not forget , it is the most important and vital media available to all of us.

All the BEST. Yours in Nriva!

**Gouraswamy Krishnamurthy (Kittanna), NRIVA, India.**

# For the kids of all ages...



## Down

2. He paid his Guru dakshina with his thumb (8)
3. Lord Vishnu took the form of half human & half lion (9)
4. Destiny or fate, following as effect from cause (5)
5. A Hindu Sacred Sound (2)
6. He knew how to enter Chakravyuh, but not how to exit (9)
7. The fire-God (4)
11. A Veda considered to be the oldest written book on the planet (3)

## Across

1. Birthplace of Vasavi Matha (9)
8. Son of Dronacharya, who shares his name with an elephant that got killed in the War (9)
9. Used to perform abhishekam for deities (4)
10. He was born with Kavacha and Kundala (5)
11. A navagraha who swallows sun causing eclipses (4)
12. Brother of Dhritarashtra (5)
13. A form of dance (5)
14. Third part of Vasavi Matha's message (6)

Parents, please join your children and solve the cross word as a family activity. This could provide you an opportunity to share our history with them. Answers on Pg 5.

# *a look back @ NRIVA 2016...*

After a successful convention in 2015, NRIVA marched into 2016 with lot of pride and accomplishment as Veloor Nagendra Gupta took charge as President of NRIVA. Under his leadership and committed EC, Board, Chapter leads and hundreds of volunteers across the globe, NRIVA has spread its wings into many more cities and the members keep growing day by day. The year 2016 saw a lot of first's in NRIVA adding more to the ever growing list of signature events of NRIVA. Let us take a quick look back @ 2016, celebrate our successes and energize ourselves as we move forward to yet another Convention year...

**Vasavi Jayanthi** - All NRIVA Chapters successfully celebrated Vasavi Jayanthi in a grand manner. The Vasavi Jayanthi Committee and its chair Uday Jonnala did a wonderful job coordinating the logistics and helping the chapter leads.

**NRIVA Yoga Day** - NRIVA Yoga committee recommended families to perform Surya Namaskar during the week ends around International Yoga Day. The goal was to have 108 people perform 108 salutations, resulting in 11664 salutations. Many chapters reported success on the occasion. The event was coordinated by Rama Jonnalagadda, NJ.

**NRIVA Walkathon** - NRIVA launched the program on Oct 9th 2016 is currently underway for a total of 300 days. The goal is to encourage members get active and complete 1000 miles in 300 days, with a minimum of one mile walk/run per day. More details can be found in the article "A Mile a day with NRIVA..."

**Eedu-Jodu** - NRIVA matrimonial committee launched a new robust and secure web site replacing the old site. A special thanks to Suresh Penumudy, OH and Kishore Konduru, TX for their sincere efforts in developing and testing the new website under the guidance of Matrimonial committee Chair Ramesh Vardha, OH.

**Cruise trip 2016** - Keeping up with NRIVA traditions of the members cruise trip during the non-convention year, 341 members from USA and India rocked the Ocean during the past Thanksgiving week end. More details can be found in the article "Crusing to Bahamas". Kudos to Ram Garipalli, GA who chaired the Cruise committee..

These are a few of many events and activities of NRIVA. We will cover more chapter level celebrations in the future issues.



## NRIVA DOCTOR'S GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!

We are working on forming a "NRIVA Doctors Group" to help members with second opinion or answer health related queries. If you are a Doctor and are interested in being part of the team, please email to

[drs@nriva.org](mailto:drs@nriva.org)

We will publish instructions on how to contact the group once it is operation in an upcoming newsletter. Stay

## SHOWCASE YOUR TALENT

### @ VASAVI VANI

Looking for authors and contributors to the future issues of VASAVI VANI !!!

If you have a talent that you could showcase in print, here is your platform to become a NRIVA celebrity !!!

Email us at [vasavivani@nriva.org](mailto:vasavivani@nriva.org)

Let your creativity fly high, for sky is the limit on  
what you can show case...



# A Mile a day with NRIVA...



“An Apple a day keeps the doctor away” - words that we all hear time and again as we grow. While nutritious food is a must for a healthy life, physical activity is equally important too and that is what our board member Bala Voleti from Washington DC discovered for us , “**A mile a day..**” (of course, the apple still is part of your day). Bala is the brain behind the NRIVA Walkathon, that is currently underway. We interviewed Bala about the program and here is what he had to tell us...



**Editor:** Bala, What is NRIVA Walkathon and what inspired you to implement this program?

**Bala:** In our busy life we forgot to think about our health; most of the lifetime we are away from natural resources which are very essential to our body. To spread and bring awareness of health to our near and dear only option I have seen is to encourage each other with a program which will motivate them. I believe healthy member, healthy family, healthy organization will give positive energy to an organization. we live one more day to think one more good thing.

**Editor:** Well said! When did this program start and what have we accomplished so far?

**Bala:** We launched the program in October 2016 and so far have reached all NRIVA chapters. We have been able to inspire 30% of the members to-date.

**Editor:** That is an impressive start given the effort it takes each one of us to get out and walk. Can I still register? If yes, how do I go about it?

**Bala:** Since the weather conditions are favorable for many chapters even during winter, they can still join. Upon joining, they either become part of the team or form a new team or participate individually with a goal to complete 1000 miles by October 2017. We have a facebook page called **NRIVA Walkathon Challenge.**

Contact your local chapter leads for more information on the local groups and other details.

**Editor:** What are the incentives for anyone to join?

**Bala:** Well, I personally believe the real incentive is their health giving to their near and dear. And of course, we will reward them with recognition and surprise gifts during major NRIVA events including the Convention.

**Editor:** What is the ultimate goal to achieve on the final day of the program?

**Bala:** 1000 miles per person by end of October 2017, with at least one mile every day.

**Editor:** How does one report their progress?

**Bala:** Members can send us their walk summary via email every three months.

**Editor:** Have you witnessed anything interesting since the launch of the program?

**Bala:** Certainly the dedication and commitment of members to step out and walk. In Austin Chapter, women formed a group and are rocking with the miles they walk. It is really exciting to see their commitment and hope others take inspiration from them.

**Editor:** Would this be an annual event?

**Bala:** In summer, we will plan for a Walkathon event for all the chapters and make that a regular event by organizing across all chapters on the same day.

**Editor:** Thank you for your time and congratulations on coming up with a Signature activity for NRIVA. We wish you success with the program.



When Goddess Vasavi was born, Guru Bhaskaracharya saw the Trimurthi power in her face and named her

**VA – Vasudeva (Vishnu)**

**SA – Chaturanan (Brahma)**

**VI – Vishveshwara (Sivan)**

*Source:* <http://penugondavasavitemple.com/>



# Cruising to Bahamas...

A total of 102 NRIVA families rocked the Carnival Elation Cruise Ship sailing to Bahamas during the Thanksgiving break, November 24 thru. 28th 2016. With a total of 341 NRIVA members on-board, the non-convention year cruise trip tradition was upheld by several Executive committee members, Board members, Chapter leads, Committee chairs, members from 20 different chapters across USA and a few visitors from India.

The trip started with an excellent pre-cruise event filled with fun and galore on the even of the trip at Jacksonville, FL. The cruise participants were joined by several families from Jacksonville chapter and the evening was spent with games and cultural programs along with delicious dinner.

NRIVA organized several sessions on the ship for the families to mingle and get to know each other. The fun trip concluded with a "Pelli Sandhadi" style Gala event where all the families gathered in traditional dresses and special photo session. During the time, President Nagendra Gupta introduced EC, Board and committee members. NRIVA presented a gift bag with lots of souvenirs (photo frame, cap, bag, picture magnets, water bottle, luggage tags, Group picture etc.,) to all the families to take back memories that will last for years to come.

NRIVA thanks all the families who made the trip successful and memorable. A special thanks to Jacksonville families and the cruise team to worked hard to add another milestone event to NRIVA's success story.

Cruise pictures can be found at: <https://nrivaphotos.smugmug.com/Events/NRIVA-Cruise-2016-Bahamas/> .



## NRIVA Matrimony site gets an uplift...

After a successful Eedu-Jodu event at NRIVA's 3rd convention , the matrimonial committee continued their efforts to cater to community's long time wish: a robust, secure and upgraded website. In the new revamped site, one has to register their profile in order to login and search prospective bride/groom information. This simple registration process adds a level of security and comfort encouraging only the match seekers use the site. Every profile is reviewed by the committee for authenticity based on the information provided during registration. Though the committee does its best for verification, the users are encouraged to do their own due diligence to confirm the authenticity of the details.

Unlike the old web site, measures have been put in place to keep the postings refreshed in a timely manner and allows the users to modify or delete their profile, once the purpose is served. The self-service mechanism is a big boost to the matrimonial service provided by NRIVA. The site also includes search features, picture upload facilities and is designed mobile-friendly.

Within two months of launching the new website, more than 100 profiles have been created and these continue to grow every day. If you or someone you know are looking for a suitable match, please encourage them to visit <http://matrimony.nriva.org/>. We hope the Vasavites across the globe take advantage of our service to find their right partner.



**Congratulations and Thank you to all the chapters who observed or plan to observe Sri Vasavi Atmarpana day and serving their local community.**

**It is indeed a great honor for us to serve our community and glorify Vasavi Matha! A special thanks to Srinivas Rao Pandiri, MO for coordinating the day as Service Day!**

1P	2E	3N	U	4K	5O	N	D	6A	
	K	A		A	M			B	
	A	R		R				H	
	L	A		M				I	
	8A	S	W	A	T	H	A	M	A
	V	I						A	
	Y	9M	I	L	10K	7A	R	N	A
11R	A	H	U			G		Y	
I		A		12P	A	N	D	U	
13G	A	R	B	14A	H	I	M	S	A