



JULY 13, 2009

VPA 11 E-Newsletter

CONVENTIONCHAIR@YAHOO.COM

VOLUME 13

A Great Convention indeed!

An Amazing feat!

WE THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR APPRECIATION

AND YOUR KIND ENCOURAGING WORDS.

A Big thank you

- 11th VPA Convention Committee.

Singles Meet Update

The VPA Match website will be always available.

It's Free. Chat and email options are available

Visit www.vpamatch.com

for more details.

The 11th VPA Convention 2009 at Houston, Texas : A Recap

SUPER SUCCESS!!! The 11th VPA Convention was an exciting event packed with Wholesome entertainment, Good food, Enriching talks and Good ambience. Nearly 450 guests attended the Vigorous 3 day event.

The event started on the evening of Thursday, July 2, 2009 with some light music, social hour and a good dinner provided by our caterer Udipi cafe of Houston. The guests were greeted with Cowboy hats and beautifully designed bags filled with 'Texas Goodies'. Youth Committee members also greeted youth members arriving at the convention with a Youth registration bag. It was very exciting for us to meet our guests from all parts of the US and also our guests from India. They came from Maryland....they came from New Jersey...they came from New York...they came from California...they came from Michigan...they came from Illinois...they came from Bangalore...they came from Mysore... they came from Florida...they came from Kentucky... they came from Ohio...they came from Georgia...they came from Pennsylvania.....& Of course they came from Texas. It was our pleasure to meet you all.

It was a bright sunny morning on Friday, July 3, 2009 at the Hilton Houston Post Oak. VPA Health screen, Yoga and a breakfast of Idly, Vada & Pongal. What more to ask for? We greeted our Chief Guest Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, our guests of Honor Minister R.Ashok, MLA C.T.Ravi and Consulate General Sanjiv Arora with an Oora Habba (Village Festival). The procession started at the Front door of the Hotel and went all the way to the stage area of the convention Hall. It was a fun event and everyone had the utmost fun dancing to the Folk Tunes. The Oora devi (Village Goddess), the Floral decorations, the Traditionally dressed men, women and children added a festive color to the occasion.



The Inauguration started with the singing of the National anthems of the United States and India and a 'Swagatha' dance welcoming our guests. The dance was a beautiful collage of gaily dressed people dancing to the traditional tunes.

It was followed by the lighting of the lamp by the Guests of Honor and Opening remarks by Convention Chairman Venkatesh Gowda & Welcome address by VPA President Dr. Viswamitra. This was followed by remarks from the Chief Guest Shobha Karandlaje, Guests of Honor Minister R. Ashok, MLA C.T.Ravi and Consulate General Sanjiv Arora. Following the speeches were some good entertaining programs like Tuttutoo Tututara, Seragina Sobhagu & Comedy time by our visiting artist MYSORE ANAND. Lunch was a Tex-Mex Festive affair with a selection of Authentic Mexican fare. The guests were entertained by a MARIACHI BAND. The surprise element of the afternoon was the Mariachi Band making a good attempt to sing some of the Classic Hindi & Kannada Film songs.



It was indeed a busy afternoon after the Lunch. The Ballroom was filled with ladies trying out the 'Bollywood' moves and also trying out new make up techniques. The breakout room San Felipe was bursting at the seams with the Business Forum Attendees. Probably due to the Amazing Guest Speaker lineup. Dr. Madaiah Revana, Dr. Ashok Gowda, Mr. Hanumesh Srinivas and Mr. Dilip Shah were phenomenal in presenting their thoughts and findings. The CME Program for Physicians was held in the breakout room Westheimer. The Program was accredited through UTMB, Galveston.

In the evening, people gathered for some socializing and delicious snacks. The evening's programs started at 6.00 P.M. The evening's entertainment was packed with programs Bollywood Dance, Light Music, Vijayanagara Vaibhava (a period Dance Drama), Puppet dance and Gandhada gudi. The programs were followed by Dinner and Live Orchestra by Heartbeats Dance & DJ. The dance floor at the Ballroom was heaving with people jiving to the beats of the Orchestra. There was a Singles Meet "Meet & Greet" event held at Canyon cafe.

Saturday Morning heralded an other day packed with activities. They had Yoga, VPA Health screen and an excellent breakfast of 'Uppithu' & 'Kesaribath'. The morning programs started with 'Shraddhanjali' to our VPA members who passed away during the past 2 years. Following the Shraddhanjali, was the US release of the Vishwa Vokkaliga Directory. Visiting Delegates from India were honored. The programs presented during the morning were Muvaru Kivudaru, the Teen Show stopper, Bedara Kannappa & Folk songs sung by Y.K.Muddukrishna and team. Lunch was again very sumptuous accompanied by some light music. The women's forum met again with two guest speakers at 2 PM. Guest speaker Mrs. Lakshmy Parameswaran spoke on the topic 'Parent Child Communication - Dealing with two different cultures' and Guest speaker Mrs. Jesal Patel spoke on topic 'Finance & Tax Planning'. The talks were enjoyed by all the attendees.



The second and third Singles meet events were held on Saturday in the breakout rooms. Youth events also ran parallel with the main events for 3 days of the convention.

VPA General Body meeting was held at the Ballroom. Elections were held to elect the new office bearers for 2010-2011.

The final evening of the event started with snacks and socializing. The evening's entertainment was Raj Nenapina Angaladalli, Comedy skit & the finale 'The Incredible India Fashion Show'. VPA Board of trustees and sponsors were Honored on stage. The new VPA office bearers for 2010-2011 were announced. VPA Youth Committee members who conducted inspiring Youth events at the convention were also Honored. Finally the evening ended with a Vote of Thanks. Dinner was another Veritable feast followed by 2 complete hours of energetic dancing on the dance floor. The convention concluded on the midnight of July 4, 2009 and everyone had the satisfaction of having had a good time.

We will be posting more pictures of the convention on our website shortly.

We invite you to send in articles to the 'Vishwamanava' magazine to be published shortly. The deadline

for receiving articles is August 31, 2009.

We are dedicating our magazine to:

SRI.K.P.POORNA CHANDRA TEJASWI

He had a distinguished style of writing which heralded a new era in Kannada Literature.

*WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOUR WRITING. SEND IN STORIES, ARTICLES, POEMS, TO:
conventionchair@yahoo.com*

More details about the guidelines for the articles to follow in the next newsletter.

A Great big thank you to all those present during the convention for gracing the occasion and sharing the special moments with us. Our big thanks to all the Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, Volunteers, Participants, Guest Speakers and Visiting Artists for making the event a big success.



****Please send your thoughts & suggestions to conventionchair@yahoo.com**