



Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

September, 2003

Mission Statement:

We aspire to live the teachings of Haidakhan Baba, to hold this Ashram as His home, to serve humanity, and to be stewards and caretakers of the land.

Devotees Coming Together by Ramloti

Christ said, "When two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there." This is indeed the case when Babaji devotees are together, Baba's presence is palpable. Over the summer we have had almost a constant experience of this at the Ashram. We hope you can attend one of the upcoming events and be part of this manifestation of Babaji's presence and love.

Fall Navratri runs from Friday, September 26 until Saturday, October 4. These nine days of honoring the Divine Mother are always profound and deliciously blissful. Day after day of pujas to Ma, reading Her praises, hearing Her stories, singing Her bhajans, offering Her thanks through the Sacred Fire Ceremony. In my opinion, there are no finer days.

Prem and I then travel to San Francisco where we join Lok Nath, Nirmal, Saradambe, Sudha, Mindia and many other devotees for a presentation of chanting, satsang, and slides on Friday, October 10. Call Sudha at 415-681-9226 or Saradambe at 510-527-3568 for more information. We will have aarati and satsang on Saturday in Berkeley. On Sunday, October 12 we will have aarati, a large fire ceremony, and bhandara in

Fremont at Nirmal and Indira's. Call 510-656-7520 for times and directions.

Lok Nath, Prem, and I then travel to Tacoma, WA to do a night of sacred music at the United Methodist Church at 7pm on Thursday, October 16. Call the Church at 253-627-0129 for directions. We then travel to Don and Kay Kehoe's large healing center in Monroe, WA for a Friday and Saturday of aaratis, chanting, satsang, and fire ceremony. Call 425-424-2322 for details.



Back at the Ashram, we celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights on Saturday, October 25 with a fire ceremony at 10:08am. At aarati, that evening, every place is aglow with candles. Representatives of the many different spiritual communities join us to share their songs and chants about light and peace.

On January 16, 17, and 18, we will gather on Treasure Island, FL. at Sharda and Jeffrey's resort for a Babaji Weekend of fire ceremonies, aaratis, chanting, and satsang. They have several rental cottages for all of the devotees on the property with a swimming pool overlooking the bay where dolphins are often seen. Call them at 727-363-0800 for details about the weekend.

A Summer of Love & Service



Fourth of July brought seven generous families from Denver: some cooked and sold food at the fair to raise money for the kirtan hall and the other families ran a medical booth as a service to the community. The families made over \$1500. This is the third year that they served in this way. **Ramloti**

Guru Purnima at the Ashram this year was a time so overflowing with blessings. I felt so fortunate that I got to participate in the Paduka Puja, washing Babaji's sandals, dressing them with flowers and malas. But the deepest blessing for me was to be sitting to the side of Baba's assan playing the harmonium as we sang aarati to Him. As each devotee came forward to offer light I could see his/her face, and in every set of eyes there was so much love, and an offering of such devotion.... I felt like what I was seeing was His presence in the heart of every devotee there. This is a gift for which I will be forever grateful. **Melinda**



The Annual Ashram Board Elections were held and all of our members agreed to give another year of generous service and guidance to the Ashram. The Board members from left to right are: Peggy Thompson, Annelou Perrenoud, Ramloti, Roni Chernin, J.D. Marston, Annee Laird, Lok Nath, Cassandra Metz, Deborah Michalek, Dan Sundaresan, Jonathan Yates. Lorain Davis and Prem are not in the photo.
page 2



Children's Week this year brought a refreshing change of pace to the Ashram. I was particularly amazed by how incredibly considerate and humble the kids were. During the chant practice, they gradually overcame their shyness and at the end of the week led a beautiful "Jai Ma" bhajan before the Samaj meeting. Even Ma was impressed. Thanks to all the parents who made it a pleasant experience! **Kalidas**



The Fire Ceremony Workshop was very important for me. It let what I already know settle in a little deeper. I enjoyed the guest speakers a great deal, although they came from such different traditions they seemed to be saying the same thing. The ceremony itself embodies love and grace. I felt lucky to be part of it all. **Anna Louise**

The Children's Peace Journey up to a waterfall on Mount Blanca, a sacred spot to Southwest Indians, was far more beautiful than I can describe. It was a time for Elders to bless and instruct children so they would grow up focused on peace instead of war. A couple hundred people, including the Ashram children and parents, attended the ceremony. Four youth of different races represented all children and the generations of children to come. **Radhe Shyam**

Kirtan Hall to Begin in Spring!

At our various meetings this summer, the topic often turned to the necessity of getting the construction of the kirtan hall going. We brought this idea to our contractor, Paul Koppana, and this is what he proposed. Paul feels confident that we can get the building closed in with walls, stucco, roof, windows, doors, insulation, excavation, and some photovoltaic electricity for \$172,000. At this point, even if the building had to wait through the winter for the remainder of the construction, it would be safe from the weather. We can begin this work as soon as the ground thaws in April or May!

Our kirtan hall fund now stands at \$110,000. We feel confident that we will be able to accrue the necessary funds to begin our long-awaited construction in Spring. The generosity of devotees so far has been gratifying and we hope that everyone can find a way to help in this next big step.

If you are able to volunteer your skills for a period of time this spring and summer, our contractor will put you on the crew. The skills needed range from general clean up and moving straw bales to carpentry and other expertise. Every hour of karma yoga work saves the Ashram the money that would otherwise be paid to a hired laborer. Another way to support the project would be by donating funds to help support a karma yogi while he or she is here working. There is a place on the coupon for your donation as well as your pledge for a monthly donation.

Please consider deeply the importance of having a place where we can all chant together in front of our beneficent Divine Mother. There are so many times in the year that many of the people have to sit around toward the back of the temple or stand outside. Together we can do it!

Our mailing list is over 1,000 people and so it is necessary each year to update it and make sure we are only sending newsletters to folks that wish to receive it. If you have a "T" on your mailing label, we need to hear from you. Please fill out the coupon below, email us at hua@amigo.net, or call us at 866-686-4185.

The Kirtan Hall raffle was a great success. We raised over \$2,200. Thank you to J.D. Marston, Darlene Streit, Jeffrey Solomon and Sharda Collard for contributing the prizes. The winners were: Doug Bowen, Lorain Davis, and Alice Robson. Congratulations and thank you to all who participated.

Yes, I want to build the Kirtan Hall at the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

My donation for the Kirtan Hall Fund \$ _____ My monthly pledge for the Kirtan Hall \$ _____

My contribution to support a Karma Yogi \$ _____ I would like to be a karma yogi on the project _____

Donation to the Ashram General Fund \$ _____ I'd like to Sponsor a Navratri Fire Ceremony (\$108) _____

Credit Card #: _____ (Visa, MC, or Discover) Expiration Date: _____

Send me an email at _____ that the newsletter is on the web instead of a hard copy.

Would you like to remain on the Ashram Mailing List? _____

Make checks payable to (HUA) Haidakhandi Universal Ashram and send to: HUA • PO Box 9 • Crestone, CO 81131

All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your support.

Maha Lakshmi Shop by Annee Laird

The new 9-inch marble murtis of Ganesh are beautiful and sell for \$300. We also have a new aarati book with a lovely color photograph of Mother on the cover. The aarati book which sells for \$7 includes the Hanuman Chalisa, mantras, the Ganesh aarati and instructions for performing a simple puja. We also have four new CD's from J.Amba in Italy. They are Ganesh, Sadguru, Shakti, and Mother Bhajans. Each is full of Haidakhan bhajans and comes with a wonderful booklet with information about the deity and words to the chants. These CD's with booklets sell for \$20. The book, *Babaji, Only Love* with 55 late portraits and love poems for Him by Jai Datt is now available in the shop for \$15. Please call us with orders or questions toll free at 866-686-4185 or email us at mls@amigo.net. Our website www.BabajiAshram.org has the catalogue in color!

Calendar for 2003 - 2004

(Please note: Throughout the year we perform a large havan on every new-moon and full-moon.)

- Sept. 26 - Oct. 4 Fall Navratri - Festival of the Divine Mother, daily fire ceremony and puja
October 10 San Francisco Program 7pm, chanting, slides, and satsang (see front page)
October 12 Fremont, CA - Aarati, fire ceremony and bhandara (see front page)
October 16 Tacoma, WA - Evening of Sacred Music (see front page)
October 17 - 18 Monroe, WA - Aaratis, fire ceremony, and satsang (see front page)
October 25 Diwali - Festival of Lights
January 16 - 18 Babaji Weekend on Treasure Island, FL (see front page)

Calendar for 2004 continued

- February 14 Babaji's Maha Samadhi
February 19 Shivaratri
March 21 - 30 Spring Navratri - Festival of the Divine Mother
July 2 Guru Purnima and the 15th Anniversary of the Temple Opening
August 2 - 8 Children's Week, Fire Ceremony Workshop, American Samaj Meeting
October 14 - 22 Fall Navratri - Festival of the Divine Mother
November 12 Diwali - Festival of Lights



Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

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“No place should be without the name of Om Namah Shivaya; on every street, in every house it must be spread.”

Shri Babaji - January 22, 1983



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