



## SURJO SANKALAN

Vol I of II July 08, 2003

### Committee Corner

#### Friends

As the spring gradually transitions into a glowing summer, the Bengali community also glows and strives to stand out among all as the most vibrant of people. We on behalf of BCAA have tried our best to make the first six months of 2003 very fun filled and enjoyable for all. We wish that the coming months will maintain the continuation of the same spirit of enjoyment and togetherness.

...BCAA 2003 Committee



### BCAA 2003 Committee

President	Subhomoy Chattopadhyay
Gen Secretary	Soumya Biswas
Treasurer	Rishi Sen
Cultural Secretary	Anandaroop Bhattacharya
Executive Member	Prajesh Bhattacharya



### 2003 Goals

#### Organizing cultural events:

Completed:

- Saraswati Puja
- Cricket Match
- BCAA Picnic
- Dr. Indrani Sen Concert

Upcoming:

- P.C. Sorcar Magic show - (tentative) end of Aug 2003 to be jointly organized with Indo-American Cultural Foundation
- Durga Puja 2003 - Oct 04 and 05, 2003
- Lakshmi Puja 2003
- New year party

#### Participation in cultural events organized by Indian Association of Phoenix and other organizations:

Completed:

- India Nite
- India Festival
- Bengali Dance Drama and Play at NABC-2003

Upcoming:

- Rath Yatra on July 26, 2003

#### Upgrade regularly used items of BCAA:

Items purchased till date

- Sound mixer and cables
- Gas Cylinder for cooking purposes
- Stage Monitor

#### Publish two half yearly newsletters:

First issue published on July 6, 2003

#### Publish two magazines:

'Basantika' - Published

'Sharadargha' - to be published during Durga Puja 2003



### Income and Expenditure Summary

#### Half Yearly report:

Opening Balance \$ 5,958.00

#### Earnings

Saraswati Puja	\$ 3,243.00
Cricket Match	!FREE EVENT!
Food Festival	\$449.80
Picnic	!FREE EVENT!
Dr. Indrani Sen Concert	\$3,218.00

#### Expenses

Saraswati Puja	\$3,393.55
Cricket Match	\$119.94
Food Festival	\$225.00
Picnic	\$362.34
Dr. Indrani Sen Concert	\$2,782.00

BCAA HQ expenses \$1,181.71

- NABC 2003 entry for Dance drama
- NABC 2003 entry for Play
- BCAA website renewal
- Purchase of BCAA assets-sound mixers, cables, stage monitor

Ending Balance \$4,804.26

#### Year to date summary

Starting Balance	\$5,958.00
Earnings	\$6,910.80
Expenses towards organized events	\$6,882.83
Expenses towards BCAA assets	\$1,181.71
Ending Balance	\$4,804.26

## 2003 Goals – Status

All events till June 2003 have been completed successfully with your gracious help and co-operation.

## India Nite – celebrating Republic Day, January 25, 2003

India Nite was hosted by the Indian Association of Phoenix in celebration of Indian Republic Day. The evening was packed with entertainment programs by children and adults from the Indian Community in Arizona. The talented kids of BCAA members presented a wonderful dance item set to the popular children's song composition "Ek Ekkey Ek". The participants were Srishti Nayak, Surabhi Sengupta, Shipika Chowdhury, Arko Chattopadhyay and Abhik Chowdhury.



## Saraswati Puja – Feb 8, 2003

Saraswati Puja was held on Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at the Indo American Cultural and Religious Center. Thanks to all who volunteered, it was a resounding success. The puja was performed by Shri Nikhil Bhattacharya and Shri Amitava Bhattacharya. We sincerely thank Smt. Sumana Ghosh for her efforts in organizing the Puja. Lunch constituting delicious khichuri, banda-gobi and teley-bhaja was served after the Puja. A General Body Meeting was held in the afternoon (the first one in two years) followed by a Children's Sit-and-Draw session. The evening was marked by a rich and entertaining cultural program put together by our talented pool of young ones and adults. The first magazine of the year, Basantika 2003, was released during the event. We thank you all for making the Saraswati Puja a memorable event.



## Cricket Match – Mar 2, 2003

The World Cup fever also caught the BCAA members. The cricket match was organized at the Intel Recreation Center on 2nd March. The fun event brought out the stamina (or rather the lack of it) and enthusiasm among the young and the old. We still smell the aroma of the delicious Paw Bhaji and chicken barbeque.



## India Festival – Mar 22, 2003

The India Festival was hosted by the Indian Association of Phoenix at the Indo American Cultural and Religious Center in Phoenix on March 22nd. The event had a huge turnout from all the Indian Communities in Arizona. The Food Fair was a place to enjoy delicious and authentic food from all over India. The BCAA stall offered Chilli Chicken, Chicken fried rice, Luchi, Aloo Dum, Coconut Laddus and Shikanjee. The food (for about 150 plates) was sold out within 4 hours even before the other stalls had started warming up. Kudos to our expert chefs!!! Tushar Roy presented a lecture demonstration on Yoga while Shilpi Roy represented BCAA in the cultural event with her excellent Bharatnatyam recital.



## Picnic – Apr 5, 2003

The community picnic was held on April 5th in the backdrop of the McDowell Mountains at the McDowell Mountain Regional Park in Fountain Hills. The response was overwhelming with more than 125 people attending the event. Both children and adults had a field day playing games: spoon race, cycling, cricket, soccer, frisbee and musical chairs. The more adventurous ones took time off to go to small hikes up the trails. Sandwich and sausage were served as appetizers followed by rice, goat meat and salad for lunch, while the children feasted on hot dogs and sandwiches. And of course who can forget the afternoon tea by Purnima-di!



## Dr. Indrani Sen Concert – May 2, 2003

We were proud to host a music concert with Dr. Indrani Sen on May 2nd at PIMA Hall, ASU. Her melodious rendition of songs exhibited her class. She enthralled the audience with a wide variety of songs - Rabindra sangeet, Nazrul-geeti, palli-geeti, golden oldies and of course her own modern songs. Shri Pritimoy Goswami, one of the most senior and respected tabaliyas in the field of popular music in Calcutta today, provided excellent accompaniment on the tabla. The musical evening will remain in our memory for a long time. The artistes were also extremely pleased with the arrangements and audience, and expressed their desire to come back again.



## NABC 2003: July 4 – July 6, 2003

The 23rd North American Bengali Conference (NABC) was held from July 4 thru July 6, 2003 at Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach, California. It was a convention full of colorful Bengalis from all corners of US, delicious food, good weather and good programs to watch. The convention gave us a chance to reminisce and enjoy the Bengali culture and to see and hear Bengal's most prominent literary, intellectual and cultural figures. BCAA contributed two events to NABC 2003 – the dance drama "Suchetona" and the drama "Sadanonder Shatkahon". Both items received critical acclaim from the audience and the NABC organizers. Our special thanks to all participants in the BCAA events at NABC, to all those who were behind the scene supporting the performing teams and last but not the least, to everybody who went there to give our teams the moral support without which our programs could not have been a success.

