

---

---

# Sarva Dharma Service Center Inc.

---

---

<http://www.sai-service.org>

Newsletter

Pranams at the lotus feet of our beloved Bhagawan, Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

January 2004

---

## Approval Memorialized

The township of Howell memorialized the final approval of Sarva Dharma Service Center by issuing it in writing on December 18, 2003.

## Building Plans

The structural and other engineering plans are proceeding well and all are expected to be ready for submission to the township by end of March 2004. It will take further couple of months for the approval from township before commencing construction work.

## SDSC To Visit Parthi

There are tentative plans for a group of SDSC members to visit Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba around July 24 to Aug 7, 2004. We welcome suggestions to make this trip full of intense spiritual sadhana and diverse seva activities.

It is our intention that the SDSC group starts the pilgrimage on the same day from Newark, New Jersey and travel together directly to Bangalore.

## SDSC Spokespersons

It was decided at the CC meeting on December 21, 2003 that if any media person (radio, newspaper or TV) approaches any member of the SDSC for information about the project or SDSC in general, that person should be directed to either the Central Coordinator, Rajen Ghayal or to the President, Rao Andavolu. Their contact numbers are on page 2 of this newsletter.

## A Wise Story: An Elderly Carpenter

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer-contractor of his plans to leave the



*“The mind is the basis for the actions of the eye, the ear and the tongue. In the waking state, the eye sees, the ear hears and the tongue speaks. In the dream state, the eyes, the ears and the tongue are inoperative. The mind alone sees, hears and does the talking. The mind does all of the functions of the senses. It is the inner operator of all the sense organs. Without the control of the mind, man cannot have peace even for a moment. One, who wishes to lead a happy and peaceful life, must exercise control over his senses.*

*Man today has lost peace of mind because he has no control over his senses”*

**- BABA**

House building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife enjoying his extended family.

He would miss the paycheck, but he needed to retire. They could get by.

The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and ask if he could build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials. It was an unfortunate way to end his career.

When the carpenter finished his work and the builder came to inspect the house, the contractor handed the front-door key to the carpenter. "This is your house," he said, "my gift to you."

What a shock! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently. Now he had to live in the home he had built none too well.

So it is with us. We build our lives in a distracted way, reacting rather than acting, willing to put up less than the best. At important points we do not give the job our best effort. Then with a shock we look at the situation we have created and find that we are now living in the house we have built. If we had realized that we would have done it differently.

Think of yourself as the carpenter. Think about your house. Each day you hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall. Build wisely. It is the only life you will ever build. Even if you live it for only one day more, that day deserves to be lived graciously and with dignity. The plaque on the wall says, "Life is a do-it-yourself project." Who could say it more clearly? Your life today is the result of your attitudes and choices in the past. Your life tomorrow will be the result of your attitudes and the choices you make today.

## Eleventh Annual SDSC Meeting

The Eleventh annual SDSC general body meeting is being planned for January 18, 2004.

Exact time, venue and directions will be communicated very soon by e-mail.

## GHANDIKOTA VENKATA SUBBA RAO

One of eminent devotees of Svaami, Sri G. V. Subba Rao merged in Svaami in the early hours of Dec 28, 2003. Son of the great Vedic scholar who has been recognized as the one of the last human beings to live by injunctions of the Vedas, Brahmasri Ghandikota Subrahmanya Sastry, Sri Subba Rao was highly educated both the traditional and contemporary systems. He was a top notch Physicist and was the head of energy department of the United Nations for nearly 30 years. He was founder-trustee of the Hindu Temple in Flushing, NY in the 1970's and was the person responsible to convince all the trustees accept the Sarva Dharma symbol of our Beloved Bhagavan as the symbol of that temple. His traditional education and way of life took him back to India to serve his father in his last years of the latter's life and subsequently to the lotus feet of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

For the past twenty years Sri Subba Rao served our Lord as His constant companion, translating His speeches into English for publication in Sanatana Sarathi bringing Svaami's message to multitude of devotees. He also edited many of publications by the Trust.



Following his illustrious father's footsteps (who gave Sai Gayathree to the world), Sri Subba Rao authored Sai Surya Gayathree, Sai Hiranyagarbha Gayathree and Sai guru Gayathree to which Bhagavan referred as Sai Three. Further through him, we have Sairama Gayathree and Saikrishna Gayathree.

He was a regular speaker at Prasanthi Nilayam for the foreign devotees and would explain in simple terms the complexities of philosophy.

Above all his love for individuals was very striking, laudable and worthy of emulation. He always spoke with people with a loving smile that you.

know came from depths of his heart. He is one of those intellectuals who rigorously put Bhagawan Baba's teachings into practice. He was a worthy son of a great scholar.

Sri Subba Rao graced the Coordinating Committee meeting of Sarva Dharma Service Center in 2001 praised our efforts and encouraged us in his address. He then went to the current site and prayed to the setting Sun to give us the strength to complete the project.

Recently, in July 2002 when a group of Sarva Dharma Service Center members went for Svaami's darshan in Bangalore, he spoke to more than 300 US devotees. He talked about the need for unity of religions in this age of rising fanaticism amongst some nations and again pointed out that more people should do what 'Sarva Dharma Service Center is trying to achieve'.

Members of Sarva Dharma Service Center will miss his guidance and love. We pray to Svaami to grant peace to all mourners and give us the strength to follow his lead.

### **SERVICE SCHEDULE AND DIRECTIONS**

#### **Elijah's Promise Soup Kitchen:**

**18, Neilson St, New Brunswick, NJ 08901;**

**Ph: 732-545-9002** (Third Saturday of every month)

**Schedule:** January 17, February 21 & March 20, 2004

**Time:** 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

#### **Directions to Elijah's Promise Soup Kitchen:**

From Route 18 North (Exit 9 NJ Tpk.), Pass Route 1 and go for about 1 mile, passing a traffic light

1. Make jug-handle left on Commercial Ave.
2. Make right at the next light onto George St.
3. Make next right onto Carman St.
4. Go to the end of the street and at the stop sign make a right onto Neilson Street.
5. The Kitchen is on the right at 18 Neilson St.

#### **Sacred Heart Church in Trenton, Jointly with Sri**

**Sathya Sai Baba Center of East Brunswick:**

**343, South Broad St. Trenton, NJ 08650**

Provide 225 + meals on second **Sunday** of each month.

**Schedule:** January 11, February 08 & March 14, 2004

**Time:** 11:00 am - 2:30 pm

#### **Directions From Route 1 South or North:**

1. From Rt 1 take the exit for Market Street.
2. At T-junction turn left into South Stockton St.

**LOVE ALL, SERVE ALL**

**JAI SAI RAM**

**HELP EVER, HURT NEVER**

3. Make a right on to Market Street.

4. Go about three blocks on Market until it intersects South Broad. (Sun Bank on right hand corner and Luther Arms apartment complex on the opposite left hand corner).

5. Turn left onto South Broad. Just beyond apartments on the right you will see a church. There is a drive just before the first building (a convent). Turn right into driveway & go down the slope to parking lot.

7. The Hall, known as Toomey Hall is under the church and the entrance is from either parking lot.

#### **How To Reach Us?**

Web Site Address: <http://www.sai-serve.org>

**E-mail:** [info@sai-service.org](mailto:info@sai-service.org)

**U.S. Mail:** Sarva Dharma Service Center Inc.,

P.O.Box 801, Howell, NJ 07731

#### **Coordinating Committee:**

President: Rao Andavolu (609) 683-3828

Central Coordinator: Rajen Ghayal (732) 833 7877

Secretary: Sudhakar Pai (908) 359-2945

Fiscal Coordinator: Kanneth Sugathan (609) 799 7719

**Be part of the 'Expansion' of Swami's mission on earth. Please feel free to communicate on all issues related to Sarva Dharma Service Center, by any of the means convenient to you.**

Sarva Dharma Service Center, Inc., is a non-profit organization, tax exempt under Section 501 (a) of I.R.C