

Annual General Meeting - June 11, 2017
(A brief report of activities in 2016)

FRIDAY JAN. 01, 2016

SRI SARADA DEVI PUJA DAY & KALPATARU DAY OBSERVED TOGETHER

11:00AM – 7:00PM

150 attended **PUJA** and other programs including video, readings, devotional singing and symposium

Symposium: Speakers: Pamela Dee and Mukta Puranik

2) Daily 5:45AM – 7:20AM meditation/chanting/reading/puja performed each morning.

Attendance continues to be 15 on an average.

3) The evening 7:00 – 8:00PM Aarati & meditation/reading maintained average attendance of 10.

4) Saturday 11:00AM – 12:00 ‘Guided Meditation-Chant-Music Hour’. Participation averaged 12.

5) The birth anniversary of most of Sri Ramakrishna’s direct disciples were observed on the morning of their respective birth-date with a chant, and in the evening with a song and short biography reading. Birth anniversary dates of Shankaracharya, Rama, and Buddha, and some others were observed with appropriate worship and readings.

Christmas Eve –WED. Dec. 24, 2016

After 7pm Aarati, Christmas Eve was celebrated with worship of Jesus, followed by selected readings from Sermon on the Mount, The Imitation of Christ and The Life of Swami Vivekananda, interspersed with singing of Christmas carols and reflections from Swami Yogatmananda. **33 devotees attended.**

f) Good Friday (March 25) and Easter (March 27)

Swami Ishtananda, Vedanta Society of St Petersburg FL, delivered a talk on ‘**Good Friday**’ from 7:30pm – 8:30pm, in place of the Jnana Yoga class. 30 attended.

On Easter, Sunday, March 27, The Sunday lecture ‘Resurrection into Spirit’ was delivered by Swami Yogatmananda.

6) Swami Yogatmananda AWAY: CALIFORNIA to AUSTRALIA to CALIFORNIA
from OCT 28 through NOV 13, 2016

Swami conducted most of the 5PM – 6PM Providence Sunday Service Lectures for 2016. Average attendance was 38; slightly less than 2015

Swami & Guest lecturers for SUNDAY SERVICES 2016 include

- a) April 03 -- Sw. Prapannananda (Sacramento)
- b) April 17 -- Sw. Nishpapananda (St Louis)
- c) June 05 -- Sw. Sarvapriyananda (Hollywood)
- d) June 12 -- Sw. Harinamananda (San Diego)
- e) July 10 -- Sw. Baneshananda (Germany)
- f) Aug. 21 Sw. Chandrashekaranda (Portland) &
Swami Atmajayananda (Seattle)

g) Nov. 06 -- Sw. Brahmurupananda (Washington DC)

Others: Eight (8):

- a) Jan. 10 -- Charles Feldman
- b) Mar. 20 -- Patricia Blake
- c) May 15 -- Gloria Hernandez
- d) May 29 -- Abhijit Sarcar
- e) Sept 25 -- Donna Maurer
- f) Oct 09 -- Prafulla Velluri & students (dance-story-telling on Durga)
- g) Oct 30 -- Swapna & Rahul Roy (musical offering of Kali songs)
- h) Nov 13 -- Chet Boncek

8) Other Lectures by Visiting Swamis

MON. JUNE 06 Swami Sarvapriyananda

THURS. Nov. 24 Swami Devapriyananda (Belur Math) 9)

Tues. & Fri. Class info: 2016

a) For the Tuesday 'Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna' study class, from January 01, 2016 through December 31, 2015, Swami discussed CH 50 Pg 949 THROUGH Chapter 52, pg 975, Attendance averaged 18 + on Live-stream

b) For Fridays, the book **JNANA** Yoga Continued from last year. Average attendance 17 + on Live-stream.

Others giving Tue-Fri classes

Tues. May 17.....Prof. Sukalyan Sengupta....' Sri Ramakrishna Lived Here'

Tues. Nov. 08... Swami Brahmurupananda....'Seeing & Serving God in All

Fri. March 25....Swami Ishtananda 'Good Friday'

Fri. April 15.....Swami Nishpapananda..... 'Ego & Atman'

Fri. Nov. 04.....Swami Brahmurupananda....'The Field & the Knower of the Field'

Fri. Nov 11.....Pritwish Basu..... ' God in Everything as Seen by Ramakrishna'

Vedanta Society of Connecticut (CT) has been meeting monthly for worship, music, and discussion-- either Sat. afternoon or Sun. morning -- EXCEPT for January and February. Meetings were usually held at: 100 Cherry Brook RD Canton CT. Average attendance:25

12 Retreats

Four -- 'day-long' retreats/workshops were conducted in 2016,

1) April 02 -- Swami Prapanananda): 'Yogi and Bhagavad Gita'

2) June 04 -- Swami Sarvapriyananda): 'Kathopanishad'

3) Sept 10: Himayat Inayati: 'Live & Path of the Heart: Sufi Musings'

4) Oct 15 -- Swami Yogatmananda : 700 Verses Mother Durga/Chandi'

Total attendance for 2016 was: 212 people

13) The Puja/Worship programs for 2016

JAN. 01—FRIDAY—Sri Sarada Devi B'Day Anniversary AND Kalpataru Day Together

95 attended Puja 60 attended 5pm Symposium

Jan 31—Sunday---- Swami Vivekananda	65 attended Puja	45 attended Symposium
Mar 13—Sunday----Sri Ramakrishna	90 attended Puja	50 attended Symposium
Oct 09 – Sunday----Sri Durga	90 + at Puja	45 attended 5pm lecture
Dec 18 - Sunday ----Sri Sarada Devi	80 attended Puja	50 attended Symposium

14)

Devotional Music Concerts/Programs during 2016 (11) w. 485 total count) include:

a) Sun. Jan 17	Infusion/Evolution (latin:afro:Cuban style)	about 40 attended
b) Sun. Apr 03	SABAD-Kirtan w. Amritpal Singh & son	about 27 attended
c) Sun Apr 24	Vocal Classical Concert w.: Pt Vinayakrao Torvi (vocals) & Dr Vinay Mishra (Harmonium)& Pt Ashish Sengupta (Tabla)	about 43 attended
d) Sun. May 22	Classical Violin Concert w. Pt Milind Raiker (violinist) & Yadnesh (son) (violin) & Amit Kavthekar (Tabla)	about 50 attended
e) Sun. June 05	Classical Vocal Concert w: Sandip Ghosh (vocalist) & Amit Kavthekar (Tabla) & Ravi Torvi (Harmonium)	about 47 attended
f) Sun. July 17	Classical Vocal Singing(Guru Day) Vidushi Suchita Rao & Students w Rajesh Pai (Tabla) & Rama Rao (Harmonium)	about <u>100</u> attended
g)Sun. Aug. 21	(Morning Hindustani Vocal Raagas) w: Dattatreya Velankar (Vocalist) & Meghashyam Keshav (Tabla) & Ravi Torvi (Harmonium)	about 45 attended
h) Sat. Aug 27	Chinmaya Swaranjali Group /Boston Kirtana Vocals-Krishna Day	about 45 attended
i) Sun. Oct 02	Classical Vocal Concert w: Padmini Rao (vocalist) Nitin Mitta (Tabla) & Ravi Torvi (Harmonium)	about 60 attended

j) Sun. Oct 30 **Kali Musical Offering**
Swapna Ray (vocals & harmonium) & **about 28 attended**
Rahul Ray (vocals) &
Shiva Ramakrishna (flute) &
Sagar Dey (Tabla) &

Average about **485** total attendance for 11 concerts in **2016** ...

15) **‘All-Around’ SUMMER PROGRAMS 2016**

a) Swami & Devotees to Pittsburgh PA Ramakrishna Ashrama – June 23 – 26, 2016

b) 'Independence Day' Program – Mon. July 04, 11:00AM -2:30PM

Thirty-five to forty (35-40) devotees ----readings-music-talks-powerpoint from 11am – 2pm.

c)Adult Silent Meditate-a-thon Retreat – Fri. July 08, 6:00PM -- Sun. July 10, 1:00PM

Eleven devotees and Swami -‘Meditate-a-thon’ -Fri Jul 08 at 6 pm thru Sun July 10 at 2pm
(Down from 22 in 2015; same as 11 in 2014)

d) Summer Study Class on ‘Cloud of Unknowing’ (Part 9-10-11 continued from summer 2015

Seven (7) Tues evenings: **July 12 – through Aug 2, 2016** **Average attendance 22**

e) To Honor ‘M’ Gathering – Sat. July 16, 11:00AM – 2:00PM

About twenty-five devotees honored ‘M’ (chronicler of the Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna) at the home of T.K. Roy in West Wareham MA, from 11-2pm,

f) Guru Purnima– Sun. July 17, 11:00AM – 1:00PM

About seventy-five(75) devotees participated in Guru-Purnima observation . Over one- hundred (100+) attended.

g) Young Adult Retreat – Fri. July 22, 6:00PM - Sun. July 24, 1:00PM

Eleven (11) youth ,ages fifteen to twenty-eight, participated in the weekend retreat.

The theme was Religion: Science of Values. *14 attended in 2015 10 attended in 2014*

h) Swami to NJ – Sat. July 30 - Sun. July 31

Swami and some devotees traveled to NJ (Livingston, Edison, Voorhees)

-a retreat in Voorhees NJ to about forty-five (45)devotees;

- a two-hour talk in Livingston to about fifty (50) attendees;

- a talk in Aadya Hindu Temple in Edison NJ to about forty(40)devotees.

i) Rochester Vedanta Retreat – Wed. Aug. 03 - Sun. Aug.07

on: MANDUKYA UPANISHAD with Swamis Yogatmananda & Kripamayananda

About twenty-five (25) devotees from USA & Canada attended.

j) Children’s Day Camp – Tue. Aug. 09 - Sat. Aug. 13

About fifteen children attended the day- camp, theme:‘Childhood of Krishna’ under guidance of Prof.Dorothy Abram; assisted by primary school teachers- Chris & Emily Sparks from PA & Chet Boncek . 18 attended

k) Connecticut (CT) Vedanta Retreat – Sun. Aug. 14

About forty-five (45) devotees participated in the ANNUAL day-long CT-Vedanta retreat. Swami discussed 'Imitation of Christ'.

L) Swami Tathagatananda Memorial Service in New York City– Sat. Aug 20

Swami Yogatmananda/ local devotees attended the) memorial service for Swami Tathagatananda, who served Vedanta Society of New York (West) since 1977.

m) Krishna Festival – Sat. Aug. 27, 11:00 AM – 4:30PM

16)-----UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD DAY----- SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

Universal Brotherhood Theme: Emphasizing Spirituality Speakers were:

--Himayat Inayati, Sufi Teacher, MS; ThD; Universal Awakenings, North Carolina

--Pastor Rev. Deirdre White, Annisquam MA Village Church:

--Rabbi Barry Dolinger of Congregation Beth Shalom, RI

--Pravrajika Gitaprana, Vedanta Nun Vivekananda Retreat: Ridgely, NY

-- Swami Yogatmananda: Welcomed All, Introduced All, and Provided concluding comments of the program and thanked everyone who contributed to the event.

Musicians/Groups/Others included:

Kathleen Adams (of the Annisquam Village Church) and Chorus

Rahul and Swapna Ray

David Upegui and members of Infusion Evolution

Peter Travisano

Sravani Bhattacharjee

Abhijit Sarcar

Prafulla Velury: Danced a Kuchipudi Dance on Shiva.

Dinner graciously prepared by Mahesh & Gita Patel & Family.

One Hundred five (105) devotees/well-wishers attended this 5—8PM event.

Down from: 135 in 2015 125 in 2014)

17)

Vedanta Centers & Groups; Colleges & Universities; Various Churches & Community programs during 2016 where Swami Yogatmananda Travelled to/ conducted retreats and/or delivered talks include:

(Possibly NOT complete)

Wed. Jan. 06 -- One Voice Interfaith Vigil Against Poverty (8th Annual Banner-March & Capitol Prayers

-----reminding legislators (Governor, Congress Members, etc) to practice governing with compassion.

Jan 07—Jan 11 -- SY in Florida & Puerto Rico: 4-days of Lectures (8) & interviews.

Sat. March 19 -- Swami to Vorhees, NJ and Philadelphia, PA

--- /puja and talks to 70+ devotees to the Vedanta group in Vorhees, & to 35 devotees in the Phil, PA grp

Sun. Apr. 10 -- Swami Yogatmananda at Concordia Center for Spiritual Living in Warwick –

--- 'SY spoke on 'Love' to 80+ congregant attendees.

--- then conducted a one-and half-hour workshop on 'Meditation' to about 35 practitioners in Basement

Mon May 02 -- Swami at La Salle H.S. Academy ...4 classes on general principles of Hinduism & Q/A
(about 2-25 students /per class)

Sat. May 14 - Wed. May 18... SY to Jimenez Springs New Mexico/ Astavrakta Samhita retreat/small group.

Sat. May 28 - Sun. May 29...SY gave retreat (120 attendees) & delivered Sun. Lecture (150 attendees) at Vedanta Center of Greater Washington, DC in Silver Spring MD

Sat. June 11 ...SY gave retreat on Durga Saptashati & gave talks in Greenville & Raleigh North Carolina

Tue. June 14, ...SY & about 100 Interfaith leaders, faith representatives and local people gathered at Roger Williams Memorial Park, North Main St, Prov in solidarity to the victims of the Orlando, FL shooting.

Thu. June 23 till Sun. June 26...SY to Pittsburgh PA: retreat & talks

Mon. July 18 -- SY at Interfaith Peace Gathering at Baptist Church in East Greenwich, RI for reflections on recent killings occurred in several USA cities in past weeks.

Sat. July 30 - Sun. July 31Swami Y & devotees to NJ (Livingston, Edison, Voorhees)...talks given

Thurs. Sept. 22 – 25...SY to Detroit, MI;(satsang/Q-A devotee home)

Ganges Retreat, MI ('Imitation of Christ' retreat -40 devotees) & Sun talk
Hindu Temple Lemont, IL: evening lecture (about 25 devotees)

Sun. Oct. 02 – SY performed Aarati & spoke on Durga at Prabasi Durga Puja in MA (45+ devotees)

Oct. 28 ---SY to San Fran CAL: Old Temple re-dedication & gave talks

Oct. 22 – 23 – SY spoke at Vivekananda Study & Philanthropic Center of New York Jamaica, NYC .. & on Sun. in Shelton, CT(devotee's home)

**Mon Oct 17 – SY spoke on meditation & life; molding personality/guided med segment & Q/A
Central Falls H.S. (25 students)**

**Fri Dec. 09 — SY spoke at 4 different classes on Hinduism/Vedanta at LaSalle H.S.Academy
(25 students each)**

Nov 12-13 Indianapolis. Retreat on Sat and lecture on Sun.

Sat. Dec.10 – SY at Institute Advanced Sciences in Fall River MA (35 attendees) talk & Q-A

18) Groups that CAME to Vedanta in 2016 include:

Sun. March 06 -- Yoga Teachers Visit

... eleven adult yoga students training with Ellen Schaefer (Yoga One, Foster) met with SY to discuss the various scriptural yogas, Vedanta, & Q-A.

Thurs. Dec. 08 – SIX (6) Universalist Unitarian Children (+ parents & staff)

visit Vedanta 4-6:30pm -- Learn basic Hinduism & Vedanta, as part of 'interfaith' learning. –

19) Attleboro-based Interfaith --2016

In 2016, SY attended Seven of the monthly 'Attleboro-based Interfaith Group' meetings. (Pat Blake attended most).

Also, - Vedanta HOSTED: Thurs Sept. 08, with Ten clergy/congregation members participating.

20) Day-Long Meditation – 2016

2016 averaged **9** devotees in monthly 'day-long' meditation (12 noon – 6:45pm & 7:20 – 8:00pm)
(88 total divided by 10 times meet = 8.8)..... SY also participated when in Prov.
((Jan did Not have info in news- & --cp 'away')

21) Just Kids! Monthly 2-Hour Program – 2016

Averaged Six (6) children/session. ((same as past))

---- taught by Dorothy A and/or Chet B... occ Peter T teach a song

2-a--Memorial Service for Triveni at Vedanta - Sun. Dec. 04, 11:00 AM –1:00 PM

4- Tues. Aug. 30 - Swami on Podcast Radio

Swami delivered a podcast program talk on Vedanta -Tues Aug 30 from 1pm -2pm -
'Mulling it Over' produced by Bob Houghtaling of East Greenwich Academic Foundation

NEW: 5) - Great Courses Videos- on various Faiths - were shown for a few months on Thurs evenings
(Jan to May) from 8:00 – 8:50pm in LL

6 – **NEW:** December: Sunday 5-6PM Lectures Live-streamed on YouTube

Hatha Yoga Classes on Tuesdays were not held in 2016; on Wednesdays they continued till Oct 28.

SUMMERY OF INCOME-EXPENDITURE 2016

Category	Total 2015	Total 2016
Income Categories		
Book Store (sales)	2,769.41	2,561.90
Collection	15,039.83	12,997.30
Dividends & Interest	138.79	2,023.05
Donation	114,376.35	140,886.44
Miscellaneous Income		354.08
Donation New Construction	22,500.00	
Outreach	-877.6	-400.00
Transfer Capital <> Citizens	11,499.50	1.23
Investment Income	15,413.96	
Total Income Categories	169,360.74	158,424.00
Expense Categories		
Bank Charges	289.36	389.48
Book Store (Purchase)	952.54	639.35
Charity	2,250.00	0
Cleaning & Sanitation	300.00	0
Furniture & Equipment	644.97	0
Honorarium	6,500.00	4,452.00
Housekeeping	9,432.56	10,911.54
Insurance	3,437.00	4,641.00
Investment		250,000.00
Miscellaneous		95.00
New Construction	71,700.00	0
Repairs & Improvements	1,496.79	3,992.65
Stn Prn & Post	1,342.29	1,796.58
Taxes	145.84	315.78
Travel	1,746.00	2,567.66
Utilities	23,539.11	23,015.27
Vehicle Maintenance	2,466.07	1,301.34
Total Expense Categories	126,242.53	304,117.65
Grand Total	43,118.21	-145,693.65
Opening Balance	206,721.15	249,196.30
Closing Balance	249,196.30	103,502.65