



અંકુર ગુજરાતી સમાજ Ankur Gujarati Samaj Inc.



Ankur Newsletter, January 2011

2011 Operating Committee

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Bharti Noticewala 563-2007

Vice President

Rajal Bhutta 791-0362

Secretary

Bhadra Parikh 489-1094

Treasurer

Amisha Doshi 339-0903

Cultural Director

Kamini Jain 769-7964

Youth Director

Jyoti Mehta 793-7349

Chief Editor

Shalvi Desai 544-7513

Membership

Amisha Doshi 339-0903

Facilities Director

Kishore Mehta 671-5305

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Secretary

Naren Parikh 479-5147

Treasurer

Rasila Parikh 247-9404

Member

Taruna Damani 779-4898

Member

Dorothy Joshi 489-1077

Web Designer

Jolly Purani 673-9338

Check out the new Ankur website:
www.ankurcinci.com

President's Message

Dearest Ankur Members,

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. The winter has been very cold and I'm sure that everybody is waiting for warm weather and opportunities to get out of the house. Beat the cold weather with our Bridge Club or a relaxing yoga session. Ankur has some great programs this year, including the addition of a second yoga class, the FOGANA competition, as well as monthly dinners.

I want to thank all of the OC members from last year who did a wonderful job and would like to welcome our new 2011 committee. We have a new editor, Shalvi Desai, and Amisha Doshi will be filling the Ankur Treasurer and Membership positions.

This year is going to be both challenging and exciting, we are hosting the FOGANA competition in addition to all of our regular activities. Our facility will be very busy because of FOGANA practices and other weekly activities. According to Ankur's constitution whoever wishes to use our facilities must be a member, so please remember to pay your dues. We would like to thank Bridge Club members for their recent donations for using our facilities.

The FOGANA committee is currently looking for volunteers. Please contact Mahul Parikh or Pallavi Patel for more information.

I would like to thank in advance all members who will be involved in all Ankur activities and those who continue to support our committee this year.

Sincerely,

Bharti Noticewala
President



FOGANA 2011 in Cincinnati!

Ankur Gujarati Samaj of Cincinnati is excited to host the 31st FOGANA Midwest Regional Raas, Garba, and Folk dance competition. The last time Ankur hosted this event was in 1996 and it was a highly successful event! We are proud and privileged to showcase our city while staging this memorable event.

- Date: July 16th
- Location: Mason High School
- For event info, visit www.mwfogana.org

Over the years, FOGANA competitions have been an annual tradition for the Gujarati dance enthusiasts to witness spectacular dancing performed in memorable venues. Participants acquire an appreciation for our cultural heritage while learning traditional dance moves, cultivating life long friendships and building many happy memories. Come support local teams “Dance their hearts out” while enjoying beautifully choreographed performances.

FOGANA Participant Information

Anyone interested in choreographing or dancing in FOGANA 2011 should contact Kamini Jain (kaminijain@yahoo.com, 513-769-7964). For youth participants, please include the name and age of the child in the email. The participant registration deadline is **February 20th**. More information will be posted in February’s newsletter.

Age divisions for FOGANA participants:

Minor	5-7
Advanced Minor	8-10
Junior	11-15
Senior	16-29
Adult	30+

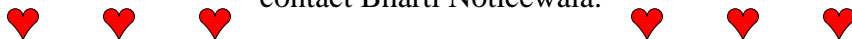


♥ Valentine's Day Dinner ♥

Looking for a place to celebrate that special day with your special someone? Come to Ankur for a kid-friendly Valentine’s Day dinner on February 18th at 7 PM. Enjoy a delicious dinner with a refreshing dessert, then relax with some after dinner entertainment. Look for the official Evite invitation in your email.

Cost: Couples \$15 Singles \$8 Kids under 12 eat free

Anyone interested in sponsoring a dish for the dinner should contact Bharti Noticewala.



Ankur Facilities Update

The Board is currently working to rewrite the Building Rental Contract to reduce renting costs.

Changes and details will be posted in February’s newsletter. Look for updates to the rental forms on the new Ankur website:

www.ankurcinci.com.



Ankur Activities



Yoga

Monday Session:

Jan 3rd - Feb 28th (9 sessions/\$27)

Weekly – Monday 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Taught by Herman Ranpuria

Thursday Session:

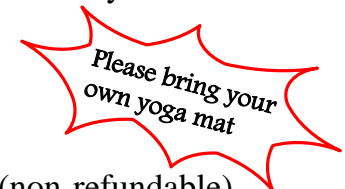
Jan 13th - March 3rd (8 sessions/\$20)

Weekly – Thursday 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Taught by Kamal Sekhon

Your first class is FREE

Seasoned yogis, beginners, and everyone in between are encouraged to come and learn the benefits of yoga, such as increased flexibility, strength, fitness, circulation and concentration, and reduced stress. Let us all commit to regular yoga exercises and determine to improve and remain healthy throughout the year. Please encourage your spouses, children, friends, and family members to join yoga classes. Come experience the benefits of yoga! If you have any questions, please contact Jyoti Mehta at 518-0677.



- **Session:** 2 months, 8-9 classes per session
- **Cost:**
 - **Full Session:** Ankur Membership (\$35/yr) + \$20 or 27 per session (non-refundable)
 - **Single Class:** Members: \$4/class, Non-members: \$5/class
 - **Children of Ankur members (18 and under):** \$3/class



Bridge

Weekly – Wednesday 6:45 - 10:30 pm

The weekly bridge game has a great turn-out, come and enjoy this game Wednesday nights at Ankur. Players should arrive at 6:45 so everyone can help set up tables and equipment downstairs. The aim is to be seated with partners by 6:50 so play can begin. A prompt start is to achieve a timely finish. All bridge players are invited to come, play and have fun. Ankur is pleased to congratulate one of our oldest groups on their continued progress and success! If you have any questions, please contact Hari or Rekha Budev at 793-5951 or Bhupen Joshi at 489-1077.



Book Club

Monthly - Thursday

The Book Club will discuss Uncle Tom's Cabin, by Harriet Beecher Stowe on February 17th at Minal Patel's house. For additional information, please contact Minal Patel at 234-0569.



Ankur Activities



Drop-In Center – Homeless Shelter

Monthly - Wednesday

Volunteers take lunch to the Drop-In Center Shelter House the 2nd Wednesday of every month where lunch is served to over 150 homeless people in downtown Cincinnati. Volunteers share the duties of making spaghetti, salad and bringing bread, bananas, cookies or ice cream. Helping the less fortunate to receive a warm meal is a great cause and a perfect way for you to donate towards something charitable. If you have the time to help, please do. If not, a donation is also useful to buy items if you are not available. To contribute towards or help provide lunch dishes please contact Bharti Noticewala or Julie Desai.

Membership Dues Reminder

If you haven't paid your yearly dues yet, please remember to send your check in by **February 15th 2011**. Ankur is proud to host cultural events each year, which can not happen without our community's support and donations.

Annual Membership - \$35 Life Membership - \$501

*Checks can be made payable to : **Ankur Gujarati Samaj**

Mail dues to:

**Ankur Gujarati Samaj
9502 Highland Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45242**

Checks may be given to Amisha Doshi or Rasila Parikh. You can also give your dues to Operating Committee or Board members. All checks will be deposited within 1 month. To ensure proper record keeping, please do not deposit any checks directly to the bank.

2011 Ankur Events

Please note Ankur events for 2011 in your calendars! Holi and Diwali events will be scheduled in coordination with the temple.

February

Valentine's Day Dinner 2/18

March

Holi Dinner and Cultural Program 3/19
Senior Mixers begins
Pranayama begins

April

Ramnavmi Dinner and Bhajan 4/15
Ankur Clean-up Day 4/23

May

Ankur 25th Building
Anniversary Dinner 5/7
Mother's Day Dinner 5/13

June

Father's Day Picnic 6/19

July

Fogana Competition 7/16

August

Janmashtami, Nand Mahotsav
and Matli breaking 8/26

September

Ganesh Chaturthi 9/11

October

Navratri and Diwali
Celebrations 10/1-10/6

November

TBA

December

TBA