

Agrawal Samachar Patrika

A Quarterly Newsletter by Agrawals for Agrawals

Volume 14 • Issue 1 • Spring 2011



Maharaja Agrasen

Editor in Chief

Bharat B. Aggarwal

Upcoming Events

Agrawal Family Picnic 2011

Where: George Bush Park

When: March 26th

11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Please see the flyer inside.

Contact

Santosh Aggarwal
at 713-467-9301
for more information



Agrawal Youth Camp 2011

in August 2011

Agrawals meet for Diwali

By Uma Aggarwal

Diwali is the most important festival for all Agrawals and the Houston Agrawals are continuing the age old tradition to meet yearly and celebrate this important and beautiful festival.

All the Greater Houston Agrawals met in the same spirit on Nov 13th 2010 in India House. It was a very well attended event. Approximately 300 people that included young and old alike came in their festive cloths. There were lots of activities for every age. The Executive committee did a wonderful job again by managing the whole event. There was sumptuous food and many games planned for children as well as adults. The Newly Wed game was a hit, and many enthusiastic couples

participated. There were other games for young children who collected many prizes with their winnings.

Everyone who attended had a chance to win raffle prizes that included a camera and an iPad, which were given out at the end of program.

The success of this kind of event is based on support and participation of all the members. This year the sponsorship of the program exceeded expectations, which is a good indicator that our community enjoys and endorses such gatherings, and we hope to have many more gatherings in the future.



2010 Fall Youth Camp

October 15-17, 2010

This year, twenty-three youth group members participated in the 5th annual Agrawal Association of America Youth Camp at Camp Cho-Yeh in Livingston, Texas. The camp was a major success due in large part to the enthusiasm, excitement, and commitment of each camper.



Youth, ranging from the ages of 6 to 23, spent two days and two nights in the middle of the woods participating in a wide variety of fun-filled activities.

The camp started off Friday night with a series of games to help break the ice. What began as a quiet evening quickly turned into a frenzy as participants shared laughs, stories, and built relationships.

Saturday was an activity-filled day that began bright and early with a wonderful yoga session led by Shekhar Agrawal. Campers were put to the test as they had to stretch their mind and body to perform different yoga positions. With each new position came greater excitement and camaraderie as the youth encouraged and applauded their peers for completing difficult positions.

For the rest of the day, the campers participated in a series of activities that tested their courage, strength, and teamwork. The older youth were put



to the test on the high ropes-course. They defied gravity as they tight-roped (30 feet above the ground!!!) from one location to another! After completing

this daunting task, they had the satisfaction of zip-lining 100 ft through the woods! Everyone who participated successfully completed each course as those who were waiting / watching, cheered on their new friends.

The younger campers took on a different challenge; the task of trying to learn how to shoot arrows accurately at targets 25-30 feet away. For many of them, this was their first encounter with the art of archery. With the help of counselors and Cho-Yeh staff, the 6-8 year old campers became masters of archery in no time!

As the temperature warmed up, the kids had the pleasure of swimming in Lake Evelyn, which featured a 25 ft slide and a two-story "BLOB-TOWER!" People were in awe as kids were catapulted into the lake, some getting as much as 10-12 feet above the water!

After lunch the young campers had the pleasure of kayaking around the lake and basking in the sun. They also played basketball, football, soccer, and threw frisbees around the campsite for most of the afternoon.



While all this was happening, the older youth took their skills to the battlefield as they participated in 7-on-7 paintball! For two hours, people used their survival instincts and expert marksmanship to knock out members of the other team. For many, this was the first time they ever played, and now probably not their last! No one was hurt and everyone laughed and enjoyed themselves as they bonded with their peers.

After an exhausting day, the evening was spent with an hour session

revolved around Agrawal history that included a friendly Jeopardy game which tested the kid's knowledge of their heritage. The night was capped with a wonderful campfire under the stars as kids roasted marshmallows, ate s'mores, played charades, and told scary-stories! When it was time to go to bed, many of the campers were so afraid to sleep after the ghost-stories that they stayed up until midnight playing Mafia, card games, and board games!

This year's camp was a huge success due in large part to the



support and sponsorship from our Agrawal community and the Agrawal Association of America Board. We hope that this camp can continue to grow and provide many memories to our youth!!!! We look forward to seeing you all again during next year's camp!

Thank You,

Agrawal Association of America Youth Board



TIMELESS WISDOM

- You can never cross the ocean unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore.
Christopher Columbus
- If we could see the miracle of a single flower clearly, our whole life would change.
Buddha
- We must become the change we want to see.
Mahatma Gandhi
- True knowledge exists in knowing that you know nothing.
Socrates
- And in knowing that you know nothing, that makes you the smartest of all.
Socrates





Thank You to this year's sponsors:

SUBWAY

A&A Metals

**Agrawal Association of America Youth
Agrawal Association of America Board**

Youth Lock-In August 20, 2010

On August 20, 2010, 31 kids and counselors locked themselves up at Texas Rock Gym from 8pm to 7am the next day. The purpose was to just have some fun. The outcome was a fun-filled night complete with hard work, motivation, team work, respect, camaraderie, and insomnia.

The kids all came in with sleeping bags, tennis shoes and IPADs. Once the activities got started, they put away their IPADs and joined in on the fun. After the initial training, everyone was climbing something in that building. Some were bouldering (climbing 10 ft boulder like walls without a harness); others were trying to conquer difficult courses by at least making it 4-5 ft off the ground on a 25 ft wall; others were even climbing air while trying to make slam dunks in

the basketball court. Throughout the entire night, all anyone could hear was "C'mon! You got this!" or "You are almost there!" Once someone made their destination, everyone would stand around clapping and cheering them on. The night moved on with a basketball tournament, charades, board games, stories, and food (of course!). The counselors had planned to show movies but never got around to it since everyone was having fun being with each other. Before you knew it, it was 7:00am and time to go home.

This event was fully organized and funded by the Agrawal Youth. They even made a little bit of money to spend at camp on something a bit special.

Thanks to the following:

<i>Donations</i>	<i>Counselors</i>	<i>Attendees</i>
Akash Gupta	Akash Gupta	Aditya Jain
Amer Kumar	Amer Kumar	Amit Aggarwal
Anjali Gupta	Annie Aggarwal	Arushi Gupta
Ankush Agrawal	Mayank Agarwal	Ankush Agrawal
Annie Aggarwal	Meet Agrawal	Bianca Kaushal
Chirag Agrawal	Mohit & Neha Agrawal	Chirag Agrawal
Mayank Agrawal	Neal Jain	Divya Gupta
Meet Agrawal	Rahul Agrawal	Mayank Agrawal
Mohit & Neha Agrawal	Rani Aggarwal	Neerja Aggarwal
Rahul Agrawal	Reshmi Aggarwal	Pratha Aggarwal
Rani Aggarwal	Ricky Agrawal	Rishabh Agrawal
Reshmi Aggarwal	Sachin Agrawal	Shivam Aggarwal
Ricky Agrawal	Shreya Aggarwal	Sruti Agrawal
Rishabh Agrawal	Supriya Aggarwal	Sumant Agrawal
Sachin Agrawal		Surya Aggarwal
Vikie & Chrisha Agrawal		Yash Agrawal



Youth Bowling Event December 19, 2010

Twenty-two members of the Agrawal Youth group kicked off their 2010 holiday break with a Sunday afternoon of bowling at AMF Lanes in Stafford, TX. Youth as young as 5 years old attended the event to bowl with their friends and family.

The first several frames were spent trying to figure out the proper technique of bowling straight down the lane. But after a little practice, pins were flying all over the place as individuals were able to throw strikes, spares, and convert splits.

Teams cheered each other on as many individuals threw personal bests, with scores as high as 130! For some, it wasn't just about their score, but rather the company of their friends that made the event so successful. The excitement and smiles of the group were compounded by the delicious cupcakes and cookies Annie Aggarwal baked.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and we look forward to seeing more youth participation at future events. The event was a success largely in part of the support from the Agrawal Association of America, which helped subsidize costs for the event.

Thank You,
Agrawal Association of America Youth
Board



Agrawal Association of America

3920 Oberlin

Houston, Texas 77005

United States of America

Tel: 281-848-7474

Fax: 281-794-1613

E-mail: Info@agrawalamerica.com

visit our website at
www.agrawalamerica.com

Agrawals meet once again for Picnic

By Uma Aggarwal

Keeping in line with the annual tradition of 14 years, Agrawals met again for a picnic on March 28th in George Bush Park, between 10am to 3:00pm.

It was a beautiful spring day with cool breeze flowing. About 300 Agrawals mingled with each other, and thoroughly enjoyed eating various, Chaats, Samosa, Bhelpuri and desserts. A special table was set for icee for young ones. Last few years the Executive Committee together with the Youth Committee has taken the rein in their hands to organize the picnic and they are doing a superb job. Their hard work and dedication to make this a successful event was evident.

Highlight of the picnic of course were the games that everyone played. The young and the old both joined with

equal enthusiasm. The competitive spirits were high, because the reward was a nice trophy to take home if you won. Everyone gave their best performances in games like Star ball, Lemon and spoon race, Potato Sac race, and Balloon toss, which turned out to be most popular. Nearly everyone participated in balloon toss. No one seemed to mind getting wet, when the balloon would burst while hurling. The winners of this game were Mona and Manoj Tayal, which happen to be partners not only in this game but in life also. This husband wife team won the same game last year too.

Another highlight was a water melon eating contest that was divided among different age groups. The youngest age group was below three year old category, and the winner was Raka

Agrawal, who very enthusiastically ate every last bit of the melon and finished first in the contest. She was enjoying the water melon so much that even after the game was over she did not stop, and wanted second helping to the delight of the audience.

Picnic was a great success, and this kind of event gives an opportunity to each one of us to meet up with old friends and make new ones in a nice relaxed environment.

AAA would like to thank everyone for coming and making this a great success, and hope that we will have many more of such events in the future.

This year we will have even more fun at the same place same time on March 26, 2011. Please come and join us.

★

"...Dharmo Rakshati Rakshitah ..." (Protect your Dharma and It will protect you)