

Saylorsburg Gurukulam Celebrates 27th Anniversary

*Guruh Brahmâ, Guruh Vishnkh, Guruh Devo Maheshvarah
Gurudevo Param Brahma, Tasmai Sri Guruoyo Namah.*



The 27th Anniversary of the Gurukulam was held in Saylorsburg PA on August 25, 2013.

The weather was beautiful and sunny. The gathering was outdoors. Approximately one thousand people gathered to celebrate this function.

Two large tents were erected, one for the anniversary ceremony and the other as

dining area. Parking was regulated by volunteers on the premises. Snacks and drinks were available throughout the function. The lunch was prepared by the Gurukulam Kitchen and served on well-decorated tables in the tent. Children programs and games were provided on the Gurukulam grounds and babysitting was also available. Outdoor stalls for books, souvenirs and gifts were also provided.

The program started at 9:30 AM. Jayashri Ramkrishan anchored the program as MC.

Arsha Kula Bhushanam Sri Maharajapuram S. Ramchandranji, one of India's famous Carnatic Music Vocalist was introduced by Jayashriji. Sri Ramchandranji, accompanied by Dr. Sashidhar on violin and Vijay Ganesh on Mridagam, presented a concert in Carnatic Music. Sri Ramchandranji rendered several compositions of Pujya Swamiji as well as those of Oththukkadu, Venkata Subba Iyer, Muthuswamy Dixitar and M. D. Ramanathan in ragas Thilang, Ranjani Madyamanati, Mohanam, and Bageshri. It was a delightful concert.

Mr. Vasili Krishnamurti, CEO, Matlack Leasing delivered the guest address. In his speech he said that he has been associated with Pujya Swamiji and that he had been honored to be the Chief Guest on this occasion. He encouraged everyone to be part of this cause.

Messages on this auspicious occasion were received from:

U.S. Senator Pat Toomey
U.S. Representative Matt Cartwright
Commissioner Suzanne McCool

Following Books, CDs and DVDs were released during the function by Pujya Swamiji:

Inner Growth through Devotion by Swami Tattavidananda Saraswati

All About Sadhana and Values, Spanish Translations of Pujya Swamiji's Books by Swamini Vilasananda

India: The Birthplace of Human Speech by Niranjana Shah

All Power is Within You – Vivekananda Inspiring Messages Compiled by Swami Jyotirmayananda

Talks on Mundakopanisad-DVD by Swamini Svatomvidyananda

Simple and Easy Namavalis for Purna Vidya Teachers compiled by Savithri Mani In his speech, Sri Piyush Shah, Treasurer of Gurukulam, thanked all the supporters for their continued help. He further requested them to be generous.

Following Mr. Saha's speech several donations were offered by the attendees and these were acknowledged.

A short video showing the work being done by the SEVA was shown on the giant screen in the tent. Sri Swaminathan asked all to support Aim for SEVA.

Pujya Swamiji started his speech by saying that the people say they have no time for anything but everybody has time for whatever he or she is interested in. Postponing is procrastination. But in reality there is no tomorrow. Procrastinating can destroy friendships, relationships, jobs and business deals. Message of the Anniversary is "Get out of your way." Make decisions now. If you want to manage your life make decisions now. Gayatri Mantra is the greatest mantra because it helps our intellect to make the right decisions. May the Lord help you to make painful decisions.

Swamini Srividyanandaji will transcribe and edit Pujya Swamiji's full Anniversary Address and it will be published in this newsletter later.

The banquet lunch followed.

Pujya Swamiji held Satsang after the lunch break and answered all the questions.

The Anniversary function ended in the afternoon at 4:00 PM.

Thus it was a nice year for the Gurukulam and for all. We look forward for another successful and enjoyable year to follow. May Lord Dakshinamurti bless all.

Reported by Arvind Bagal