

## **NASA Regional Meeting: A report from Dallas event**

We had an excellent event in Dallas as planned with great hosts, good company from local and out-of-town Sankethis, lovely food, and memorable music! First of all, NASA thanks the Padakandla family and Vinaya and Rangappa for making all this happen. They looked after everyone with love and prepared wonderful home-cooked, tasty food for lunch and afternoon tea. NASA members from NJ (Jayaram, Nalini and Sundaresan) and MD (Rajeshwari and Sridhara) arrived early by 10am followed by many local families that we have not seen at annual events in recent years. All of us had a great lunch after spending some time to get acquainted and reacquainted. The programs started with a fine Veena concert by an accomplished artist, Smt. Vasundhara Kikkeri (Contact her at [vdhara@hotmail.com](mailto:vdhara@hotmail.com) to invite her for other events). We were fortunate to have very talented accompanying artists in Sri. Narasimha Kikkeri on violin and Sri. Poovalur Sriji on mridangam. After this, the featured artist from our NASA 2007 annual program, Harsha Nagarajan, sang a few kritis and devaranamas with the same accompanying artists. Another unique program was the purani sangeeth by Sanjeev (son of Meera and Nagaraj Mysoreker, Life Members) who made Mohammad Raffi come alive! We are excited to have him join us at our annual event this year in July. Another NASA life member, Dr. Ishwari Murthy gave a good rendition of Hindustani music. We also had several children perform on piano and violin. We were treated to another excellent meal after the program and several guests remained for hours to enjoy one another's company. NASA conveys special thanks to Dr. Prasanna Murthy for arranging the sound system and to Drs. Sudha and Sanjoy Sundaresan for sponsoring the evening meal and the Veena concert. Overall, this regional meeting was a well-organized, entertaining, and simply pleasant get-together for both local Sankethis and those traveling to Dallas from other parts of the country.

