



NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

PO Box 87, St. Charles, Missouri 63302 • www.hoina.org • Summer 2011

From the Desk of the President

*By Darlene Large
HOINA Founder & President*

Forty years ago in April, Homes of the Indian Nation began. I was 36 years old and struggling to recover from multiple sclerosis. My children, Dirk and Letti, were 11 and seven. Bruce was trying to encourage me to forget the whole idea and to just concentrate on getting well and caring for the family. However, when God gives you an assignment, teaches you through education and experience, and prepares you for the job, it is difficult to dissuade you from your goals. I was determined to follow His leading.

Over the years with my old typewriter and with help from my friends and my daughter Letti, we began. Mary Ann Kovack, Cynthia Condrack, Leone Wagner, Loretta Risser, Pat Jones Anderson, Brian McCreary, Sandy Kauffman and a number of others helped by writing the thank you notes in my kitchen. We still have volunteers doing the work in the USA and some volunteers helping in India. All of those volunteer hours allow us to spend just seven percent on administration costs and 93 percent on our children's work. Today, Amy Mowbray and Don Cronauer do our office work, and Sandy Kauffman still volunteers as our treasurer.

In June, without forewarning the staff, I arrived on campus—a surprise inspection of sorts. Our 23 acres appeared to need some trimming since our gardener Timmy had just gotten married and was not on the job. Other than



HOINA House Managers, Mr. P. Anand and Srinivas "Bujji" Kumar

that, the campus looked wonderful. The houses were clean and very beautiful. Our managers, Mr. P. Anand and Srinivas Kumar, known as Bujji, have done a great job. I wish you could see how wonderful this organization is. We have rescued thousands of children. They were physically, mentally, and emotionally scarred. With love and prayers we restored them to wholeness.

When I arrived, Bujji caught me up on the latest news since I had last been here in March. I was pleased to learn that a group of local college students have formed an organization called MFC. They wanted to help us by teaching art, drama, and dance to our children. They planned to work on publicity also. Their leader was going to be attending college at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and some of the others had just graduated and would

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be moving into other jobs. However, they informed me that they were making a lifetime commitment to HOINA. I told them that for the first two weeks of August a group of students from Penn State University would be at HOINA to help as well. The two groups can learn from one another.

Anand, Bujji, and I have been planning for future projects. We hope to begin an alumni group. It may not ever be as large as the Penn State University group is, but we can do some good with our HOINA grads. Many of our grads are working in Hyderabad and are planning to visit us in August.

We thank all of you who helped us to purchase a new generator. We have the largest one made. We were able to purchase a \$10,000 dollar one for about \$8,000. Our old one is still used but unable to provide for all the needs on campus. When we first put it in, we only needed to provide power for one children's home. Now, we have two homes on campus, and each is 15,000 sq. feet. There is a three-story staff house, a cow shed and home for herdsman and his family, and a guest house. In the future we will need power for a vocational school, a clinic, and old age home. We will not be building any of these latter projects until we sell the old girls' home property in Chennai. Please keep praying for that buyer.

We were sorry to lose one of our cows to a single red beet. She choked on it when she was having her lunch. We began with seven cows in 2009 and now we have eighteen cows! Thanks for helping us to develop this herd. We enjoy milk, buttermilk, and yogurt every day. Our soy milk production from our VitaGoat is doing well, too.

On a happy note, our nanny goat that we rescued from the wild mountain dogs in March has given us two baby goats. I became very attached to them when the one brown and white baby sat on my feet and would not leave me to go to her mother when her mother called for her. She was only an hour old at that time. They are growing and are very friendly to all who visit.

We have been encouraged by the many local visitors we are seeing. Our district child and women's welfare director, Mr. Roberts, says we are unique in India and he loves to bring us visitors. He finds our campus very inspiring and says he does not see such happy and healthy children when



Our nanny goat and kids.

he visits other homes. He has become like family to the children, another loving uncle.

After losing my sister Letti in December, we began a rose garden in her memory and then planted several more flower beds. We put in flowering cacti since summer was coming here in April, May, and June. The cacti are doing really well, and the pink flowers add a lot of beauty to our grounds. In March, my Aunt Honey Kohler passed away, and with funds that she left to us we plan to begin building a HOINA House of Prayer while I am here.

Our construction may be delayed unless the weather cooperates. The monsoons came a month early, and it is raining daily. So much water causes flooding in the area, which brings its own set of problems. With several cases of typhoid last year we know that we desperately need a water purification system. The cost for that is \$5000 dollars. If you are interested in helping to fund this project, please send your gift with the coupon on the next page.

Each year that I have come over here, I find challenges and cases that bring tears to my eyes. Recently, someone brought us a child nearly 12 years old. Her mother had been very depressed so she committed suicide by pouring kerosene over herself and lighting it. As she stood there burning, she did not want to leave her child behind so she called the girl to her. The child stood hugging her mother while they both were burning. While the mother died from her

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Name: _____
 Address: _____
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 Account Number (on your mailing label): _____

- I want to sponsor K. Bhagya Lakshmi. Here is my first monthly gift of \$30. If she is unavailable, please assign me another HOINA boy / girl (*circle one*).
- Please use this gift to help fund the water purification project.
- This gift of \$ _____ is in honor/memory of (please give name and address of person): _____

Mail coupon to: **HOINA**
PO Box 636
Brownstown, PA 17508-0636



(please print clearly)

Summer 2011



All donations are tax deductible.

Remembrances - Jan. - June

Thank you to the many donors who choose to give memorial and honorary gifts. When requesting a gift to be listed in someone's memory or honor, please include the name and address of the individual or family so we can send them an acknowledgment.

In Honor of

Donald & Marjorie Semon Family
 Bruce & Darlene Large (2)
 Jill M. Bashore Jimenez, Esq.
 Amy Mowbray
 Wayne Olsen
 Sisters Geetha & Manjula

In Memory of

Benjamin & Anna Ciccati	Rev. William Miller
Joseph & Daniel Ciccati	Esther & George Moshos
Janet Hamaker	Susan Nuckols (2)
Jasmine Jimenez	Letti Obradovich
Margaret Johnson (2)	Sampath Ranji (2)
Nell Kohler	

Volunteer Honored

Longtime HOINA friend and volunteer, Brian McCreary, was named a Donegal School District Outstanding Employee for 2011. Brian teaches in the STRUCTURE program at the high school. His students volunteer each month by sorting and labeling your HOINA newsletters to be sent to you.



Brian McCreary

As Darlene mentioned in her cover article, HOINA has benefited from many volunteers over the years. Brian began volunteering at our monthly newsletter nights when he was in high school himself. He traveled to visit HOINA in India in the late '80s. Most recently, he has offered to serve on HOINA's Board of Trustees. He will bring his love for the kids to the board meetings, we are sure. We appreciate his students' help to keep our administrative costs down. They are learning a lifetime skill by serving, as well. Who knows what they will grow up to do with their lives? We wish them and their teacher well.

Congratulations, Brian!

HOINA is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt organization with international headquarters located at:
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The official registration and financial information of Homes of the Indian Nation (HOINA) may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling, toll-free in PA, 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



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K. Bhagya Lakshmi

HOINA Child Sponsorship

K. Bhagya Lakshmi is available to sponsor. You can read more about her in Darlene's cover article.



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injuries, Bhagya Lakshmi survived this tragedy. Thankfully, she can still hear, but she has no ears or much hair. She is badly scarred. Recently, I attended a Lions Club meeting and met the district governor who said he thinks he knows a doctor who can help her. Please pray for her situation. She will need one of those miracles that we have seen in HOINA over the past 40 years.

We know that America is suffering, and we pray for her daily here. We

also are looking to locals in India who can help so that we do not have to depend on our family and friends in the USA so much. How can we ever thank you for your love and prayers and all your gifts? You have been used by God to provide miracles for us over the past last four decades. Thank you for helping HOINA become what it is today. May the Lord return to you 100 times all that you have given to us.

I wish you could have been here the day one of our six-year-olds was

praying for America. He put his head down to the floor, and folded his little hands and prayed loudly, "Jesus, please, you HAVE TO DO THIS!"

Wow! I thought, what courage and boldness to approach the throne of God like that. When he finished I hugged him with tears in my eyes and said, "Thank you, Lord. What a gift this little fellow's faith is!"

Thanks, everyone.

God bless you,

Darlene