OUT DOOR EVENT (Spring PICNIC) at Bear Creek Park in March 2009

Where exactly?

Bear Creek Pavilion Park, Pavilion 3 3535 War Memorial Dr, Houston, TX 77084

When?

Saturday, 3/21/2009

Time: 11:00 am until 4:00 pm

Activities begin at 11 am followed by recreational games, lunch and a General Body Meeting at 4 pm.

Please arrive on time. We will start on time!!

Do not miss this Grand Barbecue get together!!!

All members, future members, their families and members' guests are invited.

Members & family: FREE - FREE-FREE

Members' guests: \$ 5 each

Please ensure that your membership fee (\$ 30) for the year has been paid.

MEA TALENT NIGHT at St. THOMAS CHURCH AUDITORIUM in APRIL 2009

Where exactly?

St.Thomas Church Auditorium 2411, 5th Street Stafford TX 77477

When?

Saturday, 4/25/2009

Time: 4:30 pm

Program Starts at 5 pm

Program commences at 4.30 pm with a reception, followed by members/families Talent Show and Food. Please arrive on time. We will start on time and snacks will be available during reception.

Also visit our website www.meahouston.org

We welcome...

All members, their families and members' guests

As usual, admission will be by controlled by a small fee, to cover the expenses.

Members & family: \$ 15 each for adults

\$ 10 each for children (5 to 12 years) and seniors (over 65 years)

Members' guests: \$ 20 each

Please ensure that your membership fee (\$ 30) for the current year has been paid. Members are encouraged to obtain the tickets in advance from any of the committee members.

There will also be facilities for payment at the event.

Behind the scenes ...

A dedicated team of members and their spouses are necessary to make these events successful.

For:

- 1. Spring picnic arrangements
- 2. Organizing the picnic games
- 3. The Stage and Hall arrangements for talent nite
- 4. Registration desk management at the talent night
- 5. Hospitality arrangements at the talent night

Please contact Sudhir Padmanabhan at 281-216-7282 to volunteer your services

The MEA Committee Members for 2009, listed below, were elected in the Fall Outdoor event held at Tom Ball Park in South Houston.

John Thomas	President 281-574-3434
Praveen Thampi	Secretary
Sandeep Menon	Treasurer 281- 493-5335
Sudhir Padmanabhan	Event Director 281-216-7282
Shiny Paul	Communications Director 832 288-4937
Nalina Pillai	Director 281 597 1933
Suresh Narayanan	Director 281-565-8943
K. Rajesh	Scholarship Coordinator
	2008-2009 Scholarship
Karun Nair	Committee Chairperson

Please visit our website www.meahouston.org

for up-to-date information on our activities and MEA documents such as bylaws

We thank *Sibi Kuruvilla* for his relentless support for all MEA activities including Scholarship awards. With his support we will be able to launch a new **look for MEA Web Site** soon.

The Scholarship Committee met several times in December and January and selected a short list of 15 candidates. Karun Nair (Chairperson 2008-2009) and his team of members listed below was elected by the GM held on the Fall Picnic '08 and they successfully met the challenges faced by this year's scholarship activities

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MEA is awarding 8 scholarships from the Committee's short list this year.

Scholarship Selection Committee for 2008-2009

Chandra Nair Joyce John Dileep Makkunni Dr. Subramaniam Rajesh, K.N. Karun Nair

MEA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship program is summarized below.:

The Year our scholarship program started 2000

Amount of Scholarship: Initially \$ 400 per year and now \$500 per year

per student

Eligibility: 4-year course in Engineering or Technology or

Computer Science or Naval

architecture/Architecture in an Engineering college in Kerala recognized by a University in

Kerala.

Annual family income shall be less than **Rs.50,000.00**

Selection /Renewal Criteria: in short

- 1. Financial burden in applicant's family
- 2. Must not receive any other scholarships of value larger than that awarded by MEA.
- 3. Applicant's academic performances
- 4. Must have 70% average marks in semester examinations

PERFORMANCE HISTORY

Years	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Scholarships Awarded	2	3	4	5	7	7	7	8	7.5
(Total 50+)									
Students successfully	1*	2**	3**	4**	4	7***	4**	8***	
completed studies/Semesters									
with Awards									

Note: * Did not complete studies due to illness

- ** Did not meet renewal criteria
- *** Indicates 1 or more partial payments

Success Stories from Scholarship receipants

All the scholarship recipients have jobs and offers from top Companies in India such as Oracle, IBM, and Defense Research Organizations

Vijaya Lakshmi Kesavan (Awarded Scholarship in 2003) from TKM College of Engineering, Kollam was a Gold Medal winner for scoring highest marks in 4 Semesters in a row.

Scholarship Funds collected in 2008

Funds from Full Scholarship Sponsors (well wishers and members) \$8401.00

Funds Collected through Donations from members \$3731.00

Total \$12,132.00

Additional Information:

For additional information, please contact one of the 2009 MEA Committee Members or K.N. Rajesh (281-392-4703), Scholarship Committee Coordinator

New Ideas Corner

CALL FOR ARTICLES

Writers in MEA family, please send in articles (technical, non-technical, humorous), stories, notices about important events in life and so on. We will be glad to publish them in the future issues.

MEA has adopted bylaws and conflict of interest documents signed by committee members.

MEANT, Dallas is supporting the Scholarship Program for the last several years by sponsoring a full scholarship. Let us get our potential members from Dallas and Austin more involved in our activities. In this regard let us plan for "a Summer Camp" at a convenient place for our Engineers & family from Houston, Austin and Dallas in the summer of 2009

Please contact **Sudhir** with your ideas.

"Sudhir Padmanabhan" @ go.sudhir@gmail.com