



# NEWS FROM HOINA HOMES OF THE INDIAN NATION

PO Box 87, St. Charles, Missouri 63302 • [www.hoina.org](http://www.hoina.org) • Summer 2017

## Summer Fun at HOINA

by Roz Vinci  
*HOINA Friend*

While the site of HOINA is familiar to me, this year's visit was different. The fact was that very few children were on campus. You see, the month of May in India is summer vacation from school. Although HOINA has many orphans or "semi-orphans," most of them have some relations whom they visit during their school break.

Much to my surprise I was greeted by only 20 girls and 10 boys! In one way, this fact made my life much easier—fewer

names to remember. Even though I was feeling confident and thought I'd be ahead of the game this trip, I came equipped with nametags to help my memory. It didn't matter that there were only 30 students on campus: we still used the tags, much to their enjoyment. Since we had so many extras, we put new ones on every day. Even the little ones loved to proudly wear their names. Finally, I got to know their names. Using their names, such a small bit of personal recognition, brought the biggest smile to their faces. We smiled often while we played games like cat's cradle and jacks for hours and hours of fun.

I also brought colored tissue paper to make paper flowers. I had brought enough paper for 100 girls, but since there were only 20 I let them make as many paper



The girls had much fun making paper flowers!



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flowers as they wished. To say we had an abundance of paper flowers is an understatement. I found it interesting how many different colors the girls used, and not typical color combinations an American girl might select. Some flowers included browns and blacks and navy blue. The girls put them on their braids and wrists, tied them in bouquets, hung them on their bunks. Flowers were everywhere!

For the boys I bought two new cricket bats. Their faces lit up, and they proudly carried the bat cases around until it was time to open them. Immediately, they started pretending to hit the ball. They rubbed the bats to feel how smooth the wood was, and they smelled them, too. It reminded me of how our boys in the USA do the same with their baseball bats.

I also brought the boys the popular USA game UNO. Perhaps you are familiar with this classic card game: Rather than four suits, the card deck has four colors to simplify playing for younger children. The game plays on discarding according to colors or numbers with fun surprises like wild cards. At first the boys were a little shy, and we started out with only three players. Then more started to gather around, and then more. By the time we were done, all the boys were playing together. It turned out to be a daily event where we all played. Who knew that every day we could have so much fun and lots of laughs with such a simple game? Summer vacations look the same around the world.

The music teacher, Rosemary and her husband, Prasad continue the music lessons during the break. As a treat they invited all of us—children and staff—to their home for dinner. I was amazed at their generosity. We all piled into a little bus and traveled down the bumpy Indian roads. When we arrived, we enjoyed some singing and prayer in their home. Later we went up to the flat roof, where it was cooler, and had our little feast. I was impressed with our hostess and host. The children felt special, but I thought it was an especially nice treat for the staff. Rosemary has a beautiful voice and is a special blessing to HOINA.



Above: Daily nametags a happy success!  
Right: Kavya enjoying a summer treat of bubble blowing.



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The campus is looking as good as ever. The vocational school is finished and tailoring classes have begun, giving local women nice career opportunities. Enrollment is up to around 45 students already, which is great news. Many new flowers have been planted all over the campus, flooding the campus with color. Those bright colors define (to me) Darlene Large. When I think of HOINA and Darlene, I think of the bright colors she has spread across the campus and her cheeriness while she is there. I truly believe there is no place on Earth she'd rather be. After my recent visit, I completely understand.

## Bats and Books



Vasupalli Amaranadh came to HOINA last June. He is still awaiting a sponsor. Would you consider a contribution of \$35 per month to cover his food, clothing, housing, medical care, and school fees? The requested amount is so much less than a fancy cup of coffee from your favorite barista.

Let us tell you a bit more about this sweet 12-year-old. Amaranadh hails from Mukkam Village near our home. His parents married in 2003, and he has one sister. Mr. Yellarao, Amaranadh's father, was a fisherman. The family members found Mr. Yellarao, deceased, on September 19, 2015, under mysterious circumstances. The family still doesn't know the cause of his death. In the meantime, Ms. Aruna is working as a housemaid. Seeing the family's situation, the HSBC bank staff recommended this boy to be admitted in HOINA hostel.

His favorite color is red, and his favorite sport is cricket. Like baseball in the USA, cheering for their favorite cricket teams and playing on our large HOINA compound fields brings our boys so much joy. Now that school has started, he won't have quite as much time for play, however. Please pray that Amaranadh and the other HOINA children will be able to study hard to have a successful year. Amaranadh's hopes are to join the police force some day.

## Remembrances



Thank you to the many donors who gave memorial and honorary gifts from the first part of 2017.

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*

Kamala Chellpa  
Darlene Large  
Amy Mowbray  
Wayne Olson  
Gautam Ranji

### *In Memory of*

Al Eoepochino  
James Parks Gourley  
Nathan Gourley  
Margaret Johnson (2)  
Peggy Langenberg  
Bruce Large (67)  
Paula Mitchell  
Ella May Murphy  
Francis Nolfi  
Susan Nuckols  
Letti Obradovich  
Louis Wagner



*For you make him  
most blessed forever;  
you make him glad  
with the joy of your presence.*

Psalm 21:6

HOINA is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt organization with international headquarters located at:

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This newsletter is published to inform our readers of the work HOINA does among the handicapped and abandoned in India.

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Summer 2017

Please use this gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the HOINA Education Fund or where most needed.

I want to Sponsor a HOINA boy / girl (circle one). Here is my first monthly gift of \$35.

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(please give name and address of person): \_\_\_\_\_

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## HOINA Welcomes New Furry Friends

The HOINA children are glad to have two new furry friends. One is Hema, fittingly, a handicapped dog that HOINA adopted. One of her front legs is shorter than the other, but she manages just fine. She has a sweet disposition, and it sure is nice to see the children enjoying their canine companion on campus again.

The second dog was donated by a policewoman who was relocating and could not take her six-month-old puppy with her. A Dalmatian, he is named Buddy. Realizing he was a puppy, Roz bought him some chew bones and a toy. He went through those quickly. We are afraid a few "precious" items might succumb to those sharp little teeth before he grows up!