



# Love Express

SSO Zone 6 Youth Wing

Issue 6: March – April 2008

Dear Sai Brother and Sisters,

Trust you all had a marvelous start this spring and that your hearts have blossomed, transforming South Europe into an incredible colorful and fragrant meadow.

In this edition you will discover more on the regional meeting, which took place in Vrujci, Serbia, the youth retreats in Croatia and Switzerland, the progress made on the LASA project and many other activities from our zone.

As you remember, we have asked you to help us in finding a suitable name for our newsletter and as you have noticed, we succeeded! Thank you all for your help. You will discover more on the title of our newsletter in the first article written by Ivan Bavcevic.

May you be as cheerful and playful as Our Beloved Bhagawan and may He express-bless you all.



1946 Puttaparthi

## MESSAGE FROM THE ZONE 6 YOUTH COORDINATOR

Dear Sai family,

We are in the 6th Edition of our zonal youth newsletter, which actually marks its first anniversary. It is hard for me to believe that it has been only a year since we started with the newsletter in May 2007. We have progressed a lot in this time to make the newsletter more comprehensive, far reaching and appealing. Our editor Saja has been the wonderful instrument in Swami's hands to facilitate and bring to all of us timely editions every two months. I would like to thank all of you for supplying us with worthy, loving and inspiring materials, reports and photos, which certainly motivated all of us readers in our work.

This past year has been rich in events, some of which have impacted our lives for eternity. We

have had European Sai Games which brought together hundreds of Sai devotees in the spirit of sports and joy, immediately followed by the pre-conference for the World Youth Conference. It was during that weekend that we also initiated Love All Serve All project which is the back bone of youth activities in Zone 6.

July brought us Heaven on Earth when Swami invited all his children to come home to Prasanthi and enjoy the unity and divinity. Swami showered His love beyond comprehension and delivered us His messages. In one instant Swami said: "When you look at Swami from an external angle, you will think that Swami is perhaps suffering from severe pain. Not at all! I have no pain whatsoever. Even if there is some pain, your

love for Swami will remove that pain. It is enough if I look at you; all My pain is gone! I will be happy and cheerful. My pain, if at all there is some, has to be removed by your love for Swami and not by the doctors. What could be the reason for people in such large numbers gathering here today? What does it connote? I am extremely happy that I am able to win the love of so many people. You also be happy, wherever you are.

I am always happy. I am extremely happy to see you all here. This is your good fortune. This time, the people have all come here with intense love and devotion. That makes Me very happy and cheerful. I am very eager to come to the Sai Kulwant Hall by walk from tomorrow to give you darshan. There is no medicine more efficacious than love. Your love is My medicine. That is the most powerful medicine. Equally, My love is a powerful medicine to all of you. Always be happy and peaceful. Live like members of the same family with love and affection.

Do not be weighed down by petty difficulties and suffering. Do not give scope to any worry. Even if your wife or children suffer from a disease, do not get perturbed. Go back to your places with firm faith that everything will

*Ivan Bavčević*  
*Zone 6 Youth Coordinator*

## **THE KIND HeHEARTED WITHIN – “BLAGOST U NAMA”**

During the national and regional retreat in the Spa of Vrujci, Serbia 1-4 May - which had the aim to gather Balkan nations in Baba's love and prove that love between our nations is possible; to renew and strengthen our traditional ties; to give an opportunity to all Sai devotees to express their love creatively, in different fields of interest - we, the youth, presented the play "The Story of Marty", an

turn out to be good. Lead a happy and peaceful life."

The number of youth meetings and gatherings across the zone has intensified and multiplied compared to years before. Be it for LASA, national retreats or operational meetings youth have met in Slovenia, several times in Divignano, in Pescara, in Croatia and in all the zonal countries for their local events. It is beautiful to see this spur of activities, which is for sure making Swami even more happy with us.

I would like to use this anniversary as a perfect opportunity to present the name of our zonal youth newsletter, which will from now on be known as LOVE EXPRESS. This name can signify many different meanings, be it Love as an expression, or Love Express as a super fast train delivering our love to the needy where ever they are, or an express medicine and cure for our troubles. Love Express will be our message to the world delivered not only through the words, but through our loving actions and service to humanity.

Come on board Love Express and enjoy the ride through the land of Bliss.

In Sai service.

EHV project written by Suzanne Carenini, Z6 Education Coordinator of Sathya Sai Organisation of Europe. In the past four months we had 7 meetings.

In these meetings we worked on the project of Marty, Our objective was to present the play at Although there were many obstacles, the main one being the distance, as the youth lives in two towns-cities, Belgrade and Novi

Sad, as well as our insufficient experience in such projects, we have been successful. We've started our work praying to Swami for help and He did. He very quickly responded to our prayers. A young artist, also a Sai devotee, helped us make beautiful costumes and scenography. We then received the help from professional musicians, and finally, our experienced member helped us with choreography. That way all we needed for our first performance was there.



We were excited because we did not feel completely ready yet. We hoped that our audience would not be too critically disposed. Before we started, we said a prayer together in which we asked Swami to speak through us, sing through us and act through us, and as always, He did not let us down. We acted as if in a dream, somewhat forgetful of ourselves. In the end we were brought back to reality by a loud, long applause. Everyone had a word of praise. I did not expect so much enthusiasm. All my doubts were dispersed by a comment from a lady from the audience who said that she cried all through the play and that she would remember this play as long as she lives. I was really stunned by realisation that we touched the levels we could not even dream about. When we work for Him, forgetting about the fruits of our actions, He works through us, and we do not need to be conscious of that. It is a real miracle, and there's no need for it to be always understood.

In the end, we were very pleased that we've done this, as we ourselves felt the fruits of our work, and this is our own creative expression. We've been rewarded, without asking for any reward. By serving you gain.

We'd like to give our heartfelt thanks to Suzanne Carenini and her husband, Gioachimo, who came to be with us, as well as our other guests from all over the region, but especially to the youth from Switzerland, Croatia, Bosnia and Slovenia, with whom we had an official regional youth meeting.

The "Love All Serve All" project was the main topic of discussion as the date of the first public performance and Sai Challenge afterwards is getting closer.

Actually, on 24th of May LASA project will be presented in Dubrovnik so it was a good opportunity to invite all the youth willing to participate thereby getting the experience to start their "own LASA".

The intention of the meeting was to inspire and encourage Youth to engage themselves more in communication with others from the region in order to link our ideas into (one) chain that will bond us together and form only one Youth wing for the new projects to come. One of the projects to start our journey from I to We could be Sai Vision (manifestation similar to Eurovision, but without competition), song contest with songs in praise of all the names of our beloved Lord Sai. Youth didn't hesitate to express their joy and eagerness to participate in such a happening. Sai Vision will most probably take place in Croatia in October 2008 and is addressed to all the Ex-Yugoslavia countries. Please send your songs by the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2008 to Antonio Bratoš, [antoniobratos@yahoo.com](mailto:antoniobratos@yahoo.com).

After the "satsang part" of the meeting we started our rehearsal of LASA songs and had quite a good time that we totally forgot to shoot some photos to share with all of you, but we definitely agreed that all the sisters and brothers from all the countries of our Zone

have to participate more actively and involve themselves more so we could start working and serving and loving together as one Youth wing, just as Swami would like us to be, to do, to sing, to... love.

If you don't know what to do, ask your friend, National Youth Coordinator, or write a few

*Zvijezdana Bijelić  
NYC Serbia*

## CROATIA

Dear saione,

it seems like years since we have been in Prashanti and then it comes to mind that it barely passed 6 months since our last recharging in His Divine Presence.

Could it be that we don't put ceiling on desires when our only desire is Swami? It could be and let it be!

We, youth of Croatia, decided to invite Swami to come to Croatia and be with us on two separate retreats for Sai Youth.

And there He was...

From 4th till 6th of April He was with Good Boyz on a mountain called Mosor, nearby town of Split, Croatia; the very same place where He was with Good Girlz only weekend before.



He was singing, dancing, praying, cooking, eating, smiling, crying, sharing, giving...loving

words for the newsletter...or just be ready and open up your heart. It will come.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who took the trouble of travelling to Vrucji in order to be together with us which, as always, has enriched us, making us all more aware of the kind-HEartedness within, which is our true nature...

each and everyone of us, through each and everyone of us.

Girlz were full of impressions and so happy that no report from retreat came without the word "perfect". Unofficial statement says there was even some crying...all in positive manner. Boyz get closer with each other though you know how hard are men when it comes to expressing the feelings.



All in all, we all had pretty good time and what is most important came back home bond with each other even more, so we can all in one join in for new tasks that are ahead of us waiting to be fulfilled.

We didn't have to wait for too long, ' cause already at the end of April we had rehearsals in Zagreb for the first public performance of Love All Serve All project, to be held in Dubrovnik on 24th of May.

As you eagerly wait for photos from our performance let us share with you all, just a little bit of the groove we enjoyed, through photos from rehearsals.

*Antonio Bratoš*  
*NYC Croatia*

## GREECE

Here is the latest news from the Greek side. During Shivaratri we stayed up all night chanting bhajans and vedas in the Sai centre of Patission in Athens. Some Sai youth fasted all day, drinking only water. All Sai youth attended, even the ones that were not from the capital. Greek Sai youth continue to do seva. They go to poor children and through acting, they teach them human values. A couple of days ago, after performing yagna and abhishekam, vibhuti appeared on a shivalingam which was blessed by Swami, on swami's robe, on the floor. Also, vibhuti

*Evelina Gryllou*  
*NYC Greece*

## SLOVENIA

As usually we met every Tuesday. In March we started with new workshop titled »DIVINE MAGNETISM« which is still in process. Swami in His discourses often stresses the importance of right thinking with the following verse: »Yad Bhavam Tad Bhavati« which means »As is the feeling so is the result«. Our attention was focused on the thoughts that create our reality. During our small research we've discovered that Swami has many times explicitly mentioned the law of attraction and divine magnetism. It is important how we think

May you see Swami in all and may Swami be with you all...the time! Om Sai Ram!

footprints appeared on the floor of the bedroom where the shivalingam was kept.



and feel about ourselves and the world. Those thoughts and feelings shape our destiny. Out of His discourses we extracted following study circles: »Divine magnetism«, »Realise the magnetic power within«, »Ways to Self-confidence« (from the latest Swami's discourse on April 13, 2008), »Creative thinking« and »Outer world is the reflection of our inner world«.

Study circles are really inspiring for all of us, especially because of continuity that strengthens the focus on one subject and

allows us to go deeper as usually. The result must come and it comes in the form of stronger faith in our inner divinity which in the process we must perceive in the outer world more and more each day.

And of course we visited our homeless friend Ana and supplied her with over 100 kg of

*Tina Hribar-Trifunović*

*NYC Slovenia*

## SPAIN

Sai Ram everyone.

The youth of Tenerife are involved in a number of service activities on the island. Every two weeks we carry out one activity.



During the first three months of this year, we continued to visit the home for the aged and the children's home. We have also started a new activity which involves visiting an old-age home for ladies in Puerto de la Cruz.

During the short period of time that we spend with these ladies, we give them company, talk

*Vinod & Roshan*

*YC Canary Island & Sai Youth Tenerife*

pressed coal briquettes and some food. She was very happy and said that she has successfully survived the winter period. We were very happy to hear that.

Feel happy and be happy!

Om Sai Ram.

to them and also feed them, since some of them are unable to take care of themselves. Little by little, we would like to keep improving the service activities that we are carrying out and also develop new activities. There are already some ideas for new activities that we may be able to carry out in the not-so-distant future.

We also hope that a greater number of young people will begin to participate in these activities, since we learn a lot through them and they offer a unique opportunity in life.

We are very happy that these service activities are being carried out and especially for the opportunity that they give us to continue to grow and improve ourselves.

We hope that we will soon be able to tell you about any new plans or activities carried out by the youth.

In Sai Service.

## SWITZERLAND

Om Sai Ram to everyone!

Over the last two months the Swiss youth have been involved in two important national meetings.

The first took place in Zürich on 15th March; the aim of the meeting was to discuss ways of increasing Unity and Activities of Sai Youth in Switzerland. We all come from different linguistic regions, and our National Coordinators, Leila Mastronardi and Nicole Ecker spoke with all of us so that we could see how to improve cooperation and how best to channel our energies and personal talents in the future. The meeting was very constructive and the atmosphere peaceful and serene.



The second meeting was held on 25th -27th April in Lenk, a well known resort in the heart of the Swiss Alps. It was our National Youth Retreat and turned out to be the highlight of the last few months. The theme of the retreat was Unity in Diversity and the meeting was blessed by the presence of Phyllis Krystal, who was already in Switzerland for a series of

*Anthony Gjezi  
Sai Youth Switzerland*

## AGENDA

The agenda is thought to inform the Sai Youth about the future Sai activities of our zone and to give the opportunity to whoever is interested to participate in any of the following events a/o to visit the

seminars and public meetings. She accepted our invitation to join us during our retreat with great delicacy and enthusiasm. Mrs Krystal was accompanied by Ilse Wolk, first National Coordinator and founder of the Sai Organisation in Switzerland. Felix Wüst, current National Coordinator was also there with his wife Liliane.



The meeting with Mrs Krystal was programmed for the whole day on Saturday. The morning was divided into two lengthy study circles whose main theme was Surrender to God and Karma. The afternoon was dedicated to a question and answer session on various subjects and the session were concluded with a guided group meditation.

A big thank you from all the Sai Youth goes to Phyllis for this special day and for having shared her love and wisdom with us. She was untiringly available to answer all our many questions. Many thanks also to Ilse Wolk whose idea it was to hold this meeting and she made it possible and organised it with great love and thoughtfulness.

Sai family in any other country of our zone. Please contact your National Youth Coordinator for further information.

17<sup>th</sup> May 2008: *Swiss Youth Meeting*, Zurich – Switzerland (National Event)

24<sup>th</sup> May 2008: *Love All Serve All Public Presentation*, Dubrovnik – Croatia (National Event)

7-8 June 2008: *Italian Youth Meeting*, Faenza – Italy (National Event)

21<sup>st</sup> June 2008: *Swiss Youth Meeting*, Zurich – Switzerland (National Event)

20-22 July 2008: *World Education Conference*, Prasanthi Nilayam – India (International Event)

### **Prasanthi Nilayam, 14<sup>th</sup> of April**

When a plane flies across the sky, it leaves no mark on it, no streak that lasts, no furrow or pothole that interferes with further traffic.

So too, witness all the feelings and emotions as they cross your mind, but, do not allow them to make an impression on you.

This can be done by inquiry, by quiet reasoning within oneself, more than by listening to lectures or study of books.



### **BABA**

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#### ***SSO Zone 6 – Youth Newsletter***

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***We offer our newsletter, Love Express, at the Lotus***

***Feet of Our Beloved Bhagavan.***

***May He show us the way to love and***

***surrender, filling our hearts with ever faith,***

***detachment and humility.***

***May He guide us on the inward path by***

***realizing the eternal truth, God.***

***Shanti, Shanti, Shanti.***