The first IMANE Summer Picnic, which was held on Sat., July 11, 2009, at Castle Hill in Ipswich Mass, was a great success. This historic site is owned by the Trustees of reservation and provided the ideal setting for our event. The weather was finally perfect; the food was artfully displayed and was exactly as we selected (thanks to the guidance of Drs. Sheth and Malhotra); and the site of Steep Hill Beach itself was breathtaking. The picnic offered a wonderful opportunity for IMANE members (both the traditional core group and recent additions) and their families to socialize, walk the beach and visit the Great House. With so many demands on our time these days, most of us felt that this afternoon of recreation was a refreshing treat and certainly preferable to a weekend retreat.

(See page 2 for more photos of the event.)

The Federation of Aligarh Alumni Associations honored IMANE with a Special Recognition Plaque at its 8th Annual Convention in Marlborough, Mass. on July 17-18, 2009. The event was hosted by the New England chapter and provided a chance to alumni from around the country to gather. The activities were led by local chapter President Syed Ali Rizvi, a gracious host, who is also President-elect of the Federation. I attended with Geeta and Raj Trivedi and had the pleasure of accepting the award on behalf of IMANE.

The plaque states “in recognition of their outstanding contributions and diligence in health care through voluntary services to the New England communities. IMANE’s vision, goals and accomplishments have exemplified their constant commitment and focus in assisting needy patients, uplifting lives of the underserved, opening avenues for Indian American medical professionals and has left an indelible mark on millions of New England residents.”
IMANE members and guests enjoy a day off at Steep Hill Beach at the Crane Estate.
NEWS BRIEFS

YWCA Boston: Dr. Purnima Sangal was one of six local business women honored at the YWCA Boston’s 15th Annual Academy of Women Achievers luncheon on June 9, 2009 in Boston. Dr. Sangal, a former President of IMANE and an OB/GYN Specialist, has been promoting women’s health for 15 years. She created the Health is Wealth Foundation, an organization that operates in India and provides pro bono health services. She has a private practice, A Women’s Health, in Chelmsford, MA.

India Day: This celebration will be held at the Hatch Shell in Boston on Sunday, Aug. 16 at 4 p.m. IMANE will have tables and our physician volunteers will provide free health screenings, including blood pressure, blood sugar, nutritional and dental screenings. Last year about 2000 people attended.

IMANE Questionnaire: I will be emailing a questionnaire to all IMANE members soliciting your suggestions and comments about IMANE. Your feedback on our operations, leadership, activities and special events, as well as your ideas for improvements, will help guide us as we move forward. I hope you will all take the time to respond.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Massachusetts Medical Society Headquarters. There will be many items for discussion. All Executive Committee and Board of Trustees members are invited to attend. The agenda will be distributed in advance.
Profile: SEEMA ARORA, MD
Member at Large, Executive Committee

Dr. Seema Arora received her medical training from Lady Harding Medical College, New Delhi, India, followed by an Internship at Sucheta Kriplani Hospital, also in New Delhi. She then did her Residency in Internal Medicine in the United States at North Shore Medical Center, Salem, MA. She is Board Certified in Internal Medicine.

Dr. Arora practiced at Haverhill Family Practice and subsequently became Founder and Medical Director of Laser Medical Spa in Lynnfield, performing cosmetic procedures. She is currently Associate Medical Director of Destination Beauty Medical Spa in Framingham, MA. She also practices Internal Medicine with Hallmark Medical Associates in Melrose, in affiliation with Melrose Wakefield and Lawrence Memorial Hospitals.

Dr. Arora lives in Lynnfield, MA, with her husband and two children, who are nine and eight years old. She is an avid enthusiast of Indian and Western dances and has done several choreographies and performances. She is also a member of IMANE’s Culture Committee.

Profile: Dr. Pankaj Shah, MD
Member, Board of Trustees

Dr. Pankaj Shah graduated with a medical degree from Grant Medical College, University of Bombay, India. He subsequently did his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at JJ Group of Hospitals and N. Wadia Maternity Hospital in Bombay and obtained his post graduate degree in OB/GYN. Dr. Shah then came to the U.S. and did his residency in OB/GYN at Albany Medical Center Hospitals, New York State. He is board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. Shah has worked for a group practice, currently known as Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates, for over 30 years. He is also on the Active Staff at Brigham & Women’s Hospital. He works in the Wellesley and Quincy offices and continues to practice OB/GYN. He is on the OB/GYN Executive Committee, as well as on the Gynecological Tissue and Medical Practice committee at Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Dr. Shah was President of IMANE in 1992 and published the first IMANE member directory. He has been AAPI Regional Director and AAPI Convention Chair in 1996, when the event was held in Boston. He is also past Chair of the Mass. Medical Society IMG Committee from 1993-1995. He lives in Newton with his wife.