

## **Christmas Event- A Visitor from the North Pole: December 5th, 2014**

Wow!! The hall had a festive look. A Christmas ambience prevailed with a 7' glittering Christmas tree and gifts piled high, a nativity scene, poinsettias and Santa Claus. The tables were set with red table cloths, a sparkling juice bottle on a doily and a unique table name by Carol Fernandes, depicting the 12 days of Christmas or Santa's reindeers enhanced the decor.

Everyone was greeted with candy canes at the door.

Mrs. Claus, the emcee, welcomed everyone, explained the program and invited Marge Fernandes to say the Grace. Everyone then popped the sparkling juices toasting Viva TEGSA.

Replete with a delicious Goan meal of Pork Vindaloo, Roast Chicken, Beef Cutlet, green beans with coconut, pullao with peas and carrots, salad, pickle and bibic, we had carol singing led by Melba Remedios and her choir. The carol singing transitioned into Santa Claus and his elf coming in to the tune of "Here comes Santa Claus" and giving away candy. The entertaining Santa (Romualdo?? Fernandes) took a well-deserved break and watched 20 members parade in fancy dress. Our participants were very creative and had innovative introductions. The top two prizes went to Rita Britto and Fatima Lawson who came dressed as Christmas trees. Well deserved!! Carol presented all participants with a CD of the hilarious Indian version of 12 days of Christmas.

Santa in his excitement declared that nobody was naughty and gave gifts to everyone. Elf Francis Fernandes speedily handed over the gifts to Santa and everyone had a colourful picture taken with Santa and his elf. Our photographer, Paul Madeira, captured everyone present.

Our enthusiastic non-stop dancers took the floor to the music of DJ Carol Fernandes.

The event culminated with the ever popular bingo and everyone left very contented to continue the spirit of Christmas.