

## Sixth Anniversary Celebration

**Toronto East Goan Seniors Association** celebrated the Sixth Anniversary on Saturday, June 19, 2010 at The Metropolitan Centre, Scarborough, Ont. It is the largest Goan Association in GTA with 750 members.

It was a friendly gathering of members and out-of-town guests who shared lots of warmth and they were in cheerful spirits. The ladies were presented with a Capodimonte Rose as a “Thank You” and the entire celebration was upbeat.

The many familiar faces mingled around during the Social Hour as Hors d’oeuvres were served. There was never a moment without a conversation, or laughter among the members. Sheilah D’souza, the Cultural Secretary was the compere for the occasion. She was well prepared and she did a fantastic job throughout the event. She kept everyone in a delightful mood.

The foremost part of the afternoon was welcoming speech from Olga Madeira the President. of TEGSA. She was poised as she conveyed her message. She mentioned that the celebration was an illustration of our relationship, our strength, our devotion and dedication to our Goan Community. She expressed her gratitude and best wishes for the Past Presidents and their respective committee members for turning over the thriving Association to the current committee and she along with her enthusiastic committee would carry the torch with pride. She introduced her committee members to all the members and guests present. She encouraged members to be involved by attending the events or by expressing their concerns and suggestions to the delegates.

Sheilah read the greetings that were received from Michael Chan, the Ontario Minister of Tourism and Culture. His letter stated that the province’s cultural vitality is greatly enriched by the contributions of Ontarians around the world, including those descending from Goa, India. He congratulated TEGSA on the occasion of the association’s Anniversary Celebration and he commended TEGSA for the vital support given to Goan Seniors..

Next as planned, Sheilah D’Souza invited Effie Rocha to say the Grace before meals She included a prayer of thanks for the TEGSA’s good times and then all joined her in reciting the Grace before meals.

This was followed with the scrumptious, delicious meal with two bottle of red and white wine at each table and it created a warm feeling of togetherness all round.

Bosco and his Rafikis Live music created a beautiful atmosphere. They set the tone for the afternoon and almost everyone responded to their music. They took to the floor and graciously swayed to the music. These musicians under the direction of Bosco got the people into the mood by playing some of the traditional Goan folk music. They all danced and had a great time.

Sheilah thanked all the generous donors for their prize contributions.

The spotlight was focused on the Special Treat for Fathers to celebrate Father's day in advance. Two Flamenco Dancers were on the dance floor dancing to the Spanish beat with castanets and fans. Their performance was exuberant and joyful. Their superb elegant, graceful movements got all the fathers glue their eyes on them.

Time flies fast when everybody has fun and it was just that. It was time for cutting the Anniversary cake. Martha Menezes and Flavia DeSouza were invited to cut the cake and this was placed on the Sweet Table for people to help themselves along with cookies, tea or coffee.

It was a very enjoyable celebration. All in all, special thanks to TEGSA's President and her committee for the wonderful Sixth Anniversary Celebration.