

Christmas 2017 review

Toronto East Goan Seniors Association consists of over 500 young- hearted, energetic and friendly members – all who contribute to what I believe to be a great success.

Having been to so many of their events, I have to say, the committee is doing a fabulous job, especially with how well-organized they are. Austin Pinto, Paul Madeira, Sheilah D'Souza, Godfrey Cunningham, Elizabeth Prabhu, Carol Fernandes, Faye Swift, Lucia Carneiro, Trevor D'Silva, Inno Soares, Violet Monteiro and Ja Devas - hats off to you guys.

Just like every other event organized by TEGSA, the Christmas dance was superb. It was held on December 9th at Sts. Peter and Paul banquet hall in Scarborough, where we were greeted by the President of the committee, Austin Pinto along with a few of the current committee members. The hall was beautiful, the tables well decorated, and the ambience was great. The food at the banquet hall was delicious and the bar of course kept us warm and cheerful. Emcees Sheilah D'Souza and Godfrey Cunningham did an amazing job. As always, Carol Fernandes added her artistic touch to the occasion, making sure every table had a beautiful and colourful menu card and a list of donors for the door prizes. The door prizes were endless: one night's stay at a five star Hotel, gift cards, gift baskets from Bath and Body Works -the list went on and on.

DJ Mario Gonsalves also deserves credit for an incredible job. The music was catchy and got all the energetic seniors to the dance floor without any effort. The dance floor was full of carefree, light-footed seniors. The crowd danced to every song played that evening, and not even dinner could stop them from dancing to the infectious music. That proves age is only a number! Even the DJ was surprised to see the crowd dancing to all of his music, including songs that involved a lot of gyrating hips. One had to be there to believe it!

There were warm smiles all around with people greeting old friends and making new acquaintances. I made a few new friends myself. TEGSA has definitely achieved its objective of giving us Torontonians a positive outlook and a great social life. The various events organized by TEGSA give us something to look forward to on the weekend and a purpose in life! Socializing and connecting helps maintain both mental and physical health. It's a step in the right direction!

Congratulations to all the committee members for their endless efforts and hard work in making such joyous functions possible!

Malitha Pereira

P.S. Paul Madeira's thank you was very apt. He analogized the success of the event to a recipe for which the ingredients were good venue, food, music, participants and the committee that i ties it together.