

This month Goa celebrates >>>

Jan-Feb 10 Issue

New Year/ Novem Voros
Feast of the Three Kings
Feast of Blessed Joseph Vaz
Republic Day
Carnaval



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A Monthly Insight into the life of the Goan Community in Bangalore

G O A N C A R N A V A L



SFX Feast Memories

President Uloita

-Louella Sequeira, President, KGA



A Prayer for You this Year

Lord, let me stand in the thick of the fight,
Let me bear what I must without whining;
Grant me the wisdom to do what is right,
Though a thousand false beacons are shining.

Let me be true as the steel of a blade,
Make me bigger than skillful or clever;
Teach me to cling to my best, unafraid,
and hearken to false gospels, never.

Let me be brave when the burden is great,
Faithful when wounded by sorrow;
Teach me, when troubled, with patience to
Wait the better and brighter tomorrow.

Spare me from hatred and envy and shame,
Open my eyes to life's beauty;
Let not the glitter of fortune or fame
Blind me to what is my duty.

Let me be true to myself to the end,
Let me stand to my task without whining;
Let me be right as a man, as a friend,
Though a thousand false beacons are shining.
Edgar Guest

Yet those who wait on the Lord will gain
new strength; they will mount with wings
like eagles, they will run and not get tired,
they will walk and not become weary.
Isaiah 40:31
Make this year count. Fly Light, Fly High!

God bless
Mrs. Prez

◆ Carnaval on the 13th of Feb. I would love to see more of our Members taking part in the Parade and the Fancy Dress at the Carnaval. If you are interested please call Juliet Colaco on 9886652652.

◆ Updates: A Khata has been obtained for our land in Hennur – Colonia Santa Maria, in the name of the KGA. Thanks Lloyd.



KGA CARNAVAL



Fat Fat Saturday !!!
A Night of Merry Revelry !

13th February, 2010
Bangalore Palace, Palace Grounds
7.00 p.m. Onwards

Music, Dance, Food, Fancy Dress Competition and
Fun Unplugged !
Queen & King Momo and the big parade of dancers !

Dress Code: Masks, Red & Black / Fancy Dress

For Passes Contact your nearest Committee Member
Right of Admission Reserved



<http://picasaweb.google.co.in/kgabangalore/SFX2009#>

From Disability to Different Abilities - Sarah Santamaria



DIYA FOUNDATION, a registered trust, was established in 1999 in Bangalore, India, to provide vocational training and sheltered employment to differently abled adults, with a special focus on the mentally challenged.

Diya guides people with challenges through a journey to discover their abilities and then tailor activities that bring joy, well-being, confidence, and fulfilment into their lives and the lives of their families.

Currently, there are 25 mentally challenged adult, girls and boys, undergoing training at Diya's Vocational Centre. We offer training and employment

opportunities in the following units: Candle Making, Chocolate Making, Greeting

card Designing, Paper product Unit, Cleaning liquid Manufacturing, and Data Entry Units.

The splashes of colour on a greeting card, the strokes of paint on a terracota diya, the simple folds on a newspaper bag, the arrangement of chocolates in a box, are all testimony to the fact that mentally challenged people can follow instructions, work to precision, and earn a livelihood. Our trainees have an abundant resource of love and joy, which they spread to volunteers, well-wishers and staff.

Encouraged by our experiences of the past, we now dare to dream bigger by starting our first GROUP HOME to house four mentally challenged male adults who under supervision will live together, be provided with shelter, food, and recreation and find gainful employment at Diya's vocational unit.

OUR NEEDS.

The annual cost of running Diya's Training Centre is Rs. 11,00,000

The estimated cost of running Diya's Group Home is Rs. 4,00,000

Diya Foundation urgently needs to secure a premise of its own, both land and building. This will ensure stability and permanence to the functioning of the sheltered workshop.

With love, encouragement, and appropriate training the differently abled can be productive members of society. This task is impossible without your support and generosity. Be a part of our dream

and let us together empower people with challenges. Patronize our products from the Diya workshop or be financial partners and savour the joy of seeing Diya's special members blossom and grow, earn and live life to its fullest.

Donations to Diya Foundation are exempt from Income Tax under Section 80(G).

For more information contact: The Chief Executive Officer, Diya Foundation, No.21 C.K.Garden, Wheeler Road Extn., St. Thomas Town P.O., Bangalore. (Phone nos.080-25475828/ 0-9880052833)



<p>SFX <u>Celebrants</u> Fr. Norbert Lobo Fr. Eric Rodricks Fr. Anthony Pereira Fr. Tony D'Souza Fr. Saleema <u>Choir</u> Fr. Peter (Choir Master) Vaishali Fernandez Levin Serrao Anisha Lobo Cyrus & Diane D'Lima Tanya & Sergio Rosario Andrew Gonsalves Gia & Nina Goes Rhea Pinto Bernie Gonsalves Kingsley Fernandes Jennifer Gonsalves Nissim D'Silva Pamela Pinto Jonathan Smith Annie D'Lima Jessel Rebello</p>	<p>Marie Rodricks Clinton Mazarello Vivienne Dias Kenelm Lopes Ezlinda Louzado Sharon Monteiro Marlene D'costa Blanche Viegas Aiona Goes <u>Others</u> Jessel Rebello(Mem I/C) Gavin Cordiero Anselm Pinto Juliet Colaco Rohan Shirodkar Pamela Pinto Aneesha Shirodkar Valene Colaco Chalene Colaco Brendon Colaco Armando Braganza Brian D'lima Edward Rodricks Perry Goes Sarah SantaMaria <u>Past Presidents</u> Dr. Aloma Lobo Anthony Fernandes Terrence de Nazereth Edward Rodricks Zarryl Lobo</p>	<p>Denzil Lobo Daphne Smith Joe Noronha Stephen Gonsalves Fausto Cardoso Perry Goes Arun D'Silva <u>Members Day</u> Gavin Cordeiro(Mem I/C) Juliet Colaco Oscar Menezes Joe Fernandes Anselm Pinto Rohan Shirodkar Aneesha Shirodkar Valene Colaco Lloyd Sequeira <u>Little Elves</u> Joe Fernandes(Mem I/C) Juliet Colaco Oscar Menezes Anselm Pinto Rohan Shirodkar Aneesha Shirodkar Valene Colaco Armando Braganza</p>
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A Special thanks to our Members Day Sponsor
Arun D'Silva

Carnival celebrations all over the world begin on 'Sabado Gordo' or Fat Saturday, the Saturday preceding Ash Wednesday and mark the beginning of three days of celebrations. Goa is perhaps the only state in India where carnival is celebrated with much pomp and gaiety. The face of Carnival has however changed with the years..perhaps for the worse. The traditional Carnival, also called Intruz was celebrated with much involvement of everyone Goan.



men playing both male and female roles enacted the play. People assembled all around and watched. Actors were paid a small sum by a patron. The story of the play often derived inspiration from a village scandal or local personage such as the local 'bakaar' or land-lord, the policeman, etc Youth roamed the countryside playing pranks and throwing water at each other. Some of them called 'Monne' dressed in costume and went door to door. With the coming of the great sponsored parade, the carnival today is more an event where people 'watch' rather than participate. The merriment and revelry between your relatives, friends and neighbours is replaced with a trip to 'view' floats that are increasingly a display of merchandise and less of anything to do with Carnival itself !!!



An important part of this was the Khell Tiatr. These were small plays staged anywhere in the village not requiring a stage. A small area under a coconut grove was marked out and



Little Elves

-Roban Shirodkar

On the 13th of December, 2009, the Karnataka Goan Association organised its traditional Children's Christmas Party, which down the years has come to be known as Little Elves.

The party began at around half past two in a secluded little garden inside the St. Joseph Boys High School campus. As the children arrived at the venue accompanied by their parents, they were greeted by a brightly decorated garden, a spread of exciting activities, a Christmas tree waiting to be decorated by them, and by a table piled high with tempting gifts. There



was a corner with a pottery expert who taught the kids the basics of pottery, and then helped them fashion their own masterpieces out of mounds of clay, as well as an artist who painted the kids' faces and arms with brightly coloured flowers and motifs. The children also took turns decorating cookies with a wide variety of icings and toppings. The tree decoration, where the kids prepared their own decorations for the Christmas tree, and also drew out their own personal note to Santa Claus.

The activities done with, the kids gathered

around for a round of thrilling games which included some very comic rounds of Freeze Dance followed by an exciting round of Bomb the Corners, all led by KGA committee member and MC for the day, Joe Fernandes. Just as the excitement of the games was dying out, the children rallied around once again for a round of carol singing led by Oscar Menezes who took them through a selection of traditional carols like 'Joy to the World' and 'Silent Night' backed up by Joe on the keyboard - even as word went around that the Chief Guest for the evening, Santa Claus himself, was in the vicinity.

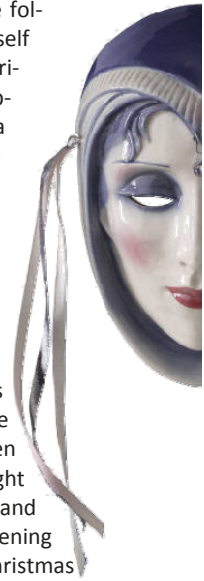
The mood went one step up, when the vigorous strains of 'Jingle Bells' resonated through the air, and Santa Claus arrived at the venue, in style, in his little red limousine (the reindeer sleigh being left behind considering Bangalore's traffic). Santa, on being received by KGA committee members and having inspected the decorated Christmas tree, was then mobbed by the kids who milled around him grabbing at sweets thrown at them and clamouring for a word with him. Order was restored as the kids organized a



queue in front of Santa, each one coming up to him for a private one-on-one followed by the handing over of their self-made Xmas cards and the gifts distribution. The kids also used the opportunity to communicate to Santa their Christmas present request - which included several toy sets, puzzles, sports equipment and a few Playstations.

Then, as Santa waved goodbye and made his exit, snacks and refreshments were distributed around even as the kids opened and examined their new gifts. The Little Elves party concluded shortly after, as the children made their way home laden with gifts, self-made pots, bright painted motifs all over their hands and faces, and with memories of an evening spent celebrating the spirit of Christmas

<http://picasaweb.google.co.in/kgabangalore/LittleElves#>



Feast of Saint Francis Xavier

-Aneesha Naik Shirodkar

The Karnataka Goan Association celebrated the Feast of Saint Francis Xavier, on the 5th of December 2009, at the St. Joseph Boys High School chapel and hall at Museum Road.

The celebrations commenced at 6:00pm with Holy Mass in Konkani at the St. Joseph Chapel which had been decorated with palm leaves shaped into crosses. As members arrived at the venue - all adhering to the formal dress code - they were greeted at the entrance, and in true 'festa' style, were offered flowers with pins. Mass was preceded by a grand procession of as many as twelve past presidents of the KGA all wearing the ceremonial blue and white sash, followed by the priests and altar boys.

Mass was then conducted entirely in Konkani - punctuated only by a short speech in English by Father Norbert - with prayers of the faithful being

delivered by the students of the KGA's Sunday Konkani Class. The KGA's long standing icon and newsletter, the Goenkar, also made an appearance as one of the items at the offertory, while being lauded for its role in keeping the community together.

Following Holy Communion and a short speech of thanks by KGA President Louella Sequiera, the members trooped next door to the St. Joseph Hall for the Feast dance and celebrations. As with other KGA events this year, the numbers that turned up broke all expectations with more than 300 members queuing up at the tickets counter forcing the organisers to quickly procure additional ticket books for sales.

Inside the brightly decorated hall, members began the party by feasting on fresh Kadio-Bodios and other Goan sweets flown in direct from Old Goa especially for the event, and by mobbing the Choris Pav stall set up on the premises. If the food set the mood, then the party was taken further by KGA Vice President and MC for the evening, Gavin Cordeiro, who took the crowd through a repertoire from slow waltzes to fast beat Konkani masala music. As the evening drew on, the dancing spilled out from the floor to fill the entire hall, even as Goans mingled with each other and caught up on good times.

The evening then moved on to the buffet where a



delicious Goan spread with pulao, sannas, cafreal and vindaloo awaited Bangalore's Goan Diaspora, starved as they had been for good Goan food. A heavy dinner, not withstanding, the crowd then returned to the dance floor for one last hurrah, jiving vigorously to quick tempo Goan music like there was no tomorrow.

By the time the celebrations has concluded, the SFX event had once again re-affirmed its role in rallying Bangalore's Goan community around their Goencho Saib and bringing Goenkars together to mingle and socialize.



Members Day

-Kenelm Santana Lopes



Come January, and every KGA Member looks forward to an event celebrating themselves! This year, Members day was themed to a 'beach setting'. The members pulled out their bermudas, sarongs and sunglasses reserved for that Goa trip, and turned up at the Raintree at Catholic Club dressed for the beach at a pleasant 18 degrees.

The place was decorated brightly with balloons and coloured streamers, with catchy music playing in the background. Like most KGA events this year, an overwhelming response, as wave after wave of KGA folk turned up at the registration counter to be given their identification colour tag.

The member- in - charge, Gavin Cordeiro was also, the MC for the afternoon.

Living up to their reputation Goans set their dancing feet on the floor as they kicked off the event.

The mood was upbeat.

An address by our President opened the formal part of Members Day, followed by the distribution of the Awards for Excellence. This has been a time for us to laud the achievements of the KGA Generation Next in many fields such as Education, Sports, etc

This year the awards went to

Vaishali Fernandez, Roweena Barretto, Aaron Pacheco, Warren Smith, Eric Saldanha, Kimberly do Rego and Loretta Viegas

A thunderous applause met our triumphant awardees. We take great pride to see so many winners amongst us!!!

We had some very interesting games. One involved the impossible task of passing a hoop around in a human ring chain. It was quite amusing see our members of all sizes especially the larger and taller ones fitting into the little hoop. A few twisted themselves silly !

An interesting addition was the Members Signature dance. Let by the beautiful Charlene and the evergreen Juliet the members tried their hand (or perhaps feet) at a delightful little jig. The enthusiasm was quite wonderful to behold

A few other games followed keeping everyone quite entertained. Not that it was required. Members meeting broke into vibrant little groups as the latest of business, gossip and politics were discussed.

Come lunch and everyone headed for the sumptuous spread at the buffet table. While everything was very tasty, the beef was especially appreciated by many a hungry stomach.

Merry talk continued and continued, but as we moved towards the late afternoon, people began to slowly disperse with vows and invitations of catching up soon and keeping the camaraderie of the KGA alive !



Upcoming Events for this quarter

- ◇ Carnival-Feb 13th
- ◇ Lenten Observance
- ◇ Konkani Course Launch
- ◇ Theatre Event

Welcome New Members

Kirith Lobo
Karen Lobo
Bibiana Barreto
Brendina Barreto
Michael A. J. Fernandes
Colin D'souza



CAUSES WE RECOMMEND

DIYA
Contact: Sarah Santamaria
9880052833, Sarah@diyafoundation.com
GOA AMERICA HEART FOUNDATION
Contact: Vasant Baliga
9980197610, vabaliga@yahoo.com/vabaliga@aol.com
I-SHINE PROJECT
Contact: Nitasha Noronha
9900425950, nitasha.noronha@gmail.com



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20% discount for all KGA members

Konkani 'Gothila'?

Duh!.... It's Konkani 'Zanam' ?!!!

You've lived away from Goa
Yet you love it to distraction
Do feel like a stranger when you
visit Goa cos you do not know
the mother tongue Konkani?

KGA presents a fun, crash course in
conversational Konkani ! New batches
starting soon at a location near you.
Contact: Anselm Pinto (9845597360)

KONKANI CLASS

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