

Goan Connection

GOAN ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC.
Established in 1991

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DECEMBER 2017

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Association Corner	2
Movie: Nachom-ia Kumpasar	3-4
Thank you for the Movie	5
Halloween	7-11
125 Years of Konkani Tiatr	14
Goan Giggles	17
Great Goin' (Goan)	18-19
Goan Gourmet	21
Amchi Bhas: Konkani	24
Caring Corner	26

The Goan Connection is a publication of the Goan Association of New Jersey, Inc., a non-profit organization established in 1991.

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Please complete form and return with check or go to www.goanj.com to book online
Checks must be received by November 29th, 2017
Questions call : 1 201 64 GOANJ(46265)

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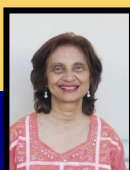


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Association Corner

My Dear Friends,

Happy Thanksgiving to you all. May our dear Lord, continue to bless us, our families, our near and dear ones in the USA, in India or wherever they may be. Truly, a time to be thankful for the many blessings bestowed on us.

In a couple of weeks get ready for the event of the YEAR, a grand Christmas Ball!! For your listening and dancing pleasure, we have one of the best bands in Canada fly over specially to entertain YOU - our valued members. We have an exquisite line up of mouth-watering dishes planned for you, in addition to lots of prizes, airline tickets and much more. We hope to see you all at the dance. *Please note the Christmas Ball is always a SOLD OUT event so we urge you to book online or mail in your checks today.*

GOANJ is planning a major initiative for the year 2018 - to focus on your FAMILY. We have always brain stormed on ways to incorporate our culture, values and rich traditions upon our children and youth. Many of our youth including mine have had minimal exposure with Goan families and hence there seems to be a disconnect. We are trying to change this and give our children the opportunity to know other Goans within our community. We want the best of both worlds for our youth. Besides living with their American traditions combined with other cultures to which they may be exposed, we want them to have a TASTE of our very own GOAN culture.

Recently members of the Planning

Committee attended a St. Francis Xavier's Novena prayer group at

the home of Donald and Blossom Pinto, in Pennsylvania. It was amazing to see such a heart-warming group of children and adults come together as ONE BIG FAMILY in prayer and worship. Besides praising the Lord in prayer and song, the blended families socialized afterwards and everyone mingled - crossing generational boundaries! GOANJ would like to replicate this same intimate, faith and cultural sharing opportunity with each one of you. Gerry and Deline da Costa from our GOANJ Planning Committee are helping us to replicate this wonderful opportunity to share in small home groups. Stay tuned for upcoming information on this 2018 initiative of small group gatherings in local homes. We welcome your suggestions and thank the St. Francis Xavier's Novena group for paving the way.

I would like to sign off our last newsletter for this year, wishing each one of you and your families a Very Joyous Christmas Season! Enjoy the rest of the year and yes ... please don't forget to book your tickets for the Christmas Ball on December 9th!

Viva Goa !! Viva GOANJ !!!

Felix Menezes
President



Movie: NACHOM-IA-KUMPASAR

An Experience In Fundraising In The Age Of Social Media

Joaquim Goes

I was fourteen years old, when a schoolmate and a close friend of ours took seriously ill. The diagnosis was that he was suffering from an arterial septal defect, a medical condition also known as “a hole in the heart”. The prognosis was that his chances of living were bleak unless he underwent surgery at a specialty unit that was unavailable in Goa then in the 70s. We were told that he had to be rushed to Bombay, but his family didn’t have the means to do so and neither did we and we felt helpless. That evening we cancelled our regular game of hockey and decided instead to brainstorm ideas to raise funds to help our young friend and his family, navigate through this crisis. After several ideas were tossed around, we settled on a home video screening of Richard Attenborough’s award winning movie “Gandhi”. In an age where internet and social media didn’t exist, we had to rely on door to door visits, selling tickets to every family we knew in our village. A few days before the event when we all met again, we found out that the sales of tickets had far exceeded our expectations and we ended up having to host three back to back shows to honor all the tickets that were sold. This outpouring of support and the funds that we raised was one of most valuable life experiences that I learned at a very early age, and several valuable lessons that I learned after this first ever fund raising event have stayed with me to this day, one of these being that helping others in need is a blessing. What I also learned that fundraising is not challenging, especially if you have people on your team who are compassionate and dedicated are ever-willing to lend their time and effort to make things work.

All of our members of Saint Francis Xavier’s Novena Group from Pennsylvania share these qualities. Compassion and the desire to help others in need abound. Our group presently comprises of 10 Goan families, who came together in 2014 with the purpose of assisting people with their spiritual and socio-economic needs, and to raise funds for worthy causes in Goa. The **Vision Statement** of our group reads as follows: “*Enhance the way Roman Catholic Indians in the US interact and engage to grow spiritually; and through this evolution, uplift individuals and the community (of our culture) as a whole; and be seen and perceived by others as a tightly knit community where charity begins in their homes and in their community*”. The group meets

once a month rotating in each other’s homes to pray the Rosary and recite the Novena to St. Francis Xavier, followed by pot-luck dinner. This year-long spiritual and social process culminates in a large celebration of the Feast of St. Francis in the first week of December at a church in PA. During each of the monthly meetings, members often discuss community projects for which funds are raised primarily through contributions within the group.



In May 2017, we discussed the idea of raising funds to support institutions in Goa catering to the education and training of children with special needs. A few of our members had *a priori* knowledge of these institutions and were highly impressed with the dedication and the selfless service being provided to children in Goa. After we considered several fund-raising options, we settled on the idea of screening the Oscar nominated Konkani movie *Nachom-ia-Kumpasar*, a project that we anticipated would also serve to showcase Goa's rich Konkani music culture among the younger generation. However not too long after we made the decision to go ahead with the project, we were consumed with self-doubts, wondering whether we would be able to fill the 220 seater theater that we had booked. A cost benefit analysis undertaken within our group showed that we needed to sell about 160 tickets in order to break even. It didn't take too long to secure the support of the Goan Association of New Jersey (GOANJ) and the Goans of Upper Hudson Valley, who offered us their support to organize this event as a Konkani Lovers event, and help us with ticket sales. GOANJ went as far as to open their web-portal for on-line ticket sales, and at their annual summer picnic, we sold around 90 tickets. The following week, at the summer picnic organized by the Goans of Upper Hudson Valley in Peekskill, we sold another 80 tickets. Within two weeks after we opened the sale of tickets, we had crossed the crucial 160 mark and by the 4th week, with additional support coming from New York Goans and the Mangalorean Catholic Association, we had to consider the option of booking a second theater. Through the printing of a playbill showcasing the show and its cast, our group and our cause, we were able to secure additional pledges of support. On the day of the show we had over 300 attendees, twice the number of people that we had originally anticipated. It was an amazing sight to see so many Goan families with their children, some who had come from as far north as Poughkeepsie and Peekskill and from far down south as Delaware, Maryland and DC to attend the show and celebrate our language, culture and heritage. The movie did not disappoint and the beautiful Konkani songs captivated the audience throughout.

At the end of the show, we realized that we had truly underestimated the love that our community of Goans and Mangaloreans have for Konkani and the culture of the coastal Konkani belt. Over the course of this three month period, we made many new friends and learned through this fundraising effort that there are many compassionate people among us who share the idea that giving is a blessing and that there is great pride in helping others. Thanks to the internet and social media, we were able to reach out to many of these generous people.

We presently are corresponding with an institution in Goa called SETHU and are in discussions about funding some of its ongoing activities, as well as options of sending funds given the new restrictions on foreign fund receipts by charitable organizations in India.

Our Saint Francis Novena Group is grateful for the overwhelming support from so many Konkani enthusiasts who were generous with their time and advice. We are especially thankful to Felix Menezes, Louis D'Souza, Carmeline Baretto, Neville Mascarenhas, Chris Nunes, Wilma Pinto and several others who went above and beyond their way to help us with logistics, advertise the movie as well as sell tickets.



THANK YOU For The Movie

Elvis Proença



Every now and then, an event comes along that helps a community reconnect with its heritage. It's even more gratifying when this event emerges from a desire to help the less fortunate and produces an outpouring of compassion and support for worthy community causes. The recent screening of *Nachom-ia-Kumpasar* was exactly such an event. On August 20, 2017, over 300 lovers of our Konkani *mai-bas* gathered in Edison, NJ to celebrate our music, language, and culture and show solidarity with our causes. It was an event we will remember for years to come. A cinematic masterpiece that was both a tribute to our rich musical tradition and, for many, a glorious trip down memory lane.

What does it take to plan and organize such a wonderful event? As Joaquim Goes explains so eloquently in this newsletter, it takes a community, or in this case, several different communities. A group of passionate and determined people who take the project from idea to reality. Supporters who provide critical financial and human resources and community members who embrace the project.

So, a heartfelt *Dev Borem Korum* to all those who made this event possible. To the core team of Joaquim Goes, Gerry da Costa, Suzette Mascarenhas, Blossom and Donald Pinto, and Socrates Viegas, without your energy, hard work and persistence, this project would not have seen the light of day. To the members of the St. Francis Novena Group, thank you for driving the sales and organizing the event. To the leadership and membership of various Goan and Mangalorean associations, thank you for spreading the word and coming on board. To the sponsors and donors, your financial support made the difference.

On behalf of all of us who so thoroughly enjoyed this experience and the wonderful things it represents, I would like to say "Thank You for the Movie!"








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Halloween Dance



Halloween: A Time for Spooky Fun



Lovell Pinto

Come October 31st and many countries around the world celebrate the observance of Halloween. The term “Halloween” itself is believed to have originated from “All Hallows Eve” or “All Saints Eve”, which is a solemnity celebrated by the Christian Church on November 1st. On this day, Christians remember the faithful departed –canonized as well as unrecognized saints--and on the following day, November 2nd, they commemorate all deceased persons (souls). Hence, the direct relationship between Halloween and all things mystical and surreal. According to historical records, the celebration of Halloween as a pagan ritual with occult undertones traces its origin, many centuries ago, to Gaelic traditions in Ireland. Later, it is believed to have been introduced in the U.S. by Irish and Scottish immigrants, becoming a major event by the early 20th century.

The primary Halloween activity which most children (and yes, some adults too!) participate in is trick-o-treating, which allows them a unique annual opportunity to amass a treasure trove of candies in all shapes, sizes, flavors and brands. Kids usually dress in different costumes, often scary and spooky outfits, before going door-to-door in search of sweet treats. More recently, a different version of this activity has evolved and is known as ‘trunk-o-treating’. Car and truck owners are encouraged to decorate their automobiles and bring them to a parking lot (usually for a fee), where kids can go from one vehicle to another and collect candy from the owners. This generally serves a good purpose, since the money collected from drivers is often donated to a worthy cause or charity, whereas the children get to keep their candy. The practice is gaining in popularity, with many churches, schools and corporations participating for altruistic reasons. Other activities which both adults and kids may indulge in during Halloween include attending costume parties, pumpkin carving and decoration, scary and spooky illuminations around the house, playing pranks in the neighborhood, visiting ‘haunted’ attractions, watching horror films, and sometimes resorting to vandalism..

Needless to say, Halloween celebrations have acquired a significant following in recent years, primarily as a result of commercialization on all fronts. Chocolate and candy sales in the U.S. traditionally used to be highest in the month of October, until they were pushed to second position in only 2015, having been trounced by the consumption of Easter candy. Incredibly, it is reported that candy sales for these two occasions together surpass sales for the rest of the year collectively. The second commercial factor is directly related to purchases of costumes for Halloween. With adults and kids alike displaying a growing tendency to dress in fancy, and nowadays character-themed outfits for the celebration, party stores rake in massive profits during the month of October, arguably their most lucrative month in the year.

Personally speaking, as a parent, Halloween has always been an exciting time, one during which I accompany the kids on their door-to-door quest to build their annual candy cache. While they actively pursue this ephemeral passion, I wait protectively in the shadows and watch with amusement from a distance. On a parting note, I can unabashedly offer this confession: after all the candy has been collected, counted, most of it consumed by the kids, part of it donated, some shared, and the leftovers securely stashed away, I occasionally do sneak in to the pantry every other night and allow myself to indulge that recalcitrant sweet little tooth of mine. Happy Halloween everyone!

Halloween Dance



Halloween Costumes Trick or Treat?



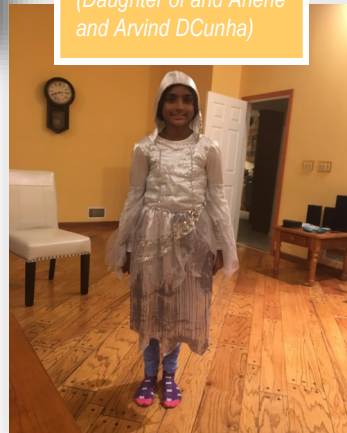
Sylvia
(Daughter
of Kevin
and Janet
Martins)



Bella (Minnie)
and Maya
(Pumpkin)
(Grand-
daughters of
Janet and
Desmond
Saldanha)



Shannon
(Daughter of and Arlene
and Arvind DCunha)



Claire and Elise Alvares with aunt
Anjulee Alvares-Cinque



Ayla (Wonder Woman), Caden (Max from
Secret Life of Pets show) and Ethan (Marshall
from Paw Patrol cartoons)
(Children of Lynette and Noel Martins)



Mad
Hatter:
Zara
(Daughter
of Sharon
and Alan
Lopez)



Brady
(Son of
Tara and
Marc
DeBellis)



Dale
(Son of
Arlene
and
Arvind
DCunha)



Mad
Hatter:
Noah
(Son of
Sharon
and Alan
Lopez)



Halloween Dance



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Dr. Suzette Mascarenhas



Flu shots
give you the flu.

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- Flu season is going on and so do not forget to take the flu shot. Protect yourself and others too!
- If you are sick, please wear a mask so that you do not spread germs during the holiday cheer.
- Avoid too much of hugging and kissing when sick.
- Keep yourself well hydrated with fluids - I mean water.
- Get enough of rest, 7 to 8 hours.
- Wash hands frequently.



*Have a great Christmas season and
Happy New Year resolutions to stay healthy!!*



125 Years of Konkani Tiatr Celebrated by Invictus Films



Gladston Tavares



When we founded our company Invictus Films Inc, in 2010, we knew that we would deliver a unique form of entertainment that would help bridge the gap between international entertainment and local appeal. Seven years down the line, we have successfully completed our 3rd production entitled **POLICE OFFICER**; this was a Konkani stage play directed by Sammy Tavares (Deputy Supdt. of Goa Police). Since our first Konkani-language production in 2014, *Tim Thikam Sanddlem*, we have been diversifying our reach to the North American audience. Today, we can proudly say that we have delivered Konkani entertainment to New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Houston & Toronto. This was not an easy feat, often encountering major setbacks. At

times, we even lost the motivation to keep going forward, but an inherent belief amongst our entire team kept each production moving forward to keep our culture alive in foreign lands.

In 2017, we brought to the North American audience, **POLICE OFFICER**, a Konkani stage play featuring 17 renowned artistes from Goa comprising actors, singers, and musicians. Written by a well-respected member of the Goa Police Department, DySP. Sammy Tavares, the play showcases the life, challenges, and successes of a police officer. The powerful story was supported by hit songs and riveting comedy. This time round, we invited local talent from each North American station to take part in our production. In Los Angeles, Mr. Maxie Mascarenhas graced the stage with his song, while Mr. Savio Rodrigues humored the audience in San Francisco with his song “Kazar Za.” However, our proudest accomplishment was bringing young Aidan Alberto to the stage in New York. This young lad’s courage and perseverance in celebrating his roots makes him a leader for the next generation in Konkani talent.



We are glad to see a positive response from our audience across the United States & Canada. Our hope moving forward is that we expand our reach to a larger audience and have more frequent productions. We open our doors to your suggestions and invite you to bring forward your ideas, especially if it involves performing in one of our productions. Please share your experience and feedback with your loved ones, colleagues, and friends. This is the best way to keep our culture alive and to make it as prominent as any other international language today. We started this drive as a family and it remains close knit, keeping our mission alive. Every artist, sponsor, volunteer, and fan is responsible for the success of our efforts.

Dev Borem Korrum! Viva Konkani! Viva Goa! - EFFIE, VILAS, GLADSTON and GAYWONN



Song: “Konkani Bhas” Sung by Aidan Alberto

Brenda Fernandes



At the GOANJ cultural festival in 2016, Aidan Alberto left an indelible impression on Effie Tavares’ mind—the way he sang a Konkani song with his mother Kezia. They sang a love song in *Concanim!* A year later and coming up was a special occasion to celebrate 125 years of Konkani tiatr in North America. To do so in the tri-state area, the Goan Association of Hudson Valley, Peekskill, NY organized a performance of the super hit Konkani tiatr, “Police Officer” on October 8, 2017. Effie Tavares one of the producers for the tiatr, invited Aidan to sing a Konkani song at the intermission. Without hesitation, Aidan agreed. Effie had just the right song for Aidan—“Konkani Bhas”, the lyrics and composition by Deputy Suptd. of Goa Police, Sammy Tavares—Director of the tiatr.

Preparation began in September when Sammy sent a video to Aidan and practice sessions over WhatsApp followed. Within a month, of course with mommy’s coaching on the correct pronunciation, Aidan stepped up to the plate. With confidence and eloquence of a true Goan, Aidan’s performance on stage was brilliant and he got a thunderous applause.

Aidan’s springboard to the musical world began as a soloist in a church choir. His next opportunity -the tiniest cast member in the musical Mary Poppins as Michael Banks (came from a large community theater group). There were and are a sprinkling of performances for smaller community theater groups too. Next, our young Goan leaped on to the Konkani tiatr stage. This young lad has been around for just a decade, but is already in another musical: The Jungle Book, cast in the role of Mowgli. Catch him if you can at a theater in S. Orange.



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Goan Giggles

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A little girl asked her mommy one day, "Where did we come from??" "Well" her Mom said "We came from Adam and Eve. They were the very first people that God made and when they got married, they had lots of children. Those children had lots and lots of children so that is how so many people are here now." Later that day the little girl asked the same question to her Daddy. "Daddy, where did we come from?" "Hmmmmmm" said the Dad a little uncomfortable about this whole question. "Well, you see a long time ago we were swinging in the trees and very bent over. When we started walking we began to stand up straighter and straighter and eventually began to walk and look like we do today. Yes, that is where we came from." Now the girl was really confused!!! She went back to her Mommy and said "Daddy said that we came from monkeys, and swung from trees!" Now who is right? Calmly her Mommy said "Both are right!!!" "Your Daddy's family came from monkeys and our side from Adam and Eve."



Looking to Grow your Business?

If you are looking to launch a new business or grow an existing business, consider advertising in the *Goan Connection*. Reach a highly educated and culturally sensitive audience in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and beyond. Send the content of your advertisement in a Word document to committee@goanj.com.

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2inch, 1 column	\$20.00
1/3 page	\$125.00
1/2 page	\$150.00
Full page	\$250.00

For more information, please call Felix Menezes at 732-939 2916.

Great Goin' ^(Goan) : KATHRYN LOBO

Kathryn Lobo



These past four months have been such a rewarding experience for me, as I've been given the chance to do two things I love: travel and teach. After winning a Fulbright Award, I received the opportunity to teach English at la Universidad de Antonio Nariño in Bogotá, Colombia, for 10 months. I teach both beginner and intermediate conversation clubs, a writing workshop, and two U.S. culture and language classes; all which have positively tested my abilities as a teacher and have allowed me to grow and learn alongside my students. These students continuously remind me why I love my job, as they are all motivated and interested in acquiring a new language. The second part of this journey is appreciating the history and immersing myself in the culture of Colombia. On the weekends, I've traveled to different cities, climbed mountains, taken tours, and found my own "regulars" (ex. Supermarkets, coffee shops, churches etc.); all which have helped me create my own home here.

I can't thank Fulbright enough for the privilege to pursue my passions, but even more to Colombia for blessing me with the people I've met on this journey.



(La Universidad Antonio Nariño)



(Sumapaz, Colombia)



(Bogotá, Colombia)

We invite you to share achievements by our members—let us know what's 'GOAN' on!!!

~ The Editorial team

Great Goin' (Goan) : AHREN ALBERTO

Ahren Alberto



As my flight landed at Dabolim Airport in Goa this summer, I was anticipating a relaxing vacation to de-stress after a hectic school year, but eventually I would be surprised. After spending time with my family in Panjim for a week my mother informed about a charitable organization called the Child's Play Foundation. This organization which is based in Panjim enriched the lives of local disadvantaged children with the gift of music through several instrumental lessons. My mother figured that I would be able to volunteer here given my years of experience in playing the piano and violin. Being my normal and lazy teenage self, I was hesitant to accept this opportunity. I figured that the purpose of the trip was to spend time with family and enjoy, more than

anything else. However, after a few days of my mother's prompting, I decided that I would meet with the founder of this organization Dr. Luis Dias to see what this organization was all about. After meeting Dr. Dias and shadowing him at one of the music lessons I was shocked to see how different life in India really was for the impoverished and disadvantaged. Up until this point, I had really never ventured out

of the protective bubble that surrounded my family to see the poorer side of Goa and noticed how difficult life was for several Goan children. These children are not able to receive the high-quality musical education that is considered the standard in America, yet the talent that they possess is unbelievable. The way some of these children were able to pick up notes and rhythms on the violin were inconceivable to me, especially considering how it took me so long to embrace music as something I loved.



The first music lesson really caught my attention and motivated me to volunteer for the organization. I agreed to co-teach violin classes three times a week for an hour for several children at a local school in Panjim. At times it was challenging to teach these children since most of them could only speak Hindi, a language I am far from fluent in. Even with this language barrier, I was able to effectively teach the children different pieces of music after my co-teacher helped me with translating certain phrases and words. After a few classes, I began to thoroughly enjoy helping the

children and felt that they respected and enjoyed my company as well. The time flew by and before I knew it, it was time to return to America. By helping teach these children I was able to instill positive values and provide social empowerment for these deprived children. The experiences that I gained by working with Child's Play India Foundation not only solidified my understanding of music, but gave me the opportunity to reach out towards the children in India who require help the most. In hindsight, I realized that I not only enjoyed my vacation in Goa but being a part of Child's Play added a totally different perspective to it.



(If you are visiting Panjim, Goa and are interested in teaching for or helping this organization, I would highly recommend that you get in touch with me so that I can give you more information.) For more information on Child's Play India Foundation, visit: <https://childsplayindia.wordpress.com/>

Executive Committee:

Felix Menezes, Wilma Martins, Mavis DaCruz, Allan D'Guerra, Clea Lobo

Planning Committee:

Vera Menezes, Bambino Martins, Martinha Gracias, Elvis and Lorraine Proença, Rui and Giselle Gomes, Marvin and Connie Fernandes, Chris and Dianne Nunes, Wanda Gomes, Bromin and Louella Menezes, Michael Alvares, Deline and Gerard da Costa, Cassandra & Floyd Faria, Loveina Mascarenhas & Saby Fernandes.



We are paving the way to celebrate - 50 years of GOANJ

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Goan Gourmet



Doce

Carmina Barretto

Ingredients

- Channa daal (250 gms) 1/2 lb.
- Sugar (750 gms) 1.5 lb
- 1 tbsp cardamom seed powder
- 1 tsp oil for greasing
- Shredded coconut 2 lb (2 packets of fresh frozen shredded coconut from any Indian grocery store).
- 1 tsp salt to taste

Method

1. Wash and boil the channa daal with very little water (in the cooker about 5 whistles). The daal should be soft. Grind to an almost dry paste.
2. Thaw and grind the shredded coconut to a fine paste
3. Mix channa daal, coconut and sugar. Cook on slow flame, keep stirring until the mixture is almost dry and forms a dough consistency and you can form a ball. Add the cardamom and salt.
4. When done, whilst still hot roll the dough on a flat surface. Place parchment paper on kitchen counter, grease a little oil on the paper so the shapes can easily be removed later, place dough and using a rolling pin, roll to a 1 cm thick sheet of dough. Use a small piece of parchment paper or foil or a large leaf to polish the surface of the doce to give it a shine. You may also use a fork to form light design lines – and then using a sharp knife, cut into criss-cross diamond shapes. Let it cool completely then separate the shapes, let them dry.
5. Save the pieces in a container.

Angelo Lobo

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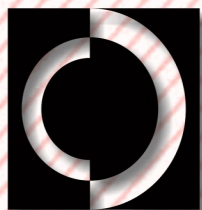
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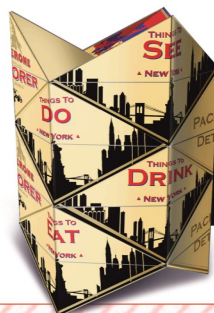
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RELATED EVENTS

Saint Francis Xavier Feast

"In Thee, O Lord,
have I put my hope.
Let me never be
confounded."
St. Francis Xavier

Feast day
December 3, 2017

"Please join our celebration of
fellowship and lunch"
Live music by Castlerock

11:30 am : Rosary
Noon : Feast Mass
Location : Elizabeth Ann Seton
1200 Park Ave,
Bensalem, PA 19020
Make checks payable to "Goan" and mail to - Maria Montez,
2625 Bayberry Circle,
Emmerick, PA - 17048

Cost \$15/- per person
*5 years & above
BYOB
RSVP
November 15, 2017

Today the body of
St. Francis Xavier
rests in a silver
reliquary in a
cathedral in
Goa

1506 Francis Xavier
was born to an aristocratic
family in the kingdom of Navarre.
He was the 19th and the youngest
child.

1534 Xavier, Loyola and five others
founded the society of Jesus (Jesuits)

1542 Xavier arrived in Goa on May 6th and
spent 6 months in preaching and ministering to the sick in
the hospitals. He used to go through the streets ringing a little
bell and inviting the children to hear the words of God.

1552 While trying to gain entrance to mainland China, Xavier died
of a fever on Dec 3. He was buried on the island and his body was placed in
quicklime to hasten its decomposition so that it could be brought to Goa.

1622 Xavier was canonized, along with Ignellus Loyola, by Pope Gregory XV
on March 12.

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**St. Francis
Xavier**



The Goan Association of New York
**St. Francis Xavier's
Feast**
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD
St. Luke's Church, Whitestone, NY
MASS 11:45 AM, FOLLOWED BY FEAST AND
X'MAS CELEBRATION

Please bring a gift for your kids (up to 17 yrs) with their
name on it for Santa's naughty or nice list

We will be conducting a TOY DRIVE to benefit children at
Catholic Charities. Please bring UNWRAPPED TOYS to support
the cause.

***Checks should be mailed by November 20**

Postcard.com

Amchi Bhas (our Language): Konkani

Fr. Basilio Monteiro



St. Francis Xavier's Feast Day is 3rd December. This hymn honoring St. Francis Xavier has been sung by generations—going back over 100 years. It may be helpful for us, as committed St. Francis Xavier's devotees, to know what the words mean.

Sam Francis Xaviera

Sam Francis Xaviera, vhotda kunvra (kunvor = prince)
Saint Francis Xavier, great prince

Rat dis amchea mogan lastolea, (lastolea = inflamed)
Day and night in our love inflamed

Bensanv ghal, Saiba, xharar Goychea (Saiba = sir)
Bless, Sir, the state of Goa

Samballun sodankal gopant tujea (gopant = bosom)
Protecting us in your bosom

Beporva korun sonvsarachi (Beporva = ignore)
Ignoring the world

Devachi tunvem kelii chakri; (chakri = service)
God's you did service

Ami somest magtanv mozot tuji (mozot = assistance)
We all are asking your assistance

Kortai mhonn milagrir milagri (milagri = miracle)
Doing miracles upon miracles

Aiz ani sodam amche khatir (khatir = sake)
Today and every day for our sake

Vinoti kor tum Deva lagim (Vinoti = plead)
Plead you with God

Jezu sarkem zaum jivit amchem (sarkem = like)
Like Jesus be our life

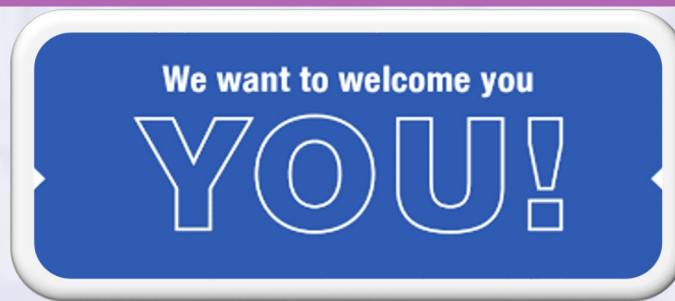
Ami pavo-sor tuje sorxim (pavo-sor = reach)
We until to you reach

Now challenge yourself (by using words from the hymn to fill missing words in the table below:

#	KONKANI	ENGLISH
1	Kunvor	
2		Inflamed
3	Saiba	
4		Bosom
5	Beporva	
6		Service

#	KONKANI	ENGLISH
7	Mozot	
8		Miracle
9	Khatir	
10		Plead
11	Sarkem	
12		Reach










The Executive Committee invites each and every one of its members to become involved in helping our Association chart a dynamic future. Your ideas and suggestions are crucial to enhance its chartered course and create ideas that will promote positive development. We invite you to share your comments and ideas and ask you to reach out to us by phone at 201-64-GOANJ (46265) or committee@goanj.com. We look forward to hearing from you. Your involvement benefits us all.



- Showcase your creative talents •

Join the **Goan Connection** (newsletter) team

The GOANJ Newsletter team is looking to expand its talent pool and YOU may fit the qualifications just perfectly! Check out if YOU :

	Are passionate about writing or editing articles?	YOU can come on board!
	Enjoy reaching out to others to solicit ideas for articles and story ideas?	We need YOU!
	Have an interest or a talent with computers or desktop publishing?	YOU are just the person we are looking for!!!
	Want to help take some pictures at GOANJ functions????	We will be happy to have YOU click away for us—be trigger happy!
	No prior experience necessary - just a desire to enhance the newsletter, expand the talent pool, reach out and solicit ideas for news worthy articles, have a fine eye for editing and page layouts.	YOU are exactly qualified!! YES

Please contact:
 Felix Menezes <fmenezes10@aol.com>,
 Dianne Nunes <dianneenunes@gmail.com> or
 Brenda Fernandes <bremsyl@hotmail.com>
 to come on board. We welcome anyone interested or those that have questions.

Come on ...

 Join Us

Caring Corner:

Mass Collection At the July Picnic

Christopher Nunes



Along with the various GOANJ sponsored charities in Goa, we most recently donated to St. Francis Xavier Academy (a school for the differentially abled), located in Old Goa. The pictures were displayed at our July picnic and in the summer newsletter so you saw for yourself how the ongoing renovations in April thru June 2017 provided updated flooring, walls and ceilings in the corridor, and updated bathrooms.

The Mass collection at our July 22 picnic targeted further enhancement to include cupboards, LED lighting and emergency lighting at St Xavier's. After the Mass three very generous donors came forward with additional funds to bring the total collection up to a whopping \$1,555. St. Xavier's Academy was selected as the recipient of GOANJ's funding for three reasons: the patron saint of Goa is St. Francis Xavier; our goal is to support education, and this school is spreading the living Gospel of our Catholic faith.

Early September, a check for \$1,300 was personally handed by Felix Menezes, President of our Association to Fr. Maverick Fernandes, Director of Caritas –Goa for the required purchase of these much needed items. The principal, Sister Monica, was thrilled to show Felix the improvements. The remaining \$255 will be used for charitable causes in Goa. Sincere and heartfelt thanks for your generosity and may God bless you.



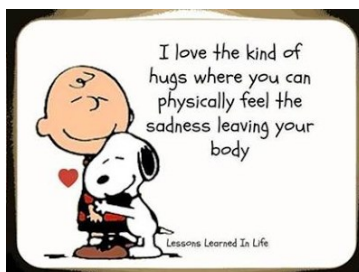
Dear Dianne,

I am in receipt of your mail and was happy to note its content. Thanks a lot for the prayers you have offered for me and request you to continue praying for me. We are indeed blessed to have such a lovely association to support us and help us offer better services to children with children with special needs. May God bless you all in abundance and assist you in all your endeavors. Praying that you be in the loving and protective care of God our loving Father.

Here in am enclosing the names of the children who would require assistance financially .Find attached sheet of list with names of the children and be free to help whatever number you are comfortable with.

Thanking you for all your prayers and support. A big God bless and love to all.

*Sr. Monica
"St. Xavier's Academy Old Goa"*



Upcoming Events

Christmas Ball
December 9, 2017



Lenten Retreat
March 2018

Members Picnic
July 2018

Christmas Ball
December 2018

PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain continues to provide powerful intercession on behalf of those who are suffering for a variety of reasons. Our faithful prayer members are a great source of comfort to those in need. If you wish to have this wonderful group intercede on your behalf, or if you wish to be a part of this prayerful team, please don't hesitate to contact us.