



# BENPOST



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A summer full of activities has ended. As fall sets in and the trees shed their leaves, winter will be upon us soon. There will be snow and another snowman will be born. We launched our term with the singing of golden oldies at the Seniors Health Centre on July 20, 2008 and followed up with the picnic at Simeon park and then the pilgrimage to the Martyrs' Shrine. All events were

very well attended. The next two events on the calendar for 2008 is the Yuletide Bash, on Saturday, November 29, at the Church hall of St. John the Divine in Scarborough which is open to the entire family, and the singing of Christmas carols at the Seniors Health Centre, North York, on Sunday, December 14. The "Benedictine Nite" dinner dance will be our first

event for the new year and will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2009.

As the year comes to an end, I take this opportunity to thank the members of the Council and their spouses for their hard work in organizing all the events. Last but not least, a big thank you to everyone who participated in our events.

*Lucian Alles*



## JOY AT SENIORS HEALTH CENTER



Something simple. Something elegant...

Bens' vocals, accompanied by Dakini Alles on the ivories and Shehan Doss on the strings, held everyone spellbound at the Seniors Health Centre at Sheppard Avenue on Sunday July 20th when they sang old favourites.

The seniors enjoyed the selection of

songs which reminded them of the years gone by. The songs were near and dear to them and hearing them filled their hearts with joy.

"We cannot thank you enough for the great joy and warmth you brought to our Center... you did more than entertain them; you brought back old memories", were the comments made by the staff.

A letter thanking the Association and inviting us for Christmas carols was received.

Bens' Alumni Association thank all those who participated in the singing.



## PICNIC – A BIG SUCCESS

A large number of Alumni, their family and friends came together on Sunday, July 27th for the Bens' Family Picnic at the popular Simeon Park in Gormley, Ontario. Besides great food and fellowship, the event provided activities for all ages, with full participation from everyone. The picnic started off with a soft-ball cricket match, East Vs West. Who won or who lost did hardly matter. The players had a great time. A string band comprising of Brian Felthman, Shane Joseph and Tony Mohamed provided the accompaniment for vintage songs. Baila maestro Ralph Basnayake, enthralled the crowd with his vocals. The sumptuous pot-luck spread had a variety of traditional Sri Lankan food as well as BBQ hot Italian sausages, desserts and an assortment of beverages. Bens' Alumni Association thank all those who got together for a day filled with fun and frolic. The picnic was a tremendous success. All had a good time. Thanks to the organizers, led by Social Secretary, Doyne Ramenaden and to everyone who brought food and refreshments. The Association is grateful to Priyantha Abeywardane for having made the park available to us.



## PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE

On Sunday, August 21st at 9:30 a.m. a bus with a full complement of Bens and their families and friends left the parking lot at Suvara Travels to the Martyrs' Shrine in Midland, Ontario. After attending the Noon Mass, everyone, including those who came in their own vehicles joined in a pot-luck lunch with plenty of food and drink at the park adjacent to the Shrine. The lunch was followed by games and competitions for all ages. The grand finale of the day was when everyone got together for a sing-a-long in true Benedictine style. The pictures say it all. We have once again banded together to put on another very successful pilgrimage this year. Thanks to our Social Secretary, Doyne Ramenaden, and his band of helpers and to all those who participated.



## SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN



The Yuletide Bash for the entire family is scheduled for Saturday, November 29, 2008 and will be held at St. John The Divine Church Hall, 885 Scarborough Golf Club Road, Scarborough, Ontario. Details to follow.

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Christmas carols will be sung at the Seniors Health Centre, 2 Buchan Court, North York on Sunday, December 14, 2008 from 4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

## "BENEDICTINE NITE"

The 19th annual "Benedictine Nite" is fixed for Saturday, May 9, 2009.

## OBITUARIES

Bens Alumni Association is deeply saddened to report the under-mentioned deaths since its last Newsletter:



**REGGIE PETER PERERA**—On July 20, 2008 in Colombo brother of George

**ANNAMMA EDWARD (nee THOMAS)**—On July 28, 2008 in Orleans, Ontario dearly beloved mother of Kingsley, George and Ernest

**NOEL STANLEY FERNANDO**—On August 17, 2008 brother of Subash, Sarath and the late, Homer

**NICHOLAS JAMES**—On September 13, 2008 father-in-law of Leslie Bastiampillai

Our deepest sympathies to the families of the dearly departed

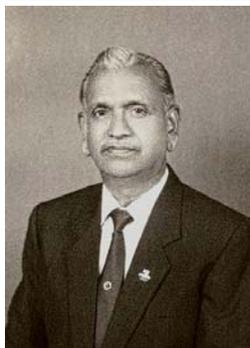


## A RUBY ANNIVERSARY



Bens Alumni Association congratulates Mike Alvis and wife, Yvonne on their 40 years of wedded bliss on September 14, 2008. Mike and Yvonne celebrated this milestone event with family and close friends at a private party.

## OLD BEN HONoured



Old Ben, C.T. Devaraja, former Council Member recently received a 15 year Ontario Volunteer Award from the Honourable Linda Jeffery, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Citizenship & Immigration, Ontario, for services rendered to the City of Scarborough. Devaraja, popularly known as "C.T." is the Membership Director of the Wishing Well Lions Club of Scarborough, and also works with numerous other volunteer organizations throughout Toronto.

C.T. celebrated his 75th birthday on July 15th with a private party among family and close friends. Bens Alumni Association congratulates C.T. on his outstanding achievements.

