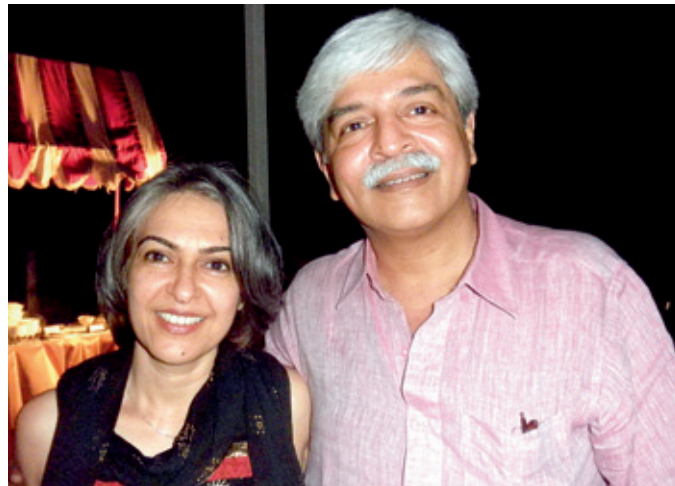


life is a party

A TOAST TO VITICULTURE



MINNIE MENON



● Usha and Vijay Nagasamy



● Sabu and Priya



● Mike Carter and Minnie

Executive committee members of associations and clubs are often known as 'power-brokers'. In all innocence, I have often wondered why? Are they autocratic? Not necessarily so. As far as our wine club Terroir is concerned, I have realised this is far from true. Last Thursday night at the very first event for Terroir in 2012 this fact was amplified.

The president and the founding members of Terroir are a democratic lot I must admit. They decided we must 'break free' from five star environs (remember the song?) and we had our first get together at the Bayleaf restaurant in Gopalapuram. Fine wines and Indian spices make melodious music. Bayleaf is renowned for its Indian cuisine and what better pairing than with the produce of Spain and Italy. That night a Bengali feast awaited us and of course seafood was a staple. At Terroir we earn our membership. It is not merely about guzzling whites and reds dear readers. Not only do we use our palates, more so our grey cells are kept

occupied. Quizzes are an essential part of an evening's program. However this new year there was more bang for the buck. The president, **Captain Arjun Nair**, is a hard taskmaster and this does not come just with the territory. I believe it is more his merchant navy orientation. This new year four members who are extremely knowledgeable on the subject picked up the microphone to share their experiences with the gathering.

The terrace of the building, where Bayleaf is housed, was a lovely spot to congregate with a cool breeze wafting through. While we sipped some choice offerings we listened indulgently to members waxing eloquent on their love affair with their favourite labels. They turned out to be great raconteurs and I do not want to be partisan by mentioning names. That night I recalled the prescription advised by the 'ancients' to drink a 'hemina' of wine. This measure suggests not a glass but bottles! At Terroir we prefer to savour the fine produce of viticulture instead.

This is a weekly column by the vivacious Minnie Menon. Drop her a line at minniemenon@yahoo.com



● Shaun and Anita



● Captain Arjun Nair



● Nirupama



● Sonika Jain



● Vijay and Rajie

Minnie moment

A PATRON OF THE ARTS

Sharon Apparao is an oracle on the subject of art and is constantly on the move. Her brainchild — Apparao Galleries showcases the most innovative canvases and murals. She has been singularly responsible for 'unleashing' the hidden talent of many an artist... and ensured their work gets new recognition and rewards.

