

Newsletter

**MACAU CULTURAL ASSOCIATION (CASA DE MACAU) OF WESTERN
CANADA**

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(Incorporated under the Society Act of B.C. on July 31, 1990)

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE OBSERVATION

The English language is very strange indeed
There is no egg in eggplant
No ham in hamburger
And neither pine nor apple in pineapple
English muffins did not originate in England
Neither was French fries from France
We often take English for granted
But if we examine the paradoxes we find that
Quicksand pulls you down slowly
Boxing rings are square
And a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig
If a vegetarian eats vegetables
What on earth does a humanitarian eat?
Why do people recite at a play
Yet play at a recital
Why do people park on driveways and
Drive on parkways ?
You have to marvel at the lunacy (?)
Of a language where a house can burn up
As it burns down
And in which you fill in a form
By filling it out
And a bell is only heard once it goes
English was invented by people, not computers
And it reflects the creativity of the human race
(Which, of course, isn't a race at all !)
That is why .
When the stars are out they are visible
When I wind up my watch, It starts
But when I wind up this observation, It ends.

(Author : Unknown)

JUNE MEETING

Over forty members attended the meeting on June 20, 1999. The main discussions centred on the highly successful 3rd Encontro; the cooking demonstrations which took place on July 6; the Canada Day BarBQ on July 1; our Association Dinner Dance on July 24; and the observance of Portugal's National Day and Macau City Day on June 10 and 24 respectively. Members were also brought up to date on the tragedy that has befallen Rita dos Santos recently and members and friends were asked to continue to pray for her. Her condition remains unchanged but she has been moved from the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) to a room at the Royal Columbia Hospital in New Westminster.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of our Association will be held on Sunday, August 15, 1999 at the Eaton Centre Community Room in Metrotown commencing at 2.00 p.m. At this meeting members of the Macau youth Group will be collecting non-perishable food items in connection with their "Christmas in July/August - Hunger knows no Season" campaign for distribution to the Food Bank. Members are reminded that our Association meetings normally take place on the third Sunday of every month at the Eaton Centre Community Centre location.

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS

Despite the threatening weather over sixty Association members and their children attended the Canada Day Celebrations on July 1 in Central Park in Burnaby. Games were organised for the children while the grown-ups took the occasion to socialise and to enjoy the BarBQ. For savouries Portuguese sardines, sausages, hamburger meat patties, chicken drumsticks, just to mention a few, were offered to those present. There were salads, Portuguese egg tarts, cookies, water melons, and a number of soft drinks to wash down every thing. The outing commenced shortly around ten in the morning and lasted until well after three in the afternoon when the weather started to change. We would like to thank Isabel Jorge Ma and all her helpers for their hard work in helping to organise and make the occasion a very successful one. We would like also to thank each and every one who supported the Association by their attendance. Thank you one and all. Finally we would like to take this occasion to offer our congratulations to Guilherme and Ivone da Silva and their son, Romão, who were all sworn in as Canadian citizens earlier in the morning and who made their way to Central Park in join us in celebrating their very first Canada Day as Canadian citizens.

ASSOCIATION DANCE

Members are reminded that our Association Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, July 24, 1999 at the Saigon Restaurant and Night Club, The list closes in the next few days - so do not wait any longer to organise your table for what promises to be a most enjoyable evening of food and entertainment.

ENCONTRO VHS CASSETTES

Our Association has received a complete set of ten VHS cassettes commemorating the 3rd Encontro with the main title "GENTE DE NOSSA TERRA". These cassettes were produced by Televisao de Macau (TDM) in the "PAL" format and will have to be converted therefore, at our own expense, into the "NTSC" format for use and viewing in North America. The ten cassettes are also sub-titled as follows:

- 01 Adeus de Macau (Lisbon)
- 02 Macau aqui tão perto (Hong Kong)
- 03 O Brasil deu certo (Brasil)
- 04 FilhoMac - O Sonho Americano (U.S.A.)
- 05 O salto para a Australia (Australia)
- 06 Ao Meio de Mundo (Canada)
- 07 Sentir Macau
- 08 Saudades de pedra
- 09 Minha pequena Pátria
- 10 Re-encontro em Macau (Highlights of 3rd Encontro)

CD "ENCONTRO DE MACAU" (Elsa da Rosa-Denton)

We have also received an offer from Music World of Oakland, California for our members to acquire a copy of the newly released CD entitled "Encontro em Macau" by Elsa da Rosa-Denton. The CD includes several catchy tunes such as "My Macau"; "Viva O Macaense" and "Obrigado Portugal". The cost of the CD is US\$19.95 plus US\$3.95 for postage and handling. Each CD order will include a video of excerpts of the 3rd Encontro as a free offer. HOWEVER, the minimum order is for 20 CDs. Those of our members interested in acquiring the CD are requested to contact Luiz Souza at 435-1819. The list will be closed at the end of July and an order will be placed only if there are at least orders for 20 CDs.

MACAU YOUTH GROUP

After a hiatus of several months concentrating on their scholastic responsibilities, members of the Macau Youth Group are back once again attempting to help the Food Bank with their "Christmas in July/August

Campaign - Hunger knows no season . All Association members and friends are being asked to bring along a non-perishable food item to our Association Meeting on August 15, 1999 when members of the Macau Youth Group will be on hand to collect them for eventual distribution to the Food Bank.

SOCIAL TIDBITS

A large number of family, relatives and friends gathered together on July 2, 1999 to celebrate Barney Abbas' s 80th Birthday at Kirin Restaurant in Richmond. Among those attending were individuals from the United States of America, England, Australia and Hong Kong. Every one offered their heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Barney and the rest of the Abbas family on this auspicious occasion. At this time we would like, on behalf of all members of the Association, to belatedly wish Barney, once again, all the very best.

In the meantime Eddie and Gertie dos Remedios became grand parents for the fourth time recently and congratulations are also in order.

VISIT TO THE OKANAKAN

Several Association members, including the Editor, travelled by car on a short six-day trip recently and visited Kelowna, Vernon, Penticton, and Osoyoos in the Okanagan Valley. In Vernon the party spent a good part of the day with Carlinho Roza Pereira and this might be described as the highlight of the trip. We travelled to the Okanagan by the Coquihalla Highway and returned via Keremeos, Princeton, and Manning Park. Carl sends his regards and best wishes to all his many friends in Vancouver.

B.C. LAWN BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP

In the recent BC lawn bowls championship held on July 9-11 in Victoria on Vancouver Island, Thomas (Tommy) Rozario of Richmond won the BC singles title and thus gained a berth to represent BC in the upcoming Canadian Lawn Bowls Championship games to be held in Toronto next month. Tommy won the BC singles title almost exactly a year to the day after the untimely death of his mother, Naty on July 9, 1998. She was also a most gifted lawn bowler in her own right. Naty, one will recall, was on the winning team in the BC fours championships held in 1995. It was as if Naty wanted Tommy to join the BC lawn bowls competition in Victoria. It is clearly a case of "like mother - like son" !!)

We would like to congratulate Tommy on his great achievement made all the more significant because his father, Gus was on hand in Victoria to witness Tommy' s victory.

SAFETY NOTE - CELL PHONES

Cell phones should NOT be used around gas pumps at gas stations. There was a recent incident when a driver suffered severe burns and his car severely damaged when gasoline vapours ignited an explosion whilst he was talking on his mobile telephone standing close to the attendant who was pumping the gas. The threat mobile phones pose to gas stations and their users is primarily the result of their ability to produce sparks that can be generated by the high-powered battery inside the phone.

SUMMERTIME DANCE SERIES

In Vancouver this summer, dancers of all ages and abilities can enjoy Ballroom, Swing, and Latin dancing to live music every Friday night from July 2 to September 3 on the outdoor plaza at Robson Square Conference Centre. Free beginner lessons from 8.00-8.30 p.m. and dancing is open to all from 8.30-midnight. There will be elegant big-band ballroom and hot latin music, plus dance demonstrations by B.C' s top dance couples at 9.00 and 10.00 p.m. This series has been sponsored by the B.C. Amateur Dancesport Association. Entry is by donation. Please ring 738-6068 for more information.

On the other hand, Tuesday nights from July 13 - August 31 at 8.00-10.15 p.m. will feature Square Dancing at the same location. Admission is also by donation (\$2). Please ring 929-9191 for more information.

NEWS FROM MACAU (Source: Various)

Historic Handover

Preparations are well under way for one of the most important events in the history of Macau. The period surrounding the December 19, 1999 Handover will be one of non-stop celebrations and entertainment. Visitors and residents will join in the festivities whilst millions of people the world over will witness events

over three satellite networks.

The Macau Handover comes just before Christmas and the new Millennium and this promises therefore to be two weeks or more of continuous celebrations. The two days following the Handover on Sunday, December 19, 1999 have been declared public holidays and Christmas falls on the following weekend. The Handover Office has block-booked at least six of Macau's leading hotels for official guests and for many of the 2,000 or more media representatives expected. Huge video screens will be erected in strategic locations to broadcast the events taking place including one near the Ruins of St. Paul's and another in Taipa near the Macau Jockey Club. The following paragraphs briefly outline the provisional program for the Handover Ceremonies.

On December 19, 1999 the Governor of Macau, General Rocha Vieira and his wife will vacate their official residence, Santa Sancha palace, for the last time. They will bid farewell to their staff, senior government officials and civic leaders.

In the late afternoon the Governor will attend the lowering of the Portuguese flag outside the Palacio do Governador, which has been his office and the venue for meetings of Macau's Executive Council and Legislative Assembly. In the evening a Portuguese and Macanese outdoor festival will be held near the Macau Cultural Centre, where most of the official ceremonies will take place.

A cocktail party will be held for 2,500 official guests followed by dinner in a temporary restaurant adjacent to the Macau Museum of Art. Following the dinner the official party will move across to a dramatic Chinese lantern structure which will be located in the gardens behind the Macau Cultural Centre.

At midnight the flag of Portugal will be lowered for the last time and the flag of the People's Republic of China will officially fly over Macau for the first time in more than 450 years.

On the morning of December 20, 1999 the swearing-in of officials of the first Macau Special Administrative Region will take place in the newly renovated Forum.

MACAU COMING EVENTS

Treasures of Portugal

More than 600 valuable works of art from Portugal are on show in the Macau Museum of Art (part of the Macau Cultural Centre) from July 1 - August 15, 1999. The exhibition features pieces from private collections and such sources as the Bishoprics of Oporto and Braga; the Soares dos Reis Museum; the Amarante Museum; the Foundation Cupertino de Miranda and the Portuguese

Photography Centre.

7th International Youth Dance Festival

This is a colourful event held every two years and this year it will take place on July 14-20, 1999 and groups from as far afield as Turkey and Brazil will be participating.

Summer Jazz Festival

This takes place at the Macau Cultural Centre on July 30-31 and on August 6-7, 1999. This festival will introduce the New Sounds of Huqin, music with jazz, pop, funk and classical influences, to Macau audiences.

Volleyball - World Women's Grand Prix

Teams from Brazil, China, Italy and Holland compete in the Macau leg of the World Women's Grand Prix Volleyball competition on August 13 -15, 1999.

In addition to the above there are a full program of events being held at the Macau Cultural Centre throughout the coming months.

MACAU (AND HONG KONG) TRAVEL GUIDE

A new travel guide on Hong Kong and Macau was launched recently. This, the first book in the Accommodating Asia series of travel guides captures raves, recommendations and travellers' alerts on Hong Kong and Macau. Featuring recommended sites and things to do within the two cities and the guide includes comments which echo the interest of recent visitors in the cultural and natural aspects of both cities.

There are comprehensive directories of museums, temples, galleries, sports facilities and hotels with quotes

from recent visitors who have been invited to provide comments.

It provides a lot of information on places to visit, how to get there, restaurants and accommodations, ferry and bus schedules that will appeal to local residents as well.

☐ Accommodating Asial sells for about HK\$145.

GOSTOS E SABORES

As we have a relatively short summer in Canada it might be appropriate at this time of the year to provide members with a few typical Canadian BarBQ recipes.

Beef Ribs with BarBQ Sauce

6 lbs Prime Ribs or Short Ribs

3 cups BarBQ Sauce

1/3 cup Red Onions, finely chopped

1/3 cup Yellow Onions, finely chopped

1/3 cup Green onions, finely chopped

3 cloves Garlic, minced

1/4 cup Chives

Method: Mix BarBQ Sauce with all the other ingredients; Heat mixture in a saucepan for about ten minutes at a simmer; let sauce cool down and then marinate ribs for at least an hour. Grill the ribs, brushing ribs whilst grilling until fully cooked.

Beef Kebabs with Spicy BarBQ Sauce

4 to 5 lbs Sirloin Steak cut into bite sized cubes

3 cups BarBQ Sauce

1/2 cup Fresh lime juice

1/2 cup Cilantro, chopped or minced

1/8 cup lime rind, grated

1/8 cup Jalapeno peppers, chopped or minced

Method: Heat BarBQ Sauce together with all ingredients except Jalapeno peppers in sauce pan and simmer for about two minutes. Add Jalapeno peppers and remove sauce from heat.

Brush sauce on beef kebabs whilst grilling, skewering meat alternatively with green peppers, red peppers, onions or any desired choice of vegetables.

Spicy Chicken Drumettes

6 lbs (1350 gr) chicken drumettes

3 cloves Garlic, minced

2 tsp (10ml) Red Pepper flakes

1 Tbsp (14 ml) Fresh Ginger, minced

1 cup (225 ml) Light soy sauce

1/2 cup (110ml) honey

1 Tbsp (14 ml) hot chile oil

1 tsp vegetable oil

Method: Combine all ingredients except chicken and vegetable oil in a large dish. Whisk to incorporate.

Add chicken drumettes. Cover and marinate for a few hours in the refrigerator.

Pre-heat oven to 375o F or 190o C. Brush broiler pan with vegetable oil and arrange chicken drumettes on pan. Bake for about 45 minutes or until chicken drumettes are tender and cooked through. Every 10-15 minutes turn and brush with the marinade. (Yields 8 - 10 servings)

Sopa Lacassá (Shrimp and Rice Vermicelli Soup)

(Source: MGTO)

Ingredients:

300 grams shelled shrimps

30 g shrimp paste

50 ml olive oil

200 g rice vermicelli

200 g chopped onions
2 bay leaves
50 ml Chinese white wine
40 g spring onions
3 litres fish stock
Salt and pepper to taste.

Method:

1. Soak vermicelli in cold water until soft. Then drain the vermicelli.
2. Heat olive oil gently and add chopped onions and bay leaves, Chinese white wine, shrimp paste and stir-fry for about five minutes.
3. Add the fish stock and shrimps and boil for about ten minutes
4. Put the vermicelli into the pot and pour the soup over it. Sprinkle chopped spring onions on top.
5. Serves 8-10 persons

CATHOLIC DICTIONARY

Incense: Holy Smoke !

Jonah: The original "JAWS" story

Kyrie Eleison: The only other Greek word that most Catholics recognise besides gyros and baklava.

Magi: The most famous trio to attend a baby shower.

Pew: A medieval torture devise still found in Catholic churches.

Procession: The ceremonial ceremony at the beginning of Mass - led by altar servers, the celebrant, and late parishioners scrambling for the remaining seats.

Recessional: The ceremonial ceremony at the conclusion of Mass - led by parishioners trying to beat the crowd to the parking lot.

Relics: People who have been going to Mass for so long they actually know when to sit, kneel and stand.

Until next month

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