

Newsletter
MACAU CULTURAL ASSOCIATION
(CASA DE MACAU)
OF WESTERN CANADA
Box 48390, Bentall Centre 595 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C. CANADA V7X 1A2
(Incorporated under the Society Act of B.C. on July 31, 1990)

Editor: Mr. Luiz M. Souza
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EDITORIAL

The Orient Foundation's desire to fund and establish cultural centres for the Macanese communities around the world is commendable, well known and well documented. Recently the Foundation has stated that if the three Casas in California and two here in Vancouver fail to reach a mutual agreement amongst themselves on the question of a "sedel" social by the end of this year, the Foundation will not only press ahead and purchase a property in each region but will also assume direct control and management of the "sedel" premises as well. The Foundation has the prerogative and every right, if it so pleases, to assume direct responsibility and control in the management of all the properties it owns. It is unfortunate that the Foundation cannot be persuaded to exercise their tremendous power and influence to help bring about some semblance of peace and unity amongst members of the various Macanese communities abroad rather than attempting to acquire Foundation properties as a long term investment to be utilised as cultural centres to shared by a fractured and fragmented community. Our Association's founding members were invited and asked by the Foundation in 1989 to establish an association to provide the opportunity for members of our Portuguese and Macanese communities with links to Macau and the Orient to get together. However, as long as the Foundation continues to offer support and encouragement to other diverse Macanese groups which will surface from time to time there is no chance whatsoever of achieving that unity which continues to elude the Macanese communities in Vancouver and for that matter, California and perhaps even elsewhere around the world. This is indeed most regrettable and a great pity (All information, opinions and statements appearing in this Editorial are those of the Editor himself; and are in no way to be construed as being the position of and/or endorsement by the Macau Cultural Association.)

AUGUST MEETING

Forty six members attended our meeting on August 15, 1999 and we welcomed one guest in the person of Ms Tessie Rodrigues here on a short holiday from Hong Kong. Discussions centred on a post-mortem on the July 24 Dinner Dance; announcement and details of the upcoming cooking demonstration on September 5; an announcement that November 20, 1999 has been picked to celebrate our Association's Tenth Anniversary with a Dinner Dance along with a motion passed to authorise and permit the organisers to spend up to an estimated budget worked out by the Council; the Scholarship Award Grant for 1999-2000 details of which will be announced in September; a brief report on a very successful day at the Race Track on July 31, 1999; and another announcement that the Association was organising a singing group composed of children and grandchildren of members drawn from the Macau Youth Group. In the course of the meeting members present contributed non-perishable items to be donated to the Food Bank by members of the Macau Youth Group.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, October 17, 1999 at the Eaton Centre Community Room commencing at 2.00 p.m. As parking facilities in Metrotown are being stretched to its limits, members are advised to come a little earlier in order to find a parking stall for their cars.

ANOTHER DAY AT RACE TRACK

Our second visit to the Race Track was advanced to the evening of Friday, August 20, 1999 to avoid the crowds expected at the opening of the Pacific National Exhibition on Saturday, August 21, 1999. Because

of the change in date a few individuals had to drop out because of previous commitments but another thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent by about fourteen members, a number of whom, including out-of-town visitor, Ms Tessie Rodrigues, adjourned for a late snack at the Sui Hang Village Restaurant in downtown Vancouver after the races were over.

SOCIAL GATHERING

On Sunday, September 5, 1999 over thirty members and friends attended the cooking demonstration by Betty Baptista and Natércia da Rosa producing Chicken Pie (Tempara de Pastel de Galinha (Frango)) and [Bajil (Coconut Rice Pudding) respectively at Centre Point in Richmond. Besides the two dishes mentioned [Sopa] was provided by Sérgio Pina, [Minchi de Vacal] by Luiz Souza and peanuts (Naam Yee) and Cookies by Isabel Jorge Ma and António Amante respectively. After the demonstrations everyone then tucked in to a most enjoyable meal subsidised on this occasion by the Association. A group of members also played an enjoyable game of [dado farinal] with those specialised dices supplied by Delcie Souza

The next social gathering will take place at the same location on Sunday, October 3, 1999 when cooking [Baked Pork Chop Rice] and [Portuguese Custard] will be demonstrated by Linda Achiam and Helen Xavier respectively. Attendance will be limited to around thirty persons and those attending will be charged a nominal fee. Additional special announcements about this social gathering will be made at our regular meeting on September 19, 1999.

ASSOCIATION'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Macau Cultural Association will celebrate its Tenth Anniversary in November this year with a gala dinner dance at the Executive Inn Hotel, 7211 Westminster Highway in Richmond. A deluxe buffet will be served along with a glass of sparkling wine or non-alcoholic fruit punch for teetotalers. Music will be provided by a live eight-piece band which includes a female vocalist.

Full details are provided in the circular and members interested in attending the event are requested to fill in the proforma (also attached) and return it, duly completed, along with the payment required as soon as possible and in any case, to reach the Association by October 24, 1999. Attendance will be limited to 220 persons. SORRY- NO LATE COMERS. [See Circular Information Here](#)

ASSOCIATION 1999/2000 SCHOLARSHIP

The guidelines for the Scholarship Award for 1999/2000 have been announced in the form of a circular. The closing date for applications will be October 17, 1999 and all applications received by that date will then be scrutinised by the executive Council to ensure that applicants conform and meet the guidelines established for the current year. Members who have received grants in the past two years will not be eligible and grants to new applicants will take precedence over repeat applicants unless the latter can prove their need for special consideration for renewed funding. It is anticipated that the names of successful applicants will be announced at our Association meeting on November 21, 1999 and the scholarship awards will be handed out shortly thereafter. Application forms are available on request from any Council member.

MCA SINGERS

[The MCA Singers - The Next Generation] held its first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 15, 1999 with help and assistance from Fernando and Maria Meira of [Tuna Macaenses] fame and Eugenio Cordeiro and with moral support coming from the likes of Isabel Jorge Ma, Rebecca Amante and Natércia da Rosa. We are all looking forward to seeing this group of talented young people develop and blossom into a singing group the Association and all its members may well be proud of.

THE INTERNET (Continued)

What is a Virus ?

A computer virus is, in essence, a program, usually written with malicious intent, that hides inside another program or in a complex document (Word documents, Excel spreadsheets, or hyper-text documents). A virus can spread quickly when you launch an infected application or when you start up your computer from a disk that has infected files.

Computer viruses try to spread copies of themselves to other computer systems. They also are meant to frustrate the computer user by the inclusion of insulting comments; irritating error messages; and erasing all

files

Viruses tend to make systems unstable because they utilise available resources and interfere generally with the functioning of the system. Viruses compromise both the stability and security of one's computer system. Internet use increases the chance of an unprotected computer system being adversely affected by the virus

Generally speaking, a small investment of time and money to install and keep a virus scanning program up-to-date far outweighs the frustration and irritation of losing sometimes vital and important information, and the time and money involved in the recovery of your computer system from the damage inflicted by an active virus. How do I avoid viruses ?

- Acquire a Virus Scanner (a program that scans applications, attachments, disks, etc. for viruses and which will usually fix them once identified). Two mainstream virus protection packages are McAfee and Norton Anti-Virus.

- Make sure your Virus Scanner automatically scans when you start up your computer and stays running in the background whilst your PC is on.

- Virus scanner should have the ability not only to detect but to delete or fix the damaged file.

- Most importantly, the virus scanner program must make a " Disaster Recovery Diskette" . Because some viruses will not allow you to start up your computer. · Backup your hard drive.

TO BE CONTINUED - What is e-mail ?

□ GREEN CARD□ LOTTERY FOR THE UNITED STATES - YEAR 2001

Diversity Visa Lottery 2001 (DV 2001), also known as the " Green Card Lottery" was designed to provide a way for individuals who wish to immigrate to the United States but are not otherwise eligible to receive a visa. A total of 55,000 visas will be allotted to winners of the DV2001.

It is that time of the year to apply for the Green Card Lottery for the year 2001. Like in the past this announcement has been sent to Macau and other parts of the world so that Macaenses and others may have a chance to participate and perhaps receive a visa and immigrate to the United States of America. A great number of Macaenses have been successful and are now residing in the United States.

Registration for DV2001 will be accepted from October 4, 1999 to November 3, 1999. Only one entry per person and if there are more than one entry submitted the individual will be automatically disqualified. Successful applicants and members of their family MUST apply for their visas at the American Consulate between October 1, 2000 and September 30, 2001. Details of application procedures, as provided by Humberto Barros, are available on request from any Council member.

MACAU HANDOVER NEWS

(Source: S.C.M.P.)

In Macau three women are tipped to play a key role in Macau's post-handover political landscape. Current Economic Services Director Florinda Rosa Silva Chan was appointed recently as Secretary-designate for Administration and Justice in future Chief Executive Ho Hau-wah's cabinet and she will rank first amongst Mr. Ho's five policy secretaries

The other two are key figures in the Beijing-appointed Preparatory Committee for Macau: industrialist Tina Ho and all-round entrepreneur and legislator Susana Chou. The latter, a professional physicist and French honorary consul, is expected to chair Macau's post-handover legislature whilst Mrs. Tina Ho (no relation to the future chief executive) is slated to join Mr. Ho's Executive Council

All three women are well known in Macau as strong-willed political pragmatists.

OBITUARY

Marie Alves Vieira Ribeiro, widow of the late Francisco Vicente Vieira Ribeiro (" Baby Boy" OR " Chicó"), passed away peacefully at the age of 88 on Saturday, September 11, 1999 at her residence in Halifax Nova Scotia. She is survived by her three sons, Father Alvaro Ribeiro, S.J. in Washington, DC; Deni and his wife, Margo and their two children, Ileana and Jason in London, England and Manuel and his wife, Elaine and their four children, Leslie, Lauren, Nigel and Owen in Fall River, Nova Scotia. We offer our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to the family, next-of-kin and other relatives. Marie will be sadly missed by all who came to know her during her lifetime.

CANADIAN LAWN BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP

Our heartiest congratulations goes to British Columbia's Tommy Rozario who downed Keith Roney of Saskatchewan 25-19 to win the men's single lawn bowls title (gold) at the Canadian lawn bowling championships held in Toronto on Saturday, August 21, 1999. Tommy is the son of Gus Rozario and the late Naty Rozario. During her lifetime, Naty, many members will recall, was a formidable bowler in her own right. Congratulations all round !

NEWS FROM PORTUGAL

(Source: Journal of Portugal)

Coimbra - Museum City ?

The city of Coimbra is currently developing a number of projects with a view to rehabilitating its historical heritage aimed at supporting Coimbra's candidacy as a museum city. Restoration works include the renovation of the old Cathedral (Sé Velha); focus on the Porta Espiciosa (a stone Renaissance portal constructed around 1530 by João de Ruão); and the cathedral's roofs, cloisters and gardens. Another major project is the restoration of the Inquisition Yard (the Patio da Inquisição), which will serve as the future site of a new Arts Centre.

Microsoft stake in TV Cabo Portugal International corporation Microsoft has acquired a 2.5% stake in TV Cabo Portugal and this acquisition is part of a strategic partnership agreement signed by the global computer company and the Portuguese telecommunications operator to co-operate in the development of interactive video and data services. TV Cabo will become a channel through which Microsoft can offer its services and strengthen its position in the Portuguese market. Currently TV Cabo serves about 1.6 million households as the number of subscriptions has doubled in the last three years.

New Congress Centre The International Fair of Lisbon is moving to a new location in the former EXPO 98 area and there are already plans for a new congress centre to be constructed in its place. A partnership between the organisation which manages the International Fair of Lisbon, the Industrial Association of Portugal and the City of Lisbon itself, has decided to turn the vacated area into a major new congress centre which is expected to attract many international events to Lisbon, building on the advantages the city has in terms of economic and cultural activity, logistics and climate

Portuguese Wines

The US magazine Wine Spectator recently selected the 12 best wines of the 20th Century, One port wine - Quinta do Noval Vintage Porto Nacional 1931 - was ranked third after two French wines. The port was produced in one of the most famous Douro vineyards. Quinta do Noval has been a Port wine producer for a very long time, with the first records of its activity dating back to 1715. It currently produces about 235 thousand litres of wine each year, including some of the best Port wines in Portugal.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PORTUGAL/MACAU AND RELATIONS BETWEEN EUROPE and CHINA - DAXIYANGGUO

An International Conference on Portugal, Macau and the Relations between Europe/China - Daxiyangguo is being organised by the Mission of Macau in Lisbon/Macau Scientific and Cultural Centre, in collaboration with the National Commission for the Commemorations of the Portuguese Discoveries, the Macau Foundation, and the Orient Foundation, and with the support of the Camões Institute/Portuguese Institute of Orient. It will be held in Lisbon on October 21-14, 1999 in the Auditorium of the Torre do Tombo (National Archives). The aim of the Conference is to strengthen the cultural and historical relations between Portugal and the People's Republic of China and to increase world knowledge of the important role played by Portugal on the Asian continent over the centuries

For more information about attending the Conference please direct your enquiries to the Comissão Nacional para a Comemorações dos Descobrimentos Portugueses, Casa de Bicos, Rua dos Bacalhoiros, 1149-036 Lisboa

Tel: (01) 881-0900 * Fax (01) 887-3380 or e-mail: congressos@cnadp.pt

HERE IS A SPECIAL ARTICLE

Sometimes Miracles Do Happen - [The Story of Maggie DaCosta](#)

Submitted for publication by Tony DaCosta

GOSTOS E SABORES

Almond Cake

Ingredients

- 1 ¾ cups (425ml) sifted all purpose flour
- 2 tsp (10 ml) baking powder
- ½ tsp (2.5 ml) salt
- ½ cup (125 ml) butter or margarine
- 1 ¼ cups (310 ml) sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup (250 ml) milk
- 1 cup (250 ml) ground blanched almonds

Directions

1. Grease and flour bottom of 9 or 10 inch (230x25 cm) tube pan OR 9X5X3 inch loaf pan.
2. Sift flour with baking powder and salt.
3. Cream butter or margarine in large mixing bowl
4. Gradually add sugar.
5. Cream at high speed until light and fluffy
6. At medium speed blend in eggs, one at a time, beating well after each
7. At low speed add sifted dry ingredients alternately with milk, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Stir in almonds.
8. Pour batter into pan. Bake at 350o C (170o F) for 45-55 minutes until cake springs back when touched.
9. Cool in pan for about 15 minutes and turn out and cool completely on wire rack. 10. Sprinkle with sifted icing sugar.
11. Yields 9- or 10-inch tube cake or one 9-inch loaf.

Apple Pudding

Ingredients

- 1 oz (25gm) butter
- 2 lbs (1 kilo) cooking apples, peeled, cored and sliced
- 2 oz (50gm) caster sugar
- 2 tablespoon water squeeze or two of lemon juice
- ¼ level teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 oz (50gm) butter
- 2 oz (50gm) cornflakes
- 2 oz (50gm) soft brown sugar
- ¼ pint (125ml) double cream

Directions

1. Place the first seven ingredients mentioned above in a saucepan and cook gently until soft. Sieve to make a puree.
2. Melt butter, remove pan from heat and stir in cornflakes and sugar.
3. Place half the apple puree in the bottom of a glass dish, cover with half the cornflake mixture and then spread over the lightly whipped cream.
4. Spread the remaining apple puree over the cream, and finally the remaining cornflake mixture.
5. Chill thoroughly before serving. Serves four.

Until next month

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