

**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)

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**CHRISTMAS TRIVIA** (answers on page 4)

On which instrument was the carol " Silent Night" first played ?

(a) Jewish harp (b) Drums (c) Guitar (d) Penny Whistle

When were electric Christmas tree lights first used ?

(a) 1944 (b) 1895 (c) 1976

Medieval English Christmas pantomimes did not include which character ?

(a) St. Nicholas (b) The Bold Slasher (c) Father Christmas (d) The Turkish Knight

What was the name of Scrooge's deceased business partner in Charles Dickens' a Christmas Carol ?

(a) Bob Cratchit (b) Jerry Corneliuz(c) Bill Sikes (d) Jacob Marley

Who distributes Xmas gifts in Syria ?

(a) the Three Kings (b) Kurdish rebels (c) Wise Men's Camel (d) The Ayatollah

One notable medieval English Christmas celebration featured:

(a) War with the French (b) a 100kg pie (c) Snowball fight with the Germans (d) a swimming race across the English Channel

In Sweden, a common Christmas decoration is the Julbukk, a small figurine of a goat. It is usually made of what material ?

(a) Vodka (b) Uranium 235 (c) Straw (d) Birch branches from the sauna

What is the traditional Christmas meal in Armenia?

(a) Roast turkey and stuffing (b) Doner kebab (c) Fried fish, lettuce and spinach (d) Baked beans on toast.

The day after Christmas, December 26, is known as Boxing Day. It is also the holy day of what saint ?

(a) St. Timothy (b) St. Brigit (c) St. Nicholas (d) St. Stephen

In Greek legend, malicious creatures called Kallikantzaroi sometimes play troublesome pranks at Christmas time. How should you get rid of them ?

(a) Placate them with gifts of rice pudding. (b) Burn salt or an old shoe (c) Sing hymns in a loud voice (d) Throw sandals at them

A favourite Christmas story is Dylan Thomas' A Child's Christmas in

(a) Prison (b) Boarding School (c) Wales (d) China

**NOVEMBER MEETING**

Eighty-one members attended the General Meeting on Sunday, November 21, 1999. Discussions at this meeting centred on the cooking demonstrations to be held on December 5, 1999 at the Recreation Room in Richmond; the planned presentation of the scholarship grants to the successful candidates on December 12, 1999; a post-mortem on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance. Despite the fact that most everyone would naturally be in favour of the acquisition of a "sede social", there was a lively discussion on the proposed Macau Cultural Centre which ended with an unnecessary vote being taken.

### **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

January 16, 2000: At this meeting members will get to know who will be running in the Elections which are scheduled to take place on February 20, 2000. Members will have been informed by December 12, 1999 the Nomination and Elections Timetable and Procedures for the Elections. Members will be informed who is qualified to run in the elections and who will be allowed to vote on Election Day. Details will be made available to all interested members for their information.

### February 20, 2000

After the normal business has been dealt with, the present Council members will stand down and the Elections will take place under the supervision of the Nomination and Election Committee.

### **MACAU CULTURAL CENTRE**

Council Members of our Association met with **Ms Gabriela César** on Saturday, December 4, 1999 together with their counterparts of Casa de Macau Club and discussed at length the possibility of both Casas reaching an agreement to share a proposed Macau Cultural Centre. After a day long meeting **Ms Gabriela César** announced that she would shift through all the information gathered throughout the day-long meetings and discussions, and then come back to the two Casas with some sort of a financial funding offer before the end of December 1999. She re-assured our Association that we would retain our own unique identity and also that our current assets will remain ours to keep. We are looking forward to hearing from **Ms Gabriela César** on the question of a "sede social" for Vancouver which we have been dreaming about ever since our Association came into existence over ten years. Before she left we presented **Ms Gabriela César** with a small souvenir in honour of her visit to Vancouver

**We really prefer to see the Macau Cultural Centre permit each of the two Casas to operate independently whilst sharing a large multi-purpose space for special large gatherings numbering 200-250 persons and a common entrance to the Centre. Each individual casa would then have the choice of establishing whatever they wished by way of lounges, offices, and other facilities.**

### **OBITUARY**

It is with deep regret that we have to report the recent death in Portugal of the father of the Governor of Macau, General Vasco Rocha Vieira and also of Mrs. Monjardino, the wife of Senhor Carlos Monjardino, Chairman of the Board,

Fundação Oriente. On behalf of all members of the Macau Cultural Association we offer to the next-of-kin and other relatives our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy. May they rest in peace.

### **TENTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE**

We celebrated our Tenth Anniversary with a Dinner Dance at the Executive Inn Hotel located in Richmond on November 20, 1999.

We were honoured by the presence of official guests in the person of **Senhor Pedro de Sampaio**, Consul of Portugal, his charming wife, **Maria José** and **Mrs. Hirondina Ghouri**, Chancellor at the Portuguese Consulate together with her husband, **Abdul**. Other special guests included **Mr. and Mrs Joe Sikora, and Ms Susan Soares,**

Letters of congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of our Tenth Anniversary were received from His Excellency the Governor of Macau, **General Vasco Rocha Vieira**, Secretário-Adjunto para a Administração, Educação, e Juventude, **Exmo Senhor Jorge Rangel**, the Portuguese Ambassador in Ottawa, **His Excellency José Manuel Duarte de Jesus**, **Exmo Senhor Carlos Monjardino** and **Exmo Senhor Mario Brandão**, both from Fundação Oriente and **Commendador Arnaldo de Oliveira Sales**, President of Club Lusitano in Hong Kong.

Music was provided by ¶ Route 66 ¶ a popular dance band that played melodies to suit all tastes. There were numerous door prizes which were given away during the band intervals.

Right after dinner and before ¶ Route 66 ¶ came on we were all treated to the ¶ double¶ premiere performance of our Association tuna band ¶ **Os Macaenses**¶ and our very young singing group ¶ **Os Pequenos Cantores**¶ The music played by our tuna band was very well received and couples were soon on the floor dancing away. Both the tuna band and the young singers were an instant hit and success.

Our tuna band members include **Fernando and Maria Meira, Eugénio Cordeiro, Tony Castilho, Fernando Vieira** and our non-member drummer, **Ron Pun**. Our young singers go by the names of **Juliano, Fabiano, Nelson, Ernesto, Nuno, Eduardo, Sheridan, Jovina, Candace and Marília.**

### **VISIT OF ENG. JOSÉ LELLO, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PORTUGUESE COMMUNITIES.**

On November 27, 1999 members of the Portuguese communities in Vancouver attended a dinner in honour of **Exmo. Senhor Eng. José Lello**, the Portuguese Secretary of State for the Portuguese Communities. **Eng. Lello** was here on an official visit to Vancouver.

In his dinner address **Eng. Lello** made a special reference to the Macanese community represented at the dinner by all five Council members of our Association and several members of the Casa de Macau Club. **Eng, Lello** also stated in his speech that he will be going to Macau to attend the Hand-over Ceremonies and re-affirmed the Portuguese Government's continued interest in the Macanese communities the world over. This is most re-assuring to members

of the Macanese communities here in Vancouver. A small souvenir was presented to **Eng. Lello** by the executives of our Association in honour of his visit. The highlight of the evening was, without any doubt, the performance given by our young singing group **Os Pequenos Cantores** which went down extremely well and by the Macau Cultural Association's own tuna band **Os Macaenses** which had everyone clapping and tapping their feet to the lilting strains of Portuguese, Macanese and Patuá music. It was a most enjoyable evening.

We wish to thank **Senhor Armindo Santos**, President of the Portuguese Canadian Seniors' Foundation and other members of that Foundation for all the arrangements for a most successful evening.

### **DECEMBER 19, 1999**

On December 19, 1999 Portugal will hand over the administration of Macau back to the Chinese Government. We wish to take this opportunity to send our warm greetings to the "filhos de terra" in Macau and to convey our very best wishes to them. We all realise that changes will come about but we are optimistic that any such changes will be positive and with minimal disruption to the way of life in Macau. We know that the people of Macau will work together for the common good and prosperity of the City of the Name of God. **Viva Macau !**

### **NOMINATION AND ELECTION TIMETABLE AND PROCEDURES**

At the Council Meeting held on December 8, 1999, Council members approved the Nomination and Election Timetable and Procedures to be adopted at the forthcoming meetings and at the elections on February 20, 1999. A copy of that document and Nomination Forms are available to members on request. Please note however that all Nomination forms, duly completed, must reach the Chairman of the Nomination and Election Committee on or before January 9, 2000. The Association will not be responsible for any nomination forms failing to reach the deadline of January 9, 2000.

### **GOSTOS E SABORES**

#### **Bolo Menino**

In last month's newsletter we provided the recipe for Bolo Menino and a number of readers have contacted me about "olive nut" quoted in the recipe. There has been an error in the translation of the word "pinhão" which really should be "olive kernel" and not "olive nut". This was a recipe which was obtained from Macau.

#### **Pão de Casa**

##### **Ingredients**

1 1/3 lbs (1 catty) flour  
1 dozen eggs

2 bottles of fresh milk, boiled and cooled down  
1 tablespoon sugar  
5 oz. yeast  
1 tablespoon butter

#### Method

Sift the flour  
Add the egg yolks, sugar, yeast, butter and milk.  
Knead well  
Put dough in bread pan in the oven or in a spot without any draft, to allow the dough to rise.  
Bake in the oven for about an hour or until the bread is done.

### **Steak and Onion (Portuguese Style)**

#### Ingredients

2 large onions, sliced  
4 tomatoes, peeled and chopped  
2 garlic cloves, crushed  
salt and pepper  
2 ½ oz (62gm) butter  
1 tablespoon vinegar  
4 sirloin or rump steak  
parsley to garnish

#### Method

Fry the onions, tomatoes, garlic, salt and pepper in the butter  
When the onions are brown add the vinegar and simmer until well blended.  
Adjust seasoning  
Grill the steaks according to taste, then place on a hot serving dish  
Spoon the tomato sauce over the steaks, garnish with parsley  
Serve with boiled or fried potatoes.

### **Crusty Roast Lamb**

#### Ingredients

1 leg of lamb (2 ½ - 3 lb) (1 ¼ - 1 ½ kilo)  
1 Garlic clove  
2 oz soft white bread crumbs  
3 tablespoons chopped parsley  
1 level teaspoon mixed herbs  
1 oz (25gm) butter  
2 teaspoons good mustard  
a little lemon juice

#### Method

Preheat oven to moderately hot - 375° F or 190° C  
Trim the joint, removing as much fat as possible from the top.  
Cut the garlic into small slivers. Make deep incisions all over the lamb and insert a sliver of garlic into each incision.

Place the bread crumbs, parsley, and mixed herbs in a bowl.  
Melt the butter in a small pan, stir in the mustard and pour on to the bread crumbs. Mix together and spread all over the top and sides of the joint, pressing well down with your hands.

Sprinkle liberally with lemon juice and leave for about two hours, in a cool place, before cooking.

Roast in the centre of the oven for about 1 ½ hours. Serves four.

### **Answers to the Christmas Quiz**

- (c) Guitar
- (b) 1895
- (a) St. Nicholas
- (d) Jacob Marley
- (c) Wise Men's Camel
- (b) Pie
- (c) Straw
- (c) Fried fish, lettuce and spinach
- 9. (d) St. Stephen
- 10.. (b) Burn salt or an old shoe
- 11. (c) Wales

**OUR NEWSLETTER THIS MONTH WILL BE A SHORT ONE. IT HAS ONLY BEEN THREE WEEKS SINCE THE NOVEMBER ISSUE WAS PUBLISHED.**

### **Season's Greetings**

As we wind up our newsletter for this last month of 1999 we would like to take this opportunity to wish each and everyone of our members, friends and their families a VERY HOLY and MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR in the new Millennium

May JOY be your gift at Christmas and may FAITH, HOPE and LOVE be your treasures in the New Year.

Until next month

Luiz M. Souza, MBE AE

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