

BOLETIM MACAENSE

MACAU CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

A CASA DE MACAU EM VANCOUVER

澳門文化聯誼會

March 2004 Março
<http://www.casademacau.net/MCA>

Box 48390, Bentall Centre
595 Burrard Street,
Vancouver, B.C. Canada V7X 1A2



Centre Pointe Festivities

Social activities resumed in Centre Pointe this month with the usual get together of games, food and music. The popularity of this event is growing unabated and if this trend continues we maybe forced to look for bigger digs, but so far so good.

This time we folded the tone of the cooking competition for choosing our "Chefe de Cozinha" for the Encontro in November in our Centre Pointe activities. (The real competition rules and other details will be announced soon either in the newsletter or in our monthly meeting by the Committee in charge.)

We asked participants to bring their best Macanese dish to Centre Pointe for a dry run of the contest and to gain experience (more like a subterfuge to taste good food). We were rewarded for dinner with Minchi, Porco Bafâ-Assá, Balichão Tamarinho, Pão Recheado, Grão de Bico, Caril de Vaca, Cheese Toast and others plates that the writer enjoyed eating them but not sure of their names. There was even a "Si-iou-kai" dish that drew a mild debate whether the originality was Macaense. The whole point then turned academic because it was also eaten to its last scrap.

The pseudo panel chosen to judge the dishes joined the crowd and gulped down every morsel of the delicacies and they, and only they know the winner. But, on an informal quiz of the "gulpees", the consensus and in the opinion of this writer, the Minchi came supreme.

It amazed this writer that the simplest of our dish still merit the kudos of our palate, which holds true the phrase that "once a Macanese, always a Macanese".

Our gratitude and compliments to all the chefs, whoever they are. They gave their goodwill and joined in the fun. "Ata boy" everybody.

- Carlos Cordeiro



NEXT MEETING: 2 P.M. SUNDAY APRIL 18, 2004 at Metropolis Centre (formerly Eaton's Centre)

Favoured by Fortune, Marked by Tragedy

The death of 80-year-old Clementina Angela Leitao Ho on Saturday February 21 marked the end of a legendary life favoured by fortune, but marked by tragedy.

Leitao, the first wife of casino mogul Stanley Ho Hung-sun, had almost everything a woman could want. She was born into one of Macau's wealthiest Portuguese-speaking Eurasian families. Her father was a prominent lawyer.

With large watery eyes and angular features, the young Leitao earned herself the title "The No 1 Beauty in Macau".

Her relationship with Mr Ho was full of romance. It was said that Mr Ho met Leitao through her brother-in-law after moving to Macau during the Sino-Japanese war in the early 1940s. Mr Ho attended night school to study Portuguese to impress her. He also cycled to Leitao's place every day to take her out for tea after school.

His advances were successful and the two were married in 1942. A friend who knew Leitao since the 1930s said the marriage opened doors for Mr Ho's phenomenal business success in Macau.

"The marriage raised immensely his [Ho's] social status in Macau at a time when her father was with Macau's Portuguese administration. It also brought him to the attention of government officials in Portugal," the friend said.

"Without her and her family, Stanley would possibly never have won the Portuguese authorities' tender for a new exclusive casino franchise in 1962."

Unlike Mr Ho's other three wives, the low-profile Leitao was rarely seen in social circles. She led a leisurely life and kept over 100 birds in her Bishop Hill residence in Macau. Another love was weekly shopping trips to Hongkong. But bad fortune struck soon after the marriage. Leitao was said to have contracted an incurable intestinal infection, causing her weight to plummet.

She was also an avid dancer before she was seriously injured in a car accident in Portugal in the late 1970s. She lay unconscious in hospital for nearly a month after the crash, in which she suffered brain injuries, a broken jaw and pelvis. She required around the clock care - her nurse, Chan Yuen-chun, later became Mr Ho's third wife.

But it was the death of her son, Robert and his wife, Suki, in a car crash in Portugal more than two decades ago that dealt the strongest blow to Leitao's health. She also gave birth to three daughters, Jane, Angela and Deborah, none of whom play a major role in Mr Ho's gaming and shipping empire.

The Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau (STDM), Mr Ho's umbrella company, said the 80-year-old woman died after a prolonged illness at the family's home in Hongkong on Saturday afternoon.

STDM said a funeral mass would be held at Macau's Catholic Cathedral. She was laid to rest at the Sao Miguel Arcanjo Cemetery.

- Polly Hui and Harald Bruning,
South China Morning Post.

Conselho das Comunidades Macaenses

Caros amigos (as)

Na Reunião Preliminar, a questão de Conselho das Comunidades Macaenses provocou um saudável debate sobre assuntos diversos, tais como, seus estatutos, a questão de proliferação de Casas e tantos outros, antecipando-se a estes estatutos que ainda não tinham sido elaborados para a sua apresentação, pois a intenção inicial era a aprovação da concepção da ideia de formação do Conselho que todos aceitaram com uma salva de palmas. Alguém chegou a me sugerir, que abrisse um espaço no site para as Casas debaterem o assunto. Aceitei a ideia e na Página - Conselho das Comunidades Macaenses - existem 2 espaços. Um para pesquisa sobre a criação do Conselho com 10 alternativas de respostas, em português com tradução em inglês.

Outro, um Fórum onde a pessoa pode formular um conceito, uma ideia, e outros intervirem para opinar também. Julgo que todos queremos o sucesso do Conselho e esta Página no site, vem apenas para contribuir. Para construir. As ideias e a pesquisapoderiam servir para ajudar na sua formação, a sua instalação. Assim, está aberto o espaço e o convite para participarem, sugerindo que divulguem aos seus associados internautas. Grato pela atenção!

Council of Macaenses Community

Dear friends,

I wish to invite you to visit my site and participate the survey about the creation of the Council of the Macaenses Community. There's also a forum in which you can formulate a question, or an idea stimulating a debate.

You will see that there's a translation of the questions of the survey into English. The forum also have explanations in English. During the Preliminary Meeting, a participant suggested it to me and I decided to accept it. Now I'm counting on your participation, hoping that this initiative may contribute to build a solid Council, and that's what we all wish, I believe. May I suggest you to recommend it to the members of your community.

You can find in the page Home a link in English, that will take you to the page - Conselho das Comunidades Macaenses.

Thanks and hope you'll understand my English! Melhores cumprimentos a todos /Best regards,

Rogério dos Passos Dias da Luz
site Projecto Memória Macaense
<http://rpd Luz.tripod.com>



LATIN NIGHT! A Latin Dance Night will be held on Saturday, March 27
at 10504 - 140th Street in Surrey. Doors to the auditorium will open at 8 pm.
Tickets \$10 advance \$12 at the door. For further info, call 533 4380. Ana David



Melania Cannon's Chronicle of Macau

A Reed in a Tempest

Part II Excerpt 6. Setting the Stage for the Opium War, 1800 -1839

British Rear Admiral William O'Brien Drury's response to Macau's Portuguese Governor refusal to allow the British to land in September 1808 was to claim that any resistance would be treated as rebellion and would be put down by force. The Xiangshan Magistrate responded in kind, saying that Macau was Chinese territory only leased by the Portuguese, and any interference by the British would be treated as an invasion and would "encounter heavy resistance from the Chinese army." In order to avoid bloodshed, the Minister of Macau, Miguel de Arriaga, recommended that the Portuguese allow the British to land, if only to negotiate more calmly and freely. Arriaga managed to reach an interim agreement with the British commander whereby the status quo was maintained, with the British taking over military operations in the city but remaining under the command of the Portuguese Governor. Within a short time, over 700 British soldiers were stationed in Macau. Unfortunately, they spent their time drinking and looting local Chinese homes. Trade came to a standstill, most Chinese fled the city to towns further into China, and there were great food shortages. Meanwhile, Drury tried to press his advantage by requesting control of Macau's Citadel. The Viceroy of the Two Guangs, Wu Xiongguang, and Governor Sun Yuting of Guangdong, did not concern themselves too much with the British takeover of Macau. Rather, they

sent a routine dispatch to the Jiaqing Emperor regarding the situation, which did not reach the Emperor until November. When the news finally did reach Beijing, the Emperor replied that the British must be driven out immediately. After much debate, the British and Chinese managed to come to an eleventh-hour agreement with the assistance of Arriaga, but only after Chinese officials once again threatened to send their army into Macau to drive out the British. Drury and his troops finally left the city in December. Viceroy Wu was fired by Jiaqing and replaced by Bai Ling.

Over the next twenty years, however, the British continued to antagonize the Chinese officials. They repeatedly violated regulations concerning the residence of foreigners in Guangzhou, brought Western women into Guangzhou, and ignored administrative protocol. In 1829, in an attempt to collect large debts owed to the British merchants by bankrupt Chinese firms, representatives of the British East India Company blockaded the mouth of the Pearl River and swore to cut off trade should the debts not be paid. The Chinese in turn fortified the coast, and the conflict resulted in six months of high tensions and a stalemate before the British finally realized that the only way to regain their money was to continue trading with the Chinese merchants.

(Excerpt from research materials of Melania Cannon of Vancouver, B.C. Canada. Her research testifies to our unique, colourful and rich history. Excerpts of her body of work were published in prior publications and other excerpts are scheduled for future issues. Editor)

OBITUARY FOR MY FATHER

Marciano C.M. da Silva [MCM da Silva] passed away peacefully in hospital in Hongkong on February 24 2004, at the age of 95. Predeceased by his wife Kathleen Maxwell, and son Louis. Survived by his children Peter (Rosalina), Beatrice (Howard), Tony (Fontaine), Kathleen (Richard) and Seven grandchildren. MCM was in the Hongkong Volunteers, and a POW in Sham Shui Po and Japan. After WWII he served many memorable years in the Home Guard. MCM retired after many years with Jardine Matheson, then kept busy in the tourist industry. Remember him in your prayers. Thanks, see you at the next meeting. - *Peter Da Silva*.

INVITATIONS:

Portuguese Veterans Dinner/Dance, March 27, Our Lady of Sorrows, Pender/Slocan, Vancouver, \$35, Armindo 604-435-2975

Madeira Group Dinner/Dance, April 10, Portuguese Senior Foundation, Imperial / Oak, Burnaby \$30, Rodrigues 604-941-2966

Latinos Dance Night, March 27, 10504 - 140th Street, Surrey Auditorium, \$10, Ana David 604-533-4380

Comunicação Consulado

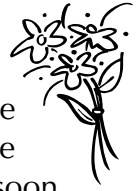
Anúncio Programa de Bolsas do Instituto Camões para ano lectivo 2004/2005

As candidaturas ao programa em epígrafe, irão decorrer entre 25 de

Fevereiro e 26 de Março. Os respectivos regulamentos do programa poderá

ser consultado em www.instituto-camões.pt/actividades/bolsas.htm.

Consulado de Portugal



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Thanks And Get Well Soon

Our Editor has been under the weather lately, and we all wish her a speedy recovery. We hope to see Jackie back on her feet and resume her cheery disposition soon. Her mah-jong partners also miss her. I would like to thank her for the good service she has been providing to the Association. Also a big "Thank You" to those who have offered and to those who made the extra effort and pulled together to get this issue out for the meeting this month.

Carlos Cordeiro, President

Cozinhados Macaenses ~ Encontro 2004



The Macanese Cooking Competition 2004 have generated great interest among the membership since our publication of the events in our January 2004 newsletter.

The last day to enroll will be Wednesday, March 31, 2004. When the final preparation is completed, each participant will receive a package containing all information, instructions and requirements for the competition, and will be apprised of any changes and updates as it becomes available from Macau.

The committee welcome any inquiries from the competitors and they can contact the chairperson whose address appears below.

Laura Cordeiro, Chairperson, Committee for Encontro 2004
Email: lcord@shaw.ca, Phone/Fax: 604-873-6816



For a while, I couldn't believe there was no winner. It was such a simple location, and the clue said "cross a bridge" to get there....."

But alas! Finally, Don Gillis came up with the right answer. It's Taipa!!!!!!! He wins a t-shirt. Congratulation.

Now for this issue, the two buildings are the same. Only, one is the older version of the current building. I need you to name the building. That's all. Pretty straightforward. And for guessing right, you get our much prized t-shirt.



So call me! Jackie at 604-277-4713.

Macau Cultural Association is a non-profit organization for the advancement of Macau and Macanese culture, heritage and interest.

Based in Vancouver, Canada, it forms part of the network of Casa's de Macau throughout the world. Other sister organizations are located in Lisbon, Toronto, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, San Francisco, Hong Kong and Sidney.

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* Please note that while all articles submitted to the Editor reflect the opinions of the authors, they are not necessarily the views of this publication.

Website: <http://www.casademacau.net/MCA>

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