

# BOLETIM MACAENSE

A Publication of the Macau Cultural Association  
(Casa de Macau) of Western Canada  
"A Primeira Casa de Macau em Canada"  
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The Macau Cultural Association ("A Primeira Casa de Macau em Canada") is a non-profit organization founded in the autumn of 1989 for the cultivation of Macanese culture, heritage and interest. It is the first such association established here in Canada and forms an integral part of the network of "Casas de Macau" established throughout the world. Sister organizations are located in major cities like Lisbon, Toronto, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, San Francisco, Hong Kong and Sydney.

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The MCA website is located at [www.casademacau.net](http://www.casademacau.net)

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## SEPTEMBER 2005

*In our newsletter, "MCA" refers to the Macau Cultural Association and the "CMC" refers to the Casa de Macau Club.*

- Birthdays
- In Memoria
- News from Macau Travel Talk
- Macau World Heritage

In this September newsletter:

### EDITORIAL

#### **Editorial**

There may be some of you who are unaware that two separate and distinct "*Casas de Macau*" exist in Vancouver. The MCA, the first one in Vancouver and also in Canada, came into existence in 1989 whilst the second *casa* in Vancouver, CMC, came into being several years later.

#### **Business**

- General Meeting – 16 October
- General Meeting – 21 August
- Ronald Gill's Resignation

A group of members broke away from MCA to form a "second" *casa* for reasons of their own. This is very sad because the unity that had existed in the local Macanese community was eroded and it has subsequently pitted relatives against relatives and friends against friends.

#### **Events & Socials**

- New Year's Eve Party
- Social/Mahjong – 4 September
- "Ta Ping Lo" Dinner – 22 October
- Visitors from San Francisco

#### **News**

- "Lusitania" Article re Our Festa

The MCA have always stated that the doors of the MCA are open to all. When I was elected as President of the MCA back in 1998, the very first thing I did was to extend a warm and sincere invitation to all members of the Macanese community to join the MCA for the sake of unity within the Macanese community.

This invitation was made in the presence of over 130 members present at that meeting. That same open invitation also appeared for general information in the MCA newsletter for March 1998.

A few short years later, the MCA again invited officials of the CMC in a spirit of goodwill and co-operation to enter into discussions on the possibility of sharing a Macau Cultural Centre in Vancouver.

After ten years of an unhappy relationship between the two *casas*, I feel sadly the dream of a Macau Cultural Centre in Vancouver may not be a reality in my lifetime.

The views and opinions expressed in this Editorial are those of the Editor and, in no way, may be construed as being the position of, and/or endorsement by the MCA.

### **GENERAL MEETING – 16 October**

Another General Meeting is slated for Sunday, 16 October 2005 when some important issues will likely be discussed. We hope that as many members as possible will make an effort to attend.

### **PREVIOUS GM – 21 August**

A GM was held in Metropolis, Burnaby on Sunday 21 August 2005. 26 MCA members attended the meeting and the following items were brought up for discussion:

- Approval of Minutes of Last GM

- Approval of Financial Report
- Address by Dr. Rodrigues
- Invitation from Macau Friendship Association
- Expression & Vote of Thanks
- Travel
- New Year's Eve Party

The Minutes of the GM held on 17 July 2005 were read by our Secretary, Ms Fina Rosario and were subsequently approved by the members present. That meeting on 17 July was a red-letter day for MCA because the meeting was attended for the first time ever by a President of APIM, President of CCM and a member of the Macau Legislative Assembly in the person of Dr. Jose Manuel de Oliveira Rodrigues.

Our Treasurer, Mr. Ronald Gill read out the Financial Report as at 31 July 2005 and members approved the report as read.

On 17 July 2005 Dr. Rodrigues addressed the meeting briefly and touched on the newly approved Historic Center of Macau being accepted for inclusion in the World Heritage List of UNESCO. Dr. Rodrigues also stated that during his stay here in Vancouver he would sign a Protocol of Understanding with the MCA.

The MCA has received an invitation from the Macau Friendship Association inviting us to attend their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner and Dance to be held on 14 September 2005 at the Continental Seafood Restaurant in Richmond. A number of MCA members will be attending that event.

Our President, Sergio Rui da Pina vocally expressed his appreciation and vote of thanks to all the hardworking volunteers who assisted in making the MCA's FESTA celebrations on 18 July

2005 a complete and unqualified success.

The bus tours by Viking Tours handled by Helen Xavier and the Sea Cruises handled by Ronald Gill were brought to the attention of the members in an effort to stimulate the travel bug amongst the MCA members and their friends.

### **RONALD GILL'S RESIGNATION**

Sergio Rui da Pina announced with great regret the resignation of Mr. Ronald Gill, Treasurer of the MCA, with immediate effect. Mr. Gill was a hardworking Treasurer and all of us will miss his services tremendously.

### **NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

As already mentioned in the August newsletter the MCA will be organizing a New Year's Eve Dinner Dance at the Royal Restaurant at the junction of Blundell & Garden City Roads in Richmond on 31 December 2005 commencing from 6.00 p.m. and lasting to 1.00 a.m. on New Year's Day. The tickets for this event will be available for purchase at the General Meeting on Sunday, 18 September 2005.

**Ticket prices will be a very modest \$40 per person payable in full at the time of purchase. Fully paid-up members who book and pay for their tickets by the cut-off date of 18 December 2005 will qualify for a rebate of \$15.00.**

Members who purchase their tickets after the cut-off date will not, repeat, not be entitled to the rebate and pay the full \$40 just like an ordinary non-member. Ticket sales will be limited to 200. Even at \$40 the tickets are a real bargain. Details of the Menu and other

offerings will be announced in our newsletter for October 2005.

Registration and booking of tickets will be on a first-come-first-served basis and tickets will only be available by registering with our Social Convener, Ms Helen Xavier at 604 279 8824 and paying for the tickets in full at the time of purchase. No refunds will be permitted for any cancellations.

### **Social/Mahjong Gathering – 4 September**

A social with mahjong was held on Sunday, 4 September 2005. There were at least five mahjong games plus a fair number of camp followers and we ended up looking at a party of about 30 people for dinner. On this occasion the MCA served a "fish" dinner with cooked vegetables.

### **"Ta Ping Lo" Dinner – 22 October**

We wish to remind members that in our Calendar of Events we have plans for an authentic Chinese hot pot dinner at the "Sun Tung Kee" Restaurant located at 105 – 8291 Alexandra Road in Richmond to be held on 22 October 2005 at approximately 7.30 p.m.

It is an "all you can eat" Ta Ping Lo at a price of \$18.95 per person plus taxes and tips. Drinks are also extra. BUT as with many of our planned social activities a \$10.00 "cash rebate" will be offered to members in good standing.

For this reason some form of registration is necessary in order for the rebates to be reimbursed to qualified members. Please register your intention to attend with Helen Xavier at 604 279 8824.

Guests and/or friends are welcome to join us for an evening of fun

and merriment but they will not, repeat, not qualify for any “cash rebate”.

The cut-off date for this event will be Sunday, 16 October and MCA members who join us for the “Ta Ping Lo” dinner after the cut-off date will not qualify for the cash rebate.

### **Visitors from San Francisco**

A small group of “Filomacs” from the Rossmoor Lawn Bowling Club, in town for a series of lawn bowl games, were invited by the MCA for dinner at the “Samba” Brazilian Steakhouse Restaurant on Alberni Street in downtown Vancouver on Sunday, 21 August 2005.

The group of “Filomacs” included Ed & Pat Guterres, Sandy Souza, Suzie & Ingmar Ericksen, Carlos & Virginia d’Almeida, Doreen & Mano Pereira, Marietta Rosario, Ed & Pauline de Assis. Carlos & Virginia did not attend due to an earlier engagement.

Those attending the dinner were offered a choice of a wonderful and ample salad combination, feijoada made with black beans (Brazilian style), curry fish and a meat stew or partake in a combination mixed grill included chicken, beef, pork, lamb, deer, and a number of other meats all served at the table on skewers.

It was a grand meal thoroughly enjoyed by those present. Everyone also had a wonderful time swapping stories and talking of the good old times. Did anyone know for example that Ingmar Ericksen was a classmate of Luiz Souza at La Salle College in Kowloon in the late 1930s? It also turned out that Ed Guterres was taught by a young unqualified schoolteacher by the name of Luiz Souza at the old Idalia da Luz School in Macau in the early 1940s. How about that?

Rossmoor is a senior adult community located in Walnut Creek some 20 miles east of San Francisco. Quite a number of retired members of the Macanese community make it their home. Lawn Bowling appears to be the principal recreational activity of the Rossmoor Macanese community.

### **“LUSITANIA” ARTICLE RE OUR FESTA ON 18 JULY**

There is an interesting Portuguese article produced by Doris Maria and published in “LUSITANIA” in August 2005, which is of immense interest to our MCA members.

The article describes in detail the events that took place on 18 July at our FESTA to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Macau as a Special Administrative Region of China.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank Doris Maria for her article that is very much appreciated.

### **BIRTHDAYS**

We would like very much to extend birthday greetings to members whose birthday falls in September. They include:

- Ronald Gill
- Rosalina da Silva
- Dolores Rodrigues
- Alvaro Mendes
- Judith Madeira LO
- Florinda Pina
- Tara Shapiro
- Samantha Gill
- Antony Jose Ma JR.
- Theresa Delgado
- Theresa “Tootsie” Pacheco

Meanwhile Norma Castilho has asked for a short note to be placed in this newsletter to thank the MCA for the

birthday card sent to her on the occasion of her 81<sup>st</sup> birthday.

### **In Memoria**

This month we are sad in having to report the recent passing of Talia Prata da Cruz and Alberto G. Xavier, both of California. Theresa Prata and Alicia Prata, both related to Talia, are also members of the MCA. The MCA has sent a letter of condolence to Nuno Prata da Cruz in California. We offer the MCA's sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to the respective families, any next-of-kin and any relatives.

### **NEWS FROM MACAU TRAVEL TALK**

We like to congratulate the Macau Travel Talk's new editorial and design team for their new layout and revamped contents and look forward to receiving future issues of this most interesting magazine.

Here's what some individuals connected to the Macau tourist industry are saying:

"Macau looks set to replace Las Vegas as the world's capital in the gaming industry" *Ambrose SO, Director, Sociedade do Jogos de Macau*

"Great attention to details and internal décor in all hotel rooms and suites will allow us to showcase Wynn's standards of excellence and luxury. All guest rooms will feature floor-to-ceiling windows with breath-taking views of Macau" *Markland Blaiklock, Executive Director, Hotel Operations, Wynn Resort (Macau) S.A.*

"We will employ approximately 16,000 people at the peak of our construction and approximately 10,000 at the Venetian Macau when we open. The Cotai Phase1 will eventually employ

approximately 20,000 to 25,000 people" *Frank Mcfadden, Chief Operating Officer, Venetian Macau Ltd.*

### **MACAU WORLD HERITAGE**

I will provide a brief description of some of the locations that make up the Historic Centre of Macau in this and following newsletters:

#### **A-Ma Temple**

This temple already existed before the city of Macau came into being. It consists of a variety of pavilions dedicated to the worship of different deities in a single complex that make up A-Ma Temple. It is an exemplary representation of Chinese culture inspired by Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism and multiple folk beliefs.

#### **Moorish Barracks**

Built in 1874, this building was constructed to accommodate an Indian regiment from Goa appointed to reinforce Macau. Now it serves as the headquarters of the Macau Maritime Administration. The Moorish Barracks is a distinctly neo-classical building integrating architectural elements of Moghul influence

#### **Lilau Square**

The ground water of Lilau used to be the main source of natural spring water in Macau. There is a Portuguese popular phrase: "One who drinks from Lilau will never forget Macau". This area represents one of the first Portuguese residential quarters in Macau.

### **Mandarin's House**

Built in 1881, it was the home of a prominent Chinese literary figure. This is a traditional Chinese residential compound consisting of several courtyard houses. It displays a mix of Chinese and Western detailing, such as, the use of grey bricks against arched ornaments and Chinese timber lattice windows against mother-of-pearl window panels of Indian origin.

### **St. Lawrence Church**

Built by the Jesuits in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century, is one of the three oldest churches in Macau. Its present appearance and scale was acquired in 1846. Situated on the southern coastline of Macau overlooking the sea. Families of Portuguese sailors used to gather on the front steps of the church to pray and wait for their return. It was hence given the name Feng Shun Tang (Hall of the Soothing Winds). It is a neo-classical structure with subtle baroque decorative inspirations. The neighborhood used to be fairly wealthy thus explaining the building scale and wealth of architectural treatment.

### **St. Joseph's Seminary & Church**

Established in 1728, the old seminary, together with St. Paul's College, was the principal base for the missionary work implemented in China, Japan and around the region. St. Joseph's seminary taught an academic curriculum equivalent to that of a university. In 1800, the Portuguese queen, Donna Maria I, conferred on it the royal title of "House of the Mission Congregation". Adjacent to the seminary is St. Joseph's Church,

built in 1758, an exemplary model of baroque architecture in China, as noted in UNESCO's 2001 publication *Atlas mondiale de la arquitectura barroca*.

### **St. Augustine's Square**

Several classified buildings, St. Augustine's Church, Dom Pedro V Theatre, St. Joseph's Seminary and Sir Robert Ho Tung Library, surround the cobblestone-paved square reflecting a traditional Portuguese streetscape.

*To be continued...*

Until next month  
Luiz Gonzaga Maria Place de Souza,  
MBE  
Vice President & Editor  
MCA  
(Casa de Macau) of Western Canada  
A Primeira Casa de Macau em Canada  
16 September 2005.

NOTE: For a variety of reasons this will be a shortened version of our usual newsletter but we hope you will still enjoy reading it. Please also get into our website to view the many excellent photographs taken at some of our recent MCA events.