

MARCH 2007

## BOLETIM MACAENSE

A Publication of the Macau Cultural Association  
(Casa de Macau) of Western Canada  
"A Casa de Macau PRINCIPAL 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.

Our Association Website is located at [www.casademacau.net](http://www.casademacau.net)  
Explore our website for information of activities  
"Click" into our "Photo" section and view the very many photographs

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### EDITORIAL

The realization of our dream of having our very own "SEDE" after all these years has brought back memories of my own association with MCA. I first joined the Association very soon after it was founded in the autumn of 1989. The original Council members were made up of Carlos Cordeiro, Linda Achiam, Domingos Leong, George Lee and Laura Cordeiro. Despite repeated invitations from a number of members for me to join the Executive Council I resisted from doing so as I was contented to just attend meetings as an ordinary member and generally to socialize and mix with members of our Macanese community here in Vancouver. This went on until the elections in 1994 when some members attempted to bring in some thirty odd individuals to the Annual General Meeting held in November 1994 and demanded that they be elected immediately as members and also be permitted immediately to vote in the elections.



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I was absolutely appalled with their behavior and I decided then to become involved and to support Laura Cordeiro and Rene Ozorio in the elections that were scheduled to take place that very same day. In the ensuing disruption I took over immediately as Editor when the incumbent

## **Page 2**

Editor also joined those responsible for the disruption. As a result of all this I gradually took a more active role in the affairs of the Association. Soon afterwards I joined the Association's Executive Council and gradually moved up the corporate ladder so to speak – serving one year as 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president in 1996; and another year as 1st vice president in 1997. In 1998 I was elected as President fairly and squarely and by a comfortable margin. There is absolutely no doubt that my dedication to the Association was absolute and I was never afraid to cross swords with those in opposition. Membership increased by leaps and bounds and at one stage we were blessed with well over three hundred members. Later on as a result of the constant and ongoing bickering between the two factions here in Vancouver membership in both groups fell off. In any case it was never my intention to serve for more than two years and I did not stand for re-election at the end of 2000. However, I re-joined the Executive Council again at the end of 2004 as Vice President & Editor. I have served the Association all together now for nearly twenty years and there is no question my dedication to the Association was 110 per cent. I have said this before and I will say it again - one must choose between personal interests and those that are for the good of the community as a whole. I believe that I have done that religiously.

### **MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING**

Our monthly meeting on Sunday, 18 February 2007 was a bit of a “let down” as we failed to achieve a quorum for an official Association meeting. This was due in part to the fact that Sunday, 18 February was also this year's Chinese New Year Day. The meeting therefore took the form of an informal discussion when Sergio Rui de Pina chaired this informal meeting to discuss a host of subjects, including the question of our very own ‘sede’ - now hopefully to become a reality after many years of bickering between the two opposing groups.

### **BRIEF REPORT ON MCA SOCIAL**

Our ever popular Mahjong Social took place on Sunday, 4 February 2007 with four tables of Mahjong and close to thirty members joining together for the dinner when Josifina do Rosario presented her now famous “Grilled Salmon” with Cabbage, Carrots, Tomatoes, Potatoes and Olive Oil. On this day Maria do Rosario also produced a large cauldron of “Dobrada” (Ox tripe and beans). Members enjoyed both dishes immensely after starting off the meal with some “Sopa Verde”, a typical Portuguese/ Macanese soup and everyone also enjoyed the very popular chocolate ice cream to round off the evening. Any member may elect to join us for a game of Mahjong OR advise us that they wish to join us for dinner. Cost for these dinners are only a mere \$7 per person. Why not give Helen a ring at (604) 279 – 8824 to join us at about 8.00 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month and to enjoy a typical Macanese meal.

### **MEMBERSHIP DUES/FEEES**

Members are hereby reminded that our Association Annual Fees for 2007 are now due for payment and checks for payment of these dues should be made payable to the “Macau Cultural Association (Casa de Macau) of Western Canada”.

### **Chinese New Year DINNER DANCE**

On 26 February 2007 Association members got together at the Royal Dinner Dance Restaurant at the corner of Blundell & Garden City in Richmond to celebrate Chinese New Year. The evening started off with a traditional Chinese ten-course meal and was followed up with music and dancing. Members were charged \$25 for the evening's entertainment. Everyone had a tremendous time!

### **BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH**

We extend our very best wishes to our members whose birthdays fall in March. They include the following: Monica Gutierrez, Renato Rodrigues, Filipe Antonio Cordeiro, Alfonso McSmith, Magarida Pina, Janet Airosa, Gwen d'Souza, Osman Madar, and Gilly Marshall.

**Muito Parabens to one and all!**

### **MACANESE PATUA & CULTURE**

On Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2007, the Macau Cultural Association and the Association of Macanese Entrepreneurs in Canada, had the distinct pleasure of hosting Professor Dr. David Brookshaw, in our midst for a luncheon meeting in Vancouver.

On this occasion, attended by a group of specially invited guests who offered an entertaining, knowledgeable, insight view and information on the subject of Macanese Culture and the Patua Dialect. The latter is now being studied and prepared for presentation for official approval and acceptance by UNESCO as a Universal Intangible Patrimony.

Both the Macau Cultural Association and the Association of Macanese Entrepreneurs in Canada are more than ready and anxious to assist towards this new contribution in order to achieve this fresh objective in any way, shape or form. After all that has been said and done, it is our pride in being Macanese. Everyone present at this meeting are true "filhos de terra", and we do not go by any other name.

This important meeting with Professor Brookshaw heralds the first time that the Association of Macanese Entrepreneurs in Canada is collaborating and assisting the Macau authorities and, also the Central Chinese authorities in Beijing in an official co-operation and co-ordination undertaking that is important to everyone in the Diaspora. **O nosso Patua.....e nosso Macaensidade.....E, por fim, o nosso ORGULHO de sermos Macaenses ..... "filhos de terra".**

Professor Brookshaw has translated one of the literary works of our good friend Dr. Henrique de Senna Fernandes (A Tranca Feiticeira) into English. (The Bewitching Braid) which was later used in a successful movie production. Dr. Brookshaw currently chairs the School of Modern Languages at the University of Bristol in England and it is quite possible that we will have the opportunity welcome him again here in Vancouver in the not too distant future. The Macau Cultural Association in co-ordination and collaboration with the newly formed Association of Macanese Entrepreneurs in Canada will continue to work and co-operate with any Government Authority or Institution with a view to further improve and develop any kind or type of business or any area or field of cultural interest, and/or other general Interests that may be considered of importance or advantageous to the interests of Macau, China, Portugal or Canada. Members wishing to express their views on this subject are invited to direct their contributions to Mr. Sergio Rui de Pina, President of the Macau Cultural Association.

### **IN MEMORIAM (BY SERGIO RUI DE PINA)**

Rigoberto (Rigo) Roliz passed away after a short illness on Saturday, 10 March 2007 in California, leaving behind three children: Maria, Robert, and Theresa.

Born on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1923 in Shanghai, China; moved to Macau in 1949 where he served a short stint in the Portuguese Army there. Moved on to Hong Kong in 1950 and he worked for the firm of Eric Hotung. He eventually emigrated to San Francisco, California in 1977.

"Rigo", the Sportsman, excelled in the areas of Boxing and Soccer. It was in the area of Soccer that provided the opportunity for Sergio to meet and know "Rigo" since the fifties when he traveled with some frequency from Hong Kong to Macau in the company of another old friend, Mario Machado, who were then involved with the "St. Louis" Soccer club in Hong Kong.

On behalf of the Macau Cultural Association, Sergio extends our most sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to the bereaved Roliz Family.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

The Association is pleased to announce the following NEW members:-

**Maria Silvia TRAUTMANN and Leonor PEK**

We warmly welcome Silvia and Leonor into our Macanese family.....and we look forward to seeing Leonor at our next social and also, we will be waiting to see Silvia again when she visits us in the near future.

**BY-LAWS**

We wish to confirm that one of our Association by-laws states: Admission as a member of this Association shall be at the sole discretion of the Executive Council. The Council's decision whether a candidate is to be admitted or not is final.

**FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES**

Generally speaking members meet on the first Sunday of each and every month for Mahjong and for dinner. As already mentioned above the cost for the dinner is a mere \$7 per person. Members interested in taking part are requested to confirm with Helen Xavier at (604) 279-8824 giving sufficient time and notice. The Mahjong activity will take place at Centre Pointe in Richmond commencing at about 1.30 p.m. and dinner will be served at about 8.00 p.m. unless stated otherwise.

Then our monthly General Meeting is generally scheduled to take place on the third Sunday of every month. Members attending such meetings are asked to contribute \$1 to cover the cost of snacks, coffee and tea. Such meetings normally take place at Metropolis in Metrotown commencing at 2.00 p.m.

If there are further questions please direct them to any Council member.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**We take great pleasure at this time to announce:**

**An Annual UBC/Portuguese Community Public Event**

**Date: Tuesday, April 10, at 7 p.m.**

**Location: Buchanan Tower, 1873 East Mall. U.B.C. 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Lounge.**

**FREE ! ALL WELCOME ! BILINGUAL EVENT! FREE REFRESHMENTS**

**A Presentation of Zeca Afonso – a sua vida, a sua musica**

**A commemoration of the 20 years since the death of noted Portuguese singer & songwriter, Jose Afonso. Author of "Grandola, Vila Morena", the main password song played on Portuguese radio on the night of 24<sup>th</sup> of April, 1974 to start the Carnation Revolution.**

**Presentation of his life - Readings of his songs – A Musical Presentation**

*The above event has been recommended by Alexandra "Sacha" Henriques, a teacher and prominent Portuguese member of our Association*

**ABUSIVE E-MAILS**

With reference to some of the e-mails which appeared on page 5 of the February 2007 Newsletter, one of our readers has commented as follows: (quote) "We have just read your February newsletter and its just appalling that these people are still harassing your Association with their abusive e-mails. I believe that the terms of service has been violated and your Association should report this matter of abusive e-mails to "Yahoo" alerting them to this fact. It should be possible for Yahoo to have the accounts of these individuals suspended or cancelled because the terms of service has been violated".

**HEALTHWISE**

Association members are advised that Mrs. Natalie Santos has been moved from Hospital to a HOSPICE located at 6460 No.4 Road in Richmond. She is in Room 118.

**Until next month**

**Luiz Souza, Editor, Boletim Macaense, Macau Cultural Association, Casa de Macau em Vancouver  
16 March 2007.**