

Casa de Macau no Canada (Toronto)

Newsletter

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E

ditorial
 Briefly speaking...



When we accepted the new Executives' invitation to continue with the Newsletter, we decided that it would be a good time to give it an entirely "new look", we hope you like it.

Members are invited to submit articles, favourite (Macanese) recipes, and information they would like to share. As you can see from some of the articles in this issue, we are encouraging members to get involved in order to make this a "community" newsletter. Please contact us by any manner shown above.

In previous years, a member of the Executive was always involved with publishing the newsletter. However, this will be the first time that this will not be the case. In this connection your Editors decided that in every issue there will be a byline titled "From the Executive" wherein their directives will be made known to members (see following).

Your Editors
Gloria & Monica

F

rom the Executive



As your new Executive Committee, we would like to take this opportunity to share some thoughts with you.

Before doing so, we thank the outgoing Executive Committee, Barbara Baptista and her Social Committee; Lydia Ozorio and her volunteers; and David Tavares and his assistant for four years of dedicated service to the Casa.

We are committed to continue and improve, if possible, the social functions. We would like to add new functions and call upon you, the members, for suggestions for future events. We have received a couple of suggestions since the election and are reviewing them at the moment.

You will have noticed in the financial statement that was handed out at the Annual General Meeting that Casa has a large sum of cash in the bank. Just before the General Election an investment matured and it was the outgoing Committee's decision to leave the matter of reinvesting this money to the incoming Committee. We are, therefore, in the process of reviewing options on reinvesting the money.

Thank you, Gloria and Monica for agreeing to continue to publish the newsletter. The Executive Committee feel this is a vital communication tool and have every intention of continuing publication on a quarterly basis. There is a substantial expense involved in producing the newsletter (printing, mailing, etc.) and we are looking at ways to reducing these costs. We are currently saving postage costs for those members who are able to pick up the newsletters at the Casa for themselves, family and friends. To them, our sincere thanks. We feel we can further reduce our postage cost if members who have e-mail addresses could provide this information to us. Please e-mail Nena Noronha at *Menoronha@aol.com*. All future correspondence could be sent to your e-mail address. Any monies saved could be utilized towards current and future social events.

There are currently over 300 members and we would like to see this number increased. If you know of any eligible person who is not a member why not try and convince them to join.

A gentle reminder that membership renewal for 2003 is fast approaching!

A cross the wires



Recognize Macau's Portuguese heritage or lose it

Harald Bruning's Macau

The South China Morning Post,
Hong Kong
Friday, September 27, 2002

Ideally, Macau's celebrations of the 53rd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China next week will not only reinforce local residents' traditionally strong patriotism but also reaffirm the Special

Administrative Region's unique but rather delicate identity.

The celebrations will be the third since Macau's reversion to China in 1999. However, October 1 was already a public holiday when Macau was ruled by the Portuguese. The Chinese term for patriotism, *aiguo*, means to love one's country. Undoubtedly, most residents, some 56 per cent of whom were born on the mainland and elsewhere outside Macau, maintain affectionate bonds with the motherland, and the great majority seems to regard itself foremost as Chinese nationals and only second as Macau citizens, including those born locally.

Surveys in Hong Kong showing that many of its residents are confused about their national identity seem outlandish from a Macau perspective. The vast bulk of Macau's ethnic Chinese residents, who make up some 96 per cent of its 438,000 residents, have no hesitation identifying with China as their ultimate point of reference.

While many in Hong Kong apparently have a problem with their Chineseness, the problem in Macau is that many of its residents still appear to suffer from a dearth of localism, i.e. a shocking lack of appreciation of the minute SAR's own identity within colossal China.

João Miguel Roque, the Macau bureau chief of Portugal's national news agency, Lusa, is absolutely right when he describes the SAR's unique Sino-Portuguese heritage as "the only thing that Macau can sell to the world, apart from gambling", adding that Macau should treat its unique identity as a "precious commodity".

Unlike some philistines setting little store by Macau's pre-handover patrimony, Chief Executive Edmund Ho Hau-wah reaffirmed earlier this

month that the preservation and "appropriate utilization" of Macau's cultural heritage was an integral part of social development within the ambit of the "one country, two systems" formula.

Without its special heritage and unique identity, Macau's status as an autonomous region would simply make no sense. However, Macau's cultural heritage should not only be conserved but also nurtured, and its unique identity not only protected but also allowed to reassert itself, so that both can actively promote social progress.

Macau's different epithets are indicative of its rich heritage. Dr. Christina Cheng Miu-bing, of the Centre of Asian Studies in Hong Kong, describes Macau as a 'cultural Janus' resulting from its 'colonial vicissitudes'. Roland Silva, the honorary president of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, regards Macau as the "melting pot of East and West" that should maintain its "feminine low profile archipelago concept", in contrast to Hong Kong's "male skyline".

The late English-born American poet W.H. Auden caught Macau's essence in a timeless poem, penned in 1938, that portrays this 'town of indulgence' as a "weed from Catholic Europe" and a "Portugal-cum-China oddity" where "nothing serious can happen".

Travel writer Todd Crowell warns tourists departing from bustling Hong Kong of experiencing a kind of culture shock when arriving in tranquil and serene Macau.

One can only hope that Macau's two planned Las Vegas-style megacasinor resorts will not lead to it becoming another kind of theme park, which would make a mockery of its singular identity.

Macau government backs building big bridge to Hong Kong

MACAU Sep 22 (Reuters)

The Macau Government has a "very positive attitude" towards plans to build a massive bridge linking Hong Kong with the west bank of the Pearl River Delta.

"We have a very positive attitude towards any project that is advantageous to the transportation network in the Pearl River Delta," Chief Executive Edmund Ho Hauwah said early on Sunday.

Speaking to the media before leaving on a four-day trip to Mozambique, Ho was quick to add the project "requires co-ordination by the Central Chinese Government".

"There is time to study the proposals," he said.

Ho also said that he was optimistic about building the 28-km-long (17.4-mile) bridge.

It was the first time that Macau's head of government has publicly commented on recently revived plans to link the eastern and western parts of the Pearl River Delta through a bridge.

Macau casino mogul Stanley Ho Hung-sun said earlier this month he was ready to join the renewed project by Hopewell Holdings Chairman, Sir Gordon Wu Ying-sheung. According to Sir Gordon, the bridge construction would cost about HK\$15 billion (US\$1.9 billion).

Plans to build a bridge spanning the Pearl River estuary between Hong Kong and Macau and its adjacent Zhuhai Special Economic Zone date back to the early 1980s. They never got off the ground for a variety of reasons, namely lack of

funding and doubts about their technical feasibility.

Currently, Macau and Zhuhai are linked with Hong Kong and its adjoining Shenzhen Special Economic Zone by ferries and highways circling the estuary. Supporters of the project maintain that the bridge would speed up the flow of passengers and cargo between the two sides of the delta and reduce dependence on just a few ferry operators, who are said to charge one of the world's highest transportation prices per kilometre.

Macau: Family-Style Casinos for Sin City? It's inviting U.S. tycoons to build an Asian Las Vegas

By Frederik Balfour in Macau

Business Week online
October 7, 2002

It's early Friday evening in the Casino Lisboa, and players crowd three-deep around the baccarat tables. Mainland Chinese men with bad haircuts jostle for space with hard-eyed gamblers from Hong Kong. In VIP suites upstairs, high rollers drop \$250,000 on a single bet. Prostitutes in tight skirts and platform shoes prowl the corridors. Even the croupiers look a bit tawdry, their bow ties drooping in the stale air.

Welcome to Macau. Although this former Portuguese colony boasts cobblestone streets and charming 400-year-old architecture, for decades its main tourist attractions have been baccarat, brothels, and bars. Gunfights between mob factions have disappeared since Beijing took over the enclave in 1999. But the place still has a Wild West feel, with organized-crime groups--the triads--operating out of the city's 11 casinos and running lucrative junket operations and

loan-sharking rackets.

Now, Macau's government has decided to give its gambling industry a good scrubbing. Their model: Las Vegas, with its resort hotels, conventions, golf, and family-friendly shows--all wrapped around a core of lucrative green-felt tables and blinking slot machines. So Macau went straight to the source. In February, it awarded gaming licenses to Vegas titans Sheldon G. Adelson and Stephen A. Wynn. That ended the 40-year gambling monopoly of Hong Kong billionaire Stanley Ho. "We are going to transform Macau," says Adelson, owner of the \$1.2 billion Venetian Casino Resort in Las Vegas. "We want it to be known not just as a gambling resort but as an Asian Las Vegas."

The Vegas rivals are ready to put down a pile of chips to make it happen. Galaxy Casino Co., owned by Adelson, a Macau lawyer, and several wealthy Hong Kong partners, has promised the government of Macau that it will spend more than \$1 billion building a convention center, an arena, and as many as five hotels including one modeled after the Venetian. Although Adelson has yet to acquire the land for that project, he's about to begin construction on a smaller casino called the Las Vegas Sands Inc., which should open in late 2003. Wynn's group has a lease on land adjacent to the Lisboa and is committed to spending \$497 million on casinos within seven years.

It's a crapshoot, though, since Asian gamblers aren't exactly your average Las Vegas casino-goers. While slot machines account for half of Vegas's gaming take, they provide just 5% of Macau's receipts. Asians prefer table games such as baccarat and high-low, which require skill, not just luck. And they rarely venture out of the casino, even to eat, let alone take in a nightclub act or

ride a water slide. "Their main objective is gambling," says Ambrose So, director of Sociedade de Jogos de Macau, which operates Ho's casinos. "It would be very difficult to change those appetites or habits." Counters Adelson: "The fact that Macau's image needs some burnishing is why the opportunity exists."

But Chinese families can't just load up the Winnebago and drive to Macau for a holiday. Mainlanders require visas to enter Macau, so travel restrictions must be liberalized before they can lose their money at its tables en masse. Until then, Macau will continue to count on Hong Kong, an hour away via hydrofoil, which provided half of Macau's 10 million visitors last year. Problem is, that proximity means that an average visitor's stay in Macau is just a day and a half, which keeps occupancy rates in the city's hotels at less than 55%, compared with 85% in Las Vegas.

Then there are the mob connections. Roughly 70% of casino revenues come from junket operators who bring in high rollers in exchange for a commission on whatever the casino makes on their wagers. Many of the junketeers are triad-linked, which poses a serious risk for U.S. operators such as Adelson and Wynn, who could lose their Nevada gaming licenses if they do business with anyone anywhere having underworld connections. The Macau government is working with Nevada regulators to clean up the industry--a delegation visited Las Vegas in mid-September--but it will be slow going. "It took years to get the Mafia out of Las Vegas, and the triads are well-entrenched in Macau," says Dan Grove, a former FBI agent conducting background checks on prospective partners for Adelson's Galaxy group.

If the stakes are high for Adelson

and Wynn, they're even higher for Macau. Last year, its casinos grossed \$2.25 billion, or nearly 40% of the enclave's gross domestic product. And taxes on casino earnings contributed 60% of the government's budget. The Gaming Control Board predicts that gambling receipts will grow an additional 15% this year.

Meanwhile, Stanley Ho is upping the ante to make sure he gets his share of that growth. He has committed to spending \$585 million to upgrade his casinos in exchange for renewal of his gambling-concession license. And this group is building a theme park complete with a 40-meter-high volcano that spews lava and an underground convention center inspired by the tombs of the Pharaohs.

But it will take more than volcanoes and gondolas to clean up Macau. Manuel Joaquim das Neves, director of Macau's Gaming Control Board, says vice is a core part of the city's lure. "If you want to do away with these social problems, you can do away with gaming and live in heaven--but we'll be hungry," he says. Macau may have a long way to go before it becomes the Vegas of Asia.

Old China Hands



Notification of the Old China Hands Archive 2002 Exhibition and Reunion was held on October 4th and 5th. The event took place in the Oviatt Library, California State University, Northridge, CA. Unfortunately, late information received by us could not be included in the last newsletter. Interested parties may direct questions via e-mail to: oldchinahands@csun.edu or Robert.gohstand@csun.edu

The exhibition, which incorporates items from the Library's collection

and items very generously loaned by Old China Hands, will continue from October 4th, 2002 through January 24th, 2003.

Funny bone



Do fish fart too?

Believe it or not, whether fish suffer flatulence is an ongoing debate among ichthyologists.

True farting is a by-product of digestion, and some experts say that the digestive gases of fish are consolidated with their feces and expelled in gelatinous tubes (which fish then eat!).

However, fish have definitely been caught emitting bubbles from their stern due to an excess intake of air. Take the sand tiger shark, for example. It purposely gulps air into its stomach at the surface then farts it out the other end to sink to a desired depth.

(Ontario Science Centre-SciZone)

History Lesson by 6th Graders

The following were answers provided by 6th graders during a history test.

Watch the spelling! Some of the best humour is in the misspelling.

- Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Donkey Hote. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Then his wife died and he wrote Paradise Regained.
- Beethoven wrote music even though he was deaf. He was so deaf he wrote loud music. He took long walks in the forest even when everyone was calling for him. Beethoven expired in 1827 and later died for this.



Port Wine Jelly

Ingredients:

4 ¾ cups water
2 cups sugar
1 ½ cups Port Wine
6 pkts. plain Knox gelatin

Method:

Take ¾ cup water and dissolve the gelatin. Boil the remainder of the 4 cups water with the sugar. Add the dissolved gelatin in this sugar water and stir until all is dissolved. Cool slightly and add the Port. Stir well and pour into mould. Chill in refrigerator.

Ovos Recheados a moda de Macau Stuffed eggs Macanese Style

Ingredients:

Eggs (ovos)
Minced beef (carne de vaca picada)
Minced Portuguese sausage (chouriço)
Garlic & Onion (alho e cebola)
Bread Crumbs (paõ ralado)

Method:

Boil the eggs and let them cool. Carefully shell and slice in half. Remove the egg yolks and mix with minced beef, previously cooked with garlic, chopped onions and minced Portuguese sausage. Fill the egg whites with the mixture and dip in a beaten egg. Lightly bread the eggs and fry in very hot oil.

Annie's Cheese Toast

At most Afternoon Socials, before the main courses are served, we are all treated to Annie Barradas' delicious cheese toast as appetizers. Annie's method, as she puts it, is the simple no-fuss way.

Ingredients:

One loaf white bread

(approximately 18 slices)
One 500 g jar of Original Cheez Whiz
Sugar

Method:

Pre-heat oven to 350°
Evenly spread Cheez Whiz on bread. Sprinkle with sugar.
Put in pre-heated oven for 15 minutes or until lightly browned.
Cut each bread slice into four triangles. Serve hot

Did you know...

- To keep corn bright and yellow, add a teaspoon of lemon juice to the cooking water one minute before the corn is done – do NOT add salt to the cooking water – it will only toughen the corn
- Line the bottom of your vegetable compartment with paper towels or place a few dry sponges in with the vegetables. Either will absorb excess moisture and keep vegetables fresh.
- Truss poultry with unwaxed dental floss – it won't burn and it's much stronger than thread.

Handy hints



As Fall has arrived, here are some hints to help clean your outdoor furniture before you store it for the Winter.

Outdoor Resin Furniture...To remove grime from outdoor and patio furniture, try this. Wearing rubber gloves, make up a solution of 8 parts bleach and 1 part dish soap. Wipe it on and let sit for 30 minutes. Rinse off well with clean water. DO NOT follow with a cleaner that has ammonia as an ingredient.

You can also try rubbing the furniture with baking soda on a damp cloth.

Sometimes for stubborn stains you need to make a paste of baking soda and water and leave it on until it

dries. Scour off well with water.

Outdoor Wooden Furniture...

Remove that mildew by making a solution of 4 tbsp. of baking soda, 1/2 cup of white distilled vinegar and 1 cup of ammonia. Pour this mixture into a bucket of warm water and scrub down the furniture with it.

Patio Umbrella...you can literally double the life of your patio umbrella by storing it properly through the winter. Stretch one leg of a pair of pantyhose over the umbrella and tie the other leg around the handle to hold it in place. This not only keeps it snug as a bug in a rug all winter long, it also allows the umbrella to breathe, which inhibits mold. In addition, it also stops spiders from nesting in the folds.

(Haley's Cleaning Hints)

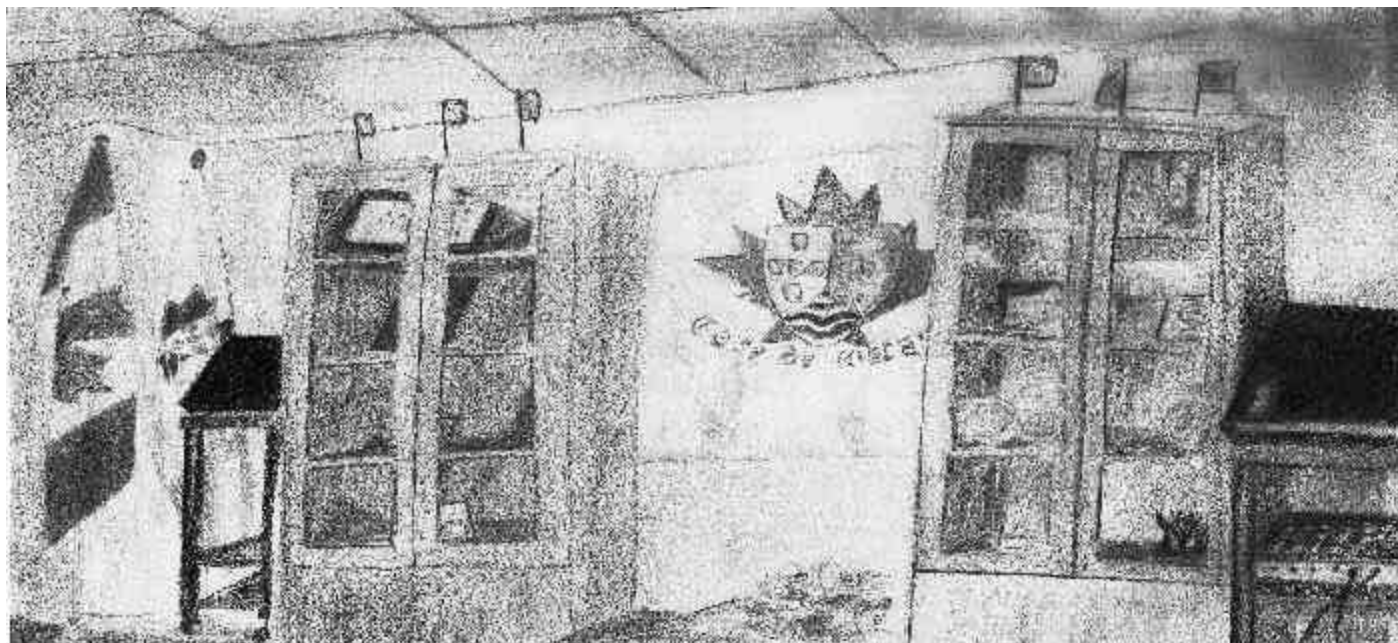
Who am I...



- If you can start the day without caffeine,
- If you can be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
- If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
- If you can eat the same food every-day and be grateful for it,
- If you can understand when loved ones are too busy to give you time,
- If you can overlook when people take things out on you,
- If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
- If you can face the world without lies and deceit,
- If you can conquer tension without medical help,
- If you can relax without booze,
- If you can sleep soundly and peacefully every night,

Then....

You are probably the only person



Acknowledgments

- Adrian Badaraco, age 13, the son of Alfredo and Fina Badaraco is one of our many junior members. You may remember Adrian served as alter boy for the past two Dia de Macau masses held by our Casa. Adrian was asked to sketch a section of the Casa and we are pleased to share his finished work with you. Thank you Adrian, your effort is much appreciated.
- You may recall that during the Mass/Dinner for Dia Macau, we collected \$500, which was forwarded to the Carmelite Sisters in Alberta. Mother Teresa sent the following note:
"Dear Gloria, Thank you for your letter just received with your cheque for \$500 from the Casa. It is very touching of you to do this and to express your solidarity and friendship this way. We appreciate it so much. Please convey our gratitude to all the members of the Casa and tell them we keep each one of you in our prayer, and their family intentions also. With love and gratitude, Mother Teresa and Jesus"
- We wish to thank Therese da Rocha, widow of the late Octavio "Doc" da Rocha, for her donation of books on Hong Kong, Portugal and Macau. Some notable titles: A Macao Narrative by Austin Coates; History of Portugal, 2nd Ed. By A.H. de Oliveira Marques; A record of the Actions of The Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps in the Battle for Hong Kong (author unknown). An assortment of dictionaries and phrase books.
- "Concealed Identities" is the title of a book published by Felipe B. Nery, of Colma, California, USA. In his covering letter Mr. Nery informs us that before settling in the USA, he lived in Shanghai, Hong Kong

and Macau. A complimentary copy of his mystery novel was forwarded to the Casa some months ago. For those who might be interested in obtaining a personal copy, Mr. Nery's address is: 831 Wildwood Avenue, Colma, Ca. 94015, U.S.A.

- Eva Monteiro and her children would like to thank the "Casa" for the lovely flower arrangement. They would also like to thank all their friends for their generous donations to the Providence Centre in Sonny's memory and for attending the services.

Out of town visitors



Arizona: Buster/Sheila Holland
Australia: Daniel/Orlando Badaraco
Brazil: Arnaldo/Yolanda/Gina Couto
Calgary: Carlos "Sonny"/Deanne Gomes
Long Island: Rosa Ross
San Francisco: Jorge/Raquel Remedios; Sabrina Rosario/Antoineta Rosario Zeca
Seattle: Gerry/(Filo)mena de Pina
Vancouver: George "Sonny" Guterres

When phoning the airlines to check on arrival times of your visitor(s), are you tired of being put on hold – only to be cut off after a long wait? Well, try going on your computer at the following site: <http://www.gtaa.com/webfids/arrivals.htm>

This will take you to the Greater Toronto Airports Authority Flight Arrivals site – it contains information on current flight arrivals, delays, cancellations, departures etc. It lists all airlines, flight numbers, dates, times, arriving from, departing to, terminal number, etc. Its accurate, and you get updates without delay.

Noronha Family Reunion - by Jerry Noronha

After 2 1/2 years of planning, 80 descendants of Eduardo Jose Noronha and Helena Maria Yvanovich gathered in Las Vegas for the First Noronha Family Reunion. They came from America, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong and Korea. Their ages ranged from 5 months old to 86 years young and spanned 4 generations.

Our patriarch and matriarch had 11 children, 8 of them had families and we were fortunate to have representation from all 8 families.

Here are some of the highlights of the reunion:

- As each person arrived at the Welcoming Meeting, they were presented with a gift bag containing a colour-coded nametag, a commemorative booklet, a fridge magnet (a replica of an old Macau street sign with Rua do Noronha in Portuguese and Chinese), a baseball cap embroidered with the family logo and a DVD video of our family story.
- The Welcoming Meeting lasted 8 hours. The items on the agenda held everyone's interest so that not a soul left before it came to a close, not even those with young children. Some of the highlights included the tributes, paid to 19 of our deceased members, so emotional were some of the presentations that they brought tears to the eyes of everyone.
- The presentation of our Family Tree tracing the roots of both the Noronha and Yvanovich families and our migration to America, Australia and Canada. A chart measuring 90 by 30 inches with our family crest showing all 174 members attracted a lot of interest among the younger generations.
- The video made especially for this reunion illustrated the route our forefathers took to the Far East. The lives of our patriarch and matriarch, their 11 children and our migration to America, Australia and Canada and our lives in our



- adopted countries. At the end of the video as the credits were shown, the spontaneous cheering and clapping of everyone was ample proof what a magnificent video our Production Crew headed by Ellie Orth, Brian & Fernanda Ho produced. This will be our legacy to the future generations.
- The Special Family Mass celebrated at St. Anne's Church by Fr. John Ahearn, a Maryknoll father who speaks fluent Cantonese and is a missionary in Hong Kong. Our members participated in the readings and with the accompaniment of the parish organist, our own choir provided the music.
 - The Banquet Dinner in our own private ballroom, where tables were set for 8 and seating was by age. Long stem roses were presented to ladies and toys to the children. A professional photographer was engaged to record this historic occasion.
 - The presentation to Gus, (the last surviving member of the second generation) of the portrait of his father, Edward Jose Noronha, which for decades had graced the

wall of the entrance to Club de Recreio.

- Our own DJs keeping everything so lively on the dance floor for everyone from the very young to the not so young, until the hotel staff shooed us out at midnight.
- The party continued for some 20 of the younger set as they cruised the hottest late nightspots of Vegas. At the first light of dawn, they headed to Denny's for breakfast before retiring for the night/day.
- From Thursday evening through Sunday, all had a chance to bond and share nonstop reminiscing, with lots of laughter, some tears and an abundance of good food and wine. Such a great time was had by all that we even voted to do it again in Sydney in 2005!
- To extend the momentum created by our reunion, we have started a seasonal newsletter and established two Internet sites. The Noronha Family Album with hundreds of photos including those of the reunion at www.picturetrail.com/noronha and the Noronha Family Tree at www.members.com/tree/tree