

Casa de Macau no Canada (Toronto)



Newsletter

Vol. 7 March 11, 2006

4168 Finch Avenue East, P.H. #39
Scarborough, Ont. CANADA
M1S 5H6
Tel: 416-299-6947
www.casademacau.ca

Board of Executives

President and Editor
Monica Alves 905-887-9408
1monman@rogers.com

1st Vice-President and Editor
Gloria Soares Anok 416-284-9095
theanoks@hotmail.com

2nd Vice-President
Marie-Cecile Remedios 416-383-0327
Marie_Remedios@msn.com

Treasurer
Barbara J. Baptista 416-283-7937
baptistabj@rogers.com

Secretary
Helena Barradas 905-201-7155
helena.tony.barradas@rogers.com

Clubhouse Manager
Isabel Gomes da Silva 416-228-1207

Table of Contents

From the Executive	1,2
May they rest in peace	2
Casa Social Events	3
Upcoming Events	3,4
Did you know	4
Cooks Corner.....	4
Across the Wires.....	4,5
Calendar of Events	6,7



*The Executive wish all members
a very Happy and Holy Easter.*

From the Executive



On February 2, 2006 Groundhog Day, Wiarton Willy, Canada's leading weather prognosticator came out and saw his shadow. It was announced that we would be having an early Spring! Not three days later we experience the worst snowstorm that has hit the GTA this entire winter! So much for relying on a furry rodent to predict the weather. Be that as it may, we must be thankful that we have escaped relatively unscathed this winter particularly when looking at what is happening throughout the world.

It is hard to imagine that the first quarter of 2006 is already drawing to a close. Read the following pages to discover what we are offering in the next quarter and sign up early so as to avoid disappointment. If anyone has ideas for an event or outing, do bring it to our attention. We are always open to ideas.

Clubhouse matters

For those who regularly go to the Casa, you would have noticed that photos have been hung on the walls thanks to our handymen Antonio Serro and José Anok.

Does anyone have a TV they no longer want? If your answer is "yes", how about donating it to the Casa? We need to replace the small one as it is about to *retire* !!! Please contact any one of the Executives.

Constitution

The Executive would like to inform members that copies of the amended Constitution are available. Should you wish to have a copy, please contact Helena.

Clothing order

Casa's fleece jackets have been distributed to members who placed orders. There has been some renewed interest in possibly placing a second order. If there are sufficient numbers, a second run will be made. To recap the information, the top quality fleece jackets are black in colour and come in a Men's and Ladies style so the cut and fit is slightly different. The cost is \$61, which includes the embroidered Casa logo and taxes. If anyone is interested kindly contact Monica.

Newsletter mailing

Due to the constant increase of postage, the Executive would like to inform members that one copy of the newsletter will be mailed per household, unless, and until notification to the contrary is received. Should you like to receive more than one copy, kindly contact either Monica or Gloria.

Membership renewals

The Executive would like to thank all the members who so promptly renewed their 2006 membership. To date we have 259

registered members. If you know of anyone who still has not renewed or who might have let his or her membership lapse, do encourage them to rejoin.

Carmelite invitation

What a spiritually uplifting and moving experience! Members will recall that half of the 50/50 draw proceeds collected from the Dia de Macau celebration was sent to the Discalced Carmelite Nuns of the Carmel of the Infant Jesus. These Carmelite Nuns currently live in a house in Markham but are in the process of collecting donations to be put towards a new Carmel under construction in Uxbridge. The Executive received an invitation to attend the Ceremony of the Solemn Profession and Veiling of Sr. Teresa Magdalene of the Passion on January 28, 2006. Monica, Barbara and Marie-Cecile attended the ceremony and mass, which was celebrated by no less than 11 priests. The beautiful ceremony and mass lasted two and a half hours but we were all so absorbed by what was taking place that it did not feel long at all. Everyone was given a program so we could fully participate. Hymns both in English and even Latin was sung by the choir including the Entrance Hymn, "Veni Creator Spiritus", which dates back to the first millennium and the "Te Deum" dating from the fifth century. The "Te Deum" is usually sung at solemn functions such as election of popes and consecration of bishops etc. There was not a dry eye in the church when at the Offertory, six of Sr. Teresa's young nieces and nephews brought up gifts and her mother and father brought up the wine and bread. As mother and daughter hugged and clung to each other, the magnitude of it all struck everyone.

For those interested, the nuns have a website www.myvocationislove.ca and there are photos posted of the

Uxbridge Carmel under construction. You are also invited to either write or email them at markhamcarmel@rogers.com if you want to ask for any special intention.

Bulletin

We have been informed by Micaela (Mica) Airoso of the following:

A special CD, containing 7 songs in Patua and 5 in Portuguese, composed/performed by Armando Santos and sponsored by Alex Airoso has been launched in Brazil with great success. This CD was put together with the purpose of keeping the culture, customs and memories of Macau and the Macanese community alive.

We have been advised that 25 CDs will be donated to Casa and are expected to arrive around the 3rd week in April. Alex and Armando have suggested that the cost of each CD be set at \$10 with the revenue generated from the sale of the 25 CDs be applied to our social functions. Proceeds generated from future sales over and above the initial 25 CDs will revert back to Alex and Armando. The cost of future CDs will be determined at a later date by them. Members are advised to contact Monica if interested in purchasing the CD.

The Executive have, on your behalf, extended Casa's congratulations and thanks to Alex and Armando.

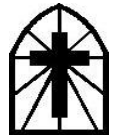
Macao's 4th East Asian Games Members might recall that the Presidents of the various Casas were invited by the Macao East Asian Games Organization Committee (MEAGOC) to attend the Games last October. Unfortunately due to a conflict, Monica was unable to attend. Casa has now received a boxed DVD set prepared by MEAGOC showing the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and Highlights from the Games. The set will

be available to members to borrow from the Library. Please make arrangements with David Tavares.

Yoga anyone?

If there is enough interest, Hatha Yoga classes will be offered at the Casa. It will be on Monday evenings, run for about one hour and start for a trial period of 10 weeks at a cost of \$50 per member. Members are asked to contact any Executive.

May they rest in peace



On behalf of the Casa "family" we extend our deepest sympathies to all the families and have requested Masses for the repose of the souls of the deceased.

- Cecilia Xavier, wife of Fernando Xavier and mother of long time former member Pat Xavier passed away December 26, 2005 at the age of 103 years in California – San Luis Obispo
- Olga Collaço, mother of Orieta de Lemos passed away in Macau January 2006
- Lawrence 'Bito' Tavares, youngest brother of David Tavares passed away in Hong Kong January 26, 2006
- Eugenia Marcuzzi, mother of Sabina Almeida passed away February 2, 2006 in her 94th year in Toronto.
- Sir Albert Rodrigues, father of Evelyn Rodrigues passed away February 5, 2006 at the age of 94 in Hong Kong.
- Maria Lai, mother of Antonio Coimbra passed away February 2006
- Terese da Rocha, mother of Linda, Andrea, Regina, Fernanda and José passed away March 9, 2006

Casa - Social Events



Chinese New Year Dinner

On January 18, 2006 116 Casa members and guests enjoyed a celebratory Chinese New Year Dinner held at the Oriental Century Palace Restaurant. In her opening remarks, Monica welcomed the three out of town visitors who attended. From Macau, Rita Cabral and from Brazil, there was Arnaldo 'Chicolat' Couto and his daughter Gina. The visitors were grateful for the chance to meet a number of old friends and acquaintances at the dinner. Thanks to the generosity of several members there were a total of 12 door prizes. The winners included: Franchesco Angeloni; Patricia Angeloni; Barbara Baptista; Lucila Carion; Maria-Louisa Carvalho; Marie Louise Chang; Regina Holden; Ana José; Maria Prochilo; Linda Sanguinetti; Deanna Tiwari and Lilia Vieira. After enjoying a very satisfying meal members and guests headed home. *(Photos available on the website)*

The only sour note of the entire event was the unexpected and last minute cancellation by some members. Unfortunately because numbers have to be given to the restaurant ahead of time, if members have not paid and then back out at the last minute, the onus is on Casa to pay for their dinners. It is unfortunate that because of the actions of a few, we are now adopting a new policy...FOR All SUBSIDIZED EVENTS, YOUR NAME WILL **NOT** BE PUT ON THE LIST UNTIL YOUR PAYMENT IS RECEIVED. So, if you delay in sending in your payment, and if by the time we receive your money the deadline is reached, or the event is full you will therefore not be able to attend. We feel this new policy is fair to the majority of the members.

Feb 4, 2006 Joint Event

At our joint meeting, both Clubs agreed that a total of 60 attendees were required before the green light would be given. As you can appreciate, quite a bit of work would have been required, i.e. the removal/replacement of the very heavy partitions, the moving and placing of furniture are just some of the things we would have had to do.

The reproduced e-mail from the Secretary of the Macau Club explains why this event did not happen, i.e. both Clubs did not have enough interested members.

From: "Carion, Ivone" (Secretary, Macau Club)

To: "Jose & Cristina Cordeiro" (Macau Club) "Gloria Anok" "Monica Alves" "Helena Barradas" "Barbara Baptista" (Casa) and "Carlos Lemos" (Band)

Subject: Feb. 4

Date: Mon, 30 Jan 2006 09:16:20 - 0500

Hi everyone:

KUNG HEI FAT CHOI to you and I wish you all the blessings in health, wealth and more for this year.

The total participants from Macao Club was 27, with 18 paid up. We were short 3 people, and since we can't come up with the required number, we will have to cancel. Gloria, we will convey the cancellation advice to our Macao Club participants.

Naio, please accept our appreciation for your enthusiasm and your hope to bring both Clubs together for this joint venture. It was a wonderful idea, even though it couldn't come to fruition.

Best regards
Ivone

Upcoming events



April in Portugal

On Saturday April 29, 2006 Casa

will be hosting an evening at the Casa of all things "Portuguese". On the menu will be Portuguese dishes and desserts. Come out and join in the fun. To add to the ambiance of the clubhouse, there will be Portuguese music in the background. There might be a surprise demonstration from our own Line Dancers of a typical Portuguese folk dance. If you wish to contribute to the atmosphere, why don't you wear something red and green? *(Refer to the Calendar of Events)*

May 27th Bus Trip

For those members who joined in the last bus trip, which was highly successful, a second one has been planned.

We will be leaving at 10:00 a.m. from Our Lady of the Rosary Church, at Midland/Finch, and returning by 8:00 p.m.

We have made a group booking to lunch at the Table Rock Restaurant overlooking Niagara Falls, same as the last time. You will recall the excellent luncheon (buffet style) offered. After lunch we will cross over to NY, and drop off those who wish to visit the Seneca Niagara Casino, while the remainder will be taken to the Walden Galleria shopping complex close by. There "might" be slight changes in the order of things after our lunch, however, these are the main features. Please book early to ensure a space, and to avoid disappointments as these trips fill fast. Further details will follow for those who register. *(Refer to the Calendar of Events)*

Dia de Macau

Serendipitously this year June 24, 2006, the feast of St. João de Baptista, falls on a Saturday. Casa will be celebrating Dia de Macau on the actual feast day of St. João. Your Executive has made arrangements for a Mass to be celebrated in the beautiful Chapel at St. Joseph's Convent on Bayview Avenue.

Members are invited to attend Mass, which will commence at 4:30 pm followed by dinner in the dining room. A scrumptious menu for dinner will be offered from a tasty Spring mixed salad to Chicken Cordon Bleu and Roast Beef with the trimmings, dessert and fruits, pop, tea or coffee. As the dining room is part of the convent, we have been asked that our festivities end by 9 pm. This will still give us plenty of time to socialize after dinner. (*Refer to the Calendar of Events*)

Let's Talk

We are now just over half-way through our term ... how time flies! Instead of going with the notion that "no news is good news" regarding the running of the Casa, we invite members to attend an informal gathering at the Casa on (Saturday April 22, 10 a.m.) and exchange ideas with other members and your Executive. We'll have coffee, tea and cake ready.

Did you know?

Hong Kong War Diary

Our thanks to Kathleen Elarte (Ottawa) who forwarded this most interesting website: www.hongkongwardiary.com. It lists all the Canadian units as well as the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Force. The site contains chock-full of information, contains pictures as well as text, on many Macanese who served in the HKVDC during World War II. The site invites anyone with further information to please forward same for the record.

A 'Senior' Member Comments: We asked Cleo (Ozorio) if she would allow us to reprint the "Senior" poem she so kindly sent. Below is an excerpt of our newest proud "Senior"

Hi Execs: Please accept my membership fee, even though having reached the good old "Golden

Age" of the big 80 in September. I've technically been "soo-sooed". Be assured that the "exorbitant" sum of \$24 will not put me in the poor house. It will allow me to feel as being still part of the rank and file instead of categorized.

Staying Young

Youth is not a time of life...it is a state of mind.

Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years;

People grow old by deserting their ideals.

Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.

Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair...these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Whether seventy or sixteen, there is in every being's heart the love of wonder, the sweet amazement at the stars and the starlike things and thoughts...the undaunted challenge of events, the unflinching child like appetite for what next, and the joy and the game of life...

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt...

As young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear...

As young as your hope, as old as your despair:

Age...is just experiences in life; some are more 'experienced' than others.

Author unknown

Information for new members: Any members attaining the age of "80" are not required to pay membership fees, but retain their full right to vote, etc. Some of our Seniors, like Cleo, still prefer to pay.

Cook's Corner



Braided Sweet

Easter Bread

Serving this classic bread on Easter is a wonderful way to start an annual tradition.

Ingredients :

2 pkgs. dry yeast
1/2 cup warm water
1/2 cup butter
3/4 cup milk
1/2 cup sugar
2 eggs, lightly beaten
1 1/2 tsp. salt
5 cups all-purpose flour
6 soft-boiled, dyed eggs (nontoxic dyes only)
1 egg
1 tsp. water

Preparation :

In a large mixing bowl, dissolve the yeast in the warm water. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a saucepan, add the milk and heat until just warm. Pour the mixture into the bowl with the yeast. Add the sugar, eggs and salt, and stir well. Mix in the flour, one cup at a time, until a soft dough is formed. Turn the dough onto a floured surface, adding flour if the dough is too sticky to handle. Knead until it becomes elastic. Place it in a lightly oiled bowl, cover, and set in a warm, draft-free area until doubled in size (about 1 hour). Punch down the dough. Divide it into three equal parts and roll each piece into a 20-inch-long strand. Lay the strands side by side and gently braid them. (To avoid tearing the dough, braid from the middle out to an end; repeat with the other side.) Place the woven dough in a wreath shape on a greased cookie sheet, tucking the ends under. Sink the eggs into the dough. Cover and let rise until double in size. Beat 1 egg with 1 teaspoon water and brush the wash over the dough. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 25 minutes or until golden brown.

Across the wires



Breaking old country notions

City's new consul general of Portugal a passionate advocate for women's rights. Her event tomorrow aims to show progress is being

made,' writes Isabel Teotonio
The Toronto Star March 6, 2006

Maria Amélia Paiva sifts through a pile of Portuguese government documents that have landed on her desk ready for her signature.

She shakes her head and chuckles at the bureaucratic faux pas. Before the new consul general of Portugal in Toronto signs next to the words "O Consul," she crosses out the word "O" and replaces it to read "A Consul" — the feminine form.

"It's always difficult when you have a woman in this kind of post because when it comes to gender identification of titles it's always masculine," says Paiva, a career diplomat who has spent years inking out official documents to make the language more inclusive.

It's a small gesture, but it speaks loudly of what Paiva, the first female to hold this post in Toronto, aims to do during her three-year mandate.

"Women's rights is one of those issues that is very passionate for me," says Paiva, who spent five years working at the United Nations on portfolios including human rights, social issues and women's rights.

That's one reason she plans to host an event called "Narratives of Portuguese Immigrant Women" at the consulate tomorrow, the eve of International Women's Day. Open to the public, it will feature women such as Clara Abreu, news anchor for OMNI News Portuguese Edition, and Ana Bailão, president of the Federation of Portuguese Canadian Business and Professionals.

"We have a lot to do and a lot to achieve," Paiva says, pointing out that only two of about 20 ministers in Portugal are female. The figures are just as grim in the private sector, she says. And the status of women within the Portuguese community here is not much better.

The community, which sprang up around Dundas St. W. and Ossington Ave. after the first wave of immigrants arrived in the 1950s, has been dogged by academic underachievement, lack of political representation and sexist attitudes that hinder women's progress.

"There is a glass ceiling for women and it's very difficult for them to break through because of gender stereotypes," she says.

There is nothing Paiva would like more — particularly in a culture where machismo still exists — than to hear glass shattering.

"Women need to be empowered," she says, gazing out from her office, not far from the heart of Portugal Village, where many of Toronto's 180,000 Portuguese residents live.

"The purpose of this (event) is to contribute to the empowerment of women, to show other women and the community itself that women can do it," she says. "There is progress being made — women are presidents of important organizations in the community — but we need more of them."

It's a message Humberta Araújo, a Portuguese-language teacher, will push as one of tomorrow's key speakers.

The former journalist is working on a project exploring how the culture of Portugal's Azores islands has shaped the choices of second- and third-generation Portuguese women in Canada.

Sadly, she fears, these women aren't much better off than their mothers or grandmothers.

The first to arrive "won some freedoms" by entering the workforce — something few did back home. Though many took low-skilled jobs such as house cleaning or factory work, they were earning their own money for the first time in their lives.

But Araújo worries that too many descendants of those female pioneers are following in their footsteps. Literally.

"When you see the second generation doing the same jobs, I think that's very worrisome," she says. "If this trend of not going to school and not going to university continues ... I don't see the future as being very good for young Portuguese."

A report by sociologist Michael Ornstein found that fully one-third of Toronto's Portuguese had not completed high school — double the average among people of European origin.

The problem may be rooted in an old-country notion that staying in school was a symptom of laziness and something only men did, says Araújo. Such beliefs still flourish in Toronto, where the emphasis is often on getting out to earn money rather than pursuing a degree.

"This considerably affects women because they are caregivers and they still don't have much power in a male-centred family to pressure their daughters to follow higher education," she says. "Of course, we have many women that have accomplished a lot in academics, business, and who are young professionals, but it's still a very small group."

Boosting those numbers, bolstering education and breaking down cultural walls that ghettoize the Portuguese are also high on Paiva's list of things to do.

"I really believe that in a competitive world like the one we are in today, that if we don't give our children the right instruments they won't achieve," says Paiva, once a high school teacher.

"We need more political participation, more educated people and more intervention in all areas of Canadian society. Otherwise, we will disappear."