



Casa de Macau no Canada (Toronto)

Clubhouse Address

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www.casademacau.ca

President's Report

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It is hard to imagine that summer is winding down and Fall will soon be upon us. I trust everyone had a good and safe summer and bore up under the heat.

As usual, summer is a time for travel and for welcoming visitors and this year was no exception. We were happy to spend some time with a number of visitors who came to Toronto one of which was Fatima Poupinho. Anyone who has participated in past Encontros has enjoyed the result of the hard work Fatima has done. Save for one Encontro, she has worked tirelessly behind the scenes and has been part of the APIM Encontro Organizing Committee. Another couple who visited us from Portugal and who participated in a number of our events were Maureen and Zoe Siqueira and JoJo and Joss Basto from Connecticut. I would like to remind members that should you be hosting out-of-town visitors, please feel free to bring them to a Casa event. More often than not they might be able to renew friendships that might have cooled due to distance and time. I would however like to also remind members in consideration of the event organizer that you phone ahead of time so that their names can be put on the registration list. While on the subject of consideration due the event co-ordinator, I would also like to remind members, if you are submitting a form for an event OTHER THAN DIRECTLY handing it to the contact person, the onus is on you to phone the contact person to make sure they have received your form and or cheque. It will take less than a minute of your time to call one person as opposed to the contact person having to call thirty, forty or more people, depending on the subscription, to acknowledge receipt of everyone's forms and or cheques. Furthermore, should a circumstance arise whereby you find that you are unable to attend an event you have signed up for, kindly let the contact person know ASAP so that if there are people on the wait list they can be accepted. Payment to caterers or restaurants often need to be made weeks in advance and if table seating arrangements are being done, last minute surprises or disappointment at registration can be avoided by just that one simple phone call.

Casa happily has benefited from the generosity of several people. Firstly, Augusto Cordeiro has kindly donated to Casa 6 plastic cases in which we are storing the mah-jong sets members have chosen to store in the "Games Cupboard". He saw the need (as many of the original cases were breaking), took the initiative and acted on it. Secondly, Vancouverite, Gustavo da Roza Jr. has kindly given to Casa 5 numbered prints that he has sketched over the years. Two prints depict Hong Kong Harbour in the fifties (one day and one night). The third is the view from Victoria Peak looking across the Harbour which he painted in 2007. The fourth and fifth prints depict Macau in the Forties and Macau today. These prints will be framed and displayed. Lastly, Robert Doi kindly donated 4 folding chairs which belonged to our late member, Humberto. Casa thanks you all.

Please read through the newsletter for information on upcoming events and projects and sign up early. Believe it or not, next year's calendar is already starting to fill up so if you have an idea or ideas you would like Casa to organize, let any member of the Board know and we will be happy to discuss it with you to see if we can work together to make it happen.

SOCIAL CORNER

Dia de Macau Report

A great turnout of 111 members and friends attended Casa's Dia de Macau celebration on Saturday June 26th. The evening began with a Mass dedicated for the intention of members of the Macanese community worldwide past and present. Members then gathered in the Church Hall and had a bit of time to socialize before they sat down to a scrumptious Portuguese catered dinner.

An event such as this requires much planning and coordination so the Board would like to specifically mention those who helped make this such a resounding success. Americo secured the premises for us and came early to open up the Hall so that we could do our set up the day before and on the day as well. While on the subject of setting up, my thanks go to the "crew" of: Antonia; Peter; Deniz; Mica; Armando; Lilia; Elfrida and my fellow members of the Board. Lilia was the lector for the First reading at Mass and Archer lead us in Grace before dinner. We had a couple of our younger members assist us as well. Christina helped with registration and throughout dinner, Jeremy helped tend the soft drink bar. As for the entertainment, this was provided by the enthusiastic members of the Coral along with Armando whose musical artistry drew members onto the dance floor. Thanks also to Mica and Peter for capturing the event on video and photos which have been posted to our website. Last but not least my deepest thanks to all of you who supported us and cooperated in finding ways to get your forms to us despite the postal strike. ► Coral video and photos are on our website, www.casademacau.ca ◀



Ivonne Carion * Angie Malig * Pedro/Frances Rozario * Maldred Airosa
Standing: Armando Santos * Mica Airosa * Maria Louiza de Carvalho



Jan Barros * Terry/Joe Larcina * Norma Costa * Mercia Larcina
Standing: Leo Barros * Celsa/Archer Larcina * Meno Larcina



Iolanda Vertefeuille * Isabel da Cunha * Isabel Dias * Ana Tang * Olinda
Xavier
Standing: Augusto Tang * Isabel Gomes da Silva * Ambrosio Tang

India/Malay Night

Weeks before the cut off date we had reached our maximum number of people we could accept to attend this event. For those who had to be turned away, our apologies, but let that be a lesson to all...don't leave your submission until the cut off date or you could risk disappointment.

In keeping with the theme of the evening, the Board tried to include Indian touches here are there to make the event that much more festive. A few weeks prior to the event, the Board did a recognizance of India Town spending an afternoon walking along Gerrard Street. Tapping into our inner childhood fond memories of playing dress up, we decided to throw caution to the wind and we each purchased ourselves an outfit. We also picked up some accessories

which we felt would enhance the flavour of the evening. For those who attended, they could hear the rhythmic beat of *Tablas* (drums) and twang of the sitar coming from our stereo and smell the inviting aroma of curry wafting down the hallway even before they even entered the Casa. Upon entering, every member had a *bindi* placed on their forehead (An adornment that can be worn for a festive occasion). While everyone was socializing before dinner, samosas were served to all. With welcoming address and thank yous completed it was down to the serious business of dinner. We would once again like to thank the following for preparing a most delectable selection of food in keeping with the theme: Mike (Indian Lamb Curry); Pedro (Macanese Beef brisket and tendon Curry); Lilia (Malay chicken Curry); Maureen (Porco Vinho D'Alho); Monica (Gado Gado); Joss (Curried vegetables); Marie-Cecile (Pepinho) and Virginia (braised mix vegetables). To accompany all the food we had Naan bread, rice and Singapore vermicelli. Desserts were made by: Nancy (Baji); Cintia (Bolo Menino and Goan styled Bebinga) and Virginia (Batatada).

On behalf of the Board I would like to thank all who embraced the theme of the evening. You certainly added to the colour and ambiance of the entire evening. ► More photos are posted at www.casademacau.ca ◀



Marie-Cecile Remedios Barbara Baptista Bernie Vieira Marie Louise & Chang Monica Alves



Celsa Larcina Chang Marie Louise Ozorio Cleo Barros Joyce



Members socializing before dinner

Bingo/Minchi Evening

We had 57 members eager to try their luck at Bingo and then enjoy a meal of a great variety of Minchis. There was a frenzy of card sales at the door, as each member who purchased a packet of bingo sheets had a possible sixty chances to take home some prize money. The prize monies ranged from \$20.00 up to \$150.00.

The crowd waited in anticipation, each with their dabbers in hand as the number for the first game was called. If they were not lucky at bingo, they enjoyed the Minchi feast which followed. We had a wonderful selection of over fourteen Minchis, six vegetables, followed by six scrumptious desserts. There were so many varieties of Minchis to satisfy all the different taste buds. We had 'traditional Minchis', with diced fried potatoes, funsee, saffron, and chilli to name a few, all made with minced beef, pork or chicken. There was even a surprise Minchi with bacalhau.

Fun was had by all, especially the winners. On behalf of the Board, we would like to thank all those who participated and those who contributed to the "Minchi" Feast. (Pictures posted on the Casa website www.casademacau.ca)

Maldred Airosa celebrates her 91st Birthday



Maldred Airosa celebrated her 91st birthday on August surrounded by her family, daughters Susana (& Manuel Costa) and Micaela (& Armando Santos), son Fernando from Brazil, grandson Jason (& wife Tara) from Vancouver, granddaughter Olivia and great-grandson Myles from the UK, (Her son Alex who lives in Brazil was unable to attend at the last minute.)

“Auntie” as she is known to many of her friends, floored everyone with her witty speech, she had everyone in stitches. She mentioned that she enjoys going to Casa to play mahjong with her friends and socialize; she likes being pampered because of her age. Aunty said that she felt blessed for living so long and to have met so many friends. To conclude, Aunty wished everyone a very long life, at least, as long as hers. Happy Birthday was sung in English, then Portuguese and Chinese by those present.

Aunty and members of her family are very staunch supporters of the Casa.

THE NEXT GENERATION OF MACANESE

Allow me to introduce you to one of Casa's young members, a very special young lady - Andrea de Lemos. Andrea was born with a hearing impairment and has to communicate by sign language. It was only at the age of 21 that she had a cochlear implant which opened the door for her to hear environmental sounds and improved her communication with hearing the world,



Andrea

After graduating from Dante Alighieri High School for normal, and hearing impaired students, Andrea applied and was accepted by OCAD (Ontario College of Arts and Design University). She worked diligently for 8 years and in 2009 she graduated as an Associate of OCAD as a Graphic Designer ("GD"). Andrea attributes her success to her parents, Victoria and Carlos de Lemos for their endless patience and unwavering support.



Andrea worked as a "GD" intern for a Canadian bank and is currently working as a "GD" in a design and print business. She has posted many of her works in her portfolio web-

page and invites readers to visit: <http://heli911.com/adl> Her wish is to one day work as a "GD" for a large corporation where she could use her work to communicate her ideas. *"If anyone is in a position to make Andrea's wish come true, please contact her – thank you."*

Andrea has a passion for drawing, chatting with her friends over the internet using sign language, *listening* to songs (*she says this is a surprise to many people*), and enjoys watching movies.

Well young lady, thank you very much for your contribution in helping me put this article together, on behalf of the members of Casa, we wish you all the best for your future endeavours.

•Cochlear implant: A small complex electronic device that is surgically placed (implanted) within the inner ear to help persons with certain types of [deafness](#) to hear. Cochlear implants rarely cure severe or profound deafness but they can help some hearing-impaired people to distinguish the sounds of language clearly enough to participate in a verbal environment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Woodbine Races

If you still have not registered for this event, there are still spots available even though the cut off has passed. Please let Celsa know ASAP. Call her at (416) 447-6959 and make arrangements with her for payment.

Gastronomia Cooking Event

On **Saturday October 22nd**, the Board has made arrangements to book the same facility Casa has been using in the past but with a bit of a difference. This time, we will be able to use the larger service kitchen in the other room. With the help of Cintia, our Casa's Gastronomia Representative, we have decided on two main course dishes and two sweets which members will be signing up to learn how to make. Rather than the event just being a demonstration, members will be participating fully in the preparation, cleaning up and enjoying the fruits of their labour under the guidance of Cintia and a few other members familiar with the recipes. The premise behind the whole gastronomia movement is not only the reviving and preservation of Macanese recipes but going hand in hand with this is to pass on the techniques and methods of the preparation of the dishes. The two entrées will be: *Galinha Chau Chau Parida* and *Bacalhau à Brás* while the sweets will be *Pudim gelatina ananas* and as Christmas is just around the corner, we will be baking batches of *Genete Cornstarch*. The Registration form with the details can be found on the Calendar of Events Page. Sign up early as space is limited and book your place at one of the cooking "stations". Bring an apron and a healthy appetite.

Knitting and Crochet circle

Members are reminded that at our Brainstorming Event held in March, a suggestion was made that members could get together and produce prayer shawls which we will have blessed and then given to members who we hope will find comfort by receiving one. We are therefore hoping to organize a group of members willing to give of their time and talents to this project. The Board has approached several members who are proficient in the art of knitting and/or crocheting and who are willing to share their knowledge with fellow members. If you are interested in joining the group please give your name to any member of the Board. All that is required of you is your willingness to learn and give of your time. The group will start meeting in the latter part of October. Those who register will be informed of the exact start up date.

Mass for the Deceased

We will be having a special Mass said for the intensions of members of our Macanese community who have passed this last year. This will be at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary at 11 am on **Saturday, November 12th**. Following Mass, a reception will be held at the Casa. As space is limited at the Casa and we will need to calculate the amount of refreshments needed, please register by filling in the form **ONLY** if you intend to come to the reception. If you choose to just attend **ONLY** the Mass, you need not register.

Christmas Party

Even though currently we are in the midst of a heat wave, members can appreciate that much planning and preparations are done often times six months or more in advance of an event. Casa's Christmas Party planning is no exception. Our party will be held on **Saturday December 3rd** at the Shangri-La Banquet Hall in the Beaumont Room. (Please refer to the Christmas Flier for the address, menu and map) Members will have a choice of the entrée of either Prime Rib Roast or Chicken Supreme with Rosemary Sauce (Please indicate your choice on the Registration Form). There will be prizes as well as a 20 – 30 – 50 draw which will also be conducted. We encourage members and their families to come and bring your friends as well. Music and entertainment will be provided. We hope that Casa's Christmas party will kick off your Christmas season celebrations with a bang!

Constitution

The Board has received only one response from a member, Chuck Gonsalves, who has made several suggestions to amend the Constitution. In the meantime the Board has been working diligently on redrafting Casa's Constitution. In due course a final draft of the recommended amendments will be sent to all members for review. The Board will be engaging a lawyer to look over this draft first to make sure the wording and "spirit" of the Constitution has been captured in its pages. Members will be sent the final draft with all the recommended resolutions in a separate mailing which will include the Notice of the AGM/EGM later in the year. All members will have time to review the amendments and read the reasons for the recommended amendments and come prepared to vote on the various resolutions at the Meeting which will be called February 2012.

Youth Representative Choices

When the call was put out for our Casa youth to apply to be our representative for the upcoming 2nd Youth Encontro we received a total of 3 applications. As promised, the names of the candidates and their submissions are included below with a report written by Marie Louise, one of the members of the panel of the selection Committee.

Why I would like to represent Casa at the 2nd Youth Encontro - By Jeffrey Ashley

As a man of Macau decent, life for me has always been about finding the right fit. And today, I believe I my experiences with the club and the missions of the Youth Encontro are a perfect fit. I feel I represent the club well as I have been fairly active in the numerous club activities and youth group. I have attended the annual Christmas party every year. I have also attended other social events organized by the club such as Portuguese lessons. Though short,

these lessons allowed me to experience another language and pick up the simple conversational phrases and skills which will be helpful for communication purposes on the trip. Whenever there was a club dinner, I was present, helping out, socializing with older club member, getting to know their stories, and of course, enjoying the awesome food.

I was one of the founding members of the club, along with my sister-in-law and my cousin. I attended many of the youth social functions that were organized by the group, such as skiing and laser tag. This shows my deepest commitment to the club, as well as a suitable youth representative of the club for the trip to Hong Kong and Macau. To keep the spirit of Macau alive, and our heritage lineage passed on to the next generation, please select me, Jeffrey Ashley, as the one to represent our Macau club on the Youth Encontro.

One last reason that I really wish to be chosen for this one in a lifetime opportunity is because of my dear grandmother, Annie Baradas. It has always been one of her unrequited dreams for her grandson to visit the place she was born and grew up. To learn of its past, to experience its present, and to be a part of its future. I feel through her stories, and my experience in being part of Casa, I can translate the trip into a memorable one for me, and grow myself. Thank you.

For your consideration to be Casa's Youth Representative – By Andrew Alves Brander

In July 2009, I stepped off a plane onto a very hot tarmac amongst a humid haze. A look of surprise is what the awaiting local photographers were able to capture as I started to question in my head who they were trying to get a picture of. Later that evening when I arrived with my fellow delegates at the Portuguese school of Macau the heat was only made worse by the strained camera lights of awaiting camera crews.

Soon enough I recognized that the presence of the media was more than a coincidence. Rather they were there for us, to cover our stories, our culture, and our heritage. And that alone was newsworthy.

It became very clear, very quickly that being given the opportunity to represent Casa de Macau Toronto at the inaugural Youth Encontro was a huge responsibility, one not to be taken lightly.

I knew it was a great honor that had been given to me; being trusted by our membership to serve as a delegate, to speak on behalf of our association. However, more than that, it was an opportunity to work in cooperation with other Macanese youth from across the world to discuss our past, present and future.

Throughout the week, I took that responsibility seriously, always acting in a manner that our membership would come to expect. From the opening ceremonies and mass at Sé Cathedral to our meeting with the APIM executive, from the lessons in Macanese gastronomy to our visit of the residence of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, there was so much to learn and share with the others.

And what we learned was plenty. Because this Encontro was about much more than a free trip. Nor was it just about our food and our music, though I will say these are very much important parts. But we learned about working together as chapters in a global community to preserve that culture and make it our responsibility to make sure here at home, we are doing our best to preserve the one we left back in Macau.

So that is why I write you today. One of the commitments that came out of the last Encontro was a pledge to continue investing in the youth and doing everything possible to keep the trend going in the right direction. To revitalize our youth across the world, to not lose our culture in a generation.

Our Casa needs to be represented at this Encontro. We need our delegates to be present, to renew, on behalf of our casa, our commitment to being a partner in making sure that our youth continue to live our culture. I know how inspired I was from the Encontro in 2009. Truly it was the experience of a lifetime. For that reason, I hope our Casa is able to find an appropriate amount of delegates who can benefit from the same experience I had. However, if you find yourself in need of someone who has remained committed to the goals and principals of the casa, or simply someone

to accompany, guide and mentor others attending, I would respectfully submit to you that I would be more than capable of doing that.

The trust this Casa has shown to me has been nothing short of incredible. It is something I hold in great esteem, and I would never do anything to compromise that.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Why I would like to represent the Casa at the 2nd Youth Encontro
(Gaining a New Understanding of My Macanese Culture) - By Jeremy Edward Cruz**

When I first learned about the forthcoming Youth Encontro in Macau, I thought to myself, “What do I know about my Macanese heritage?” Apart from tasting several staples in Macanese cuisine, such as minchi and bacalhau, my knowledge of Macanese heritage has been my exposure to events hosted by the Casa. Although food is an important aspect, my experience to other aspects of Macanese culture has been rather limited.

Going to the Youth Encontro will provide me with a wonderful opportunity to further expand my understanding of Macanese culture. In addition, I will be introduced to different cultural traditions, such as language and the arts. Having never been to Macau, I would like to be given the opportunity to experience, for a moment, the atmosphere, buildings and culture many members of the Casa had been able to enjoy as a youth. This Encontro will allow me and other youths from across the world to “walk in their shoes” and experience the wonderful culture many members of the Casa have grown up with.

I am a recent graduate of the University of Toronto. I have grown up with the Casa and throughout my education, I have been able further expand my knowledge both academically and about my culture and heritage. Attending the Youth Encontro will give me the opportunity to continue participating, experiencing, and learning about the importance of my culture and background.

As a youth, I am often referred to as the “future of the Casa.” As a member of our Casa, attending the Youth Encontro will allow me to contribute my knowledge and understanding of the Macanese culture to our club both in the present and the future. As a majority of the members are getting on in their years, the Youth Encontro is a wonderful opportunity for me to be exposed to Macanese culture and help ease the transition of our Casa’s youth succeeding into the running of the club.

As a youth eager to learn more about my cultural identity, I believe that I would make a great representative for our Toronto Casa. As youths gather from various Casas around the world to enhance and strengthen their knowledge of their Macanese identity, it is of utmost importance to communicate with the other Casas on how to effectively display the important aspects of our club to our Macanese community. From old to new, elderly to younger members, it is important to demonstrate to others that there is more to my Macanese heritage than just food.

Thank you for the opportunity to be a Youth representative for our Casa and I hope to be chosen to represent our club at the Youth Encontro.

The above submissions have identified the 3 candidates namely: Jeffrey Ashley; Andrew Brander; and Jeremy Cruz. The selection committee consists of Micaela Airoso, Gloria Anok and any 3 of the following Executives: Marie-

Cecile Remedies, Bernardine Vieira, Barbara Baptista and Marie Louise Chang. It was decided that when voting takes place, one of the 4 Executives will abstain to ensure there is a tie breaker. Monica Alves has abstained from all comments and voting.

The written submissions were first given to the members of the panel with all identifiable information obliterated. In other words we did not know who wrote the submissions. The panel met, made their preliminary selections and ranked the candidates. We were then given the full submissions as indicated above and the panel then interviewed

each candidate separately. Each member of the selection committee then wrote their comments and will be meeting to finalize their choice(s).

As we are still awaiting information from Macau, we are unable to say which of the candidates will represent our Casa. We have no information as to the numbers of youths we are expected to send, when the Encontro will take place or even if it will take place this year. We have been informed that information is forthcoming but at the time of going to print we have not received any communication from Macau.

Office DIY Makeover

Phase two of this “project” the Board has undertaken has been completed. We thank the few members who showed up on July 16th to take some of the items offered. By 1 pm we had disposed of everything. Over the next weeks we intend to freshen up the office with a new coat of paint before we order some furniture and cabinetry which will complete the Makeover. We hope that once this has been done, the Office space will be more optimally utilized.

An unexpected maintenance issue has arisen concerning the clubhouse. We have been notified by management that as the building is now 15 years old, they strongly recommend that we replace the water tank currently suspended in the drop ceiling in our unit. Several water tanks in the building have sprung leaks in the recent past which have caused damage to the units and neighbouring units as well. In all likelihood that is what we might be facing sooner rather than later. Being the responsible caretakers of Fundação Oriente’s property we have taken the appropriate steps to make sure this potential catastrophe will not happen. We have made arrangements for the removal of the old water tank and have instructed the plumber to connect our pipe to the building’s water tank reservoir that way eliminating the possibility of further tank troubles in the future. We have written to Fundação Oriente informing them of this and the other improvements made to their units such as the kitchen counter and cupboard additions in the hopes that they will assist us with shouldering some of the financial burden the Casa has assumed. Unfortunately to date they have denied our request for any financial assistance.

Dear All



Now that I am retired, the new year for me begins in September and not January. September is a time when the summer break is over and a new cycle begins - school resumes; as will my courses and volunteer work. It has always been an invigorating time of the year for me, and Fall is my favourite season. Hopefully everyone enjoyed their Summer.

I wonder how many of our members visit Casa’s website www.casademacau.ca ? Well, on the night of that horrendous storm on

*August 24th I was on my computer working on this issue when I decided to revisit some of the old newsletters and photo gallery. I had not intended to spend as much time as I did but nevertheless, when I clicked on the **Events Gallery** and surfed through the years of events (2005 to the present), it brought back wonderful memories and I’m sure it will for you too, try it.*

*In closing, my personal good wishes and that of the Executives for a **Happy Halloween** and **Blessed Thanksgiving** which will be upon us soon enough.*

Gloria

CASA CHRISTMAS PARTY

DATE: DECEMBER 3, 2011

PLACE: SHANGRI-LA BANQUET & CONVENTION CENTRE
50 ESNA PARK DRIVE, MARKHAM

TIME: 6 PM REGISTRATION & 7 PM DINNER

MENU

ROLLS & BUTTER

THREE MUSHROOMS & ROASTED GARLIC BISQUE

CAESAR SALAD WITH GARLIC CROUTONS

PRIME RIB ROAST

OR

CHICKEN SUPREME WITH ROSEMARY SAUCE

ROAST HERB POTATOES & MEDLEY OF SEASONAL VEGETABLES

DECADENT CHOCOLATE MOUSSE CAKE

TEA & COFFEE

FRUITS AND MACANESE SWEET TABLE

CASH BAR

