

LUSITANO BULLETIN

*The Publication of the
Lusitano Club of California*



VOLUME 19 ISSUE NO. 3

FALL 2009



*Justin Schwab-Vieira, Lara & Vanessa Roliz representing
Lusitano Club of California at the 2009 Macau Youth Encontro*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Nuno Prata da Cruz.....	2
2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS	3
A TRIBUTE TO MARIO BRITTO by A. Jorge da Silva.....	4
ANNOUNCEMENTS	4
ANNUAL PICNIC by Maria Roliz.....	5
CASINO DAY by Jessica Xavier.....	7
FUND-RAISER FOR THE MCC by Armando "Pinky" da Silva...9	
MACAU CULTURAL CENTER by Maria "Zinha" Gomes.....	11
MACAU YOUTH ENCONTRO by Justin Schwab-Vieira.....	14
DIASPORA MACAENSE TO CALIFORNIA by A. Jorge da Silva...17	
THE LUSITANO CLUB by Felipe Nery.....	19
A MACAISTA MIRACLE by Carl Bunje.....	20
WHAT'S IN A NAME by Filomeno Baptista.....	22
THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE by Felipe Nery.....	24
PRESS RELEASE DOCUMENTARY "OU MUN IAN"	25
WORD SCRAMBLE by Maria Roliz.....	26

President's Message

Dear fellow members,

I would like to thank my dedicated and selfless Board of Directors for their efforts this last quarter. Since our previous bulletin, the Lusitano Club of California has had a couple of successful functions. In July we had our annual picnic at Beresford Park in San Mateo and in August, our second Casino Day event, this time in Oakland at the Humanist Hall.

Our three youth representatives returned from an outstanding trip to Macau with a suitcase loaded with stories and fond memories. They were given the lavish VIP treatment and no expense was spared on them. The highlight of the trip was a 3 day visit to Guangzhou (Canton), China where they were greeted by representatives of the municipal government. In the words of one of our returning representatives, "they must have spent many thousands of dollars on each of us to put such a first class rated event". Lusitano of California thanks the Macau RAEM government for their generosity.

In a few weeks time, 20 members of our Club along with a dozen or so members from Casa de Macau, Australia will be departing SFO for their 10 day trip to Portugal. They will travel from northern Portugal all the way south to the Algarve. Along the way, their motor coach will be visiting Braga, Porto, Fatima, Lisbon and Albufeira amongst other scenic routes. Arrangements have been made for a friendly social on October 25 at the clubhouse premises of the Casa de Macau, Portugal in Lisbon.

This year also marks the 10th Anniversary of Macau since its handover and we will be hosting a joint dinner dance with Casa de Macau & UMA in Fremont on November 22 to celebrate this milestone (see page 3). Hope you will be able to join us.

Work is progressing well at the MCC building in Fremont. Very soon its doors will open for our use where we can practice line dancing, read some Portuguese books, or sharpen our mahjong skills.

Keep sending in your suggestions and comments on how we can make the Club more enjoyable to you in particular.

Respectfully yours,
Nuno Prata da Cruz, President

2009 Calendar of Events

Oct 15-26: 10 day trip to Portugal

Porto/Braga/Guimaraes/Bucaco/Fatima/Batalha/Obidos/
Lisboa/Evora/Albufeira

**Sun, Nov 22 5-10pm: Macau RAEM 10th Anniversary Dinner
Dance, Asian Pearl Restaurant, Fremont**

**Sat, Dec 5 6-11pm: Annual Christmas Party, San Mateo Elks
Lodge**



***REGIÃO ADMINISTRATIVA ESPECIAL
DE MACAU***

10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

DINNER DANCE

*Hosted jointly by
Casa de Macau, USA
Lusitano Club of California
União Macaense Americana*

**On Sunday, November 22nd, 2009
5 PM No Host Social Hour; 6 PM Dinner
A+ ASIAN PEARL RESTAURANT
43635 Bosccell Road, Fremont, California
Telephone: 510-979-1368**

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: NOVEMBER 1ST, 2009

**COST PER PERSON: DONATION OF \$15 OR MORE TO
MACAU CULTURAL CENTER**

**MAKE CHECK(S) PAYABLE TO: "MACAU CULTURAL CENTER"
AND MAIL TO: 582 MARKET ST. #1905, S.F., CA 94104**

**CONTACT JESSICA XAVIER
TELEPHONE: 925-354-7999
EMAIL: JESSX823@YAHOO.COM**

**Please make reservations early as space is limited.
First Come First Served.**

A Tribute to Mario Britto

By Antonio M. Pacheco Jorge da Silva

Aug 28, 1930 - Jun 22, 2009



This past June, Mario Britto passed away at the age of 79. Those of us from the early days will remember the Board meetings at Mario's house and the fine Macanese cooking skills displayed by his wife Rita. Many of the gifts for the children at our Christmas party in our earlier years were courtesy of Mario. He was a great supporter of the Lusitano Club of California. He will be dearly missed.

Mario Britto was the second President of the Lusitano Club of California serving from the spring of 1987 to the spring of 1992. He served as vice-president in 1992, then remained a Director for several years afterward. This mild mannered and gentle man in every sense of the word is probably best remembered by the original members of Lusitano as our field hockey umpire who gave of his time for the love of the game and to support our hockey team. He umpired at Club de Recreio for many years before coming to California.

Mario was a friend and a dedicated man with a serious side to his demeanor. But those who knew him could see the impish look in his eye to realize that many times he was just testing one's reaction.

We will miss him and some, as I, can now imagine him umpiring somewhere beyond raising one arm and pointing his finger on the spot for a short corner. You were great, Mario! I will never forget you and the friendship we shared on and off the field.

Announcements

McDougall Award for Young Writers:

This is an ongoing contest for our members and their children and will be judged at the end of each quarter when a minimum of 3 entries are received from writers 12-18 yrs old and 19-30 yrs old. Please email your entry to m_roliz@yahoo.com.

Annual Picnic

By Maria Roliz

Fun, food, family and friends filled the air at the Lusitano annual picnic on Saturday, July 29th at the San Mateo Beresford Park with some 175 attendees including out-of-towners; Robert & Antonia Olaes from Australia, Duarte & Lourdes Maher from Brasil, Manuel Victor from Vancouver, Leda Pomeroy from Torrance, and Rick Pomeroy from San Luis Obispo. We were also honored to have a company of singers, including Eric Ribeiro Jr. and Carlos da Costa with Ernie Sequeira on guitar, serenading sweet oldies to a hearty crowd drawing attention to Amelia Maher for turning 89 and our other July birthday babies for another happy year. The kids happily enjoyed games such as water balloon toss, sack race, and three-legged race. The big kids (adults) played volleyball and mahjong, listened to music, enjoyed the conversation and laughter, and tried their luck at the raffle with big winners: Jojo Xavier, John de Sousa and Miguel Roliz. Thank you to all of the volunteers for another successful and enjoyable picnic. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year.



Some of our July birthday celebrants

The Birthday Choir



Front Row: Ernie Sequeira & Carlos da Costa

Back Row: Eric Ribeiro Jr., Luiz Sequeira, Barbara Vas, Fernanda Barros, Evelyn Nyland, Antonia Olaes & Sharon de Sousa



*Tila Danenberg & Robert Olaes
not missing a chance to dance
to the lovely music and
sing-a-long*

*Duarte Maher (Brasil), Robert
Roliz & Robert Olaes (Australia)*





Our Happy Raffle Winners

Casino Day

By Jessica Xavier

Mahjong, blackjack and pai gow! Gambling is one of the major attractions of Macau. Casinos are everywhere enticing the prospective winners (and losers) to walk through their light-filled doorways, place their bets and see where Lady Luck takes them. Well, it wasn't the Venetian or the Lisboa...but it sure was fun! Lusitano members attended Macau Casino Day on Saturday, Aug. 22 at the Humanist Hall in Oakland. Each attendee was given \$20 in poker chips to play their choice of pai gow and blackjack which included a special wheel of fortune. The "pleasure thrill seekers" engaged in the Mahjong contest for the entire length of the event with only a short break for lunch. Authentic Macanese fare was served comprising of minchi & potatoes, hot links with vegetables (by Dorothy Oliveira), Portuguese chicken (by Lulu Xavier), and gummi-gummi (by Jessica Xavier). The mahjong contest winner was Tila Danenberg and the gaming winner was Virginia Yoshida. Each winner won a lovely & shiny trophy, and bragging rights, of

course! The purpose of this event was to raise money for our annual student scholarship. Thank you to all those who donated to the scholarship fund. Your generous gift enables us to award scholarships to deserving students from our community.



The Group of Fun Seeking Gamblers!



The Trophy Winners

***Pai Gow in action
amongst other
games being played***



Bet it all!

Fund Raiser For The MCC

By Armando "Pinky" da Silva

The Board of Directors of the Macau Cultural Center comprising of 3 representatives from Casa de Macau USA, Lusitano Club of California, and UMA Inc., led by its President, Maria Roliz, hosted a fund-raising picnic on Sunday 9/13/2009 to provide funds for the renovation of its building in Fremont. The occasion was held at Beresford Park in San Mateo on a perfect day where even the weather cooperated. Over sixty people in all attended the picnic. Raquel Remedios, President of UMA State Board was in charge of selling raffle tickets, and succeeded in getting everyone present to participate in the 50-50 cash drawing.



Beresford Park is used by Lusitano for its annual picnics and clambakes. This day its practiced crew of barbeque masters, Clem Esmail, Hunter Choi, Jessica Xavier, Dorothy Oliveira were joined by new hands Tony Capitule (Casa de Macau) and Maureen Xavier (UMA). They flipped the seasoned hamburgers, marinated chicken wings, and hot links to perfection over smoky open flame fire-pits fired by Peter Rull. Dorothy Oliveira, Lusitano's treasurer and commander-in-chef, marinated the chicken wings and prepared her notable Korean cold noodles and walnut berry salad. Maureen Xavier prepared her generous-sized hamburger patties which not only complemented but amplified the great tastes of all the barbequed meats. Lusitano director Jessica Xavier served up a picnic favorite, chilled mixed-cocktail almond jello. No summer-time picnic would be complete without mouth

dripping watermelon slices, and no Lusitano picnic could conclude without a Macanese-style cake-dessert, this time a classy yellow cake made by Lusitano director, Ken Harper.

Colorful photos taken by Robert and Maria Roliz illuminate this event.

***Lunch time!
Time to enjoy the
delicious spread
prepared by our
heart-working
volunteers***



***Raquel Remedios
making her rounds
with the 50-50 cash
raffle sales to Maria
de Souza, Ken Harper
& Bryan da Luz***

***Cathy Hope, Lucille
Figueiredo, Clem
Esmail,
Peter Rull,
Dorothy Oliveira &
Camille Silva-Netto
enjoying the cool
weather***



Macau Cultural Center

By Maria “Zinha” Gomes
Fund Raising Chairperson of MCC

The floor in our main hall **WILL BE REFINISHED**. We are delighted to report that we have received enough donations to re-finish the floor; our special thanks go to the San Mateo Chapter of UMA who made up the difference needed to get the floor re-finished. The floor will be re-finished just as soon as the rest of the refurbishing work in the main hall is completed. On behalf of MCC we would like to thank the following who have donated to this cause:

*UMA, INC., SAN MATEO
ELSA & LICHY DA LUZ
LAWRENCE & FANNY GILL
DAVID & DOREEN MCKISSACK
JOHN & CAROL MONTEIRO
THE FAMILY OF RIGOBERTO ROLIZ
JIM & KRISTINE SILVA*

“MCC Logo & Signage Sponsors”: This sponsorship in the amount of **\$300 or more** is still open. The cost to get the signage and lighting installed will be over \$6,000. We do not have the needed funds at this time, so we will have to wait on this project. We thank the following for their generous donations, and we hope that it will not be too long before we have enough donations to get this done.

*UMA, INC., SAN MATEO
EDUARDO R. COLLACO
AL & DORIE MENDOZA
JOHN & CAROL MONTEIRO
JIM & KRISTINE SILVA
JESSICA J. XAVIER*

“Window Sponsors”: This sponsorship is also still open, and we welcome additional **“Window Sponsors” in the amount of \$10,000 or more**.

“Façade Sponsors”: The current construction work does not encompass the façade of the building. The façade work, which includes the necessary renovation to upgrade the store fronts on the street level to bring it up to code, will make it possible for us to

rent our commercial space. The cost of architectural fees plus the construction work will cost us around \$50,000. The construction work on this can be done after we occupy the two upper levels. However we are now beginning to solicit and raise funds to get this done so we can generate rental income; thus we have a new category **“Façade Sponsors” in the amount of \$500 or more.** We are very happy to report that we have some generous individuals who have launched our Façade Sponsorship. We would like to thank

*LUSITANO CLUB OF CALIFORNIA
JOHN & CAROL MONTEIRO
RAQUEL & JORGE REMEDIOS
JIM & KRISTINE SILVA*

for moving us closer to being able to earn rental income from our street level stores. All you business minded individuals can surely appreciate the importance of this, so come help us out with your donations.

Finally we have our on-going **“2009 Friends of MCC”** whose **donation of \$100 or more** is helping to sustain the continued existence of MCC. We extend our thanks to the following people, particularly those who are also our “Original Friends of MCC”.

PORTUGAL MACAU INSTITUTE USA	JOHN & CAROL MONTEIRO
UMA, INC., SAN MATEO	MANUEL & JAN NUNES
MERLINDE & RONALD BROWN	BEN & YVONNE PAREDES
CECILIA YVANOVICH BURROUGHS	ARMANDO & HELENA GOMES RIBEIRO
FREDERICO AUGUSTO COLLACO	JIM & KRISTINE SILVA
ELSA & LICHY DA LUZ	LINDA TISON
INACIO & TERESA DA ROSA	FRANCES GAAN WEBER
FLORENCE DA SILVA	
ANITA DOS SANTOS & FAMILY	<u>IN MEMORY OF:</u>
KENNETH HARPER	HELGA E. DA LUZ
ADALEINE & EDMOND LEE	ESTELLA ROCHA DOS SANTOS
PAUL & SUSANA LEUNG	HENRIQUE “HENRY” DOS SANTOS
ANATOLE, NAIR & TANI MAHER	JOAQUIM & CLOTILDE XAVIER

Please send your donations for any of the above categories made out to “Macau Cultural Center”, and mail the donation to Macau Cultural Center, Inc., 582 Market St. #1905, San Francisco, California 94104”.

OUR PG&E TRANSFORMER HAS BEEN INSTALLED!

Here are photos, taken by Arthur Britto, of the Transformer being installed into the vault which is in the sidewalk of our MCC Building. Note the huge trench that had to be dug, the vault that had to be built into the trench, then the Transformer could be installed. This is on J Street outside the MCC building. Our contractors and the workers from PG&E hope to have the necessary electrical work done by the week of September 15th.



Macau Youth Encontro 2009

By Justin Schwab-Vieira, Lusitano Director



Youth Encontro 2009 was an epic event that I am very thankful for being able to experience along with the other youth representatives from around the world. The events were 5-star along with the incredible showing of cuisine and hospitality. There were times that I was left speechless and also times that made me wonder

where the next air conditioned building was. The Encontro helped me understand where my family came from and what being Macanese meant to me. The opportunity to meet other Macanese youth from around the world that were just as, if not more dedicated to their heritage was amazing to experience. The stories of their Casa functions, their favorite Macanese cuisine, and their favorite stories that their grandparents and parents told them over the years made every minute spent with these people timeless.

Our plane landed in Macau mid-morning to 34°c and 85% humidity; weather that we were definitely not accustomed to here in the Bay Area. We were welcomed to Macau by the President of Casa de Macau USA, Henrique Manhao and a gentleman that we called Pucci that were very helpful for the duration of our stay in Macau. We were informed that we were lucky to make it before the typhoon would make its way into the region later that day. After settling down, we decided to head out while we had some time before our first function. We walked down the street to Leal Senado Square....and WOW! the beautiful stone walkways and roads, the Portuguese inspired buildings, Se Cathedral, The Ruins of St. Paul and the little tourist traps that sold everything a tourist wants....key chains and shirts that say Macau! It really was amazing after such a long flight that we were finally here. Actually, I don't think it hit me until I woke up in the morning and went for a walk again when the streets were peaceful and all of the vendors were just waking up to another day of selling trinkets and street food.....I was in Macau; Unbelievable!

The week was filled with activities and functions that were well planned and aimed at our education of our Macanese heritage and a little fun thrown in here and there. We knew that we would have to be prepared for a full agenda...and a full agenda it was. Just like all of the other Encontros of years past, they provided for us fellow Macanese an unforgettable experience. Some highlights of the Youth Encontro 2009 included our Mass at St. Catherine's Cathedral, The Opening Ceremony at the MGM with the exquisitely decorated Grand Ballroom that would be fit for the President, our many tours of museums and historical sites in Macau, the great gastronomy of Macau and China, our trip to Canton and the many temples and historical sites there, The Closing Ceremony and lastly being able to see the growth that Macau has experienced over the years and the plan for the future. Taking in everything that we had the chance to experience on this trip in such a short period of time was amazing. As this was my first trip to Macau, I believe that I finally had a chance to really understand what I am representing here in the USA, it made sense before, but I never had my own experiences to reference....I can now relate to some level.

During the sessions at Youth Encontro 2009 we had many opportunities to speak and listen to all the ideas and concerns from the Youth from other Casas. The statement was presented that we were the future of the Macanese and that we were the ones that had to elevate the momentum and carry it forward to bridge the gap between our elders and the youth. The Youth responded loudly and obliged to the task as it was evident during the sessions that there were some Casas already in full stride. I believe that these sessions opened the eyes of not only me, but for the others as well. I do not believe that the youth thought that there was such an issue with our Macanese heritage dying off.... "Our elders do not share that with us," "We had no idea there was such a gap between the generations," "We need to do more." These statements rang in the classroom as we were brainstorming as a group. This hit me pretty hard even though I was aware of this problem myself; I knew for a start that it would take the entire Macanese youth population with support from our elders to cure this issue. I had many conversations with members of our organizations in Macau and abroad, individuals that have contributed to organizations over the years about my ideas that derived

from the brainstorming sessions and have come up with the first phase of many that we will kick off with the support of Macau.

The youths that we met and formed new relationships with will forever be a part of what we are trying to accomplish. With the support of each of our casas we will be able to move forward what so many generations of Macanese have been doing, “preserving our heritage”. I had the chance to learn a lot on this journey along with the others and hope to utilize this as I progress in my involvement in our club. With the guidance and support of Dr. Luis Sales Marques, APIM and other individuals; Youth Encontro 2009 was a success as it has sparked many of our youths from around the world to join hands and follow through with our ideas. A special “Thank You!” for allowing me to represent Lusitano Club of California at Youth Encontro 2009.



Justin Schwab-Vieira receiving a memorabilia from Dr. Luis Sales Marques, President of the 1st Macau Youth Encontro 2009



1st Macau Youth Encontro 2009



Lusitano's 3 Youth Reps, Justin Schwab-Vieira, Vanessa & Lara Roliz

This and That

DIASPORA MACAENSE TO CALIFORNIA

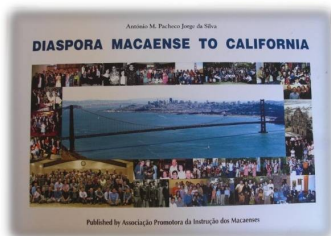
By Antonio M. Pacheco Jorge da Silva

I would like to introduce my new book on the Diaspora to California. I wrote the book on the suggestion of, or in his words “a challenge” from Dr. José Manuel de Oliveira Rodrigues, President of *Associação Promotora da Instrução dos Macaenses* (APIM).

As I said in my presentation at the launching of the book during the closing ceremonies of the Youth Encontro on July 25, 2009:

“This book is about the families who left to settle in California but many, as you know, also settled in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Portugal, and to a lesser extent, other countries in the world. New opportunities for the younger generation in these countries spurred by the unsettled times after the War paved the way for the departure of many in a very short span of time. . . . That we do not lose our identity and that the memories of the names and faces of our ancestors, our families, friends and younger generation of today will be preserved is the purpose of all the books I have written and will yet write about the Macaense people. As time passes our names and faces will not just fade away.”

The book was researched for facts on the community who immigrated to California, here in the United States of America. As the research was conducted on the early immigrants, where they lived, how the first club UMA began followed by the other two, it soon became apparent by reading the UMA and Lusitano Bulletins that our younger generation had uncertainties about their identity and that of the Macaense people. In talking to some



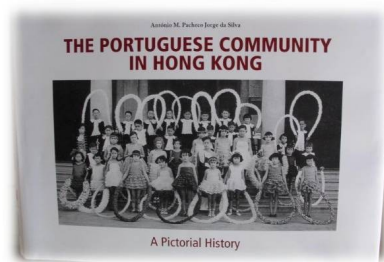
This book about the early Macanese immigrants to California is now available at US\$40 each. Please contact Maria Roliz at m_roliz@yahoo.com or (415)397-0767 to order your copy.

of my own generation and reading some old letters in my files, I also found evidence of some awkwardness in responding to a very common question among the melting pot of immigrants here in California as to “where are you from?” This I felt had to be mitigated by some words on the subject. I have answered this and similar questions in my years living here in California but I have never hesitated in my response.

Whether the Macaenses consider themselves Portuguese as most do, Eurasian, of Chinese and Portuguese descent or Portuguese mixed with other ethnic ancestry, the common denominator is still that they are of Portuguese ancestry. The new revision in the Portuguese section of Wikipedia on the Internet defines the Macaenses in this way:

“A Macaense is not simply an inhabitant and local born citizen of the RAEM of the Republic of China. Macaenses or ‘*filhos da terra*’ are all those who are considered descendants of Europeans whose origins are from families of Portuguese ancestry (the overwhelming majority also having Chinese ancestors and a good portion with Malay, African, Sri Lankan or East Indian ancestry) who settled in Macau or also those intimately linked to the Portuguese community rooted in Macau. . . . Generally the ‘*filhos da terra*’ tend to adopt Portugal as their ‘*Pátria*’ despite that their majority have a small percentage of Portuguese blood. They are considered as Portuguese by descendancy or as Luso-descendants.”

The future Generation is recognized by photo collages in the last three pages of the book. I would like to thank all the parents who sent in the photographs. I am proud and delighted to see so many handsome and beautiful young faces. I would also like to thank the families and individuals who sent in photographs making their faces and names an indelible part of our history and that of the immigrants to California.



Antonio Jorge da Silva's previous book was of the “First Diaspora” when the Macaenses left Macau to look for greener pastures in Hong Kong. This book is also available thru Maria Roliz . Cost US\$60 each.

THE LUSITANO CLUB, A RELIABLE AND FAITHFUL COMPANION

By Felipe B. Nery

This club was the gathering place of the Macanese people in Shanghai and Hong Kong. The word “Luso” or “Lusitano” denotes Portuguese is derived from the ancient word “Lusitania,” which was a site in the Iberian Peninsula where today’s Portugal is located. It was first conquered by the Romans in 139 B.C., then by Pompeii in 73 B.C. It is also the name of a ship (Lusitania) owned by the British Cunard Line which was sunk by a German submarine in 1915, drawing America into World War I as there were some Americans aboard the Lusitania who lost their lives. Why did they name the ship Lusitania is anyone’s guess?

Since the old day Portugal being situated where the nation Lusitania was once located, Portugal is now also known as Lusitania, Luso or Lusitano.

The Macanese people have been using the name Lusitano to indicate that they have an affinity to Portugal. Instead of calling it Macanese or Portuguese Club, they have chosen Lusitano for its name. Evidently, it has a better ring to it.

The Lusitano Club played a tremendous role in Shanghai maintaining its integrity, stability, tranquility and place of refuge during World War II. Our athletes gave a good account of themselves, especially in the game of soccer, we remained consistently on the top rung of the ladder in the international soccer competition. We were also well respected by other clubs, and individuals of various nationalities.

For distraction from conflicts that surrounded Shanghai, the Lusitano Club had Bingo games, Mahjong and Canasta card games. It had a debating circle and they featured some acting performances from time to time. The activities that went on in the club helped to calm the nerves of the members, especially when there was intense fighting between the Chinese and Japanese or between Chinese warlords.

People used the club for birthday parties, marriages and New Year’s Eve parties with a lively band comprising of our boys as musicians where our people could dance to their heart’s delight.

The food provided by the club under the direction of

Belisa Pereira was magnificent especially when either diabo or tacho was on the menu. To top the excellent food, there were also desserts being offered, such as aluar, natas, coscorao, coqueira, empada and so forth. The food not only wetted the appetite of the people, it had a soothing and calming effect.

Besides providing such delightful foods, they had volunteers who conducted cooking classes, as well as, classes in the study of Portuguese or Macanese languages. These activities kept them busy and away from the turmoil of the outside world.

Thus, the Lusitano Club helped its members to weather the storm and emerge in one piece after the conflict. We are now in a new situation in the USA and our faithful companion, the Lusitano Club, with its bulletin is with us as always.

A MACAISTA MIRACLE

By Carl F. Bunje

Pearl Harbor Day found my grandmother Lillia Maria da Silva and my mother Lillia Ladario Bunje living in our home in Manila, Philippines. My father was in New York City on a business trip, and I was in college in Washington, D.C. Communications were impossible for the duration of the war, so my father and I never knew what was happening to our two da Silvas in Manila.

The Japanese army rounded up all their enemy civilians and interned them on the campus of Santa Tomas University. Grandmother had a British Passport from Hong Kong and my mother had a United States Passport being married to my father who was a citizen of the United States.

They were interned at Santa Tomas where they had two cots in an overcrowded classroom. Living was terrible: little food, very crowded, and no privacy. The long miserable future was very discouraging. Our two Cantonese amahs from Hong Kong continued to live in our home and kept in contact with my mother and grandmother while they were interned.

My grandmother and mother would frequently converse with each other in Macanese as was their usual custom. One day, a Japanese officer overheard them talking. He approached them and said that he had spent several years in Brazil and therefore understood Portuguese. So he said to them "I heard you speaking

Portuguese, therefore you must be Portuguese. Japan is not at war with Portugal. Big Mistake! You must not be here. Apology! You must leave, immediately! Go, go now!”

So grandmother and mother dutifully left and returned to our home. ***Just speaking the Macanese language turned into a miracle.*** To return to your own comfortable bed, to your own kitchen, to your clothes and comforts was indeed a miracle. But life was still tough. There was little food, no electricity, no utilities, and no protection from marauders. Survival continued to be a daily worry for mother and grandmother with two women servants living alone in wartime surroundings.

The Macanese language, in itself, is a miracle...how it started, how it developed and now its painful decline. For those of you who still have the language, please preserve it as long as possible. The language is dying; please assist it to breathe as long as you can. This is a historic time. So much is changing and has been lost to us. So, be proud of your heritage.

I am reminded of a poem “Os Lusíadas”, by Luis Vas de Camoes

Cities and Thrones and Powers
Stand in Time's eye,
Almost as long as flowers,
Which daily die
But, as new buds out forth
To glad new men,
Out of the spent and unconsidered Earth
The City rise again



Carl Bunje is a retired lawyer and served as a U.S. naval officer in the Pacific during WWII. Through his mother & grandmother he is related to some da Silvas, de Aquinos, Places of Hong Kong & Macau, and further on to the Rolizs of Shanghai with many of their descendants now as safe citizens of the United States like Carl & his family for the last 2 or more generations. Carl resides with his wife in Palo Alto, CA. Carl with his son Henry on the left.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

By Filomeno Baptista

Some Filho Macs have questioned my choice of words to describe the area in the lower “mid levels” of Hong Kong that our people chose to settle as “Matar Morro”, Kill Moors.

Of course there have been many different versions, for instance, the eminent scholar and author Tony da Silva describes it as “Mato dos Mouros” meaning a thicket or dense undergrowth of the Moors, and Professor Pinky da Silva, an acknowledged authority of all things Macanese, in his article “Minchi an odyssey”, gives the same interpretation.

Against such formidable authorities who am I to put forward a different interpretation? But I do! Since I grew up in that area and have heard it called “mattamoro” or “matomoro” (one word) and have been told recently by two octogenarian former residents that they believe “mattamoro” means literally “Kill Indians”, I decided to look into its etymology more thoroughly.

To begin with our two “grey eminences” interpretation is based on “real” Portuguese words while I believe it was coined by a Macanese or Macaense who spoke patois, that glorious ungrammatical mixture of Portuguese, Spanish, Filipino, Malay, Cantonese and Indian words. An important point to bear in mind is that to publicly declare “Matar Morro” in the 21st century even in jest is to invite criticism, but not so in 19th century Macao. Muslims, Jews and Protestants were implacable enemies of the Church and therefore also of the faithful. We must not forget that Portugal (and Spain) was at war with Islam and after centuries of fighting both countries succeeded in driving the Moors out of the Iberian Peninsula.

The mandate issued to Vasco da Gama by Dom Manuel I directed him not only to discover a new trade route to India but also to engage, convert and to destroy Islam’s monopoly of the spice trade. It was an order that da Gama carried out enthusiastically showing no mercy to any Moslem force unfortunate enough to engage the Portuguese in battle. The conquest and settlement of Goa brought not only merchants and the military but the Church and all of its impedimenta; monasteries, convents and the Inquisition, its own “Murder Incorporated”. Maurice Collis’ superb narrative “The Land of the Great Image” gives an account of Friar

Sabastiao Manrique's adventures in Goa, south east Asia and especially Burma. It paints a vivid picture of life in Goa in the 16th century and the Churches' stranglehold on life in that city, especially the way non Christians are treated, Moslems in particular. This aversion to all things Islam prevailed right up to 19th century Macao.

With this brief background, I will try to prove my theory by recounting the adventures of a fictitious Macanese family newly arrived in Hong Kong, the Mariasantisimas. They are a typical Filhos de Macau family. Conservative, devout Catholics, frugal, believers in the Golden Rule and faithful and frequent practitioners of God's command to "Go ye forth and multiply". The family consists of father Julio who was newly hired by Jardine Matheson as an accounting clerk; his wife Filomena a "stay at home Mom"; his Mother Maria Josepha, a tyrant; two daughters Carlotta and Nora; a son Julio Junior and Angelina, a *criasao*. A *criasao* as some of you may know, is a Chinese female baby sold into slavery by her parents. These tragic children could end up as prostitutes, concubines of rich merchants or as domestic servants. If they are very lucky they would be rescued by nuns and raised in convents in Macau. There they will be taught to read, write and all the skills necessary for a domestic. This was a terrible period and from my research only the Portuguese authorities and the Church tried to do something to eradicate this cruel practice .*

The Mariasantisimas arrived at the Hong Kong/Macau ferry terminal onboard the MV "M.L. Yeung" a precursor of the famous MV "Fat Shan", a gang of coolies was hired to transport the women in sedan chairs to their newly rented flat in Cain Road, while father and son followed on foot. After a tiring 300 yard climb through rough terrain, they eventually arrived at their flat. With great excitement and joy the women surveyed the surrounding area but were stunned to see, less than 50 yards from their apartment, a monstrous building surrounded by high walls. "Cusa sao este"? cried Filomena, Julio timidly replied "Um mesquita de morro". Consternation! One of the daughters exclaimed "Que nojo yo nao gosto morojute" everybody tried to speak at once, the gargoye raised up to her full height of 4'6" and barked "Que termo de vida e este?" Amid the general confusion

Junior decided to add his two cents worth and said “Poofis matar morro ya!” Everyone thought how clever and droll this darling brat was and soon this “bon mot” was heard and quoted by the entire Macanese population of the not so pale settlement. It will eventually be contracted to “mattamoro” and entered into our argot.

P.S. Did you know that across the Rio Grande from Brownsville, Texas is a Mexican town called Matamoros?

**For those who would like to know more about this tragic period of South China's history, I recommend an article written by Ana Maria Amaro in the "Review of Culture" published by the Instituto Cultural of Macau No 20 English Edition published July/September 1994.*

REKINDLED MEMORY OF THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE

By Felipe B. Nery

We may not be aware what impact or good work it has done through the publishing of my article “The Wonderful Priests and Choir at the Christ the King Church and the U.S. Immigration Process” in the Lusitano Bulletin, Summer 2009 issue. This has brought to the surface an awareness of who was responsible for our people to be in this country. Many people have tried hard to enter the USA which is still considered a jewel on this Earth. It was not an easy accomplishment but Father Des Laurie (or Father Des as we called him) did it. He had an office in Hong Kong and as I remember Mrs. Lily Danenberg Silva (Charlie Danenberg's sister) worked for him under the auspices of the Catholic Relief Service which helped many of our people to wade through the jungle of red tape and clear the way for the Macanese people to come into the USA.

These events occurred in the 1950s and somehow due to the length of time, it has clouded our memories. But I humbly feel that in Heaven these are forces (perhaps through Rigo Roliz's influence) that makes me rekindle the memory so that we may now offer our individual help to the Catholic Relief Service.

Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the catholic community that provides assistance to people in need in more than 100 countries. Website: crs.org

PRESS RELEASE OF THE DOCUMENTARY “OU MUN IAN, MACAENSES” IN LISBON

On Sept. 17, 2009, the testing edition of the documentary “Ou Mun Ian, Macaenses” was screened and presented in the Macao Economic and Trade Representative Office in Lisbon.

The screening was launched by the welcome message of the Representative Office’s deputy director, Gabriela Cesar. The vice-president of the International Institute of Macau (IIM), Jose Amaral also gave a speech.

The producer and conceptual author, Cheong Kin Man had presented the signification and the objectives of the document before the screening started.

The project was subsidized by the IIM, Banco Nacional Ultramarino, Cultural Affairs Bureau of Macao SAR Government & Macao Foundation, and supported by the Fundação Oriente, Delegation of the IIM in Lisbon and RTP (Radio and Television of Portugal), etc.

Some Portuguese institutions such as Casa de Macau, Centro Científico e Cultural de Macau, Holy Name of God Foundation, Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa, etc. also provided collaborations to this project.



This documentary screening in Lisbon includes some of the interviews done in San Francisco last December by Miguel Cheong Kin Man. “Ou Mun Ian, Macaenses” focuses on the cultural identity of the general Macau people (details as published in the Lusitano Spring 2009 Bulletin Vol. 19 Issue 18). This project will be continued in Portugal and Macau.

Word Scramble

By Maria Roliz

Correction: Thank you for calling our attention to the error on our Word Scramble published in our Lusitano Summer 2009 Bulletin. The word NOVEMBRO was erroneously left off from the scramble in case you have not already noticed it. Have fun looking for this issue's scramble of fresh fruits in English & Portuguese.

ORANGE
BANANA
APPLE
PEAR
GRAPES
LEMON

LARANJA
BANANA
MACA
PERA
UVAS
LIMAO

WATERMELON
CANTALOUPE
TANGERINE
STRAWBERRY
PINEAPPLE
PEACH

MELANCIA
MELAO
TANJERINA
MORANGO
ANANAS
PESSEGO

R E T S U L K Y H U R E B O A M I L
U E W T Y R L E M O N H E N R T U T
F M O R A N G O Q W E L W Y B I O P
S D F A A S G H M B P V K L A Y U I
B Z X W S D K L U P O T T U N W R H
L M B B A N A N A S D G H S A V U M
T R E E N T S H C A E P A A N W Q E
U T R R I E E Y U I P E V N A C E L
T X V R R C J R K E G S L A S G P A
A U E Y E R V D M M B S S N N R U O
N A H J J X C K L E T E M A N A O T
G Z U E N P A A H L L G R E K P L B
E I S N A U I T M A B O V M I E A Q
R A E P T A U I A N B M N A C S T O
I O R E M R N D F C K X W C H A N S
N Y I N O E V H J I L U R A D M A K
E H T D V P I N E A P P L E L Q C O
B U B C I A J N A R A L Q C B U M N

LUSITANO BULLETIN



A quarterly publication sponsored by the Lusitano Club of California, a non-profit organization, for its members and people of Portuguese descent from Macau and the Far East. Subscription to the Bulletin is unavailable separately.

Contact Information

Editors: Maria Roliz, Melissa Xavier, Jessica Xavier

Address: 582 Market Street #1905, San Francisco, CA 94104

Email: lusitanoeditor@yahoo.com

Phone: (415) 397-0767

Fax: (415) 397-0835

Website: www.lusitanousa.org

Photographers: Huitier Choi, Robert Roliz, Jojo Xavier

President:

Nuno Prata Da Cruz

nuno_pratadacruz@yahoo.com

(510) 534-9525

Vice-President:

Leonardo Xavier

lxavier23@comcast.net

(925) 726-9543

Secretary:

Michael Carion

michaelcarion@yahoo.com

(415) 279-0098

Treasurer:

Dorothy Oliveira

dorothy.oliveira@myastound.net

(650) 577-8881

Directors:

Chris daRoza

daroza@aol.com

(415) 218-5504

Lucille Figueiredo

mamalu21@yahoo.com

(650) 349-1740

Kenneth Harper

kenharper1969@hotmail.com

(415) 577-8967

Vanessa Roliz

vroliz@yahoo.com

(925) 864-0078

Justin Schwab-Vieira

justin@svedinc.com

(415) 816-7328

Jessica Xavier

jessx823@yahoo.com

(925) 354-7999

Virginia Yoshida

vmyoshida@yahoo.com

(650) 573-7732



LUSITANO CLUB OF CALIFORNIA
582 MARKET STREET, #1905
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104



*Family and Friends celebrating Amelia Maher's 89th Birthday
at the 2009 Lusitano Picnic*