

LUSITANO BULLETIN

*The Publication of the
Lusitano Club of California*



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SPRING 2013



*Kung Hey Fat Choy! Bom Ano Novo! May the Year of the Snake
bring you lots of good health, happiness, and prosperity.*

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President's Message



Happy Easter to you and your family! May the spirit of Easter fill your heart with complete joy and peace. Now that Spring is here and the weather is nice, we have a variety of events planned for the next few months so you can enjoy the outdoors also. See Calendar of Events on the next page.

Our **Annual Clambake at Beresford Park, San Mateo** is coming right around the corner on **Saturday, April 13th**. This has always been one of our signature events where, in an outdoor setting with family and friends, one can enjoy a home-cooked Portuguese Macanese luncheon of savory hors d'oeuvres, prawns, meat, and mouth-watering clams prepared from an old Algarve family recipe. I recommend reserving this event today since there is limited space (*See flyer page 4*). For those that like the excitement of the slot machines and table games, board on a bus trip with us on **Saturday, May 18th to Red Hawk Casino** (*See flyer page 5*). We only have a few seats left so call in now.

Starting in June will be our summer events – Dia de Portugal Festival, Dia de Sao Joao celebration, annual picnic for the entire family, Russian River camping and canoe trip, etc., etc.

Last, but not least, one of the major trips many of you look forward to attending every three years is the **Macau Encontro**. At this time, we do not have firm confirmation whether it will take place again. If it does, we anticipate it will happen in Macau from Nov. 30th to Dec 7th. In the meantime, regardless of an Encontro in Macau or not, Lusitano is planning a trip with Braga Travel to Macau (fewer days in Macau if there is no Encontro) with optional pre-Encontro trips to Malacca, Malaysia, and Singapore, or China week of Nov. 24th, and an optional 2-3 days post-Encontro trip to Hong Kong before returning to San Francisco for our Annual Christmas Party on Dec. 14th. Further details will be emailed out as we receive them. For those of you that are not on our email list, please give me a call so I can make sure you will be on our mailing list with the latest update re confirmation of a 2013 Macau Encontro and our Lusitano trip details.

The Internet Archive Project of our Macanese Heritage is underway and several of our members gave interviews at the 2013 Chinese New Year party. (Please refer to page 21 of our Winter 2012 Bulletin for complete details of this project). If anyone is interested in participating in interviews or contributing to the project, please email me at m_roliz@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,

Maria C. Roliz, President

2013 Calendar of Events

Mar 10-May 31: Photo Exhibition: Seamanship and Settlement, Oviatt Library, California State University Northridge

Sat, April 13: Annual Clambake, San Mateo Beresford Park

Sat, May 18: Red Hawk Casino Day Trip

Sat, June 8: Dia de Portugal, Lusitano Food Booth, San Jose

Sat, June 22: Dia de Sao Joao Mass & Lunch, MCC, Fremont

Sat, July 13: Annual Picnic, San Mateo Beresford Park

Sat, Aug 17: Russian River Canoe Trip w/Camping Aug 16 & 17

Sept (tbd): Macau Casino Gaming Social/Cooking Class, MCC

Sun, Oct 13: Our Lady of Fatima Mass & Lunch, Concord

Sun, Oct 27: Halloween Party/Cooking/Portuguese Class, MCC

Nov 24-Dec 10: Club Trip to Macau Nov 30-Dec 7 with optional pre-side trips to Malacca/Malaysia/Singapore or Taipei, and post-side trips to Hong Kong & China (details to be advised)

Sat, Dec 14: Annual Christmas Party, San Mateo Elks Lodge

If you need a ride or can offer a ride to a fellow member to any of these events please let us know. It is very much appreciated.

2013 Lusitano Scholarship

2013 Lusitano Scholarship Grant:

Lusitano offers two \$1,000 scholarship grants each year towards a trade school or college tuition for Lusitano members ages 18 and over. Applications are now available with a deadline of July 31, 2013 for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Please email m_roliz@yahoo.com for details.

**Seamanship and Settlement:
THE PORTUGUESE MARITIME TRADITION
AND MACAU'S ARCHITECTURAL DUALITY**

*Linked Exhibitions of Photographs and Images of
the Portuguese Navy's Tall Ship N.R.P. Sagres
and the Historic Architecture of Macau, China.*

March 10 – May 31, 2013

**Oviatt Library, California State University Northridge,
18111 Nordhoff St, Northridge, CA 91330**

**LUSITANO ANNUAL
CLAMBAKE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH, 2013

12 - 4 PM

Beresford Park (Picnic Shelter Area)

Parkside Way & Parkview Way, San Mateo

(off Hwy 92 Alameda de las Pulgas exit towards 28th Ave)

***Come and spend a pleasant day
in the park and enjoy a Macanese lunch with us
followed by the exquisite***

“Ameijoas na Cataplana a Algarvia”

(Clams prepared using a traditional Portuguese recipe)

Cost per member \$18.00

Cost per non-member \$25.00

**Please RSVP by April 4th to
m_roliz@yahoo.com or (415) 990-5534
(First come first served limited capacity)**

Make check payable to: Lusitano Club

**Mail to: Dorothy Oliveira,
3714 Martin Dr, San Mateo, CA 94403**

Lusitano's Day Trip to Red Hawk Casino

Saturday, May 18, 2013

*Come and take a coach ride to
Red Hawk Casino with your friends!*

Casino will rebate \$5 for food and
\$15 for slots or \$20 for table games

Cost per member \$22.00

Cost per non-member \$26.00

Space is limited!

Please RSVP by May 1, 2013

to m_roliz@yahoo.com or (415) 990-5534

Seat assignment based on reservations received

Make check payable to: Lusitano Club
(& note location you will be getting on the bus)

Mail to: Maria Roliz,
582 Market St # 1905, San Francisco, CA 94104

7:45-8:00 AM Westlake Shopping Center
*(parking lot in front of Home Depot /across from
Burlington Coat Factory, 99 Southgate Ave, Daly City)*

8:30-8:45 AM Hercules Transit Center

"BART Park & Ride Lot"

(on Willow Ave, near I-80E off-ramp)

10:00 AM Arrive Red Hawk Casino

FUN !\$\$ FUN !\$\$ FUN !\$\$

4:00 PM Depart Red Hawk

6:00 PM Approximate Arrival in Bay Area

The Portuguese Historical **Saturday, June 8, 2013**
Museum presents... **10am-5pm**

FREE Admission!

DiadePortugal

Join us for this Annual Celebration and stop by our
LUSITANO FOOD BOOTH!

History Park, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA

*....and if you would like to volunteer to help out at
our booth please email m_roliz@yahoo.com*

Come Join Us for a Day of Celebration on
Saturday, June 22, 2013

Dia de São João

at the

MACAU CULTURAL CENTER

109 J Street, Fremont, CA 94536

*Event organized by the Macau Cultural Center
and co-sponsored by IIM of Macau*

11am-12pm Mass Celebration

12:30-2pm Macanese Lunch

Cost per USA Casa member \$15.00

Cost per non-member \$20.00

Please RSVP by June 1, 2013

to m_roliz@yahoo.com or (415) 990-5534

Space limited to 120!

**Mail check payable to: Macau Cultural Center,
582 Market St # 1905, San Francisco, CA 94104**

Annual General Meeting & Elections of Directors/Officers

By Maria Roliz

With the required 20% minimum proxies/ballots received to elect a new Board, the following Officers and Directors were elected for a one-year term at our Annual General Meeting on Feb. 2, 2013 with 244 ballots/proxies counted by our Elections Committee. Thank you for all those that participated.

President: Maria C. Roliz

Vice-President: Maria Joao da Cruz

Secretary: Annie DeGraca Puska

Treasurer: Dorothy Oliveira

**Directors: Ricardo Collaco, Nuno Prata da Cruz,
Henry “Rick” DeGraca, Jessica Xavier Diaz, Kirk Harper,
Justin Schwab-Vieira, and Leonardo Xavier**



Congratulations to our newly elected Board and we welcome returning director Leonardo Xavier for 2013. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our directors and volunteers for a year of hard work and dedication this past year and for another year of service. Special thanks also go to Chris daRoza (ex-Director) who has served his maximum five consecutive years on the Board and thus required to step down according to our ByLaws. We do, however, look forward to his continued involvement as a volunteer.

Chinese New Year Dinner Dance

By Johann Wimmleitner, Jr.



Kung Hey Fat Choy! Happy Lunar New Year! It is a time to celebrate with family and friends and welcome in a new year of good luck and a new beginning. And this is exactly what we did at the Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner Dance held on Saturday, February 2nd, 2013 at the Macau Cultural Center in Fremont.

The evening started out with people flowing in and mingling in the main hall and soon it was at its maximum capacity of 175 attendees. Sodas and wine were served in the bar area by Nuno Da Cruz while chefs Dorothy Oliveira, Maria Joao Da Cruz, Lulu Xavier, and Jessica Xavier Diaz busied themselves preparing a few more specialty dishes in the kitchen in addition to the catered buffet dinner. Raffle tickets were going around and selling fast as the grand prize was an \$80 cash gift and two \$50 cash gifts. The main hall was meticulously set up and prepared for the evening with Chinese New Year decorations all around. Each of the tables were carefully covered with a red table cloth and laid out with a list of the 10 course dinner that we would be having. The head mask of a lion dance costume was also laid out on the main table. The arrangements were perfect to set the tone for the evening and there was much anticipation for the dinner that was to be served.

When the trays of food were brought out to start the dinner, it was easily the main attraction of the night, a mouthwatering 10 course buffet dinner! We were treated to a Buddhist Delight, Lemon Chicken, Mongolian Beef, Macau Prawns, Chinese Sausage, Salt & Pepper Flounder Filet, Fried Beancurd Delight, Bok Choy, Lacassa Noodles, Rice, and the grand finale, a succulent Roast Pig. It was a banquet fit for kings and many people went back for second and third helpings. Sweet





delectable desserts of Bebinga, Pao de Leite, and almond fruit jello with mixed fruits were also served.

Following the meal, everyone was given a red envelope laisee with a raffle ticket inside, so that everyone would be

given a chance to win. Framed pictures of Hong Kong harbor were also auctioned off along with the three cash prizes.

After the raffle, the room which had been magically transformed with a dance floor in the center filled up. It was fun to see so many of the ladies and men all dressed up getting their groove on. From the Chicken Dance to the Macarena, it was an entertaining sight to see people having fun as the DJ orchestrated the dances. Children soon joined in too, adding to the already high energy of the crowd. It was also great to see so many young faces as a lot of the youth came to the event as well. It was a spectacular night of delicious food and great company.

2013 is the year of the black water snake, which began on February 10th. People born in the year of the snake are said to be wise, financially savvy, and naturally intuitive. The combination of the water element and black color signify that this year of the snake will bring people unexpected changes, instability and changeability. Since snakes are very ambitious and successful in business, this year bodes of potential for prosperous business opportunities, but it will be important to carefully evaluate any situation before taking action. May this year bring all of us plenty of good luck and the strength to turn our ambitions into reality.







Photo Exhibition

Seamanship and Settlement: THE PORTUGUESE MARITIME TRADITION AND MACAU'S ARCHITECTURAL DUALITY

By Nuno Prata Da Cruz

On March 10, 2013 an exhibition of photographs of the Portuguese navy's tall ship N.R.P. Sagres and images of historic architecture of Macau was unveiled on campus to university students and members of the general public at a ceremony beginning at 2 pm. The exhibit is sponsored by the California State University Northridge, the Oviatt Library and its friends, the Old China Hands, the International Institute of Macau, the Macau Arts Culture and Heritage Institute, and the Lusitano Club of California.

It was indeed a welcomed site to see so many Macanese and U.S. academic organizations involved in promoting this fine exhibit. Due to run until May 31, 2013, the approximate 120 piece exhibit is spread among 3 floors of the library. The exhibit is housed in the same building as the Old China Hands archive, an organization of foreigners who have spent many years beginning in the 18th century residing and working in China. It is said that the "China Hands" changed China and that China also unmistakably changed them.





Members of the audience came from as far away as Toronto, Canada and the Lusitano Club of California sent down to the opening ceremony six representatives including its President, the Vice-President and its Treasurer. It was also very nice to see some of our Southern California members present. Welcoming remarks and speeches were given by Dr. Robert Gohstand, Ph.D. (Director of Old China Hands Archives), Dr. Mark Stover, Ph.D. (Dean of the Oviatt Library), Arthur Britto (President, MACHI.USA) and Maria Roliz (President, Lusitano Club). A reception was part of the inaugurative program.

Lusitano hopes that the exhibit is only the beginning of a long term relationship between Macanese organizations and this fine California State University at Northridge. We welcome all those who wish to view the exhibit to contact the library directly for

directions and hours of operation at (818)677-2597.

The exhibition is housed at the Oviatt Library, California State University Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff St, Northridge, CA 91330 from March 10 – May 31, 2013.



PHOTOGRAPHS REVEAL MACAU'S BLEND OF CULTURES

By MACHL.USA

The Macau Arts Culture and Heritage Institute, U.S.A. (MACHL.USA) was one of the participants in a conference to inaugurate its photos in the exhibition entitled "Photographs Reveal Macau's Blend of Cultures" at the California State University Northridge (CSUN) Oviatt Library on March 10, 2013.

At the conference, MACHL.USA founder and president Arthur Britto spoke of Macau's rich blend of cultures and said very little is known about the assimilation and coexistence of the Chinese and Portuguese culture that still exists in Macau since the arrival of the Portuguese 450 years ago. Instead, many people think of Macau as the "Monte Carlo of the Orient". Arthur Britto also talked about the photographs that are exhibiting at the Oviatt Library revealing Macau's architectural duality - a blend of Western and Chinese architectural that in 2005, UNESCO designated Macau as "The Historic Centre of Macau". He also described the images in the photos captured the modern day bustling life, and the buildings of old world resplendent architecture.

At the end of the conference, Arthur Britto presented a book entitled "The Portuguese" - an outline history of the origin and voyages of discovery by Antonio M. Pacheco Jorge da Silva to

Dr. Mark Stover, Ph.D., Dean of the Oviatt Library and Dr. Robert Gohstand, Ph.D., of the Old China Hands Archives at CSUN, who is also the coordinator of the conference.



*Dr. Robert Gohstand, Ph.D.,
Dr. Mark Stover, Ph.D., and
Arthur Britto*

Macau Cultural Center

By Maria C. Roliz, President MCC

At our Annual General Meeting on January 5, 2013, the following Officers & Directors were elected for a 2-year term from each of the three representatives from Casa de Macau, Lusitano & UMA

2013-2015 Macau Cultural Center Board of Directors:

President: Maria C. Roliz

Vice-President: Maria “Zinha” Gomes

Secretary: Flavia Greubel

Treasurer: Nuno Prata Da Cruz

**Directors: Antonio Capitulé, Albertino Da Rosa,
Henrique Manhao, Dorothy Oliveira, Luiz “Ozzie” Ozorio**

Donations are greatly appreciated to help maintain our Cultural Center owned jointly by our three USA Casas for the preservation and promotion of our Macanese Culture and Heritage. Become a Friend of the Macau Cultural Center. Donations can be mailed to Macau Cultural Center, 582 Market St #1905, San Francisco, CA 94104. Special Hall Rental Rates are also available to all Casa members. Plan your next event at our Center.

MCC Hall Rental Rates



***Rental flyer can also be
downloaded from
www.lusitanousa.org***

Hall rentals available at the **Macau Cultural Center**. For Casa members, a flat fee of \$400/day and for the general public, a flat fee of \$600/day. Please contact Maria Roliz for more details/book your event at (415)990-5534 or m_roliz@yahoo.com.

Advertisements available on the Lusitano Bulletin for \$25 per 1/4 page, \$50 per 1/2 page, or \$100 for full page.

This and That

ISABELLA PALMER'S WARTIME STORY

By Brian Edgar (eldest son of Evelina Marques d'Oliveira)



Introduction: On February 6, 2013 Isabella Palmer kindly spoke to me on Skype about her time as a child during the Hong Kong war. The following is an account of some of her wartime experiences put together from what she said on that occasion and previous and subsequent conversations and emails.

Left: Recent photo of Isabella Palmer, age 76, who currently lives in Eastbourne, East Sussex, England. Below: Old photos of Bella with her dad and mom.

Before the war the family lived in the Homantin area of Kowloon. There was a playroom with a round window that had coloured glass making beautiful colours on the wall. Bella loved to go there to have fun with her toys, and the two family dogs, Flossie & Toots, would join in. It was a warm and secure home: two loving parents, and an amah, who had helped look after Bella since the day of her birth. About 11 months before the Japanese attacked, her sister was born.

That world was all the five year old Bella knew, but things outside were moving inexorably towards violence and destruction.

Bella's father was George Palmer; he was Welsh, and a roofing contractor by trade. In his spare time he was an officer in the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps and also a keen hockey player – he ran a team called the Gremlins, and was President of the Hockey Association for some years. Her mother was born Katherine Hyndman, the daughter of an



old-established Macao/Hong Kong family that had acquired Portuguese nationality early on. Pedro Lobo, one of the most important men in Macao, was a relative by marriage. One day in 1941 he offered George Portuguese passports for the whole family. He knew what was coming.



George Palmer (front) leading his HKVDC squad of demolition workers. The demolition experts went into action at 5:30am on the morning of the Japanese attack, doing valuable work blowing up bridges and other installations in the border area.

Mr. Palmer's rank in the HKVDC was Lieutenant – he was one of 12 officers in the Field Company Engineers and he specialised in demolitions. He told Mr. Lobo that he would stand by his fellow Volunteers, but advised his wife to accept the passport for herself and the children.

He was called up on Dec.7 with the rest of the HKVDC; soon after the outbreak of hostilities, the rest of the family moved from Kowloon to the Island. They stayed for a short while in a large house in May Rd, sharing it with the families of Portuguese Volunteers. While there they had to shelter from the frequent Japanese air raids. But sometimes Bella was more scared of the dark places than of the bombs:

My memory is fixated on the bomb “safe” places and the one where the shell fell. I cannot remember where we slept. The other memory was that dreadful swimming pool and the horrible darkness, which terrifies me even now. It really did not need to be so dark.

That ‘shell’ was a lucky escape: a piece of shrapnel hit a verandah which Mrs. Palmer and the girls were told to harbor under. Mrs. Palmer decided against it and on the next air attack, a large piece of shrapnel hit the exact spot where they would have been, much to the horror of everyone in the house.

Mr. Palmer had come to see his family while they were still in Homantin, bringing two dolls as Christmas presents for his daughters. He gave the servants as much money as he could, and advised them not to stay in Hong Kong but to go inland to try to find a refuge in the country, not the big cities. He told Bella to say goodbye to the two dogs, then fed them a big meal and he said he was going to turn them loose. Only years later did Bella realise he had his hand gun and rifle with him as he took them away, and that he undoubtedly shot them. This was a wise decision, which spared them being hunted and killed for food, by other dogs or by people, in the desperate days that were

coming.

After the surrender, Mr. Palmer was sent with most of the rest of the HKVDC and the professional soldiers to Shamshuipo. The rest of the family didn't stay long in May Road, but it's not certain where Bella spent the rest of her time in Hong Kong.

There are many stories told of the Japanese kindness to children; Bella's is one of the most striking:

One day my mother was out trying to get milk for my sister by bartering. A Japanese officer went up to her and asked her what she was doing and she told him. He said, 'I have a wife and two daughters in Tokyo, and if they were here I'd be trying to find milk for them too. I'll help you.' He found out where we lived and came round with boxes of carnation milk. He also gave her a watch: he'd bought it for his wife, and he told her to sell it if she needed money for more milk.

Mrs. Palmer never sold that watch. It's in Bella's possession today.

On February 28, 1942 Bella boarded a night ferry to Macao. Her mother stayed behind to send parcels into Shamshuipo for her husband. Bella's baby sister was on her back in a Chinese style baby carrier 'Hold on tight and don't fall into the harbour' said her mother to Bella. They were accompanied by two great aunts, one so ill she had to be helped onto the ship by the other. Bella was crying.

She'd already lost almost everything, and now what little she had left - Hong Kong and her mother and father - was being taken from her. The crossing was a dark one due to the fear of torpedoes.

Eventually Pedro Lobo's pleas to Katie Palmer to come to the safety of Macao prevailed. The Hyndmans were connected to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and she courageously smuggled out important bank documents that "Uncle Soares" (F.X. Soares - Chief Clerk of the bank) had asked her to take with her. They lived with 'Uncle Lobo' until the end of the war, returning to Hong Kong on October 31, 1945. It was a new place for everybody, changed irrevocably by four years of war and occupation. To a child it was a different world, one from which much of the pre-war warmth and safety had vanished.

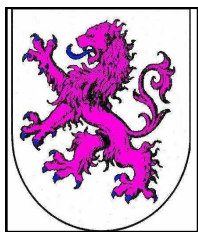


**Front and Back
of watch with
Takahashi
May 1941
written on the
front tab.**



A FAMILIA DA SILVA

By Armando 'Pinky' Da Silva



Coat of Arms
of Leon

A familia da Silva predates the founding of Portugal by some fifty-four years. Its coat-of-arms is featured in the national flag of Spain. To cut to the chase King Alfonso VI of Leon bestowed on Don Martin Gomes de Silva the official heraldry of the kingdom. His grandfather had erected a fortified granite tower in 1085 with the coat-of-arms of Leon as a mark of loyalty. The Kingdom of Portugal was founded in 1139. Torre de

Silva is sited a few miles from the south bank of Rio Minho whose headwaters are in Galicia. Galicia was a province of Leon. The central attraction of this province was, and still is, Santiago de Compostela.



Santiago de Compostela is the reputed final re-burial place of St. James. In history folklore becomes legends and legends become firm beliefs. The story proceeds. James and his brother John are half-brothers to Jesus Christ. Their mother, Salome, is the sister of the Virgin Mary. John was at the Crucifixion. Remember that Jesus told his disciples to spread His word. Tradition holds that James went to Spain, Matthew to Ethiopia, Bartholomew to Armenia, Jude to Persia, Thomas to India. Travel during Roman times was facilitated by access to excellent roads, available boats and river crafts. James was martyred about 12 years after the crucifixion of Christ. The legend continues. James's bones were exhumed and brought to Santiago de Compostela then a Roman burial site where the bones of James were reburied.



Entrance to Torre de Silva



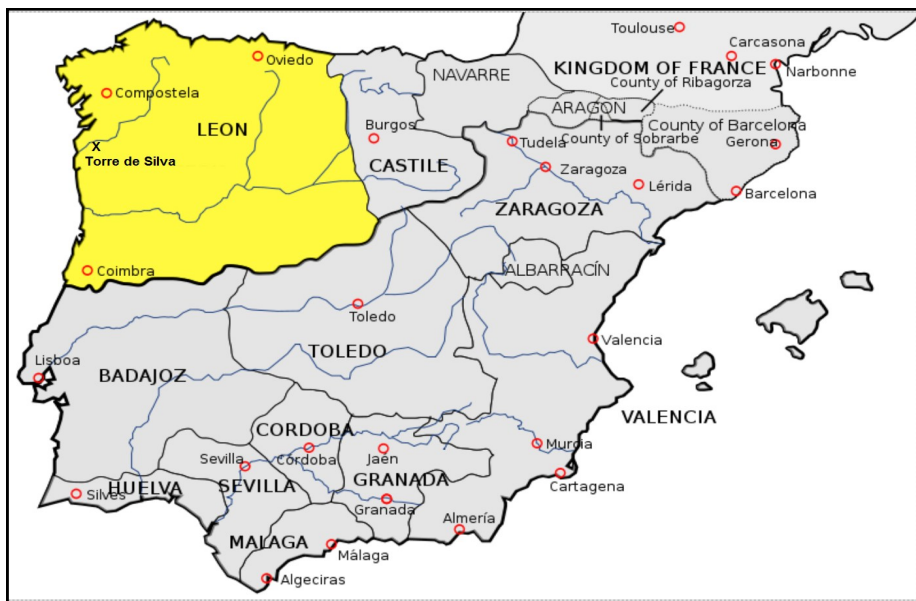
Overview of Torre de Silva

From the mid-1100s magnificent Gothic cathedrals started to be built; Notre Dame (1163), Chartres (1194), Siena (1199), and Santiago de Compostela (1188). The central feature at Compestela is the Botafumeiro (smoke dispenser). It is a large censer attached to the ceiling and worked by pulleys and racks at each end of the cathedral. The incensed filled censer, the botafumeiro, is allowed to swing to and fro. St. James, the patron saint of Spain, is depicted on a rearing white Arabian horse, his right hand holding the banner of Christ or with a mace. His feast day is 25 July.



Archway Door of Tower

Now what has St. James and Compostela to do with Torre de Silva? It is the Way to St. James. Pilgrims, especially from France, would assemble at Paris, Tours, and Poitiers. Covered with a brown hood cloak and with a staff and with sturdy sandals a pilgrim would walk the route through the kingdoms of Aragon, Navarre, Castile, and Leon. (To this day many thousands of people make this east to west pilgrimage. The distance from Paris to Compostela is 900 miles).



Iberian Peninsula circa 1037



General View of Torre da Silva

Torre de Silva is on the south to north route to Compostela, starting from Braga, northward of Lisbon. Torre de Silva served as a wayside stop. The de Silvas, later the da Silvas (after Portugal was founded,) provided provisions, rest, food, advice (in Galician and Portuguese, mutually understood sister languages to this day,) church services at the nearby chapel of Sao Julian da Silva to pilgrims. Silva in Latin means forest but it can also mean in Iberia then, a local bramble, a rough, prickly, shrub. Should Silva stand for forest or a prickly shrub? One can choose. The Torre is built with white flecked granite and used as a stronghold for provisions. What would the landscape be then? It would be woodland with oak and cork trees, wheat fields and vineyards. The da Silvas were landed gentry and the heads assumed the titles Don or Dom. Torre da Silva is located about 3 or 4 miles from the south bank of Rio Minho, the boundary between Portugal and Spain.

The most important aspect of the Torre da Silva is the carved emblem at the face of the tower of the Langued Lion Rampant (upright lion with its tongue sticking out) which is the coat-of-arms of the Kingdom of Leon and of A Familia da Silva.



Stone Tower Coat of Arms

Armando da Silva is Professor Emeritus of physical-cultural-historical geography. The writer wishes to thank his two nephews, Andy & Jackie da Silva for their ground photos of Torre da Silva taken in September 2002.

WOMEN AND MEN IN EARLY MACANESE SOCIETY

By Roy Eric Xavier

Any historian who attempts to search for the origins of Macanese culture inevitably discovers scattered references, both inside and outside the community, to inter-racial marriage.

Some facts are fairly certain.¹ The descendants of the people who we identify as Macanese were originally from Portugal, and by the sixteenth century increased in number with the expansion of the Portuguese trading empire in India and Southeast Asia. It is also evident that this population grew as the result of unions between low ranking Portuguese noblemen (fidalgos), traders, fugitives, pirates, and adventurers, and women from Goa, Malaysia, Timor, Japan, and China. These unions were encouraged by Portuguese explorers and colonial administrators, and condoned by influential clerics, including the Jesuits. Many of these unions were consensual, but some involved subordinate groups of women.

Macanese Women



Very little has been written about the plight of women in early Macau. Historian Elsa Penalva determined through original sources that many women came to the Portuguese colony through kidnapping, purchase, negotiations, and as rescued slaves. Due to a shortage of women of higher social status, many low born women were bought or kidnapped for “sexual markets” and marriage to Portuguese traders who could afford them. These practices continued until a concerted effort was made by the Jesuits at the end of the sixteenth century to redeem such women, with the intention of reducing lawlessness by reforming the unruly sailors, traders, and adventurers who frequented Macau.

British historian C.R. Boxer devoted much attention to the origins of the slave trade, and to Portugal’s and Macau’s complicity before it was abolished in the 18th century. Many women were kidnapped as children, some from Japan and other trading ports, but the majority from Kwantung province northeast of Macau. The circumstances in which they were enslaved were no doubt influenced by the poverty

of rural peasants in the Pearl River delta and the willingness of Europeans to trade in human cargo as another commodity. Women, and some men, were especially prized for their culinary skills, but most were domestics and servants. Many of the women were kept as concubines, some with the acceptance of Portuguese wives and mothers. Boxer notes that unlike the English, Spanish, or Chinese, illegitimate children in Macanese households were adopted into the families and treated like legitimate offspring.

As the Portuguese empire in Asia declined, the options for socially accepted unions dwindled, making inter-racial marriage an economic and political necessity. Despite the circumstances, Penalva writes, “These women were indispensable to sustain the marriage and bridal markets that allowed the survival of kinship systems, families, and households of the Portuguese and the growing “Luso-Asian” population.”

Macanese Men



As for men, in 1834 British historian Sir Andrew Ljunstedt asserted that, in addition to the impoverished third or fourth sons of nobility, the first Portuguese colonialists in India included other groups, including hardened criminals. Specifically, they were those “...who should have finished their careers in the galleys, (rather than being) ... sent on board the royal fleets to serve in India.” How this “unholy stock”

was domesticated is explained by Ljunstedt in a series of stages.

Due to expanding trade in the seventeenth century, many of these men “seized every opportunity to enrich their commander and his horde.” Many began as pirates and smugglers, but the most successful eventually became independent traders and merchants. Eventually some of this “contaminated caste” settled in Macau, “with men of more correct morals”, after all westerners were expelled from Canton by the Chinese emperor in 1757. Finally, Ljunstedt concluded, “those who had reluctantly run the race of vice, were by good example (apparently encouraged by the Church and the Society of Jesus) recalled to the comforts of social life,” which naturally meant marriage and families.

This version of history was sanitized by Portuguese historian Mantalto de Jesus writing in 1902, who noted that some men were related to the “best families in India”, arriving in Macau seeking women with substantial dowries provided by their merchant families. Boxer and others also mention the attraction of colonial men to “Órfãos del Rei ” (orphans of the king), a term suggesting the protected status of some Portuguese women, whose dowries were provided by the crown to discourage inter-racial miscegenation. As later generations became wealthy through commerce with China, however, many families were able to offer substantial dowries regardless of the racial mix of their lineages, lessening the effect of the royal stipends.

These observations are corroborated by Peter Mundy, an agent on one of the first British ships to dock near Macau. In 1637, Mundy published vivid descriptions of the opulence in which Macau’s merchant class lived, and the finery worn by some Macau’s women, including the civil governor’s two Eurasian daughters. His books were influential in convincing Europeans about the opportunities in Asia. At the same time, the third generation of Luso-Asian families in Macau, including the governor’s children, Mantalto de Jesus writes, represented the emergence of a new “mixed but legitimate and Christian race”.

A New People



By the 17th century, this rising middle class, according to the chief of the Dutch East India Company, lived in spacious multi-storied houses to accommodate the numerous children of the wives and concubines of the head of the household. As a result, the population of Macau grew steadily. In 1583, twenty-six years after its founding,

there were 9,500 Macanese. A century later, the Macanese population reached 15,000. In 1794, Dutch officials in Malacca estimated the population of Macau to be 30,000, not including many more Chinese mainlanders who traded and lived uncounted in the colony.

One of the earliest acknowledgments that this collection of

outcasts had begun to adopt a cultural identity is memorized on a surviving corner stone of St. Paul's Cathedral:

VIRGINI MAGNE MATRI,
CIVITAS MACAENSIS LUBENS, POSUIT AN. 1662.

Loosely translated, the inscription reads: "*Great Virgin Mother, the Macanese community dedicates this to you. 1662.*"

The survival of this new race, dependent on maintaining trade relations between Europe and Asia, while largely cut off from Portugal and vulnerable to attacks by the Dutch and English, found its home in Macau. By 1841, the same qualities of determination, and the ability to leverage opportunities, eased their migration to Hong Kong under British protection. Writing almost seventy years later, C.R. Boxer summed up by invoking Dryden's poetic coupling² to suggest an apt description of the people of Macau: "... a headstrong, moody, murmuring race as ever tried the extent and stretch of grace".

Although written to describe the Jews, Boxer wryly attributes the same sentiments to the Macanese, not only for their determination to survive under harsh conditions, but also to their tendency to fight among themselves even when faced with external dangers.

***To read more about Macanese culture and history,
visit: [Far East Currents.com](http://FarEastCurrents.com). You can also contact the
author directly at: rdinvst@yahoo.com***

¹ This historical sketch relies on the following sources: C.R. Boxer, Fidalgos in the Far East: 1550 – 1770, London, 1968, pg. 175, and Chs. VII and XIII; Elsa Penalva, A Mulher Na Sociedade Macaense: Seculos XVI e XVII, Lisbon, 2011 (Macanese Women in the 16th and 17th Century Society); Sir Andrew Ljunstedt, Historical Sketch of the Portuguese Settlements in China, Macau, 1834; Carlos Augusto Mantalo de Jesus, Historic Macau, Hong Kong, 1902; JP Braga, The Portuguese in Hong Kong and China, Macau, 1944; Peter Mundy, The Travels of Peter Mundy, 1634; and A.E. Van Braam Houchglest's writing in 1794, as described by Boxer.

² John Dryden, "Absalom and Achitophel", The Poetic Works of John Dryden, London, 1854, Volume 1

PORTUGUESE IMMIGRANT WEEK

By Arthur Britto

On March 9, 2013, American Portuguese gathered in front of the Portuguese monument at Roots Park in San Leandro to commemorate “Portuguese Immigrant Week”, an annual event since 1969 when President Ronald Reagan was Governor of California proclaimed the second week of March “Portuguese Immigrant Week” in honor of the Portuguese immigrants in California.

To honor the event, Portugal’s Consul General, Nuno Vaulter Mathias along with San Leandro dignitaries laid wreaths at the monument. As the wreaths adorned the statue, the Filamonica Artesta Amadora de San Leandro band played American and Portuguese national anthems. After the anthems, the dignitaries made their respective proclamations before the guests retired to the PFSA head office across from the monument for a light luncheon.

The white marble monument was sculpted in Portugal by Numidico Bessone, was a gift to the City of San Leandro in 1964 from the former San Leandro UPEC, now renamed the Portuguese Fraternal Society of America (PFSA), to honor the Portuguese people who settled far from home to start a new future in the United States.

Contributor Arthur Britto is an advisory board member for the Luso-American Education Foundation, Dublin, CA & a member of Lusitano.



Annual Financial Report

CERTIFICATION BY CORPORATE OFFICER

I, Dorothy Oliveira, certify that I am an officer of Lusitano Club of California authorized to make this certification and that the statement in the Annual Report were prepared from the Books and Records of the Club.

Dated: Feb. 2, 2013

BALANCE SHEET AS OF 12/31/2012

ASSETS

General Fund	100,318.89
Building Fund	94,370.53
Total Assets (Cash in Banks)	\$ 194,689.42

LIABILITIES

Total Liabilities	0.00
TOTAL NET WORTH	\$ 194,689.42

STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN FINANCIAL POSITION

Beginning Balance 1/1/12	\$ 187,971.47
Ending Balance 12/31/12	\$ 194,689.42
INCREASE IN FUNDS	\$ 6,717.95

2012 SOCIAL FUNCTIONS PROFIT & LOSS

	INCOME	EXPENSES	GAIN/LOSS
Chinese New Year Party	1,518.00	1,551.06	(33.06)
Annual Clambake	1,348.00	679.00	669.00
Dia De Portugal Food Fair	2,420.00	1,030.88	1,389.12
Annual Picnic	2,470.00	1,761.48	708.52
Russian River Camping Trip	940.00	940.00	-
Red Hawk Casino Day Trip	964.00	750.00	214.00
Halloween Party	676.00	714.93	(38.93)
Annual Christmas Party	4,604.00	7,969.72	(3,365.72)
Totals	14,940.00	15,397.07	(457.07)

INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR 12/31/2012

REVENUES:

Advertising	50.00
Bank Charges	10.00
Book Sales	3,690.00
Donations	2,765.00
Grant (Bulletin assistance) - Fundacao Oriente	1,520.40
Interest from Banks	914.58
Insurance Refund	808.31
Macau Youth Encontro	3,525.40
Membership Dues	8,749.53
Scholarship Grant	50.00
Social & Cultural Functions	14,940.00

TOTAL REVENUE:

\$ 37,023.22

EXPENSES:

Bank Charges	44.00
Book Sales	1,203.13
Change in Value of Investments	41.34
Donation to Macau Cultural Center	196.11
Entertainment	260.00
Insurance	2,662.31
Macau Youth Encontro	3,542.40
Membership Dues Refund	30.00
Office Supplies	274.21
Printing	3,815.65
Sagres Exhibition	500.00
Scholarship Grant	1,000.00
Shipping & Postage	1,189.65
Social & Cultural Functions	15,397.07
Tax Filing	30.00
Website	119.40

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 30,305.27

NET GAIN FOR 2012

\$ 6,717.95

Word Scramble

Hidden in this word scramble are different ways to say Easter around the world. Search for them upwards, downwards, across, backwards, or diagonally

Easter

Caisc

Weikanoc

Pasen

Fukkatsu sai

Pasti

Paskha

Ostern

Pascoa

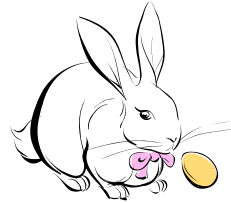
Uskrs

Pasg

Puhwalchol

Pascua

Velikden



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

Recipes

TURNIP BEBINCA “*LAW PAK KO*”

By Lulu Xavier

Ingredients:

7 lbs Daikon Radish peeled and shredded
3 cups Rice Flour
1 cup Tapioca Flour
1 pkg Chinese Sausages chopped
10 pcs Dry Mushroom soaked in water
and chopped
8 pcs Dry Scallop soaked and steamed for 1 hour
1/2 cup Dry Shrimp soaked and steamed for 1 hour
1 cup Water or Chicken Soup
1 Tbsp White Pepper
3 Tbsp Oyster Sauce
Salt to taste

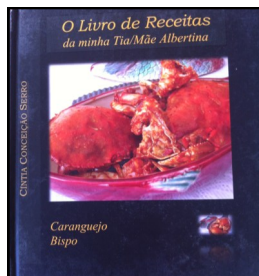
Optional: Green onion and Cilantro for topping

Method:

In an ungreased pan brown sausages, mushroom, dry shrimp, and scallop; then set mixture aside. Cook turnip in 1 cup water just until it boils then add white pepper, oyster sauce, and salt. Pour out the juice in a bowl and wait until it is cool. Add the rice & tapioca flour into juice and mix well. Then add in sausage mixture and turnip and mix well. Make sure there are no lumps. Pour into four 8" round shallow pan and steam for 1 hour. Optional: Add green onion and cilantro on top after steaming while still warm.



Cookbook for Sale



**O Livro de Receitas
da minha Tia/Mãe Albertina
Author: Cintia Conceição Serro**

*The English version of this amazing cookbook
was recently launched in Macau in Feb 2013
and now available for sale. Cost \$20*

Contact Maria Roliz to place your order.

LUSITANO BULLETIN

A quarterly publication sponsored by Fundação Oriente & 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.



Books for Sale

The Portuguese Community in Shanghai US\$55.00

The Portuguese Community in Hong Kong - A Pictorial History

Vol. 1 - US\$60.00

Vol. 2 - US\$55.00

Diaspora Macaense to California - US\$40.00

Author: António M. Pacheco Jorge da Silva

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Seamanship and Settlement:



THE PORTUGUESE MARITIME TRADITION AND MACAU'S ARCHITECTURAL DUALITY

Photo Exhibition March 10 - May 31, 2013
Oviatt Library, California State University, Northridge