



THE MALTESE PRESENCE IN NORTH AMERICA



E-NEWSLETTER

Issue 53

NOVEMBER 2023



SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE MELITA SOCCER CLUB, TORONTO



**The Maltese Presence
in North America
Issue No. 53 November 2023**

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

My original intention was to combine an issue for November and December as I did for September and October but there are just so many events happening in December that a separate issue is required for each month. Thus, like the September/October issue, the November issue is appearing in the following month.

The plan is to have the December issue out before Christmas. With Christmas luncheons, children's and adults' Christmas parties, a Christmas concert, and a casino bus trip this month within one or more of the Maltese communities in North America, another full issue is already well under way and, again, with plenty of photos.

The photo of the first team of the Melita Soccer Club with a list of all those in it (page 40) is a reminder of how important it is to document current events within the various organizations so that these aspects of the Maltese diaspora in North America are likewise preserved for future generations. In fact, this newsletter is being kept by such institutions as the Maltese-Canadian Museum Archives and Visitors Centre in Toronto, the Malta Migrants Museum in Valletta, and the National Archives of Malta in Rabat.

I wish to give particular recognition to Susan Schembri's very informative article (pages 6-8) as it has been awhile since news of the Maltese Canadian community west of the Rockies has appeared in this newsletter. Coincidentally, one of the blocks found on page 30 tells of the founding of The Maltese-Canadian Association of B.C.

Thank you, Mary Rose Aquilina for your timely *torta ta' San Martin* recipe for November and its connection to the feast of St. Martin as historically celebrated in Malta.

I would also like to draw particular attention to the photographs Rita Borg of the San Francisco Bay Area and Mary Anne Piscopo of the Greater Toronto Area have posted of events within their respective associations and encourage individuals within other organizations to do likewise. It's a great way to show off your organization's accomplishments. Some of your activities may be an inspiration to other groups.

Often, viewers of these web sites will compliment the club in question on the success of the event noted or comment on relatives and friends they recognize in some of the photos. All this goes to show how important the posting of such photos, and text for that matter, are to the viewer.

Again, note that, owing to the kindness and efforts of Evelyn and Dennis Simmons of the San Francisco Bay Area and Bernadette Bennie Blanco of Metro Detroit, past issues of this newsletter can be accessed at

<http://maltese-americanscsf.org/home.aspx> and clicking on to "News & Resources" or copying and pasting in <https://www.facebook.com/groups/405734643919052>.

If you have ideas to share, wish to be put on the free, bcc electronic mailing lists, would like to learn the newsletter's advertising rates, etc., I may be reached at danbrock62@gmail.ca.

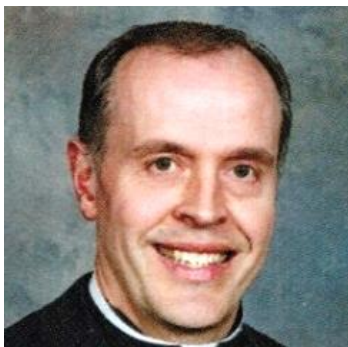
Again, the various Maltese organizations and associations in North America are encouraged to use this e-newsletter to promote themselves and their activities.

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ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH, TORONTO, CANADA

From our Pastor's Desk...



Fr. Roy Farrell, a diocesan priest within the Archdiocese of Toronto, is pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Toronto, the only Maltese parish outside Malta worldwide.

Parish Bulletin for November 4th-5th

During the month of November, we are invited to reflect on the mystery of the communion of saints and our responsibility to pray for the souls in purgatory. On November 1st, we celebrated the solemnity of All Saints, honouring all those who have reached the glory of heaven and who intercede for us before God. On November 2nd we commemorated All Souls' Day, remembering all those who have died in God's grace and who are still undergoing purification in purgatory.

The Church teaches us that we can help the souls in purgatory by offering prayers, sacrifices, and almsgiving on their behalf. One of the most powerful ways to do this is by gaining indulgences for them. An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment due to sin, which has already been forgiven in confession. The Church grants indulgences by applying the merits of Christ and the saints to those who fulfill certain conditions. There are two kinds of indulgences: plenary and partial.

A plenary indulgence removes all the temporal punishment due to sin, while a partial indulgence removes only part of it.

To gain a plenary indulgence, one must perform a prescribed work (such as visiting a cemetery or a church), go to confession, receive Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of the Pope, and be free from any attachment to sin. Only one plenary indulgence can be gained per day, and it can be applied to oneself or to a deceased person.

A partial indulgence can be gained by performing any good work with a contrite heart, or by reciting certain prayers (such as the Eternal Rest or the Requiem Aeternam). A partial indulgence can be applied to oneself or to a deceased person as many times as one wishes.

I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to show your love and mercy to the souls in purgatory, especially during this month dedicated to them.

Parish Bulletin for November 25th-26th

The solemnity of Christ the King was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 with the intention of impacting the laity. In his encyclical, the Pope emphasized that by meditation on these truths, the faithful will gain strength and courage to live according to the true Christian ideal. Jesus Christ has been given all power in heaven and on earth, and all people, redeemed by his precious blood, are under his dominion. Therefore, every aspect of our lives should be subject to his reign.

Our minds should fully accept and believe in revealed truths and Christ's teachings. Our wills should obey God's laws and commandments.

Our hearts should reject worldly desires and prioritize our love for God above all else. And even our bodies and members should be used as tools for the inner sanctification of our souls as instruments of righteousness for God.

....Jesus is always the King of the Universe, but is He also the king of our lives?

Let's reflect on how we can enthrone Jesus in our hearts through our commitment to stewardship.

Kings receive the finest things to showcase their importance. If we want to make Jesus our King, He deserves our very best. We can do this by offering Christ the "first fruits" of our time in prayer. When we set aside time for prayer every day, we show the importance of God in our lives. We become loving and faithful servants who long to be in His presence.

Let's not fit prayer in after all our other commitments. Instead, let's schedule the rest of our day around our prayer time to give our King the best we can. Once we enthrone Jesus as King of our lives, we can serve Him as we would an earthly king.

But what kind of service does our Divine King desire? He desires the service of charity and sacrifice. St. Rose of Lima said, "When we serve the poor and the sick, we serve Jesus. We must not fail to help our neighbors because in them we serve Jesus."

As stewards, let's use our gifts to serve our fellow parishioners and, in turn, serve the King of kings....let's reflect on how we can enthrone Jesus in our hearts through our commitment to stewardship. First, let's let God rule in our lives by giving Him the "first fruits" of our time in prayer. Then, let's use our gifts to serve our fellow parishioners and serve the King of kings.

ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE MALTESE COMMUNITIES

Dan Brock

CALIFORNIA

Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco

The **Classic Car Show** took place between 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., on Saturday, October 7th. (See pages 10-16)

The **Holiday Market & Craft Fair** was held at the Club, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., on Saturday, November 11. (See pages 22-27.)

A **Family Bingo and Pasta Dinner** took place on Saturday, November 18th. (See pages 35-37.)

The **Children's Christmas Party** was held on Saturday, December 2nd.

The **New Year's Eve Dinner Dance** will be held on Sunday, December 31st.

MICHIGAN

Maltese American Benevolent Society, Inc

A **Christmas Costume & Ugly Sweater DJ Party** will be held at the Club, on Saturday, December 16th, from 9:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. Sunday.

Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn

A **Craft Show** was held at the Club on Sunday, November 26th, between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (See page 37.)

A **Maltese Baking Demonstration**, featuring **Qagħaq tal-Għasel** (Honey Rings), will take place at the Club, beginning at 2:00 p.m., on Sunday, January 14, 2023.

NEW YORK

Maltese Center, NYC

An **All Souls Memorial Mass** was celebrated at the Center, by **Fr. Anthony Saliba**, on the evening of Saturday, November 11th. (See page 29.)

A **Bingo** was held on Sunday, November 12th, starting at 1:30 p.m.

Another Bingo took place on Sunday, December 3rd, in the Lower Hall.

A **New Year's Eve Party** is planned for Sunday, December 31st.

ONTARIO

Greater Toronto Area

Maltese Canadian Federation

The Federation, in conjunction with **Leġen Malti**, hosted a **Seniors' Christmas Luncheon** on Sunday, December 10th.

Consulate General of Malta in Toronto

Remembrance Day was observed at Queens Park by **Ms. Denise Demicoli**, Consul General of Malta in Toronto. (See page 30.)

Malta Band Club

Fr. Roy Farrell and **Deacon Raymond Frendo** of St. Paul the Apostle Parish led the annual **Memorial Service** at the Club on Sunday, November 12th.

A **Luncheon & Social** took place at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 15th.

This year's **Candlelight Concert** was held, starting at 5:00 p.m., on Saturday, November 25th. A dinner was available after the concert. Approximately 160 people were in attendance.

The **Children's Christmas Party** took place on Sunday, December 3rd.

The **Members' Christmas Party** will be held on Saturday, December 16th.



The Club's annual **Gala New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance** will be held on Sunday, December 31st beginning at 6:00 p.m.



Maltese Canadian Business Network Association

The Association celebrated its **5th anniversary** at **Nannu's Pastizzi** on the Millcreek Drive in Mississauga on Thursday, November 16th.

St. Paul the Apostle Parish

A **Mass for the Dead** was celebrated at 3:00 p.m., on Sunday November 5th, at **Assumption Cemetery**.

A **trip to St. Jacob's Farmers' Market** was taken on Thursday, November 9th. (See page 28.)

The **Annual Christmas Concert** took place on the evening of Friday, December 8th.

The **Anointing of the Sick Mass** will be held at 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 10th. This was followed by the **Seniors' Christmas Luncheon**, hosted by the **Maltese Canadian Federation** and **Lehen Malti**.

An **Advent Retreat**, led by **Debbie Gove**, took place on Saturday, December 16th.

A **New Year's Eve Dinner-Dance** will take place on Sunday, December 31st.

Melita Soccer Club, Inc.

Its **Soccer Team** held a **Christmas Banquet** at **The Vue** on Galaxy Boulevard, in Etobicoke, on Friday, November 17th.

The Club's **60th Anniversary Dinner Party** was celebrated on the evening of Saturday, November 18th. (See pages 1, 31-35, 40.)

A **Memorial Service** was held on Friday, November 24th.

The **Christmas Dinner Party** took place on Saturday, December 2nd.

The **Annual Meeting** was held on Sunday, December 3rd.

The **Children's Christmas Party** will take place on Sunday, December 10th.

A **bus trip to Niagara Casino** will take place on Saturday, December 16th. The bus will leave at 11:00 a.m. sharp.

Lehen Malti

LEHEN MALTI
(Maltese Voice)

OMNI 1 - Ontario
Saturdays 8:30 a.m.
Tuesdays 11:30 a.m.
Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

OMNI BC
Saturdays 2:00 p.m.

OMNI Alberta
Saturdays 2:00 p.m.

Hamilton

Maltese Canadian Association of the City of Hamilton

Breakfast with Santa will take place on Saturday, December 16th, in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall on Poplar Avenue, in Hamilton.

London

The Maltese community and friends attended a **Memorial Service** at **St. Peter's Cemetery** on Thursday, November 2nd. (See pages 17-20.)

On Friday, December 1st, the group partook in a **Christmas Luncheon** at the **Marconi Club**.

Malta United Society

The Club's **Patata l-Forn Dinner** (roasted pork and potato) took place on Saturday, November 11th.

On Saturday, December 2nd, the annual **Children's Christmas Party** was held.

The annual **Members' Christmas Party** took place on Saturday, December 9th.

REPRESENTING WESTERN CANADA ON THE COUNCIL FOR THE MALTESE LIVING ABROAD

Susan Schembri*

The Council has representatives from around the globe, mainly Australia, Canada, USA, UK and parts of Europe. The main objectives of the Council are to promote and protect the rights and interests of the Maltese living abroad while inviting those interested to be part of the Maltese culture and identity. The Council members are responsible for being the main connection for providing information and keeping their respective Maltese communities current on any events of interest to them, relating of course to the Maltese diaspora.

Council members usually meet in Malta once a year; however, during Covid we had Zoom meetings. This year the meeting was held in Malta at Palazzo Spinola, St Julian's on September 11th and 12th. The Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade Commission was in attendance for the first part of the meeting. We welcomed two new councillors, one from Vienna and one from Budapest. Most of the other councillors have been on the Council for five years and the maximum term one can serve is six.



**Group photo of all the councillors
with Ian Brog
Minister for Foreign and European Affairs**

We discussed many important topics, such as how we can have more open communication with the Ministry in Malta and the Consuls in different locations around the world.

We discussed how we can make the application for dual citizenship less complicated, especially when it is a matter of renewing one's Maltese passport. The "Consul on the Move" programme is expected to be in full swing in 2024.



Me outside Palazzo Spinola, St. Julian's



**Some of the Councillors,
including Brandon Azzopardi of Canada,
second left, front row**



**Mona Vella-Nicholas of San Francisco,
Denis Muniglia of France,
and Claudia Caruana of New York City**

Photo courtesy of Mona Vella-Nicholas

The issue of promoting the Maltese culture in migrants' countries was discussed in depth, and while Australia has great Maltese language classes programmes established, unfortunately in Canada and the USA there is no organised offering of such a service. The councillors continue to endeavour to get support for establishing a programme for Maltese language classes with the support of the Ministry.

A 2nd Virtual Youth Forum was in the planning stage at the time of the meeting; however, after serious consideration it was cancelled owing to lack of participation.

During the past years the councillors representing Canada have been requesting the Ministry to consider appointing a Maltese High Commission in Ottawa. This request has now been granted and the appointed individual will be taking on the position sometime this year.

The councillors continue to be very active in their respective communities. On a personal note, I truly appreciate the opportunity of serving the Maltese community, mainly in British Columbia and Alberta, but wherever needed.

In April of 2023 we had the Consul General of Malta in Toronto, Ms. Denise Demicoli, visit us in British Columbia to perform consular services for dual citizenship and the execution of documentations. We had a welcome for Denise at a restaurant in Coquitlam with over 50 people in attendance.



**Denise Demicoli
with Coquitlam's mayor, Richard Stewart**





In May I joined the Maltese community in Toronto to welcome H.E. The President of Malta George Vella. I attended a business meeting with my counterpart in Ontario and the Honorary Consuls from other Provinces. Later, I attended a formal reception held at the Maltese Band Club in Mississauga, Ontario.



Meeting in Toronto with the President Malta



It is always an honour and pleasure to be with other members of the Maltese diaspora and of course meeting the delegation members from Malta.

**Susan Schembri F.I.C.B., is one of two councilors representing Canada on the Council of Maltese Living Abroad*



2013 MAESTRO PAUL GAUCI CONCERT

Ted Gauci

Every year in the month of October the Malta Band Club of Mississauga performs a concert in honour of the memory of Maestro Paul Gauci, who was the driving force in starting the band and acting as its first conductor.

This year's concert was held on October 19th, under the patronage of the Consul General of Malta, Miss Ruth Farrugia.

The members of The Maltese Canadian Club of London received an invitation from Miss Ruth Farrugia, Consul General of Malta in Toronto, and four of us decided to attend. This is a free concert. As a result, there were an estimated 300 people in the audience. The band consists of between 40 and 50 musicians whose ages vary from teens to well advanced seniors.

The concert ran for approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. In that time the band played 10 pieces, including music from the movies and classical, as well as rock.

Karen Zahra sang two songs, one of them in Maltese. A young pianist, David Debono, who is also a trumpet player in the band, played a Beethoven sonata. At the end, the band received a long standing ovation. The conductor, Mr. Nick Arrigo, then offered an encore consisting of a medley of Maltese folk songs.

We were very impressed with the quality of music played that night. I was under the impression that we were going to be listening to a lot of Maltese marches but was pleasantly surprised with the selection and variety of pieces played.

At the end, Miss Ruth Farrugia presented a short speech, thanking and praising the band and encouraging young people who are interested in music to join. This was followed by the Maltese and Canadian national anthems.

Afterwards we mingled and talked to a few familiar faces over free refreshments. Among those also in attendance was one of our club members, Joseph Pace. He was visiting his two other daughters who live in Brampton and Mississauga. They decided to bring their father to the concert.

CLASSIC CAR SHOW**Rita Borg**

The Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco held its second annual car show on Saturday, October 7th.







Some of the older prized vehicles.



Meanwhile, inside the building.



Trucks and more cars.





MEMORIAL SERVICE

Dan Brock

Owing to the COVID pandemic, it has been four years since the local Maltese group and friends have been able to have a memorial service in Holy Family Mausoleum, St. Peter's Cemetery, London, Ontario. This year a service was held on the afternoon of Thursday, November 2nd (All Souls Day.)



Holy Family Mausoleum

The memorial service began at 2:00 p.m. with Melrose Paquet leading us in praying the Rosary.



The Memorial Mass followed at 2:20 p.m. Fr. Peter Wojakiewicz of St. Mary's Parish, London, was the celebrant and homilist. It was Fr. Peter who last celebrated Mass for us in November 2019.



Courtesy of Melrose Paquet



Several individuals took an active part in the Mass. Ted Gauci was the cross bearer and Agnes Perfect and her sister Mary Taylor of Brantford were the acolytes.



The first reading and responsorial psalm were read by Jean Testa.



Agnes Perfect read the second reading and the alleluia.



Following the homily, Miriam Allistone read the prayers of the faithful.



Silvana, of St. Peter's Cemetery staff, was the altar server. Prior to Mass, Joyce Vella took up the collection. Following Mass, I thanked the approximately 60 persons who had joined in the service, all those who volunteered to play an active role this afternoon, and especially Fr. Peter.





TORTA TA' SAN MARTIN (ST. MARTIN'S CAKE)

Mary Rose Aquilina

We Maltese have two traditions that are related to St. Martin of Tours.

On the Sunday nearest to November 11th, Maltese celebrate St. Martin's feast. Traditionally, for this feast children are given a string cloth bag, *il-Borża ta' San Martin*, which translates to St. Martin's bag. This simple and colourful cloth bag is full of sweets, fruits, and nuts. As is customary, the bag includes an apple, an orange, a tangerine, and a pomegranate along with a collection of walnuts, hazelnuts, chestnuts, shelled almonds, and figs. Tradition has it that the children used to hang this cloth bag onto their bed at bedtime and they would find all the goodies inside it in the morning.

St Martin was one of the children's favourite saints because his feast's celebration was considered as one of the very few times they had food treats (*čejčča*). Children used to enjoy playing Maltese traditional games involving nuts: *kastelli*, with at least five walnuts for each player and marble balls (*boččċi*), using hazel nuts instead of small marble balls and a large hazel nut (*bubun / mamma*), or a larger marble to hit the smaller nuts.

The children showed their gratitude to St Martin by singing the rhyme - "*Gewz, Lewż, Qastan, Tin, Kemm inħobbu lil San Martin*" (Walnuts, Almonds, Chestnuts, Figs how we love Saint Martin).

After lunch, small pieces of delicious dried figs were served as dessert followed by a cup of freshly grated coffee (*kafē mithun*), and a piece of homemade St Martin's cake (*kejk ta' San Martin*), made with a mixture of dry fruits and nuts.



DATE PASTE:

- 1½c chopped dates (220g/about 30 medium)
- Rind and juice of two oranges
- Rind and juice of 2 mandarins
- Rind and juice of 2 lemons
- 1/3c (30 ml) sambuca liquor

Put the fruit juice in a pot over a low flame and add dates. Cook until they liquidize. Add the sambuca and mix.

CAKE BATTER

- 1¾c (200 g) self-rising flour
- ½c (100 g) castor sugar
- ⅓c (30 ml) sunflower oil
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp mixed spice (½tsp cinnamon, 1/4tsp nutmeg, 1/4tsp cloves)
- 2 tblsps cocoa powder
- 3 beaten eggs
- ¾c (100g) roasted walnuts
- ¾c (100g) roasted hazelnuts
- ¾c (100g) roasted almonds
- some chopped glazed cherries
- some cherries to decorate (save some to decorate the top of the cake)
- some honey to glaze

METHOD

- Mix the sifted flour with the baking powder, sugar, and cocoa powder
- Add the mixed nuts, leaving some to decorate the surface
- Add the spices, rind, oil, and eggs
- Add some chopped glazed cherries, leave some halves to decorate
- Mix in the date paste into the dry ingredients - if the batter feels too thick to mix, add some orange juice a bit at a time.
- Pour into a lined 9 inch (24cm wide and 6cm deep) pan
- Decorate with additional glazed cherry halves and roasted almonds
- Bake at 180°C (350°F) for around 35 minutes, covering with the parchment paper for the last 20 minutes so the nuts won't get burnt. (if the pan is a springform pan, its easier to remove from the pan when cool)
- Insert a toothpick in the middle to find if the cake has cooked through. Leave to cool and pour some honey for a nice glazed look.
- Decorate with nuts and cherries on top,

YIELDS: 1 x 24 cm (9 inch) round cake



Add pitted dates to dry Pot



Add orange juice



Simmer over medium heat to soften dates



Dates softened into smooth texture



Date sauce added to Dry Ingredients

*Preparing Date Paste
to add to
Dry Ingredients*

*St. Marin's Cake
Torta ta' San Martin
Preparing the
Dry Ingredients*



Flour



Sugar



B. Powder



Mixed Nuts



Glazed Fruit



Citrus Peel
& Sambuca



Cocoa
Powder &
Spices



*St. Martin's Cake
Torta San Martin
Adding the
Wet Ingredients -
to
Make Cake Batter*



*St. Martin's Cake
Torta San Martin
Final Touches*



HOLIDAY MARKET & CRAFT FAIR

Rita Borg

On Saturday, November 11, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., a Holiday Market & Craft Fair was held at the Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco.











Thank you to the vendors who supported the raffle.



Thanks to Markus Lipke for drawing the lucky tickets. Congratulations to the raffle winners: Charlie Chetcuti, George Borg, Jenny Savedra, Laurie Scribner, and Rose Agius who won the jumbo gift basket. Enjoy your amazing gifts.





SOME PICTURES FROM OUR TRIP TO ST. JACOBS

Mary Anne Piscopo

On Thursday, November 9th, about 55 members of St. Paul the Apostle Church, Toronto, took a trip to the Farmers' Market in St. Jacob's.

First, we attended Mass at St. John's Church in Kitchener.



Our group before Mass at St. John's Church



A conestoga wagon seen at St. Jacob's

ALL SOULS MEMORIAL MASS**Maltese Center, NYC**

Fr. Anthony Saliba celebrated an All Souls Memorial Mass with us at the Center on the evening of Saturday, November 11th.



Those attending were invited to bring a photo of their dearly departed. This was displayed on the memorial table.



May all our loved ones rest in peace with the Lord.

MALTESE PRESENCE AT QUEENS PARK ON REMEMBRANCE DAY



Den Demicoli, Consul General of Malta in Toronto placed a wreath on Remembrance Day, Saturday, November 11th, at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Queens Park, Toronto

The initial meeting which led to the formation of The Maltese-Canadian Association of B.C. was held on Sunday, December 21, 1982, at The Lion's Den on Commercial Drive in Vancouver.

With the general elections held in the same facilities on Sunday, April 17, 1983, Frank Gauci was selected as the Association's first president; Oscar Attard as vice-president; and Joe Gatt as secretary and treasurer. Entertainment, public relations, and cultural heritage committees were also formed.

During its first year, the Association consisted of 75 active members.

MARKING A MILESTONE

Mary R. Micallef

Tom Muscat turned 95 years old on Tuesday, November 14th. His birthday was appropriately celebrated at the Maltese American Community Club on November 11th as he is a founding member of our club.

Tom is an excellent example of true dedication and support for the Maltese Club and our community!



Four generations, 30 years between each. Tom Muscat (95), Margaret Muscat Purdy (65), Hannah Tully (35), and Zavier (5).

Photo posted by Hannah Tully

Richard Cumbo, the present curator of the Maltese-Canadian Museum Archives and Visitors Centre at the St. Paul the Apostle Church Complex in Toronto, was the *Maltese Forum's* representative on an ethnic editors press tour of Eastern Ontario in 1982.

The 49 participating journalists representing 37 different languages, covered nearly 1,000 miles (1 600 km) on their six-day tour.

OUR 60th ANNIVERSARY DINNER PARTY**Mary Ann Piscopo**

The Melita Soccer Club celebrated its 60th Anniversary Dinner Party on the evening of Saturday, November 18th.



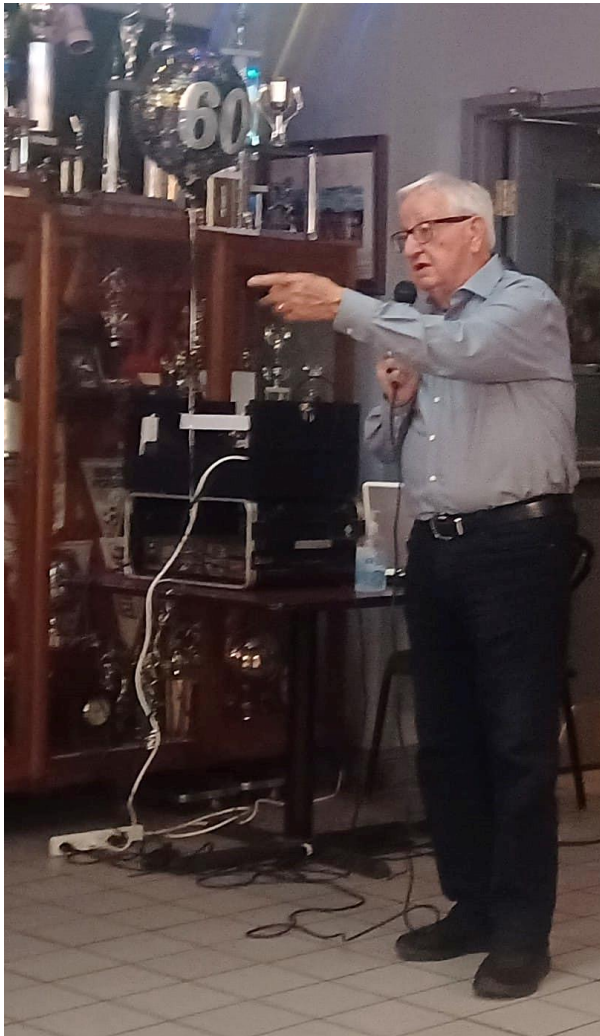
Our Consulate General Den Demicoli gave a congratulatory speech.



Fr. Roy Farrell, the pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Church, said a prayer.



Frank Attard also spoke. He was one of the four founders of the Club in 1963 and is one of its past presidents. The other founders were Sam Xerri, Joe Fenech, and the late Charlie Theuma.



The delicious *ħobż biż-żejt* was prepared by Mary Tanti and the fried rabbit cooked by Tony Saliba.



Frank mentioned that there were a few former Club soccer players in attendance: Alfred Mallia, Philip Spiteri, and Paul Micallef (who was also a past president of the Club).

He then thanked the current committee members who were in attendance - Mary Ann Piscopo, Mary Tanti, Joe Cassar, Tony Saliba, and Charlie Micallef - for their dedication and hard work because without them the Club wouldn't be in existence.



The Melita Soccer Club was founded, in 1963, in the upper room of Joe's "M" Sports Restaurant, 3110 Dundas Street, Toronto.
Posted on Facebook, November 2023, by David Ellul



Music was by our DJ Pauline Zahra.



**FAMILY BINGO AND PASTA DINNER****Rita Borg**

Another successful Bingo & Pasta Dinner took place at the Maltese American Social Club in South San Francisco, on Saturday, November 18th with so many new members and new friends. So many winners. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this event possible.







A MAN OF MANY TALENTS

Dan Brock

Some of you are acquainted with Dr. Charles J. Vella, the San Francisco neuropsychologist, through his "The Maltese Immigration to San Francisco Bay Area Project." This is posted on line and is quite valuable for researchers looking for Maltese who settled in the Bay Area.

But did you know that each October, for more than a decade, he and other family members have carved Halloween pumpkins which are truly works of art? The Vella Family Pumpkins for 2023 can be seen at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZLNf6sf42ol&t=207s>

CRAFT SHOW

Dan Brock

The Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn, Michigan held a craft show between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 26th. Among the several exhibitors was Rachel Cini Darin with her Petite Patriots brand of largely Malta themed clothing.



A LEARN-ABROAD PROGRAM IN MALTA

Dan Brock

The Greater Toronto Area, Metro Detroit, San Francisco, and New York City are centres we associate with the Maltese diaspora in North America. But we have now gotten used to Maltese food delicacies coming from such unlikely places as Tucson, Arizona, Valrico, Florida, and Dresden, Ontario.

Now a professor at the University of Northern Iowa, Dr. Louis Fenech, who just happens to be an older brother of the Maltese Canadian historical novelist, Marthese Fenech, is spearheading a learn-abroad program in Malta. This is open to anyone by registering with the University for a small fee. His promotional video may be found at:

https://www.instagram.com/reel/CzuO67CLBiM/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

MALTESE ORGANIZATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA**Festa San Gejtanu Association**

c/o 5745 Coopers Avenue, Mississauga, ON
L4Z 1R9
647-232-8845

Festa San Gorg Association of Toronto

c/o 36 Sequoia Road, Vaughan, ON L4H 1W6
905-216-8432/416-277-2291

Gozo Club Toronto

c/o 1205 Royal York Road, Toronto, ON M9A 4B5
416-231-9710
gozoclub@gmail.com

Inanna on Stage

www.joannedancer.com
c/o 356 Pacific Avenue, Toronto, ON M6P 2R1
416-707-2355
desertdancer007@yahoo.ca

Knights of Columbus - Canada – Council # 12782

c/o St Patrick's Church, 921 Flagship Drive,
Mississauga, ON, L4Y 2J6
905-270-2301 (Church)
stpatricksmi@archtoronto.org
Grand Knight Amadeo Cuschieri

Legion of Mary – “Our Lady of the Migrant”

c/o St. Paul The Apostle Parish
3224 Dundas St. W., Toronto M6P 2A3
Tel: 416-767-7054
www.saint-paul-Maltese.com
stpaulmssp@gmail.com
President: Mary Vella

Lehen Malti

<https://www.omnitv.ca/shows/lehen-malti>
c/o 2387 Chilsworthy Avenue., Mississauga, ON
L5B 2R4
Contact Person: Joe Sherri
416-571-3944
email lehenmalti@hotmail.com

Malta Band Club

5745 Coopers Ave., Mississauga, ON L4Z 1K9
905-890-8507
www.maltabandclub.com
maltabandclub@bellnet.ca

Malta United Society of Windsor, Ontario

2520 Seminole St., Windsor, ON N8Y1X4
519-974-6719
maltaunitedsociety.windsor@gmail.com
Opening hours: Saturday 6:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

Malta Village Association (Est. 1995)

c/o 3256 Dundas Street West, Toronto M6P 2A3
Tel: 416-769-2174
Fax: 416-769-2174
maltabakeshopltd@gmail.com
att: Antonia Buttigieg

Maltese American Benevolent Society, Inc.

1832 Michigan Ave. Detroit, MI 48216
313-961-8393
<http://detroitmaltese.com>
Opening hours:
Friday 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.

Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn

5221 Oakman Blvd, Dearborn, MI 48126
313-846-7077
info@malteseamericanclub.org
Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday & Saturday
10:00 am. – 1:00 p.m.
Dinners served: Friday evenings 6:00 p.m. – 10:00
p.m.
Before and after 7:00 p.m. first
Friday Mass

Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco

924 El Camino Real, South San Francisco, CA
94080
650-871-4611
contact-us@Maltese-AmericanSCSF.org
Opening hours: Tuesday 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
(every 2nd Tuesday of the month only)
Thursday 5: p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday 5:00 – 1:00 a.m.
Sunday 9:00 am.- 5:00 p.m.

Maltese Canadian Association of the City of Hamilton (MCACH)

c/o 381 Fairview Drive, Brantford ON N3R 2X7
mcach1964@gmail.com

Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo)

c/o Trillium, Sqaq Nru 1, Triq it-Tigrija, ix-Xagħra
Tel: 011 356 21560656
mcagozo@hotmail.com

Maltese Canadian Business Network Association (MCBNA), (Toronto)

c/o 2387 Chilsworth Avenue, Mississauga, ON
L5B 2R4
416-980-1975
mcbna2018@gmail.com

Maltese-Canadian Cruisers

c/o 5745 Coopers Avenue, Mississauga, ON
L4Z 1R9
416-524-2573
att: Gianni Borg

Maltese-Canadian Cultural Association (Est. 2018)

c/o 2387 Chilsworth Avenue, Mississauga, ON
L5B 2R4
416-571-3944
joesherri@rogers.com

Maltese Canadian Federation, The (Toronto)

c/o 2387 Chilsworth Avenue, Mississauga, ON
L5B 2R4
416-571-3944
joesherri@rogers.com

Maltese-Canadian Museum Archives and Visitors Centre

St. Paul the Apostle Church Complex
3224 Dundas St. W., Toronto, ON M6P 2A3
416-767-7054

Maltese Canucks

c/o 3336 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON,
M6P 2A4
416-909-7357/416-670-2662
carl@isqtransport.com/b_azzo18@yahoo.com

Maltese Center, NYC

27-20 Hoyt Ave. S. Astoria, NY 11102
718-728-9893
info@themaltesecenter.com
Opening hours:
Wednesday and Friday 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Maltese Cross Foundation of California

PO Box 698, San Carlos, CA 94070

Maltese Culture Club of Durham

c/o 124 Ribblesdale Drive, Whitby, ON L1N 7C8
289-939-8377
mmmpastizzi@gmail.com

Maltese Heritage Association San Francisco Bay Area

maltesheritageassociation@gmail.com

Maltese Heritage Program (Toronto)

c/o 59A Terry Drive, Toronto, ON, M6N 4Y8
Coordinator: Carmen Galea
416-766-5830
gormija@sympatico.ca

Maltese Historical Society (San Francisco)

c/o leprofess@aol.com

Melita Soccer Club Inc.

3336 Dundas St. W., Toronto, ON M6P 2A4
416-763-5317
clubmelita@gmail.com

St. Paul the Apostle Parish

3224 Dundas St. W. Toronto, ON M6P 2A3
416-767-7054
www.saint-paul-maltese.com
stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

St. Paul the Apostle Parish Mission Group

c/o 281 Gilmour Ave., Toronto, ON M6P 3B6
416-708-8627
www.facebook.com/john.vella.1044186
giovanvel@sympatico.ca

St. Paul the Apostle Youth Group (Toronto)

3224 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON M6P 2A3
647-524-1115
jason.borg@hotmail.ca/sborg@rogers.com

St. Paul's Maltese Choir

c/o St. Paul the Apostle Parish
3224 Dundas St. W., Toronto M6P 2A3
416-767-7054
www.saint-paul-maltese.com
stpaulmssp@gmail.com
President: Lino Debono

**FIRST TEAM OF THE MELITA SOCCER CLUB
1963 FOURTH DIVISION CHAMPIONS
TORONTO & DISTRICT 4 SOCCER LEAGUE**



**Standing (left to right): Sam Sherri (President), Alfred Vella, Alfred Saliba, Joe Marconi,
Frank Attard, Tony Azzopardi, Tony Muscat, Larry Attard, Frank Scicluna,
Charlie McNerney, Joe Fenech (Treasurer), Alfred Azzopardi (Director)**
**Squatting (left to right): Vince Tanti, Spiro Tanti, Charlie Theuma (Manager and Coach),
Alfred DeLuca, Joe Mizzi, Frans Borg.**

Absent Carlo Nunzi

Courtesy of the Melita Soccer Club and Mary Ann Piscopo