

Maltese American Social Club of San Francisco, Inc.



924 El Camino Real
South San Francisco, CA 94080

Telephone: 650-871-4611

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:

Brian Ciappara
650-952-7970

Vice President:

Joe DeBattista
650-438-2561

Secretary:

Mary Vella Gomes
415-468-3747

Assistant Secretary:

Carmen Micallef
415-586-2597

Treasurer: Joseph Vella

650-619-4565

Asst. Treasurer:

Ninfa Pace
650-697-1079

Parliamentarian:

Mary Borg Smith
650-692-0413

Sergeant-At-Arms:

George Borg

Auditors:

Mona Vella Nicholas
Louis Vella

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and friends, at the last General Membership Meeting held on Sunday, November 17th, fifty-three (53) members attended.

Thanks to Ninfa and Nick Pace for organizing the Casino Day Trip to Thunder Valley. Thanks also goes to all those who brought delicious goodies for everyone to share, to the officially Club Certified Bingo Caller Danny Catania, to Mary Smith and Betty DeBattista who helped with the Bingo and also helped to pass out the goodies. Last but not least, thanks to all those who joined us on the trip and thanks to Danny Catania who donated a set of kitchen utensils for the Clubs' kitchen.

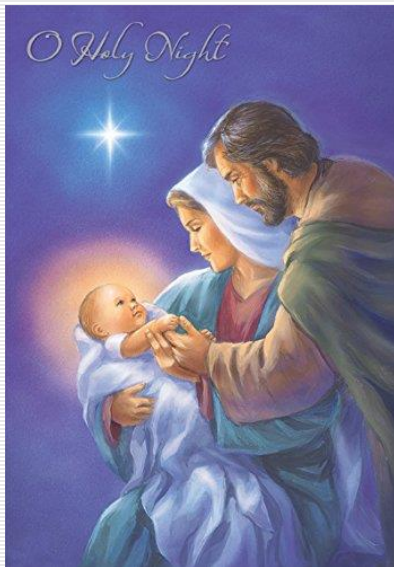
A big thank you goes to Bart Borg, Pauline Henderson, Maryann Milla, Carmen Micallef and Joe Vella. These members formed the Nominating Committee and they did an excellent job. Here are the names of the members that were nominated by them: President: Joe DeBattista and Celina Gomes; Vice-President: Mary Borg Smith and Bart Borg; Secretary: Mary Vella Gomes; Assistant Secretary: Carmen Micallef; Treasurer: Joe Vella; Assistant Treasurer: Ninfa Pace; Parliamentarian: Rose Borg and Ashely Tanti; Sargent-at-arms: no nomination; Auditors: Mona Nicholas and Louis Vella. Please note that Ashely Tanti informed the Secretary that she withdrew her nomination. After reading the slate of names, the Nominating Committee was dissolved.

Instructions were given on how the nominations from the floor would be conducted, the qualifications needed to be nominated,

**The Next General
Membership Meeting is
Sunday, December 29th,
at 10:30 a.m.**

*For unto you is
born this day in the
city of David a
Saviour, which is
Christ the Lord.*

LUKE 2:11KJV



Grievance Committee

Rose Borg
Mary Anne Fassler
Barbara Fenech
Bart Borg
Charlie Catania

~ ~ ~ ~

*Wishing you a
joyous Christmas
and a Happy
New Year*

and that according to our bylaws Section 3 (c) which states that "Once candidacy is accepted, no withdrawals shall be allowed after all nominations are closed". All the members were also informed that any member in good standing can accept nominations for more than one office, but if the member is elected for more than one office, he/she has to decide which office he/she will be willing to accept and the other office will be given to the next person with the highest number of votes to that particular office.

The floor was then opened for nominations. No one accepted nomination for the offices of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Parliamentarian. However, George Borg was nominated and accepted the position of Sergeant-At-Arms. No one accepted nominations for Auditors.

The Secretary informed everyone that Ashly Tanti had withdrawn her nomination for the office of Parliamentarian. This is how the slate reads: President: Joe Debattista and Celina Gomes; Vice-President: Mary Borg Smith and Bart Borg; Secretary: Mary Vella Gomes; Assistant Secretary: Carmen Micallef; Treasurer: Joe Vella; Assistant Treasurer: Ninfa Pace; Parliamentarian: Rose Borg; Sargent-at-arms: George Borg; Auditors: Mona Nicholas and Louis Vella. ***Please note that the positions of President and Vice-President will be determined by an election which will be held at the General Membership Meeting on Sunday, December 29th at 10:30 a.m.***

After the meeting, cookies and coffee were served to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of our Club. A plaque commemorating this anniversary was placed on the wall next to the steps that lead to the stage.

Joe Chetcuti, who is the eldest member of our Club, has just turned 100 years old. A nicely decorated cake depicting this memorable birthday was bought for this occasion. Joe talked about his younger days and when he came to the USA. After everyone present joined the chorus and sang Happy Birthday to him, with a big smile on his face, Joe cut the cake. May God Bless Joe with many more years.

Upcoming Maltese Community Events

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Children's Christmas Party

December 14th



~ ~ ~ ~ ~

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance

December 31st



~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Entertainment Committee

Karen Borg
Jennifer DeBattista
Rose Borg
Kathy Borg
Carmen Micallef
Ninfa Pace
Mary Vella
Betty DeBattista
Mary Borg Smith
Rose Aquilina
Mary Ann Milla
Rita Goldberg

Women's Social Committee

The committee meets at 6:30 on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, except August. All the women members of the Club are welcome and invited to join.

The upcoming events at the Club are as follows: On Saturday, December 14th, the Children's Christmas Party will be held. The flier for this party was attached to the last newsletter. Please register your children and grandchildren and follow the details that are on the flier. Please do not leave it for the last minute. The New Year's Eve Dinner Dance flier was also attached to the last newsletter. Please send in your reservations as early as possible. It would make things easier for those who are planning the event.

My wife Carmen and I hope you and your family had a Happy Thanksgiving and wish you a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Saħħa lill kulhadd

Brian

A MESSAGE FROM THE Honorable Consul General of Malta

Hon Consul (HC) Vella was in New York during our last general membership meeting and Ms. Mona Vella Nicholas kindly delivered his monthly message.

Good morning and greetings from New York City under a beautiful blue sky, bright sunlight, a light breeze, but bitterly cold. New York is a great, loud, and lively city but the weather this time of year makes one appreciate our Bay Area even more.

During the past few days, I had some very productive meetings with Ambassador Azzopardi who visited our club earlier this year. I also had meetings with his deputy, Mr. Calleja, who is scheduled to visit us next February to process Maltese passport applications. These meetings were held at the Embassy of Malta in Washington DC.

The Ambassador sends fond greetings to the Board of Directors and Members of the Maltese Club as well as all other Maltese organizations and the entire Maltese community in California.

On Sunday November 10th, the Maltese Cross Foundation of California organized a very successful "Remembering Our Loved Ones" event at St. Dunstan Church in Millbrae. A huge thank you

Club Hours

Sunday and Holidays

9:00a.m. – 5:00p.m.

Monday, Wednesday

Saturday

CLOSED

Tuesday

Closed except
for the second
Tuesday of
the month

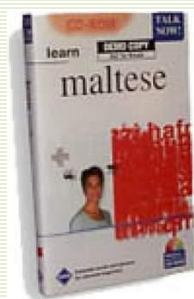
Thursday

5:00p.m. to
11:00p.m.

Friday

5:00p.m. to 1:00a.m.

Library



Take some time and
visit our library on
Sundays from

10:00 am to 12 Noon.

Librarian,
Mona Vella-Nicholas,
can be reached at 650-
589-4578.

to everyone who supported this annual event and all the Maltese organizations who participated. As most of you know, Fr. Joseph Glynn, Pastor of St. Dunstan parish was this year honored with the Maltese Cross Foundation Award. CONGRATULATIONS FR. JOE.

In the SF Bay Area, we are truly blessed that all Maltese groups and organizations support, celebrate, and appreciate each other's missions, efforts and achievements to promote Maltese customs, heritage, and history within this region. WELL DONE.

I want to take this opportunity to wish Mr. Joe Chetcuti the warmest congratulations and the very best wishes for good health and happiness on a milestone birthday of 100 years, achieved only by a lucky few. CONGRATULATIONS JOE.

On a very sad note, while I was at the Malta Embassy in Washington D.C, I learned that our good friend and benefactor from Toronto Canada, Mr. Albert Vella, formerly of Bank of Valletta, passed away on November 9th, at the age of 77. May he Rest in Peace.

On behalf of the Office of the Consulate of Malta in San Francisco and my family I would like to end my message this month by wishing you, your families and loved ones very Happy and Safe Thanksgiving holiday.

Grazzi Hafna

Always remember, that *it is not what we take but what we give that makes us rich.*

Entertainment Committee

Preparations are under way to get the hall decorated for the Children's Christmas Party. Anyone who would like to help wrap presents at the Club on December 13th is more than welcome. An error was discovered on the flyer for the New Year's Eve Dinner... sole is not an entrée choice.

Women's Social Committee

The women will be having dinner at the Basque Club in December to celebrate the Christmas season.

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the Club and more*

[http://maltese-
americanscsf.org/](http://maltese-americanscsf.org/)



NOVEMBER IN MALTESE HISTORY

by Mona Vella-Nicholas

November 12, 1592 --- The Collegium Melitense is founded by the Jesuits. It is originally located in an old house in Valletta. Three years later, construction is started on a building to be used specifically for the premises of the Collegium, which later becomes known as the University of Malta. The building still exists and is still used today as the seat of the "International Masters Programmes" of the University of Malta.

November 14-17, 1967 --- Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip make an official state visit to Malta. They are welcomed by Prime Minister Dr. George Borg Olivier and Governor-General of Malta Sir Maurice Dorman.

Origin of Maltese Last Names

Pisani

Is your last name **Pisani**? If so, you may be interested in knowing where your last name comes from. **Pisani** is of Italian origin. It refers to someone from the Italian city of Pisa. The name of the city, in turn, comes from the Greek word "pisos", which means "irrigated land."

A Message from the Secretary

The end of the year is rapidly approaching and membership fees will be due soon. I have enclosed a flyer as a reminder during the busy days ahead.

Correspondence

Except for payments, all correspondence must be addressed to the attention of the secretary, Mary Vella Gomes

Thank you to the many members who volunteer their time and talents so that we all can enjoy the various activities at the Club

New members of the Maltese American Social Club are always welcomed. Please encourage your family and Maltese friends, young and old, to become members and attend our functions.

Maltese websites that may be of interest to the Bay Area Maltese Community:

www.timesofmalta.com
www.tvm.com.mt
www.gozotv.com/home
www.visitmalta.com
www.airmalta.com
www.gozonews.com
www.maltatoday.com.mt
www.independent.com.mt
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LY491bN_xQ4
<https://www.maltaproducts.com/>

Payments

Payments for dues and all functions **must be made only by check (NO CASH)**, payable to Maltese American Social club or MASC and sent to the attention of Ninfa Pace. **Payment for functions must be made by the deadline date. IF PAYMENT IS NOT RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE DATE, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND. PAYMENT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THAT DATE NOR AT THE DOOR ON THE DAY OF THE FUNCTION.** Please provide separate checks for each function.

Hall Rental

The hall is available for rent to members only. Please call Brian Ciappara at 650-303-6900 for information and pick up a form and guidelines from the Club

Non-Responsibility Declaration:

All activities arranged for or sponsored by the Maltese American Social Club of San Francisco, Inc. are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. The Maltese American Social Club does not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants of the or their property in any matters pertaining to said activities.

Newsletter is created by Mary Vella Gomes with the approval of the Board of Directors