

Maltese American Social Club of San Francisco, Inc.



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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:

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415-586-2597

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650-348-1545

Asst. Treasurer:

Ninfa Pace
650-697-1079

Parliamentarian:

Celina Gomes
415-205-7485

Sergeant-At-Arms:

George Borg

Auditors: Mona Vella

Nicholas
Louis Vella

FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends, Happy New Year! At the January General Membership Meeting 60 members were in attendance. After the invocation by the Secretary, a moment of silence was observed in memory of Jane Scerri, wife of Peter Scerri, Ed Bagnani, husband of Betty Bianchi Bagnani and Carmen Zweigel, Charlie Catania's aunt. May they rest in peace.

It was nice to see Anne Azzopardi who has been a member for a long time and Tatum Wheeler who joined our organization in the last quarter of 2017.

The New Year's Eve Dinner Dance was well attended and a very good time was had by all. The food was great and the DJ did a wonderful job in keeping everyone dancing. Thanks to Karen Borg and all those who helped to make this event so enjoyable. Thanks go to Helen and Tony Caruana who donated a big bottle of Crown Royal Whiskey, to Janet Frendo for the three gift packs and to Carmen Deguara for the box of candy. All these gifts were raffled together with a Samsung 24-inch television. Thanks to Gillu for taking care of the bar and his wife Josie for selling the raffle tickets, to all who served, collected the dishes and cleaned up the club after the party. Thanks a lot!

The Board of Directors has unanimously agreed that non-members, when attending Club functions as guests of members, will be charged a slightly higher price. The St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 17th will reflect the change. This will be a benefit to the members in good standing and will be an

**The Next General
Membership Meeting is
Sunday, February 25th
at 10:30 a.m.**



St. Valentine, Bishop and Martyr, receives a Rosary from the Virgin

Grievance Committee

The names of the 2018 Grievance Committee Members cannot be published until they are approved by the members at the February General Membership meeting

Love is a combination of respect, friendship, understanding, communication and companionship

Author unknown



incentive to other Maltese and those who qualify to become members of our great organization. This will not have any effect on children and young adults, under 18 years of age, since they do not qualify to become members.

The Bylaws Revision Committee has been meeting and are asking all the members to give them their input regarding what changes they would like to see made to our bylaws. Once they finish their work, the Board of Directors will review the changes, make any necessary recommendations and call a special General Membership Meeting so that the members can vote on them.

The next events coming up are the Cache Creek Casino day trip, which will be held on Saturday February 10th and the Family Bowling Night which will be held on Sunday, March 4th.

The Social Events Schedule is included in this newsletter. Please save the schedule so that you can plan ahead to attend the functions.

I know that this is very early but, believe it or not, in 2019 our Club will celebrate its 90th Anniversary!

The Grievance Committee will be formed soon and the names will be announced as soon as possible.

The Annual Dues of \$60.00 are now due and payable. If payment is not made by January 31st. you will be considered a non-member.

Hope to see you at the next General Membership Meeting which will be held on Sunday, February 25th at 10:30 a.m.

Thank you and best regards to all.

Saħħa

Upcoming Maltese Community Events

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CACHE CREEK CASINO
FEBRUARY 10TH

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FAMILY BOWLING
NIGHT
MARCH 4TH

~ ~ ~ ~

ST. PATRICK'S DAY
DINNER
MARCH 17TH

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Entertainment Committee

CHAIRPERSON:

Karen Borg

CO-CHAIRPERSON:

Jennifer DeBattista

Rose Borg

Kathy Borg

Carmen Micallef

Ninfa Pace

Rose Vassallo

Mary Vella

Betty DeBattista

Mary Smith

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE *Honorable Consul General of Malta*

Hon Consul General (HCG) Louis J. Vella was unable to attend the January 28th General Meeting as he is in Malta. However, he sent us the following message which Mona Vella Nicholas read to the members:

Greetings from Malta. Today, Saturday January 27th, is the feast of St. Paul Shipwreck, celebrated in a big way in Valletta. This Festa is considered a National Feast. The weather is good and the Festa was celebrated with great pomp.

While in Malta, I hope to have more discussions with the office of the President to close the negotiations and proceed with the plans for a visit by the President of Malta to California in the very near future. I have already received a message that the President of Malta was really touched by the sweet messages she received from our Maltese American children, earlier this month.

I will also continue to have talks with the Malta Passport Office about the next session for the processing of Maltese passports in my office in Millbrae. Most of the 50 passports that were processed last November have arrived and handed to the applicants. Only a few are left and I hope these will be finalized in the next weeks.

When I was 9 years old, I started attending school in Valletta, the capital city of Malta. From the beginning, I developed a special love for this beautiful city. I have to admit that I have never seen this magnificent city more beautiful than it is now. Valletta in 2018 is the capital city for culture for all of Europe. The official opening of Valletta '18 took place last week but special celebrations will continue throughout the year. Valletta is truly worth a visit in 2018.

All the best from Malta. I miss you all.

Louis J. Vella

Honorary Consul General

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 Noon.

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

Entertainment Committee

Cache Creek Casino Trip on February 10th is our first event of the year. Cost is \$38.00 with \$5.00 food credit and \$10.00 free play on slots or \$20.00 free play on tables. On Sunday, March 4th, we will have Family Bowling Night at Sea Bowl in Pacifica. Cost is \$15.00 and includes. Bowling, shoe rental, pizza and a non-alcoholic beverage. In March, we will also have our St. Patrick's Day Dinner which will be held on St. Paddy's Day itself, March 17th! Please refer to the attached flyers for additional information regarding all 3 events. As always, please send in your reservations as early as possible.

Women's Social Committee

At the February 13th meeting, the women will be working on a Valentine project. As a reminder, the women's social committee meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.



JANUARY IN MALTESE HISTORY

by Mona Vella-Nicholas

January 17, 1799 --- Dun Mikiel Xerri, a Maltese priest and patriot, is executed by firing squad, along with a group of other Maltese. Their crime is being involved in a revolt against the French occupation of Malta. The French forces have looted Maltese churches and caused a severe financial crisis on the islands, infuriating the Maltese and leading to the revolt.

January 9, 1909 --- Sir Anthony Mamo is born in Birkirkara. He is awarded a Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) degree in 1934. After a few years in the private sector, he dedicates himself to public service, working his way up the ranks to become Attorney-General of Malta in 1955. In 1971, seven years after Malta's independence, Mamo is appointed as the first Maltese Governor-General, serving as the Queen's representative in Malta. (All previous Governors-General had been British.) In 1974, he becomes the first President of Malta. He dies in 2008.

Support Our Advertisers

Please be sure to check the advertising pages and remember to mention the Club when you patronize these businesses.



Visit Us Online

www.maltese-americanSCSF.org

New members are always welcome. Encourage your family and Maltese friends, young and old, to become members of the Maltese American Social Club



Origin of Maltese Last Names

Fenech

Is your last name Fenech? If so, you may be interested in knowing where your name comes from. **Fenech** is of Arabic origin. Of course, we all know it means "rabbit" in Maltese, but in Arabic "fanak" means "fox". This can be taken to mean that one of your ancestors either a) hunted rabbits or b) was a fast runner (like a rabbit or fox) or c) was timid (like both animals). Take your pick!

Maltese-American Car Club

A car club is being started. If interested, please complete the attached form and send to the Club to the attention of Car Club.

Correspondence and Payments

Except for payment of functions and/or dues, please remember that all correspondence must be addressed to the attention of the secretary, Mary Vella Gomes. Payment for all functions must be made by check (No Cash) and sent to the attention of Ninfa Pace. If paying for more than one function, please provide separate checks. Thank you

Please note that membership dues for 2018 were due on January 31st.

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.