

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:

Joe DeBattista
650-438-2561

Vice President:

Mary Borg Smith
650-692-0413

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:

Rose Borg
650-873-3187

Sergeant-At-Arms:

George Borg

Auditors:

Mona Vella Nicholas
Louis Vella

**The Next General
Membership Meeting is
Sunday, February 23rd
at 10:30 a.m.**

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone.

Well 2020 is here and January has come and gone.

We had our first general membership meeting and, I have to admit, I was a little nervous, more so then when I filled in for Brian.

We got through that meeting and announced the names of the new Board of Directors. We also had 7 new members join, the calendar of events is set for 2020 and we are on our way to set up the rest of the committees. The names of the Board of Directors and the new members can be found in this Newsletter. The entertainment committee, amongst other events, is already working on the 2020 Malta Day Celebration which will be held on Sept 19, 2020.

Thoughts are that the club is moving to the 100th anniversary and we owe it to the founders and the ones before us to honor their legacy. When they started the club, they had and tried new ideas. Some worked and some did not. We please ask members to come up with different ideas, no matter how outlandish one might think they are.



The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of how Paul the Apostle was shipwrecked on the island of Malta, while on his way to Rome to face charges. Traditionally, St. Paul's Bay is identified as the location for the shipwreck.

Grievance Committee

Mary Anne Fassler
(Chairperson)
Charlie Catania
Barbara Fenech
Paula Moffit

Additional member to be
announced

~ ~ ~ ~

*"I have found the
paradox, that if you
love until it hurts,
there can be no more
hurt, only more love"*

Mother Teresa



The idea is not to ponder on what we cannot do or what did not work in the past. Pulling together we can overcome many of the challenges that come our way. The major thrust is going to be trying to include the younger generation. I encourage all of you and especially those with younger kids to come up with some new ideas. The best way to accomplish this, we think, is by talking and asking your kids for ideas.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and participation. We trust that together we can have fun and prosperous years ahead of us.

Sahha and grazzi.
Joe DeBattista

A MESSAGE FROM THE *Honorable Consul General of Malta*

Hon Consul (HC) Vella greeted everyone present. This being the first meeting of the New Year, Hon Consul Vella congratulated the newly installed Board of Directors and all those who were elected to run the business of the club. He also took time to give kudos and appreciation to everyone who volunteers to serve and those who take the initiative to continue to improve our organization and our community. Congratulations, well wishes and applause are wonderful demonstrations of appreciation, but these are not enough. Those who venture to serve need more, a lot more. We owe them our support, our encouragement and our helping hand. All volunteers, members of our beautiful Maltese Community who are actively engaged in promoting Maltese Culture, Heritage, Traditions, Customs, Cuisine, History, Language, and everything

Upcoming Maltese Community Events

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

ST. PAUL OF THE
SHIPWRECK FESTA
FEBRUARY 8TH



CACHE CREEK
CASINO
FEBRUARY 15TH



ST. PATRICK'S DAY
DINNER DANCE
MARCH 14TH



~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Entertainment Committee

Karen Borg (Chairperson)
Jennifer DeBattista
Rose Borg
Kathy Borg
Carmen Micallef
Ninfa Pace
Mary Vella
Betty DeBattista
Mary Borg Smith
Celina Gomes
Brian Ciappara
Joe DeBattista

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.

that is Maltese deserve our gratitude, assistance and our admiration.

Hon Consul Vella made mention that as the New Year brought about the beginning of a new Board of Directors at our Club, in Malta the year 2020 welcomed a new Prime Minister, The Honorable Dr. Robert Abela from the city of Qormi. Prime Minister Abela is touring various localities in Malta and Gozo, including the 3 inhabitants of the tiny island of Comino. We also welcome a new Minister of Foreign Affairs, The Honorable Evarist Bartolo from the town of Mellieha. We hope that one day we will be able to host them in our community, as we have hosted other dignitaries from Malta in the past.

Hon Consul Vella reminded everyone that a representative from the Embassy of Malta in Washington DC is scheduled to visit his office in Millbrae to process applications for Maltese passports. The visit will be on Thursday February 6th, Friday February 7th and Saturday February 8th. Anyone interested needs to be a Maltese Citizen and needs to have all documents in order before being approved for a Maltese passport. An appointment is necessary. Please contact the office of the Hon Consul of Malta if interested. Appointments slots are filling up fast.

Hon Consul Vella ended his presentation by focusing on the various ethnic language schools we have in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area. If there are schools that teach the German language and Hungarian and French and Japanese and Korean and others, why can't we have language classes that teach the Maltese language?

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

Club Hours

Sunday and Holidays
9:00a.m. – 5:00p.m.

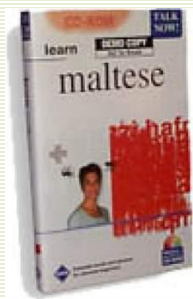
Monday, Wednesday
Saturday
CLOSED

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

Entertainment Committee

There will be a casino trip to Cache Creek on February 15th and the St. Patrick's Day Dinner, which will be catered by Espostos is on March 14th. Flyers for both events are attached.

Women's Social Committee

At the January meeting, the women discussed suggestions for the meetings in 2020. On February 11th, a Sip & Paint event will be held at the meeting and food will be donated by members. There will be a person who will guide the women through the event.

A Message from the Secretary

If needed, I can be contacted via my new email: secretary@maltese-americanscsf.org or by calling me.

Letters will soon be going out to potential sponsors who may be interested in advertising in our monthly newsletter and on our website. Support from our advertisers is very appreciated and a source of income for the club. Please contact Mary Borg Smith if you know anyone with a business that might be interested.

The St. Paul's Dinner at St. Elizabeth Church is on Saturday, February 8th. Mass is at 4:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. If interested, please contact Josie Ghiglieri at 415-310-7183 or Emma Magarrell at 415-468-4367/

Congratulations to Mary Rose Axiak-Rutikanga who was appointed as the City Administrator for the City of Sonora on January 23rd. Her father is Club member Mike Axiak, a Maltese American Vietnam Vet, who was born in Malta, grew up in Daly City and lives in Copperopolis. As part of Mary Rose's graduate degree program, she spent 2 1/2 years in the Peace Corps as a health and community development volunteer in Rwanda.

Support Our Advertisers

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

Origin of Maltese Last Names Pulis

Is your last name Pulis? If so, you may be interested in knowing where your last name comes from. **Pulis** is a shortened form of the Italian place-name "Pulisi" or "Polisi." It refers to an area in the province of Palermo in Sicily. A form of this name existed in Sicily as early as the 12th century.

JANUARY IN MALTESE HISTORY *by Mona Vella-Nicholas, Librarian and Historian*

January, 1942--- Three merchant ships sail from Tripoli in Libya carrying 2,000 Maltese men, women, and children. Because Malta is a British possession, these people are being deported to Italy, where they will spend the next three years as enemy civilians. When the war is over, they are allowed to return to Tripoli; however, their return adds insult to injury, as they find that nothing is left of their property or other belongings. Many leave North Africa for good, choosing to start afresh in Australia or Canada rather than starting over in Libya.

January, 2008--- Malta joins the Eurozone, four years after joining the European Union. The Eurozone is the monetary arm of the EU. The nineteen EU countries who belong to the Eurozone have adopted the euro as their national currency. Nine additional countries are members of the EU but not of the Eurozone, having chosen to keep their own traditional currency (for example, the Swiss franc) instead.



Visit us online for a look at pictures of memorable moments, information about the Club and more

<http://maltese-americanscsf.org/>



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/>

New Members

A big welcome to Tom Akin, Dorothy Anderson, Kenneth Gauci, Mary Rummelhart, Theresa Aquino, Nathan Ciappara and Joe Agius.

Correspondence

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

Payments

Payments for dues and all functions **must be made by check only (NO CASH)**, payable to Maltese American Social club or MASC and sent to the attention of Ninfa Pace. Please provide separate checks for each function. 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.**

Hall Rental

The hall is available for rent to members only. Please call Joe DeBattista at 650-438-2561 for information and to 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