

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER



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Message from the President

It's almost time to say see you later to spring because summer is just around the corner!

Some of you may have noticed that we have solar lights in the front of the club which has helped immensely since it was so dark. The area is brighter and safer. Thank you to Karen Borg who not only installed them but also installed motion lights in many areas of the Club including the bathrooms. In addition, dimmer switches have also been installed in the bar area. Karen, thank you for always being so generous with your time and talents.

We have water damage in the front of the Club and have experienced tiles falling. Luckily, no one has been injured. The 95th Anniversary banner has remained up to prevent tiles from falling outward. This is obviously a necessary repair and we will be looking at estimates to determine the cost.

We have arranged for a cleaning company to come in and clean the bathrooms and also additional cleaning in the hall as necessary. At the April General Meeting, the members in attendance were informed that if anyone wanted to help with cleaning the bathrooms., we were extending a payment of \$100 a month to do so.

Please contact me for additional information if you are interested.

All of the Articles in the Bylaws that we ratified on March 30, 2025 are effective as of that date. The exception is the Article regarding annual dues and that will be effective January 1, 2026.

The Bylaws and House Rules are very clear about the standards of behavior expected while on the Club's premises. I'm disappointed to have to share that over the past 12 months, there have been multiple instances where members of our Club—or members of other Maltese organizations—were subjected to harassment, humiliation, or were spoken to in a demeaning manner. Respect and courtesy are not optional; they are expected from everyone and extended to everyone.

These incidents have occurred often enough, and also involved enough individuals, that both the Board and I feel it is necessary to offer this reminder about how we communicate with one another. In each situation, those affected could have filed a formal grievance, but all chose not to. This kind of behavior doesn't just affect those directly involved but it can also make others feel uncomfortable witnessing this type of behavior. We want everyone to feel included, respected and appreciated. It's my sincere hope that this gentle reminder will prompt us all to reflect on how our actions and words may impact others. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with me directly.

The Father's Day Brunch is coming up on June 15th and the Graton Casino Bus Trip on June 21st. The flyers for both

events have been sent to you. There is still time to reserve a seat on the Bus to Graton!

The flyer for the Members' Annual Appreciation Picnic on July 20th is attached. **Whether you pay by check or Zelle, you must return the form to Ninfa Pace.** In addition, we have attached registration forms for the Car Show on October 4th.

Please note that the General Meeting originally scheduled for June 29th will be held on June 22nd.

Message from the Honorable Consul General of Malta

Greetings dear friends of the Maltese American Social Club and the Maltese-American Community in California.

Memorial Day: Memorial Day is considered by most as the opening of Summer. The weather may still be a little on the cool side but travel plans are in full swing. But Memorial Day is more than that.....much more and it is good that we pause for a moment and reflect on the significance of this important day. At 3pm on Memorial Day everyone was reminded and encouraged to pause for a moment of silence. For many this day is considered a day of commemoration. It is a day dedicated to those who sacrificed everything to protect and defend every one of us and our country. Its origins date back to the Civil War. It was initially referred to as "Decoration Day." On this day we honor especially our military personnel who lost their lives while serving in the US armed forces. Let us also remember Maltese men and other service people of Maltese descent who served in the US military especially

those who sacrificed everything to protect our freedom and our way of life.

Sette Giugno: June 7th in Malta is a public holiday. On June 7th Malta commemorates the uprising of the Maltese public against the invaders while demonstrating against the high cost of living and demanding self-government. On June 7th 1919, large crowds marched on the capital city, Valletta, and demanded to be heard. The march turned into riots as British soldiers tried to hold the crowds back. Against orders, commanding officers, and soldiers opened fire and 4 Maltese protesters were killed. The riots then turned into a rebellion against the British occupiers.

Festa Season during the month of June in Malta & Gozo: The festa season is in full swing in Malta and the hot Summer-days are just around the corner. Almost every week there is a festa in some town or village around Malta and Gozo all the way until September. During the month of June we have the following main festa days: *Corpus Christi* – Ghasri, Gozo and Rabat, Malta; *Our Lady of Fatima* – Gwardamanga, Pieta'; *St. Joseph* – Ghaxaq; *St. Philip of Agira* – Haz Zebbug; *Sacred Heart of Jesus* – Fontana, Gozo; *Our Lady of Lily* – Mqabba; *St. Catherine* – Zejtun; *Our Lady of Lourdes* – Qrendi; *St. John the Baptist* – Xewkija, Gozo; *St. Peter & St. Paul* – Nadur, Gozo; *Immaculate Heart of Mary* – Burmarrad; *St. George* – Qormi; *St. Nicholas of Bari* – Siggiewi. IL-Festa it-tajba

We continue to encourage everyone to keep your families, friends and loved ones constantly in your thoughts and prayers and to watch out for each other. One never knows the last time we are

able to do so. We continue to hope and pray for lasting peace and a brighter future. Always remember, it is not what we take but what we give that makes us truly rich...So, give without remembering and receive without forgetting.

Message From The Secretary

Fun Facts:

The scientific term for “brain freeze” is sphenopalatine ganglioneuralgia. But you can keep calling it brain freeze (or frozen headache) when you eat ice cream; Farmers measure milk in pounds, not gallons - 8.6 pounds per gallon is the standard; It takes about 10 pounds of milk to make one pound of cheese and just over 21 pounds to make a pound of butter; Wisconsin is the only state where Limburger cheese is produced; Dairy cows eat about 100 pounds of food every day and drink 25-50 gallons of water; Home delivery of milk started in 1942 as a war conservation measure; Early cheese-makers shaped Edam into balls to roll down the gang planks of ships for export; Little Miss Muffet’s curds and whey (from the nursery rhyme) were an early version of cottage cheese.

If you have changed your phone number, or you have a landline and are **not using it for your contact**, please let us know so that we can update the membership phone list! Many members have gotten rid of landlines, and we may not have your cell number. We rely on making phone calls to members, and the phone number list needs to be current. Also, remember to notify me of any changes to addresses and email address. It is very important that when sending RSVPs by USPS mail to make sure to put your return address on the envelope. If you have any questions, please contact me at secretary@maltese-americanscsf.org or call me at 415-218-6329

Club Hours

Sunday: 9:00 -5:00p.m.

Friday: 5:00 p.m. -1:00 a.m.

CLOSED:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday -EXCEPT: The 2nd Tuesday of the month for the Women's Club Meeting from 6:30-10:00 p.m.

Library Hours

The Library is open on the last Sunday of each month from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You can also contact the Librarian and Historian, Mona Vella-Nicholas, at 650-589-4578 for an appointment.

Correspondence

Except for payments for functions and dues, please remember that all correspondence, and any important information that may need to be put in the newsletter, should be addressed to: secretary@maltese-americanscsf.org.

Facebook

If you do use Facebook, you can reach the Club's page by searching Maltese American Social Club on Facebook or also with the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064530946528>

Website

Visit us online for a look at the memorable moments through pictures, information about the Club and more using the following link: <http://maltese-americanscsf.org/about-us.aspx>

Maltese History Month

*By: Mona Vella-Nicholas
Librarian and Historian*

May 31, 1916 - As World War I rages on, the biggest naval battle of the war takes place off the coast of Jutland, Denmark. Over a 24-hour period, eleven

German and fourteen British warships are sunk. During the battle, one of the British ships, the *HMS Black Prince*, loses contact with the other ships in the fleet. What became of the ship does not come to light until the British government gains access to the German report on the battle which stated " *Black Prince* was hit by at least 12 heavy shells and several smaller ones and sank within 15 minutes, with no survivors of her 857 complement." Among the dead are seven Maltese sailors: Emmanuel Cachia, John Cauchi, Giuseppe Chetcuti, Angelo Formosa, John Micallef, Lewis (Zuigi) Vassallo, and John Vella. Rounding out the Maltese connection, two Italian husbands of Maltese women also perish. Although losses are great on both sides, the battle is considered to be a German victory.

May 26, 1934 -- Dr. Robert Samut dies in Sliema. Born on October 12, 1869 in Floriana, he goes abroad to study medicine as a young man. After completing his studies in Scotland and England, he returns to Malta, where he becomes a professor at the Royal University of Malta. In addition to his medical work, Dr. Samut has an interest in music. He not only plays with an amateur orchestra, but writes music for the group to play as well. One such piece is a hymn, which is performed not only by his own orchestra, but also by the King's Own Band of Valletta, where it gets broader exposure. Malta's National Poet, Dun Karm Psaila, later writes lyrics to accompany the music. After the first performance of the piece with its lyrics is performed in a concert on December 27, 1922, the work becomes the Maltese national anthem, known today as *L-Innu Malti*.

Origin of Maltese Last Names

*By: Mona Vella-Nicholas
Librarian and Historian*

Is your last name **Calleja**? If so, you may be interested in knowing where your name comes from. Calleja is of Siculo-Greek origin, which means it comes from a dialect spoken by Greeks living in Sicily. It comes from the Greek word "kalleyias", which means "farmer." A form of this last name appears in Malta as early as 1276. There was once a small village within the limits of what is now Mosta called "Hal Calleya," which means "Calleja's farm."

Entertainment Committee

Co-Chairperson(s): Karen Borg: kb99karebear@aol.com Dorothy Falzon: dorothyanderson59@sbcglobal.net.

Members of the Committee: Sina Borg, Brian Ciappara, Mary Vella Gomes, Emma Magarrell, Ninfa Pace, Gracie Lacey, Lina Agius, Terrie Aquino, Mary Smith, Betty DeBattista, Gracie Aquino and Pauline Henderson. **Volunteers for our functions are always needed and welcomed!** If you are interested in volunteering for the upcoming events in 2025, please contact: Karen Borg and/or Dorothy Falzon.

**Graton Casino Trip 6/21
Members' Picnic 7/20
Santa Maria Celebration 8/9**

Malta Day Gala

Please remember that on September 20th we will hold the Malta Day Gala. We would like to see as many of you and the rest of the Maltese Community as possible celebrating Malta's history and our Maltese heritage.

Women's Social Group

In May, the meeting was dedicated to making floral arrangements, which all looked beautiful. It was hard to believe that they were not professionally done! Thank you to Bev Dehaney for bringing in a florist to guide us with the project. At the June meeting, plans were made for the July 8th meeting...Hot dogs will be served along with a potluck of salads, side dishes and desserts!

Grievance Committee

The names of the 2025 Grievance Committee members are Paula Ebejer Moffitt (Chairperson), Mary Ann Fassler Charlie Catania, Peter Abela and Rita Goldberg.

In-N-Out Neighboring Development

Update from Louis Vella: The proposed development of an In-N-Out Burger place adjacent to our club's premises continues to move forward. The Club, through the Property Development Commission, continues to engage in dialogue with the new developers to minimize any negative impacts and to ensure that the new development next to our club will not disrupt the managing and the enjoyment of our organization which we have had in this location for almost 30 years.

Support Our Advertisers!

Please take the time while reading the newsletter to check out our advertisers who support our Club. Remember to mention the Club when patronizing these businesses.

If anyone would like to advertise in our monthly newsletter or knows of a business that would like to, please be

sure to contact Terrie Aquino via terrieaquino66@gmail.com or at 650-438-5579. Advertising in the newsletter helps offset the cost of printing and postage and reaches almost 300 households.

Payments (No CASH)

Payment for dues and all functions can be made by check payable to: Maltese American Social Club of San Francisco (MASC) and sent to the attention of **Ninfa Pace**. Please be sure to provide **separate checks for each event**.

Zelle is also now available to use when paying for dues, functions or making a donation. **Please use the Club's telephone number 650-871-4611** to make your Zelle payments from your bank to the Club.

If a written RSVP response is required for a function, whether payment is made via check or Zelle, the response **MUST** be sent to Ninfa Pace as always.

All payment for functions must be made by the deadline date. If you are using Zelle, please remember to send in your Zelle payments and responses at least 4-5 days prior to the deadline date.

Hall Rental

EMMANUEL MICALLEF HALL

The hall is available for rent to members only. Please contact Mary Vella Gomes at **415-468-3747 or 415-517-5533** to schedule a meeting to arrange for the rental and to review the Contract

Non-Responsibility Declaration

All activities arranged for or sponsored by 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 or their property in any matters pertaining to said activities the Maltese American Social Club of San Francisco, Inc. are for the convenience and pleasure of.

This Newsletter is created by Secretary, Maryann Milla, with the approval of the Board of Directors

