

Maltese American Social Club of San Francisco, Inc.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President:

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George Borg

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Mona Vella Nicholas
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JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Brian Ciappara is vacationing in Malta. In his absence, Vice President Joe DeBattista presided over the General Meeting and will assume his duties until he returns in July.

There will be no General Membership Meeting in the month of June, so that everyone can attend the Maltese Cross Foundation Picnic, to be held on Sunday, June 24th.

Hello all. Well, we are rounding off June and the summer vacation season is upon us. To those travelling, may your journey be safe.

The club will be open as always and we have Father's Day coming up and "Jamri" is coming out of retirement and cooking for that occasion. Hope Jamri is doing well after his fall.

This is my first chance to thank everyone again for the help and support while Brian is gone. Brian I am sure is enjoying his visit to Malta and we will see him back in July.

I would like to share the emails I received from Her Excellency and Mr. Preca.

Dear Joe

Thank you so much for your email and your kind words. I can assure you that I already miss you all. Our working visit to San

NO MEETING IN JUNE

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



Grievance Committee

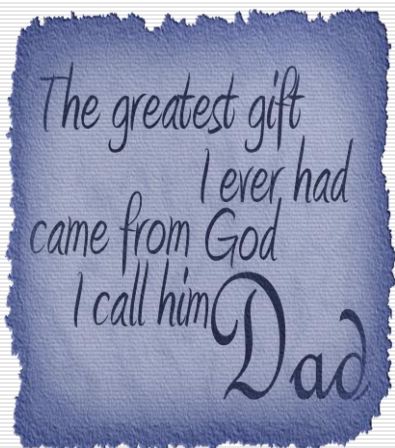
Rose Borg
Barbara Fenech
Charlie Catania
Bart Borg
Mary Anne Fassler

*"There is nothing that moves
a loving father's soul quite
like his child's cry."*

Joni Eareckson Tada

*I cannot think of any need in
childhood as strong as the
need for a father's protection.*

Sigmund Freud



Francisco will stay with me all my life. Being together with all the Maltese American families is definitely a unique experience.

My comfort is that everyone seems to be doing well and thriving and this gives me peace of mind.

Please convey my deepest gratitude and best wishes to the members of the Committee at the club, to all those who helped to organize our events and to one and all.

Thank you for making Malta GREAT.

Take care
God bless you all
Marie-Louise

Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca
President of Malta

Dear Joe,

I can assure you that our visit to California was a memorable one and one that I will treasure for a long time. I have to thank you once again together with your team for your hospitality.

Best regards & God bless you.
Edgar

Have a great summer from all of us at the Maltese Club.
Regards.

Joe DeBattista.

A MESSAGE FROM THE *Honorable Consul General of Malta*

Hon Consul (HC) Louis J. Vella greeted everyone present at the meeting on Sunday May 20th. He started his report by acknowledging the good job that the secretary and the new acting chairman who was running the meeting for the first time

Upcoming Maltese Community Events

~ ~ ~ ~

FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT

JUNE 3RD

~ ~ ~ ~

FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH

JUNE 17TH

~ ~ ~ ~

MALTESE CROSS FOUNDATION PICNIC

JUNE 24TH

~ ~ ~ ~

MEMBERS' APPRECIATION PICNIC

JULY 22ND

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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*

in a very long time. The treasurer, Mr. Joe Vella was the person chairing the May general membership meeting and what a great job he did indeed.

Mr. Louis J. Vella talked about and reinforced how important it is for members of the Maltese Club to share their e-mail address with the secretary of their own Club. Most everyone nowadays has an e-mail account or have access to e-mail messages. It is understood that some members prefer to receive their monthly club's newsletter in paper form. That can still continue, however, it should not be a reason not to share the e-mail address with the secretary of the Club. Nowadays information travels faster than ever. By the time the newsletter is prepared and mailed, some information may already be outdated. As an example, whenever the Consulate Office needs to send news or information to be distributed, that information normally goes to all Maltese groups in the area. Each group will then e-mail the information to their respective e-mail lists. If e-mail addresses are not shared with the secretary a lot of important information may not get to you or your family in time. When you eventually receive it, may be too late. We have well over 230 members. There is no reason the secretary should not have at least 90% e-mail addresses of all the members. Some members come from the same family and at least one e-mail from the family should be shared. We hope that by the end of this year we will reach or at least come close to that goal of having 90% of the members' e-mails on file with the secretary.

After a lot of preparation, meetings, communications and a million other things, and yes, a few uncertainties, the visit of Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca President of Malta and her delegation, resulted in one of the most successful visits of a Maltese dignitary. The Hon Consul shared that he does not ever remember receiving so many messages, phone calls, e-mails, cards, and letters from people saying how much they enjoyed the Gala Dinner and the entire visit of the President of Malta in California. Even people who could not participate in any of the events but followed on face book or other social media sent congratulatory messages. The President also expressed her appreciation, joy and connection with the Maltese American Community of California. She became very emotional when she

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

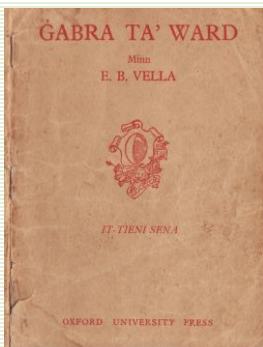
Thursday

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.

saw the crowd of people, especially young children and babies, waiting for her with Maltese flags waving at the airport upon her arrival. The President also had very productive meetings with the Mayor of San Francisco at City Hall, the UCSF Cancer Research Institute, the Governor of California at the State Capitol, and the Mayor and the entire Council of Millbrae. Her Excellency the President met also with the Maltese Community in the Sacramento area and the community North of the Golden Gate Bridge. She also met a group of Maltese at a local Care Facility, at St. Dunstan church, at Mosta Grove in Millbrae and of course the Maltese American Social Club where she received a very warm and friendly welcome. At the club, the President spent time with our youths and young adults, with the committee and members and she also unveiled the latest addition to the club, namely the Laurel Leaf Crown brought over from Valletta, Malta. The highlight of the visit with the Maltese communities was without a doubt the wonderful Gala Dinner event organized by the Maltese Community Network in her honor, on the evening of May 5th and meeting with the guests who were in attendance. The President thoroughly enjoyed learning about the activities of the different Maltese Groups and Organizations in the Bay Area by visiting each of their respective display tables at the Gala Dinner.

It was an extremely very busy 3-day visit but when things go right it makes it all worthwhile.

Hon Consul Vella expressed his deepest gratitude to the many people at every level and at every different venue who helped to make this visit so successful. The Maltese Community is proud of you and now all of Malta and the Maltese diaspora all over the world know a lot more about the Maltese Community in Northern California. The President mentioned more than once that she is proud of each and every member of the Maltese-American Community of California and that we should always and forever feel welcome and at home in Malta.

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

Support Our Advertisers

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



Maltese websites that may be of interest to the Maltese Community...

www.timesofmalta.com

www.tvm.com.mt

www.gozotv.com/home

www.visitmalta.com

www.airmalta.com

www.gozonews.com

For those of you travelling to Malta this year, or are just interested, the program for all events in connection with Valletta 2018-European Capital of Culture can be found here

<https://valletta2018.org/>

Entertainment Committee

The Mother's Day Dinner was a smaller group but everyone had a great time. June 3rd is the Family Bowling Night and the Father's Day Brunch is on June 17th.

Women's Social Committee

Next meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of June and the women will enjoy pizza and salad. The Mystery Trip will likely be held in October.



MAY IN MALTESE HISTORY

by Mona Vella-Nicholas

May 8-9, 2004 --- Pope John Paul II makes his second visit to Malta, where he beatifies three Maltese clerics: Dun Ġorġ Preca, Sister Adeodata Pisani, and Nazju Falzon. This visit (the first was in 1990) was the Pope's last stop before returning to Rome. He had previously visited Greece and Syria on a pilgrimage to retrace the places visited by St. Paul during his ministry.

May 9, 2006 --- Exactly two years after he is beatified, Dun Ġorġ Preca is declared a saint by Pope Benedict XVI, thus becoming the first Maltese saint in history. Born in Valletta on February 12, 1880, Dun Ġorġ is best known as the founder of the Society of Christian Doctrine. He died on July 26, 1962 in Santa Venera. His feast day is May 9th. The other two clerics who were beatified with Dun Ġorġ in 2004 are still waiting to be elevated to sainthood.

Origin of Maltese Last Names

Gatt

Is your last name **Gatt**? If so, you may be interested in knowing where your last name comes from. **Gatt** is of Italian origin. It comes from the word "gatto", meaning "cat." It is important to note that cats were considered sacred animals in ancient Egypt. It is thought that **Gatt** may have become a last name in reference to some cat-like characteristic demonstrated by the individual to whom the name was given (cat-eyes? cunning?). The name dates back to at least the 15th century in Malta.

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

[www.maltese-
americanSCSF.org](http://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*



*Welcome to our
newest members...
Dolores Bajada
Herrera and
Anthony Zammit*

Payments

Payments for dues and functions must be made by check (No Cash) 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 AS PAYMENT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THAT DATE OR AT THE DOOR ON THE DAY OF THE FUNCTION.** Please provide separate checks for each function. Thank you.

Correspondence

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

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.