

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

MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends, at the General Membership Meeting that was held on Sunday, April 28th, 44 members were in attendance. After the Secretary's short prayer, a moment of silence was observed in memory of Teddie Muscat, son of the late Frank Muscat and Connie Muscat, and also for Kyle Enanoria who passed away at the tender age of 11 years. Kyle was the grandson of Reno and Annie Vella and great grandson of Margaret (Gerita) Agius. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families.

On Saturday, April 6th, a very profitable Family Pasta Bingo was held at the Club. Many thanks to the numerous volunteers who worked very hard to make the event so enjoyable. I will not dare to try and mention all of them by name for fear that I might offend someone by forgetting to be mention their name. But I would like to thank all those who attended the event, who donated prizes for the raffle, those who set up the hall, who cooked and served the food, who took reservations, sold raffle tickets and pull tabs, called the Bingo, tended the bar, cleared the hall after the event and to all those who in one way or another helped in making this event so much fun for all. Thank you.

At the play "Star of Strait Street", which was held at the Mills High School auditorium in Millbrae on March 29th, The Maltese Heritage Association distributed a flier announcing that they were holding their 1st Annual Wine Tour on Saturday,

**The Next General
Membership Meeting is
Sunday, May 19th
at 10:30 a.m.**

Rest In Peace

*Our deepest sympathy to
the families of
Kyle Enanoria and
Teddie Muscat*



*Eternal rest grant unto
them O' Lord and may
perpetual light shine
upon them. May they
rest in peace.*

Grievance Committee

Rose Borg
Mary Anne Fassler
Barbara Fenech
Bart Borg
Charlie Catania

**Picnics, Beaches and
sales at the mall
are nice but
Memorial Day
is about honoring the
men and women
that have made the
ultimate sacrifice in
order to keep us free**



September 14, 2019. This day would have clashed with the Malta Day/90th Anniversary of the Club's Celebration, which was also slated to be held on that day. I would like to thank Carmen Orton who is the President of the Maltese Heritage Association and the Board of Directors of the MHA who agreed to move their event to September 21, 2019. I urge everyone to save this date so that we can all support the MHA on their 1st Annual Wine Tour. More information will be given out as soon as it becomes available. I also encouraged everyone to join the MHA at the 7th Annual Car Show which will be held on May 5th at the Elks Lodge in San Mateo.

Upon scheduling an event, it would be greatly appreciated if any community group holding an event check with the other groups before holding their event. This will benefit everyone by avoiding any conflicting dates.

According to the Center for Disease Control, the measles infection has reached the epidemic stage. Within the last month, infections have increased from 132 to over 700; this is a 500% jump. In the year 2000, measles was thought to have been eradicated from the U.S.A. There are infections in 22 states, and yes, California is one of them. I encourage everyone to take precautions to avoid being infected by getting the vaccination (unless you have already been vaccinated) and to vaccinate their young children. If you suspect you are having any symptoms, please see your doctor and stay away from the Club until you're healed.

On Saturday, May 11th, the Maltese Club will be honoring all the mothers by holding the Mother's Day Dinner Dance. Fliers have been sent out with the last newsletter. I hope that you have sent in your reservations and will see you there.

On Sunday, June 16th, it will be the turn to honor all the fathers. A Father's Day Brunch will be held at the Club. A flier is attached to this newsletter. Please plan to attend and send your reservation as early as possible. Please observe the deadline. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Maltese Community Events

~ ~ ~ ~

FATHER'S DAY
BRUNCH
JUNE 16TH



~ ~ ~ ~

MALTESE CROSS
FOUNDATION
MNARJA PICNIC
JUNE 30TH

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Entertainment Committee

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

Women's Social Committee

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

After a long discussion, the Board of Directors has decided that it is about time that the cost of hard liquor drinks be raised. There is no place in California where you can get a hard liquor drink for \$3. The cost of the liquor and everything else has gone up. Therefore, as of Wednesday, May 1, 2019 the price of a hard liquor drink will be increased by \$1.00, from \$3.00 to \$4.00. The cost of a glass of wine or a beer will stay at the same price of \$3.00 and the price of a soda or a bottle of water will also stay at \$1.00.

Please note that the next General Membership meeting will be held on May 19th, at 10:30 a.m. The change was needed because the last Sunday of the month falls on the Memorial Day weekend and a lot of members will be enjoying the weekend with their families. Thank you for your understanding.

After the May meeting The Maltese Historical Society will be holding the "Elders Luncheon" which will be sponsored by the Maltese Club.

Saħħa lil kulhadd
(Good-Bye to all),
Brian

A MESSAGE FROM THE *Honorable Consul General of Malta*

Hon Consul Vella greeted all those in attendance that morning. He started his talk by a little trivia, letting everyone know that in Qala, Gozo a woman by the name of Karmena Vella was celebrating her 103rd birthday. Good Gozitan genes, I guess 😊

The main topic of his presentation was of course the recent trip to Malta by a group of 20 people (including himself) from the Bay Area. The trip to Malta was an initiative of the office of the Hon Consul of Malta and the Millbrae Sister Cities Commission. The group had a marvelous time. The travelers brought with them fabulous memories of Malta, Gozo and Sicily. The group was fortunate enough to have a rare private tour of the US Embassy in Malta, a meeting with the former president of Malta,

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

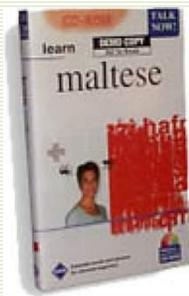
Thursday

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.

Her Excellency Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, a visit to the Mayor and Council of Mosta, a traditional Maltese folklore night and dinner, a day in Sicily and a lot more. The group assisted to several activities that are celebrated around Good Friday and Easter in Malta, which as we all know are so unique. Speaking of Good Friday/Easter in Malta, one of the main attributes why this time of year is so special is because most activities so different and are held only during this time of year. Even some food/pastry items are only found during that same period in the year. Please read about these types of food in another section of this newsletter.

A new book entitled "Musta Rahal Twelidi" or "Mosta My Home Town" has recently been published. It is a book full of photographs many very rare images of locations and people in and around the town of Mosta from the time the photographic camera was first introduced in Malta. Many photographs are truly a treasure. Hon Consul Vella announced he will obtain a copy for the club's library.

Now that the club has a flag pole and a new Maltese Flag flies proudly on top of the club's premises, Consul Vella proposed to the board of directors to consider a protocol for the flags of the club. Additionally, while in Malta, Mr. Vella discussed the idea that the Nicolo' Isouard Band Club in Mosta to fly their flag half-mast whenever our flag is flown half-mast and we will reciprocate. This normally happens whenever the band participates in funerals of members of the organization. Discussions are preliminary and more need to be had.

Some members have been inquiring if there is a future group trip to Malta in the works. At the moment there are no plans for such a trip however those who are interested please let your wishes be known and your name will be placed on a list.

Grazzi Hafna

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

Women's Social Committee

At the April meeting, the women tried something different and had fun making Easter Bonnets. The May meeting is on the 14th and finger foods will be shared. Please be sure to let a member know you will be going.

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

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



Entertainment Committee

The Mother's Day Dinner Dance is on May 11th and on June 16th there will be a Father's Day Brunch. A reminder that we will be collecting food for Second Harvest Food Bank and self-care items for the homeless throughout the year and the bins will remain until November. Members of the Entertainment Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Family Pasta/Bingo on Saturday, April 6th. There were 141 members, their families and friends in attendance. We would like to thank the following helpers/volunteers: Jimmy Frendo, Danny Catania and Betty DeBattista, Rita Goldberg and Karen Borg who did all the cooking and Joe Vella and Terrie Aquino for washing the pots and pans; Terrie Aquino, Carmen Micallef, Maria Frendo, Carmen Ciappara and Kristina Smith for selling pull tabs and raffle tickets; Ninfa Pace, Betty and Jennifer DeBattista for selling bingo cards and taking reservations; Danny Catania for calling the bingo numbers; Gillu Muscat and Brian Ciappara for tending bar We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the people for their donations to our raffle. A special thank you to Mary Smith and Betty DeBattista for chairing and organizing the bingo. Buying all the food and supplies and raffle prizes and also the many hours of beautifully wrapping over 40 raffle prizes. Setting up the tables and chairs on Friday night. Thanks to Mary and Betty and all the volunteers, the Club made a profit of \$3,700.00 and the bar generated \$500.00. A JOB WELL DONE BY ALL!!!

Origin of Maltese Last Names

Mifsud

Is your last name Mifsud? If so, you may be interested in knowing where your name comes from. **Mifsud** is of Arabic origin. The Arabic word "mafsud" means spoiled or corrupt. It is related to the Maltese word "mfissid", meaning spoiled, as in a spoiled child. The name dates back to at least the 15th century in Malta and is the fourteenth most common last name in Malta.

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

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



APRIL IN MALTESE HISTORY

by Mona Vella-Nicholas

April, 2009 --- Pope Benedict XVI visits Malta. A year earlier, he had visited the United States. His birthday is also in April. He turned 92 on April 16th of this year.

April 6, 1825 --- A body found on a street between Naxxar and Hal Lija is identified as that of Salvu Grech. Salvu is last seen alive on his way home from the festa of St. Gregory (San Girgor) with his brother. The brother, Guzeppi, states that the two had become separated somewhere along the way. Upon searching the home where the two brothers live, the police find some clothes in Guzeppi's room spotted with blood. They arrest Guzeppi and have the police doctor examine him. The doctor finds some dried blood on different parts of his body. At his trial, Guzeppi denies killing his brother. Nevertheless, he is found guilty and sentenced to death. (Stay tuned. More about this story in next month's newsletter!)

Easter Delicacies

Among the many delicious treats that can be found in Malta during the Lenten and Easter seasons are Qagħaq tal-Appostli (bread with sesame seeds sprinkled on the crust or sweet with almonds, honey, cherries and other fruits inside), Kwarzeimal (spicy and chewy biscuit with almonds, spices and honey), Karamelli tal-Ħarrub (caramel sweets made from carob) and Figolli (pastry made into shapes, filled with almond filling and decorated)

Lenten and Easter Treats



Kwarzeimal



Qagħaq tal-Appostli



Figolli



Karramilli tal-Ħarub

Payments

Payments for dues and all functions **must be made by only 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 NOR AT THE DOOR ON THE DAY OF THE FUNCTION.** Please provide separate checks for each function.

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