

# Maltese American Social Club of San Francisco, Inc.

924 El Camino Real  
South San Francisco, CA 94080



Telephone: 650-871-4611

## October 2015 – CLUB NEWS

### A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members and friends, at the General Membership Meeting held on September 27<sup>th</sup> seventy-one (71) members were in attendance. The President welcomed everyone. The family of the late Wigi Vella presented the club with a flag that represents Gozo, in memory of Wigi who was a dedicated member of our club. Coffee and a delicious cake provided by the Vella family were served after the meeting.

At this meeting the following members graciously accepted nomination to form the Nominating Committee. They are: Ms. Rose Borg, Mrs. Beverly Dennehy, Ms. Chris Grech, Mr. Joe De Battista and Mr. Joe Tanti. These members will be responsible to find at least seven members who would be willing to run for office to form the Board of Directors for the year 2016. I would like to express my gratitude to them for accepting to perform this important task in the operation of our club. I encourage everyone who plans to run for the Board of Directors to contact one of the Nominating Committee members and let them know of their intentions.

To be eligible to run for office, a member has to be: a) In good standing, b) 21 years or older, c) be a member for at least 12 months prior to assuming office and d) attending at least two (2) general membership meetings prior to assuming an office. Check the bylaws Article II, section 2 for further details.

This is your club. Allow me to do a small twist on the famous words of President J.F. Kennedy "Ask not what the club can do for you, but what you can do for the club." Keep these words in mind, and I can assure you that the club will continue to flourish.

Malta Day which was celebrated on September 12<sup>th</sup> was very successful. The Reno overnight trip on August 30 and 31<sup>st</sup> was a lot of fun. I would like to thank all those members who worked hard to make these events so beautiful. Thank you.

On September 21<sup>st</sup> which happened to be Malta's Independence Day, a group of about 20 Maltese, together with the Hon Consul General, Louis Vella, gathered at the balcony of the San Francisco City Hall to proudly raise the Maltese Flag. The flag hung there until sunset.

By the time you receive this newsletter the Family Pasta Bingo Night will be behind us. I can tell you that it was a great success, and that I would like to thank all the volunteers who worked hard, and all those who donated prizes and stuff for this event.

Just a quick reminder of the coming events: a) The Italian Pride Parade (Columbus Day Parade) on October 11<sup>th</sup> b) The Halloween Party on October 24<sup>th</sup> (flyer attached, please send your response quickly) and c) November 7<sup>th</sup> Cache Creek Casino Trip.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!!

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President: Brian Ciappara**  
(650) 952-7970

**Vice President: Joseph Tanti**  
(707) 836-0347

**Secretary: Lisa Ghiglieri**  
(415) 515-3657

**Asst. Secretary: Ann  
Azzopardi**  
(415) 586-3970

**Treasurer: Joseph Vella**  
(650) 348-1545

**Asst. Treasurer: Ninfa Pace**  
(650) 697-1079

**Parliamentarian: Mary Anne  
Fassler**  
(650) 873-2584

**Sergeant-At-Arms: George  
Borg**

**Auditors: Louis Vella  
Mona Nicholas**

### **THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**OCTOBER 25, 2015  
AT  
10:30A.M.**

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## UPCOMING MALTESE CLUB AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

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ITALIAN HERITAGE DAY  
PARADE

OCTOBER 11, 2015

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CACHE CREEK CASINO  
TRIP

NOVEMBER 7, 2015

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CHILDREN'S  
HALLOWEEN PARTY  
OCTOBER 24, 2015

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## Quote Corner

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while **daring greatly**, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

- Theodore Roosevelt

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A MESSAGE FROM THE

*Honorable Consul General of Malta*

At the September general membership meeting, Hon Consul General (HCG)-Louis J. Vella addressed those present. He mentioned the gala dinner he and a number of members of the club and the Maltese Community attended to honor the 100th Anniversary of the parish of St. Paul of the Shipwreck. The event was held at the SSF Conf Center. It was a very classy evening, very fitting for such a wonderful occasion. During the dinner HCG Vella was asked to read a message from the Archbishop of Malta which was sent especially for the anniversary. The parish as most of you know, is the only one in the region named after one of the patron saints of Malta. It was instituted by the Maltese Community in the Bayview District of San Francisco and many dedicated countless of volunteer hours to build the parish and the church. Nowadays not many Maltese live in the area any more but nevertheless the parish still maintains a strong Maltese connection.

HCG Vella spoke about the huge success of the Malta Day celebration on Sept 12th. The evening was a magical one and plans are in the works to continue to make this special annual appointment bigger and better. The secret of its success

is because the entire Maltese Community as well as each and every Maltese organized group, come together and work for the same common goal namely that of making Malta Day the main annual event for the entire Maltese Community. Congratulations to everyone who had any part in the success of Malta Day 2015.

As I am sure everyone heard or seen on TV, Pope Francis was in the United States for a pontifical visit. HCG Vella mentioned that he had communications with the President of Malta as well as the Prime Minister of Malta who were both in the US during the visit of the Pope. He sent them both greetings on behalf of the Maltese Community.

HCG Vella reminded everyone that during the meeting of November, we will have a small recognition of Maltese Veterans of the war in Korea. Those who are or know of anyone who served in the US armed forces during the Korean conflict to please let the Maltese Historical Society know by contacting the Maltese Club.

On Monday, September 21st a group of Maltese people including 5 children went to city hall in San Francisco and raised the Maltese flag from the mayor's balcony. The Maltese Flag continued to fly the entire day commemorating Maltese Heritage Day in San Francisco.

On Sunday, October 11th, the Maltese community will for the 4th consecutive year participate in the Italian Heritage (Columbus Day) parade in San Francisco. Everyone is invited to participate or to cheer. The parade will pass through the streets of the North Beach District of SF in front of crowds that add up to almost 100,000. This year for the first time the Maltese Heritage Association will have a Parade Float in the form of a Maltese Daghjsa (Luzzu). Everyone is invited to take part. Hon Consul General -Vella ended by thanking all those who never get tired promoting Malta in California and throughout the United States. Keep up the good work and well done indeed.

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## Grievance Committee

ROSE BORG  
CHAIRPERSON

MANUEL MICALLEF

BARBARA FENECH

CARMEN MICALLEF

DOLORES REINKE

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## Entertainment Committee

CARMEN MICALLEF  
CHAIRPERSON

MARY SMITH  
CO-CHAIRPERSON

BETTY DEBATTISTA  
CO-CHAIRPERSON

JOE CARUANA

MARY VELLA

NINFA PACE

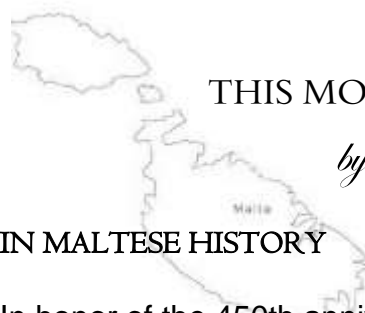
DOLORES REINKE

MARYANNE FASSLER

ROSE VASSALLO

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*Thank you to everyone who  
volunteers their time at the  
Maltese – American Social  
Club.*



## THIS MONTH IN MALTESE HISTORY

*by Mona Vella-Nicholas*

### IN MALTESE HISTORY

In honor of the 450th anniversary of the Great Siege, this month's entries give us some insight into the events occurring in Malta those many years ago.

*September 1, 1565* - A Maltese slave escapes from the Ottoman camp. He tells Grand Master De L1a Valette that many of the Ottomans are dying of hunger and disease.

*September 7, 1565* - A Spanish relief force of at least 8,000 men arrives in Malta from Sicily. Although severely weakened, the Ottomans have been preparing for another attack. When they learn of the arrival of the Spanish fleet, panic sets in among both the Ottoman leaders and their soldiers.

*September 12, 1565* - The Ottomans accept defeat and sail away from Malta toward Constantinople (Istanbul). The Great Siege is over!

## Origin of Maltese Last Names

*Borg*



Is your last name **Borg**? If so, you might be interested in knowing where your name comes from. **Borg** is originally an Arabic place-name, meaning a "heap of stones", and by extension a tower or fortress. Different forms of the word can be found in many European languages as well, including Greek, Italian, Old High German, Old English, and Scandinavian. In all of these languages, the word refers to some kind of fortification. In the 17th century, **Borg** was the most common last name in Malta; it is now the second most common Maltese last name.

## Women's Social Committee

The Women's Social Committee's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> where they will discuss plans for their upcoming Christmas Party.

## The Ladies Knitting Group

The Ladies Knitting Group still meets Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

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## Club Hours

**SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS**  
9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.

**MONDAY & WEDNESDAYS**  
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.

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## LIBRARY

LIBRARY HOURS ARE  
SUNDAYS 10:00AM TO  
12:00 NOON.

MONA VELLA-  
NICHOLAS, LIBRARIAN,  
CAN BE REACHED AT  
(650)589-4578

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## Support Our Advertisers

PLEASE VIEW THE  
ADVERTISING PAGE AND  
BE SURE TO MENTION  
THE CLUB WHEN YOU  
PATRONIZE THESE  
BUSINESSES

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THIS NEWSLETTER WAS  
CREATED BY LISA GHIGLIERI  
WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Hall Rental

The Hall is available for rent to members only. Call Brian Ciappara at (650) 303-6900 for information. Please pick up a form and guidelines from the Club.

### Non- Responsibility Declaration:

All activities arranged for or by, 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 or their property in any matters pertaining to said activities.

# 2015

## Maltese-American Social Club Calendar of Events

*Please Remember that when you are paying for an event to pay by check not cash.*

- October 24<sup>th</sup> Halloween Party
- November 7<sup>th</sup> Cache Creek Casino Trip
- Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> Children's Christmas Party
- Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve Dinner Dance



## *A Note of Thanks from The Entertainment Committee*

On behalf of the Entertainment Committee, we would like to thank everyone who attended the Pasta/Bingo on Saturday, October 3rd. In attendance, we had 132 members, their families and friends.

We would like to thank the following helpers/volunteers:

- \* Jimmy Frendo, Bob Smith and Joe Debattista who did all the cooking and cleaning
- \* Terrie Aquino, Carmen Micallef and Karen Borg for selling pull tabs and raffle tickets
- \* Ninfa Pace, Betty and Jennifer DeBattista for selling bingo cards
- \* Danny Catania for calling the bingo numbers
- \* Gelu Muscat for tending bar
- \* Mary Smith for buying all the food and supplies

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the following people for their donations to our raffle:

Annie Abela	Mary & Charlie Abela	Brian Ciappara	Betty & Jennifer DeBattista
Beverly Dennehy	Barbara Fenech	Annie Azzopardi	Margie Belluomini
Rose Agius	Charlie Catania	Terrie Aquino	Karen Borg
Josephine Muscat	Helen Caruana	Mary Griffin	Ruth Reimche
Mary Vella	Mary Smith		

Sincerely,

Carmen Micallef  
*Co-Chair Pasta/Bingo*

Mary J. Smith  
*Co-Chair Pasta/Bingo*

Betty DeBattista  
*Co-Chair Pasta/Bingo*