

SLAVONIC MUTUAL & BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO, INC.

60 Onondaga Avenue at Alemany Boulevard
San Francisco, California 94112 ♦ 415-584-8859



CACC Photo © Mario Jelic


SMBS BULLETIN

VOL. 51, EDITION 2

APRIL 2021

Serving our members
continuously from 1857 to 2021





SF Bay Area Emergency "Shelter in Place" means that SMBS will follow special CDC guidelines on masks, hand sanitizers and social distancing at our April 2021 quarterly meeting.

SMBS Dinner Meeting Tuesday, April 13, 2021 Croatian American Cultural Center

Members - \$20.00
Non-Members - \$25.00
Cocktails - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 p.m.
General Meeting - 8:00 p.m.

Call 415-584-8859

If you expect us to have enough food.
No reservations, you get the leftovers!

APRIL DINNER MENU

COCKTAILS ♦ FINE WINE
BARBECUED CHICKEN
MASHED POTATOES ♦ COLE SLAW
COFFEE ♦ DESSERT
CHEF: GARY & MARY BOZIN



CACC Social/Cultural Events

2021 SMBS MEMBER EVENTS
164th Anniversary Gala Dinner Dance
Saturday, November, Date TBD

NEW WEBSITE!! Completely revised and updated. Check it out and send us your comments!! croatianamericanweb.org



SPECIAL EDITION-SMBS NEWS!



Come see the Croatian American Cultural Center's new landscaping that includes flagstone paths, drought-resistant plantings and a patio area that works for socializing and is perfect for BBQing. The bark top cover gives the whole area the perfect finishing touch.

Dobar Dan Brothers and Sisters:

See You Soon!

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families in good health. As I am writing this, we are planning to have our April dinner meeting at the hall in-person. Be assured we will take the same precautions we used in October to ensure that we meet safely and do not put anyone at risk. That being said, any encounter with people comes with some risk but we feel we can use good sense and healthy practices and hold a safe meeting. If you weren't there in October, please come and see our revitalized building. Thank you to all who helped and donated. We are still working...

We will require all those in attendance (even if you have been vaccinated) to wear masks, except when eating. We have hand sanitizing stations in the hall. Seating will be socially distanced and we ask that only members of the same family or vaccinated groups sit together. We will open the bar (YES!!!) but ask that everyone keep safely-distanced.

Membership Drive

This is your chance. The Board just approved a membership deal too good to pass up. If you have friends, family, kids, grandchildren that you have wanted to be a part of our organization the time is NOW! If you refer

two or more candidates who are approved and initiated, they do not pay any dues/fees until January 2023. Must be two or more referrals. We are hoping to increase our ranks and bring in a new generation of members. This is a limited-time exception so do not wait. I am looking forward to a new-member welcoming extravaganza as soon as we are able. Please reach out to Elsie to request membership applications. You can also find applications on our new website.

New Website!!!

That's right. We have completely revised and updated our website to make us even more accessible, easy to find and hopefully boost our catering business. Check it out. Your comments and suggestions are welcome.
www.croatianamericanweb.org

Croatian and Dalmatian Books

We have been offered a beautiful variety of Croatian books by the Bajurin Family. If you are interested in colorful coffee-table books, history and other books of the Croatian culture, please reach out to Norbert Bajurin at (415) 760-2118.

Financial Update as of March 1, 2021:

Thank you to all those who have paid their annual membership dues. We are still scraping by. We have been returning deposits of can-
(continued on page two)

(continued from page one)

celebrated parties. I guess I jinxed the hot-water heater which broke down right after I wrote about it in the last newsletter.

General Account – Balance \$3,758.

Building Fund – Balance \$6,153.

Scholarship Account – Balance \$22,733

Catering Account – Balance \$ 962

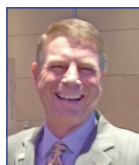
Cultural Account – Balance \$5,176

I would still really love to see the ballroom floor refinished and for us to replace the Alemany Street exterior doors that are not up to code, in addition to several other projects; so please consider a donation. So much gratitude to all who have donated, it has really encouraged and motivated our “free labor force.”

I hope to see you in April.

Hvala ti i Bog blagoslovi,

Gary



SMBS SCHOLARSHIP FUND “CALL FOR APPLICANTS!”

This is a reminder to SMBS members who want to apply for a scholarship to know the requirements and plan ahead. Applicants must be:

- An SMBS member in good standing for at least two years.
- Enrolled in university, college, trade or vocational school and have completed at least one year of study.
- Maintain at least a B average.

The Scholarship Committee will also consider the applicant's family members' involvement and contributions to SMBS.

Awards will be \$1,000 for university/college level and \$500 for trade/vocational or other.

2021 DEADLINE: APRIL 1ST

Applications and transcripts of grades must reach the Scholarship Committee by April 1st each year. Send applications and transcripts to:

Lorraine Lazaneo Vallejo
3334 Cook Lane
Alameda, CA 94502
(510) 263-8397



SMBS NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!

“Our dedicated and discriminating readers will expect us to go on, but our non-readers won't notice the difference, so I seek tidbits that are fit to print and possibly interesting.”
Sam Mosunic, Editor.



The 165-year-old Croatian community of the San Francisco Bay Area went on-line for the second time to continue its yearly Croatian Heritage festival, even though the SMBS's Croatian American Cultural Center itself has been closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Virtual San Francisco Croatian Heritage Festival was released on January 11, 2021. View it again or for the first time on YouTube at: https://youtu.be/xS3b_MAY2cA

Cultural Director John Daley mused, “I was feeling sad that we couldn't have John Morovich and Sinovi play for us in this year's Croatian Heritage Festival because covid-19 canceled all gatherings.

I asked Chip Curry if he would be interested in putting together edited clips of past festivals with a 45-minute film he had made of our local Croatian Community. He was interested and, with help from Adriana Andres, he put together this Virtual Croatian Heritage festival. Hope you enjoy it. We broadcast the virtual Croatian festival on Facebook & YouTube on January 11, 2021.”

Some of the many artists who recently performed at CACC include John Morovich, Sinovi, Sidro Tamburitza Orchestra, The Slavonian Traveling Band, Ruzmarin Klapa, Koraci Croatian Folk Ensemble, Zeljko Jergan, Skalinada Croatian Dance Ensem-

ble, Lilla Serlegi, and Zora Klapa.

Other famous Croatian artists have also performed at CACC in the Annual San Francisco Tamburitza Festival. They include Ponoc, Jerry Grcevic, Sinovi of Chicago, Sarena, Momci, Zadnja Stanica, and famously the great Zelko Bogdan in the First Ever SF TamFest.

This entire virtual event is a film festival of sorts. It is comprised of the short films Chip Curry has made at CACC over the past 20 years. In these films he has tried to capture not only the music, but the many reasons why music and dance are so vital in the Croatian community.

Viewer comments:

Anka Čavrak: “I forwarded the link to family & friends in Canada, either Croatian or lovers of Croatian culture and music.”

Pete Bacich: “...a good representation of the festivals from 2000 onwards...an enjoyable two hours. All in all, a very good effort...many scenes that evoked some past nostalgia.

I thought the tributes to John Morovich, John Daley and to the historical beginnings of the SMBS as spoken by Adam & Danica Eterovich, Phil Vuljan and others were very moving. It is something that can be archived and continually viewed in the future.”

For more information 510-649-0941
John Daley, SMBS Cultural Director

The Cultural Committee was formed by Adam Eterovich and John Daley in 1985. Under John Daley's leadership the Croatian American Cultural Center has become a focal point in the San Francisco Bay Area for Slavic music, dance and culture, and has been recognized through major grants, awards and invitations to the performing groups sponsored by the Committee.



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Waiting for the list of new members from Elsie

IN MEMORIAM

Petrina Pearl "Rena" Noero
June 27, 1926 –
February 23, 2021



"Rena" was born on June 27, 1926 in San Francisco to Peter & Catherine Cvitanich. She was raised in the City and attended Balboa High School. Rena was always involved in sports and was the President of the Girls Athletic Association.

She joined the Slavonic Mutual and Benevolent Society in 1984 and was an active member for more than 30 years. Her greatest enjoyment in life was her family. She was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Joseph J. (Joe) Noero; sisters: Katie Zlokovich & Lena Leshner; and brother Frank Cvitanich.

A private service of remembrance was held on February 11, 2021. Interment was at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Colma, CA. She left this world peacefully, which is just the way she lived. May she be in God's care.

William Pelster November 26, 2018
Barbara Pelster May 28, 2019

William Pelster and his wife Barbara joined the SMBS in 1982 and were active members for well over 30 years. After they spent some years in long-term care, William died on November 26, 2018 and not long after, Barbara joined him on May 28, 2019. May they rest in peace.

In Loving Tribute

These three SMBS members represent over 100 years of service to our Society. In the 80's and 90's, their passion for our social activities and fund raisers was the foundation of our Society from the groundbreaking to the building of our Croatian Home.

Loved and respected by their family, SMBS brothers and sisters and by all whose lives they have touched, they will be missed and never forgotten.

Sam Mosunic, President Emeritus



HAVE YOU GOT "EMAIL?"

Members who use email please send their addresses to Anka Čavrak, Circulation Director. Members can then receive notices and the quarterly newsletter via email. If you now wish to be added to the email list, please contact Anka Čavrak at annecavrak@aol.com

CACC NOW AT STANFORD ARCHIVES

Members of CACC can now be sure that the music they love will be available to them, their children and grandchildren. An agreement with Stanford University Archive of Recorded Sound will permanently archive CACC concerts from 1995 on into the future. Cultural Director John Daley, Archivist Nancy MacKay and Research Assistant Katie Winters have spent the year reviewing and inventorying the archives to deliver to Stanford in late October. Music from past concerts will be available to the public who visit the library. Music from future concerts can be live streamed to anyone in the world.

Our "Croatian American Cultural Center of San Francisco Collection," will sit alongside archives like the Monterey Jazz Festival and all of Stanford's musical events. Stanford practices cutting-edge technologies for curating these important musical collections in digital formats.

This partnership pleases both Nancy and John for the high standards with which our music will be preserved, and also because our music will be within reach of wide audiences across time and space.

Note: It will take 6-9 months for the archives to be made available. To access the music at the music library, contact Frank Ferko, Sound Archives librarian, Archive of Recorded Sound, Braun Music Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California, 94305-3076. (650) 721-2142, fferko@stanford.edu, <http://library.stanford.edu/ars>.



A BIT OF OUR SOCIETY'S HISTORY

For more than 160 years the SMBS/Croatian American Cultural Center of San Francisco has warmly welcomed men and women from Croatia, other Slavic regions and beyond. Slavonic Mutual & Benevolent Society was founded in San Francisco in 1857 by Croatian immigrants, primarily from the Dalmatian coast of Croatia. Until 1975 the Society was based on a fraternal membership of men. After 1975 membership was opened to women as the Society recognized the importance of their role in its future.

In 1979 the dream of a physical home was realized, and the Croatian American Cultural Center on Alemany Street opened its doors, as a center to share Croatia's rich cultural heritage.

MEMORIALS 1ST QUARTER 2021

SAM MOSUNIC BUILDING FUND

In Memory Of:	Donated By
Martin Santich	Anthony, Angie & Lauren Bilich-Johnson
Maria Zaro	Gerry Zaro Johnson
John C. Mosunic	Danielle & Peter Mrowka
Jozo Bajurin	George Lazaneo & Mary Gervasio
	Danielle & Peter Mrowka

Marie Zaro Schmitt Kenny Schmitt

In Honor Of:	Donated By
Martin Santich	Anthony, Angie & Lauren Bilich-Johnson
Children Michael, Helene, Rosemary and Martine	

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Submitted by,
Gerry Zaro Johnson
 Memorial Chairperson

Contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

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For every SMBS member who
signs with Dino or whose referral
brings in a new client, Dino will
support our Croatian community
by donating 5% of the broker fee to
both SMBS and Nativity Church.



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When you're planning your next event,
get creative with your caterer and book
our hall. View the SMBS hall converted
to a five-star ballroom and our cocktail
lounge upgraded for a recent event.

Call SMBS Catering Manager
Danica Eterovich at (415) 584-8859
or (650) 483-8335.

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Supply your own ad or let us create one for you. Rates start at \$30 per issue for a
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