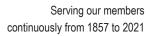
# SLAVONIC MUTUAL & BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO, INC.

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



#### **SMBS BULLETIN**

Vol. 51, Edition 1 JANUARY 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!

#### **CACC Social/Cultural Events**

2021 SMBS CULTURAL EVENTS
Virtual San Francisco Croatian Heritage
Festival: Saturday, January 9th, 6pm-9pm

2021 SMBS MEMBER EVENTS 164th Anniversary Gala Dinner Dance

Saturday, November, Date TBD For details on all cultural events, go to: croatianamericanweb.org



# SPECIAL EDITION-SMBS NEWS!



Come see the Croatian American Cultural Center's new landscaping that includes flagstone paths, drouight-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:

#### **Here We Go Again!**

Thope this newsletter finds you and your families in good health. As I am writing this we are back in the Purple Zone with tight restrictions, meaning we will not be able to hold our January meeting at the hall. I want to thank all of those that were able to make it to the meeting held this past October.

At the October meeting, nominations were made for the election of officers in January. With the exception of treasurer, all current officers were nominated to serve an additional term. Danica Eterovich resigned her position as treasurer. New member Anna Moore was nominated to fill that position. Anna has an extensive background in bookkeeping and accounting.

Since we will not be able to vote in person, and as there were no challenges to any of the positions, I recommend that the slate of officers be approved. If there are any questions or opposition, please reach out to me or any of the other officers by January 15, 2021. I can be reached at (415)987-9529 or reptar@pacbell.net.

#### Financial Update as of December 4, 2020:

We are in the process of responding to two grants. And Gavin Newsom has made an

additional grant available to cultural organizations. Details are pending. We did again qualify for a \$41,000 arts grant. Its purpose is to allow us to put on cultural events, which is a requirement for funding. John Daley is working hard to host and produce three virtual events before the end of June.

Sadly Jozo Bajurin passed away in September. He left \$25,000 in his will to SMBS. Thank you Jozo! This could very well save us as we try to make it to better times. As you have heard many times from Sam, thinking of us in your will can help us preserve our Society for future generations.

We are still working hard where we can on cutting expenses and generating income. Unfortunately, both our water heater and our garbage disposal broke down and could not be repaired. We are trying to do what we can on our own but these commercial units are expensive.

General Account – Balance \$3,020.

Building Fund – Balance \$8,166 (less \$1,500 for water heater installation)

Scholarship Account – Balance \$17,733 (\$5,000 loaned to General Account)

Catering Account - Balance \$1,719

Cultural Account - Balance \$4,406

(continued on page two)

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#### (continued from page one)

Our catering business generates most of the income for ongoing expenses. Without revenue it was necessary to transfer \$5,000 from the Building Fund to the General Account to cover property taxes. We have many expenses coming up, including the 2nd property tax payment and insurance. We will have to make further sacrifices if we aren't able to resume business activities in 2021. Please pay your membership dues as soon as you are able. Feel free to round up .

Members! Please get involved! Although we aren't able to get together or travel, there are plenty of projects which need attention.

Weeding and leaf pick up. Great for reducing stress.

Legal help merging our two corporations, SMBS and CACC. Know any good attorneys?

Rewriting our catering contracts

There are other projects some large and small that we could use your help with. Please contact me with your special talents and we'll put you to work!

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a better 2021!

Hvala ti i Bog blagoslovi,

#### Gary

P.S. Stay tuned to preview our new, very cool, professionally done website. We hope that it will generate new catering business in 2021.



#### 2020 MEMORIAL REPORT

SAM MOSUNIC BUILDING FUND

\$9,775.00 81 Donations

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND** 

\$300.00 2 Donations

**CULTURAL FUND** 

\$300.00 5 Donations

**GRAND TOTAL** 

\$10,375.00 88 Donations





#### **2021 SMBS SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE!**

REMINDER: SMBS members who want to apply for a scholarship need to plan ahead. Contact a member of the SMBS Scholarship Committee to learn the requirements.

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

#### 2021 DEADLINE: APRIL 1ST

Send applications and transcripts to: SMBS Scholarship Committee 60 Onondaga Avenue, San Francisco, Ca 94112

#### **MEMORIALS 4TH QUARTER 2020**

#### SAM MOSUNIC BUILDING FUND

In Memory Of:

Donated By

Jozo Bajurin Gloria and Nick Barbarotto

Sam Mosunic and Gerry Zaro Johnson Suzy Mosunic Šime and Maria Čorić George Lazaneo and Mary Gervasio CFU Lodge #1007

Helen Resetar Gloria and Nick Barbarotto

Sam Mosunic Diana Kurtela

John C. Mosunic George Lazaneo and

Mary Gervasio
Diana Kurtela
Pete and Shari Fazio
The Mirkovich Family

Lillian Ruzich Nedjeljka Dijanić

George Lazaneo and Mary Gervasio

George Ruzich Nicky and Ana Milon

Sam Mosunic and Gerry Zaro Johnson Nedjeljka Dijanić Danica Eterovich Frank Forencich Elsie Euing

George Lazaneo and Mary Gervasio

The "A"Team Dominic Puizina Milo Puizina Gladys Puizina, Donna Puizina-Alvers and Paul Alvers

Larry Maisels

and Frank Forencich, Sr.

#### SAM MOSUNIC BUILDING FUND

In Memory Of: Donated By Steve Musich Elsie Euing

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Frank Forencich
Sam Mosunic and
Gerry Zaro Johnson
Steve Buich
John and Carolyn
Kristovich

George Lazaneo and Mary Gervasio Susan Scurich Cecil H. Wells Maryann Skitarelic Joe Corvino Sharevest, Inc.

#### **CULTURAL FUND**

In Memory Of: Lillian and George Ruzich Donated By

Gladys Puizina, Donna Puizina-Alvers and

Paul Alvers

George Ruzich

Norb and Betty Hudak

Anka Čavrak

#### **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In Memory Of: Donated By John C. Mosunic Marie Nola

Gerry Zaro Johnson

Memorial Chairperson



#### A BIT OF OUR SOCIETY'S HISTORY CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE



The Slavonic Mutual and Benevolent Society was founded in San Francisco in 1857 by Croatian immigrants, primarily from the Dalmatian coast of Croatia. For more than 163 years the SMBS/Croatian American Cultural Center of San Francisco has welcomed lovers of Croatian cultural heritage. www.croatianamericanweb.org

#### **2020 SMBS OFFICERS**

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FRANK FORENCICH, JR.
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DANICA ETEROVICH

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JANICE BECKEN
Recording Secretary
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2020 SMBS COMMITTEE CHAIRS Anniversary Gala

Anniversary Gaia
GARY BOZIN
DANICA ETEROVICH
Assistant Chaplain
OPEN
Building Manager
OPEN
By-Laws Chairs
GARY BOZIN

By-Laws Chairs
GARY BOZIN
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JANUARY 2021 Page 3



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

#### The date for the Virtual San Francisco Croatian Heritage Festival is scheduled to be January 9, 2021 6pm-9pm.

The virtual festival will present artists who have recently performed at CACC including Sinovi, John Morovich, Sidro Tamburitiza Orchestra, The Slavonian Traveling Band, Ruzmarin Klapa, Koraci Croatian Folk Ensemble, Zeljko Jergan, Skalinada Croatian Dance Ensemble, 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 Grcevich, Sinovi of Chicago, Sarena, Momci, Zadnja Stanica, and famously the great Zelko Bogdan in the First Ever SF TamFest.

The virtual format and Chip Curry's video artistry allows us to present some of the notable characters in the SF Bay Area's Croatian community that were featured in his 45-minute film "Croatian Stories."

This entire virtual event is a film festival of sorts. It will be 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.

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.



#### **IN MEMORIAM**

George Ruzich December 10, 1926 – September 19, 2020

Born in Detroit, Michigan to John and Paulina Ruzich from

the Primorski region near Rijeka in Croatia, George was introduced to the violin by his father. He studied with a violinist from the Detroit Symphony and became so proficient that he eventually played first violin in the school district orchestra.

George enrolled at the University of Detroit to study Engineering. While in college, he attended a dance at the Croatian Home Lodge #351 and met the love of his life, Lillian Kramarich. They married in 1949 and, since her family was notable in Detroit's Tambura, Kolo and Croatian Music circles, this music became a major influence in his life.

George remained in Detroit until 1970 where his achievements included forming what is today the Detroit Tamburitza Orchestra while playing the bugaria and brach with them. He also played with the Kosovec brothers in their "Crescendos" Tamburitza Orchestra

Transferred to California in 1970, he continued to play tambura with his sons Randy and Rob. His achievements included performing kolo music as "Tanac of San Francisco" (1971), an invitation to play at the Crown Zellerbach Plaza during the CFU convention (1971), and engagements in Arizona and Nevada during the 1980's. The crowning event was the Tamburitza Association of America invitation to perform in San Jose at their Extravaganza (1982) when his friend, Carolyn Bahr was inducted into the TAA Hall of Fame.

At this time his connection with the Slavonic American Cultural Center (later the Croatian American Cultural) began.

From 1986 -2001, George was the musical arranger, instructor and director of folk chorale "Dalmacijo." In its heyday, this choir numbered 21 singers as well as Carolyn Bahr's "Novi Stari Tamburitzans, who provided the musical accompaniment. In 2001, George retired as Dalmacijo's director, although he and Lillian continued to play with Carolyn's band during their retirement.

In 2019, George and Lillian moved to an assisted living facility in Brentwood, CA near his son Randy. In June 2020, Lillian, the love of his life, passed away after complications from a fall and a broken hip. Not long after, in September 2020, George joined Lillian in final rest. *REST IN PEACE, JURO Pete Bacich* 

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

Steven John Musich April 10, 1934 – October 26, 2020

Steve was born to Cvita and Anton Musich April 10, 1934

in Oakland, Ca and his family eventually opened a bakery in San Francisco.

He attended Sacred Heart Cathedral High (class of 1952) and University of California (class of 1957). From 1975-2013, Steve operated his company (SJM Construction) in the Bay Area and Nevada. In 1994 he formed the Musich Corporation. In addition to his long career in construction, he also worked in real estate.

Steve was active in the Olympic Club, San Mateo Elks and St Bart's Catholic Church. Recently he had become a member of the Croatian-American Cultural Center as did members of his immediate family.

He enjoyed making trips to the Lumbarda region of Croatia and reconnecting with his relatives in that country. He also became active at the Church of Nativity of Our Lord in San Francisco, reconnecting with the Croatian Catholic roots of his parents.

Steve had a voracious curiosity and could converse on many subjects from Croatian history to American politics, from Catholic theology to the best restaurants in the Bay Area. He will be sorely missed.

REST IN PEACE, STEVE Pete Bacich



#### **SMBS PRIVACY POLICY**

The Membership Roster is never shared with any outside vendors with one exception. If a member had a product or service that would benefit SMBS members or the Society, the Board could authorize the usage of the SMBS Roster. The requirements are:

- 1. SMBS member in good standing
- 2. SMBS member is an active advertiser in SMBS quarterly newsletter
- 3. The product or service would benefit the SMBS membership or the Society
- 4. No expense or liability to the Society

Emails will continue to be private and are restricted and not subject to the above policy.

#### SMBS NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!

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Call or send me your ideas, stories and photos. Sam Mosunic, Editor



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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.