



Photo by Jai Schrof

CroatiaFest Newsletter

**A Celebration of Croatian
Culture and Folkways**

CroatiaFest Newsletter
Spring 2008

CroatiaFest - October 4 & 5, 2008

Dear Friends of CroatiaFest,

CroatiaFest at Seattle Center will celebrate its fifth anniversary October 4 & 5, 2008. It is hard to believe almost a year has passed since we produced CroatiaFest 2007 with our wonderful Maritime theme with many wonderful presentations, exhibits, performers, and reunions.

This year promises to be another great opportunity to bring together Croatian-Americans and the community at large to celebrate with us and to learn more about our country of origin as well as the many accomplishments of Croatians in America. The 2008 theme is "Croatian Hands at Work". We plan to focus on Croatian-American contributions to industries other than maritime. This would include the mining industry, wine making, textiles, and of course the arts.

Also, we are especially proud and delighted to collaborate with Bravo! Van-

couver Chorale & Sno-King Chorale in hosting the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra at CroatiaFest. It will be the Gala performance on their Northwest tour!

Once again I want to remind our friends of the dedicated individuals who give of their time, talent, and treasure to make this a joyful successful event. A big thank you to all. If you are interested in offering a helping hand, preparing for, or at CroatiaFest, please contact us. All volunteers are welcome!

As CroatiaFest draws near we will post the CroatiaFest schedule, including stage performances, films & lectures. Go to: www.croatiafest.org.

We look forward to your support & participation in CroatiaFest 2008.

Very truly yours,

Alma Plancich

Alma Franulović Plancich,
CroatiaFest Coordinator

CroatiaFest

October 4, 2008

5-10pm

**Festive Events
& Dance Party!**

October 5, 2008

12noon - 8pm

Seattle Center

Inside this issue:

CroatiaFest 2008 Dubrovnik Orchestra	1
CF 2008 at a Glance Meet the Committee	2
Friends of CroatiaFest	3
Local Croatian Dance Ensemble Activities Community Events	4-5
CroatiaFest 2007 Photo Album	6-7
The Fab Years Hands at Work	8-9
Delegation to Rijeka CF Yellow Pages	10
Donors & Thanks	11
Support CroatiaFest	12

Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra to Perform at CroatiaFest



Bravo! Chorale of Vancouver, Washington, in partnership with the Sno-King Chorale, is touring with the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra for a Pacific Northwest Tour in September & October, 2008. This exciting collaboration

is the result of artist exchanges between Vancouver, WA and Dubrovnik, Croatia over the past couple of years. The joint ensemble of US and Croatian artists have scheduled performances in Vancouver (WA), Portland, Spokane, Edmonds and will conclude with a performance at CroatiaFest, Sunday, October 5, 2008, in the Center House at Seattle Center. This is the first time a Croatian symphony orchestra has performed at CroatiaFest and in Seattle as well!

The history of the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra is inspiring. The Symphony, as it is organized today, was formed in 1924; however, they tie their history to the musical tradition in Dubrovnik, dating back to the mid-1300s! The 41 member ensemble led by four conductors embodies the rich musical heritage of the region. Their impressive repertoire clearly represents the depth of their sound and beauty of their performances.

Continued on page 2, Symphony

The opportunity for the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra to perform at CroatiaFest furthers the artistic mission of our festival, showcasing Croatian musical art from folk to classical symphony. Realizing our goal for Croatian-Americans and the general public to experience firsthand, what Croatia has to offer musically! Mark your calendars and do not miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! ■



CONCERT TOUR IN USA

Bravo Vancouver

Grad Dubrovnik

CroatiaFest Seattle

**City of Vancouver, Concert Hall
Portland Oregon Bravo Choral**

September 27, 2008

Saturday, 8pm

*Rotary International - Hilton Hotel
Portland, Oregon*

September 28, 2008

Sunday, 8pm

*St. Joseph Catholic Church
Vancouver, Washington*

September 29, 2008

To be announced

September 30, 2008

To be announced

October 1, 2008

Wednesday, 8pm

Concert Hall

Portland, Oregon

October 2, 2008

Thursday, 7pm

Olympia, Washington

October 3, 2008

Friday, 7pm

Concert Hall

Edmonds, Washington

October 5, 2008

Sunday

*Gala Concert - «Croatia Fest» -
Seattle, Washington*

*Check website soon for complete
concert tour schedule.*

DU Symphony Orchestra:

www.dso.hr/english/index.html

Bravo! Vancouver:

www.bravoconcerts.com/

Sno-King Choral:

www.sno-kingchorale.org

*By: Kristen LeMieux & John
Morovich*

CroatiaFest 2008 Activities

Saturday, October 4

Evening

Special Donor Reception

&

Center House Dance

Dance your favorite kolos and boogie to the beat of visiting and local Croatian bands!

Sunday, October 5

Featured 2008 Performer

Dubrovnik

Symphony Orchestra

All Day

Art Gallery

Music & Dance Performances

Community Historical Displays

Foods with a Croatian Flair

Lectures & Lessons

Marketplace

Movies & Activities for Kids

Visit: www.croatiafest.org

For the full schedule coming soon!

**All activities are FREE, open to the
public, and held in the
Seattle Center House.**

CroatiaFest Director: Alma Franulović Plancich

Chairman of the Board: Dr. Frank Brozovich, Honorary Croatian Consul; **Officers:** President, Cathryn Morovich; Vice President, Richard Major; Treasurer, Mike Rancich; Secretary, Beverly Read. **2008**

CroatiaFest Committee: Dr. Frank Brozovich, Joanne Abdo, Bob & Peggy Gunovick, Vjeko Ivanković, Louise Petrich Iverson, Maria Plancich Kesovija, Kristen LeMieux, Priscilla Lisicich, John Lovrić, Nikki Lovrić, Richard Major, Colleen Mavar, Darci McKinley, Cathryn Morovich, John Morovich, Veronica Mratinich, Alma Plancich, Mike Rancich, Beverly Read, Kristin Tarabochia, Igor Vuletić. **Community**

Representatives & Volunteers: Nancy Freeman, Jana Harvey, Greta Kos, Bret Lunsford, John Petrinovich, Maria Petrish, Janet Segur, Antonija Stipetić, Richard Tarabochia

*CroatiaFest is produced by the local Croatian-American Community and is part of Seattle Center's Safeco Insurance **Festál**, a year-long series of world cultural events that honors the richness and diversity of our region, presented with generous support from Safeco Insurance, Western Washington Toyota Dealers, Wells Fargo Verizon Wireless and KUOW 94.9 FM.*

CroatiaFest

c/o Ethnic Heritage Council

305 Harrison St. Suite 304

Seattle, WA 98109

Phone: 206-443-1410

Fax: 206-443-1408



**A special thank you to all CroatiaFest
participants & volunteers!**

Email: ehc@seattle.gov

www.croatiafest.org

www.ethnicheritagecouncil.org

Newsletter Editor: Maria Kesovija

CroatiaFest Logo by John Lovrić

CroatiaFest Newsletter is a publication of the CroatiaFest Committee. Please send submission materials to the EHC office via mail, fax or email, attn: Maria Kesovija. If you wish to be removed from, or added to the CroatiaFest mailing list, or have corrections, please contact: 206-443-1410; ehc@seattle.gov.



April 2008

Dear Friends and Supporters of CroatiaFest:

In 2004, a visionary and energetic group of Croatian-Americans had an idea that the community could gather enough resources to put on a festival at the Seattle Center to showcase our heritage. CroatiaFest was born! It was a one day event.

CroatiaFest 2008 will celebrate the 5th anniversary of the festival and it has expanded to include events on Saturday evening, October 4th and the main festival on Sunday, October 5th. We are fortunate to have an extended time for the display in the Art Gallery from the week prior to the festival to the week after.

This year's theme is "Croatian Hands at Work" and the committee is busy meeting monthly to plan and secure the speakers and performers, write grants and fundraise, work with our communities, and making all the necessary arrangements to put on the festival.

Seattle Center's Safeco Insurance Festival Program has made it possible to use the Center House at no charge. This is truly a gift.

You can help us raise \$20,000 by making your donation of any size right now. Sponsors of \$500 or more are welcome. Anyone making a donation of \$100 or more will receive an invitation to the Dignitary Reception on Saturday evening, October 4, and will be listed in the CroatiaFest newsletter, website and event program as a donor.

If you would like to volunteer at the festival or have any questions or suggestions please call me or e-mail. Photos of last year's festival are posted on our website at: www.croatiafest.org.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and generosity.

Beverly Prkacin Read

Beverly Prkačin Read
CroatiaFest Fundraising Committee
206-940-4875
bread@windermere.com

View this newsletter on-line!
www.croatiafest.org/newsletter.html

Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble Spring Fešta

Spring & Summer 2008 - Event Schedule

May 10, Saturday, 5:30pm - Vela Luka Spring Fešta! Join us in celebrating the completion of the **NEW Croatian Cultural Center in Anacortes!** Dinner, Entertainment & Dancing. Performances by **Ruže Dalmatinke Orchestra** and **Dave & the Dalmatians**. Reservations: 360-293-3663; depotartscen-ter@verizon.net.

May 25, Sunday, 4pm: Seattle, WA
Vela Luka & Ruže Dalmatinke Orchestra
NW Folklife Festival, Seattle Center, **FREE**

June 8, Sunday, 12noon: Gig Harbor, WA
VL & RD at **Blessing of the Fleet**

June 14-15: Sacramento, CA
RD at **Croatian Extravaganza**

June 22: Seattle, WA (Private Event)
RD at **University Lions Foundation Dinner**

July 18 & 19: Seattle, WA
VL at **Paramount Theatre, Dance this...**
www.theparamount.com/education/dt.asp

August 1-3: Anacortes, WA
VL Fundraiser during **Anacortes Arts Festival**
Croatian Cultural Center



Vela Luka in Dubrovnik, Croatia, 2000. Photo by Marius Hibbard

Vela Luka, founded in 1975, and **Ruže Dalmatinke** have been featured in two national TV documentaries - *Hrvati!* (PBS, 1981) and *Children of Ellis Island* (ABC, 1986) - numerous local radio and television programs, as well as books and audio recordings. In 1986, they represented the State of Washington at the *Rededication of the Statue of Liberty* in New York and at *EXPO '86* in Vancouver, B.C. They were featured performers at the *Washington State Centennial Celebration* in 1989; *Voices West*, Salt Lake City, 1991, 1993, & 1994, and the opening celebration of Seattle Symphony's *Benaroya Hall* in 1998. In 1996, Vela Luka received the *Governor's Heritage Award* from the Washington State Art's Commission. In 1988 and 1990, both groups toured Croatia and Bosnia and in 2000 another tour through Croatia. Between 1996 and 2000, the ensembles performed in Idaho, Sacramento, San Francisco, and in 1999 were the featured performers at the *Redlands Bowl*, Redlands, California. 2001-2008 performances included: *CroatiaFest*, *Northwest Folklife Festival & Winter Worldfest* at Seattle Center; *Croatian Festival*, San Francisco, CA; *Kirkland Performance Center*; *McIntyre Hall Grande Opening*, Skagit County; Newport, Oregon; *Blessing of the Fleet*, Gig Harbor; *DANCE this...* Paramount Theatre, Seattle, 2004, 2008; and *Croatian Extravaganza*, Sacramento, CA, 2008.

Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble (VL); P.O. Box 635, Anacortes, Washington, 98221. Ph: 360-293-3663; 206-417-2067. Executive Director: Maria Franulović Petrish; Artistic Director: Maria Plancich Kesovija. **Ruže Dalmatinke Orchestra (RD)**; Director, Alma Franulović Plancich, 206-367-2268.

Website: www.velaluka.org; Email: ehc@seattle.gov

Join Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble
~ **Children Ensemble & Adult Ensemble** ~
All Welcome: Kids age 5 & up, Teens & Adults
Rehearsals in Edmonds/Anacortes, WA
Performances throughout the year
Call: 206-417-2067; ehc@seattle.gov

The **Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble** and **Ruže Dalmatinke Orchestra** perform music and dance of Croatia and the United States. The performers in Vela Luka represent four generations of Croatian-Americans who have introduced their culture's extraordinary choreography, music, and instruments to people all over the world. Forming a cross-cultural link between the Puget Sound region and Croatia, the company strives to preserve Croatian folkways and culture for generations to come.

The **Ruže Dalmatinke Orchestra** is an eight member, Seattle-based, professional ensemble specializing in the music of Croatia and Bosnia, from the stringent open throat style of interior Croatia, to lyrical Dalmatian and Bosnian melodies. The group was founded by two sisters, Binki Franulović Spahi and Alma Franulović Plancich, who immigrated with their family to the United States after World War II from their native island of Korčula, Dalmatia in Croatia. The sisters are backed by expert musicians who are soloists in their own right.

Anacortes American Croatian Club Spring Gala



Please join us, Saturday May 17, 2008, for an evening of lovely dinner, dancing and fantastic music by Special Guest Entertainer from Los Angeles: **MARTIN KOLEGA**.

Hors D'oeuvres at 6:30, Dinner at 7. Scrumptious menu: Roasted

Lamb, Pork, Veggies, Salad, Rice Pilaf and Delicious Croatian Pastries.. Adults \$30.00; Children 13 and under \$15.00 Contact: Anka Kolega 360-293-6774 or Email mavarcolleen@gmail.com Vidimo Se! ■

By Colleen Mavar

Photo left: Martin Kolega, singing with Grupa ZRINSKI, CroatiaFest 2007. Photo by Jal Schrof.

Auction to Benefit Seattle Junior Tamburitians



Interested in donating an item to our auction? Please contact Steve Medalia @ 425-772-1029 or Joe Medalia @ 206-396-1608 All donations are tax deductible. The Seattle Junior Tamburitians is registered with the Federal Government as a 501-C-3 Non Profit Organization.

Formed in 1970, the **Seattle Junior Tamburitians** is an organization of young people ages pre-school through high school. Along with their parents and grandparents, their main purpose is to promote and preserve our common cultural heritage. Our young people spend many hours each week in addition to their regular studies and other extracurricular activities engaged in learning the

The **Seattle Junior Tamburitians** are pleased to announce their 2008 Dinner & Benefit Auction Saturday **May 10, 2008** at the Renton Senior Center, 211 Burnett Ave North, Renton, WA. Cocktail Hour & Silent Auctions Begin at 5:00 PM. Don't miss the chance to enjoy a wonderful Salmon or Prime Rib dinner while supporting a terrific group of children and young adults dedicated to preserving their Croatian heritage and community. All proceeds from the dinner and auction will be used to help fund their upcoming trip to Croatia in the Summer of 2009 to participate in the Croatian Fraternal Union Junior Cultural Federation Tamburitza Festival in Zagreb's famous Vatroslav Lisinski Hall.

Bid On:

- 7 Night Salt Lake City Ski Condo
 - 7 Night Mexico Vacation
 - Disneyland Vacations
 - Weekend Getaways
 - Instant Wine Cellar
 - One of a Kind Dining Experiences
 - Tickets to the Dubrovnik Symphony
 - Sporting Memorabilia
 - One of a Kind & Hard to Find Items
- And Much, Much More

Tickets are \$40. We expect a sell out and tickets may not be available at the door, so act now! Sorry no children under the age of 13 years old. Interested in Reserving a Full Table for Eight? Email Cindy Brunotte at Cindy@Captainstravel.com

Please mail payment to: Seattle Junior Tamburitians 17330 NE 195th Street, Woodinville, WA 98072. For more information on the Seattle Junior Tamburitians visit our web site at www.sjtamburitians.org

native language, dances, songs and musical instruments of their parents and grandparent's homeland. They work hard and enjoy this unique experience. There are more than 50 such groups in the United States and Canada, with ours being the only one in the Pacific Northwest. We are proud that we have kept this organization and tradition thriving since 1970.

In order to keep our cultural heritage alive, we work diligently volunteering our own time, talent, and funds to pay for practice facilities, instructors, costumes, authentic musical instruments and other operating expenses throughout the season.

Our children perform at a number of cultural programs each year, including the Northwest Folklife Festival, CroatiaFest, and numerous other community events throughout the region. The group is made up of residents of King, Pierce and Snohomish counties. Contact: Toni Stipetić: 253-813-8477. ■

By John Morovich



SJTs at CroatiaFest 2006. Photo by Jal Schrof.

93rd Annual Croatian Fraternal Union Picnic, August 10



Circle the date **August 10** for the 93rd annual picnic of Seattle CFU Lodge 439. Yes, it's true--the lodge held its first picnic in 1916 at Urania Park on Lake Washington.

The 2008 picnic will be at Royal Arch Park in Maple Valley. A flyer with all the details will be mailed July 1, but for now, just save the date and plan to join us. For more information, call: 206-282-1424. ■

By Richard Major

CroatiaFest 2007 Photo Album



CroatiaFest 2007 Photo Album



**Harrison Street Gallery
October 2—October 11**

2007 Feature Artists:

Gloria Barello & Sam Mirkovich;

Visiting Artist: Ivo F. Raič

Plus... Ancient and current alphabets and language of Croatians by artist Ante Sardelić; History of the Croatian Coat of Arms "Grb"; Vintage maritime tools of the trade provided by local fisherman Anthony Franulović.



2007 CroatiaFest included:

Maritime Displays: Visitors learned about the lives of Croatian-American fishermen through photos, historical artifacts and demonstrations—Longshoremen, Shipbuilding, Fishermen's Packing Corporation.

Fish Net Mending & Boat Caulking—Richard Tarabochia & Anthony Vlahovich

Historical Exhibits: *Anacortes — Bainbridge Island — Bellingham — Ronald - Roslyn - Cle Elum — Tacoma*

CroatiaFest Marketplace: *Adriatica Croatian Lavender; Balkan Market; Croatian Fixation; CroatianTV-America; Dalmatian Kitchen; Heart of Croatia; Croatia Today Cultural Exhibit; CroatiaFest Booth.*

Activities & Lectures continued in the conference room throughout the day...

Fish Tales - *Croatian Fishermen, Antone Beritich, Vlatko Kolega, Nikola Mavar, Tony Milan, Richard Tarabochia, Anton Vitalich*, shared their stories from the sea. Moderated by **Peter Philips**, Publisher, Fishermen's News; **Travel to Croatia** - presentation by Gretchen Strauch, Rick Steves' Europe Through the Back Door; **Dalmatian Singing**—Kit Adams, instructor; **Croatian Language Lesson for the Beginner**—Nick Petrish, instructor

Also upstairs... Croatian Cartoon Movies & Art activities for kids!

- 1: Grupa ZRINSKI, Los Angeles
- 2: Mrs. & Dr. Frank Brozovich, Honorary Croatian Consul; Alma Plancich, CF Coordinator & EHC Executive Director; Mr. Ante Barbir, Croatian Consul General, Los Angeles, & Mrs. Barbir.
- 3: Željko Jergan, Instructor & Choreographer.
- 4: Sinovi Tamburica Orchestra, Seattle
- 5: Radost Folk Ensemble & guests
- 6: Dave & the Dalmatians
- 7: Bokreta Hungarian Dance Ensemble
- 8: Klapa Doo Wopella
- 9: Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble
- 10: Vela Luka Croatian Children's Ensemble
- 11: Seattle Junior Tamburitans
- 12: Seattle Junior Tamburitans

To view event photos by Jal, visit: <http://www.pbase.com/jal/croatiafest2007>

The Fab Years - Jack Fabulich Leaves Legacy of Growth and Teamwork - by Edi Jeffers

Photo by Brian DalBalcon

Reprinted with permission from Port of Tacoma, Department of External Affairs.

For more than three decades, Commissioner Jack Fabulich has been a star performer and coach of the Port of Tacoma team. Appointed to the Port Commission in 1976, he was first elected to the Commission in 1977, and then re-elected every four years until 2003. After 31 years on the Commission, he retired at the close of 2007, culminating his career with his fellow Commissioners re-naming the five-story Port Business Center – now “The Fabulich Center” – in his honor.

Meanwhile, the City of Tacoma and Pierce County, as well as the Port Commission, passed resolutions proclaiming “Jack Fabulich Day” in December. Each resolution highlighted the leadership, vision, and dedication he had shown to the Port, and to the community, over the last 31 years.

The son of a Croatian immigrant commercial fisherman, Fabulich grew up on the docks, became an athletic legend at Tacoma’s University of Puget Sound (UPS), built a successful business career, and then returned to the waterfront with one central vision for the Port of Tacoma: “It’s all been about creating jobs,” he said.

Jobs for Tacoma-Pierce County, Growth for the Region

As the former President of Parker Paint Manufacturing Company, Fabulich brought a practical business approach to the Port Commission. He saw plenty of potential to work with. “Our revenues my first year were \$12 million. We had one or two shipping lines. We had the raw materials growing the future of the Port,” said the 1951 UPS graduate (known then as the College of Puget Sound). “I knew we were going to be very successful if we had a staff we could be proud of and

worked on creating jobs in the community.”

During his tenure with the Port of Tacoma Commission, total containerized volume grew from 85,000 TEUs (20-foot equivalent units) in 1976 to about 2 million TEUs today. And Port-related jobs in Pierce County grew from 12,000 in 1982, the year of the Port’s first comprehensive economic impact study, to 43,100 in 2004.

And along the way, the Port helped put Tacoma on the international map. “The Port has evolved from a quiet, natural resource-based port to one of North America’s largest under Mr. Fabulich’s leadership,” said Tokyo-based Akira Tatara, the Port of Tacoma’s Director of Asia. “When I first became involved in maritime trade in the 1970s, my colleagues in Japan and other Asian countries were not aware of Tacoma. Today, it is considered a major gateway to the North American markets.”



Jack and wife Dolores at a Port event in the late 1970’s.

Teamwork and Results

A standout in football, basketball and track at Puyallup High School, and in football and track at UPS, Fabulich was inducted into the Tacoma-Pierce County Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

Teamwork was always a key element in the Fabulich Playbook. “Jack had the ability early on to understand people – customers, staff and labor and other stakeholders. And he had the foresight to get them all working together to help make our Port successful,” said Port Commission President Dick Marzano. “The public could see that also, and that’s why they re-elected him so many times.”

Teamwork was also key as Fabulich helped shape many key strategic Port



growth decisions. Perhaps the most significant action was the Puyallup Indian Land Settlement of 1988. On behalf of the Port, Fabulich worked with tribal, local, state and federal officials on a comprehensive approach to settling a variety of important claims with the Puyallup Tribe. Signed by President George H.W. Bush in June 1989, the comprehensive settlement agreement came after more than five years of strategic negotiations and teamwork.

The successful negotiation settlement set the stage for future growth and development of the Port, as well as new and more diversified economic opportunities for the Puyallup Tribe. It also allowed for the removal of the Blair Bridge, the re-routing of State Route 509, Tacoma’s new cable stay bridge in 1997 and other actions that helped “unlock” the future development of the upper Blair Waterway.

“If the settlement hadn’t happened, the Port and the region would not be the economic force that it is today,” said Rod Koon, the Port’s Director of Communications and long-time Port employee. “Jack was a huge part of that.”

Sense of Community and Family

Fabulich’s ethic of community stewardship bridged his private pursuits as well as his public office. While still affiliated with Parker Paint, he helped to start what would become “Paint Tacoma-Pierce Beautiful,” a celebrated program in which volunteers have painted and renovated 1,654 homes since 1985.

A dedicated supporter of his alma mater, Fabulich is the 1996 recipient of UPS's Lifetime Alumni Achievement Award as well as the 2001 Alumni Community Service Award, a founder and past-president of the UPS Logger Club, past president of the UPS Alumni Association and Board of Trustees among many other achievements. "He is especially proud of the walnut chair that UPS gave him for the Lifetime Alumni Achievement Award," said Dolores Fabulich, his wife of 55 years.

To understand the extent of his contributions to the Port, one would have to delve into some Port history and look at what it was like in 1976, when the Port was handling less than 4 million short tons of cargo and very few containers.

"That year, Totem Ocean Trailer Express (TOTE), a shipping line serving the Alaska market, moved to Tacoma. That critical move was all about long-shore cooperation, and Jack was a part of that," said Koon. "It was before Sea-Land, before Hyundai. It was before a lot of major developments at the Port, such as the Port Commerce Center, and the full build-out at Frederickson. People look at the Port now and say, 'It's a big Port. It's always been a big Port.' But the truth is, it hasn't always been a big Port. A tremendous amount of that growth happened on Jack's watch."

Koon believes that Fabulich's sense of family has also served the Port well. "He has helped to foster a family atmosphere in how we work together at the Port, and he's brought this sense of teamwork to other organizations we work with to encourage a coordinated economic growth in Pierce County." Fabulich led the way in developing the Port's efforts in working with others to develop the Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County, and worked with other governmental and

private entities such as the City of Tacoma, World Trade Center-Tacoma, Pierce County and several other community and business organizations. He also represented the Port on the Executive Board of the Puget Sound Regional Council, the Board of the Washington Public Ports Association and the Tacoma Chapter of the Propeller Club of the United States.

Connecting with Stakeholders

From the beginning of his tenure, Fabulich stressed the importance of the Port connecting with the community. In fact, in his first interview with Tacoma's News Tribune after his appointment in 1976, he said he wanted to promote the Port's public image by improving communications with shareholders. "We want everybody to feel a part of the Port. It's their Port and we want them to say what we should be doing."

"While Jack played an important role in the removal of the Blair Bridge and the opening of the Blair Waterway to development, he also built bridges. Jack was, in fact, a bridge between the community, particularly the business community and the Port for all of the 31 years that he served on the Commission. He will be missed by many of the Port's customers and constituents."

Clare Petrich
Port Commissioner

In 1988, Fabulich championed the building of a public observation tower on Sitcum Waterway so that the citizens of Pierce County – the Port's primary stakeholders – could come and see their investment up-close. "This was built for the community, teachers and school children love it, and people can bring out-of-town guests to see international trade happen from a front row seat," he said.

The Frederickson Industrial Area also was one of Fabulich's interests. Although the Port already owned land in Frederickson when he joined the Commission, Fabulich challenged fellow Commissioners and Port staff to transform that land into an employment center for Eastern Pierce County. "Some folks thought we were crazy to invest in Frederickson, but it turned out that it's been very beneficial for the community and brought many jobs," he said, noting the success of Frederickson employers like Boeing, Toray Composites America, Medalion Foods and many others. "Today, Frederickson is nearly full, so the challenge has been met."

For this and many other challenges that Fabulich has helped the Port

and the community meet over the years, he has been named the Pierce County Maritime Man of the Year in 1995 and 10 years later, was proclaimed a Living Legend of the Working Waterfront. And on November 16, 2007, the Washington Public Ports Association granted him lifetime membership in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the association. ■



Fabulich was a standout in track and football at the College of Puget Sound, (now the University of Puget Sound).

Photo courtesy University of Puget Sound

CroatiaFest 2008 Croatian Hands at Work



John Costanich, cousin of CroatiaFest committee member Beverly Prkačin Read, pictured here working in the mines in the Black Diamond area.

Photos courtesy of Debbie Costanich

Send us
YOUR
photos &
stories for
**CroatiaFest
2008!**



Local Delegation to Visit Rijeka in May 2008

Keith B. Orton, Ph.D., Chief International Specialist, OIR, City of Seattle, recently announced the selection of delegation to visit Croatia: (team leader) Clare Petrich, Port of Tacoma Commissioner, TDA Board Member; Michael Campbell, President of Northwest Marine Trade Association; Maria Kesovija, Assistant Director, Ethnic Heritage Council; Don Meyer, Executive Director, Foss Waterway Development Authority; Patricia Spakes, Chancellor, University of Washington Tacoma; Carol Wolfe, City of Tacoma Community and Economic Development Department. The delegation, chosen by USAID and the City of Rijeka, will travel to Croatia in May. This trip is the first step toward a potential twinning relationship with Rijeka.

Mayor of Rijeka, Vojko Obrsnel, in a letter to Mrs. Rebecca Latorraca, Mission Director, USAID Croatia, states:

"As Rijeka is a port city, the most significant of Croatia and one of top ten ports in Europe, we would be very happy to establish a contact with a port city in the States, in order to share our experience." (Tacoma is honored to take this role!)

"In spite of its relatively small size (150,000 inhabitants, 43 km²), Rijeka is a cosmopolitan city tightly related to the water through its name ("rijeka" means "river"), by its location along the coast of the Adriatic, the Mediterranean; and by all its most important economical activities. The city was established in

Roman times (the traces of the Roman castrum are found downtown) along both banks of the Rječina River, and a safe port was developed around the deep Bay of Kvarner."

"Rijeka has a clear vision of its future development, whose sharp outlines appear in the best possible way in the structure of the most significant city development project, the Rijeka Gateway, through which the Port and the City will hit completely new opportunities for further development. A new waterfront is also a part of the Rijeka Gateway Project. We are keen on finding out about other port cities experience in establishing a waterfront." (Port of Tacoma Commissioner Clare Petrich excitedly looks forward to sharing stories of growth and advancement at the Port of Tacoma.)

The cities of Rijeka and Tacoma appear to have many commonalities! The delegation is thrilled to set off on this adventure, a fact finding trip, to discover and explore the ties which can make a strong connection between the two cities.

With solid ties amongst our local Croatian-American communities, strengthening each year with the continuation of our own Croatia Fest, there looks certainly to be a strong future for a beneficial and fruitful relationship with Rijeka. I am honored to be a participant in this venture and I look forward to viewing my hometown of Seattle, through the eyes of a visitor and sharing. ■

By Maria Plancich Kesovija

Since 1992, the United States Agency for International Development, USAID, has been present in Croatia.

What is USAID?

USAID is the principal U.S. agency extending assistance to countries implementing economic and democratic reforms to escape poverty and/or recover from disaster. USAID operates in over 100 countries around the world and manages a budget of approximately \$9.5 billion. In the East European region, USAID is fully engaged in seven countries and it has graduated six other countries over the last five years.

Why a USAID program in Croatia?

USAID has been operating in Croatia since 1992. During this time more than \$320 million in assistance has been delivered to Croatia. USAID/Croatia implements a comprehensive transition program that includes economic and fiscal reform, strengthening democratic institutions, and training activities. Croatia's successful transition is integral to achieving the U.S. core policy goal of stability in Southeast Europe and serves other important American interests such as fighting terrorism and trafficking in persons.

USAID/Croatia's current portfolio is approximately \$69 million. In FY 2006 Croatia's program budget was nearly \$14 million. USAID intends to complete its assistance program in Croatia in 2008. USAID/Croatia has a staff of 29 people: six U.S. staff and 23 Croatian staff.

<http://croatia.usaid.gov/aboutusaid.htm>;
<http://www.usaid.gov/>

CroatiaFest Yellow Pages Now on Sale!

The 2008 CroatiaFest event program is taking on a new look this year! Businesses will be able to purchase individual ads using their logos and business information, a new opportunity this year. "I would also encourage parents, grandparents, friends and family members to consider buying ad space congratulating a performer, wishes for a future graduate or even family memorial," Nikki Lovrić suggested.

Purchasing an ad helps fund CroatiaFest and insures our ability to bring wonderful artists and exhibits together to share the Croatian heritage with the community! Over 12,000 people attended last year's festival and your advertisement will reach a truly unique audience. **Please contact Kristen LeMieux for information, questions or to purchase an ad: lemieuxkf@aol.com 206.786.7155.** ■

By Nikki Lovrić & Kristen LeMieux

Thank You Again for Supporting CroatiaFest 2007!

CroatiaFest 2007 was brought to you through the generosity of those listed below, grants & sponsors!

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Mia Markovich Duvall-Adriatica Croatian Lavender

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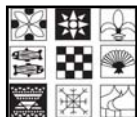
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Grants & Special Gifts

4Culture; Ethnic Artist Grant; Safeco Festál; 1st class airline ticket donated by Richard Major

***Make CroatiaFest 2008 a success by giving your donation today!
CroatiaFest 2008 Donation form can be found on page 12***



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