



Photo by Jai Schroy

# CroatiaFest Newsletter

*A Celebration of Croatian  
Culture and Folkways*

## CroatiaFest - October 7 & 8, 2006

By Laura McLeod

A guest appearance by visiting Croatian sword dance group, **Kumpanija** (pronounced Koom-pan-ee'-ya,) is just one of the many highlights at the third annual CroatiaFest, taking place this year on Sunday, October 8 at Seattle Center.

From the city of Vela Luka on the island of Korčula, this spectacular performing group is visiting the US for the first time. The dance, *Kumpanija*, from which the group takes its name, is an ancient sword dance performed exclusively on the island of Korčula. It's origins stem from the organized peoples' army which had been defending the island from different conquerors and invaders for centuries. Today, because of its historical significance, Kumpanija of Vela Luka is one of few performing groups allowed by the Croatian government to perform this type of dance. Also traveling with Kumpanija is **Klapa Vela Luka**, a male *a cappella* group known throughout Europe. This is the group's only guest performance during their four-stop Northwest tour.

Kicking off the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual festival is a first-ever Saturday evening dance party, October 7 from 7 - 10 p.m. Join Northwest Croatians at this family-friendly dance featuring the music of **Blue Adriatic**, **Mate & Petra** (from California) and local favorites **Pasko & Damir**.

CroatiaFest opens at noon on Sunday, October 8, with performances, exhibits and workshops throughout the afternoon till 8 p.m. Croatian culture and heritage, not well known among non-Croatians, is dynamic, fun-loving, and determined. Famous Croatian explorer **Marko Polo**, and one of history's most important inven-



*Kumpanija and Klapa Vela Luka  
make a guest appearance  
October 8th at CroatiaFest*

tors, **Nikola Tesla**, creator of radio and pioneer of electrical engineering whose birth 150 years ago is celebrated this year, are just two examples. Those with roots in this Mediterranean jewel can learn about their ancestry from **Salt Lake City genealogist Barbara Starkey**, while others can find out about this extraordinary destination. *Lonely Planet* travel guide recently named Croatia as one of the top tourist destinations: "Croatia's appeal was its unique combination of culture, history, cuisine, accessibility and affordability."

"Croatia is still off the radar for many people," says Maria Kesovija, one of the festival organizers. "So it's still a place of discovery, with palm trees, gorgeous beaches, ancient culture and friendly people, right on the Adriatic Sea. Once inland, the area looks much like our own Skagit Val-

## CroatiaFest

**October 7, 2006  
Saturday Evening  
Dance Party!  
7-10pm**

**October 8, 2006  
12noon - 8pm  
at  
Seattle Center  
FREE**

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ley - perhaps one of the reasons so many Croatians settled in Anacortes."

### Historical, Fine Art and Folk Art Exhibits

Croatians from around the state will come together for this celebration to present in-depth historical and contemporary exhibits. From San Jose, internationally acclaimed watercolorist originally from Zagreb, **Miho Šimunović** displays current works, and local sculptor **Mario A. Oblak**, whose work is in private and public collections throughout the state, will exhibit several sculptures. Other exhibiting artists include **Mara K. Oblak**, photographer; **Marko A. Oblak**, sketch artist; **Marius Hibbard**, photographer; and painters **Gloria Barello** and **Ante Sardelić**.

*Continued on page 3*



# CroatiaFest Promises More Fun & Excitement in 2006!

**- Saturday Night Dance -  
- FREE -**

**DON'T MISS "BLUE ADRIATIC"  
MATE & PETRA from San Pedro, CA**

ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY! Dance to the tunes of *Blue Adriatic* and local favorites *Pasko, Damir & Dečki*. Enjoy Croatian pop, folk, polkas & waltzes. Dance the night away with us!

**7-10pm in Seattle Center House  
October 7, 2006**

## CroatiaFest Yellow Pages

**Are you an artist? Translator? Plumber?  
Realtor? Instructor???**

**Tell CroatiaFest visitors about your business!  
For your \$50 yellow pages donation, your name  
and business contact information will be listed  
on the CroatiaFest website, under  
"Yellow Pages", PLUS your listing will be in  
the CroatiaFest 2006 event program!**

**What great deal!**

**Contact: Kristen LeMieux, 206-786-7155;  
lemieuxkf@aol.com**

## GENEALOGIST BARB STARKEY

If you have ever wanted to learn about your Croatian family history, here is your opportunity. CroatiaFest this year is presenting Barbara Starkey, a genealogist who is of Croatian descent herself and has done a great deal of research on Croatian and Eastern European families.

She will give two lectures on the upper level (3rd floor) of Center House at CroatiaFest with a Power Point presentation and handouts. She will also have a table on the main floor to answer your questions. Come to CroatiaFest 2006 and start your family search!



*Harbor Silba*

## CroatiaFest 2006 Feature Artist Miho Šimunović

Artwork by Miho will be displayed in the Harrison St. Gallery, Center House, 3rd Fl., prior to and during

CroatiaFest. Don't miss this opportunity to view his breathtaking artwork and to purchase. To view work by Miho, visit:

<http://croatiagifts.safeshopper.com/>

*Are you visiting Seattle? Planning to spend the weekend in Seattle while you enjoy CroatiaFest? Stay just one block away from Seattle Center at the 'old world' hotel **Marqueen Inn** or at the **Inn at Queen Anne** economy hotel.*

*Visit: [www.croatiafest.org](http://www.croatiafest.org) for hotel information, event updates and more information about CroatiaFest.*

*Do you enjoy the joyous songs of Croatia and want to join in? Well here's your opportunity! **Mary Sherhart** will give a vocal workshop 4-5pm, Sunday at CroatiaFest! **Everyone welcome!** Have some fun, come and sing!*

**Event Coordinators:** Alma Franulović Plancich & Maria Plancich Kesovija

**2006 CroatiaFest Committee:** Joanne Abdo, Dr. Frank Brozovich, Nancy Freeman, Marija Grgurević, Robert & Peggy Gunovick, Louise Petrich Iverson, George Jovanovich, Maria Kesovija, Greta Kos, Kristen LeMieux, Priscilla Lisicich, Nikki & John Lovrić, Bret Lunsford, Richard Major, Darci McKinley, Cathryn Morovich, John Morovich, Veronica Mratinich, John Petrinovich, Maria Petrish, Alma Plancich, Mike Rancich, Beverly Read, Jeff Scherrer, Janet Segur, Antonija Stipetić, Kristin Tarabochia, Richard Tarabochia, Igor Vuletić

*CroatiaFest is produced by the local Croatian American Community and is part of Seattle Center's **Festál**, a year-long series of world cultural events presented by **The Seattle Times** that honors the richness and diversity of our region.*

## CroatiaFest

c/o Ethnic Heritage Council  
305 Harrison St. Suite 304  
Seattle, WA 98109  
Phone: 206-443-1410  
Fax: 206-443-1408



**Volunteer  
for CroatiaFest 2006!**

*CroatiaFest Logo by John Lovrić*

Email: [ehc@seattle.gov](mailto:ehc@seattle.gov)  
[www.croatiafest.org](http://www.croatiafest.org)  
[www.ethnicheritagecouncil.org](http://www.ethnicheritagecouncil.org)

*Newsletter Editor:  
Maria Plancich Kesovija*

**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 the CroatiaFest mailing list, or have corrections, please contact: 206-443-1410; [ehc@seattle.gov](mailto:ehc@seattle.gov).

## **Thank You for Supporting CroatiaFest 2006**

*CroatiaFest 2006 is brought to you through the generosity of individuals and sponsors listed below! There is still time for you to contribute to a successful CroatiaFest by sending your check today!*

### **\$1000**

Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge 439  
Gretchen Newman

### **\$500**

Vic & Danica Kaloper; Slavonian-American Benevolent Society

### **\$250**

American Croatian Club of Anacortes; Frank Chopp & Ann Brozovich Chopp;  
Eugene & Olga Halar; Ruby Plancich McLachlan; Louise Segota Niemi;  
Rudolph J. Pasquan, DDS; Alma Franulović Plancich; Vince Plancich

### **\$100**

Balkan Market; John & Harriet Budinich; Marija Grgurević; Davor & Breda Kapetanić;  
Peter & Jean Mataya; Microsoft Matching Funds; Anthony Milan, DDS;  
Mario & Susan Oblak; John Petrinovich Sr. & Shirley Petrinovich; Greg Posick;  
Kelly & Igor Vuletić

### **\$50-\$25**

Teresa Belcher; Catherine Marincovich Brekke; Lou & Rose Butkovich;  
Julia Case; Frank & Lois Elenich; Bob & Peggy Gunovick; Dick & Michele Kloss;  
Jerry & Patricia Medved; June C. Moskovita; George Stipetić; Damir & Elaine Tomsic;  
Violet Žuvela

### **Grant**

City of Seattle, \$1500

**Help make CroatiaFest 2006 a success!**  
**CroatiaFest 2006 Donation form can be found on the back page.**

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*2006 Continued from page 1*

#### **Music and Dance**

Lively dance and internationally renowned performers set the tone for the day's activities. Blue **Adriatic—Mate & Petra** perform Croatian pop and folk tunes including internationally popular polkas and waltzes. Favorites from previous years return, including local performers such as **Dave & the Dalmatians**, **Dunava Women's Choir**, **Radost Children's Ensemble**, **Ruže Dalmatinke Orchestra**, **Seattle Junior Tamburitzaans**, **Sinovi**, **Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble (Anacortes)**, **Žive Žice Tam-**

**burica Band and Pasko, Damir & Dečki.**

#### **Activities**

Video, lectures, workshops and a CroatiaFest marketplace with merchants such as **Dalmatian Kitchen** and **Heart of Croatia**, expand the Croatian experience. Nationally renowned teacher and performer of Eastern European vocal music, **Mary Sherhart** leads a singing workshop that will inspire both the novice and the experienced. Center House food merchants will again work with the culture's cuisine and offer a variety of Croatian foods.

#### **Children's Activities**

Activities for children take place throughout the day and include films, craft and coloring projects.

CroatiaFest is produced by the CroatiaFest committee and the Croatian community in partnership with Seattle Center's Safeco Festál. CroatiaFest is a member of the Ethnic Heritage Council (EHC). EHC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of cultural and ethnic heritage, [www.ethnicheritagecouncil.org](http://www.ethnicheritagecouncil.org). The performance by Kumpanija and Klapa Vela Luka is presented by the Anacortes Sister Cities Association.

*Kumpanija photo page 1 by M. Kesovija*



**CroatiaFest**  
**c/o Ethnic Heritage Council**  
305 Harrison Street, Suite 304  
Seattle, WA 98109

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SEATTLE, WA  
PERMIT 2213

### Support CroatiaFest!

Your on-going support is necessary for the future of CroatiaFest.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ \$1,000    ☐ \$500    ☐ \$250    ☐ \$100    ☐ \$50    ☐ \$25    ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_

*Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.*

Method of Payment

☐ Check \*    ☐ Visa    ☐ MasterCard

\* Make Checks payable to: **EHC** (write on bottom of check: **CroatiaFest donation**)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

The Ethnic Heritage Council is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, registered in the state of Washington. Ethnic Heritage Council acts as an umbrella to many local community organizations, including CroatiaFest. Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Your employer may offer a matching funds program to maximize your donation. Please check with your Human Resources Department. **Thank You**



# CroatiaFest

All CroatiaFest Events are FREE and Open to the Public

*Schedule Subject to Change*

**Saturday, October 7, 2006**

**Seattle Center House**

7-10pm      **FREE Dance Featuring Live Music by:**  
Blue Adriatic—Mate and Petra, *from Croatian pop to old time favorites, plus*  
Pasko, Damir & Dečki, *playing your favorite kolos and more!*

**Sunday, October 8, 2006**

**Center House Stage**

12:00noon      **Procession led by Folklorno Društvo Kumpanija from Vela Luka, Croatia**  
Dignitary Welcome - Dr. Frank Brozovich & Alma Franulović Plancich  
12:30      **Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble & Ruže Dalmatinke Orchestra**  
1:25      **Žive Žice Tamburica Band**  
1:55      **Dave and the Dalmatians**  
2:20      **Bokrêta Hungarian Dance Ensemble**  
2:35      **Radost Children's Folk Ensemble**  
2:50      **Dunava Women's Choir**  
3:20      **Seattle Junior Tamburitians**  
3:45      **Jele Croatian Women's Choir**  
4:15      **Seattle Junior Tamburitians**  
4:30      *Break - Visit other CroatiaFest Activities!*  
5:15      **Guest Appearance by Kumpanija & Klapa Vela Luka**  
6:00 – 8:00      **Participatory Dancing**  
Dobri Dečki Tamburica Orchestra, Sinovi, Ruže Dalmatinke Orchestra

**Films\* - Lectures - Workshops - Room H, 3rd Floor**

1:00-1:45pm      **Croatian Genealogy by Barb Starkey**  
2:00-2:45      **"Magical Croatia" - Croatian Tourism Film and Guest Lecturer**  
3:00-3:45      **Croatian Genealogy by Barb Starkey**  
4:00-5:00      **Vocal Workshop by Mary Sherhart**  
5:00-6:00      **Mažuranić—Tales of Long Ago**  
6:00-8:00pm      **Oliver Dragojević u Areni**

\*see Children's Activities for cartoons in Croatian language

**Children's Activities**

*ALL DAY, various locations*

**Center House Floor—Face Painter**

**Center House Den—Licitarska Srca (keepsake heart) & Folk Art for Kids (coloring)**

**3rd Floor Playroom—Šumski Putnici & Heidi (video presentation in Croatian language)**

**Harrison Street Gallery, Seattle Center House, 3rd Floor**

**September 26—October 10**

**2006 Feature Artist: Miho Šimunović.**

Sculptures by sculptor Mario Oblak.

Artwork by Croatian artists and friends of Croatia.

Continued on next page...

# CroatiaFest

**Sunday, October 8, 2006**

**Center House Floor**

**ALL DAY**

## **Historical Exhibits**

*Aberdeen*  
*Anacortes*  
*Bellingham*  
*Everett*  
*Riverside - Seattle*  
*Ronald - Roslyn - Cle Elum*  
*Tacoma*

## **CroatiaFest Marketplace**

*Adriatica*—Specializing in lavender oils and lotions  
*Anacortes Sister City Association*—**Folklorno Društvo Kumpanija & Klapa Vela Luka**—purchase tickets to upcoming Kumpanija performances, cd's & t-shirts plus learn about the town of Vela Luka and its sister city Anacortes!  
*Balkan Market*—Everything you need to remind you of home—from Vegeta to your favorite Croatian coffees.  
*Dalmatian Kitchen*—Dalmatian olive oil  
*Heart of Croatia*—All the treasures from Croatia imaginable—from jewelry to cd's!

**Artwork by Miho Šimunović**—Talk to the artist, browse & purchase art by Miho.

**Croatia Today Cultural Exhibit**—Learn about the beauty of Croatia and her people and talk to visiting dignitaries from Croatia.

**CroatiaFest Booth**—Make a donation to CroatiaFest, purchase or order CroatiaFest festival clothing, pick up a program. Enter the **FREE** raffle—win a gourmet basket filled with specialty items, donated by Balkan Market!

**Did You Know?**—Look for the display where you can learn amazing facts about Croatian inventions, discoveries and Croatian Americans!

**Croatian Genealogy**—Barb Starkey, guest lecturer (see lecture schedule), will be available to answer your questions and assist in finding your Croatian ancestors.

## **Hungry? Thirsty? Looking for coffee?**

Look for the Croatian flag at participating Center House merchants!

**Café Beignet:** Ukuhana kava, espresso, and specialty sweets  
**Center House Deli:** Cabbage rolls  
**Frankfurter:** Kobasica with ajvar  
**Kabob Corner:** Čevapčići, lamb with homemade ajvar, and baklava  
**Michelangelo's:** CroatiaFest special—čevapčići, lepinja & fries, Karlovačko pivo  
**Pizza Haven:** Marko polo pizza  
**Quincy's:** CroatiaFest burgers with ajvar and Karlovačko pivo  
**Steamer's:** Pržene lignje (fried calamari)

Visit the International Fountain where you can hear lively Croatian music and watch the fountain dance!