

CroatiaFest

A Celebration of Croatian Culture and Heritage



Newsletter, Spring 2011



CroatiaFest 2011

~Taste of Croatia~

Seattle Center
Exhibition Hall

Saturday, October 22, 2011

Dance Party
Sing-a-Long at the Karlovacko
Beer and Wine Garden

Sunday, October 23, 2011

Art Gallery
Cooking Demonstrations
Crafts for Kids
Croatia Today
Genealogy
Historical Exhibits
Music and Dance Performances
Souvenirs of Croatia

New This Year:

Croatian Food Booths
Wine and Beer Garden

*Look for updates as plans develop
in future publications and at
www.croatiafest.org*

CroatiaFest activities are FREE,
open to the public.

A MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Dear Fellow Croatian Americans,

October 22nd will mark the start of the 8th annual CroatiaFest. There will be a new venue as well as a new location for this year's CroatiaFest. CroatiaFest will move to Seattle Center's Exhibition Hall: just a short walk from the old location at the Center House.

"Taste of Croatia" will be the celebrated theme for CroatiaFest 2011. You will have the opportunity to sample Croatian cuisine ranging from the staples to the delicacies prepared by our Croatian organizations. There will be song and dance; and the art forms of Croatia will not be left out.

It will be an occasion for the family and a chance for grown up camaraderie in the Karlovacko Pivo Beer Garden. So mark



Croatian Ambassador Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović presents me with an honorarium during CroatiaFest 2010.

the dates: Saturday evening, October 22nd and Sunday, October 23rd. See you there! Your attendance and financial support will guarantee another outstanding CroatiaFest.

Dr. Frank Brozovich, Honorary Croatian Consul and CroatiaFest Chairman

NEW FOOD BOOTHS AND COOKING DEMOS

What an exciting year ahead for CroatiaFest! With the new venue in the Exhibition Hall, our committee has the opportunity to expand in ways not possible with the limitations of the Seattle Center House. This year's theme "A Taste of Croatia" allows us to bring our own on-site cooking.

In collaboration with local Croatian communities, organizations and dance ensembles, we already have six food vendor booths ready to sell Croatian dishes and desserts. Menus are being planned, so watch www.croatiafest.org as we reveal what delicious treats await you!

This year we will have a stage dedicated to cooking demonstrations by local chefs. Listen and learn as they create dishes you



remember from your childhood, or perhaps a meal you once tasted in the "old country," or maybe something new and delicious! Our new, bigger space allows us to bring you so much more!

Bring your appetites as this year's CroatiaFest promises to be one of sights, sounds and TASTES of Croatia!

GALLERY HIGHLIGHTS

Sam Evich, Photographer

Mark Twain once said, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness."

This is a favorite quote of Sam Evich, and you can see why as he describes his journeys with his camera.

Evich's life passions revolve around excellent food, art, music, dance, nature, travel and his Dalmatian roots. His camera lens mostly points in those directions and his designer's eye is naturally awakened during his travels. He has been fortunate to travel to Croatia several times and back to his roots on the wonderful island of Vis.

He is delighted to share his gorgeous scenes and unforgettable memories

captured by his camera with everyone at the CroatiaFest gallery exhibit.

A native of Seattle, where he still lives, Evich's love of photography blossomed in architecture school, and particularly inside the dark room of his photography classes at Philadelphia University. Visit Evich at www.samevich.com

Sam Mirkovich, Photographer

Mirkovich will bring his unique artistic style in photography to exhibit at CroatiaFest.

Gloria Barello, Artist

One of CroatiaFest's favorite local artists returns this year with a new work, yet to be named, and some of her earlier pieces.



CroatiaFest Coordinators: Cathryn Morovich and Kristen LeMieux

Board of Directors: Dr. Frank Brozovich, Chairman; Cathryn Morovich, President; Richard Major, Vice-President; Michael Rancich, Treasurer; Beverly Read, Secretary.

2011 CroatiaFest Planning Committee: Joanne Abdo, Lora Batina, Dr. Frank Brozovich, Nikki Cvitanović, Bob & Peggy Gunovick, Lori Repanich Hill, Louise Petrich Iverson, Maria Plancich Kesovija, Adam LeMieux, Kristen LeMieux, John Lovrić, Richard Major, Jenny Zuvela Marin, Steven Mataja, Karen Mikacenić, Cathryn Morovich, John Morovich, Diane Petricic, John Pintar, Alma Franulović Plancich, Michael Rancich, Beverly Read, Stephanie Rogstad, Mark & Dunja Ruljancich, Kristin Tarabochia, Igor Vuletić, Margaret Martinis-Wallace.

Community Representatives & Volunteers: Nancy Freeman, Jana Harvey, Vjeko Ivanković, Greta Kos, Priscilla Lisicich, Bret Lunsford, Colleen Mavar, Steve Medalia Jr., Veronica Mratinich, John Petrinovich, Maria Franulović Petrish, Janet Segur, Damir & Elaine Tomšić.

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 that honors the richness and diversity of our region.

206-619-4193

info@croatiafest.org

www.croatiafest.org

Newsletter Editor: Jenny Zuvela Marin

CroatiaFest Logo by John Lovrić



P.O. Box 60003

Shoreline, WA 98160



Ethnic Heritage Council



FESTÁL 2011 | [seattlecenter](http://seattlecenter.org)



April 2011

Dear loyal friends and supporters of CroatiaFest,

"Taste of Croatia" is the theme selected by the Planning Committee for CroatiaFest 2011. You will read elsewhere in this newsletter about exhibits and vendors that will be unique to this year's festival.

We are fortunate to be a part of the Seattle Center Festal series and are grateful to Seattle Center for providing the venue and ancillary services for the past seven years. This year comes with changes. While the Seattle Center prepares for the 50th anniversary of the 1962 World's Fair and renovates the campus, our festival has been moved from the Seattle Center House to the Exhibition Hall on the Seattle Center Campus. As a result, the Planning Committee has been working at being creative to bring a new look to CroatiaFest this year.

Many thanks to all who made last year's CroatiaFest a success. Now we're ready to start a new list of donors for CroatiaFest 2011, and we're pleased to announce the first donations received: Michele and Dick Kloss, \$100; Dr. Frank Brozovich, \$1,000; and Beverly Prkacin Read, \$250.

The Board of Directors welcomes your participation by sending your most generous donation today! CroatiaFest is a recognized non-profit by the IRS, so your donation is tax deductible.

You can help us raise \$30,000 by making your donation of any amount right now! You can donate online by going to www.croatiafest.org or donate by mail using the self-addressed envelope in this newsletter. You can even donate through payroll deduction.

By making a donation of \$100 or more, you will receive an invitation to a Dignitary Reception on Saturday evening, October 22nd and be listed on the website and in the program. It's a great time to gather with friends, newcomers and start the celebration for the festival.

On behalf of Chairman and Honorary Consul Dr. Frank Brozovich, event co-coordinators President Cathryn Morovich and Kristen LeMieux, Vice-President Richard Major, Treasurer Michael Rancich, the Board of Directors and the Planning Committee, we extend this opportunity for your participation to continue the preservation and presentation of our culture to our communities and to future generations.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and generosity.



Beverly Prkacin Read, Fund-raising Chair & Secretary
206-940-4875
bread@windermere.com

*CroatiaFest Newsletter is a publication of the CroatiaFest Committee.
Please send submissions to info@croatiafest.org. If you have corrections, wish to be removed from or added to the CroatiaFest mailing list, please call 206-619-4193 or email info@croatiafest.org.*

To view this newsletter on-line or sign-up to receive it via email please go to www.croatiafest.org.

A RECAP OF CROATIAFEST 2010

By Cathryn Morovich
CroatiaFest President



Last October, thousands gathered at the Center House at the Seattle Center to enjoy the festivities of CroatiaFest 2010 "Culture and Sport."

The weekend began with a reception Saturday evening honoring visiting Croatian dignitaries and CroatiaFest donors. The Croatian community was honored to have Ambassador Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović visit CroatiaFest for the second year in a row. The Ambassador traveled to Seattle from the Croatian Embassy in Washington, D.C., accompanied by Embassy First Secretary Jelena Peric and was joined by Consul General Ilija Zelalić who traveled from Los Angeles.

The next day, beautifully costumed hostesses greeted guests as they arrived by handing them a program of the scheduled events. Continuous entertainment on the main stage was provided by several Croatian Dance and Tamburitza ensembles and singing groups, including the very talented Tamburaški Sastav Barabe of Pittsburgh, Penn.

Folks crowded in to see the food demonstrations by Anka Kolega, Neva Dominis and Venko Lisica. The tasting of wines from several Croatian owned wineries was very well received. Lecture rooms were filled to hear a discussion by a panel of

Croatian athletes. Another panel headed by Mia Salazar of Croatian Travel Bureau from New York was very informative for those interested in travel to Croatia.

Several expert Tamburiza musicians shared their performing experiences, and those who attended the lecture on Croatian surnames by Richard Major found it to be very informative.

The Harrison Street Art Gallery display headed by Beverly Read and John Morovich had an outstanding display of art, artifacts, and historical displays. On the main floor of the Center House were



Croatian Ambassador Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović (left) and Croatian Consul General Ilija Zelalić.

displays of the history of various Croatian athletes and their accomplishments.

As coordinators of the CroatiaFest 2010, Kristen LeMieux and I would like to thank the planning committee who donated their time and talents to help produce this great event. We especially want to thank all the donors who contributed financially. Because of you we were able to present a festival that showcased our rich Croatian culture and heritage. We would also like to thank all of the volunteers who helped make CroatiaFest such a huge success. For those of you who attended CroatiaFest, we thank you for coming and we hope to see you again this year at CroatiaFest 2011.

GOOD NEWS FOR BOEING EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES

CroatiaFest has been approved by The Boeing Company to participate in the Employee Gift Matching Program. Boeing's expanded program is designed to support a variety of employee contributions, including non-profit cultural organizations such as CroatiaFest.

Donations of a minimum \$100 (\$6,000 yearly maximum) will be matched by The Boeing Company at 100 percent for full-time employees and 50 percent for retired Boeing employees.

This is how it works: When you donate \$100 or more to CroatiaFest, ask The Boeing Company to match your contribution. All gift match requests must now be made online on your Boeing Total Access website. Click on "My Community Giving" and follow the prompts to fill out the online form. If you are not comfortable with the Internet or have trouble with the online format, call 1-877-217-6379.

For those who are not affiliated with The Boeing Company, we urge you to contact your employer's human resources office to inquire about matching gift programs. Because CroatiaFest is a federally approved arts, culture and education non-profit 501C(3) corporation, CroatiaFest may qualify under the guidelines of your company's matching funds program. For inquiries about CroatiaFest's qualifications and mission statement, please email Cathryn Morovich at info@croatiafest.org.

Please take this extra step when donating to CroatiaFest. This will greatly enhance our fund-raising efforts. We have no paid staff, and therefore 100 percent of funds raised go to the production of CroatiaFest.

REMEMBERING BASEMENT FOOD

By Bob Gunovick

If you are old enough to remember the Second World War and your parents were immigrants from Croatia, chances are the basement of your home played a very important part of your daily lives. Besides the obvious – wine making – the basement was a hub of many other cooking and eating activities for the family.

It was no different when I grew up in a typical Croatian community in Ruston (Tacoma), close to the Asarco Smelter where my father and many other Croatian men worked. Within a square mile there were five Croatian “ma-and-pa” grocery stores where the families all lived in the same buildings as the stores.

To a Croatian immigrant, a basement was very important, and if a house didn’t have one, quite often they dug one! That is exactly what my Father did. In 1945 he dug under our house until he found a rather big obstacle – a huge six-foot granite rock right in the middle of the basement.

It soon became not only my father’s problem but a Croatian neighborhood problem, with all of his Dalmatian buddies giving him advice on how to get rid of the rock. After three months they finally cracked it and carried the pieces into the garden, which he used for decoration. He then made the basement complete with a cement floor, a stove, washing machine, tool bench, shower, shelves, etc. Then the wine-making barrels and jugs were put into production, and thus began a yearly process of buying the grapes, crushing, fermenting, bottling, and finally, when the wine was ready, comparing it with friends’ home-made wines.

Other basement-food activities involved my mother cooking many



Tony Simicich, holding son Tony Jr., passes the wine-making tradition onto the next generation, including daughters Lori and Kathy.

meals on that basement stove, which was an old wood stove that was moved down to the basement. It was originally in our kitchen and was replaced with a new electric stove after the basement was built. She would cook strong smelling foods like bakalar, fish, kale and cabbage, and on Friday nights we had pancakes.

The basement was a perfect place to pickle cabbage heads for sarma-making and a wonderful retreat to cool off during hot summer days. My mother also canned fruit and vegetables in the summer and stored the completed jars on shelves. Somehow, the food just tasted better on that old wood stove.

Dealing with that monster rock, referred to in the neighborhood as “Matt’s Rock,” certainly was a very important event in our lives – people talked about it years later.

My father, Matt Gunovick, was president of the Croatian Fraternal Union (CFU) Lodge 246 for 17 years. When he passed away in 1987, he was a 72-year member.

This year’s CroatiaFest theme is “Taste of Croatia.” Come and sample some of the wonderful foods we grew up with. We



Silvestro Lettich, Tony Simicich and Ettore Lettich make wine in a basement.

will have booths selling home-made Croatian goodies, some of which will be the more modern food you find in present-day Croatia, but some of which will be the good, old food we remember from our past – “basement food.”

SEND US YOUR RECIPES!

With our “Taste of Croatia” theme this year, we would love to share your recipes! Email your favorite recipe to info@croatiafest.org. You may find it in our CroatiaFest brochure or possibly on the website!

Have a wonderfully old recipe, hand-written by your Baba? We would love for you to scan and share as well. Do not worry if it’s in Croatian.

Prefer U.S. mail? Drop a copy in the mail to us at: CroatiaFest, Attn: Recipes!, PO Box 60003, Shoreline, WA 98160.

CROATIAFEST 2010 PHOTO ALBUM



***Clockwise from top right:** Seattle Jr. Tamburitizans. A group of attendees admires the main stage entertainment. Group from Aberdeen, Wash. Tamburaski Orkestar Kardinal Stepinac. A young Croatian-American girl. Klapa Doo Wopella.*

CROATIAFEST 2010 PHOTO ALBUM



Top row L-R: Anka Kolega and Neva Dominis demonstrate how to make palacinke. Saturday night dance party. Ruze Dalmatinke. **Middle row L-R:** Welcoming hostess Gretchen Newman. Tamburaski Sastav Barabe. Shopping. **Bottom row L-R:** Art Gallery. Saturday night sing-a-long.

INTRODUCING NEW FEATURES AT WWW.CROATIAFEST.ORG

CroatiaFest has added several features to its web site, thanks to webmaster Lori Repanich Hill.

Facebook: Visit www.croatiafest.org and click "Join us on Facebook" to join the CroatiaFest group. Here, you can post comments, read other CroatiaFest Facebook member's posts, and get news and updates from CroatiaFest.

eNews Mailing List: By subscribing to the eNews list, you will receive occasional emails keeping you up-to-date as the plans for CroatiaFest unfold. Privacy policy: Information is used exclusively by CroatiaFest and will not be shared or sold.

PayPal: Donating to CroatiaFest is now easier. Monetary contributions may be

made online by clicking "Support CroatiaFest" and scrolling to the PayPal icon. All major credit cards are accepted.

Croatian Events Page: Look for upcoming Croatian events like summer picnics, special occasions sponsored by Pacific Northwest organizations, and national Croatian events on the Croatian Events page. Posts are updated periodically to keep you informed. If your organization wishes to post an upcoming event, please send details to info@croatiafest.org.

Business Pages: When placing an ad in our CroatiaFest program, your business information will be listed for one year on Business Pages. Visitors can click on your business information and be directed to your website or email. To

place an ad in the 2011 CroatiaFest Program, download the Program Advertising Form from Business Pages, or use the form below.

Photo Gallery: View pictures of past events at our online Photo Gallery. The talented Jal photographed CroatiaFest from 2004 to 2009. In 2010, Steven Joyce, Paul Lukinich, Katarina Batina, Ron Karabaich of Old Town Photo and Rajesh Korde volunteered their time and talents to photograph CroatiaFest.

Newsletter: Read interesting articles in the CroatiaFest newsletters by going to the Newsletter link on the home page.

Contact Us: Contact us at info@croatiafest.org. We welcome your inquiries, comments and opinions.

ADVERTISERS WANTED FOR CROATIAFEST EVENT PROGRAM!

Advertise your business in the CroatiaFest keepsake program distributed to 2000+ attendees at the Oct. 22-23 festival at Seattle Center. PLUS receive a free line ad on www.croatiafest.org for ONE FULL YEAR!

More suggestions:

- Advertise a special occasion
- Congratulations
- Honor a special person
- In memory of a loved one

Size

- 1 ad space
- 2 ad spaces
- 6 ad spaces 1/4 page
- 12 ad spaces 1/2 page
- 24 ad spaces 1 page

Price

- \$75
- \$150
- \$200
- \$300
- \$500

DEADLINE:
August 6, 2011

To order, fill out this form and mail to Nikki Cvitanović, 1300 Boblett St., PMB 162, Blaine, WA 98230, or email the information to nikki.cvit@gmail.com. Proof will be sent by email.

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100 YEARS OF SEATTLE LODGE 439, CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION

By Richard L. Major

Secretary/Treasurer Seattle Lodge 439

The Croatian Fraternal Union (CFU) is a non-profit organization headquartered in Pittsburgh, Penn. Its main purposes are mutual assistance and the promotion of Croatian culture and identity. It operates a system of lodges in the United States, Canada and Croatia. Seattle Lodge 439, founded April 10, 1911, will celebrate its centennial June 5th this year.

The Seattle lodge was cofounded by Croatian patriots Simon Skalabrin and Franjo Franicevic. On April 2, 1911 the two gathered 18 other young men and sent the necessary paperwork to Pittsburgh. Lodge 439 was granted its charter April 10, 1911.

A highlight of the first decade was the acquisition of the lodge flag, which bore the proud inscription "Sinovi Hrvatske Domovine" (Sons of the Croatian Homeland). By year end 1919 the lodge had 117 members including four women.

In 1922 the Junior Order (Nest) was formed. This proved a boon to the organization as the nest continues to provide members for the senior lodge.

The Great Depression of the 1930s hit the lodge hard as many could not afford to continue their dues. Yet most found a way to maintain membership in the organization they valued so dearly. Losses by defaulted dues and the exodus of many young members to the newly formed English-speaking CFU Lodge 764 "Harmony" were offset, however, by the influx of Croatians from the Roslyn-area lodges.

World War II saw 41 of our young men answer their country's call. One, Mark Cinkovich, gave his life. The war effort was also supported on the home front, with the lodge buying defense bonds and the women sending bundles to the old homeland. Membership stood at 242 adults and 189 children at the end of the 1940s.

As the original members faded away in the 1950s and 1960s, a new generation stepped forward. Further, with mergers of English-speaking Lodge 764 and Bellingham Lodge 625, membership grew to 473. These were glorious years, with lots of picnics, dances and inter-lodge activity.



Lodge picnic, Urania Park on Lake Washington, September, 1916. Lodge cofounder Simon Skalabrin is the tallest man in the back; cofounder Franjo Franicevic is seated far right.

The impetus generated in the 1950s and 1960s continued into the 1970s with a robust schedule of picnics, "Maskara" (Masquerade) dances and banquets to honor new 50-year members. Picnics at Pete's Pool in Enumclaw, later at Royal Arch Park in Maple Valley, continued to be the centerpieces of activity. The lodge was honored in 1977 when member Charles Royer was elected mayor of Seattle and went on to serve 12 years. Membership, riding the crest of the baby-boomer wave, peaked at 518 adults and 231 children.

The 1980s were characterized by the import of famous tamburitza groups to mark special occasions. These included the lodge's 70th anniversary celebration, a 3-day salute to the national CFU on its 90th anniversary, and four weekend festivals that culminated with picnics at Vasa Park on Lake Sammamish. Humanitarian aid reached a new height with the shipment of 19 used kidney machines to Croatia, thanks to member George Shilipetar, a dialysis specialist at the UW Hospital.

The 1990s were highlighted by Croatia's successful bid for independence and Lodge 439's monumental contribution to that goal. The lodge donated \$10,000 to the CFU's nationwide Croatia Humanitarian Aid Fund and individual members donated another \$7,500. We also sent 19 full-sized containers to Croatia filled with critical supplies. It must be mentioned that the handling of the containers was facilitated by personnel

of the Jovanovich Supply Company - all members of Lodge 439. Further, the lodge supported two Croatian war orphans for one year and donated \$1,150 to help sustain 15 Croatian students who had been brought here to finish high school. Other highlights were the CFU's 24th Junior Tamburitza Festival at the Westin Hotel June 30-July 1, 1990 and the salute to the national CFU on its 100th anniversary.

The current epoch commenced when Croatia gained its independence in the mid-1990s. Buoyed by the success of the Tamburitza Mass/Luncheon events that had raised so much money for the war effort, the lodge continued the tradition, only now with the profits going to two orphanages in Zagreb, Croatia. From 1996 through 2011 these events, called "Tri Kralja" (Three Kings Masses) have raised \$88, 661 for the orphanages.

The lodge is proud that member Dr. Frank Brozovich, has served as the region's Honorary Croatian Consul since 2002 and that John Morovich was guest conductor at the CFU's Junior Tamburitza Festival in Chicago in 2005.

The lodge will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a luncheon and program June 5th at Maplewood Greens near Renton. The celebration will continue with the annual picnic at Vasa Park July 30. Watch www.croatiafest.org for details about these two events.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CROATIAFEST 2010*

*CroatiaFest 2010 was brought to you
through the generosity of these individual donors as well as grants & sponsors.*

\$2,000

The Narda Lemert Croatian Cultural
Enhancement Fund Administered
by Croatian Fraternal Union
Seattle Lodge 439

\$1,000

Dr. & Mrs. Frank Brozovich
Gretchen Newman

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Phyllis & Matt Dragin & Walter Dragin

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Frank Chopp - In memory of
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Ethnic Artist Grant; Seattle Center
 Festal; Seattle Center
 Steve Borzilleri and Julie Pirak: Photo
 and model for 2010 CroatiaFest poster
 Pickrell Consulting: Design and
 engineering of contact management
 database

****Donations recorded for CroatiaFest 2010 as of December 2010.***

Please let us know if we made an error! Corrections will be printed in future CroatiaFest publications.

**Make CroatiaFest 2011 a success by giving your donation today!
 See the CroatiaFest 2011 donation form on the last page of this newsletter.**

ANACORTES CLUB CELEBRATES 40TH YEAR

The American Croatian Club of Anacortes was established in 1971, and from its inception has organized numerous dinners, dances, parties and cultural events each year.

For over 100 years Croatians have inhabited Anacortes, and for 40 years the American Croatian Club of Anacortes has provided a gathering place for the celebration of our culture.

We give special thanks to all of you who have supported the ACCA throughout the years. We have made a great facility of the old St. Mary's Church at 1202 7th St. in Anacortes, and we host monthly dinners from September through June.

We are currently at work on a new book on the Croatian fishing families of Anacortes, which is scheduled for publication by the end of this year.



Some of the founding members of the American Croatian Club of Anacortes at a party circa 1972. Standing are (Left to Right) Nick Petrish, Catherine Foss, Marija & George Franulovich, Maureen & Nick Mavar, Dominick Svornich, Jerry Franulovic. Kneeling are Maria Petrish, Fran Svornich, Vlatko Kolega and Tonicca Franulovic.



CroatiaFest
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Shoreline, WA 98160

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