



**ZORA Lodge 351**

# American Croatian Club

November 2013

[www.zoralodge351.com](http://www.zoralodge351.com)

32851 Ryan Road, Warren, MI 48092, 586-979-8154

## From the President

Dear Members and Friends,

2013 is an historic year for Zora Lodge 351. Of course, every year is historic in its own right, if for no other reason than adding to the longevity of our existence, which now stands at 107 years! Certainly, that makes 2013 historic, but there is another milestone that we achieved this year – 100 years of owning our own Home. Yes, Lodge 351 has continuously owned a hall since 1913 – we have moved several times, but we have never been without a hall for the last 100 years.

I don't have any statistics to back this, but I believe this puts us in a rather elite group in the CFU. Just the fact that we own a hall puts us among the few Lodges that do, and every year the ranks dwindle as we hear about Lodges that have to sell their hall due to the lack of activities and finances to support it. At 107 years, we are among the oldest Lodges in the CFU. Top it off with owning a hall for the past 100 years and we should all be proud of this remarkable achievement!

From our Lodge history, which you can read on the Lodge website at [www.zoralodge351.com](http://www.zoralodge351.com), here is the history of our hall (aka – Narodni Dom, Hrvatski Dom (remember the keycard to get in the back door?), Croatian Home, Croatian Hall, The Hall, The Club, The Lodge)

In 1912, the Lodge purchased property at 1329 East Kirby in Detroit. At the September 15, 1913 Lodge meeting, the membership voted to proceed with the building of the first Croatian Home and 30

day later they held the first meeting in the new hall (although it was apparently nothing more than a frame with a roof.)

In the late 1940s / early 1950s, the Kirby hall was sold and a "new" building purchased at 1735 East McNichols – this was the small hall on the corner of McNichols and Orleans).

In 1956, plans were initiated for a new and larger building to be built on the adjoining property, which was completed in August of 1958.

In 1981, the McNichols property was sold and we purchased an office building at 32851 Ryan Road in Warren. Although this was to be a temporary location, it has become our home and through the generous donations of members and friends, remodeled into a beautiful hall that we can all be proud of!

Yes, 2013 is a very historic year for Lodge 351 and we owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who has played any role over the past 100 years in keeping our Lodge active and allowing us to achieve this milestone. Just as previous generations have passed this legacy on to us, we strive to do the same and hope that future generations will do likewise. With your support, WE (all of us, including you) can make this happen!

Fraternally Yours,

Mark Mavretich, President, Lodge 351

## **LODGE SECRETARY**

Unlike years gone by, there is nobody at the club during the day and sometimes not even during the evenings. With no “retirees” working in this position, messages left at the Club’s answering machine may not be picked up every day. So we ask for your patience if your call is not answered as quickly as it used to be.

### **Questions on CFU Policies/Annuities**

Questions regarding joining the CFU, current insurance policies or annuities can be addressed by the contacting the CFU directly at 412-351-3909. Or, if you prefer, you can still call the Lodge at 586-979-8154 and leave a message. You can always contact Lodge 351 VP / Secretary Bob Novosel ([Novosel4@comcast.net](mailto:Novosel4@comcast.net)). Additional volunteer recruiters are Kathy Thiel ( [KathyThiel@gmail.com](mailto:KathyThiel@gmail.com)) or Debbie Babich ([DJBab99@att.net](mailto:DJBab99@att.net)). We promise that you will be taken care of as quickly as we can.

### **Death of a Lodge Member**

Changes that the members should be aware of are who to call in the event of a death of a member. Because of the urgency of this situation, it is recommended that you call Bob at home at 586-759-4911 (or President Mark Mavretich at home at 586-726-0755) and leave a message if necessary. The immediate question that will be asked (after arrangements) is what the family’s choice is regarding a donation. Lodge 351 will make one of the following:

- A. a \$50.00 donation in the form of a flower arrangement to be sent to the funeral home
- B. a \$50.00 donation to the Lodge 351 Memorial Board, which is properly displayed **forever** in a prominent location in the Club. The choice is entirely up to the family. If no choice is made, the Lodge will automatically use option B.

### **If a family member dies, what do I do?**

This is not something that anyone likes to think about, but the question gets asked a lot. You will need to send a copy of the death certificate along with the insurance policy (or a copy of the front page of the policy) directly to the CFU office in Pittsburgh. Please do not send (or drop off) this information at the Club. It has to go to the CFU office in Pittsburgh. The CFU home office is very good at handling this situation and will usually have the check(s) in the mail within 24 hours.

Since our Spring Newsletter, we have learned of the following deaths in our membership. Our thoughts, prayers and condolences are with their families.

Tillie Crane	Helen Farac
Charlotte Muzar	Michael Kokotovich
Zora Lottrey	Mary Lipak
Sharon Frankowiak	Michael Filipiak
Pauline Kasun	Annie Wadosky

Please Welcome the Newest Transfers from the Nest to ZORA Lodge 351:

Robert Cantrell	Olivia Oudsema
Rachel Neuman	Nicole Ruzich
Shelby Thiesen	Steven Kwargsick
Brent Boudreau	Ian Jennings
Thomas Ruby	

We would like to welcome our newest members! It’s very nice to have you join with us. If there is anything we can do for you, please do not hesitate to contact Lodge Vice President / Secretary Bob Novosel at email [novosel4@comcast.net](mailto:novosel4@comcast.net) .

### **Annual Assessments are Important**

These small donations are absolutely vital in keeping Lodge 351 and the American Croatian Club open - both today and for many years to come. It’s only \$20 per person. If you haven’t already, please make sure your dues are paid for this year. Every dollar helps!

## NEST 318

Autumn is here, which means we start getting busy at our Club. The Star Junior Tams began their new season. Practice is held on Tuesday evenings. Watch for details on their strudel sale, winter dance and spring concerts.

On Sunday, October 13, the Nest sponsored a Lion's Tailgating Party to raise funds for the Annual Christmas Party. For those of you who haven't participated yet, this is a fun day where we eat chili and wing dings, and then we eat some more. There are games inside and games outside, prizes and more food. It's sort of a cook-off and wing-ding thing! Next time, be sure to join us and watch the game on our new large-screen TV.

Friday, October 25, St. Lucy's Church is having a Halloween Party for children and families. There will be treats and activities. Nest members are all welcome. Call Violet Cunko at 586-219-8106 for info.

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 8, from 2-5 pm. Nest members will receive their invites by mail and/or email.

Please remember that Lodge 351 still has its special offer for purchasing insurance for newborns age 0-1. The Lodge will reimburse the Lodge family \$100 of their premium for signing up and paying for a Single Premium Policy for their child in its first year. One parent must be a member of Lodge 351.

Membership is not limited to newborns. If your children are not members yet, please contact the undersigned to enroll. Policies start at a nominal \$27 per year and up. We all know you spend much more than that for

soccer, gymnastics, karate and dance fees! Let's keep our Croatian Club going. Our children are our future.

We welcome our two newest members, Peyton and Keegan Cairns, to Nest 318.

As always, we thank all volunteers who helped make our events possible and those who generously donated money or gift items for the benefit of our children.

Kathy Thiel, Nest Mgr.  
248-477-7621 or  
katthiel@gmail.com



### CFU SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

If you are attending college, have a Whole Life policy and one parent is a CFU member, you are eligible for scholarship assistance. Be sure to call the CFU Home Office at 1-412-843-0380 to obtain an application. The deadline to apply each year is mid-September.

## **Mothers' Club**

Mother's Club will again have their Annual Sarma Dinner this winter. Date is still to be determined as the cabbage heads need ample time for good brining. We don't take short cuts. Our recent stuffed pepper dinner was a sell-out. Boyka's grew awesome peppers. Still meeting the second Monday of the month September to May, during the afternoon, except December. President Mary Jurich will take commentary or questions at 1-586-268-9899.

Secretary  
Lois Lovrekovich Rzepka  
734-522-7587

## **DTO Christmas in Croatia**

The Detroit Tamburitza Orchestra will once again hold their popular "Christmas in Croatia" affair in the early part of December. A definitive date will soon be announced in the "Zajedničar", so please check the 'Z' on a regular basis, so that you can once again join the DTO in welcoming in a festive holiday season. Please stay 'tuned' for details in the upcoming weeks!

## **Detroit Star Tamburitizans Strudel Sale**

The Detroit Star Tamburitizans once again will be rolling up their sleeves, and rolling strips of apple and cheese strudels on Saturday, Nov. 16th. As always, the strudel is made that morning, with pick up in the afternoon. They are ready to be baked or frozen if you'd like to save them for later. They can go right in the oven from the freezer when you need a quick and tasty dessert for a dinner party, the holidays or tailgating. In keeping with tradition, we offer

two varieties--apple and cheese, for \$8.00 per strip. Orders are due by Nov. 9.

To place your order, call Cathy Boley at (313) 882-4354 or email at C\_Boley@msn.com. Please put "strudel order" in the subject line of your email, or email Marci Crandall at marcicrandall@comcast.net. You will receive a confirmation of your order. Pick up of your freshly made strudel is Nov. 16, noon-2 pm at the American-Croatian Hall, 32851 Ryan Road in Warren, MI. The hall is located on the west side of Ryan, just south of 14 Mile Road.



Please mark your calendars for the Star Tams Winter Dance on Feb. 1, 2014. Details will be in the "Z". The Annual Spring Concert will be Saturday, May 3, 2014.

## **Music Stands**

Do you have an old music stand in your closet? We are collecting stands from Club members that have them sitting around their house. We'd like to have a stash in the Star room when kids forget their stands. Your help is appreciated.

## Friday Night Card Parties

Pinochle at 7:30pm – Euchre at 8pm  
Contact Debbie Babich (586-979-9392) or  
[djbab99@att.net](mailto:djbab99@att.net)

## Croatian Folklore Ensemble “Nova Nada”

Croatian Folklore Ensemble “Nova Nada” has been extra busy performing this Spring and Summer! There is a growing demand for our talented performers to take our musical programs on the road. We have travelled to Steelton and Cleveland, as well as Milton and London, Ontario, as well as performing for countless local festivals and audiences! As always, our doors are open to all who want to learn more about Croatian folk traditions and have fun presenting them. We are planning a performance tour of Croatia next summer and are excited about working with local groups throughout the country.

Nova Nada is in need of a bass to complete out our tamburica section. We have interested players, but no instrument. If you have an extra bass that you would love to see being used, please contact us at [nabrdjanac@gmail.com](mailto:nabrdjanac@gmail.com). Thanks in advance!

Cro-Fest will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2014 at St. Lucy Hall in Troy, MI. Cro-Fest gives Detroit area Croatians a chance to burst with pride and show off what a rich cultural tradition we so strongly hold to here. Featuring six of the area’s best performing ensembles we will once again have “Zadnja Stanica” playing for your dancing pleasure! Since Cro-Fest is always sold out, we encourage you to reserve your tickets with Anna Talan 586-677-3949 or at [ATalan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ATalan@sbcglobal.net)

Nova Nada has several performances scheduled for the season. Please come enjoy what we have to offer! Check us out on Facebook for up-to-date info and photos!

Sunday, October 6, 2013  
International Festival  
Southfield, MI 4:30pm  
Saturday, November 2, 2013  
Tamfest/ Pittsburgh, PA  
Saturday, January 18, 2014  
Croatian Festival/ Los Angeles, CA  
Saturday, March 1, 2014  
Cro-Fest/ Troy, MI 6:00 pm  
Saturday, April 19, 2014  
St. George Fest/ Cokeburg, PA  
Saturday, May 3, 2014  
Marijan Concert/ Steelton, PA 6:00pm  
Saturday, June 14, 2014  
German Festival  
Sterling Heights, MI 5:00 pm  
Sunday, August 17, 2014  
Sound Of Tambura Fest/ London,  
Ontario 2:00 pm



Nova Nada has reserved a big bus to travel to Tamfest in Pittsburgh, PA. The bus will be leaving at 9:00 AM on Friday, November 1st from the Lodge parking lot on 14 Mile and Ryan. We will be leaving Pittsburgh on Sunday late afternoon, immediately following the last Tamfest performance. (usually around 4:00 PM or 5:00 PM). We'd love to have you join us!

\$100 roundtrip seats are still available. This includes food, drink and merriment along the way! Always a good time - and everyone is welcome to join us! Dobro nam Došli!  
Contact Ana Talan at 586-214-4647 or email [atalan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atalan@sbcglobal.net) to reserve your seat today!

## LODGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November 2013

November 7, 2013, **Monthly Lodge Meeting**,  
Thursday 7pm – American Croatian Club - Lodge 351

November 15, 2013, **Card Party**, Friday American  
Croatian Club - Lodge 351

(Pinochle at 7:30pm – Euchre at 8pm)

Contact Debbie Babich (586-979-9392) or  
[djbab99@att.net](mailto:djbab99@att.net)

### December 2013

December 7, 2013, Saturday – American Croatian  
Club, Detroit Tamburitza Orchestra's Annual  
“**Christmas in Croatia**”, Details to be announced  
soon

December 8 2013, **Monthly Lodge Meeting and  
Annual Meeting**, Sunday, 10am, American Croatian  
Club - Lodge 351

### January 2014

January 9, 2014, **Monthly Lodge Meeting**,  
Thursday, 7pm, American Croatian Club –

January 17, 2014 – Friday - American Croatian Club -  
Lodge 351 – **Card Party**

(Pinochle at 7:30pm – Euchre at 8pm)

### February 2014

February 1, 2014, **Star Tams Winter Dance**

February 6, 2014, **Monthly Lodge Meeting**,  
Thursday, 7pm, American Croatian Club

February 21, 2014, **Card Party**, Friday - American  
Croatian Club - Lodge 351

(Pinochle at 7:30pm – Euchre at 8pm)

### March 2014

March 1, 2014 – Saturday – St. Lucy's Church Hall  
(Troy, MI), **CRO-FEST** - Sponsored by: “Nova Nada”  
- 6:00pm – 1:00am, Advanced Ticket Sales Only! Info  
and reservations: Anna Talan [586-214-4647](tel:586-214-4647) or  
[atalan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atalan@sbcglobal.net)

March 6, 2014, Thursday, 7pm, American Croatian  
Club - Lodge 351 – **Monthly Lodge meeting**

March 21, 2014 – Friday - American Croatian Club -  
Lodge 351 – **Card Party**

(Pinochle at 7:30pm – Euchre at 8pm)

### April 2014

April 3, 2014 – Thursday – 7pm – American Croatian  
Club - Lodge 351 – **Monthly Lodge meeting**

April 11, 2014 – Friday - American Croatian Club -  
Lodge 351 – **Card Party**

(Pinochle at 7:30pm – Euchre at 8pm)

### May 2014

May 1, 2014 – Thursday – 7pm – American Croatian  
Club - Lodge 351 – **Monthly Lodge meeting**

May 16, 2014 – Friday - American Croatian Club -  
Lodge 351 – **Card Party**

Pinochle at 7:30pm – Euchre at 8pm)

### June 2014

June 5, 2014 – Thursday – 7pm – American Croatian  
Club - Lodge 351 – **Monthly Lodge meeting**

June 8, 2014 – Sunday – **Annual Lodge Picnic**, K of  
C (St. Lawrence) Picnic Grounds - 21 Mile (between  
Old Van Dyke & Van Dyke Freeway), Contact Marge  
Chovich (586-939-6197) or [MaggieChov@att.net](mailto:MaggieChov@att.net)

### July 2014

July 3, 2014 – Thursday – 7pm – American Croatian  
Club - Lodge 351 – **Monthly Lodge meeting**

### August 2014

August 7, 2014 – Thursday – 7pm – American  
Croatian Club - Lodge 351 – **Monthly Lodge  
meeting**

# American Croatian Club

32851 Ryan Road  
586-979-8154

Warren, MI. 48092  
[www.zoralodge351.com](http://www.zoralodge351.com)

**Rent the hall for any event at an unbeatable price!**



**Beautifully decorated hall that holds up to 210 people**



**Over 100 parking spaces**



**Beverages to meet your needs**

**Contact Club Manager Rick Chovich for pricing and availability  
586-781-9355 (home) or [Chov123@comcast.net](mailto:Chov123@comcast.net)**

**Per the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, only members of CFU Zora Lodge 351 can rent the hall. This is proof that membership in CFU Zora Lodge 351 does have benefits.**

Zora Lodge 351  
Croatian Fraternal Union  
32851 Ryan Road  
Warren, MI 48092-4352

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