

**Sretna Nova Godina!
Croatia Club of Tampa
Bay Welcomes 2005**

Members of the Croatia Club of Tampa Bay celebrated New Year's Eve at the PCTA/PESPA Banquet Hall in Largo, Florida. The turnout for the event was the largest ever to date - 160 members and guests attended the celebration, which included traditional Croatian cuisine and live music.



The music, provided by Mike and Vinko of Croacia Melody and the Boic Orchestra, was a festive addition and kept the energy going all night

The superb food, made by President Lovro Vrbosic and his wife Helen, included lamb, pork, chicken, and traditional *sarma* (stuffed cabbage) with ham, among other dishes. The homemade desserts included *makovnjača* (poppyseed roll), *bufle, rolade* (jelly rolls), *mramorni kolač* (marble cake), and *pita sa kremom* (cream pie) and were piled high, but disappeared quickly.

The music, provided by Mike and Vinko of Croacia Melody and the Boic Orchestra, was a festive addition and kept the energy going all night. Party-goers danced to old favorites such as *Slatka Mala Marijana* (Sweet Little Mariana) and other well known melodies. The *kolo* (circle dance) was the most popular on the dance floor, followed by the classic Polka.

As the clock neared midnight, shiny "Happy New Year" hats for

the men and sparkling crowns for the women were distributed, along with noisemakers and bottles of champagne for each table. When the clock struck twelve, there were clinking glasses and hugs all around while balloons were plucked from the ceiling. It was truly a night to remember.

President Lovro Vrbos announced that the construction of the new club building on 66th Street will begin next spring or fall. The land has already been purchased but donations are still needed to start construction. If you are interested in contributing to this effort, please e-mail CroatiaClub@wmconnect.com, or write to: Croatia Club of Tampa Bay Inc. P.O. Box 5536 Clearwater, FL 33758-5536.

Kristin Vuković

**February 18 - 20
The 6th San Francisco Tamburitza Festival**

For the past decade the Croatian American Cultural Center has annually showcased the best tamburitza music in California and presented nationally renowned tamburitza orchestras. On President's Day weekend each February, the Center is filled with singing, dancing, and the music of the tamburitza. For two days the hall reverberates with a rich tapestry of tambura music both traditional and contemporary. The ensembles perform for listening, play dance tunes, polkas and waltzes and circle dances, and sing Becar tunes until the bar closes late at night. This year's headliners are the *Veseli Tamburitizans*, from Ohio. For over 45 years Veseli has been one of the most popular tambura bands in the country having entertained audiences in the United States, Canada, and Croatia. Their music featuring the golden voices of Rose Husnick and Marilyn Repasky accompanied by the sparkling instrumentals of Fred Husnick, has retained the excellence in quality admired by their peers throughout the years. Veseli is comprised of 6 talented musicians and singers: Husband and wife Fred and Rose Husnick, son Mark Husnick,

Rose's sister Marilyn "Cheechee" Repasky, friends Ivo Coric and Tom Salopek. They have a wide repertoire of Slavic music including all of the favorite songs and dances from the "Old Country". Also performing are Tommy Yeseta with St Anthony's Tamburitza & Kolo Dance Ensemble "Croatia", Westwind International Dance Ensemble, Blue Adriatic Tamburitza Orchestra, Eszterlanc Hungarian Dance Ensemble, Slavonian Traveling Band, and Novi Stari Tamburasi with the Dalmacija Singers.

A schedule for each day will be posted several weeks before the event. Food will be available on Sunday.

February 18, 2005 8PM \$15 - Welcome Dance and Performance

February 20, 2005 1:30PM \$15 - Concert and festivities.

Croatian American Cultural Center, 60 Onondaga, SF. 94112

Hotel arrangements can be made at The Four Points Sheraton San Francisco Airport Hotel. Call 650-588-4683. More info about event: www.slavonicweb.org or 510-649-0941.

Neda Young pomaže beskućnike

Gospoda Neda Young, uspješna poslovna žena podrijetlom s otoka Korčule u hrvatskoj

zajednici u New Yorku poznata je kao veliki do-
brotvor i sponzor mnogih humanitarnih akcija i
umjetnika iz Lijepe naše. U proteklih
nekoliko godina gospođa Young često
zbog poslovnih investicija boravi u ro-
dnoj zemlji ali svaki dolazak u New York
iskoristi i za aktivno sudjelovanje u
javnom životu tog grada. Sredinom
siječnja sudjelovala je u humanitarnom
ručku koji je CITY HARVEST,
newyorška organizacija za pomoć gladnih
i siromašnih organizirala u hotelu Pierre u
New Yorku. Zajedno sa sinom
Michaelom Youngom koji je u izvršnom
odboru City Harvesta, darovala je 15
tisuća dolara kako bi pomogli prehranu
1,6 milijuna gladnih stanovnika New
Yorka, o kojima brine ta organizacija.



Neda Young (prva s lijevo) na humanitarnoj večeri City Harvest organizacije darovala je 15 tisuća dolara za beskućnike New Yorka

J.J.K.