



## Another Successful Golf Tournament!

This summer Zlatko Vasilj organized another successful golf tournament where more than 150 golfers gathered at the beautiful Sunset Whitney Country Club near Sacramento, California. Zlatko, affectionately known as “Big Joe” throughout the community, is a native of Medjugorje, Hercegovina.

Zlatko has hosted the golf tournament, known to everyone as Big Joe's scramble, for more than 20 years and has raised over \$200,000 for



Gary Allen, Joe Vasilj and Branko Barbir

many deserving charities. In his heroic efforts to raise the charity funds, Zlatko has been modest in accepting praise and acknowledgment, which is due to him and is well deserved.

Year after year Big Joe's Scramble continues to grow. More than 200 people attended the evening dinner and raffle. A highlight of the evening is the famous “never ending” raffle with a huge number of donated prizes being given to the attendees.

For the third year in a row, the tournament supported the Croatian Scholarship Fund (CSF) as its primary charitable beneficiary. The CSF received a generous contribution of \$10,000 to continue its mission of providing financial aid to deserving college students from Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina. This thoughtful and kind donation from Big Joe's tournament is greatly appreciated by the students and the CSF.

In appreciation for all his efforts and generosity, Gary Allen and Branko Barbir, presented Big Joe with a Distinguished Croatian American Award during the evening dinner.

When Zlatko was asked why he does a golf tournament to support charity every year, he modestly responded, “You have to give back to the community.” If only all of us could have such a commitment and a big heart to help others. Thank you to Zlatko Vasilj for being such a role model to Croatians around the world.



Dedicated golf groupies Kathy Tangen, Virginia Bernandez, Sadako Kudow, and Loretta Gayer



CROATIAN SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND  
P.O. Box 290  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
Telephone/Fax 925 556-6263  
www.croatianscholarship.org

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The Croatian Scholarship Fund is a non-profit organization that seeks to develop leaders in Croatia and Bosnia-Hercegovina by providing university scholarships to outstanding young men and women. Scholarship winners are selected based on academic excellence, financial need, leadership and geographic diversity.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**D**ear Friends

As the president of the Croatian Scholarship Fund (CSF) I join the Board of Directors in expressing our sincere appreciation for your support by providing an opportunity for 52 students from Croatia and Bosna-Hercegovina to attend colleges in their homeland.

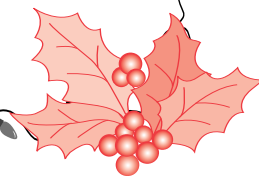
As we approach this Holiday Season, my appeal to you once again is to help the CSF continue our important mission of education. To date we have 99 graduates from our program. Most of them have meaningful employment and are thriving in their chosen profession. Our mission is to provide a college education to the best and brightest Croatian students who will one day become the future leaders of Croatia.

Your continued support is vital. Many of these students would never have the opportunity to attend a university without your financial help. I appeal to you for your financial support this Christmas Season. I know we can count on your continued support and thank you in advance for your donation.

May you and your family have a blessed Christmas and a peaceful, healthy New Year.

Cestit vam Bozic i Sretna Nova Godina.

Nina Jurjevic  
President



# Former CSF Scholars Building a Successful Network in Croatia

By Bozo Skoko

FORMER CSF SCHOLARS who have successfully completed their studies and today work as lawyers, professors, doctors, engineers and the like, have not forgotten the charity that they received from our Foundation. They have become the new strength spreading in Croatia today helping each other, co-operating, and working in Croatia. Through their successful networking they are helping each other and their younger colleagues who are presently studying at Croatian universities.

In June last year they established their own NGO, "Association of Croatian Scholarship Fund Scholars – CSF Croatia." They have specified their founding aims as being connected with each other, helping CSF students, and strengthening cooperation with the Foundation in California. The driving force that initially gathered about 20 young and ambitious people was – as they say – the good will that they felt when they were Foundation scholars.

"Taught by the example of all the dear people from the Foundation, especially our sponsors, we joined

together with the wish to create and deepen the friendships and cooperation, but also with the desire to help our young scholar colleagues. We wish to jointly do some good for the CSF and our Homeland!" said Association President and former scholar, Dario Nikic Chakar, who is today a teaching assistant at Zagreb University's Faculty of Political Sciences.

The Association regularly holds meetings and social get-togethers in Zagreb, which are attended by about 30 former scholars. At the end of the year a regular assembly of the Association will be held, when members will discuss possibilities for improving cooperation with the Foundation, new forms of helping today's scholars, as well as the stronger promotion of the Foundation in Croatia.

The Association has launched its own website: [www.csf-hrvatska.hr](http://www.csf-hrvatska.hr). This summer, with the aim of getting to know each other even better, the former CSF students organized an outing to Italy's Gardaland Amusement Park and a BBQ-picnic at Zagreb's beautiful Budek Lake.

The former scholars have, through their various activities, shown themselves to be true leaders and contributors to helping the development of Croatia. Taking into account that more than 100 successful young people have graduated owing to the CSF's assistance and are today successfully working in their professions, it is certain that they represent an enormous force for the CSF in the Homeland and also a strength that can help Croatia in creating a better future.



CSF alumni led by Bozo Skoko and Dario Nikic

# CSF Mourns the Loss of Bill Walsh

By Dr. Joseph Cindrich

## Former 49er Coach a Major CSF Supporter

Bill Walsh, the former NFL Hall of Famer, San Francisco Forty-Niner's three-time Super Bowl head coach, and one of CSF's first major supporters passed away recently at the age of 75. Coach Walsh stepped up in the early 1990's when he was asked by CSF founder Bob Bronzan, his mentor and football coach at San Jose State University in the 1950's, to speak to a large audience on the importance of getting an education for young Croatian students in Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina. Bob Bronzan along with Tony Ujdur and Branko Barbir were the founders of the CSF in 1989 and recognized the need for developing future leaders in Croatia. Bob Bronzan, who passed away recently, was the first president of the CSF Board of Directors.

Coach Bill Walsh had deep respect for his mentor and knew that Bob Bronzan's parents were born in Konavljje, Croatia. Coach Walsh also knew the passion and burning desire that Bob Bronzan had to help Croatia and young Croatians who suffered so much as a result of the war during the 1990's. Bill Walsh along with several former teammates and CSF Board of Directors attended the memorial services for Bob Bronzan this past February



to eulogize their mentor and All-Croatian-American great. CSF Vice President Dr. Joe Cindrich read a letter from one of the CSF graduates now working on a doctoral Degree at the University of Zagreb expressing all of the CSF students deep respect and appreciation to CSF Founder Bob Bronzan. Mrs. Joan Bronzan, the widow of Bob Bronzan, asked that donations be directed to the CSF.

While visiting in Croatia, CSF President Nina Jurjevic reported that "The CSF Board of Directors and the Bay Area Croatian Community express their condolences and deep appreciation to both Coach Bill Walsh and CSF Founder Bob Bronzan and their families for their leadership and support that, to date, has enabled 100 young students from Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina to earn a college education from a university in Croatia."

Dr. Cindrich commented that "Both Coach Walsh and Bob Bronzan leave a legend not only in developing great football players, but also in helping to provide an education to enhance Croatia's most valuable resource – its young people." Both Bill Walsh and Bob Bronzan left this world a better place than and will be sorely missed.

## *Ivo Vucicevic – A Great Loss for the Croatian Community*

Ivo Vucicevic was a big supporter of many Croatian organizations, one of them being the Croatian Scholarship Fund. He developed his reputation as an intellect and objective voice for democratic political expression and the promotion of Croatian culture and education.

Ivo was born in Osijek, Croatia and raised in Zupanje. His father was a legal clerk and his mother a homemaker. The oldest of four children, Ivica adopted the name Ivo as he developed a particular affinity for the newspaper political commentary and served an internship as a parliamentary stenographer. During WWII, Ivo worked as a foreign correspondent for a Croatian newspaper that was

based in Berlin. It was during this time he met his wife Vera and they remained inseparable for 61 years.

In 1948, he emigrated to California with his family. He left a great impact on the Croatian community with his weekly non-profit broadcast on the Croatian radio program. For many Croatian immigrants in the San Francisco area, the program was the sole communication channel for those who wanted to maintain cultural and political ties with their homeland.

With all the generous contributions from family and friends, CSF has established a memorial fund scholarship in Ivo's name.

## 2007 Scholarship Recipients



**Luka Antunovic, Zagreb**  
Luka comes from a large family with five younger brothers and sisters. He is an excellent student with interest in languages and computers. He speaks and writes in English and German.

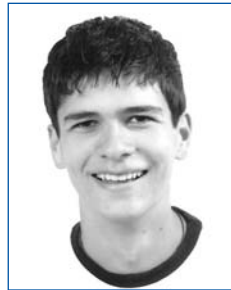
in numerous competitions in math and physics, plays piano and guitar with a band.



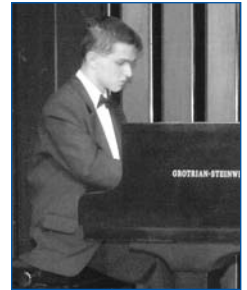
**Hrvoje Pavi, Livno**  
Hrvoje was born in Livno and completed all his studies there. He has been an active member of the Youth Leadership Program in Bosnia and Hercegovina. Hrvoje was especially chosen for that role and spent four weeks in training in the US.

**Petar Beslic, Posusje**

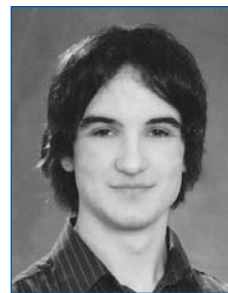
Petar was born in Posusje and has lived there his whole life. He has four siblings and, with both parents unemployed, has been working part time to help his family. His father is a war veteran and cannot work. Petar's dream is to become a computer scientist.



**Kresimir Starcevic, Velika Gorica**  
Kresimir is an excellent student and pianist. His friends and colleagues established a fundraiser so that his family can buy him a piano for practice. He has competed many times and played in various places during his elementary and high-school years.



**Sandra Loncar, Mostar**  
Sandra is the oldest of four girls. She is a very ambitious girl who provides lessons in English and German to other students. Her goal is to become an architect and design buildings, bridges and other structures.



**Matej Trbara, Travnik**  
Matej was born in Travnik and moved several times during the war, settling in Germany for a few years. While there, he learned the German language and continued to improve once he returned home. He loves languages and computers.

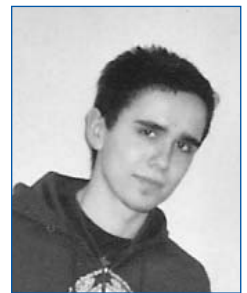
**Marija Knezovic, Imotski**

Maria comes from a large family with six brothers and sisters. Since childhood her dream was to become a lawyer and with her good communication skills and persistence she will surely achieve her goal. Maria has been a member of many organizations such as youth, music and folklore clubs.



**Antun Vidic, Vinkovci**

Antun has three siblings in school. He is a talented math student who tutors others and wants to continue his mathematics education. He plays basketball and dances in a folk group. To add to his English and German languages, he wants to learn Spanish this summer.



**Petra Krstic, Split** (no photo available) Petra was born in Split but has lived most of her life on the island of Hvar. She has been very busy designing clothes and participating in numerous competitions with excellent results.



**Matea Marusic, Mostar**  
Matea lives with her parents and two siblings. During the war, they moved to Germany for a short time and when they returned Matea continued with her education. Despite all the turmoil in her life, she participated

**- CSF -**

**DEVELOPING LEADERS  
FOR CROATIA  
FOR THE 21st CENTURY**

**NOW IS THE TIME  
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

# Scholarship Recipients Share Their Stories

by Karolina Agatic

This is to let you know that I have received the scholarship money in good order and, as always, it astonishes me to know that someone is thinking of me. Every time when I receive your letter I feel very warm inside.

The money that you send me is the only financial support I have to help me with all the college expenses. Material things should not be the most important thing in life but the world that we live in today, it is very necessary.

Every day I thank God for you and for choosing me among your scholarship recipients. Every day I have food on the table, a place to live, clothes to wear, and the chance for an education – and all because of you. Since my father passed away, all the problems and responsibilities have fallen on my mother, and now with your help, she has less to worry about. You have eased her financial burden for my education.

I hope that you are pleased with my results and my grades. Currently I am at the end of the third year,

by Josip Markic

Although I haven't yet finished my studies, I want to thank you for all these years that you have supported me. Thanks to you, I will become an electrical engineering graduate (I still have eighth and ninth semesters to go). I am very thankful for everything that you have done for me and I will do my best to be an even better student in these last two semesters. I will finish my studies with the best possible grades and perhaps go on postgraduate study. You have helped me a lot! Without your support it would have been much more difficult for me to buy a computer, books, and other things essential for my college education.

which is the most important part of the year as the testing begins. I am getting a bit nervous but I hope that everything will turn out ok and I will pass them successfully.

One more year any my studies will be completed. The time has gone by fast. It feels like I only got here in Mostar yesterday! At the beginning I thought the city was vast and strange but now I know all the streets and I am more comfortable.

As well, I remember the day when I received your letter letting me know that I was chosen as one of your scholarship recipients. I was the happiest person in the world! I remember my father being as happy as I was and very proud of me. At that time I felt my heart was as large as the whole planet. I will remember that for the rest of my life.

Thank you so very much for choosing me as one of your students, being part of my life, and giving me some of my best memories.

I hope that in the future I will be able to contribute to developing the Croatian economy and with that, the common good in Croatia. Our country has a great future which is in our hands. It is a very nice feeling knowing that Croatian emigrants haven't forgotten their homeland, and words are not sufficient to say thank you. I am proud that I am a student of the CSF because that means that you believe in me. This was not only financial support but moral support as well.

My family is also very thankful to you and they send their warmest greetings.



**NOTE: Increases in Scholarship costs are reflected in our new prices.**

**CSF BENEFACTOR – 1 Full Scholarship: \$1,500**

**ADOPT-A-STUDENT – 4-year Scholarship: \$6,000**

# Special Thanks



Thank you EVERYONE for your support and generosity in keeping us going for all these years. A special thank you goes to all of our benefactors who have supported us since the inception of the Croatian Scholarship Program. Here are the names of all the benefactors who have contributed at least one scholarship (\$1200) at one time. Thank You – Hvala!

Mr. Jozo Bajurin	Mr. & Mrs. Herman Drazick	Mr. Frank Paladin
Mr. Robert Batinovich	Dr. & Mrs. Neno Duplancic	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Palajac
Mr. & Mrs. Branko Barbir	Mr. Miloslav Glogolja	Matt & Jack Pandol
Mr. James Bistirlich	Mr. John Grcina	Mr. & Mrs. Zeljko Pavic
Mr. R. Gordon Black	Ms. Tatjana Grgich	Mr. John Radilovich
Ms. Helen Blagdan	Mr. Mike Grgich	Mrs. Mary Robert
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Mr. & Mrs. Ante Buljan	Mr. Michael Laptalo	Kristin Yates and Timothy Drascic
Mr. & Mrs. Mladen Buntich	Levi Straus Foundation	Mr. Tony Ujdur
Mr. Oscar Cecich	Sister Clarice Lolich	Mr. Paul Unger
Ms Rosemary Christen	Mr. Charles MacFall III	Mr. Zeljko Urban
Mr. Ivan Cikes	Mr. & Mrs. Louis Mariani	Mr. Zlatko Vasilj
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Cindrich	Mr. & Mrs. Nediljko Milicevic	Mr. & Mrs. John Vidovich
Bubalo Construction	Mr. Robert Miloslavich	Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Viscovich
Croatian American Cultural Center	Mr. & Mrs. Slavko Miskich	Mr. Mario Vlahovic
Croatian Radio Club	Mr. & Mrs. Tomislav Miskich	Ms. Toni Wolfe
Mr. & Mrs. William Cumbelich	Dr. & Mrs. Ivan Nenadic	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Zrna
Mr. & Mrs. John Dlaka	Mr. James A. Old	Mr. Mike Zupan

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**It's easy.** Just take this form to a participating H&R Block office between 1/01/08 and 11/01/08 and make an appointment to have them prepare your tax return. Call 1-800-HRBLOCK or visit [hrblock.com](http://hrblock.com) to find an office near you.

\*The organization is eligible to receive \$25.00 for each new client referred to a participating U.S. H&R Block office when that person pays for preparation of an original personal income tax return between 1/10/08 and 11/01/08. An eligible form includes: 1040 1040-A, and 1040-E. A new client means a person who did not have his/her 2006 taxes prepared by H&R Block. Referral form must be presented prior to completion of initial tax office interview. Amended returns do not qualify and H&R Block employees are not eligible. Allow approximately 8 weeks after May 1 and/or November 1 for delivery of check. Offer may not be combined with any other referral program or any coupon or discount offer.

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Non-Profit ID



## A SPECIAL DAY

Everyone loves a wedding and so do our board members! On October 14, 2007 Gary Allen, one of our directors and past president, was married. The wedding and reception were held at the

Croatian Cultural Center in Sacramento where Mile Zupan ensured that everything went perfectly and everyone had a great time. *Congratulations Gary and Christine!*

Pictured are (l-r, back) Mile Zupan, Ante and Nina Jurjevic, Tony and Diane Ujdur, Ana and Branko Barbir, and (front) Joe and Karen Cindrich.



## Save the Date!

For more information about these and other events, please visit our web site at [www.croatianscholarship.org](http://www.croatianscholarship.org)

COMING  
SOON

**9th Annual Dinner/Dance**  
Croatian American Cultural Center, Sacramento

**Wine Tasting Event**  
Quarry Estate Home of John & Lydia Vidovich

## Memorial Fund

CSF has established a Memorial Fund so that families and friends can give a gift as a living tribute in honor of someone they care about. This year we have established three memorial funds (Dr. Bob Bronzan, Mario Vlahovic, and Ivo Vucicevic). With many generous contributions from family and friends, CSF was able to provide over seven scholarships to very deserving young students.

Please make a gift in memory of loved one or a friend. The gift is tax deductible and CSF will send acknowledgement to the person or family you choose.



## CROATIAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND FUNDRAISING DRIVE

- CSF CONTRIBUTOR (any amount) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- CSF BENEFACTOR – 1 Full Scholarship: \$1,500 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ADOPT-A-STUDENT – 4-year Scholarship: \$6,000
- \$1,500 annually     \$6,000 full payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- CSF ENDOWMENT FUND (permanent fund, any amount) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Name of: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed    Credit Card:     VISA     MasterCard

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Please send to:

CSF  
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For information call (925) 556-6263

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**Thank you for your contribution to CSF!**