To all of our members and friends:

**Fall is here and so are Festivals! Volunteer today!**

Jesen je ovdje, pa tako i festivali! Danas volontirajte!

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**Mark your Calendars:**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- CAS Christmas Cocktails - December 14th at 7p.m. at Danica Ansardi’s home.

**FUTURE EVENTS:**

- New Years Eve - December 31st, 2019
- Mass Celebration - January 5th, 2020
- Croatian Cultural & Food Festival - March 21st, 2020

*Cultural & Food Experience - Instructions by John Petkovich Rodi, a folk/ethnic dance teacher. Please contact Jane Tesvich for more info at jptesvich@yahoo.com.

**Croatian American Cultural Center**

In the design stages .... Exciting!!!

Clearing is continuing on the property ....

Survey, elevation and tree layout being finished!!

Design initiatives include:

* Croatian showpiece in the front
* Pavilion to hangout in the back.
* Red tile roof to bring it all together......

Stay tuned and watch for more updates!!!

Any & All Donations accepted to bring this vital center to our community! P.O. Box 367 - B.C., LA 70037

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**Future CAS :**

Looking to have a Youth Organization, need volunteers to spearhead our future!

- Youth - 10 -13 year olds
- Young Adults - 14 - 17 year olds

Young Professionals - 20 - 30 year olds - looking for Croatian Young professionals to form a group that helps others continue to grow and bring the Croatian experience to each other.

**2019-2020 Memberships - If you haven’t paid, get them in!**

We still have people/families in the database who have NOT paid their annual dues. Please submit yours today! Form included.

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Follow us on facebook for more updates!

www.facebook.com/Croatian-American-Society
# CROATIAN AMERICAN SOCIETY—MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**JUNE 2019 THRU MAY 2020**

_P. O. Box 367  Belle Chasse, LA  70037_

*Please fill out the appropriate form(s) below and mail with your payment in the enclosed envelope or bring it to the next Croatian function. THANKS!*

**ANNUAL DUES:**  
- **INDIVIDUAL:** $50.00  
- **FAMILY:** $120—including both parents and all children under 21.

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## INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- [ ] New member  
- [ ] Renewal  
- [ ] Change of address

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- **City, State, Zip:**
- **Cell phone:**
- **Email address:**

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## FAMILY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION—Includes both parents and all children under 21.

- [ ] New member  
- [ ] Renewal  
- [ ] Change of address

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**Total Enclosed:** $120.00

- **Street Address:**
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*CHECK HERE IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE PAPER MAIL FROM CAS.*  
*WE WILL BE MIGRATING TO EMAIL COMMUNICATION—UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES!*
Dear Croatian Americans:

We are having our 2nd Croatian American Culture & Food Experience in March of 2020 at our Konoba located at 14042 Hwy. 23 in Jesuit Bend which is below Belle Chasse.
We will be performing kolo dancing again under the instruction of John Petkovich Rodi, a folk/ethnic dance teacher. (Please read his bio).

Teens to adults who are committed to attending practices at the Konoba on weekends and interested in performing at our March 2020 event are welcome! We will be as flexible as possible on the practice times to meet the needs of our group.

Practice meetings have started, however you can still join.

E-mail me if you have any questions at jptesvich@yahoo.com.

Thanks,
Jane P. Tesvich
Mary Jane Tesvich

John Petkovich Rodi - Biography

John Rodi is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana. Born and raised in the 9th Ward area of the city, he is the proud son of parents who were both from Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. His father, Ernest Rodi, was an oyster fisherman from the Buras/Triumph community. His mother, Doris Petkovich, was from a fishing family and community on the island of Ostrica, Louisiana. John attended Holy Cross High School in New Orleans, and has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from Tulane University, as well as a Master of Arts Degree in Economics from the University of New Orleans. After college, John was employed by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Department of the Interior as an economist. He ultimately achieved the rank of Regional Director over the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, which oversees the federal offshore oil and gas leasing program in the Gulf of Mexico. After 45 years of service, John retired from the federal employment. In addition to above pursuits, John has always pursued training in and performance of dance in a variety of genres. In early years he concentrated on numerous social and ballroom dance styles. In 1981, however, as a member of the Komenka Ethnic Dance Ensemble of New Orleans, he began an intense study of ethnic/folk dance styles from throughout the world, with special emphasis on Eastern European styles. In the course of this process, John has traveled extensively to numerous countries, and he has studied with numerous dance experts from around the world. John’s intense interest and love for ethnic/folk dance was very much inspired by his personal Croatian maternal ancestry. In 1983, John assumed the role of manager and principal dancer with the Komenka Ethnic Dance Ensemble and has very successfully held that position since that time. John has won numerous choreography awards throughout his tenure with Komenka. In addition, he has appeared as a guest artist and choreographer with every major arts organization in New Orleans as well as numerous others in other parts of the United States. In 2019/2020, John is extremely proud and excited to be part of the artistic team developing dance entertainment for the second annual Croatian American festival in Plaquemines, Parish. As such, he feels that his many years of dedication to the art of folk/ethnic dance have come full circle and allowed him to further express that passion on a most personal and rewarding level because of his Croatian ancestry.