
Trumbeta Shqiptare

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“We, American citizens and Canadian citizens, of Albanian descent and others interested in Albanian-Americans, desiring to form and perpetuate a federation and promote its objectives and principles; to effect a perfect and harmonious understanding between ourselves and others, to promote the cause of good citizenship in the country in which we live; to stimulate the spirit of good fellowship and good cooperation; do hereby establish and ordain these By-Laws.”

Please visit us at: www.AANO.org



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**2022-2023
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Albanian-American
National Organization

President's Message

Greetings and Happy Holidays to all,

After a two-year hiatus due to Covid-19, we held our 74th annual AANO Convention at The Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on August 5-7, 2022. It was wonderful to be able to come together once again with friends and family from across the country to celebrate our common heritage. We are especially proud to have awarded academic scholarships to six very exceptional Albanian students at the Convention.

I would like to thank the National Board along with some very special people from the Philadelphia Chapter for all their hard work and dedication in making this convention a reality. Special thanks to my amazing friend Paula Bendo who is always willing to help and does so with a smile. I would also like to thank my new friend Nilda Salavachi whose energy is boundless. The amazing work and tireless effort of the Philadelphia Chapter along with the National board will long be remembered for making our Convention a success.

We were all saddened at the untimely passing of long-time AANO President John Lulgjuraj on August 11th, 2021. At the Convention, John was posthumously awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for his hard work and dedication to AANO. John cared deeply about the Albanian community and fought tirelessly for Albanian causes on a national level. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with John's family. May his memory be eternal.

We are grateful for Lea Bitta who stepped up and took the helm upon John's passing. Lea's hard work and dedication to AANO are second to none. She never says no when asked to do something and

Mesazhi i Presidentit

always has words of encouragement for those around her and a smile on her face. Special thanks to Gayle Orlow who served as AANO Secretary and served on the Scholarship Applications Committee for many years.

Other highlights from the Convention include welcoming a new Naples, Florida Chapter to AANO and granting the Community Service Award to Vlashi File for his exceptional work with "Bijtë e Shqipes" in Philadelphia.

We also pause to remember those members we lost who were all a vital part of this organization. They were leaders, mentors, and friends. May their memories be eternal.

This coming August 2023 we will celebrate AANO's 75th Anniversary in Detroit Michigan. The Detroit Chapter has an amazing weekend in store for us. Detroit first hosted the Convention in 1980, then in 1992 and 2000. All of these conventions were tremendous successes. The Detroit Chapter has also hosted several basketball tournaments over the years which have also been huge successes and always a great time. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the next convention to celebrate our Albanian heritage.

My best wishes to all for a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Johanna Foundos
National President
Albanian-American National Organization, Inc..





On Sunday, August 6, 2022 at the 74th AANO National Convention in Philadelphia, elections were held and resulted in the following Officers: President, Jana Foundos; Vice President, Iris Maluka; Secretary, Mia Orlow and Treasurer, Rich Rafail.

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support during my time in Office as AANO President.

It has been my pleasure to work with you this past year and the Organization has moved to a new level with your help and hard work. We are excited to have a reactivated Chapter in Philadelphia, a new Chapter in Naples and possibly two Chapters in Las Vegas and Phoenix. I am proud that it was accomplished during my term and teamwork from Vice President, Phil Christo; Secretary, Gayle Orlow; Treasurer, Richard Rafail; the entire Board of Governors and appointed Officers.

Thank you again and bye for now,

Lea Bitta



The National Board wishes all of our members ... a Healthy, Safe and Happy Holiday Season !!



Albanian-American
National Organization

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES



Chicago

On July 10, the Chicago Chapter met at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, IL to celebrate the scholarship winners from our area. This is an outside venue and everyone brought lawn chairs or blankets. We had food and enjoyed a live concert which was a salute to the music of ABBA. It was a beautiful day everyone enjoyed it.

In September, the Chapter attended a Chicago Fire Soccer game. They were playing against a team from Miami. The Chicago Fire won the game 3-1. The Chicago Fire has an Albanian player on their team, Xherdan Shaqiri, who scored the second goal of the game.

The Chapter event was a success and more than 50 people attended. The Chapter would like to thank Joey Gjata for organizing the event.





In October, the Chapter held a meeting and pizza party. We had our meeting, collected dues, and made some plans for the coming year.

Detroit

The Detroit Chapter is diligently working on plans for the upcoming 75th Jubilee Convention and as a kickoff had a Halloween gathering at a Cider Mill. It was very successful on October 30 and people very much enjoyed it and had a great time. There were people of all ages and it was just nice to get together in the outdoor setting to enjoy the last bit of Fall. We also cannot wait to put on a stellar convention for the rest of the chapters and our own to enjoy! It is going to be very special!

Also, the Chapter had 20 people sign up as new members this year.

Halloween at the Cidermill – Over 40 people attended, from ages 0 to one individual who turned 94 years young. It was a great time and fun costumes from the little ones.





12-year-old Kile Wilson and her cousin 2 1/2-year-old Phillip Negip in matching Spider-Man costumes.

Attention Past Scholarship Winners



We would love to know what you're doing

Please send your information to Gayle Orlow (gorlow@comcast.net) and list the year that you won your scholarship, where you attended school, your major, and what has transpired since. If you like, attach a photo.

We enjoy keeping up to date on our Scholarship recipients.

If you would like to make a donation to the AANO Scholarship Fund, please send your contribution to:

AANO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

c/o Lea Bitta

ebitta2@gmail.com



*Donations to the Scholarship Fund are
Tax Deductible*



Happy Holidays from the AANO!

It's the most wonderful time of the year, and our members are the most wonderful part of our Organization!

This year marked the return of our annual convention, and it was a joy and privilege to celebrate with you all in person. I am uplifted by your success stories and inspired by how passionate and hardworking our youth are. Thank you for making this and every time of year brighter for the AANO.

I wish you the happiest of holidays and a prosperous New Year!



Klea Gjonaj, AANO Queen



Albanian-American
National Organization

Presents

75th AANO Convention

Summer 2023

Hosted by:

The Detroit Chapter

Come Join Us!

More Information to Follow



www.AANO.org

**74th Annual AANO Convention
Philadelphia, PA**



Paul Apostol swearing in New Officers



Julia Black presenting Shpresa and Leo Lulgjuraj with John's "Lifetime Achievement Award"



Manning the Registration Desk



Dancing the Night Away

Social News

Weddings



Detroit



Congratulations to Isabella Karamuco and Andy Wilchynski on their October 9th wedding. It was beautiful and enjoyed by so many. Isabella's proud parents, Beni and Dr. Diana Karamuco, were also celebrating very recently having their first grandchild (from their son) so they had so much to celebrate. They have supported AANO events for years and Dr. Diana has even been a Queen Pageant judge in the past. Isabella has recently graduated from law school and is living in Ohio with her husband and we wish them a future as filled with as much love and happiness as on their wedding day!

Congratulations to Nita Karanfli and Ardit Isak on their recent wedding on October 23rd. Nita's parents, Arif and Najme Karanfli, and their entire family are long-time AANO supporters and we are so happy for them and this joyous occasion. The wedding was spectacular and we wish the couple so much happiness and good fortune and look forward to seeing them at our convention!



Rose Black and Najme Karanfli, mother of the bride

New York



Congratulations to Kimberly Oswald and Diego Villa who were married on Saturday, November 5, 2022 at the City Winery Hudson Valley.

Babies



Detroit

Congratulations to Andi and Iris Spiro, along with Big Sister Claudia, who recently welcomed a baby boy, Ayden. Wishing him a long and happy life.

Birthdays



Detroit

Congratulations to Bukuri Adam who had a big birthday celebration in Michigan and then again with her immediate family in Mexico this year. This is truly fitting because Bukuri always livens up at every party! We wish her many, many more years and decades of good health and fun!

Travel

Detroit

We were super excited for the Adam Family for the amazing trip that Fatmir and Bukuri took with his sister Nancy, children Dashi and Johnny, and Johnny's spouse Alisha and their children Jackson and Ruby, along with other family members!



They spent 12 days going to London, Albania, Prishtina, etc. It was an amazing trip and they saw many countries and got to attend an incredible family wedding and do it with various generations of family members. It was well-deserved and spectacular and we are very happy for them!

Class Notes



Chicago

Chicago Chapter member and Scholarship recipient Ardit Breznica graduated from DePaul University in Chicago with a degree in Cyber security. Some of the chapter members celebrated with his family at his

graduation party. We all wish Ardit the best in his new journey and be successful as he always has been. We are very proud of you.



In the photo:

Our graduate, Ardit Breznica, past Albanian school student; Hatixhe Breznica, Albanian school parent; Lea Bitta, Albanian school director; Oni Hoda, Albanian school teacher; Eva Teli, Arberia Dance Group assistant; Luiza Cungu, Albanian school parent; Jimmy Poni, Albanian school past student; George Teli, Albanian school past student. All are Chicago Chapter members

Detroit

Congratulations to our National Queen, Klea Gjonaj on her graduation from the University of Michigan this past June. We wish her much success !!



Graduation Day



Klea Gjonaj

Master's Degree in Molecular and Integrative Physiology, June 2022

This past year, I completed my Master's degree in Molecular and Integrative Physiology at the University of Michigan. My personal academic focus was on women's reproductive health and the disease endometriosis.

Since graduation, I have been working at an orthopedic clinic near my hometown of Addison, IL while applying for medical school.

Get Well Wishes



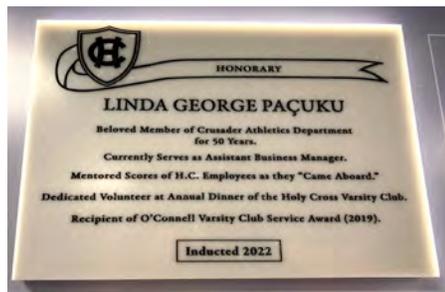
Detroit

Get well wishes are extended to 12-year-old Kile Wilson and we wish her a speedy recovery from her long hospital stay in November and December. She is home and doing great !!

Career / Achievements



On August 20, 2022, your editor, Linda George Paçuku celebrated 50 years at the College of the Holy Cross as Assistant Business Manager of Athletics. On November 12, 2022, she was inducted into the Holy Cross Varsity Club Hall of Fame as an "honorary" member.



Sports

Detroit.



Adrian Rakipi just finished a year of playing soccer at Northwood University and is now playing at Schoolcraft College. We wish him so much success with school and sports this year. His younger sister is following in his footsteps and is having an amazing soccer experience in her own right. She very well may be the next college soccer player in the family!

www.AANO.ORG

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Obituaries

Albany / Southbridge, MA



Alexandra "Alex" (Apostol) Lemoine passed away on Friday, October 7, 2022, at the age of 78 after a brief illness. Her husband was the late Robert A. Lemoine, who died in 2005.

She is survived by 3 sons: Alan and his wife Roberta, Shawn, Glen and his partner Beth Peloquin, and four grandchildren: Caitlin Lemoine, Savannah Lemoine, Liam Kurokawa and Aira Kurokawa. She also leaves her brother Paul Apostol and his wife Vera of Clifton Park, NY, and her sister Louise Mabin of Albany, NY. and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sisters Dhimitra "Mita" Kita and Janet Baloglou.

Alex was born in Schenectady, NY, the daughter of the late Louis and Elnor (Engwer) Apostol, and lived in Southbridge, MA for many years before moving to Stafford Springs and Somers. She was an active member of St. Nicholas Orthodox Albanian Church in Southbridge and supported AANO events and the Albanian Festivals in Worcester, MA.

Louise (Apostol) Mabin, age 74, passed away on October 12, 2022 in St. Peter's Hospital after battling ILD for several months. Louise was a founding member of the AANO Albany Chapter in 1967 and she served as an officer during her entire membership, as well as working on any national and local events hosted by the chapter.

Louise was predeceased by her parents, Louis and Elnor Apostol; her husband Stephen; and her sisters Dhimitra, Janet and Alexandra. She is survived by her son Michael (Mae) and their two daughters Madison and Mariah and her beloved brother Paul Vera)Apostol and his wife Vera, and many nieces and nephews and other family and friends.

Such a loss for Paul Apostol, losing two sisters only five days apart. Our sincerest sympathy to the Apostol Family.

Detroit



Nake Naomi Premtaj, 84, of Allen Park passed away on Wednesday, July 27, 2022. She was preceded in death by her loving husband of over 60 years Hasan Premtaj. Survived by her three sons Sam (Sandy) Premtaj, Marty (Ellen) Premtaj, Al Premtaj and grandson Cole Premtaj.

Nake was born on December 16, 1937 in New York, NY to Abas and Fiqiret Myrteza. When Nake was six years old the family moved to Michigan. Nake and her sister Dita grew up in Southwest Detroit near Vernor and Junction. Her parents were both immigrants from Albania and were very active in the Albanian community. In 1951 she was engaged to Hasan Premtaj and married on December 20th, 1953. Hasan and Nake were entrepreneurs and owned Henry's Coffee Pot in River Rouge for over 30 years. They were the true American dream.

Naomi's greatest joy in life was spending time with her family and friends. She especially loved attending all of her grandson Cole's various sporting events. She enjoyed watching Michigan football, going to the casino, cooking, listening to 50's music, singing and dancing.

Preceded in death by her nephew Bobby (Hasiba) Kulla. Also preceded in death by Rick Toptani, Phillip Negip and Sylvia Thornton. She will be greatly missed by her sister Dita Kulla and nephews Ron (Genena) Kulla and Dennis (Sandra) Kulla. Her great-nephews, Adam, Dean, Daniel, Anthony and Jamie Kulla and great-niece Victoria. Her lifelong friends/family Marion Toptani and her son Ed Toptani; Betty Ismail and her family; Sally Negip and her son Danny; Rose Black and her daughters Julia and Alex; Bennie and Deanna Cera and their family; Arsena Bega and her family. And many other loved members of her extended Albanian family. Anyone that had the opportunity to spend time with Naomi, knew her passion for life and the love she had for her family and friends. Her laughter and beautiful spirit will be remembered and cherished.

In honor of Naomi, memorial contributions can be made to:

Albanian American National Organization
Scholarship Fund
c/o Richard Rafail
99 Railroad Avenue
Greenwich, CT 06830

The Detroit Chapter is very saddened by the loss of Nike Premtaj. Nike was a long-time AANO supporter. She brought her family to the convention in Toronto including her husband, children, daughter-in-law and grandchild. She even had her nephews and their family there. She attended important Detroit events and all of our conventions and was simply a pillar of the community. All of us will miss her so much but especially her son Sam and daughter-in-law Sandy Premtaj (former AANO Vice President), son Marty and daughter-in-law Ellen with grandson Cole who has received an AANO scholarship, and son Bazi. May her memory be eternal.



Petrit "Pete" Rakipi of Dearborn Heights, Michigan passed away on September 16, 2022 at the age of 61.

The Albanian community was very saddened about the loss of Pete Rakipi. Pete has also been a long-time AANO supporter. Pete left us far too early. He leaves behind his daughter and son and his wife, as well as so many family members in the Prespa community in Detroit and other places. He is already missed by so many. His infectious smile and easy-going personality will never be forgotten.

Worcester



*April 9, 1950 –
July 28, 2022*

Steven Chomo died peacefully on July 28th at his home. He was surrounded by those who loved him

best and had walked alongside him on every step of this long illness.

Steven leaves behind his loving wife of 44 years, Nancy (Matthews) Chomo, his daughters, Sarandë Chomo Jackson, Nicole (Chomo) McMahon and her husband Kristofer, and his son Justin, as well as grandchildren.

Steven was the son of Metre and Olga (Stavre) Chomo. He battled Amyloidosis since 2010, fighting back this disease that could have taken him much sooner. The fighter that Steve was didn't let that happen and he hung on and stayed strong and sharp until the very end.

Steven is predeceased by his eldest brother Anthony Chomo and his beloved nephew Frankie Chomo. He is survived by his older brother, Philip Chomo and his wife Cassandra and his sister-in-law Janet Chomo, widow of his brother Anthony, and countless nieces, nephews and cousins.

A restaurateur for many years, Steven went to work for the State of Massachusetts Department of Corrections and joined the Corrections Officer Academy at age 60 where he worked until his retirement.

Steven Chomo was a beloved husband, adored father, and loyal friend. He was always quick with a comment, sarcastic or biting but always delivered from a place of deep love. He was truly a one-of-a-kind human being, and may his memory be eternal.



Demetria "Meta" (Mitrush) Konde passed away on November 24th at the age of 101. She was the wife of the late Victor Konde, who died in 2002. They had been married for 45 years.

She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Peter and Edith (Velko) Mitrush and is survived by her three sons, Richard and his wife Paula, Stephen and his wife Lori, and

Christopher and his wife Beverly, as well as four grandchildren and many nephews and nieces.

She was predeceased by her sisters, Anna (Mitrush) Lukes, Mary Sahagen, and especially nephew Peter Stefan.

Demetria was Vice President and longtime member of St. Mary’s Albanian Women’s Guild. She was a volunteer at the Red Cross Nurses Aid during World War II. She was a member of the First Committee to compile the Albanian Heritage Cookbook, Albanian/American Women’s Club, and New England Albanian Relief Organization.



Steven Thomas Kerxhalli passed away on December 11, 2022, at the ag of 91.

He leaves his two devoted daughters and sons-in-law, Valerie Kerxhalli and husband, Jesse Caplan and Audrey Kerxhalli and husband, Robert Kleinfeld; his precious grandchildren, Joshua and fiancée, Emmy Calloway, Michaela, Lily, Isabelle, and Rose; his cherished younger brother, George and his wife, Teuta, as well as his sisters-in-law, Helen Kerxhalli and Blanche Christo, and many dear nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by the love of his life, Elvira Christo Kerxhalli, his beloved sister, Resha Chekani, and loving brothers, Mentor and Dukagjin.

Steven was the son of Thanas and Olga (Laska) Kerxhalli. He was quick to share many happy memories of his early life on the small family farm as well as of his years growing up in the heart of his warm, Albanian community in Worcester, MA.

As an adult, he helped run several of the Albanian Festivals sponsored by St. Mary’s Assumption Albanian Orthodox Church. He served in the United States Air Force from 1953 to 1955 and subsequently earned degrees from both Clark University and Boston University.



Cleo George passed away on December 12, 2022 at the age of 89 and in the care of her nephew, Mark Dionis and his wife, Sandy.

She leaves behind her sister, Sophie George, her nieces and nephews, Eileen, Nancy, Karen, Steven, Andrea, Lynn, Chris, Peter, Lisa, John and Thomas, many great nieces and nephews and her best friend, Arlene Neuvonen.

Cleo was loved by many and will always be remembered by her humming a tune, whistling, or singing a song. She was born in Bradford, PA, the daughter of the late Peter and Angelina (John) George. She was predeceased by her sisters, Alexandria Bardho, Naomi Veshi, Catherine Costa, Mary George, Jean George, Elaine Dionis, Anna Pillary, and her brother Gust George.

She was a longtime member of St. Mary’s Assumption Albanian Orthodox Church.



Our deepest sympathy to the families of our recently departed former members and friends of the AANO.

**I Përjetshëm Kutimi i Tyre!
May their Memories be Eternal!**

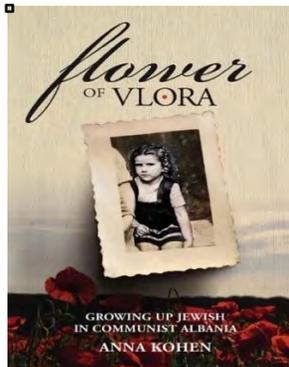


Books

Flower of Vlora

Dr. Anna Kohen has written a book and attached is the link for viewing.

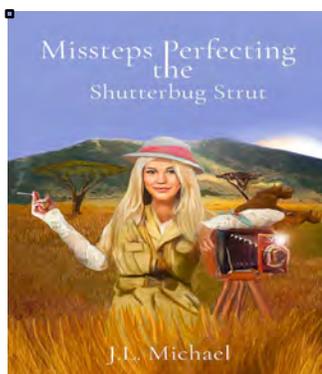
<https://amsterdampublishers.com/books/flower-of-vlora/>



Missteps Perfecting the Shutterbug Strut

Jonathan Michael, former AANO National President (1995-1997), has written a book and attached is the link for viewing.

<https://shutterbugstrut.com/>



Congratulations to our authors and we wish them continued success !!



Tirana, Albania

"A visit to Tirana offers at once a glimpse into Albania's unsettling (yet captivating) recent history and an invigorating taste of a vibrant, rapidly evolving capital. The city combines fascinating architectural reminders of the country's communist chapter with a distinctly youthful energy, perhaps best encapsulated by the metamorphosis of the monumental 1988 Tirana Pyramid into a youth-focused cultural hub. The city center is walkable and full of places to simply 'be' (take a seat on the sofa-esque benches of Skanderbeg Square, iced coffee in hand), with nature never feeling too far away—courtesy not least of the vast Grand Park and majestic Mount Dajti, which flanks the city.

For stellar views and a sense of the landscape surrounding Tirana, head up to Mount Dajti with the cable car, before taking a culinary journey through Albania at Restaurant Mullixhiu, which feels like a country retreat on the edge of the Grand Park. To experience the best of Tirana nightlife, make a beeline for the Blloku neighborhood."

—Elise Morton, *travel writer* and former Eastern Europe Commissioning Editor for Culture Trip.

Excerpted from Condé Nast Traveler

The National Gallery of Arts- Tirana, Albania

The [Albanian National Gallery of Arts](#) is the only art gallery in the country. Its permanent exhibition tells the story of Albanian art from its beginnings in the late-19th century, up until the present day. While the collection is predominantly made up of painting and sculpture, it provides a glimpse into the development of Albanian art and represents an archaeology of the changing historical and political situation in the country.

The story begins in the late-19th century, when painters, largely trained in Italy, began painting portraits of the burgeoning middle class, pastoral scenes of the Albanian peasant, dressed in traditional costume, as well as historical paintings, for example, the famous Battle of Skanderbeg.

It wasn't until 1931 that an art school was opened in Tirana. It was around this time that artists started using Socialist Realism as their preferred style, depicting partisan heroes, fighting for their country's independence.

The Socialist Realism from the 1950s to 1970s presents the standard iconography –workers building the new communist state, women working side by side with men, new technology being introduced, electrification of cities, preparedness for war. Albania was unlike other communist countries at the time in that it did not really have an underground movement or cohort of nonconformist artists to speak of. There were some artists who strayed from the standard iconography of Socialist Realism, but they did so by using unconventional colors or expressive brushstroke. Some, however, painted landscapes or untraditional scenes. There was little that could be identified as abstract, non-objective, or experimental. Even the first

performance art pieces in Albania appeared only in the late-1980s or early 1990s.

The top floor of the National Gallery presents the post-communist work. After the fall of the communist government, artists began to try making up for lost time by experimenting with a variety of different styles – expressionism, cubism, minimalism, surrealism, etc. At times they combined them in different ways that would be deemed unconventional in the West.

The museum's collection is very traditional and presents the evolution of Albanian art to the present day. What would make a nice addition, however, is some work that is currently being done outside the traditional genres of painting and sculpture. The museum does host the Onufri Prize, however, which is awarded annually to the best contemporary artists.



*Excerpted from Performance Art
in Eastern Europe*



George Kastrioti Skanderbeg



George Kastrioti Skanderbeg (1405–1468), widely known simply as Skanderbeg, was a fifteenth-century Albanian nobleman. Sultan Murad II took him hostage in 1423 and he fought for the Ottoman Empire during the subsequent twenty years. In 1443, he deserted and became the ruler of Krujë. He organized local leaders, uniting their forces in war against the Ottomans. Skanderbeg's first victory against the Ottomans in 1444 marked the beginning of more than 20 years of war with them. Skanderbeg's forces achieved more than 20 victories in the field and withstood three sieges of their capital, Krujë. Skanderbeg is considered today a commanding figure not only in the national consciousness of Albanians but also in fifteenth-century European history. The failure of most

European nations to give him support against the Ottomans meant that none of Skanderbeg's victories permanently hindered the Ottomans from invading the Western Balkans. Albania considers Skanderbeg as its national hero, reason enough to give his equestrian statue a prominent place in its capital, Tirana.

Sculptor: Odhise Paskali



Taken from: equestrianstatue.org

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Richard Rafail, National Treasurer
(914) 843-7629

rrafail@yahoo.com



Ti më je si një gonxhe



Ti më jë si një gonxhe
E bukur lulzimi
Ti më jë si një gonxhe
E bukur lulzimi

Nuk të gjindet shoqja
Veç në kopshtin tim
Nuk të gjindet shoqja
Veç në kopshtin tim

Hajde moj beja moj
Hajde lule moj shebojë
Hajde moj beja moj
Hajde lule moj shebojë

T'gjitha shoqet t'kan inat
Se ti je e bukur
T'gjitha shoqet t'kan inat
Se ti je e bukur

Shoqet le t'pëlçasin
gjer sa unë të du
Shoqet le t'pëlçasin
gjer sa unë të du

Hajde moj beja moj
Hajde lule moj shebojë
Hajde moj beja moj
Hajde lule moj shebojë

F'tyra jote si pranverë
Syni yt i zi
F'tyra jote si pranverë
Syni yt i zi

per mimozat tuja
dielli paska ra
per mimozat tuja
dielli paska ra

Hajde moj beja moj
Hajde lule moj shebojë
Hajde moj beja moj
Hajde lule moj shebojë

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If you have information for the Home Page,
Contact David Sosnowski

dsoz@microthunder.com

Recipes

Hajde të Gatuajme



Pispili (Albanian Cornbread with Leeks)



Pispili is an Albanian dish that consists of cornbread filled with leeks and feta cheese. It is common in the rural areas of Albania and can be served as a main course or a side dish.

Ingredients

- ½ cup yogurt
- ¾ cup olive oil
- 3 eggs
- 1 ½ cup flour
- ½ cup fine corn flour
- 3 cups leeks, chopped
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp black pepper
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1 cup chopped scallions

Instructions

Preheat oven to 400 degrees and grease a 9×13 size pan.

Cut leaves off of leeks, leaving the white stalk behind. Clean between any spaces on the stalk, because dirt hides!

Mix eggs, yogurt, and oil in a bowl. Add corn flour into the egg mixture and whisk together. Let sit for 3 minutes.

Sift together dry ingredients and then add dry mixture to egg mixture (hand mix). Pour into pre-prepared pan.

Mix together leeks, feta, and scallions in a bowl and then place on top of the cornbread mixture.

Bake or 25-30 minutes and cut into squares.

*Excerpted from The Foreign Fork
Recipe adapted from WhenFetaMetOlive.com*

Recipes

How to Make Dhallë



Dhallë is so easy to prepare and can be done in less than 5 minutes. Here are the **3 simple ingredients** you will need to make dhallë from scratch. You can also add in mint, black pepper, etc.

Ingredients

- 1 cup of plain yogurt
- 1 cup of water (still or sparkling)
- ½ teaspoon of sea salt

Add all the ingredients into a blender and mix for a few seconds until smooth.

Add all ingredients into a mason jar and shake vigorously until blended and frothy. Serve in a cold glass and decorate with mint leaves or topping of choice.

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