

# **CLUB NEWS 2022** January Edition, Nr. 1

Dear members,

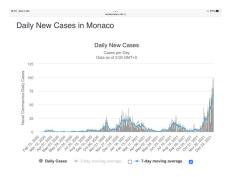
We wish you all the best for the New Year 2022: health, but also serenity and confidence, and hoping that we will soon be back in a situation where a normal life is possible again. Our motto for 2022: PATIENCE, OPTIMISM AND HUMOR!

Below we report on the CAI events in November and December and thus close a difficult pandemic year 2021. We also provide information about the first event in 2022, the private invitation of our founder Karl Vanis to celebrate the New Year with a champagne reception and lunch in the luxury hotel "Maybourne Riviera".

You will find this Club News with numerous photos of all events on our website under the password-protected "Members" page.

## **COVID SITUATION**

After a quite period in October, there were few infections until mid-November. But since then, a huge increase in infections has been recorded. In the week of December 5 to 12, the weekly incidence increased from 409 to 544 and reached the figure of 813 on December 19. Since mid-December, between 50 and 100 people have tested positive each day. Some of them are in hospital, but the majority are in home quarantine. All intensive care patients are non vaccinated.



Currently at the end of the first week of January 2022, 127 people have tested positive, the highest number since the start of the pandemic, and more than 400 people are in home quarantine, luckily with a mild course. Following which the government decided to reinforce the code of conduct again to avoid a new confinement:

-Mask compulsory everywhere in the Principality

-Working from home for employees is encouraged again

-Results of PCR tests are only valid for 24 hours

-The Health Pass becomes compulsory everywhere, including for all employees, no later than February 25, 2022

-The number of participants is limited to 2000 during major events

-Only tables of 8 are allowed in restaurants, 1.5 m apart

Prince Albert II has repeatedly reminded everyone of the need for vaccination for all and called for solidarity with all the others! Minister of State Pierre Dartout and his family all returned infected from their mountain holidays.

## **OUR EVENTS**

#### National day of the Principality of Monaco with gourmet lunch at the Salon Excelsior, Hôtel Hermitage, and conference on "The new architecture of Monaco" November 18, 2021.

Many members once again participated in this traditional Club event for Monaco's National Day. Our guest of honor was the new Ambassador of Monaco in Berlin, H.E. Frédéric Labarrère, who was warmly welcomed. After the video "Monegasque National Anthem", also sung by some members, everyone was greeted with a glass of champagne offered by our new member Isolde Fricke, whom we warmly thank.



The Co-Presidents then presented on Power-Point a very current and visible subject throughout the Principality: the new Monegasque architecture. The presentation met with great interest and received a lot of applause, as it contained a lot of interesting information about most of the projects and construction sites under construction in Monaco. After lunch, there were many discussions, concluding this very informative meeting.



### Canceled / postponed events

The invitations from Sybilla Beck to an Advent concert with the Trio Goldberg and the invitation from Beatrix von Dellingshausen to read crime fiction by the author Cay Rademacher and songs in the Thêatre des Muses had to be canceled or postponed. The Covid-19 infection situation recorded at that time was the reason to postpone these private invitations to the coming spring.

# Christmas buffet in the Salle Belle Epoque, Hotel Hermitage December 25th, 2021

This traditional Christmas gathering gives members the opportunity to celebrate Christmas together and typically marks the end of our program of activities. It was a very nice meeting, in an exceptional atmosphere, with very beautiful Christmas decorations, thus creating a very festive atmosphere, all complemented by an excellent gastronomic buffet, very varied. It was a very pleasant and familiar get together for the members present.



# Christmas show "The Nutcracker" with the Montecarlo Ballet and the OMPC, in the Grimaldi Forum, followed by dinner in the Cantinetta Antinori December 28, 2021

This classical ballet by the composer Tchaikovsky, which is performed all over the world for Christmas, has been presented in the Principality for the first time. This as the world premiere of a gorgeous show, choreographed by ballet director Jean-Christophe Maillot and OPMC conductor Kazuki Yamada. It was a great ballet spectacle in an impressive changing backdrop, with wonderful costumes and beautiful music. In particular, the 2nd part, evoking all the classic ballet pieces such as Cinderella, La Belle, Le Songe, Romeo & Juliette and L'Eveil à l'Amour was rewarded with a round of applause and a standing ovation. This special Christmas Show was finally crowned with lots of colorful confetti.

The subsequent dinner at the beautifully set tables in Cantinetta Antinori also met with a lot of applause and prolonged the good atmosphere of the entire evening.



# Private invitation from our founder Karl Vanis and Nina Vanis to celebrate the New Year 2022 in the new luxury hotel Maybourne Riviera for a cocktail reception and gourmet lunch, January 6th at 12.30pm

Also this year the CAI members and some personal friends were very generously invited by our Honorary President Karl Vanis to a spectacular place, this time in the very exclusive luxury hotel Maybourne Riviera on the rock of Roquebrune, high above the Principality. Karl Vanis associates many memories of his time as hotel manager with this location of the former Hotel Vista. To welcome all guests, photos were taken on the impressive outdoor glass terrace, with a unique view of the blue sky and the sea. Afterwards, Karl Vanis opened the festive meal with a glass of champagne in the very attractively designed restaurant, again with a magnificent panoramic view of the azure blue of the Riviera.

The guest of honor was the new French ambassador in Monaco, S.E. Laurent Stéfanini, who thanked very much Karl Vanis and the CAI for the invitation. In addition, our member Nicolas Oberson was congratulated on his birthday with polyphonic singing of our members, and Karl Vanis was presented with a magnum champagne to thank him for the invitation, with a lot of long applause!





### **JOUR FIXE**

On Thursday, December 2, several members gathered at the Hôtel de Paris, this time in the lobby of the hotel, nicely decorated for Christmas. Gradually the sofa and then the armchairs got occupied until we were more than 12 people and the waiters got nervous. It was therefore necessary to separate the tables. The hotel manager, Mr. Ivan Artolli greeted us warmly and took the time to briefly chat with us. After having consumed good champagne, the meeting ended punctually at 8:00 p.m. and those who wished could find the frenzy and bustle of Christmas outside on the Place du Casino.



### **MEMBERS**

### **Special honor for Nina Vanis!**

Our long-time honorary member and wife of our founder Karl Vanis, Nina Vanis, was awarded the "Médaille en Vermeil de la Reconnaissance de La Croix Rouge Monégasque" by Prince Albert II in the palace. Everyone who knows Nina Vanis better knows how much commitment she has been volunteering for the Monaco Red Cross, this for many years. We warmly congratulate her on this well-deserved award.



#### **New members**



Already in October we received an application for membership from **Robert Smulders**, who had been a guest at many Club events for a long time. We were all the more pleased about his decision to become a member. His extensive biography as a businessman and his honorary consul activities for the Netherlands in the Principality are noteworthy. He speaks 5 languages and has been awarded various orders, including the "Ordre de Saint-Charles" of the Principality. He has been a resident since the 1980s and is a member of various committees as well as golf, yacht and automobile clubs. His interests are diverse, he values good

communication and experiences our club atmosphere as very personable. The entire CAI Committee warmly welcomes him as a new member.

As a new member, we also warmly welcome Ms. **Isolde Fricke**, who lives with her family in Roquebrune and Munich. Since she has also already participated in a number of Club events during the year and is already well known to many members.

Ms. Fricke's son, Ernest, decided spontaneously when he was celebrating his 22nd birthday to organize a donation from his friends for the promotion of the German language in Monaco through the CAI. The collected  $\in$  600 was doubled by Hans Kompernass and will be given to students of the German language in 2022.





Ms. Jutta Ehle, who lives in Nice and Munich, was present at our December Jour-Fixe and immediately applied for membership, which has since been approved by the entire Presidium. Ms. Ehle is trilingual, has lived on the Côte d'Azur for a long time, is a qualified psychologist and widowed and is very interested in participating in club life.

## **NEXT EVENTS**

**Friday January 14, 2022, 5 p.m** .: Invitation to Villa Nuvola, the design house in Lenzberg, Germany, with guided tour and cocktail

Between 26-28. January 2022 (exact date to be announced): Vernissage of the new exhibition "Bodily Abstractions" by the Hauser & Wirth gallery, One Monte-Carlo, with guided tour and cocktail

Thursday February 2nd: Jour Fixe in the lobby of the Hotel de Paris, from 6 p.m.

**Tuesday, February 15th:** Private invitation to dinner from Andreas and Liliya Thorbecke in the KOMO restaurant.

**Tuesday February 22nd:** Opera gala "Werther" by Jules Massenet in the Garnier opera (limited number of tickets) with aperitif in the Mada One

Thursday March 3rd: Jour Fixe (location to be announced)