

## *The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Krk Historical Society (1969–2019)*

### *Summary*

(Edited by Tomislav GALOVIĆ)

The regular annual assembly of the Krk Historical Society was held in the Noštrolo Restaurant in the town of Malinska on 14 December 2019, beginning at 6 p.m. On this occasion, the fiftieth anniversary of the Society's establishment (1969–2019) was also celebrated. Namely, the Krk Historical Society (KHS) was established in 1969 thanks to the advocacy and selfless work of several Krk natives, intellectuals from secular and ecclesiastical circles, both those working on the island itself and those residing elsewhere. They set the Society's basic objectives, with – to be sure – the primary emphasis on the past of the island of Krk: advancement of scholarly research work in the fields of history and other disciplines and their popularization, improvement of school curricula and further training of teaching staff, development of museum and conservation activities, ethnography and folklore, and development of historical and other institutions on the island and beyond, as well as collaboration with other institutions, etc. Besides the educational aspect (by this we imply the organization of a variety of lectures, scholarly seminars, excursions, exhibitions or observance of anniversaries, care for the cultural and ethnographic heritage, archival and library inventories, launching of initiatives to form local heritage collections / museums, etc.), the Society's activities are particularly focused on publishing, in which the primary aim was and is to print its annual journal, *Krčki zbornik* (Krk Almanac). The first officers of the Krk Historical Society were president Ljubo Karabaić, vice-president Fr. Nikola Ludoviko Španjol, and secretary Petar Strčić.

Today the Krk Historical Society is led by Milan Radić, medical doctor, who opened the assembly and immediately called on all attending for a minute of silence to honour its deceased members: Prof. Mirjana Strčić, Ph.D. (1937–2018), Academician Petar Strčić, Ph.D. (1936–2019) and Ana (Ankica) Kirinčić (1945–2019), who had passed away during the period since the preceding assembly. Prior to submitting the report on operations, the president reminded those attending it was simultaneously a ceremonial session to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society's establishment. In broad contours, he recounted the idea for establishing the Society, the founding assembly held in the town council building in Krk in April 1969, and he noted all of those who were elected to the Society's working bodies during that assembly. Then Damir Crnčić, a KHS member and the president of the Krk Philately Society, presented a new philatelic envelope. The recognizable KHS logo stamped on the anniversary envelope was explained by Perica Dujmović, who designed this symbol. To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Krk Historical Society's establishment, the Krk Philately Society issued a special envelope (no. 86) with a postal seal which was in used on 27 November 2019 in the Krk Post Office (51500). The Society's emblem is depicted in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope, and a stamp featuring the motif of the old town core of Krk with a monetary value of HRK 2.80 was affixed to it.

In 2006, the jubilee volume 50 of *Krčki zbornik* by Tomislav Galović was published, which contained a broad overview of the – at the time – almost four decades of activity by the Krk Historical Society, and a detailed bibliography of the journal itself. It was dedicated to Academician Petar Strčić (now unfortunately deceased). The emblem of the Krk Historical Society, designed by Perica Dujmović, was presented for the first time on the covers of that jubilee volume of *Krčki zbornik*. Until that point, the Society did not, unfortunately, have its own recognizable symbol, although several prominent Croatian artists and visual art experts had worked in or collaborated with the Society (e.g. painter and sculptor Mila Kumbatović, painter and illustrator Anton Depope, photographer and film-maker Petar Trinajstić, art, cultural and Glagolite historian Branko Fučić, etc.). Corresponding to the motif of the historical Croatian chess-

board coat of arms, the emblem consists of eight squares indicated by narrow red lines, of which seven are filled with details of the Baška Tablet, the iconic monument of national identity in the wider area and thus the essence of pride for every Krk native, if it pleases the reader, *Boduli*. These seven squares constitute the six modern island municipal seats (Baška, Dobrinj, Malinska-Dubašnica, Omišalj, Punat, Vrbnik) and, of course, the Town of Krk. The eighth square contains a miniature depiction of a map of the island of Krk. Simplicity, lucidity and legibility were the watchwords when designing this symbol. The point of departure for the Krk Historical Society and the designer (Perica Dujmović) when making this emblem was to use all of the aforementioned elements that compose this symbol and imbue them with the 21<sup>st</sup>-century modernity by introducing a contemporary visual identity into the realm of this Society, which nevertheless has dealt and continues to deal primarily with traditional themes and historical materials and sources. This was achieved through the selection of minimalist concepts of design, and the use of a rigid and geometric linear structure and clear and light colours at the edges of the uniform squares, which contrast with their greyish fill and the dark Glagolitic graphemes and details of the ornamental relief frieze from the Baška tablet. All of this directly and unambiguously convey to the public a message on the Society's objectives and activities.

In the working portion of the assembly, the election of new members to the Society was discussed, so that the Tomislav Galović, Ph.D. was selected to replace Petar Strčić as the new editor-in-chief of *Krčki zbornik* and to serve as secretary of the Krk Almanac Library Editorial Board, while Damir Crnčić was elected to the KHS Presidency to replace Ankica Kirinčić.

President Radić also spoke about the recently published volume 73 of *Krčki zbornik*, the KHS Special Edition, volume 64, by T. Galović, *O Dubašnici i njezinim ljudima. Prinosi za povijest dubašljanskoga kraja na otoku Krku* ('Concerning Dubašnica and Its People. Contributions to the History of the Dubašnica Area on Krk Island'. Book II) which was published in November 2019 and formally presented in Bogovići. The book and its promotion were discussed by its editor, Perica Dujmović, and the author himself. Then the forthcoming volume 75 of *Krčki zbornik*, which

is being prepared for print, was also mentioned. It will be partly dedicated to the Society's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This volume will be presented in Vrbnik in March or April of this year. Next year there are also plans to publish a new volume in the Krk Almanac Library series: *O. dr. sc. Anđelko Badurina, franjevac i povjesnik umjetnosti. Pola stoljeća znanstvenoga rada (1935. – 2013.)* [On Anđelko Badurina, Ph.D., Franciscan and Art Historian. A Half-century of Scholarly Work (1935-2013)] by P. Dujmović and T. Galović, while further activities will depend on finances. In that vein, a great deal of gratitude was conveyed to the Malinska-Dubašnica Municipality and its chief official, Robert A. Kraljić.

In 2020, the KHS will participate in the organization of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Academician Branko Fučić (1920–1999) and hold a scholarly seminar in his honour under the title "*Habemus artificem!*" The seminar will be held in Malinska and Porat from 23 to 25 October 2020. The Society will also participate in the organization of the 6<sup>th</sup> Congress of Croatian Historians, which will be held in Rijeka from 30 September to 3 October 2020.

At the end of the assembly, a group photograph of the Society's attending members was taken.

**Key words:** 50th anniversary, Krk Historical Society (1969–2019), history, island of Krk, Ljubo Karabaić, Fr. Nikola Španjol – Ludoviko, Petar Strčić, *Krčki zbornik* (Krk Almanac).