

IAHF NEWS

Italian American Heritage Foundation Newsletter • July 2016 • Founded August 5, 1976 • Celebrating 40 Years

RICHARD STEWART | IAHF NEWSLETTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the Italian American Heritage Foundation,

June was quite a busy month at the Italian American Heritage Foundation. With the help of Joanne and Gene Sanfilippo, we were able to install new sinks and countertops in the women's restroom and fix many of the overhead lights in the main hall. Our work on our facility is on-going and we intend to continue our upgrades in the future. Our next projects will be a bar remodel and a new carpet.

We also had many events that kept us busy. We had our Festa della Repubblica, our Annual Scholarship Awards night, a meeting of the Women's Memoirs project, a cooking class that taught the making of fresh pasta, a Regional Luncheon with a presentation by Madeline Damiano, a dinner and celebration for Mauro Battocchi, the Consul General of Italy in San Francisco, a productive Festa meeting, and, of course, our regular Board of Directors meeting. In addition, Carlo Severo had a fund-raiser at his home to raise funds for a bar upgrade.

The Festa della Repubblica was a great event. We were honored by many local dignitaries and were given a special proclamation by Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese. Then, back at the hall, we were given a special presentation by Michael Parenti about his new book, "Waiting for Yesterday." Michael discussed the disproportionate focus between outstanding Italian-Americans, such as Mother Cabrine, "the first American ever to be canonized," and infamous organized crime figures that have become all-too popular.

Our annual Scholarship Dinner, chaired by Linda Binkley, was a huge success. We were able to give out an unprecedented \$25,000 in Scholarship Awards to 11 very deserving scholars. Former Vice Mayor of San Jose Frank Fiscalini did an outstanding job as Master-of-Ceremonies and Saratoga Mayor Manny Cappello gave words of encouragement to our scholars. Pepe Merolla and Roy Borelli entertained us with live jazz music. All-in-all it was an excellent event.

We were pleased and honored to be part of Consul General Mauro Battocchi's farwell celebration. Our Board of Directors was well represented and we were given high accolades for the accomplishments we have made. There were many Italian organizations represented and our very own Italian American Heritage Foundation was acclaimed as an outstanding organization. I was personally very proud to announce our accomplishments in our Scholarship Program, our membership increases, and our newsletter (and especially our Youth newsletter).

Our June Regional Lunch featured the region of Puglia. Madeline Domiano, Ken Borelli, and Zina Russo cooked up a fabulous meal with 3 pastas mixed together and chicken cacciatore. Madeline also gave an excellent presentation about Puglia and her Italian family. We also highlighted famous Italian scientist Galileo Galilei and Guglielmo Marconi.

With all these events and building projects, it has been a very productive month. We will continue to offer more great gatherings in the future. Be sure to keep in mind our Festa celebration with free admission at the end of August and our upcoming 40th Year Celebration which will be on November 5th.

Thank you all.

David Perzinski / President, Italian American Heritage Foundation 🌀

Be **IAHF Green** and go paperless!!! Please [click here](#) or call 408-821-4260.

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Member SPOTLIGHT

Join the Membership Committee

We are looking for members to help us grow our membership, chair our special member events and generally assist in our outreach to all our members. If you're interested contact Lucia Clementi at membership@iahfsj.org or call the office at 408-293-7122. ☺

Benvenuti New Members as of March 2016

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| ☺ Peter J Allen (Aiello) II - Individual | ☺ Angela Di Berardino - Individual | ☺ Art Maggio & Pam - Family |
| ☺ Pasquale Antonio Anastasi
& Sofia R Anastasi - Business | ☺ Ruby Domino - Patron | ☺ Holly McCurry - Individual |
| ☺ Joelle Arpan & Michael Orlando - Family | ☺ Gino Fortino - Family | ☺ Scott & Kerri Mesa - Family |
| ☺ Frank & Diane Beitz - Family | ☺ Ebe Frasse - Individual | ☺ Gary & Contessa Messiana - Patron |
| ☺ Matt & Sue Cadile - Family | ☺ Samantha & Joshua Glincher - Family | ☺ Lou Pambianco - Individual |
| ☺ Denise Cardona - Individual | ☺ Claudia & Thomas Gray - Family | ☺ Joseph Piazza - Patron |
| ☺ Anna & David Carrubba
Morrison - Family | ☺ Lena Hamby - Individual | ☺ Marie & Basil Romero - Family |
| ☺ Sarah Chaffin - Family | ☺ Rod & Lynne Johnson - Family | ☺ Melinda & Dennis Serles - Family |
| ☺ Jane Derosa &
Giabor Szoboszlaj - Family | ☺ Jon & Gayle Kanter - Family | ☺ Martin & Beatriz Serovpeyan - Family |
| | ☺ Rosino LeGan - Student | ☺ Joe & Josie Taddeo - Family |
| | ☺ Lorraine Lucivero - Individual | ☺ George & Myrleen Taddie - Business |
| | ☺ Bianca Lupo - Individual | ☺ Ted & Marie-Rose Zsutty- Family |

Grazie 2016 Patron Members

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|----------------------------------|
| ☺ Neno Aiello | ☺ Al & Kathy Di Francesco | ☺ Kenneth Low | ☺ Dr. Robert A. Quint |
| ☺ Sal & Maeve Alini | ☺ Melvin & Anna Di Salvo | ☺ Bill McCraw & Janet Muscio | ☺ Paolo Romano |
| ☺ Joyce Allegro &
Jerry Sheridan | ☺ Ralph Di Tullio | ☺ Gary & Contessa Messiana | ☺ Connie & Joe Rotolo |
| ☺ The Villages Italian Club
- Susan Baciagalupi | ☺ Phil & Jennifer DiNapoli | ☺ Dan & Eva Miranda | ☺ Joanne & Gene Sanfilippo |
| ☺ Linda & Bob Binkley | ☺ Ruby Domino | ☺ Bobby & Ruth Moorhatch | ☺ Jim Sanfilippo |
| ☺ Drs. Peter & Cheri Binkley | ☺ Randolph Ferretti-Hoyle | ☺ Rebecca Morici &
Tony Morici | ☺ Joanne E. Sanfilippo |
| ☺ JoAnn & Roger Bjornstad | ☺ Ben & Christine Foster | ☺ Ann & James Myers | ☺ John & Marj Scandizzo |
| ☺ Ken Borelli | ☺ Pete & Marge Gaudio | ☺ Olga & Anthony Nespole | ☺ Virginia Sincich |
| ☺ Elaine Bruni | ☺ Verdell Ghiorso | ☺ Elizabeth Novelo &
Chris D'Angelo | ☺ Paul & Mary Stabile |
| ☺ Sal & Denise Campagna | ☺ Louise Gliozzo | ☺ Pam & Steve Lyons | ☺ Corinne Tomeo |
| ☺ Bob & Shirley Cancellieri | ☺ Maria Gloria | ☺ Marge Papp | ☺ Bruce, Jodi & Keeley Unger |
| ☺ Dr. Tony & Clare Cedolini | ☺ Rita Horiguchi | ☺ Vera & Jack Pedretti | ☺ John & Marge Valente |
| ☺ Mike Console | ☺ Jim & Janice Jones | ☺ Dave Perzinski &
Lucia Clementi | ☺ Diana & Al Vallorz |
| ☺ Rose Crimi | ☺ Mark Lazzarini &
Jeanne Lazzarini | ☺ Kevin & Aurelia Pezzaniti | ☺ Karen Vanderpan &
John Dods |
| ☺ Gwen & Rich Daulton | ☺ Constance LoBue-Scarpelli | ☺ The Piazza Family | ☺ William Venuti |
| ☺ Joe & Cathy De Maria | ☺ Cleo Logan | ☺ Jackie Pighini | ☺ Angela Williams |
| ☺ Frank De Turris | ☺ Kathy & Larry Lohman | | ☺ Tony Zerbo |
| | ☺ Larry & Diane Lovaglia | | ☺ Guglielmo Family Winery |

2016 Business Members

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ☺ <u>Anastasi Law Group</u> | ☺ <u>Charles Gagliasso Trucking, Inc</u> | ☺ <u>Hillview Packing Company, Inc</u> |
| ☺ <u>DiNapoli Specialty Food</u> | ☺ <u>Gioia Company</u> | ☺ <u>Tri-Star Inspection Services</u> |

AUGUST 27-28, 2016

HISTORY PARK SAN JOSE

ITALIAN FAMILY

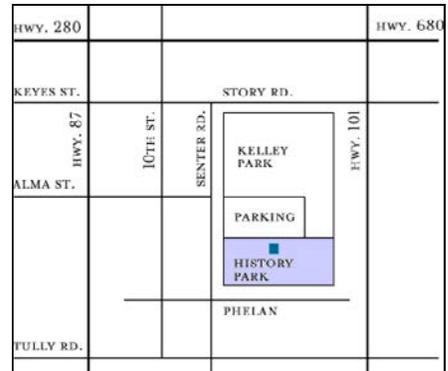
Festa



DID YOU KNOW?

There are 387 volunteer shifts during the weekend of the Festa. We currently have 129 shifts filled. That leaves 258 opportunities to come out, enjoy the day, share your time and have fun!

This is the **IAHF SIGNATURE EVENT!** It needs IAHF members like yourself to make it a success. Please take a moment to either call, email, or go online to show your support by donating a few hours of your time. Contact information listed to the right.



MORE INFORMATION
www.italianfamilyfestasj.org
Nancy Morreale
408-368-9094
info@italianfamilyfestasj.org

VOLUNTEER NOW!



Please click here for more information



2016 IAHF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS DINNER

The 2016 scholarship awards banquet was an extraordinary success. This evening is annually one of the highlights of the year, the culmination of numerous fund-raising events. On June 5th IAHF donors distributed \$25,000 to 11 outstanding students!

It was quite and emotional evening. Comments made by our Master of Ceremonies, Frank Fiscalini, Saratoga Mayor Manny Cappello, and our donors were thoughtful as well as thought-provoking. The recipients spoke briefly, honoring their families and schools and one speaker in particular, our community college recipient, Stacy Mulea, was especially heart-warming.

We were lucky to have booked the remarkable Peppe Merolla once again this year. He played the favorite songs requested by the recipients as well as a variety of much-loved Italian tunes. "That's Amore" written by Louis Prima and made famous by Dean Martin was repeatedly requested...a happy sound for a happy evening!

Ken Borelli worked hard in the kitchen serving up some delightfully spicy chicken wings, roasted eggplant and a tossed green salad, all which accompanied pizzas prepared by Tony and Alba's Restaurant on Stephen's Creek Blvd. The pizzas were amply laden with cheese, pepperoni and sausage and came hot and bubbly. The refreshing dessert of spumoni rounded off the meal.

Special words of appreciation go to Scholarship Co-chair Nancy Morreale for her excellent work on the program flier. Kudos for wrestling all those lovely photographs of varying sizes and shapes into the required space. And of course, thanks to the essay readers who contributed their valuable time to the scholarship evaluations, a long and thoughtful and difficult process.

June marks the month when we must once again start building up our reserves for the 2017 recipients. Please remember, your membership contributes to this, so please keep your dues current. You may open to our website www.iahfsj.org to find information on membership or donations. If you wish to make a legacy donation, please contact our Treasurer at frank.deturris@iahfsj.org

-- Article Written by Scholarship Chairperson Linda Binkley | Photos by ?? 🌸



Photo above:

Master of Ceremonies Frank Fiscalini

Photo below, from left:

Nick Fortino, Jason Botto, Taylor Cadile, Allyson Greco, Stacy Mulea, Chairperson Linda Binkley, Saratoga Mayor Manny Cappello, Claire Cardona, Camille Porter McAvoy, Carina Piazza, Gabriella Migliazzo, Olivia Gray, Kacia Wilson, IAHF President Dave Persinski.



2016 IAHF
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
WINNERS



Jason Botto
Los Gatos High School



Taylor Cadile
Willow Glen High School



Claire Cardona
Santa Catalina High School



Nicolas Fortino
Christopher High School



Olivia Gray
Los Gatos High School



Allyson Greco
Leigh High School



Gabriella Migliazzo
St. Francis High School



Stacey Mulea
West Valley-Mission College



Carina Piazza
St. Francis High School



Camille Porter McAvoy
Bishop O'Dowd High School



Kacie Wilson
Ann Sobrato High School



Documentary to be shown at the 2016 Italian Family Festa

The Villaggio Culturale at the Italian Family Festa will be hosting the world premier of the documentary film, "POMODORO" by local filmmaker Michael LoVaglia. The film will air on August 27 and 28, 2016 at History Park, San Jose.

Michael's family came from Tricarico, in the Italian Province of Matera. His great-grandparents emigrated in the late 1800s, settling in old Willow Glen, at the border of the Italian section known as Goosetown. Their humble home had dirt floors and an outhouse, and only three rooms to house the parents, three daughters, and three sons.

Pomodoro pays homage to the generous spirit and traditions that the family brought to the new world. Like other Italian families of the time, they got together every autumn to make and bottle their tomato sauce for the year.

This ritual was a beacon, uniting the family through distance and time. The reunions were rich with reminiscing and story

telling. Children helped out alongside the adults, doing simple tasks like adding salt to water. Michael remembers the sweet, heavy smell of the tomatoes cooking down. And in the background, the steam-engine sound of the machine that his own grandfather had made to separate the skin from the pulp.

Michael LoVaglia is a Bay Area filmmaker, actor and improv artist. Some of his films have screened at the Cannes Film Festival, Berlin Film Festival and San Jose's own Cinequest. Michael has studied with some of the top film/improv/comedy coaches in the Bay Area and LA; Eric Morris, Cassandra Chamberlain, Kurtis Matthews.

Be sure to see this special film at the 36th Annual Italian Family Festa. Michael himself will be available for Q and A at several screenings.

-- Article Written by Madeline Damiano 

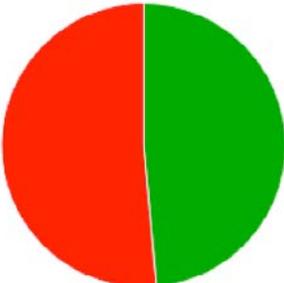
Please Donate to the **IAHF Carpet Fund**

As you probably know, our carpet is getting old and is in need of replacement. The old carpet, beautiful in its day, has outlived its usefulness. We believe that a new carpet would be make for a more modern and pleasant enhancement. Joanne Sanfilippo and I have started a fund-raiser in this regard and have already accomplished almost half of our goal. Our goal is \$14,000 and we already have \$6,800 due to the generous contributions of our members. Please consider contributing to this fund. A new carpet would make our hall more rentable and our building more inviting. -- Article Written by Dave Perzinski 

Carpet Fund Donors to Date:

• Joseph Aiello & Kathleen Sardella	• Bobby & Ruth Moorhatch
• Neno Aiello	• Rebecca & Tony Morici
• Ken Borelli	• Margaret Papp
• Dr. Tony & Clare Cedolini	• David Perzinski & Lucia Clementi
• J.Philip & Jennefer Dinapoli	• Jim Sanfilippo
• Guglielmo Family Winery	• Joanne & Gene Sanfilippo
• Joe & Carmello Gullo	• Carlo & Rosa Severo
• Janice & James Jones	• Virginia Sincich
• Kathy & Larry Lohman	• Paul & Mary Stabile
• Bill McCraw	• Clarence & Nanci Wilborn
	• Tony Zerbo

Carpet Fund Goal: \$14,000



 \$6,800 Funds Donated
 \$7,200 Funds Needed

*Good Food,
Good Wine,
Good Friends
for a Good Cause*



The sun shone brightly on June 8th at the home of Carlo Severo and his wife, Rosa, as 24 friends and fans of IAHF gathered to enjoy a festive fundraiser luncheon.

Carlo Severo, a newly elected Board Member, is working hard to beautify our building and prepare for our 40th anniversary. Funds raised that afternoon will go to build a new and more efficient bar in our facility. Carlo and Rosa opened their home and donated their many talents to host a glorious summer afternoon fundraiser!

Guests sipped Prosecco and delighted in assorted crostini as they listened to the piano stylings of guest artist, Sasha Lungonovic. As friends mingled in the garden, Rosa and Carlo were busy putting the final touches on their lunch repast, assisted by club member Kathy DeMerit who multitasked as entertainer, server, and IAHF promoter. The menu featured mixed green salad with caprese crostini, Rigitoni with Carlo's special Bolognese sauce, potato torta and Chicken a la Rosa—a delicious dish featuring grilled chicken tenders, cream sauce and spinach. Laughter and chatter filled the air as each course was presented with a selection of red or white wine. Dessert

was not to be missed that afternoon: fresh berries topped cheesecake and our hosts drizzled their homemade limoncello over the top. The last of the guests headed home just in time to see the Warriors game that evening.

Club member and master craftsman, Jim Souther, of Grasswood Cabinets will be working along side our President, David Perzinski to craft and install an updated and refreshed bar serving station. Not only will the bar add great working space, it will enhance the many other updates being planned for the inside of our cultural center. We have now \$640 and our goal is \$1200.

We are grateful for the care, contributions and donations that our members and special friends make to maintain our heritage home, and especially we look to our future.

Want to belly up to a new bar? Meet and greet new friends? Host your own in-home fundraising event? Contact Carlo for advice and suggestions. As a special incentive, club member Kathy DeMerit will donate set-up, serving and cleaning assistance for your event.

— Article Written by Kathy DeMerit 

IAHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016

IAHF OFFICERS

- David Perzinski - President / *Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation*
- Ken Borelli - *1st Vice President / IAHF Events (including Annual Italian Festa) / Cultural Activities / Grants*
- Joanne Sanfilippo - *2nd Vice President / Building Administration and Maintenance / Hall Rentals*
- Richard Stewart - *3rd Vice President / Marketing and Publicity / Newsletters / Library and Archives / Scholarship Program / Website / Social Media*
- Frank De Turrís - *Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer*
- Corinne Tomeo - *Corporate Secretary*

IAHF DIRECTORS AT LARGE

- Linda Gaudio Binkley - *Board Member / Scholarship Chair*
- Joyce Allegro - *Board Member*
- Diane Ayala - *Board Member*
- Marie Bertola - *Board Member*
- Steve Cornaglia - *Board Member*
- Pamela Oliver Lyons - *Board Member*
- Carlo Severo - *Board Member*
- Nancy Arata Wilborn - *Board Member*
- Tony Zerbo - *Board Member / Publicity Chair*

Cena Fuori



Florentine Trattoria

on Big Basin Way in Saratoga



Once again, and thanks to Ken Borelli's organizing skills, the IAHF cena fuori was a great success. The owner of the Florentine Trattoria, Raffaello, a paesano calabrese, did an outstanding job of satisfying 40 hungry diners with appetizers of bruschetta (the tomatoes were delicious!), salad tossed in Raffaello's unique house dressing and served with warm flatbread and a spicy house-made cheese spread. The pasta was served family style and only empty bowls returned to the kitchen. We were given our choice of entrees. The eggplant parmigiana was delicious and beautifully presented. The salmon and chicken dishes looked mouthwatering and indeed everyone was happy. Some of us simply could not finish and had to bring a portion of our entrees home. The tiramisu served for dessert was fresh and light and fluffy and flavorful.

If you have never joined us for cena fuori please know how welcome you would be. This IAHF social evening is your membership in action; it is the IAHF supporting the Italian community. Cena fuori dinners are the last Thursday of most months. There is no need to pay in advance, but you must reserve your seat. Dinner is \$30.00 per person. Wine is not included.

Our June dinner will be at the Villa Napoli and in July we will be hosted by Sorelle. We skip August due to the

Festa where we should all be participating and volunteering! To secure a Festa volunteer slot, please contact volunteers@italianfamilyfestasj.org.

Please remember that if you reserve a seat for cena fuori be sure to call and cancel if you are not able to attend. Seating is often limited and in that case there is always a waiting list. Empty chairs impact a potential participant as well as the restaurant host. Thanks so much for your consideration. Look for the announcements in the newsletter and join us!

-- Article Written by Linda Binkley 🍷



Ken Borelli with Trattoria owner Raffaello

A Little Italian By Request

If you plan to travel in Italy here a few survival phrases to ease you through the process.

Article Written by Linda Binkley ☺



Sto solo guardando. - I'm just looking.

Poi? - Anything else?

Qualcos'altro? - Something else?

Basta così. - That's all.

Vorrei..., per favore. - I would like..., please.

Prendo... - I'll take...

Ho bisogno di aiuto - I need help.

Mi piace. - I like it.

Non mi piace. - I don't like it.

Posso pagare con il bancomat? - Can I pay with my debit card?

Accettate carte di credito? - Do you (all) accept credit cards?

Accettiamo soltanto i contanti. - We only accept cash.

Sto cercando... - I'm looking for...

Dove sono i camerini? - Where are the fitting rooms?

Non mi sta bene. - It doesn't fit me well.

È comodo. - It's comfortable.

Questi (stivali) sono scomodi. - These (boots) are uncomfortable.

Preferisco (la rosa). - I prefer pink.

Vorrei cambiare questo, per favore. - I would like to exchange this, please.

Stai veramente bene con (quel vestito). - You look great in that dress. (informal)

L'alta moda. - High fashion.

If you enjoy this type of exercise and studying Italian in general, we recommend www.about.com Italian language. It is a free service and even has an interactive blog.

A Beautiful Woman



in Venice

Sunday, May 22, saw a wonderful presentation at the IAHF, featuring Kathleen Gonzalez, the author of "A Beautiful Woman in Venice". Along with her commentary came some of the music composed by these exceptionally talented ladies. There is one observation about this performances. Some times there are perfect storms, and some time there is perfection. We all do our best to make each event enjoyable and a great experience, but the Venetian event was truly close to perfection and an amazing cultural experience.

It started off with a review of Kathleen's book, some of the biographies of the woman of Venice, followed by an example of their art including the music of Antonia Bembo, Barbara Strozzi, Antonio Vivaldi, and Giochino Rossini. The works were preformed by Tina Paulson accompanied by Gordon Haramaki continuo, Paul Federghi, bass, and Benjamin Belew, piano. These were all accomplished musicians and the selections preformed were in Italian, or the Venetian dialect.

The actual content was very lively and reflected the reality of the famed courtesans of Venice. The performance also highlighted a, rare for the times, advanced state of the role of woman in the arts and politics of the day. These ladies were about two centuries ahead of themselves, and judging from the world today, still more advanced in the area of woman's rights, than many countries even today.

While their lives were not easy, their struggles in the arts, and their successes were richly on display at this event. As an historical fact, these ladies helped lay a much-needed understanding of the contribution of woman artist during the Renaissance and beyond. We are much indebted to Kathleen's labor of love along with the interpretive voice of Tina Paulson as we explore the amazing world of the woman artist of Venice.

-- Article Written by Ken Borelli ☺



IAMLA

Grand Opening

Thanks to the generosity of IAMLA Members, Founding Families, the City of Los Angeles, and corporate and community partners, we are pleased to announce that the IAMLA will be opening its doors in August.

IAMLA Members will receive an invitation to a special, member's-only reception that will take place prior to the museum's public opening.

Not a member? Join the IAMLA or renew your membership by August 1st to receive an invitation to the member's-only event. You can also inquire about your membership status by [clicking here](#).

Information about the IAMLA's public opening will be shared shortly.

IAMLA Construction Update

The restoration of the Museum's historic façade, made possible by a generous grant from the GH Palmer Family Foundation, concluded last week. The Italian Hall's historic cornice, which was removed in the 1960s, has been replaced, along with the ornate inset panels and corbels.

The painting of the interior is also complete, along with the restoration of the wainscoting. Thanks to a generous gift from Rode Bros. Flooring and the Audino family, the IAMLA's 108-year-old hardwood floors have also been restored. See the before and after images below!

The IAMLA's enormous smart glass exhibition panels have also been installed and are ready for their debut! The panels will be used to project exhibition content in a truly dynamic way. The IAMLA is one of the only institutions in the country to utilize this technology. To protect and properly illuminate the artifacts on display, the IAMLA installed a UV blocking window system that eliminates the sun's harmful rays and

museum-quality lighting. Next week, the installation of the IAMLA's permanent exhibition begins.

"The IAMLA is not simply a museum for or about Italians," says executive director and historian Marianna Gatto. "Through interactive exhibitions and public programming, the IAMLA explores the contributions of Italian Americans in the creation of the multiethnic Southern California Metropolis and sheds light on the history of a region that has shaped the world." Anticipated to welcome upwards of two million diverse visitors annually, 300,000 of which will be students, the IAMLA is uniquely situated to communicate the seldom-explored chapter of the nation's history. IAMLA president Paul Pagnone adds, "this is our gift to the city of Los Angeles. We are thankful to the many individuals who helped create this legacy for our children, and our children's children."

IAMLA in the News

Unearthing the Lost History of LA's Little Italy

Last month, National Public Radio (NPR) featured a story about Los Angeles' historic Little Italy and the soon-to-open IAMLA. The story included interviews with Robert Bozzani, whose family operated a bicycle shop in the early 1900s adjacent to the Italian Hall, historian Larry DiStasi, whose work has helped raise awareness of the internment of Italian Americans during World War II, IAMLA executive director and historian Marianna Gatto, and IAMLA manager of programming and Milan native, Francesca Guerrini.

Taste of Italy 2016

The IAMLA invites you to our eighth annual food and wine event, Taste of Italy. This year, Taste of Italy will take place

on Saturday, October 1st, 2016. The heart of historic Downtown Los Angeles will be transformed into a charming Italian Piazza, where Italophiles join celebrities, dignitaries, and philanthropists to eat, drink, and mingle at this upscale, ticketed event.

Taste of Italy is a benefit for the IAMLA, and will feature the region's best Italian restaurants, authentic Italian products, and world-class Italian wines, with live performances in a spectacular, historical setting.



[BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!](#)

Make History Happen.

Support the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles. Making a charitable contribution to the IAMLA is an excellent way to reduce your tax burden while supporting education and the preservation of history. Your gift, regardless of its size, makes a difference.

[Make a Gift Now](#)

[Join the IAMLA](#)

[Gifts of Stock, Securities or Real Estate](#)

[Donate Your Unwanted Vehicle](#)

-- Article Submitted by Ken Borelli 



Upcoming Election of **IAHF Board of Directors**

Save The Date for the IAHF Annual Membership Dinner on Thursday, October 20, 2016.

Election of Directors on the Agenda!

If you are interested in serving on the 2017 Board of Directors, you may obtain an application form by contacting the office and completing the application form by deadline date of September 13, 2016. At this time, we do not know the number of openings that may be available at the end of this year.

Here are a few notes quoted from our bylaws with reference to Article V, Directors:

Section 1. There shall be fifteen (15) directors, including the President.

Section 2 – Adult members in good standing for (6) six months prior to the beginning of their term shall be eligible

to hold the position of director. Only one person from the immediate family may serve on the Board at the same time.

Section 4. Terms – Each director shall be elected to a two (2) year term of office. Elected directors shall take office on the first day of the following January There shall be no limitations on the number of terms a director may serve, however, consecutive terms shall be limited to three (3).

Board of Directors meetings are usually held once a month, date and time to be announced at the beginning of the new year.

If you have further questions, feel free to contact Marge Valente, Chair of Nominating/Election Committee for 2016. You may obtain her email address and/or home phone number at the IAHF office. Completed application forms should be directed to Marge Valente, c/o IAHF, 425 No. 4th Street, San Jose, CA 95112. ☺



Buon Anniversario

CELEBRATING OUR PAST
BRIDGING OUR FUTURE



A 40th Year anniversary celebration of the founding of the Italian American Heritage Foundation (IAHF) is planned for Saturday, November 5th, which will be held at the IAHF hall.

June 29th, 1976, was when the 15 IAHF original founders went to Sacramento to sign the State of California Articles of Incorporation, which established the IAHF as a 501-C3 non-profit organization, with a dedicated mission to preserve and promote the rich culture of Italy and to recognize the achievements made by Americans of Italian descent.

Board member and Chairperson, Carlo Severo, and his committee, are planning an exciting evening, which will include serving an elegant 5 course Italian dinner, preceded by Italian style hors d'oeuvres.

Dancing to a large live band will follow the dinner, culminating in which will be a historic evening of camaraderie and long lasting memories that the IAHF has instilled into the local Italian Community for the past 40 years.

A video presentation of the IAHF's 40 year's history will be one of the added highlights. Please send pictures and other memorabilia that you might have and want to share to: Tony Zerbo, c/o the IAHF office. His email is tony.zerbo@iahfsj.org. His cell phone IS 408-768-3565.

Forthcoming ticket sales for tables of 8 or 10 will soon be on sale at the IAHF office and also on its web site at www.iahfsj.org. ☺

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The founding of the Italian Republic is always a timely reminder of how young Italy is. Italy, historically, is a very old land; however, unity under a republic is a relatively new phenomenon. When many of our ancestors immigrated to the USA, Italy was a monarchy, and a young one at that. In a hundred years, it went from a kingdom to a republic, in one of the most turbulent times in human history. Its not surprising then, that there are so many mixed emotions tied into this celebration.

Our annual Festa lunch also featured a special guest, Michael Parenti, who talked about growing up in a long gone "Little Italy" called Italian Harlem in New York City. Parenti's talk was not at all an exercise in nostalgia, but growing up in a rough part of Manhattan, by no means a gentrified enclave. He grew up interacting with his neighborhood, before, during and in the aftermath of World War II. His talk was tied into our theme of the founding of the Italian Republic, especially as it related to "us" as Italian Americans. Michael also touched upon the emotional conflicts this caused for both Italians and Italian Americans, who's bonds were sorely tested during the war and post war years.

As is always the case, these lectures and discussions raised more areas to explore. Michael is an engaging and thoughtful speaker and his book "Waiting for Yesterday", reflects a dynamic and inquisitive mind. I am particularly indebted to our Castro Valley IAHF member Richard Vanucci, who encouraged us to seek Michael out. I am currently on my second read of the book. Parenti's talk also ties into board member Pam Lyons efforts to establish a forum for memoir writing at the IAHF. Trying to save, document, and promote our Italian heritage is what the IAHF is about! In fact the Cultural Village at the Festa this year will also be promoting many of these vital recollections.

And speaking of recollections, we had a special tribute to Norma Mestice, this year, in memory and honor of all her support of the IAHF. Both the Festa and this event were some of her favorite activities. At the Lunch, Sandi Strouse, her daughter, with the help of her family, created a moving tribute to her mom in the form of Italian costumes that either Norma made or purchased in Italy. We are hoping to have some of them available at the festa for an exhibit too. Norma was a tireless volunteer and was definitely a part of the life of the organization for many years, and her legacy lives still in many of our events and projects.

A word of thanks is in order to the event driving force Zina Russo, who was the Chair of the event. In the past her Co-chair was her husband Conrad Russo. The event was in coordination with the President of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Dave Cortese. A flag raising was held prior to the lunch at the county plaza. A special word of thanks to the Guglielmo Winery of Morgan Hill for the donation of their award winning wines for the lunch. While we missed our honorary Vice consul, who recently retired, Silvia Raviola, we had the support of the office of the Consulship in

San Francisco, and we anticipate next year the support of a new honorary consul general for the San Jose, Silicon Valley community. Thanks too to our vocalists, Alice Heemsterk and Alba Saliccia, for their renditions of the American and Italian national anthems, and to Father Gobbo, who provided the benediction both at the flag raising and lunch and to our tireless IAHF volunteers who made this event possible. They included IAHF president, Dave Perzinski, Lucia Clementi, Carmella Gullo, Madeline Damiano, Gilda De Simone-Groccia, Maria Bandy, Dorothy Lopresti, and Denise Wyatt. My apologies, if I have omitted any other volunteers in this special "grazie".

— Article Written by Ken Borelli 🌀



Photo by Pam Oliver Lyons

Appreciation Night FOR CONSUL GENERAL BATTOCCHI



June had to be one of the busiest months on record for activities at the IAHF. Many of the members of the Board, our language program director, Delia Schizzano, and President of the SCC Board of Supervisors, Dave Cortese, attended a special tribute for our Consul General, Mauro Battocchi. The event was held on June 9th at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. It was sold out and brought organizations from throughout the Bay Area to celebrate Mauro's achievements. Even though it was a "celebration", the reality was it was also a fond "good by" to an amazing Consul General. It was sooner than we expected, or wanted to believe, but his term was up and he was to rotate to a new assignment by the Italian Government. He will be off to the Italian State Department in Rome, followed by a replacement, we think in September. Such is life in the diplomatic corp.

In his four years at San Francisco, Mauro has truly been an innovator related to technology, hosting several Silicon Valley forums, promoting the Italian Language, especially among youth, keeping Italian an official language for college entrance exams, and updating operations at the consulate, especially regarding Italian citizenship. He has also hosted many regional forums, and provided ways that Italian American organizations can better work together. He also has visited the south bay many times, especially during our Festa. His

leadership certainly will be missed, His parting remarks and optimism for our community was preceded by organizations being able to say some brief remarks along with, for Santa Clara County, a resolution of commendation from Board of Supervisor President Dave Cortese. As noted the event was sold out and tables were limited. We were fortunate to have two tables for the IAHF delegation. Spirits were very high and a lot of important contacts were made or re energized.

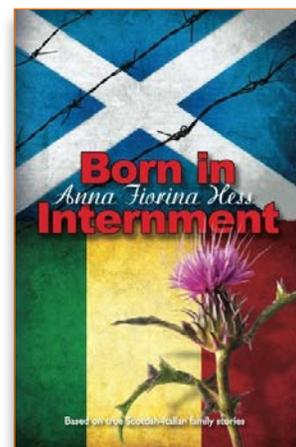
Mauro, with his leadership by example paved the way for greater communication and coordination from the various organization, including the Consulate itself. And for that we are truly grateful. Another person who I must commend is Alessandro Baccari, the unofficial Dean of Italian Americana on the West Coast. The event was partly his brainchild and with his tireless energy was able to make this stunning event possible. When Alessandro calls, you know he means business! He is a local legend and we are fortunate to consider him a friend. There will be more about the connections made from the celebratory dinner and even some field trips are being planned. For the moment, a sad "arrivederci e grazie tante" to Mauro and his partner, Asher. And we hope to see them in San Francisco some day, or who knows even in Roma!

— Article Written by Ken Borelli 🌀

Guest Speaker for the July Regional Lunch!



We just got confirmation that Anna Fiorina (Bertellotti) Hess will be a guest speaker at our July 21st Regional Lunch. The region we are highlighting is Tuscany, and will include a discussion of Anna's book "Born in Internment". Anna was born in Scotland during the war, and because her father was an Italian National from Tuscany, he was considered an enemy alien and interned for most of the war. Anna's uncle was visiting Italy before the war broke out and ended up hiding from the Italian Fascists, and joining the partisans in the Tuscan hill country. Anna's Tuscan family, trying to escape a bombing, tried to flee to a small hill town. Anna's mother could not walk fast enough, which basically saved the family's life. The village they almost went to was totally destroyed and hundreds died, in a horrific massacre at Sant'Anna by the Nazis. Anna's talk is one of a family's resilience, and the book itself is a very compelling read. Join us at the IAHF for a Regional Lunch and learn a bit about Tuscan history during the war years, along with information about a still vibrant Italian community in Scotland. — Article Written by Ken Borelli 🌀



IAHF *Library* NEWS

The IAHF library is much more than just books

SICILY WITHOUT ITS LESSER ISLANDS IS INCOMPLETE

Three archipelagos plus two solitary islands surround Sicily. Like the main island, these islands have volcanic origins and million years of history.

Archeologists have traced the beginning of human presence to the Bronze Age. Remnants of primitive villages still remain. Many countries have conquered and ruled these islands during the past three thousand plus years.

Saracens during the 9th century and Barbary Coast Pirates during the 16th century either killed or removed all inhabitants and sold them into slavery. People coming from the big island and the mainland repopulated the islands years later.

Most tourists are either not familiar with them or ignore them all together. Italian and Northern European tourists vacation in islands in search of tranquility, crystal clear waters, and the good life.

Local islanders are extremely proud of their history and heritage. Although part of Sicily, locals prefer to identify with their own island.

For the seafood lover, these islands offer a cornucopia of fresh fish. Tuna, sword, mackerel, grouper, spiny lobster, red shrimps, and other crustaceans are plentiful. They say that the best capers come from these islands as well. The local cuisine resembles its Sicilian cousin, but has its unique preparation. Fishing, tourism, and winemaking are the main commercial activities.

Alexander Dumas, the famous French writer and author of the Count of Monte Cristo, wrote extensively about the beauty of the Aeolian Islands.

Three Archipelagos

There are seven islands in the Aeolian Islands archipelago, located off the North Eastern Coast of Sicily, easily reachable from Milazzo, Messina, and other major maritime towns along the Tyrrhenian Sea. The largest island and chief municipality is Lipari. The other islands are Stromboli, Vulcano, Alicudi, Filicudi, Salina, and Panarea. Visitors say that Salina is the most beautiful. Panarea, the smallest, is the chosen destination by the rich and famous. About 10,000



people live in these islands.

The Egadi Islands sit on the North Western side of Sicily across from the main cities of Marsala and Trapani. They can be easily accessed from a number of ports. The largest and most developed island is Favignana, the main municipality. The other islands are Levanzo, Marettimo, Formica, and Maraone. Less than 5,000 people live in these islands year around.

The Pelagie Islands sit in the Mediterranean Sea, closer to Africa than to Sicily. Three islands comprise this archipelago. Lampedusa is the largest and its municipality. The others are Linosa and Lampione. Lampedusa has been in the news in the recent past as the favorite destination for the mass emigration to Europe from the Libyan and Tunisian coasts. Approximately 6,000 people live in these islands. Daily flights as well as ferries connect these islands with the big island.

Solitary Islands

Pantelleria is located 60 miles east of Tunisia, in the channel separating the African continent from Sicily. Archeological explorations have found dwellings and artifacts 35,000 years old. Tunisia is visible on clear days. The island is known for its fertile soil, its much-appreciated Zibibbo wine, and its capers. The island boasts a natural preserve, hot springs, and a large lake. Several large wineries have outposts on the island. About 7,800 people live on the island. Daily flights and ferry service connect the island with Trapani and Palermo.

Ustica is located about 50 miles North of Palermo on the Tyrrhenian Sea. Due to water scarcity, there is little vegetation on the island.

The island is a favorite destination for scuba diving. Several scuba diving schools thrive on the island. International diving competitions are often held there. Approximately 1,300 people live in the island. There are daily flights and ferry service connecting the island with Palermo.

During fascist times, some of these island were used as prison colonies for anti-fascists and mafia bosses.

continued >>>>

Personal Experience

I was born in Sicily in the small village of Tusa, across the Aeolian Islands. On clear days you could see four of them. Sicilians call these islands the Floating Islands because they seem to float away and disappear during hazy days, only to reappear on clearer days.

I did visit the Egadi Islands a few years back and was impressed by their beauty, history, and especially the unspoiled Marettimo. Once privately held, these islands' history is not as compelling as the Aeolians or that of the Pelagie and Pantelleria.

In 2009, after I retired, I decided to visit two of the Aeolian Islands. Accompanied by my sister-in-law and a visiting friend from America.

I was blown away by what I found. A truly enchanting and fascinating place! We only visited Lipari and Vulcano.

It was a memorable visit. I did not know what to expect. I found a mysterious world wrapped around Greek mythology and modern day legend.

Lipari is a thriving island. Approximately 200,000 visitors visit the archipelago every year.

Once Lipari was the center of industries that have pretty much disappeared: pumice and obsidian glass mining.

A 60-minute taxi tour took us to the mountaintop from where you could see the island of Salina and admire the many coves and farallones dotting the nearby sea, remnants of pre-historic volcanic eruptions.

If you like the splendor of flowering oleanders, bougainvillea, and prickly pears, you will not be disappointed. They are the ubiquitous trademarks of all the Mediterranean islands.

Vulcano is only 30-minutes away from Lipari by ferry. As the ferry approaches the island, you can smell the acrid odor emanating from the many fumaroles. Not far from the port, you will come up on thermal hot springs and mud where visitors frolic basking in search of curative results.

This past May, thanks to an invitation from a visiting American friend, I returned to the islands. This time we would visit Stromboli and Panarea. Stromboli is still an active volcano with punctual eruptions, once every 100 years or so, they say. Every night around seven Stromboli delights passing ships with small eruptions.

The island became famous after WWII by the filming of the movie by the same name starring Ingrid Bergman. The love affair between Rossellini and Bergman was a big scandal because she was a married woman and, prompted the U.S. Senate to declare Bergman persona



non-grata.

The house where the two consumed their tryst still stands and is now a private museum. It is very small, two rooms. It is decorated with many posters including a large copy of the letter Ingrid Bergman wrote to Rossellini applying for the job. The film received the best foreign film award and launched Bergman toward a great career.

A few years ago a large part of Stromboli came crashing down unleashing a tsunami wave. You can still see the sheared side of the conical island. A 30-minute electric cart-assisted tour left us in awe of the power of nature.

Panarea is the smallest of the seven islands, but the most popular with the rich and famous. Whitewashed houses, exclusive hotels, black sand beaches remind the visitor of the Greek islands. The island boasts the smallest port in all of Italy in Ginostra. It is called Purtusu, a Sicilian word for the word hole.

We docked in San Vincenzo, the main town. A 45-minute electric cart-assisted tour of the island left us thankful for having visited. The island is truly beautiful and equipped to handle the large tourist crowd.

Greek Mythology

Much mythology is associated with the Aeolian Islands.

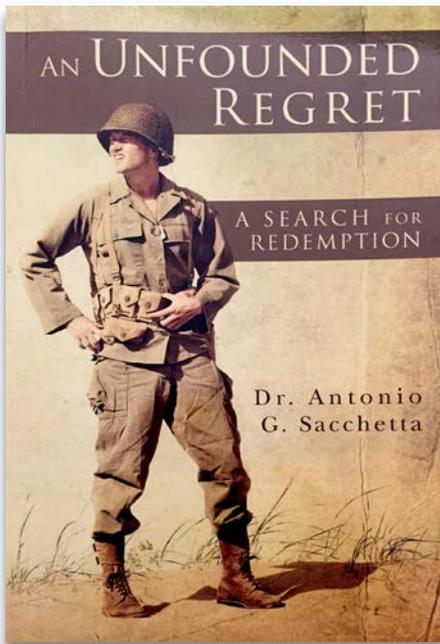
The Greeks had answers for all phenomena around them. They believed that the semi-god Aeolos lived on these islands. He was the god of the winds. Nearby lived the semi-god Hephaestus (Vulcan to the Romans). He was the god of fire, metalworking, and the forge. He was responsible for providing the higher gods with advanced weapons with which to go to battle.

Homer in the Odyssey tells us that the god of the sea Neptune would visit his buddy Aeolos when in bad mood to solicit his help in creating havoc. Together they would unleash epic storms throughout the seas. Hephaestus would fire up his forge with the help of his minions, the feared one-eyed Cyclops, to unleash lightning and thunder.

In My Bucket List

No visit to Sicily is complete until you visit the Aeolians. On my next trip I plan to visit Salina and Filicudi. I want to stay overnight and not rush back to the big island. Many B&Bs provide scenic accommodations. I also have it on my list to visit Pantelleria.

– Article and photos by Antonio (Tony) Tasca, Ph.D. 🌀



An Unfounded Regret

By Dr. Antonio G. Sacchetta

The novel chronicles the painful experiences of two young Sicilian brothers drafted by the Italian Royal Army during World War II, and their search for redemption afterwards.

Renzo, the older brother, in his dying days shares his experience while stationed in Athens, Greece. His Nazi counterparts accuse him of sympathizing with the enemy, tortured him and send him to a concentration camp, only to be freed by local partisans.

Carlo, the younger brother, recalls surviving the carnage inflicted on the Italian Acqui Division in Cephalonia at the hands of the Nazis. Of more than 10,500 men, less than 500 survived the Nazi massacre. Carlo was one of them, but is captured and interned in a concentration camp.

The novel includes as appendices a short history of Sicily and 15 carefully selected recipes.

The novel can be purchased from Amazon.com in paperback or in Kindle format.

-- Submitted by Antonio (Tony) Tasca, Ph.D. 🌀

It's never too late!

Memoir Writing on Saturday July 9th, "Adding the Sparkle! Editing" with Edie Matthews, teacher, author & SouthBay Writers member.

July 23rd "Feet in Both Worlds!" with Kathleen Gonzalez, teacher & author of books based on Venice, Italy.

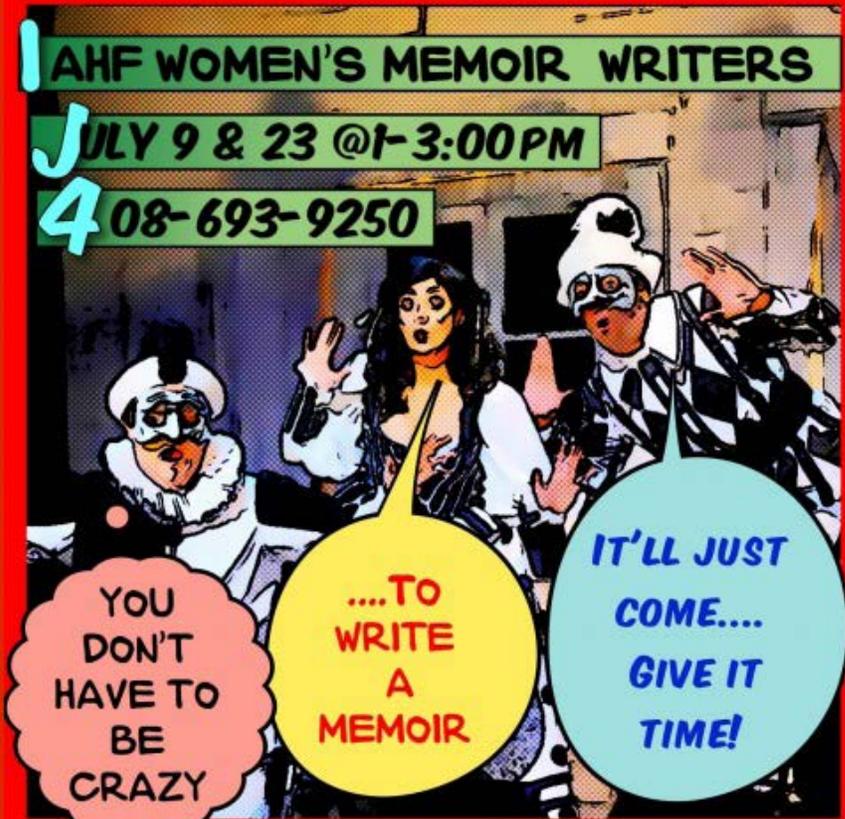
July 9 & 23rd
1:00pm - 3:00pm

The Location
425 N Fourth St., San Jose, CA
www.iahfsj.org

IAHF WOMEN'S MEMOIR WRITERS

JULY 9 & 23 @ 1-3:00 PM

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YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE CRAZY

...TO WRITE A MEMOIR

IT'LL JUST COME.... GIVE IT TIME!

A Message from Richard Stewart | IAHF Newsletter Editor

It's always great to get stories from members of the IAHF for the Newsletter. It adds vitality, diversity, and a sense of family and community.

I'll be looking forward to your contributions. Please send your proofread entries to Richard Stewart at news@iahfsj.org Thank you! 🌀



The Little Church That Could

Oratorio di San Protaso, Milan



The Smiling Eggplant | Posted: 07 Jun 2016 06:43 PM PDT

This is the little church that could. You know the enormous cathedral of Milan, the Duomo, right in the center of town?

Well this Little Church That Could is the anti-Duomo. It is the smallest church in Milan, it is obscure, it is poor, it is plain, it has a terrible location and it is usually locked. It is also adorable.

Its story is irresistibly appealing. The Oratorio has been around for about a thousand years and was originally in the countryside around Milan. The city grew and grew, and in the twentieth century the Lorenteggio-Giambellino area went from being rural to being a part of Milan, with its own subway stop. My mother's youngest sister used to live there back in the Sixties.

So why is it The Little Church That Could? It survived intact through the centuries. While other churches, farmhouses,

and gardens were destroyed, The Little Church heroically avoided demolition, and now occupies the median strip of Via Lorenteggio. A group of local citizens strenuously opposed its razing. Yes, its tiny millennial self sits right there in the middle of Milan traffic. Personally, I think it speaks of spirituality more than the Duomo.

It wouldn't be The Little Church That Could without its very own website (in Italian.) Check it out at sanprotasolorenteggio/homeit Included pictures of the fine artworks in the interior. The Little Church (did I mention that it was adorable?) is usually not open to the public, but is used from time to time for special events.

If you are interested in all things Italian please sign on the The Smiling Eggplant blog. The blog author is a gifted writer and thorough in her research. -- Submitted by Linda Binkley 



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2016 IAHF Membership Renewal

2016 membership renewal letters have been mailed to all of our members. If you haven't sent your renewal membership dues in yet, please consider doing so as soon as possible. You will receive a 2016 membership card and a confirmation letter. As always, we thank you for your support of the IAHF! - Lucia Clementi 

Marin Italian Film Festival

Celebrating 40 Years!!



We have just secured the schedule for the 2016 Italian Film Festival, located in Marin County by the Civic Center, off highway 101 (Sept 24th-Nov 5). The founder and organizer of the film festival is Lido Cantarutti. He is a long time friend of the IAHF, consulted with us when we had our mini film festivals several years back, and has assembled a great schedule of events. This year the festival will be 40th year old. The complete schedule is located on the online version of the IAHF news letter or if you wish you can Google the festival listing yourself at www.italianfilm.com. All films are

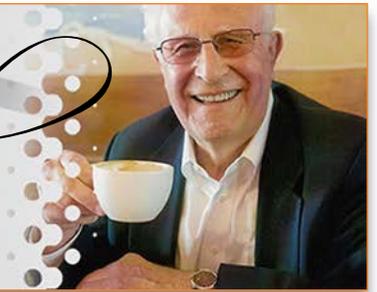
in Italian with English subtitles. We are considering a field trip to Marin on opening night September 24 and trying to work on a special rate at a motel for those who may want to stay over night. More on this activity as plans unfold. The opening night film is *Noi e la guilia*, a comic adventure interspersed with a confrontation with the Camorra.

Tickets: <https://tickets.marincenter.org/eventperformances.asp?evt=30>

-- Article Written by Ken Borelli | kjosephb@aol.com 

Lido Cantarutti

Honored



PR Newswire

Lido Cantarutti, Director of the Italian Film Festival of Marin County, CA, Honored by the Italian Government

Oct 14, 2015, 21:32 ET from Italian Film Festival of Marin County

SAN RAFAEL, Calif., Oct. 14, 2015 / PRNewswire/-- Lido Cantarutti, director of the Italian Film Festival and long-time resident of Marin County, CA, has been acknowledged by the President of the Republic of Italy with the promotion and conferral of the title of Commendatore dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana (Knight Commander of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy).

The award recognizes his thirty-nine years as director of the Festival, and his thirty years as an Italian language teacher at the College of Marin, Kentfield, CA.

Commendatore is the third of five levels of knighthood. Mr. Cantarutti was previously honored as Cavaliere (Knight) and Cavaliere Ufficiale (Knight Officer). This year, Commendator Cantarutti is one of only four American-born recipients of this rare honor.

The Order of Merit of the Italian Republic was established in 1951 and is the highest-ranking honor of the Italian Republic. The award recognizes meritorious service to Italy in various cultural fields, including the arts, literature, and public service.

The award will be presented to Commendator Cantarutti by the Honorable Mauro Battocchi, the Consul General of Italy in San Francisco, CA, at the Italian Film Festival on Saturday, October 31, 2015.

The thirty-ninth anniversary year the Italian Film Festival runs through November 7, 2015 at the Marin Center Showcase Theatre in San Rafael, CA. The Festival screens contemporary and classic Italian films in a festive atmosphere. For information and to order tickets, contact the Marin Center Box Office at (415) 473-6800, or visit the Festival's web site at <http://www.italianfilm.com>.

Contact: Lido Cantarutti

Phone: (415) 456-4056

E-mail: lido@italianfilm.com

Web: <http://www.italianfilm.com>

Photo - <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20151014/277149>

Source: Italian Film Festival of Marin County

-- Article Submitted by Ken Borelli 

RENO'S ITALIAN AMERICANS



From: o • n • e | Online Nevada Encyclopedia
<http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/renos-italian-americans>

For almost 150 years Reno, Nevada, has had an Italian American presence. In the late 1860s, Italian immigrants began migrating to the Truckee Meadows and its surroundings. After arriving in American ports on the West Coast as well as the East Coast, the immigrants who had the means moved to more amenable locations in the interior of the country. They sought out areas of the United States where the climates would be similar to those they had left behind in Europe. They also desired to move to locations where either a plentiful number of jobs were available or where the land was cheap enough so that they could earn a living from farming or ranching. Northwestern Nevada satisfied all these demands. The dry, mountainous terrain is similar to that of many of the provinces in northern Italy where most of the local Italian families emigrated from. Furthermore, the Truckee Meadows was a rare oasis of cheap and fertile land within the vast and barren Great Basin region.

Initially, Italians streamed into the area to work on the Transcontinental Railroad. Most early local Italians were young single men living in boardinghouses in and around the small town of Reno. After the completion of the railroad in 1869, Italian immigrants continued to move to the area in significant numbers to work at the local ranches and lumber companies, and this trend lasted through the first few decades of the twentieth century.

Most of these families engaged in “chain migration.” This is a process whereby the initial immigrants reported their experiences in their new home back to the people they knew who still lived in Italy. Those still in Europe, attracted by these accounts, then gradually migrated to the new country. In the Reno area, this process repeated itself numerous times over many decades, eventually resulting in the local development of a close-knit community of Italians by the mid-twentieth century.

After arriving at their new home, Reno's Italian Americans gradually created distinctive ethnic neighborhoods throughout the valley. Three major Italian areas developed in the Truckee Meadows starting in the late nineteenth and continuing throughout the twentieth century: one in central Sparks along Prater Way, one in north Reno along Washington Street, and one along the Truckee River just west of downtown. These

districts were conveniently located within easy walking or driving distance to some of the major employers of local Italian Americans—the Union Pacific freight depot in Sparks and the many Italian-owned shops, restaurants, and other small businesses located along Lake Street in downtown Reno. Furthermore, these neighborhoods represent different levels of achievement on the local socioeconomic scale for members of this ethnic group. Many of the houses located in the Washington Street neighborhood, for instance, are larger and were built with sturdier materials than those in Powning Addition near downtown or in the Sparks district. This is due to the fact that many of the Italian Americans who lived in that neighborhood were older immigrants who had more firmly established themselves economically and socially in the community. Often they had moved to the Washington Street neighborhood after spending an initial period in other ethnic enclaves.

Each of these neighborhoods features an abundance of one particular style of domestic architecture. From the 1910s until the 1940s, Italian immigrants constructed many Craftsman-style homes in their Truckee Meadows enclaves. These houses distinctively feature shallow sloping roofs, upstairs dormer windows, and tapered columns. The immigrants built these wide, low-rising dwellings to take full advantage of the small sizes of their neighborhood lots. While this style of home design is not exclusive to the Italian American community, this particular local immigrant group did make almost exclusive use of this style because of its efficient use of lot space, its simple design and construction, and the inexpensive nature of the required building materials. In fact, many local Italian Americans would even pass the same small collection of house plans around from family to family, thereby saving each family the cost of having to purchase their own plans for their individual homes.

Today, many Craftsman-style homes remain in all three of the major Italian American districts in the Truckee Meadows. The City of Reno's Historic Resources Commission even officially designated the Powning Addition neighborhood west of downtown as a conservation district in 2008. While not carrying the weight of a full historic district, this designation does enable the city to provide guidance and information for neighborhood homeowners interested in restoring their historic properties. The valuable historic character of this collection of homes and streetscapes so important to the area's Italian American

community is now being painstakingly preserved by volunteer residents with the official backing of the City of Reno.

While their houses functioned as symbols of their rising social status, the many small business enterprises run by northern Nevada's Italian Americans functioned as a major means of achieving financial stability and social mobility among members of this ethnic group. Many local Italians, lacking a formal American education as well as inherent knowledge of American cultural norms and even the English language, saw the formation of small shops, restaurants, and other enterprises as an accessible path to financial and social success for both themselves and their families. Some of Reno's most popular businesses, past and present, have been owned and operated by local Italian Americans. The Eldorado Hotel and Casino, the Mizpah Hotel, the Sportsman, First National Bank of Nevada, and Pioneer Citizens Bank are a few examples of prominent establishments that were started by local Italians.

Once local Italian immigrants established these small businesses, they then often used them to provide needed employment for their fellow immigrants. Specific local enterprises were known around town for providing gainful employment to members of the Italian American community. Various employees of the First National Bank of Nevada, for example, recall in their oral histories how Italians had a notable presence in the organization, from the executives in the top offices down to the tellers on the main floor. On a smaller scale, Italian American-owned neighborhood shops such as the Dainty Cake Shop and Pinky's Market were also staffed mostly by Italian Americans who were either related to or were close friends with the owners.

Small business operations were also a way for Italians in the Truckee Meadows to wade through the conflict of assimilating to a new culture versus maintaining aspects of a traditional heritage. Members of this ethnic group used their businesses to maintain their Italian traditions in the face of the dominant American culture, to reach out to their fellow Americans and embrace the symbols and ceremonies of their newly adopted homeland, or to engage in a complex mixture of both. One interesting way that this is evident is through the items sold in the various Italian American-owned grocery stores in the Reno area. Some stores, like Brunetti and Patrone on Lake Street, served traditional Italian fare such as imported olive oil and sardines. Others, like the Reno Public Market, on the corner of Second Street and Lake Street, primarily sold standard American food items, such as lamb chops, ham, and pot roast. Over the course of the twentieth century, a serious game of identity politics played out through the various Italian-owned shops, restaurants, and other enterprises. By the final decades of the century, though, most members of this ethnic group had become assimilated into the dominant American milieu.

In the areas immediately outside of Reno and Sparks, truck farming was a popular occupation for Italian immigrants and

their families. These families took the utmost pride in land ownership and self-reliance. This drove many of them into agriculture, where they could take advantage of the fertile Truckee Meadows land to have their own self-sufficient property. Both Italian immigrant parents and their children would then work the family land together to bring produce and meat to markets in Reno, Sparks, and small rural towns throughout the region.

In addition to their influence on the nature of work and business in the Truckee Meadows, Italian Americans also had an impact on the nature of local leisure activities through the games, gatherings, and other things they did for fun and relaxation. Some of the popular leisure activities that local Italian immigrants engaged in include gardening, winemaking, and bocce ball tournaments.

Italian American residents often had vegetable gardens in their backyards, where they grew modest amounts of food for personal consumption. Gardens were a way for these immigrants to promote communal ties and familial bonding. Many local Italian Americans recall in their oral histories how they and their neighbors would regularly visit each other's gardens to compare the success of their crops and to exchange food and recipes. A vibrant and healthy level of neighborhood cohesion resulted from these friendly interactions.

Winemaking was another popular communal activity. Reno's Italian Americans often conveniently kept wine presses in the basements of their homes. They would eagerly purchase grapes from traveling vendors, who would bring the fruit in truckloads from vineyards in California. Groups of families would then gather at a neighbor's house and spend entire evenings stomping, pressing, and bottling the homemade wine. Children would even get involved in the process by pretending to make their own wine. One Italian immigrant recalls in her oral history how she and her cousin used to extract dye out of crepe paper, which would result in a red-colored water that they believed to be their own version of the popular alcoholic drink.

Italian Americans in the Truckee Meadows also uniquely engaged in neighborhood bocce ball tournaments. This was an activity especially popular among the older Italian men, who had lived most of their lives in Italy and for whom this had been a regular leisure activity for decades. Often these men would gather at local parks or just empty lots around their neighborhoods on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon to play bocce ball and interact with fellow countrymen. Interesting to note, though, is that women were discouraged from participating in these games, as these activities were seen primarily as bonding opportunities for the Italian men.

- See more at: <http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/renos-italian-amerians#sthash.dOM6wGsj.dpuf>

-- Article Submitted by Richard Stewart 



FRANK STELLA

at the De Young



On November 5, 2016 there will be a retrospective show of the works of famed American modern painter Frank Stella at the De Young Museum in San Francisco. The son of Italian immigrants, Frank Stella is considered one of the major American artists of this century.

The exhibit is organized by the Whitney Museums of American Art, in NYC and Fort Worth. This is the only West Coast exhibit of the event and will run through Feb. 26 2017. He was born in 1936 and was recently presented with White House honors by President Obama.

He is an innovator in modern art, and all major art collections that I have visited have at least one of his painting in their collection. He started of as a minimalist painter in 1959 and at age 23 where he "burst on the NYC art scene"(De Young

description), and has over the years evolved his works into complex highly intense designs of bold colors. The show, being a retrospective will sample a survey of his works from his early minimalist paintings, famed "black paintings", through today's vibrant colors and complex compositions.

Field Trip (?); we have in the past organized field trips to the De Young and other sites in San Francisco. If there is interest we can consider working out one for this exhibit. The key logistical challenge is a van at a reasonable cost. If anyone has a referral regarding van service please let me know. I would be happy to follow up. In any case, the "once in a life time" show is well worth a trip to the De Young to appreciate the contribution of this son of Italian immigrant's contribution to American and world art. -- Article Submitted by Ken Borelli 🌀



Well, not really, but we are planning something new for our Festa di Natale event. On the agenda from last year was setting up a Prepesio or Crèche. Having it ready for the holidays means planning now. One of the major items displayed during the holidays in Italy is a "nativity scene". The origins of the display and tradition go back to St. Francis of Assisi, who wanted to remind his community of the purpose of the holiday and move away from the commercialism of 13th Century Italy.

Not much has changed! Ironically too, even the crèche developed into an amazing and excessive art form with hand carved sculptures that reached its peak during the Italian baroque. Many families in Italy treasure their collection of nativity scenes, and they have been in their families for years. Several museums around the country share the folk art during the holiday season. Both the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC and the Chicago Art museum have examples of this art

form in their collection. In Napoli the art form took on amazing complexities, and people visit the city to just see the collections that abound during the holiday season.

Bringing this discussion full circle, we are developing an "art box stage" to house a presepio in time for our holiday lunch. What I would like to inquire from our members is if you have statuary that would fit into the manger scene that you could donate to the IAHF for the display. It will be part of our annual holiday decoration. Check through your holiday decorations for some of the items to help us build a presepio collection. The pieces should not be more than 6-8 inches high and depending on what we get donated, will be supplements with key pieces of the manger scene. You can also go on line to see how elaborate some of these presepio are, including the famed "presepe napoletano"! "Per un buon natale!"

-- Article Submitted by Ken Borelli 🌀



The opera recounts a miraculous moment of peace during one of the bloodiest wars in human history. The fascinating true story takes place on World War I's western front. Weapons are laid down when Scottish, French and German officers defy their superiors and negotiate a Christmas Eve truce. Enemies become brothers as they come together to share Christmas and bury their dead.

Only very rarely does an opera break onto the scene with such force that companies across the country immediately pick it up. *Silent Night*, by composer Kevin Puts with libretto by Mark Campbell, is one of those rare operas. Since it's Minnesota Opera premiere, *Silent Night* has been presented at no fewer than eight companies, was broadcast nationwide on public television, and won a Pulitzer Prize.



TICKETS

Silent Night will be performed as part of Opera San José's 2016-2017 season. Season subscriptions are available for purchase today. Single tickets will be available for purchase after July 25th.

operasj.org / 408.437.4450

Performances at the California Theatre
345 S. First Street, San José

BOX OFFICE

2149 Paragon Drive, San José
Open Monday-Friday 9:00 to 6:00

"Silent Night is about one of the most remarkable events in history, the spontaneous Christmas Truce of 1914. Though set in muddy trenches, it is not a story of brutality. Rather, it is the very illustration of the great humanity that, even under the most grinding conditions, human beings are capable of. We are honored to be able to offer the West Coast premiere of this remarkable new opera."
Larry Hancock GENERAL DIRECTOR

Please click here to buy tickets

-- Submitted by Richard Stewart



OPERA HISTORY COURSE



DATES

June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, & July 6
(All Wednesdays)

TIME

7:00 to 9:00pm

LOCATION

2149 Paragon Drive

COST

\$100

Please click here to buy tickets

Each year, as a part of Opera San José's commitment to adult education, we offer a six-evening course that covers opera through all its periods. It's an inexpensive, enjoyable way to learn more about this dynamic art form in the company of other interested adults. This popular opera history series covers 400 years of opera development, from Jacopo Perri's *Euridice* in 1600 to the present day.

General Director Larry Hancock, course instructor, will present this overview of opera history on six consecutive Wednesday evenings from June 1st through July 6th, at Opera San José headquarters, 2149 Paragon Drive in San José.

Each two-hour class begins at 7:00 p.m. Course content includes the development and changes in the choice of opera subjects, the use of poetry and dialogue in the libretto, styles of musical composition, evolution of the opera orchestra, and changes in performance practice period by period.

Hancock is a well-received lecturer on opera on both coasts. In addition to our annual opera history course, he moderates the commentary at our Introduction to Opera series - a 45-minute discussion before each Opera San José mainstage performance throughout the season - as well as the Preview offered on the Tuesday before each opening night. For his informative and entertaining opera history course, he enlivens each quick-paced session with visuals from other art forms, including fashion, architecture, painting, and sculpture, bringing a more complete knowledge of the society that influenced its composers.

Total cost of this series is \$100 which includes all six classes. There will be no tests, nor is there any college credit offered for this course. Classes are informal, and participants' questions are encouraged. To attend this series, call our box office at (408) 437-4450.

-- Submitted by Richard Stewart 

If you would like to volunteer to work on any of these events, please contact Ken Borelli, VP, Events / Chair, Cultural Committee at kjosephb@aol.com

Regional Lunches*

All are on the 3rd Thursday of the month, and start at 12 noon. • \$13.00 members, \$16.00 non members

July 21: 12 pm • Regional Lunch: Tuscany | \$13 members | \$16 non-members

Special Cultural Events

July 9: Saturday 1-3pm, IAHF's Women Only Memoir Writing Project's third workshop: "Putting In the Sparkle! Editing", will be led by SBW Edie Matthews, who has worked in print, radio, TV Newsrooms, standup comedian, in addition to having taught English and Fiction at De Anza College. Location is at the IAHF, 425 N. 4th St., San Jose, CA 95112. Call 293-7122. Limited to 25 participants.

Suggested Donation: \$25 for full series (5 workshops) or \$10 Individual Workshop.

July 23: Saturday 1-3pm, IAHF's Women Only Memoir Writing Project's fourth workshop: "Feet in Both Worlds" will be led by Kathleen Gonzalez at the IAHF, 425 N. 4th St., San Jose, CA 95112. Call 293-7122. Limited to 25 participants.

Suggested Donation: \$25 for full series (5 workshops) or \$10 Individual Workshop.

August 6: Saturday 1-3pm, IAHF's Women Only Memoir Writing Project's final workshop, "So Now What? Publishing & Other Media" will be led by SBW Linda Judd at the IAHF, 425 N. 4th St., San Jose, CA 95112, Call 293-7122. Limited to 25 participants.

Suggested Donation: \$25 for full series (5 workshops) or \$10 Individual Workshop.

August 27 & 28: Italian Family Festa | Saturday 11- 8 pm | Sunday 11 - 6 pm | History Park San Jose, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose.

FREE ADMISSION!!!

Cena Fuori

July 28: 7:00 PM, Sorelle Italian Bistro, 915 S San Tomas Aquino Rd, Campbell, CA | Pay at Venue

September 29: 7:00 PM, Location to follow | Pay at Venue

Italian Family Festa

August 27 & 28: Saturday 11- 8 pm | Sunday 11 - 6 pm | History Park San Jose, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose. **FREE ADMISSION!!!**

Cooking Class

October 6: Thursday 7 pm | Sausage Making | Instructor Joseph Fasano | Class Limit 25 | RSVP at eventrsvp@iahfsj.org or call 408-293-7122

General Membership Meeting

October 20: Social Hour 5:30 to 6:30 | Dinner 6:30 to 7:30, Buffet Style | General Meeting 7:30

IAHF 40th Anniversary Celebration -- November 5

YOU CAN CLICK HERE TO RSVP AND TO PRE-PAY AT

<http://www.iahfsj.org/#!/events/cfvg>

RSVP FOR ALL EVENTS (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED) BY EMAILING

eventrsvp@iahfsj.org or by calling 408-293-7122

Dear Members, your assistance is needed as we plan events. The following guidelines are helpful tips to assist our Event Chairs with activity planning:

- 1) When you sign up for an event and you wish to sit with a group, please list the group on the reservation form. If you use PayPal or a credit card, call, write, or email the IAHF with the names of the the people who you wish to sit with.
- 2) It is not necessary to have a seating reservation, and we always have plenty of open seating tables. Many events, such as regional lunches and lectures, are "open seating".
- 3) If you make a reservation, please be sure the others in the party you listed will be attending the event (in some instances people are listed in two separate guest list, and they were not aware).
- 4) If you are canceling an activity please call the IAHF as soon as possible. Sold out events usually have a back up list that the Committee Chair can call. Just not showing up to an event is costly since supplies and food are purchased several days in advance, and also denies others the ability to participate.
- 5) Our events are priced modestly as a benefit to our members and their guest, so following these suggestions will help the Chairpeople plan efficiently and effectively. The more lead time the better in order to purchase food and plan the events accordingly.
- 6) When in doubt about an activity *please call the IAHF*. More and more we are using online information and hope to have our new website up and running shortly, but a simple phone call or email usually can resolve an issue.

Thank you for your assistance is supporting our activities at the IAHF. -- Ken Borelli, 1st VP, Events 

Circulation: 500

Size Pricing

Bus card 3.25"W x 2.25"H

- 3 issues \$100
- 6 issues \$170 (15% discount)
- 6 issues \$150 (business / member discount)

1/4 page 4"W x 5"H

- 3 issues \$150
- 6 issues \$240 (20% discount)
- 6 issues \$210 (business / member discount)

1/2 page 8"W x 5"H

or

4"W x 10"H

- 3 issues \$200
- 6 issues \$300 (25% discount)
- 6 issues \$265 (business / member discount)

Full page 8"W x 10"H

- 3 issues \$300
- 6 issues \$420 (30% discount)
- 6 issues \$380 (business / member discount)

Artwork

- * Preferred file format is EPS with vector outline text but we can accept any high resolution graphic file format
- * We can do simple design layouts based on your input
- * Images/business cards can be scanned and insert as well

Note: Depending on the item, scanning does not always provide the best quality

Contact

Richard Stewart: 408-821-4260
or news@iahfsj.org

IAHF Cultural Center

Birthdays • Weddings • Graduations • Retirements • Reunions • Memorials

IAHF Members receive 10% off hall rental fees • Please call (408) 293-7122 or email iahfsj@iahfsj.org





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Specializing in Rose Garden, Willow Glen & surrounding communities

Professional Experience

Rosetta is a full-time, professional real estate agent assisting in buying and selling homes in all of Santa Clara County. Throughout the years, Rosetta has earned many achievements and awards such as, International Presidents Elite, Top Listing agent, Top Buyers agent, one of Silicon Valley's Top 100 agents and Top Producers with over 14 years of sales, marketing and negotiation experience. Rosetta takes pride in providing 100 % quality service to all her clients and has earned an impressive reputation in the real estate community. She is known for her exceptional work ethic, effective communication skills, attention to detail and fierce negotiating experience. With her clients' best interests at heart, Rosetta understands the meaning of commitment and dedication.

Education

Since obtaining her California Real Estate license, Rosetta has attended mandatory legal classes, completing various state required programs, such as Real Estate Principals, Real Estate Appraisals, 1031 Exchange Reinvestment Plan, Limit Liability Company for Reinvestments, Protecting the Fee, Due Diligence and Disclosures, Agency Fair Housing, Trust Funds, Ethics and Risk Management, Survey Course and Risk Management.

Professional Philosophy

Rosetta's passion and philosophy have always been to put her clients best interests first, provide every client with the highest of business ethics, commitment and 100 % excellent quality service. Building a lifetime relationship by earning the respect and trust of her clients, is her ultimate goal.

Professional Affiliations

- California Association of Realtors
- National Association of Realtors
- San Jose Real Estate Board
- Re-Infolink Multiple Listing Service

Personal Background

Spending quality time with family and friends, exercising, running and giving back to the community

It is my ultimate goal, as your professional real estate agent, to provide you with quality service, exceed your expectations and make your real estate transactions a positive and painless experience. My overall local expertise and extensive real estate experience will benefit you whether you currently are selling or buying a home, or are a returning client checking out the many homeowner resources I offer.

FOR A PROFESSIONAL MARKET ANALYSIS, CALL ROSETTA TODAY!

Submission deadline: 20th of each month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter & website

Revision deadline: No later than the 25th of each month

Guidelines for the newsletter and website must be followed before submitting entries.

Information for the newsletter or the website MUST be submitted by having all information together and not piecemeal. If you don't know the date or the start time then you'll have to wait until you know all the info before you submit it. *Otherwise it cannot be posted.*

For posting Events, please provide the following information:

- Official name of event
- Time of event
- Cost of tickets
- Date of event
- Location of event
- Short description of event

Articles

- Original articles must be carefully proofread, spell checked and grammar checked before submission. The IAHF cannot assume responsibility for errors that appear in articles. Include author's name and other pertinent credits and/or information.
- Original articles should be submitted simply as text in paragraph form, single line spaced, with no formatting (no centering, no indents, etc.). The newsletter staff will format the article as required.
- Articles from the Internet, magazines or other sources must have author's credits, photographer's credits, website or publication name.
- Articles must be submitted in either Word or PDF format, or as email text. PDF documents must have text that can be selected and copied. PDFs made from scanned hard copies will not work.

Photos

The IAHF media staff reserves the right to use images at their discretion.

Transmission:

- Image files should be sent as email attachments, not embedded in a text document or in an email message.

Format:

- JPEG preferred; BMP, EPS, GIF, PDF and TIFF formats may be acceptable as well.
- Photos should be big, bright, and sharp, with no timestamps or watermarks. Low-quality photos or out-of-focus photos cannot be used.

Size:

- Send full-size, unedited, high-pixel-count files. Make sure your email program doesn't downsize the files. Sizes of 500 KB and larger are preferred.
- Each photo must have an individual name. Leaving the name of the photo as named by your camera is suggested.

Credits:

- Original photos should include the name of the photographer. If you are not the photographer, you must give credit or secure permission to use the photos with your article.

Captions:

- Please provide captions as either email text, as a Word document, or as a PDF document

Questions?

- Please contact Richard Stewart, IAHF Newsletter Editor, at 408-821-4260, or at news@iahfsj.org 

15 WOMEN *who Changed Italy*

Please tap on a woman's name to read her biography



Trota of Salerno



Catherine of Siena



Dorotea Bucca



Maria Gaetana Agnesi



Nilde Iotti



Virginia Oldoini



Rita Levi Montalcini



Tina Anselmi



Grazia Deledda

15 WOMEN *who Changed Italy*



Maria Montessori



Elena Cornaro Piscopia



Eleonora Fonseca Pimentel



Anna Magnani



Cielia del Grillo Borromeo



Artemisia Lomi Gentileschi

-- Article source: slowitaly.yourguidetoitaly.com | Submitted by Richard Stewart 