

January 2017 • Italian American Heritage Foundation • Established 1975 • Founded as Nonprofit 1976 • Celebrating 40 Years

RICHARD STEWART | IAHF NEWSLETTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

IAHF Office #: (408) 293-7122 • Tap Here for www.iahfsj.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the Italian American Heritage Foundation,

Our organization is looking forward to a bright and productive new year. Already we have plans for many new events, including a Polenta Dinner on January 28th, co-hosted by the Tricarico Club and an event this February that will be a Scholarship Fundraiser. This February event will feature the Dean Martin impersonator Matt Helm.

As President, it has been an honor and privilege to serve for the IAHF these past two years and I look forward to serving for another wonderful year. Last year was a year of great accomplishments. I am so lucky to have a board that is dedicated and so willing to serve. I am very optimistic about our future

in 2017. If the past is any indication of the future, we will surly accomplish much more in the way of events, fund raisers, donations, and hall improvements.

I want to really focus on getting outside donations from foundations this year. In the past, we have received donations from Neman's Own Foundation, the East Bay Community Foundation, and the City of San Jose. We certainly appreciate these large donations and are applying again for Grants this year. One of the most important factors in applying for these Grants is to have a connection with someone who is part of the Foundation to which we are applying. So, if anyone knows of a potential Grant connection, please let me know. It is important to seek funds to secure our future as well as enhance our facility as we have been doing.

Right now, we are in the process of repairing our parking lot. The cracks in the lot have been filled with tar and the potholes have been filled. This spring I would like to get a work party together to seal the parking lot. We have had bids ranging from 5,000 to 7,000 dollars to remove and replace or to reseal the lot. But working together, we can do the job for under 2,500. If you are interested in joining this work party, please call me.

This year the IAHF will continue to bring you more of the wonderful events that we strive to bring every year. I hope you all have a wonderful and prosperous New Year.

Buon Anno,

David Perzinski / President, Italian American Heritage Foundation 🔇



IAHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017

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 Maintainance / Hall Rentals
- Richard Stewart 3rd Vice President / Marketing and Publicity / Newsletters / Library and Archives / Scholarship Program / Website / Social Media
- Frank De Turris Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer
- Joyce Allegro 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





Benvenuti New Members as of November 2016

- Matt Archibald & Teresa Lewandowski
- ▼ John & Vicki Brigantino
- Loret & Christine Carbone
- **№** Lori Carelli-Terry
- Name & Philip Castrogiovanni
- **∞** Ed Citti
- ∾ Sue L & Virgil D
- Doris Matthews-Bottero
- Valerie Love
- ▼ Felix & Marie Dalldorf

- ✓ Joe Dellicarpini & Mary-Margaret
- Jane Derosa & Giabor Szoboszlay
- Denise Dettore
- Thomas & Clara Di Stefano
- Dana & Peter Dinno
- Diana Donovan & Carol Repa
- Donovan Erba & Sally Paolini
- ▼ Joanne Escobar
- ✓ Joe & Tanya Friscia
- Karen Marie Gidlund-Gibson
- Judge Al & Vera Girolami
- Grav
- Stacy & Shayne Hale
- Mara Harrington

- Denise & John Hildenberger
- Carmen M. Johnson
- ✓ Jon & Gayle Kanter
- Jerri Kazmierczak
- Nobert La Rocca
- Frank & Roberta LaDucca
- ⋄ Jo Ann & Tony Lauer
- Anthony Lazzarini
- ▼ Ioan & Tom Lewis
- Frank I. Locicero III
- Bianca Lupo
- Art & Pam Maggio
- Ann Marie Mallat
- Ashley Mapp
- Marie Marino Mary Menniti
- ▼ Eric Merriman
- Scott & Kerri Mesa
- Annie Migliazzo
- Nobert & Leigh

- Adrian Nestor
- Elizabeth Binkley Park & Rob Park
- Gerald & Marina Patzner
- ∾ Rick & Eva Pepitone
- Corinne Phipps
- ▼ Joseph Piazza
- o Dr. Richard & Laura Porzio
- Maureen M Psomas
- Richards
- ▼ Frank & Linda Ricchio
- Lauren Romanazzi
- ∾ Vito & Iill Scarnecchia

- Stephen Schrage & Sarah Miller
- Martin & Beatriz Serovpeyan
- Rebecca & Manuel Souza
- Richard & Marie Strezo
- ✓ Joe & Josie Taddeo
- Shirley & Tony Tarantino
- Mete Tasin
- Charles & Patti Territo
- Villarreal
- Derek & Jessica Von Borck
- Sandra Williams
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
- Salome Woodward

Grazie 2016 Patron Members

- Neno Aiello
- Sal & Maeve Alini
- ✓ Joyce Allegro & Jerry Sheridan
- The Villages Italian Club-Susan Baciagalupi
- Linda & Bob Binkley
- JoAnn & Roger Bjornstad
- w Ken Borelli

- Sal & Denise Campagna
- Bob & Shirley Cancellieri
- Sandra & Christopher Carvalho
- Dr. Tony & Clare Cedolini
- Mike Console
- Nose Crimi
- Felix & Marie Dalldorf
- ▼ Joe & Cathy De Maria

Frank De Turris

- Melvin & Anna Di Salvo
- ∾ Ralph Di Tullio
- № Phil & Jennifer DiNapoli
- Randolph Ferretti-Hoyle
- Ben & Christine Foster
- № Pete & Marge Gaudio
- Verdell Ghiorso
- Louise & Sam Gliozzo
- w Maria Gloria
- Saundra Hill & Allen

- ○ Constance LoBue-Scarpelli

- Kenneth Low
- ✓ Joe & Kaye Lucito

- **№** Bill McCraw & Janet Muscio

- \infty Dan & Eva Miranda ■ Bobby & Ruth Moorhatch
- Nebecca & Tony Morici
- Ann & James Myers
- w Maryanne Nola
- Chris D'Angelo
- № Pam & Steve Lyons
- **∞** Marge Papp
- Vera and Jack Pedretti o Dave Perzinski & Lucia Clementi
- w Kevin & Aurelia Pezzaniti
- The Piazza Family
 ■
 The Piazza Family
 ■
 ■
 The Piazza Family
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 ■
 Jackie Pighini
- Dr. Robert A. Quint
- Joanne & Gene Sanfilippo
- ▼ Joanne E. Sanfilippo

- Christina Sanfilippo-Coghlan
- John & Marj Scandizzo
- Barbara Serrano & Duane Serrano
- Carlo & Rosa Severo
- Virginia Sincich
- Mary Ann Sorci Crannell
- № Paul & Mary Stabile
- Mete Tasin
- Corinne Tomeo
- John & Marge Valente ○ Diana & Al Vallorz
- John Dods
- William Venuti
- David Venuti
- Antonette Viscomi
- Angela Williams
- ▼ Tony Zerbo Charles Gagliasso
- Trucking, Inc.

Grazie 2016 Business Members

Anastasi Law Group

DiNapoli Specialty Food

- Charles Gagliasso Trucking, Inc.
- Gioia Company

- Hillview Packing Company, Inc
- Tri-Star Inspection Services





Italian-American Heritage Foundation 2017 Scholarship Application

The IAHF is offering four types of scholarships:

- 1. The IAHF general scholarships for High School graduates accepted to a four-year or a two-year institution;
- 2. The IAHF general scholarships Community College graduates accepted to a four-year institution;
- 3. The IAHF general scholarships reserved for students of arts accepted to a four-year institution. Visit www.iahfsj.org for details and to view our past recipients.
- 4. The Bocciardi Scholarship reserved for students having completed three years of foreign language and accepted to a four-year institution. Visit www.bocciardischolars.org

Requirements:

- 1. Must be of some Italian descent
- 2. Must be graduating from a Santa Clara County High School or Community College
- 3. Must provide all the attachments indicated herein on or before Thursday, May 18, 2017 (11:50PM)
- 4. Must attend the award ceremony on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>June 18</u>, <u>2017 (4:00PM-6:00PM)</u> (not required for the Bocciardi scholarship)
 - If applicant is an IAHF member or the child, or grandchild of an IAHF member, the applicant is exempt from items 1 and 2.

Please print:

Last name	First name	
Address:	City	Zip
E-mail address		
Home phone		
Date and Place of Birth		
Name of High School:		
Name of Community College:		
Grade Point Average (on a 4.0 scale):		



Is a parent or grandparent a member of IAHF? If yes, under what name?		
Are you a member of the IAHF?		
Highest level of foreign language study:		
How did you find out about the IAHF scholarship program (counselor, teacher, IAHF Newsletter etc.)?		
On a separate paper, type-written, list if applicable and include approximate dates for: 1. Extra-curricular in-school activities 2. Community volunteer experience (excluding mandatory high school work) 3. Paid work experience 4. Special talents and hobbies 5. Non-monetary awards received 6. *On this paper, you may add a short paragraph and share any extenuating circumstances which may cause your application to merit special consideration.		
 Necessary Attachments: 		
Mail or bring applications to: IAHF Scholarship Committee, 425 N. Fourth Street San Jose, CA 95112 Phone: 408-293-7122 Recipients will be notified by Monday 6/05/17.		
The signature of the applicant indicates that the applicant understands that all parts of this application, including all attachments, must be completed and submitted by the deadline.		
SignedDate		





Every year, from February to March, Carnival in Venice is held. It started in 1168 as a celebration of victory of Republic of Venice against Ulrico, Patriarch of Aquileia, and became annual event until it was banned by King of Austria in 1797. It was again reestablished in 1979 and is again held annu-

ally. Carnivals in Venice is famous for its masks that everyone wears and are very specific.

Little is known about the reasons for wearing of the masks during the carnival. It could be an act of defiance against one of the most rigid class hierarchical structures in all of history of Europe. First document that mentions use of masks in Venice is from 13th century. It bans masked men to throw egg-

shells full of rose water from roofs at women on the street. Same document bans masked men from gambling. Another law also forbade wearing disguises that are vulgar, visiting convents in those masks, painting faces and wearing false wings and beards. Idea of wearing a mask in Venice was not to hide identity but to hide a class.

Masks that are traditionally used during Venetian Carnival can be divided in to two groups: Commedia dell' Arte masks and Carnival masks.

Commedia dell' Arte was a type of improvisational theatre that was popular form 16th to 18th century but is played even today. Traveling artists and actors would set up a stage and perform juggling acts as well as improvisational plays with rough skeleton of a scenario into which was easy to insert topical themes, which made them very popular. Some Venetian carnival masks are taken from these plays and they carry the names of the

characters that wore them. "Arlecchino" is a half-mask with a short, wide nose, arching eyebrows and a bump or a boil on a forehead. "Brighella" is a half-mask too, often painted green with a pointed nose and somber eyes. "Capitan Scaramouche" - also a half-mask that only covers the eyes, white,

with a very long nose. "Colombina" half-mask decorated with feathers, silver, and gold. It covers eyes and cheeks. Pierrot is a full mask, white, with vertical lines bellow and above the eyes and a teardrop.

Carnival masks have their names too and are more popular. "Bauta" is probably the most famous of masks. It covers the whole face and has no mouth but it has beak-like chin that al-

lows wearer to talk, eat and drink without taking it off. With it goes red or black cloak and a tricorn hat. "Dama" is a full mask of a female face, heavily gilded. "Gatto" is a half-mask in a shape of cat's head. Cats were rare in Venice and this is probably one of the reasons for choosing that shape for a mask. "Dottore Peste" or "Medico della Peste" is a strange looking mask. Venice was a victim of a plague several times in its history. This carnival mask is a copy of a historical masks that were worn by doctors that treated patients that had plague. They were made from leather with a long "beak" in which herbs were placed and had opening for seeing covered with crystals.

herbs were placed and had opening for seeing covered with crystals.

Source: http://www.historyofmasks.net/mask-history/history-of-vene-tian-masks/

Copyright© History of Masks

Copyright© History of Masks

- Article submitted by Richard Stewart



I'm an admirer of the poetry of the Abruzzese poet, novelist and dramatist Gabriele D'Annunzio. He was born in Pescara. Abruzzo on March 12. 1863 and is one of the main Italian poets of the 20th century. Gabriele D'Annunzio's birthplace in Pescara is open to the public and nine rooms on the first floor of the house have been turned into a museum dedicated to his life and works. It is well worth a visit.

You'll recognize the building when you see the flags on the balcony above the doorway.

The first five rooms are still furnished with beautiful old pieces and the walls have their original paintings.

In the corner of each room look out for a caption from D'Annunzio's poem Il Nottorno, which describes the settings, objects and people the poet loved.

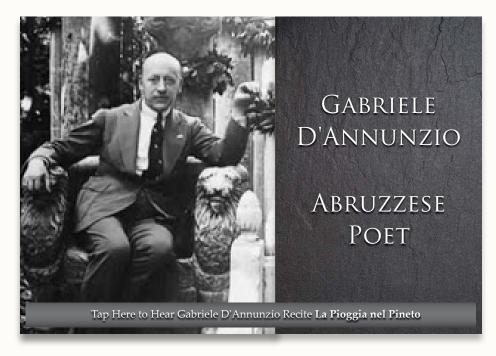
In the sixth room are some of the poet's suits and accessories; in the seventh are his letters, documents and some of his original editons. In the eight room there are two casts of the poet's hands and face taken on the day of his death. Another room is arranged with panels giving information about D'Annunzio's life along with extraordinary old photographs.

Another section of the museum is dedicated to the poet's wardrobe: his suits, coats, uniforms, hats and accessories. He had a unique, elegant and eccentric style!

Listening to Italian poetry helps me to understand the language better as it is usually spoken at a slower pace. D'Annunzio's poems include sensuous lines with a sublime musicality that paints pictures with simple sentences.

"The Rain in the Pinewood" is a favorite of mine. In this poem the poet walks with his wife, Hermione, and invites her to listen to the melody of nature as the summer raindrops fall on the foliage in the wood.

To the right is a sample verse that I have translated to English:



The Rain in the Pinewood

Hush... On the edges of the woods I can't hear human words That you say, But I hear newer words Spoken by droplets And leaves far away. Listen... Rain falls from the Scattered clouds. Rain falls from the parched, Burnt-out tamarisks. It rains on the scaly, Bristling pines, It rains on the divine myrtles, On the broom-shrubs Gleaming with clustered flowers, On the junipers Thick with fragrant berries. Rain falls on our sylvan faces, It rains on our bare Hands, On our light Clothes, On the fresh thoughts That our soul uncovers New. On the beautiful fairytale

Here is the verse in Italian:

La Pioggia nel Pineto

Taci... Sulle soglie del bosco Non odo, parole Che dici umane; Ma odo parole più nuove Che parlano gocciole E foglie lontane. Ascolta... Piove dalle Nuvole sparse. Piove sulle tamerici Salmastre ed arse, Piove sui pini, Scagliosi ed irti, Piove sui mirti divini, Sulle ginestre fulgenti Di fiori accolti, Sui ginepri Folti di coccole aulenti. Piove sui nostri volti Piove sulle nostre mani Ignude, Sui nostri vestimenti Leggieri, Sui freschi pensieri Che l'anima schiude, Novella, Sulla favola bella Che ieri ti illuse Che oggi m'illude... O Ermione...

Source: http://enchantingitaly.blogspot.com/2010/05/gabriele-dannunzio-abruzzese-poet.html?m=1; Article submitted by Richard Stewart 궧 🖰

O Hermione...



That today enchants me,

That yesterday enchanted you,



The Italian American Heritage Foundation (IAHF) has just completed its 29th Annual World of Italian Opera Christmas concert on Friday, December 2nd at it's Cultural Center in San Jose. Its hard to imagine that we have been at this event for now over 29 years. That really "history in the making"!

Through a special collaboration with Opera San Jose, their Board of Directors, and now Friends of Opera San Jose, we have a "win-win" combination for celebrating the holiday season, promoting a key part of our heritage, as well as sharing the Italian language itself in the form of the program, also known as the "World of Italian Opera". The stars of the show were the Opera San Jose resident artists. They sang arias from the classic Italian repertoire, along with selections from the Neapolitan tradition and seasonal Christmas carols to make this a very complete and lively holiday musical festival.

In addition to the artistic program, a buffet dinner was provided by our friends at Golden Harvest Catering. John Ngyuen, the proprietor, it should be acknowledged, has been

a key sponsor of the event for the last 5 years. In addition, there was a special Italian Market Holiday Boutique (every year we have to limit it due to space considerations) to round off the magical evening experience. The key to the success of this sold out event is all the dedication and work of our volunteers and the planning and coordination, too, that goes into making this a multidimensional activity. Every one who has come in the past has a favorite part of the experience, but the good will and being together to start the holiday season is always a special experience. We are truly indebted to our volunteers, and like many who attend the concert, they encapsulate the sprit of the holiday along with seeing old friends, making new ones and celebrating this Italian musical tradition with the young and incredibly talented stars of Opera San Jose. Other than the California Theater, what better way to enjoy this fantastic music, than at the very Italian American setting known as the IAHF! Please contact Ken or Tony if you would like to work on next year's event. Yes, we are planning now for our special 30th year in 2017! -- Article by Tony Zerbo & Ken Borelli















IAHF Newsletter • January 2017 • Page 8

IL PRESEPIO

Dear Corinne, Ken & Raffaele:

You did a true act of love creating the Crèche. This is how it all started.

Abbracci e Baci, Amore Sempre , Ciao, Maeve e Salvatore

Advent: Incarnation and Greccio

In 1223, just three years before he died, St. Francis recreated the nativity of Jesus in Greccio, a small village in the Rieti valley in the same region as Rome. With the assistance of a local nobleman named John, they assembled some animals including an ox and donkey, a young couple with a newborn baby, and some hay in a cave on a cliff about one

mile from the town of Greccio. Francis, as a deacon, sang and preached to the people and to the brothers gathered there about the humility, poverty, and simplicity of God who came in the form of a babe. No one had ever done this before. He began a tradition called the crèche, which name comes from the town of Greccio through the French.

Francis's desire was to reflect on and re-live the historical, concrete, human dimensions of the life of Christ – in this case his birth. Through the nativity scene, Francis created the possibility of entering into the place. Through the presence of the characters – Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the Magi, and the Christ-child himself – together with the animals, the hay, the manger, Francis enhanced the possibility of entering into the mystery of the Incarnation.





Today, we have many more opportunities to experience the Gospel stories; for example, through hearing the Scriptures in our own language, movies, paintings, pictures, etc. But in Francis's day, religion tended to be loftier; earlier medieval liturgies were often difficult for laypersons to understand, as they were in Latin and preaching more theological.

Let's listen to the story from Thomas of Celano. While I do so, I want you to close your eyes and use your imagination.

The Manger he made in Celebration of the Lord's Birthday

Thomas of Celano

"His highest aim, foremost desire, and greatest intention was to pay heed to the holy gospel in all things and through all things, to follow the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ and to retrace His footsteps completely with all vigilance and all zeal, all the desire of his soul and all the fervor of his heart.

Francis used to recall with regular meditation the words of Christ and recollect His deeds with most attentive perception. Indeed, so thoroughly did the humility of the Incarnation and the charity of the Passion occupy his memory that he scarcely wanted to think of anything else.

We should note then, as matter worthy of memory and something to be recalled with reverence, what he did, three years prior to his death, at the town of Greccio, on the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ. There was a certain man in that area named John who had a good reputation but an even better manner of life. Blessed Francis loved him with special affection, since, despite being a noble in the land and very honored in human society, he had trampled the nobility of the flesh under his feet and pursued instead the nobility of the spirit. As usual, blessed Francis had John summoned to him some fifteen days prior to the birthday of the Lord. "If you desire to celebrate the coming feast of the Lord together at Greccio," he said to him, "hurry before me and carefully make ready the things I tell you. For I wish to enact the memory of that babe who was born in Bethlehem: to see as much as is possible with my own bodily eyes the discomfort of his infant needs, how he lay in a manger, and how, with an ox and an ass standing by, he rested on hay."

Once the good and faithful man had heard Francis's words, he ran quickly and prepared in that place all the things that the holy man had requested.

Finally, the day of joy has drawn near, the time of exultation has come. From many different places the brethren have been called. As they could, the men and women of that land with exultant hearts prepare candles and torches to light up that night whose shining star has enlightened every day and year. Finally, the holy man of God comes and, finding all things prepared, he saw them and was glad. Indeed, the manger is prepared, the hay is carried in, and the ox and the ass are led to the spot. There simplicity is given a place of honor, poverty is exalted, humility is commended, and out of Greccio is made a new Bethlehem.

The night is lit up like day, delighting both man and beast. The people arrive, ecstatic at this new mystery of new joy.

The forest amplifies the cries and the boulders echo back the joyful crowd. The brothers sing, giving God due praise, and the whole night abounds with jubilation. The holy man of God stands before the manger, filled with heartfelt sighs, contrite in his piety, and overcome with wondrous joy. Over the manger the solemnities of the Mass are celebrated and the priest enjoys a new consolation.

The holy man of God is dressed in the vestments of the Levites, since he was a Levite [i.e. deacon], and with full voice sings the holy gospel. Here is his voice: a powerful voice, a pleasant voice, a clear voice, a musical

voice, inviting all to the highest of gifts. Then he preaches to the people standing around him and pours forth sweet honey about the birth of the poor King and the poor city of Bethlehem. Moreover, burning with excessive love, he often calls Christ the "babe from Bethlehem" whenever he means to call Him Jesus. Saying the word "Bethlehem" in the manner of a bleating sheep, he fills his whole mouth with sound but even more with sweet affection. He seems to lick his lips whenever he uses the expressions "Jesus" or "babe from Bethlehem," tasting the word on his happy palate and savoring the sweetness of the word. The gifts of the Almighty are multiplied there and a virtuous man sees a wondrous vision. For the man saw a little child lying lifeless in the manger and he saw the holy man of God approach the child and waken him from a deep sleep. Nor is this vision unfitting, since in the hearts of many the child Jesus has been given over to oblivion. Now he is awakened and impressed on their loving memory by His own grace through His holy servant Francis. At length, the night's solemnities draw to a close and everyone went home with joy.

The hay placed in the manger there was preserved afterwards

so that, through it, the Lord might restore to health the pack animals and the other animals there, as He multiplied his holy mercy. It came to pass in the surrounding area that many of the animals, suffering from various diseases, were freed from their illnesses when they ate some of this hay. What is more, women who had been suffering with long and hard labor had an easy delivery after they placed some of this hay upon themselves. Finally, an entire group of people of both sexes obtained much-desired relief from an assortment of afflictions.

At last, the site of the manger was consecrated as a temple of the Lord. In honor of the most blessed father Francis, an altar was constructed over the manger, and a church was dedicated. This was done so that where animals once at the fodder of the hay, there humans henceforth for healing of body and soul would eat the flesh of the immaculate

and spotless lamb, our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us with supreme and indescribable love, who lives and rules with the Father and the Holy Spirit as God, eternally glorious forever and ever. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.

So what is the message of the Incarnation and Greccio? God has appeared: he has revealed himself. Previously, God had revealed himself to mankind only partially. "In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he spoke to us through a son, whom he made

heir of all things and through whom he created the universe" (Heb 1:1-2). In this, something new has happened: God has appeared and has revealed himself. He has emerged from the inaccessible light and has come into the world. He is no longer merely an idea, a hoped for promise, an article of faith; now he has appeared.

But how has he appeared? In what form did he appear? Who is this Christ child? "The kindness and love of God our Savior for mankind were revealed" (Tit 3:4). This was the real "epiphany," that God appeared to us as kindness and love. In the Christ child, God is not a wrathful executioner of justice, nor is he an angry judge; rather, he is "kindness and love." We recall the prophecies of Isaiah: "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful" (Is 9:5f). This is the only text in the Old Testament that prophesies the coming of a child, which tradition has assigned to be the Christ child. The prophet describes how the Child will be: "Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace." Here, a child, in all



its weakness, neediness, and dependence is the Mighty God, the Eternal Father. His peace "is forever."

God has appeared as a child born in a stable in Bethlehem, not in the palaces of kings. This is the "epiphany" – the manifestation of God. The person that God assumes is a child; and this is striking in that it shows us who God is.

Saint Francis was very devoted to the Nativity of Christ and Christmas. He called Christmas "the feast of feasts," the feast above all other feasts – and he celebrated it with "unutterable devotion" (2 Celano 199). He kissed images of the Christ-child with great devotion and he stammered tender words such as children say, according to Thomas of Celano (ibid.). For the early Church, the feast of feasts was Easter – since Christ saved mankind from sin through the Resurrection. Francis neither changed nor intended to change this order of precedence among the feasts, centered on the Paschal Mystery; in fact, the Resurrection presupposes the Incarnation. And yet through Francis and the character of his faith, something new took place: Francis discovered Jesus's humanity in an entirely new depth.

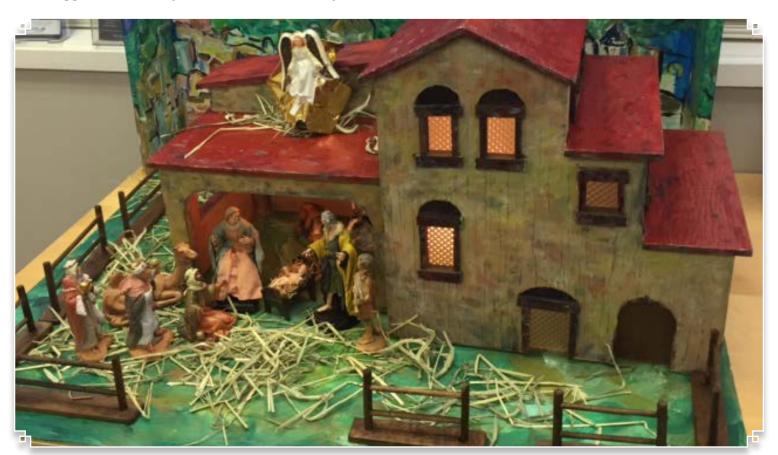
This human existence of God was most obvious to Francis at the moment when God's Son, born of the Virgin Mary, was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. For

God's Son to take the form of a child, a truly human child, made a profound impression on the heart of the Saint of Assisi, transforming faith into love. In the child born in the stable at Bethlehem, we can as it were touch and caress God.

In this new experience of the reality of Jesus's humanity, the great mystery of faith is revealed. Francis loved the child Jesus, because for him it was in this childish estate that God's humility shone forth. God became poor. His Son was born in the poverty of the stable. In the child Jesus, God made himself dependent, in need of human love, he put himself in the position of asking for human love – our love. Today Christmas is often over-commercialized; its bright lights hide the mystery of God's humility, which in turn calls us to humility and simplicity.

Reflection Questions:

- 1. Why was Francis so devoted to the crib? To the Christ child?
- 2. When you think of God, what does he look like? Is he the "mighty conqueror" or the humble, needy child? Or is he both?
- -- Article written by Sal Alini 📆



The IAHF Presepio

The first IAHF Presepio was a true team effort. Dave Perzinski build the box frame; Ralph DiTullio built the inn and stable or manger; Corinne Tomeo, on a trip to Napoli, bought the guests of honor Jesus, Mary and Joseph; Ken Borelli painted and stylized the inn and box frame; Ken and Zina Russo added additional items to the scene; and Richard Stewart did a display of the art of the Neapolitan presepio. The nativity scene will be on display at the IAHF office through middle January.

History:

Italian-Americans Maintain Gardens

in Albert Park



When Albert Park showed signs of neglect in the 1990s, a group of Italian-Americans stepped in to revitalize the park where many of their parents and grandparents had played bocce in years past.



By Marilyn L. Geary (Open Post) - April 20, 2012 7:54 pm ET

Decline of Albert Park

San Rafael residents played baseball and picnicked at for years, but by the early 1990s, in 1937 by had become run down. Transients and druggies called unkempt corners home. Albert Park no longer felt safe.

Aiming to revive Jacob Albert's dream of a park that all residents could enjoy, the city of San Rafael formed the Albert Park Renovation Committee, a team of diverse community members dedicated to renovating the area. The Gruppo Lonatese, a local organization that celebrates San Rafael's rich Italian-American heritage, joined that team and provided significant funds and energy to the park's renovation.

Lonatese at McNear's Brickyards

The Gruppo Lonatese is named for the emigrants from Lonate Pozzolo, a small town near Milan, who made their way to San Rafael in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Between 1880 and 1924, nearly 1,000 Lonatese left their village to find a better life in the United States. Many of them settled in San Rafael and in other towns in the Bay Area.

The first Lonatese in San Rafael found work at McNear's Brickyard, which had been producing bricks at San Pedro Point

since 1868. Many lived in bachelor quarters on the McNear property. Friends and relatives followed, and soon McNear's had a crew of hard-working Lonatese, including Tony Rostoni, Dominic Arbini and Frank Locati.

With savings, the men sent for their wives or returned to Lonate Pozzolo to bring back a spouse. Some married "picture brides," girls they brought over after seeing a photograph from a relative or friend of the family.

San Rafael's Little Italy

The Lonatese settled in the area surrounding Gerstle Park, forming a closely-knit community that became San Rafael's Little Italy. Emigrants from other areas of Italy and the Swiss Ticino Canton gravitated to this enclave of Italian-speaking residents.

In her oral history, Jennie Rostoni, who emigrated from Lonate Pozzolo in 1921, described her first impressions of San Rafael's Little Italy:

"The second day I was here...I looked down, down C Street, and it was beautiful..every fence, all paint, all morning glories, baby rose, dahlias in front. Oh, it was a beautiful place."

Making a Living

The Italians opened grocery stores, butcher shops, bakeries and bars. Some of the men, including John Zaro, Peter Turrini, Anibale Egisti and Pasquale Rossi, worked as gardeners on the estates of Marin County's wealthy elite. Caesare Bettini became the beloved head gardener at the Gerstle Estate. Mario Soldavini took over the position when Bettini retired.

Some of the men had been stone workers in Italy and found work with James Ghilotti's construction company. Others, including Frank Garatti, Domenico Gondini and Paul Rossi, worked for the Marin Municipal Water Company.

The Northwestern Pacific Railroad employed many of the men, among them Dominic Cerutti, Frank Locati, Battista Borzini, Mario Regalia, John and Peter Rossi, Nathan and John Soldavini, Giuseppe Garatti, Frank Brusatori, Dominic Arbini, Tony Rostoni and John Polacci.

The Sausalito News of January 17, 1920 noted: "The funeral of Lonate Pozzolo, better known here as John Polacci. a blacksmith in the Tiburon shops of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad, was one of the largest held in San Rafael for many years

as almost all the Italian speaking people as well as many others were present... He came to this country 20 years ago and for over 16 years has been in the employ of the Northwestern Pacific at Tiburon and was liked by all."

Working Women

Women who had worked in silk factories in Lonate found factory jobs at the Carson Glove Factory. Jenny Rostoni recalled the commuters to the American Biscuit Company in San Francisco:

"There were a bunch of girls who left at six or six-thirty in the morning at the B Street station and go to San Francisco. They'd get there at 8 o'clock by the train and the boat...A lot of people worked at American Biscuit...Sixteen dollars for two weeks."

Other women worked in local shops or took jobs as domestic workers. Paulina Pina Franzini served for decades as a cook and caretaker for Louise Boyd. The bachelors needed housing, so some women took in boarders and did laundry. On Sundays, the women baked bread and cooked big pots of stew to offer home-cooked meals to the brick makers who rode their bicycles in from McNear's to pick up their laundry.

Over time the younger generations became Americanized. Milanis, Arbinis, Brusatoris, Zanonis, Canzianis and many other descendants of the original Italian settlers contributed immeasurably to San Rafael's development.

<u>Eleanor Garatti</u>, whose parents sold ravioli and salami in their grocery store on B Street, brought home Olympic medals for swimming in 1928. Ceasare Bettini's son, C. Paul Bettini, became San Rafael's mayor from 1965 to 1979. Another Lonatese descendant, Jim (Bertolli) Farley, has been director of the for over 20 years.

The Dalessi Sisters

Despite these contributions, details of San Rafael's Italian-American legacy would be nearly forgotten if not for two sisters, Olivia and Teresa Dalessi. Now in their mid-eighties, the Dalessi sisters have lived their entire lives in San Rafael's Little Italy.

Their father, Leo Dalessi descended from Swiss-Italian dairy ranchers. Their mother worked in the silk factories in Lonate Pozzolo before emigrating to San Rafael and marrying Leo. Both Olivia and Teresa taught for years in Marin County schools and have an abiding interest in their family and community history.

In 1986 the town of Lonate Pozzolo published a book on its history that included a chapter on emigration. The Dalessi sisters received a copy, sparking curiosity in their community's ties to Lonate Pozzolo. Their correspondence to Italy prompted the town of Lonate to send a researcher, Ernesto Milano, to discover more about the history of the Lonatese in San Rafael.

Gruppo Lonatese

In November 1987 Milani and a group of interested Lonatese descendents met at the home of the Dalessi sisters. There they

formed the Gruppo Lonatese to promote closer ties with Lonate Pozzolo. Their first project was a calendar in three languages: Italian, English and the Lonatese dialect. They discovered that traces of dialect and traditions that had faded in Lonate Pozzolo could be still found in San Rafael.

Sister Cities

Interest grew in the two communities half a world apart. In September 1988, 100 people in a delegation from Lonate Pozzolo attended a ceremony at the Marin County Civic Center to proclaim San Rafael and Lonate Pozzolo sister cities. The delegation included a <u>brass band</u> from Lonate Pozzolo that played at the ceremony and at a banquet that evening.

Long-lost relatives reunited at the joyful event. On September 30, 1988, the Marin Independent Journal quoted Claudio Bochin, a Lonate tax collector, who spoke through an interpreter: "It is the first time I have ever made this long a voyage to see a land this far away...I am so delighted to meet relatives, I hardly have words to express it." The dining, dancing and sharing of stories went into the night.

The next year, a delegation from the Bay Area visited Lonate Pozzolo. A newsletter, Il Corriere del Pomeriggio, served to keep all abreast of happenings at home and abroad.



Lonatese Gardens

Restoring Albert Park became a focal point for the group. Through hard work and many garage sales and polenta dinners, the group raised funds for the project. In October 1992 San Rafael Mayor Al Boro and the Pro Loco President of Lonate Pozzolo Gianpiero Bertoni mixed local and Lonatese soil at a ground-breaking ceremony in the park.

That year Olivia and Teresa Dalessi and July Milani published a self-guided walking tour of the Gerstle Park area around C Street entitled Italian Family Homes of the Gerstle Park Area. It describes nearly 100 homes and families in the few blocks west of C Street where the Lonatese families settled.

Work on Albert Park continued as the Gruppo developed formal Italian gardens adjacent to the community center.





They covered the Italianate water fountain at its the garden's center with hand-painted tiles by Gruppo member Brenda Rose de Clario. Some tiles depict family memories, such as the homes left behind in Lonate Pozzolo. Others memorialize relatives departed.

The Lonatese Gardens cost \$200,000 when they were completed in 1997. Most of the funds came from individuals and local businesses, including Ghilotti Construction and McNear's Brickyard, which donated 1000 bricks to commemorate the many Lonatese who had worked making bricks for the company.

In 1999 the town of Lonate Pozzolo welcomed Gruppo Lonatese visitors to the dedication of its new town park named Parco San Rafael in honor of its sister city.

Publications

Gruppo member Dorothy Baciocco published a Family Cookbook in 1997 containing recipes that she had gathered from community members. Recipes ranged from a simple fare of polenta and vegetables to old-fashioned dishes of casseoula and tripa calling for such ingredients as pig's knuckles and zucchini flowers.

Throughout the years, the Dalessi sisters have continued to keep the flame of their community's history burning. Teresa

conducted oral histories of early residents, including Jenny Rostoni, and in 2004, she compiled family stories from group members into a volume called The Genealogy and History of Gruppo Lonatese. The dedication reads:

"This collection of stories, genealogies and photos is dedicated to our great-grandparents, grandparents, parents and other members of our families who came to the United States. We marvel at the courage and the strength they exhibited by leaving family, friends and native land, with hopes of bettering their lives and the lives of their children."

Fundraising

The Gruppo Lonatese has revived Jacob Albert's dream for a community park. Their contribution of time, energy and funds helped plan and build the popular that the operates for bocce players of all ages and skill levels. The courts sit on the site where the early residents of Little Italy played bocce.

Members of the Gruppo Lonatese have worked for 20 years, not only raising funds for the gardens but also digging, raking, planting and weeding. As its members age, they are less able to do such hard work. The group is soliciting donations in a "No Work Fundraiser" to keep the gardens fresh and beautiful. If you would like to help, you may send your donation to:

Gruppo Lonatese

c/o Dorothy Baciocco, Treasurer 17 San Pablo Ave., San Francisco CA 94127

The oral history videos were provided by the . If you are interested in purchasing photographs from their collection please call 415-382.0770x3 or email photoservices@marinhistory.org.

Primary source material were provided by the news clipping collections of the Anne T. Kent California Room of the Marin County Free Library - http://www.marinlibrary.org/researchand-learning/california-room.

-- Article submitted by Richard Stewart





REMINDERS

By Ken Borelli

Three items on the Italian American Cultural Radar:

- 1) If you wish to see the West Coast Premier of Opera San Jose's production of Silent Night, you can get discounted tickets by ordering on line. For the discount code put "IAHF". The opera will run from February 11-26 at the California Theater.
- 2) If you would like to attend the special performance of the Mission Chamber Orchestra on February 12th, 2017 contact Ken Borelli, likewise ,if you would like to help out on a reception for the composer Jeremy Cavaterra. The reception will immediately follow the performance at San Jose's Petit Trianon Concert Hall.
- 3) A call for IAHF artists! Last year at the Italian Family Festa at History Park we were able to have a gallery. It was suggested that some of our members are artist and would appreciate the opportunity to show their pieces. In order to plan for capacity if you are interested in showing some of your art, contact Ken Borelli at the IAHF for details.









<u>Click here for more Italian children's songs on YouTube</u>



Traditional Games Italian Children Play By Mark Keller

Variations of many traditional children's games are played around the world. Many popular Italian children's games are often played outdoors, and require several participants but little to no equipment. Italian games also often include chants or rhymes that are incorporated into the play.



Lupo delle ore

This game requires a minimum of 3 players, although groups of 7 players are ideal. One player is the "lupo" ("wolf"), and stands with his back to the others, who form a line at a designated distance from him. They players call out "Lupo che ore sono?" ("Wolf, what time is it?"), and the wolf answers with a number. The players can then take that many steps toward him, and ask again. If, instead of a number, the wolf responds with "Ho fame!" ("I'm hungry!"), he can turn around and try to tag as many of the children as he can before they make it safely back to the starting line.

Regina, Regina Bella

This game requires a minimum of 4 players minimum, although groups of 10 are ideal. One player is chosen to be the "regina" ("queen"), who stands facing the others across the playground. The other children chant:

"Regina Regina bella, quanti passi devo fare per arrivare al tuo castello con la fede, con l'anello, con la punta del coltello?"

("Beautiful, beautiful Queen, how many steps do I have to take to get to your castle with the faith, with the ring, with the tip of the knife?")

The queen then calls out both a number and the name of an animal.

The children must take that many steps toward her, walking in imitation of the animal named. The first child to reach the gueen wins.

Fazzoletto peo peo

This game requires a minimum of 5 players, although groups of 14 are ideal. The players all sit in a circle except for one who walks around the outside of the circle carrying a handkerchief.

The others chant:

"Fazzoletto Peo Peo se ti trovo ti dareo se ti trovo in un canton ti darei uno scupazon"

("Peo Peo Handkerchief If you find you give if you're in a corner I will give you a scupazon")

The outside child drops the handkerchief behind the back of one of the sitting children. This child then gets up, and he and the handkerchief-bearer race around the circle in opposite directions in attempt to be the first to sit down in the empty spot.

Strega comanda color

This game requires a minimum of 3 players, although groups of 11 are ideal. One player is chosen as the "strega" ("witch"), who calls out a color. The others must touch an object of that color, whether it be an article of clothing or something in the surrounding environment, before the witch can catch them. The first child tagged becomes the next witch. If the current witch is unsuccessful, she must call out another color.

Source: http://ourpastimes.com/traditional-games-italianchildren-play-5790117.html





CASTEL DI TUSA

One of Sicily's many secrets

CASTEL DI TUSA is the perfect destination for an extended vacation in Sicily and for exploring the intriguing history and unique culture of the largest island in the greater Mediterranean Sea. Best time to visit the island is in the Fall and Spring. You can use the destination as home base for exploring and savoring the history, culture, traditions, natural surroundings, and unmatched cuisine.



Located approximately 60 miles East of Palermo and 90 miles West of Messina, on the North side of the island, facing the Tyrrhenian Sea. Castel di Tusa is a small village of 1,000 inhabitants. Its scenic beauty and landscape are unmistakably Mediterranean.

The historic town

of Cefalú is a mere 15 miles to the West, and one of the two ceramic capitals of Sicily, Santo Stefano di Camastra, a mere 10 miles to the East. Train and bus service connect Castel di Tusa to both.

The ruins of the ancient city of Halesa (founded circa 375 BC) by the Elymnian Greeks are buried three miles up the hilltop. Elymnians were rumored to be refugees from

the ancient Asia Minor city of Troy, made famous in Homer's Iliad. The main medieval town of Tusa, founded in 1085 AD, is crested on a hill approximately 1,850 feet (631 meters) above sea level.

An Affordable Vacation

For the visitor interested in spending one or more months during Autumn and Spring, several fully equipped apartments are available. Rental fees range from US\$500 to \$750 per month for a couple, and US\$750 to \$1,000 for up to four people. Year-around leases can also be had for US\$5,000 to \$7,500 depending on occupancy. Local taxes and fees may apply.

Bed and breakfast inns, a bit more expensive, are also available; some are nestled in the nearby countryside, offering spectacular views and the solitude of a farming environment.

Castel Di Tusa website: http://www.castelditusa.com/
Castel Di Tusa movie: https://youtu.be/WmWIKiJhTuE

This is text and photos from "the website for my hometown. I wrote the text 3 years ago. It is available in English, Spanish, French, and Italian." -- Tony Tasca

Letter to The Editor

Hi Richard,

I am so impressed by your newsletter! My gosh, that is a tremendous amount of information and it's beautifully presented! Loved the article about your mother, too. What a great story.

We would love to have you all up for a tour. I'm afraid we are nowhere near as well organized as your group, but would love to get to know you better.

Thank you!

Cindy Baker / www.murerhouse.org



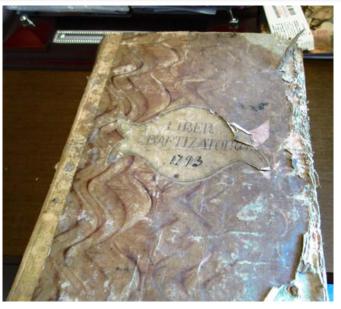


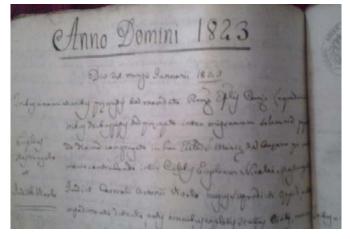
BEGINNING / INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY CLASS

Have you ever wanted to trace your family roots, and know more about your family's transition from an agrarian life in Italy to modern-day American life? Genealogy will give you the tools to uncover and understand your family's story.

We will be starting a class at the IAHF around the end of January, and will disclose more details soon. The class is tentatively planned to start in late January, and will run a few weeks. This class will be a combination of structured presentations and hands-on interaction with what YOU want to get out of the class.

We will begin with how to discover the clues and information you already have that can be found around your house, and how to use that information as building blocks to start documenting your family's history. There will be an exploration of online and offline methods of creating





and sharing your family tree, where to research for more data, and how to organize documents and photos. We will also be discussing how to find Italian resources and locate documents in Italy. One of the most exciting new developments is the use of DNA analysis to find and connect with yet-unmet relatives; this reconnection can be a magical and exhilarating process.

I have been researching my family history since 1976, and have discovered many stories about the generations that have proceeded me, who have all contributed to the person I am. I look forward to sharing this satisfying pursuit with you!

Please contact the front office to sign up. I welcome questions and comments, and can be reached at (408) 436-8121, or by email at maddalena66@sbcglobal.net

-- Article written by Madeline Damiano



ITALIAN POWER

Visit the IAHF website to get all the latest news on classes, events, regional lunches and more!

The IAHF website is a resource not for just IAHF members but the whole world community.

Visit www.iahfsj.org today - information is power!





ITALIAN-SWISS COLONY

Born in Acero in the province of Genoa on November 26, 1839, Andrea Sbarboro first came to the United States in 1842 as a toddler.

He grew up in New York, but like so many others, he and his brother Bartolomeo answered the call of California's Gold Rush when Andrea was just a teenager. Sbarboro learned first-hand what was meant by the newly-coined gold miners' phrase, "it didn't pan out."

He retreated from the gold country poorer than he was when he had started. He settled in San Francisco where he found work as a clerk in a grocery store located at 431 Washington Street. He married Maria Dondero, but became a widower only seven years later. During a subsequent visit to Italy, he met Romilda Botto. They fell in love and were married in 1872.

Sbarboro continued to work diligently for fifteen years, saving every penny.

Eventually, the once poor, simple store clerk, who worked for twenty dollars a month, bought the entire store outright.

Sbarboro travelled to Philadelphia where he learned about the operation of "cooperative banks," which allowed people to deposit their money; that money was then loaned to their neighbors to build homes. This type of banking—a forerunner of credit unions—was new and innovative. He took the idea back to the San Francisco Bay Area and became a principal of numerous such organizations, such as the West Oakland Mutual Loan Association, San Francisco Mutual Loan Association, San Francisco and Oakland Mutual Loan Association, and the San Francisco Home Mutual Loan Association. All were successful and helped Italian-Americans who would otherwise be unable to qualify for a bank loan to build homes for their families.

His fiscal acumen and ever-expanding business experience next led him to the wine business. In 1881, Sbarboro established the Italian Swiss Agricultural Colony, buying land and selling the wine made from the grapes that the land produced. He purchased the Truett sheep ranch eighty miles north of San Francisco in Sonoma County. He renamed it "Asti" after the city in Piemonte where his mother was born. One of the original investors was of Swiss origin, thus the name "Italian-Swiss." The Italian-Swiss Colony vineyards and winery continued to produce high-quality wine more than half a century before the area began to be known as "California's Wine Country."

The early part of the twentieth century brought about a change of

opinion about alcohol consumption, and the threat of prohibition. Sbarboro wrote a pamphlet deriding the arguments of the prohibitionists. The Fight for True Temperance made a bold case against prohibition, pointing out that wine-drinking countries were much less likely to have an alcoholism problem. In spite of his best efforts, the eighteenth amendment to the Constitution became law in 1919, and eventually took its toll on the Italian-Swiss Colony's bottom line. The venture was sold to Enrico Prati and the two sons

of Sbarboro's winemaker and chemist. Pietro Rossi.

Prohibition did not, however, end Sbarboro's continuing financial success. Twenty years earlier, back in 1899, he incorporated the Italian American Bank. It was the second bank in San Francisco to be owned and operated by and for Italians. It grew steadily and provided stiff competition for John F. Fugazi's Columbus Savings and Loan, which Sbar-

boro's Italian American Bank eventually bought out.

CALIFORNIA

In 1904, the King of Italy conferred upon Andrea Sbarboro the title Cavaliere della Corona d'Italia. Cavalier Sbarboro was at the top of his game, and it seemed that the fates were permanently on his side. That was the case until the calamity of 1906, when the Italian American Bank was destroyed and reduced to cinders. Undaunted, Sbarboro announced that his bank could meet "any possible call for money." He was asked to be a member of the so-called "Committee of Fifty." This group was comprised of the most influential community leaders, and was charged with the daunting task of rebuilding San Francisco.

San Francisco was indeed rebuilt, and the Italian American Bank continued to prosper. Within a decade after the Great Earthquake and Fire, the bank had three more branches. The new main office of the Italian American Bank opened to much fanfare on January 1, 1923 at the south-east corner of Broadway and Columbus Avenue (today an Italian restaurant called È Tutto Qua).

Before he died on February 28, 1923, Sbarboro lived to see his life's work fully restored. At the time of his death, it was calculated that the once-penniless grocery clerk had left behind assets exceeding fifteen million dollars.

by Nickolas Marinelli | May 27, 2011

Source: http://www.italoamericano.org/story/2011-5-26/AndreaSbarboro

-- Submitted by Richard Stewart 700





Join us for a Valentine Benefit

Support the IAHF Scholarship Program February 17, 2016

- Bring a friend or come alone there'll be fun for everyone!
- Our scholarship program allows us to recognize our youth by providing the support they need to be successful. We're planning an evening of fun, dinner and entertainment for this great cause. Spend the evening with friends, family and "Dean Martin". All proceeds go to the IAHF Scholarship Fund.
 - Doors open 6:00 p.m.
 - Buffet supper 7:00 8:15 p.m.
 - Entertainment 8:30 10:00 p.m.
 - \$55 members / \$60 non-members

RSVP TODAY

Online: <u>iahfsi.com/events</u>

Email: events@iahfsj.org

Phone: 408-293-7122



MATT HELM DEAN MARTIN impersonator

DONATE We gladly accept Scholarship donations



Calendar of Events is subject to change*

December 2016

Dec 2: World of Italian Opera / \$37 member / \$42 non-members / 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Boutique and No Host Bar / 7:00 PM Holiday Buffet / 8:15 PM Music from the World of Italian Operas

Dec 15: Regional Lunch / \$13 member / \$16 non-members / 12:00 PM

January 2017

Jan 19: Regional Lunch / Piemonte with Agostino Burzio

Jan 28: Annual IAHF-Tricarico Club Polenta Dinner

Jan 26: Cena Fuori / Zenotto's Market / 1421 Foxworthy, San Jose / Call IAHF to make a reservation for Cena Fuori, and pay at door

February 2017

Feb 12: Mission Chamber Orchestra / Premier of a commissioned piece by Italian American Composer Jeremy Cavaterra / IAHF plans in progress

Feb 16: Regional Lunch / Molise / In an old land, Italy's youngest province! / Consultant John Romano

Feb 23: Cena Fuori / Aldo's

Feb Date TDA: West Coast Premier of "Silent Night" at Opera San Jose / Group event being planned

March 2017

Mar 19: St Joseph Day Event (Note: no Regional Lunch in March 2017).

Mar 30: Cena Fuori / TBA

* Plans being finalized for Memoir Writing Program and introductory Genealogy Saturday mornings at the IAHF. Cooking classes to resume in April.

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 <u>eventrsvp@iahfsj.org</u> 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 people who you wish to sit with.
- 2) Many events, such as regional lunches and lectures, are "open seating", however, please be sure to sign up for these events by going online or calling the IAHF office.
- 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 seperate 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 guests, 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.



Italian American Heritage Foundation Newsletter & Website Advertising Rates effective 01/01/2016 to 12/31/2016

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











ROSETTA DE LUCA

Providing the quality of service you deserve!

Direct Line: 408 206 9584

Email: <u>rdeluca@interorealestate.com</u>

Website: www.rosettadeluca.com

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
- San Jose Real Estate Board
- National Association of Realtors
- 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

Revison 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
- Date of event

- Time of event
- Location of event
- Cost of tickets
- 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





IAHF Special Feature

Venetian Masks















IAHF SPECIAL FEATURE













