

# IAHF NEWS

A CHRONICLE OF ITALIAN AMERICAN LIFE IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY FOR OVER 45 YEARS

ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION • ESTABLISHED 1975 • FOUNDED AS NONPROFIT 1976

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LUCIA CLEMENTI / IAHF NEWSLETTER EDITOR PRO TEM



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### CELEBRATING FESTA DELLA REPUBBLICA

On June 2, the IAHF was invited to attend the raising of the Italian flag ceremony at the County Building in honor of Festa della Repubblica. The ceremony was followed by a dinner that evening at the Hall. Our guest speaker was long-time IAHF member, Rod Diridon, who spoke of his Italian family settling here in California. He also treated us to some history of the IAHF and the early days. I learned a lot, seeing as I've only been a member for about eight years or so. Afterwards, Delia Schizzano chose a handful of songs, and we all participated in a sing-along. I had so many compliments on the entire evening as a whole! Alba Salciccia and Bianca Vallorz led the singing of the Italian National Anthem, and then Alba sweetly sang all of the succeeding Italian songs. I could tell she loved being up on the stage singing from her heart. DJ Eric had an excellent playlist that night for us, and several participated in karaoke. Thank you to all who had a part in planning that wonderful evening!

### FESTA DONATIONS

Thank you to all who have donated to help us with the great expense of our Annual 2-day Italian Family Festa. To date, we have received a little over \$21,000. On behalf of the Co-Directors and the Festa Planning Committee, a huge THANK YOU! I'm also very happy to report that we were awarded a Grant from the City of San Jose for almost \$18,000. Thank you to Ken and all who helped in

getting the Grant submitted. These monies play a huge part in just securing the venue, the tech crew and all of the behind the scenes work that happens even before we open the doors. In June's newsletter, there was a form and an envelope for you to send back your donation. Please consider today what you can give.

### AUGUST NEWSLETTER BOLO

I am excited to announce that we're doing something new this year! Be on the lookout for the Special Edition of our August Newsletter which will feature all things FESTA! We will have a detailed list of performers, special guests, arts and crafts vendors, food vendors, cultural, culinary and kids' activities. If you've not yet signed up to be a volunteer, please do so today! The entire Festa Planning Committee has been hard at work these past many months, and we would like to see the traditional huge crowd come out to enjoy our Festa where everyone is Italian for the day!

Thank you!

-- Dana Zuccarello Aguirre, President 



**Wishing you a Safe and Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!**

## EVENTS AT A GLANCE

SEE PAGE 2 FOR MORE INFORMATION

- July 13, Thursday / Caponata with Lucia Clementi / IAHF Hall
- July 27, Thursday / Cena Fuori / Ristorante da Maria

### ONGOING CLASSES

- Italian Language Classes / Conversational and Intermediate / Online classes
- Cooking Classes / Come to the IAHF for cooking, eating and good times!!



August 5 & 6, Saturday & Sunday • History Park San Jose  
**SAVE THE DATE!! JOIN THE FUN!! VOLUNTEER!!**



## JULY

- July 13, Thursday / Caponata with Lucia Clementi / IAHF Hall / 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM / Lucia will teach how to make her Sicilian Caponata which she served at the St. Joseph's Day celebration / Members \$25 and non-members \$30 / RSVP to 408 293-7122
- July 27, Thursday / Cena Fuori / Ristorante da Maria, 2707 Union Avenue, SJ / 7 PM / \$45 pay at the door / A bistro-like setting / RSVP to 408 293-7122

## AUGUST

- August 5 and 6, Saturday and Sunday / ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA / History Park San Jose  
**SAVE THE DATE!! JOIN THE FUN!!**

## ONGOING LANGUAGE CLASSES

- Monday and Wednesday / 6 PM / Marie Dalldorf teaches Italian Language Online Zoom classes / Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84929597554>
- Intermediate Italian Conversation / 10 to 11:30 AM / Every Wednesday, with Delia Schizzano / In-person class

All Cooking Classes are held at the IAHF Hall. To enroll in the classes, please call (408) 293-7122 or register online at <https://form.jotform.com/212754933891061>

# Join The Fun!

## VOLUNTEER AT THE FESTA KID ZONE



This is the second year that the Italian Family Festa will have a special booth for kids, the *Zona di Ragazze e Ragazzi*. Last year's event was a big hit with children and parents alike. We are once again looking for young adults and adults who are young at heart to join the fun by volunteering to help out at the Kids' Zone August 5-6. The hours are flexible, and you will receive a food voucher for volunteering a minimum of two hours.

As volunteers, you help to create a memorable experience for children by working with them on interactive and creative Italian games and activities such as decorating Venetian masks, stringing macaroni necklaces, face painting and much more. Satvik the Magician will again perform his mesmerizing magic tricks that captivated kids last year. His performances are at 1:30 each afternoon. The Italian Renaissance Swordsmanship will demonstrate fencing techniques and direct interactive fun games for kids.

By lending your time and enthusiasm, you can ignite imaginations and produce smiles as kids discover Italian word games, art and other learning activities. Don't miss the chance to make new friends and give back to the community!

To sign up go to: <https://italianfesta.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=73478>

Email us at: [volunteers@italianfamilyfestasj.org](mailto:volunteers@italianfamilyfestasj.org)

See you at the *Zona di Ragazze e Ragazzi*!

-- Article by Marie Rose Peirano Dalldorf / *Zona di Ragazze e Ragazzi* Co-Chair 🇮🇹

## Have photos of IAHF events you would like to share?

Please email them to [photos@iahfsj.org](mailto:photos@iahfsj.org) and state the event in the subject line.

Thank you!

— Louie Lombardo / 4<sup>TH</sup> Vice President



FREE ADMISSION

# 41ST ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA!

AUGUST 5 & 6 • HISTORY PARK SAN JOSE

1650 SENTER ROAD, SAN JOSE 95112

SATURDAY 11 AM TO 8 PM • SUNDAY 11 AM TO 6 PM



ITALIAN FAMILY  
**FESTA**  
S a n J o s e



FEATURING: **LIVEWIRE**, SAT, AUG 5th  
FUN FOR ALL! GREAT FOOD!  
ENTERTAINMENT & LIVE MUSIC!

Limited Free Parking Volunteer & info at [ItalianFamilyFestaSJ.org](http://ItalianFamilyFestaSJ.org)



Michela Musollino, Aug 5th



Mike Annuzzi, Aug 6, Sun.



Gold Money Band, Sat. & Sun.



Anthony "Nino" Lane Band, Aug 6, Sun.



Roman Encampment & Legionaries Parade

# ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA San Jose

## SPONSORS

Our Annual Festa is a massive event that takes time, talent, dedication and money. Lots of money. The following list reflects just the beginning of those who have made a financial commitment as a Festa Sponsor. This list will continue to grow. Some have been helping us for years, some are brand new. **We are very grateful to all our sponsors.**

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THE ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA  
IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH  
A GRANT FROM THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

# CELEBRATING FESTA DELLA REPUBBLICA



This year, the IAHF's Festa activities began with a noon raising of the Italian Flag at the County Building in San Jose. This was followed by a dinner and program at the IAHF to allow those who are working the opportunity to participate. That proved to be a winning formula with about 150 people at the evening event celebrating the birth of the Italian Republic in 1947.

During the noon flag raising ceremony, both the American and Italian National anthems were played. The Italian flag was raised by Co-Chair Zina Russo and her son, Steve; and the American flag was raised by IAHF President Dana Zuccarello. Representing the County was Aide to the County Executive, Steve Preminger. A resolution from the California State Senate along with best wishes were received from a previous event Co-Chair, State Senator Dave Cortese, who also came to the dinner. Rod Diridon also shared a couple of words on the early days of the Festa della Repubblica in Santa Clara County.

The dinner itself was quite special, with delicious food, music and a fascinating address by Rod Diridon, Sr. The meal was catered by Risotto Caterers, appetizers by the IAHF, and complimentary wines by Guglielmo Winery. President Dana Zuccarello gave the official welcome followed by the singing of the American National Anthem by Dan Burns. After the dinner, the Italian National Anthem was performed by the dynamic duo of Bianca Vallorz and her grandmother, Alba Salciccia. They also led a sing-along to the anthem along with other classic Italian songs, annotated by "la professoressa" Delia Schizzano, and her Italian students, who were dispersed throughout the hall "to help with the words." Our DJ for the event, "DJ Eric," did some challenging planning in putting together an amazing sound and sight show. This included performing soloist, Caroline Dasalla, Ray Farnsworth and Dan Burns, all accompanied by an amazing sax player, Jess Bautista. There also were line dance lessons by Lucia Clementi,

concluding with general dancing. The music did not stop until 10 PM! Rod's comments were also an engaging description of the Italian Community of the 1970s, along with highlighting some of the founders and doers of the IAHF, especially Dominic Cirincione. What was equally interesting was Rod's references to the early days of the IAHF with names, followed by a "do you recall moment." The adage, "time flies" was a fact in that very few people were able to recall who many of these people were. It also underscores the importance of this and similar discussions about our collective history. We have Rod's comments videotaped for future references as a part of our archival programs.

Rod also talked about his personal background as an Italian American growing up in the Mt. Shasta area. There have been some articles about that part of our history, and there is a rich lore that has yet to be fully understood. Dunsmuir, McCloud and Weed were all railroad and timber areas that employed many Italian Americans during the turn of the last century. Like Rod, several of our members can trace their roots to those areas.\*

The Festa della Repubblica celebration truly brought together our diverse community from all walks of life... as is said in Italian "Bis, Bis, Bis!!! We certainly don't have to wait until the next Republic Day to experience a similar extravaganza.

-- Article by Ken Borelli / Photos by Stanley Olivar

*\*Coincidentally, the writings of deceased member Mary Reginato Hudson's articles were collected and published by her daughter, Chris Hudson. Her book has been donated to the IAHF Library. The stories also take place in the same region. We are planning an event soon regarding the book and learning more about this very historic area of Italian American history in California.*

**There are a few chairs left that would love a name.**

**NAME A CHAIR FOR \$25**

Please call the IAHF office at 408-293-7122 if you would like to name a chair.

-- Nanci Wilborn, Chair

# CENA FUORI

• MAGGIO •

## *Che bella serata!*

As was said in a previous article, the beauty of our monthly adventures which fulfills Ken's mission of shepherding his loyal foodies to enjoy "cena fuori" is to "explore the offerings of restaurants, enabling you to decide if you are going back."

E siamo tornati to the Italian Brothers Restaurant in Downtown Los Gatos! And what a night of delicious Southern Italian Cuisine!!

We were seated inside the spacious restaurant that is decorated with wall murals and a warm and comfortable ambience that makes you know you are "dining out" and yet gives you that feeling of being in Nonna's kitchen. The aromas that greet you are the first clue and even the dinnerware is embellished with lemons – no plain white plates here!

The friendly and personable servers kindly took our vino and cocktail orders (best Negroni ever with the most unique and highly specialized presentation – no spoiler in order to encourage you to check it out for yourself!)! A vast wine and craft cocktail menu was provided that enabled each guest to choose his and her own specialty beverage!

While the guests arrived – all 42 of us! – several groups ordered appetizers on their own such as grilled Spanish octopus, fried calamari



(melted in your mouth) and breaded fried zucchini (just like potato chips, can't eat just one!), both served with the house made marinara sauce!

The meal began with a crisp Sicilian salad very attractively plated with olives and tomatoes, garnished with a vinaigrette dressing; baskets of delicious, crunchy homemade Italian sourdough bread were repeatedly requested. Our entrée choices included Chicken Puttanesca and Grilled Salmon, both served with roasted potatoes and fresh vegetables and Pasta Primavera

prepared with peas, mushrooms in a creamy sauce.

Il dolce was over the top! Italian style house made spumoni covered with a dark chocolate shell aka "La Bomba"!

Daniel Burns led us all in a beautiful serenade to Janice Cornaglia who was celebrating her birthday that evening with her husband, Michael, and his parents Rose and Steve Cornaglia – so of course Birthday Cake for all! Thank you for sharing your special day with us!

In June, we are looking forward to a NEW experience at recently opened Milan located on Meridian Avenue (in the former location of Fratello's) – Join us!

— Article by Cathy De Maria / Photos by Stanley Olivar





## SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CELEBRATES CENT'ANNI

The Bay Area and beyond are celebrating the Centennial Season of San Francisco Opera with many special programs highlighting the world-famous institution. For an Italian American history and/or opera buff, it is well worth the trip to Il Museo Italo Americano to enjoy the exceptional show, "BRAVO--Celebrating San Francisco Opera--Its Italian Roots and Legacy." The Museo is located at Fort Mason Center, 2 Marina Boulevard, close to North Beach.

The roots of the San Francisco Opera are steeped and associated with the vibrant Italian American community in old North Beach. The company was founded by Gaetano Merola, along with several "prominent" Italian Americans, who shared his vision of a world-class opera company for the community. A plaque with their names is hung in the lobby of the War Memorial Opera House. One hundred years later the vision is still going strong and housed at the War Memorial Opera House on Van Ness Avenue. Interestingly, the first performances were "Down at the Farm" at Stanford University. The exhibit runs through October 22, 2023.

The exhibit at Il Museo was compiled in partnership with the San Francisco Opera and highlights many of the early-day experiences of the opera company. It was sponsored by the E. L. Wiegand Foundation. I was happily surprised to see that one part of the exhibits was dedicated to a San Jose native, mezzo-soprano Irene Dalis, who, in turn, founded Opera San Jose. I also recall attending a performance of Giuseppe Verdi's Don Carlo several years ago where Irene Dalis was honored and presented with a gold medal for one of her signature roles, the Princes Eboli. Also, as a field trip, the IAHF attended a premier performance of La Ciociara (known in the movies as Two Women).

There will be many concerts, lectures, and community celebrations associated with the 100th Anniversary event. The exhibit also harkens back to a time when the Italian American community was a young and dynamic immigrant community sharing its culture and heritage as a part of the San Francisco experience. The Museo itself hosts many exhibits throughout the year and is currently working on an expanded facility through a community-wide Capital Campaign. For more information check out [info@sfmuseo.org](mailto:info@sfmuseo.org)

— Article by Ken Borelli ↵





# Play bocce!

Sunday, June 4, featured the 8th annual fun-filled IAHF Bocce Tournament. The games fielded 8 teams of 4 players each for a round-robin series of half-hour sets in two divisions culminating in a playoff to determine the first and second-place official winners. Unofficially, everyone who attended the Sunday games was a winner with an enjoyable series of play, delicious appetizers and socializing with each other.

In fact, after the games, several people just hung out to enjoy some gelato chit-chat and, of course, "Monday morning" the matches. While last year's Co-Chair Karen Corlett was sadly missed, the games were dedicated to her memory and her sister, Christi Gilcrest, represented the family tradition. As a tribute to Karen, we had a special cadre of long-time friends of hers who play at Campo graciously volunteer to referee our games. It was very much appreciated and kept us all on schedule for the two-hour games. Likewise, our medals were designed and donated by IAHF members Sal and Denise Campagna. They have done so for the life of the games.

Oh yes, and the first place winners were, Edith and Chuck Berry and Sal Alini and Soly Paterson.

The second place winners were the event Co-Chair Sharon McCray, Robert Martinez, Pamela Venzie and Azie Habib, all from Prusch Farm Park Foundation.

Interestingly too at Campo, a special charity trophy was on display through the auspices of members of the SF 49ers and their annual charity tournament. One of the referees explained that in more competitive bocce, the rules are much more complex. We play "Anything goes bocce," and he noted it was equivalent to playing checkers. The more league bocce is akin to playing chess. Even so, it seemed competitive enough! A big shout out to our fabulous volunteer referees: Ray Wootten, Joanne Lopez, Alan Knox, Robb Hermanson, Diane Kelley and Paolo Pro. They said they had such a fun time with great people, and they look forward to joining us again next year.

It's the game many of us grew up with. The interesting thing about basic bocce is it is an easy game to learn while a difficult game to master, especially as it relates to ball control. The Campo courts are fast and carpeted, as opposed to sand and shell courts which tend to slow the speed of the ball. It is all part of the finesse of the game. Another popular variation is sandlot bocce played at the beach where you tend to lob the ball in the sand, with not much rolling associated with it.

It is not too late to check out the venue, and it is a great site for a party or just a get-together for some social play and snacks which, by the way, are delicious.

— Article by Sharon McCray and Ken Borelli / Photos by Stanley Olivar ~

## MORE IAHF HALL IMPROVEMENTS



We are continuing to make progress on our building improvements. In addition to the new floors and bathroom upgrades, we have removed the old wooden bumpers in the parking lot that were deteriorating and replaced them with new concrete parking bumpers.

And, as of this writing, we are sealing the the banquet hall ceiling with a special material that will encapsulate the popcorn ceiling. The ceilings were recently tested and were found to have asbestos in the acoustic material. The conference room and tiles underneath the acoustic ceiling were also tested and found to be free of asbestos

Encapsulating the asbestos ceiling is a recommended way to deal with asbestos. The material we are using has been tested by the environmental protection agency, and found to be able to contain the asbestos fibers.

We will continue to make improvements to make our Hall aesthetically pleasing and a safe environment for our members.

-- Article by Dave Perzinski ~





• MAY REGIONAL LUNCH •  
EXPLORING THE ADRIATIC:  
RIMINI & RAVENNA



Luncheon photos by Stanley Olivar



# THE FESTA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Festa is our largest undertaking each year with hundreds of volunteers and volunteer hours to make the Italian magic happen.

Our volunteers are the driving force and the glue that makes it work.

## CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEER NOW

- Click or tap to get signed up for your favorite task and time.
- All sign-ups are on a first come, first serve, basis.
- Grab your friends and family, donate a couple of hours, stay for the culture, food, music, wine tasting and more!
- The volunteer sign up link can be found on the home page of the IAHF and Festa websites or by going directly to: <https://italianfesta.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=73478>
- If you can't decide on which job, have questions, or need help signing up, please contact Louie Lombardo @ [Louie.Lombardo@iahfsj.org](mailto:Louie.Lombardo@iahfsj.org) or (408) 888-0462.

## FAENZA FLOODS



## REACHING OUT TO OUR SBANDIERATORI AMICI

Little did we know as IAHF members, the close bonds we would form after a long week of activities during Festa week with our featured 2019 Festa performers. Therefore, like many IAHF host family members, we were all concerned about our Faenza guests and how they were now doing in Faenza in Emilia-Romagna, during these catastrophic floods. In addition, my husband one morning had actually listened on a news segment from "Good Morning America" to a reporter in Faenza showing the destruction in Faenza and the surrounding areas from the floods (*alluvioni*). Accordingly, I contacted our *sbandieratore* guest, Maurizio Drei. Fortunately his home was not destroyed, but he was cleaning damage around his home from the mud and debris. Also, being a postman in Faenza, he was able to see first hand the destruction in Faenza and neighboring communities. He mentioned the townspeople who had lost their homes and all their worldly belongings to these massive floods.

After speaking with Ken Borelli and the desire of many IAHF members to help, I asked Maurizio how we could best directly get funds to the town of Faenza and the surrounding villages to aid them in their recovery. He referred us to the [Raccolta Fondi per L'Emergenza](#) which was accepting donations specifically for the commune di Faenza. Likewise, this was presented to the IAHF Board of Directors who unanimously approved of this fund as a way to contribute to the aid and support of our Faenza "amici" in their recovery efforts.

**FORZA FAENZA, FORZA EMILIA ROMAGNA!!! YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS BIG OR SMALL WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!!**

-- Article by Jo Ann Bjornstad

## BUSINESS ADS



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works to connect local business to each other and the broader community, to advocate for local business before government, and to promote San Jose as the best place in the world to start and grow a business. <https://www.sjchamber.com>

## See You at the Festa!

I am pleased to say that I will be back with a presentation on Italian genealogy research. I will be highlighting free online sources to research, build, and store your family tree. And I will give you an online tour of the Antenati website ([antenati.cultura.gov.it](https://antenati.cultura.gov.it)), which is maintained by the Italian government and free to access. This is the place to search for Italian birth, marriage, and death records. A treasure trove of information, with new registers being added continuously.

## New Books in the Library

The Twila Venuti Library is more than just a repository for books. We have movie DVDs, music CDs, and magazines. We can even point you to online recordings of past events viewable online at home.

It's easy to request a library item! Search our online catalog at <https://iahf-sj.librarika.com/>, then email me at [librarian@iaqhfsj.org](mailto:librarian@iaqhfsj.org) and let me know what you would like to check out. We can make an appointment to meet at the library, or I can have it ready for you at the next IAHF event.

I'd like to thank Matilde Cristiano Oliverio for her recent donations of some lovely books. I will detail a few of them here.

## Pompeii: The Rediscovered City

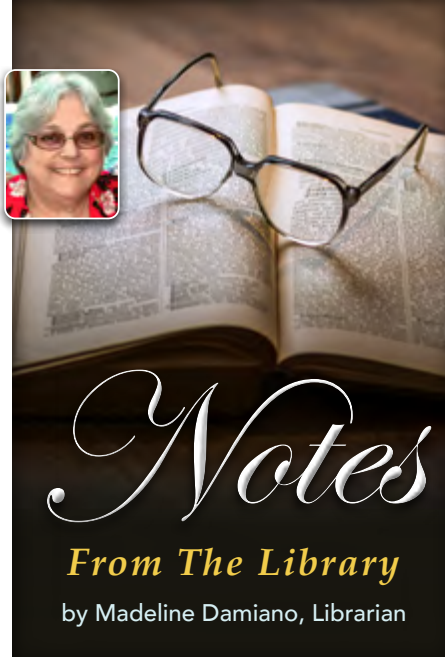
We have two copies of this book on the buildings and people of Pompeii, the English version and the Italian. Published by the Istituto Geografico de Agostini-Novara, these are printed in the style of oversized magazines. They are full of mostly black and white photos, with interesting text explaining daily life in this once-thriving city.

## Constantino Brumidi, Artist of the Capitol

This talented Italian was chosen as "the artist of the Capitol" because of his mastery of true fresco technique and three-dimensional painting. He came to the US as a political exile but quickly adopted this country as his new home.

Brumidi painted the spectacular "The Apotheosis of George Washington" fresco across the dome of the Rotunda. And more than a century later, visitors are still awed by the ornate designs and decorations found in the Brumidi Corridors.

Spectacular color photos and accompanying text provide history and



context for the exquisite touches found throughout our Capitol Building.

## The Italian Legacy in Washington, D.C.: Architecture, Design, Art and Culture

The artistic influence of Italy and Italian artists extends far beyond Brumidi and the Capitol Building and is found throughout Washington, DC. The book discusses the Italian influence on Monticello, the Watergate Complex, The Jefferson Memorial, and the Italian Chancery and includes the perspective of architects.

But why was there such a strong presence of Italian culture in the buildings of Washington, DC? This paragraph provides a succinct summary:

"When plans for the new "Federal City of Washington" were being considered in the late eighteenth century, it seemed natural to follow the European tradition of designing the facades of public buildings to resemble Classical temples . . . based on the admiration felt for the accomplishments of the Greeks and Romans, the notion that America was in some sense a revival of their greatest aspirations in democratic republican government, and a desire to build a capital city . . . with its internationally recognized symbols of the glory that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome."

I can't describe how satisfying it is just to page through photos of the graceful buildings and memorials depicted here, which the artistic

photography presents so beautifully.

## Wish List

We're still cataloging and sorting many items, and if you have these items sitting around your house, please think of donating them to the library:

- Label maker
- Empty CD and DVD cases

## Santa Clara County Fairgrounds

This year the County Fair will begin on July 26 and run for ten days. I am still interested in your memories, photos, and memorabilia from your visits to events held at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. Remember, we can easily digitize your items so you don't have to relinquish them.

Email me! [librarian@iahfsj.org](mailto:librarian@iahfsj.org) 🌸

# ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS NEW AND RENEWING!

Our 2023 Newsletters will have a section to announce members' birthdays and/or wedding anniversaries.

We plan to start publishing this in the upcoming months of the IAHF NEWS.

If you do not want your birthday or wedding anniversary announced, you can make note on your membership renewal form.

If you have already renewed and you do not want your birthday and/or wedding anniversary announced, please contact Dave Perzinski at [perzinskidavid@gmail.com](mailto:perzinskidavid@gmail.com) or Louie Lombardo at [louie@4lombardos.com](mailto:louie@4lombardos.com).

-- Article by Elise Habra 🌸

# Lucia's COOKING CLASS NEWS

## BRAIDED ITALIAN BREAD WITH JOSIE TADDEO



Have you ever wondered how the beautiful, Italian braided breads that adorn our tables on St. Joseph's Day are made? Our guest instructor, Josie Taddeo, taught us how to make these decorative breads at our last cooking class in June.

Josie began the class by going over all the ingredients. She first combined milk, sugar, salt and butter in a pan and heated it on the stove top. Next, the yeast was dissolved in warm water. After that, all of the ingredients were added together, along with the milk and a portion of the flour to the bowl of her stand-mixer. Using a dough hook, the ingredients were mixed together and more flour was added to the dough. Once the dough was properly combined, it was placed in a greased bowl, covered so that it would rise, and set aside. Because this process takes about an hour, Josie had prepared another dough in advance so that the class could work on the braiding while the freshly

made dough was rising. Josie demonstrated how the braiding is done and the students immediately went to work on creating their masterpieces on baking sheets. Finally, each braided dough was brushed with olive oil and rosemary and placed into a hot, 400° oven. A few minutes later, the aroma of baking bread wafted from the kitchen as we waited in anticipation.

At last, the bread was ready for us to consume, and it was well worth the wait! The bread was warm, fragrant, soft and melted on our taste buds. What could be better?

Meanwhile, the other dough that was set aside to rise was braided and our students packed it up and took it home to bake later.

We send a big "grazie" to Josie for sharing her expertise in teaching this class. Her skill in handling the bread dough was very impressive. In addition, she made it look so easy!

### BASIC ITALIAN BRAIDED BREAD RECIPE

Yield: 2 loaves

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup milk
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 2 packages active dry yeast
- 1 1/2 cups warm water (105 F to 115 F)
- 5-6 cups all-purpose flour

#### MAKING THE DOUGH

- Combine milk, sugar, salt, and butter in small saucepan. Heat over low heat until butter melts and sugar dissolves. Cool to lukewarm.
- Dissolve yeast in warm water in warmed bowl.
- Add lukewarm milk mixture and 4 1/2 cups flour.
- Attach bowl and dough hook to a stand mixer. Turn to Speed 2 and mix 1 minute.

- Continuing on Speed 2, add remaining flour, 1/2 cup at a time, until dough clings to hook and cleans sides of bowl.
- Knead on Speed 2 for 2 minutes longer, or until dough is smooth and elastic. Dough will be slightly sticky to the touch.
- Place in a greased bowl. Cover, let rise in warm place, free from draft, until doubled in bulk, about 1 hour.

#### THE BRAIDING STEPS

1. After the dough has risen, punch the dough down and divide the dough into three equal portions. You can do this by sight and feel, or by using a kitchen scale to check that the lumps of dough are about the same weight.
2. With clean, lightly floured hands, begin to shape and gently stretch the dough balls into log shapes.
3. Place the dough logs on a very lightly floured work surface and use your hands to roll and pull them into long rope-like strands. Use even pressure as you roll the dough, in order to maintain an even thickness along the length of each rope.

*continued on next page >>*

4. Place the dough ropes on a baking sheet that has been lightly greased or lined with parchment paper. The ropes should be lined side by side, but not touching — you'll want to leave at least an inch between each rope so that you have enough room to braid. Tip: If one of your dough ropes is bigger or smaller than the others, make that one the center strand.
5. Firmly pinch the ends of the dough ropes together on one side. This will hold the top of the loaf together while you braid. Tuck the pinched ends under the loaf to help hold them together while you braid, and while the bread bakes.
6. Begin to braid the dough by lifting the dough rope on the right and passing it over the center rope (the rope to the immediate left). Now, the rope that had been on the right becomes the center rope. The original center rope is now on the right. The rope on the left has not moved. Take the dough rope on the left and pass it over the center strand (the rope to the immediate right). The rope that had been on the left is now in the center. Continue braiding the dough by alternately placing the right rope over the center rope, then the left rope over the center rope. Try to keep the braid fairly tight as you work your way down the loaf.

7. When you've braided all the way to the bottom of the loaf, pinch the ends of the dough ropes together, and tuck them under the loaf. This will give your loaf an attractive, tapered shape, and help hold the braid together while the loaf rises and bakes.
8. Cover the braided loaf with a clean tea towel and allow it to rise until doubled in size. Brush the loaf with an egg wash (or olive oil and rosemary) and bake.
9. Bake at 400 F for 30 minutes.
10. Remove from pans immediately and cool on wire racks.

-- Article and photos by Lucia Clementi / Recipe by Josie Taddeo 🌱

#### UPCOMING CLASS:

**July 13, Thursday / Caponata with Lucia Clementi / 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM / At the Hall / Lucia will teach how to make her Sicilian Caponata which she served at the St. Joseph's Day celebration / Members \$25 and non-members \$30 / RSVP to (408) 293-7122 or <https://form.jot-form.com/212754933891061>**

**Please note: There will not be a Cooking Class in August because we will be preparing for the Italian Family Festa.**



## IAHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

# APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

The IAHF is seeking members to fill the 2024 Board vacancies caused by term limitations and incumbents up for re-election. This is an exciting time to be a Board member. We currently have an enthusiastic and varied Board that broadly represents the diversity of our Italian American Community.

The role of our governing Board is to provide oversight for the operations of the IAHF, make the necessary decisions that impact membership and activities in accordance with IAHF Bylaws, and provide the leadership to implement our common vision! It is also a great opportunity to work with a creative team to plan and promote our Italian Heritage and assist the IAHF to

carry out its vision and mission statement of sharing our culture and values with the community. We welcome new ideas about things to offer the Italian American community or thoughts about ways to improve what we are already doing.

Board members are expected to attend monthly Board meetings, participate in events, chair committees, volunteer as needed and be dedicated to promoting and preserving our Italian heritage and culture. The time commitment is ~15 hours a month outside of the monthly meetings.

If you are interested in becoming a Board member, you can read the qualification

guidelines and complete the on-line application here: 2024 Board Application. Once you've completed your application, all applicants go through a screening process and meet with the Nominating Selection Committee for an interview. Selected Board members will be introduced at our October Membership Meeting and, depending on the number of applications, there may need to be an election. Deadline for application submittals is September 1, 2023.

If you would like more information about becoming a Board member, please feel free to contact me at [louie.lombardo@iahfsj.org](mailto:louie.lombardo@iahfsj.org).

-- Article by Louie Lombardo ~



## IAHF SCHOLARSHIP WINNER ESSAYS

### JONATHAN LEDESMA




Heritage is everything. When sitting down to write this essay, I think of my Italian uncle who tells me: "There is no success without a successor". This statement seems so connected at this moment because I believe we often learn so much about ourselves from looking into our pasts. For me, being Italian comes with a certain standard of excellence that demands excellence, but also fun and charisma. The successors in my life are my family, and being Italian also comes with this strong sense that it's the Monahan family V.S the world. This is why it is the little things such as respecting elders, maintaining high standards, or even remembering to take time to have a good laugh with family and friends that makes me proud of my Italian heritage.

Also: I lucked out coming from a family raised on home-cooked meals from the greatest food culture in the world. Who doesn't love spaghetti? To start, in being Italian, one of the biggest lessons I learned from a young age is that family is over everything. As far back as I can remember, dinner as a family every night was a must and everyone contributes. Momma always prepared the food with my sister as a sous chef, my brother always set and cleaned up the table, my job was always dishes and my dad did the drinks (as well as being our resident taste tester). Once we got to the table, all electronics were put away and all attention was on family. This seemingly minute aspect of life paid huge dividends for the trust within my family and my personal growth. Some of the biggest discussions in my life were at my kitchen table passing around lasagne and homemade garlic bread. Even as I grew older and started becoming interested in women, their biggest test to earn momma's approval was surviving family dinners. The ride-or-die love from my family made my current girlfriend of two years feel like family from the moment she cleaned up dishes with me with sore bellies (both from laughing and stuffing linguini down our throats).

On top of this, being Italian includes being the life of the party. My grandma told me in preparation for this essay, "Being Italian isn't about eating pasta or even speaking Italian. It's about respect, fun, and love for yourself with your Comunità" I've been told this and am now accepting it consciously, but as I look into my past I feel like this has been subconsciously instilled into me since I was born. Festas were commonplace for me, bonding with my family and friends over stories is how I've gotten close to my inner circle. For example, I recently had my second surgery in two years as a result of multiple fractures in my arm during a football game. This time was incredibly hard for

me as I was aspiring to accept an offer to play football in college. This time was really dark for me, as I was forced to watch my teammates complete the season without me and watch my college career slip out of reach. The way I coped with this challenging reality was through story. Letting family and friends know how this happened, and laughing through the pain eventually allowed me to accept this new reality and move on with grace. Through this challenging experience, I used my Italian funny bone to recover mentally, so when I physically recovered I was able to return to the fun game I loved with acceptance of my new reality. Besides the more fun values I've inherited as a result of being Italian, the crucial standard that comes with representing all of those who came before me forces me to maintain a high standard in everything I do. As I moved into middle and high school my parents taught me that my "Only job was to be a student" and that if I did not retain all A's throughout middle and high school I would lose extracurricular privileges. This high standard extended outside of the classroom as well, with a standard of excellence being expected in sports and leadership work.

Now as you're reading this you may think: Couldn't these developments in character have come in any culture? Yes, you'd be correct. Yet, something about being raised in the culture of Italian values, these smaller details of my life: Being a productive member of a Comunità, staying positive even through the darkest days, and maintaining high standards in my craft have that Italians take incredibly seriously. Thanks to these values, I am in the position I am today as the person I am today, completely content in my situation and identity.

Lastly, being able to leverage the IAHF's scholarships would be motivating to me, as a psych major, because my dream is to obtain a master's degree in psychology and become a licensed sports therapist. With this licensing, I will be able to aid underperforming athletes with mental roadblocks preventing them from reaching their highest potential. In supporting me in my journey to reach my highest educational potential, you are indirectly supporting young athletes all over the globe to reach their athletic potential. There are not as many groups as I once thought willing to support aspiring Italian scholars and your potential contributions to my education would be greatly appreciated. They would be greatly appreciated not only in easing the financial burden of this stage of my life but in motivating me to continue to chase my dreams. Knowing there is a group back home that understands my values and identity as an Italian and supports my development in this way would warm my heart and inspire me to keep performing at my best. There is no success without a successor. The succession of Italian values in my DNA has molded me into the respectful, determined, charismatic man I am today and I am proud of that fact. 

## LETIZIA PASTORE



An afternoon walk revealed the intricate puzzle of my complex cultural identity. I was walking my dog down the street, yet I felt that I was also walking in the middle of two parallel worlds. With every step, the other side seemed evermore tangible, jumping out and imposing its existence.

Turning the corner, I was no longer in the comforting familiarity of my neighborhood, gazing over the cherry trees and the newly-made asphalt road. I was standing in a vastly different neighborhood inside a poorly ventilated, humid house in the small town of Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Italy, where my parents grew up, now only a sad shadow of what it used to be; its depth and vibrancy long faded. I see steaming hot food the selection of which was chosen by me - on the small rectangular table of the kitchen, and family members I haven't seen in years beaming with joviality as they walk inside. I feel the palms of my hands holding the silverware I am setting become slippery and my cheeks flush an uncomfortable shade of warm.

Surrounded by vaguely familiar people, I feel inadequate; their animated language booms too loud in my ears, and their frenzied introductions make my voice feel small and uncertain in comparison. I feel that I am not entitled to the privilege of enjoying linguine alle vongole and homemade cannoli as a true Italian when my family abandoned this hometown ten years ago and I chose not to look back. I chose a side: to rid myself of 'l'italianità', masking my 'Italianness', from my American reality. Italian language in America didn't fit, and my mouth made sure to remind me by turning dry and uncomfortable when speaking it outside the walls of my home. Suddenly, I felt guilty; guilty for believing that identity is assigned and is incapable of evolving, and I felt disheartened for not having made an effort until then to embrace both cultures that make up who I am.

As my family members take their cacophony of voices outside, my grandma and I are left alone in the house sitting at the coffee table completing a jigsaw puzzle. Puzzles frustrated me because somehow, my creation never looked the same as the perfectly edited image on the box. For the first time, this was different; I hear myself speaking in a bold voice in my native tongue, talking through it with my cheerful nonna on my team. Bypassing my pounding heart, there's a movement in the drawers of my mind, one that causes the two sides of me to shift towards something greater than the sum of their parts. I felt myself release a breath from the tight compartment I had hidden in for fear of making mistakes, for fear of being rejected by the culture I had worked to reject for so long.


The breakdown of a stark divide between the tidy categories of my realities created room to reflect on the ever-evolving complexity of my identity. As my exuberant dog reached for the next cherry on the road, he jolted me back into my quiet neighborhood. It was in this walk, that I realized that I needed to make an intentional choice to accept that these parts of me do not have to fight or reach a perfect balance, but rather dynamically complement each other; there was

room for my cultures to come together as a frame for the puzzle pieces that lie within me. Yet, despite my love for challenges, this one has proven to be the most intimidating. The beauty of putting together these complex pieces though is that there is no perfect picture to exactly replicate, making me all the more excited to pick up new puzzle pieces along the way, which, with some rearrangement, will fit together exactly as they need to.

Being a student leader for the peer-to-peer program Unconditionally Positive, UP has equipped me with the tools to increase awareness for individual and community wellness within my school, foster a welcoming community for all built based on understanding and mutual respect, and grow into my social responsibility for being an aware and perceptive citizen. Through UP, I have worked alongside a carefully selected, collaborative team of students to help uplift Los Gatos High School students and provide them with the social and emotional support they may seek. As a part of UP, I address the existing issues of cultural and racial intolerance within my school and promote an environment that celebrates all kinds of people and their successes.

To best target these community-wide challenges, I created a plan of action to reach, educate, and connect with students in the school. To reach a greater audience, we put on a "Reset" themed TEDx event to reshape the perception of diversity and inclusion within the student body. From choosing and executing the theme to recruiting speakers, approving talks, planning activities, finding sponsors, and setting up for the event, I was proud of my contributions to spark social change. Serving as the presenter for all the talks and receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback from the audience filled with more than two hundred students and community members truly served as the confirmation that we could come together to bring about positive change.

Another cherished initiative that I will carry with me is collaborating with the UP team and the school administration to set up the Wellness Center. As an Italian growing up in America, merging my two different approaches to life initially proved difficult as the two parts of my identity held such different perspectives: the Bay Area with its fast-paced emphasis on always driving forward to the next task, contrasted with the "go slow, go steady" Italian approach to life. As I reconciled with each, I found that I could embrace *Il Dolce Far Niente* (the sweetness of doing nothing, in my Italian culture) for a few minutes a day through an afterschool ritual I call "Tea Time". Intentionally choosing to take a few moments of "sweet idleness" free from external distractions has helped me to prioritize the tasks in my day without the element of stress around them. Therefore I was thrilled to bring this idea of the Italian *Dolce far niente* to my school by creating community-building activities, relaxing pastimes such as arts and crafts, and an overall inviting "hang-out" area for students to decompress and have access to the school therapist and resources they may need. Walking past the Wellness Center now, seeing how widely used it is, never fails to fill me with joy and gratification.

Ultimately, through these experiences and the value they have yielded in uniting our school community, I have learned that leading change through fostering an environment where each individual feels that they are seen and valued is the most effective and fruitful form of community engagement. 

More IAHF Scholarship Winner Essays will be published in upcoming issues of the IAHF NEWS

## IAHF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON ♦ JUNE 11, 2023

For the past 41 years, the IAHF has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to preserving and promoting Italian heritage and culture through scholarships that financially help students of Italian descent. We gather annually to celebrate our winners.

The luncheon atmosphere this year was commemorative as distinguished guests, accomplished scholars and donors gathered for the IAHF Scholarship Awards Ceremony, "Dream, Believe, and Achieve." This event highlighted the hard work, dedication, academic and extracurricular accomplishments of the eight scholarship recipients. Students and their families mingled with donors while Joseph Annuzzi entertained the crowd by playing Italian music on his accordion.

Ms. Anna Zeppieri, the Education Attaché and Director of the Education Office of the Consulate General of Italy in San Francisco, was our keynote speaker, representing the Consul General of Italy, Sergio Strozzi. Ms. Zeppieri shared her vision for the promotion, expansion and diffusion of the Italian language and culture courses. She noted that IAHF scholarships provide opportunities for students of Italian descent and also foster and promote a sense of community within Santa Clara County and the wider Bay Area.

This was Ms. Zeppieri's sixth consecutive year as our keynote speaker and, sadly, this will be her last year as she returns to Italy next year. We thank Ms. Zeppieri for her steadfast support of our scholarship events, and we wish her the best. We will miss her.

After enjoying an Italian-themed lunch, each student was called to the stage as the scholarship donor narrated their achievements and handed them their awards. Each recipient then shared some personal

stories, highlighting challenges they faced and overcame. Recipients also expressed gratitude and thanks for the generosity of the donors and shared how the scholarship will help them financially in their educational pursuits.

As one listened to the recipient's speeches, there was a common theme that ran throughout: a deep understanding and a strong commitment to their Italian roots. They shared stories their parents and grandparents recounted to them about their heritage. They shared memories, activities and special moments with their parents or grandparents that left an indelible imprint of their Italian heritage and culture.

To the Scholarship Committee, I express my sincere gratitude for their commitment and dedication throughout the entire review process, as well as their help with organizing and carrying out the many details to ensure a successful scholarship event. According to comments received from attendees, that objective was met! A special thank you to each Committee member: Marie Bertola, Linda Binkley, Felix Dalldorf, Heather Hanson, Mary Pizzo, Jan Prinzivalli and Maureen Susino.

We are grateful to our donors, the Cedolini Family, the Borelli Family and IAHF members whose philanthropic support has made these scholarships possible. We thank you for your continued commitment to helping to empower the next generation of scholars and leaders.

Scholarships play a vital role in increasing access to education, reducing financial barriers and recognizing achievements. Scholarships are an investment in the future for students enabling them to pursue their educational goals while preserving and promoting the Italian culture and heritage. -- Article by Marie Rose Dalldorf / Photos by Stanley Olivar ≈







At June's Board meeting, the board members voted to establish a Faenza flood Relief Fund to be forwarded to a local charity in response to the terrible damage caused by the recent storms. In addition, the Board, on behalf of the membership, voted to donate \$1,000 to the fund. In last month's edition of the newsletter, there were two articles regarding the sad situation in Faenza by former host families, the Dalldorfs and Bjornstads with additional inquiries by several members, especially those who hosted the visiting troop of Flag Twirlers. The *sbandieratori* visited the IAHF's Festa in 2019. That event was coordinated by Delia Schizzano and many of her Italian language students and other volunteers found it a memorable experience. Delia is also currently in touch with the past coordinator in Faenza regarding the local situation.

In the past, the IAHF has established similar funds for humanitari-



## IAHF HAS ESTABLISHED A FAENZA FLOOD RELIEF FUND

an relief efforts, including earthquakes in Italy, serious flooding in Japan, and most recently refugee relief in Ukraine as well as St Joseph Day donations to local charities. If you would like to donate to this Faenza Flood Relief Fund, please contact the IAHF. The monies will go into a designated account and, after two months, will be transferred to the *Raccolta Fondi per L'Emergenza*.

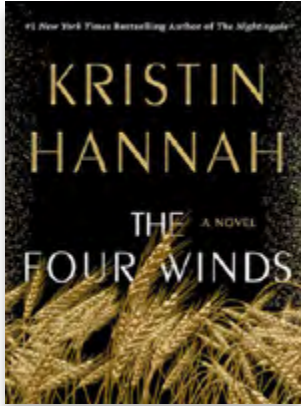
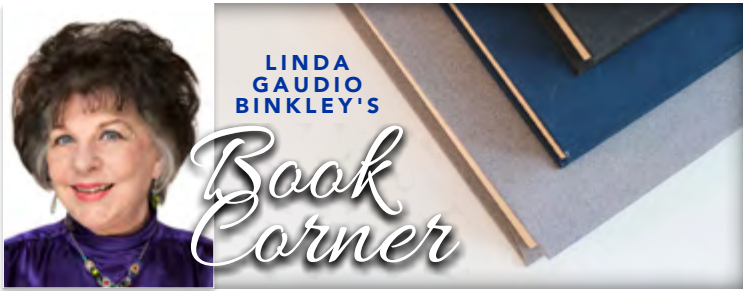
If you would like to donate online, go to the IAHF site at this link: <https://form.jot-form.com/231697591537166>.

You can also send a check to the IAHF with the notation "Faenza Relief Fund." As noted above, all donations will be kept in a special account for two months and then a fund

transfer will be made to the local Italian relief agency.

Thank you for any help and for reaching out to our *Sbandieratori Amici* during these terrible floods.

– Article by Jo Ann Bjornstad and Ken Borelli 



## The Four Winds

by Kristin Hannah

The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah is an unrelentingly sad account of a family's struggle to survive the Great Dust-bowl during the Depression years of the 1930's. It echoes John Steinbeck's unparalleled masterpiece, The Grapes of Wrath. Like all important historical novels, the book offers two steady streams of interest. The first involves the life of our protagonist Elsa. This

tall, slim, not-particularly attractive girl grew up in a wealthy Texas pan-handle family utterly lacking in warmth and love for her. Elsa suffered greatly from low self-esteem and the need to be loved. This rather desperate need is the catalyst of the story.

Through a sequence of bad choices Elsa finds herself married to an 18-year-old Italian-American boy nick-named Rafe. Rafaella Martinelli did the "right thing", abandoned his college plans, and settled into married life with Elsa on his parents' successful farm. As the one bright spot in the book, Elsa finds herself in a family replete with love. Her two children are born and Elsa fully adopts the Italian life-style, religion, culture, music, cuisine.

Then their world falls gradually apart: The greatest man-made climate disaster on Earth occurred. The Great Dust Bowl, 7,000 people lost

their lives, the majority children. 250,000 fled the great plains, cast to the four winds like a fistful of confetti. Elsa and all the family tried for years to endure but with the near dust-caused death of her young son, they decided to join the mass emigration and head for California, leaving her beloved in-laws who chose to remain on the afflicted farm. In California their tragic life continues unabated. Death, sickness and starvation stalk them at every turn. Elsa's strength and spirit and abiding love for her children is the emotional wave upon which the story rides. The experience of this family in California is one you will not soon forget.

The historical backdrop of The Four Winds is an education in itself, and well worth the read for that purpose alone. The descriptions are so vivid and so relentless that the reader can truly feel the dry harsh wind, taste the dust and sense the utter exhaustion and hopelessness. We learn, for example, that the dust clouds were so great that they deposited dirt on the capitol in Washington DC. Banks, of course, foreclosed on the farms. When times improved, they would turn a remarkable profit. In California, greedy farm owners worked men, women, and young children to the bone for wages that lessened daily as the emigration increased. Paychecks were only cashed in the company store and were charged ten percent. Workers' debts could only increase. There is zero chance of upward mobility. Many died in encampments along the valley streams of starvation and typhoid.

Within this historical backdrop we do see the winds of change. Attempts to unionize are thwarted by government joining hands with the farm owners. Harsh government violence against the workers occurs regularly up and down the state. The resistance is strong and steady. The Four Winds is a well-told, totally unrelenting story of a tragic and bleak period of California history. It endured for much longer than it should have.

As an aside and postscript, I was surprised to learn that there had been an early Italian immigration to the Texas panhandle. In the 1870's Piemontese people immigrated and then in the 1890's Sicilians immigrated there. Hopes and dreams and success stories were all laid waste during the 1930's dust bowl. 🇮🇹❤️

## Italian Word or Phrase of the Month from Linda Gaudio Binkley



### Mica!

This is a tiny common word which has several meanings in Italian

#### EXAMPLES:

- **Mica** will strengthen something you just said. "*Non sono mica matta!*" (I'm not crazy!)
- **Mica** can replace *non*. "*Stai bene?*" "*Mica tanto, ho una febbre.*" (Are you well? Not at all, I have a fever.)
- **Mica** can replace *forse* or *per caso*. "*Non trovo i miei chiavi. Li hai mica visti?*" (I can't find my keys. Have you by chance seen them?)
- **Mica** can be used to give positive judgement. "*Non a mica male questo vino*" (This wine is not bad, it's really very good!)



# IAHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023

## IAHF OFFICERS

- Dana Zuccarello - *President / Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation*
  - Ken Borelli - *1st VP / IAHF Events (including Annual Italian Festa) / Cultural Activities / Grants*
  - Azie Habib - *2nd VP / Building Administration and Maintenance / Hall Rentals / Bar*
  - VACANT - *3rd VP / Marketing / Advertising / PR / Website / Social Media*
  - Louie Lombardo - *4th VP / Human Resources / Volunteer Development / Library and Archives / Succession Planning*
  - Frank De Turrís - *Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer*
  - Sharon McCray - *Secretary to the Board*
- 
- Dave Perzinski - *Membership*

## IAHF DIRECTORS AT LARGE

- Marie Bertola - *Board Member*
- Madeline Damiano - *Board Member & Librarian*
- Elise Habra - *Board Member*
- Frank Locicero - *Board Member*
- Joe Lucito - *Board Member*
- Susan Monahan - *Board Member*
- Mary Pizzo - *Board Member & Newsletter Editor*
- Steve Ricossa - *Board Member*
- Nanci Wilborn - *Board Member*
- Tony Zerbo - *Board Member*

## Letter To The Editor




### • EXCERPT FROM FESTA AWARD NOTICE •

The IAHF Italian Family Festa was gratified to receive an award notice from the City of San Jose Festival, Parade, and Celebration Grant. We have in the past been recipients of similar much-needed funding, especially when you consider this is a free two-day party welcoming all in the community to celebrate heritage. What was also truly appreciated was the observation in the award letter, a thank you note, as follows:

*"Again, congratulations and thank you for your good work in strengthening the cultural vibrancy of San Jose! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. "*

Thank you,

Beth Toby | Senior Arts Program Manager (she/her)

Arts Industry Support Team, City of San Jose Office of Economic Development and Cultural Affairs 

These comments were warmly received, and they highlight the goals and purpose which motivate so many of our members and friends to take part in the Festa – sharing Italian American Culture and Heritage with the community.

These sentiments are equally noted in comments from other sponsors and donors. As Chairs, it is particularly humbling and gratifying to acknowledge correspondence received from our donors and sponsors. These supporters will also be noticed in the newspaper and at the Festa.

Please consider helping out too in any way you can - especially taking a volunteer shift, donating, and of course attending the Festa. See you there! - Dana Zuccarello, Sharon McCray, & Ken Borelli, Festa Co-Chairs

## PERSONAL NOTES

*Saint  
Giovanni  
Battista  
Scalabrini,  
pray for us.*

-- S. R. Olivar



**HAPPY 97<sup>th</sup>  
BIRTHDAY**

to  
IAHF DaVinci Member

**MARGE  
PAPP**

~ JULY 5<sup>TH</sup> ~



The views expressed in Personal Notes are those of the authors. They do not purport to reflect the views of the IAHF or its members



## & A ROMAN ENCAMPMENT!

What do they have in common—easy, come to the Italian Family Festa, to check them out. This year, we are having a special Getaway Raffle to help defer the cost of the Festa! Under the auspices of Gaestae, an organization dedicated to re-creating ancient history, there will be a "living archeology," a Roman encampment will be fashioned on the grounds of the Festa! You can visit and learn about the Roman Legions and the "Pax Romana." There will also be a special presentation about the encampment taking place Saturday morning at the new Culinary & Cultural Pavilion. Take a walk through history along with all the amazing new experiences at the Festa.

In addition, ever-creative in finding ways to cover the reality of the rising cost of doing business and sharing culture, Delia Schizzano and her Italian language students will be staffing an Opportunity Drawing and Italian Card booth. Opportunity tickets will also be mailed to win a fantastic prize while supporting our fantastic Festa! If you have a getaway prize to donate, please contact me at the IAHF. Kudos to our members who have already stepped forward to help with the getaway prizes!

-- Article by Ken Borelli ~

# A PEEK INTO THE BOARDROOM

## Board of Directors Meeting June 13, 2023

- Our IAHF Board of Directors attended a productive meeting on June 13. Here are some of the highlights. Complete Minutes and financial information are available online or in a binder in the office.
- **Relief Efforts to Faenza:** We agreed to contribute \$1,000 on top of whatever funds were collected from members. At last year's Festa, the Flag Wavers were from Faenza and they hold a special place in the hearts of many of our members.
- **Vote Center:** Registrar of Voters for Santa Clara County asking if we would be interested in once again providing voting space for the Primary and Presidential elections in 2024. The BOD agreed in principle but suggested that more information be gathered before a final decision is voted on.
- **Finances:** Frank DeTurris reported that our position remains stable and although revenue from FESTA is coming in, it is not as much so far as last year. As of May 31, the IAHF has available funds of \$78,471, with a year-to-date net income of \$102,448. Gross revenue is up \$39,000. There remains \$40,000 carryover from last year, so the FESTA account is in fairly good shape. .
- **Events:** Ken was proud to report that the Scholarship Luncheon and presentation were well attended and a good success. \$12,000 in scholarships was awarded. The Luncheon was well attended, and the Scholarship Committee was commended for the incredible job they did again this year.
- **The June Regional Lunch** will be the last one until September

due to work overload with Festa.

- **The approximate \$900** raised during Saint Joseph's Day celebration was divided equally between the IAHF, Salvation Army and Our Daily Bread.
- **FESTA:** Several meetings are scheduled for Volunteers in the coming weeks. Our limited free parking will have better signage than last year. Louie reported that we are still in desperate need of volunteers so any help anyone on the BOD can provide will be greatly appreciated.
- **The picnic area** is being revamped and should be completed relatively soon. We are taking bids for brick work.
- **AED:** We are working on the acquisition of an AED machine for the Hall and first aid training for members.
- **Newsletter:** Mary is in the hospital, and we might need help with the July edition. It was agreed that the August edition will focus on Festa and include maps, schedule of events and acknowledgment of sponsors and participants.
- **Library:** The Grant has been extended for two additional years which will give us time to determine the best way to acquire what is needed. We are in need of a scanner to help better preserve our photos, clippings and other memorabilia. Books to check out are being put on display during Regional Lunches and during other events, but interest is limited currently.

— Notes provided by IAHF Secretary Sharon McCray ~

## • PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS •

• AS OF JANUARY 2023 •

Jena Ballejos • Joseph Camerieri • Debora Donini • Catherine & Janette Fulde • Veronica Greunke  
Francine Hopkins • Katie Marzullo • Rachel Mattioli • Scott Miller & Melanie Stooz • Kristy Pasquin  
Kathy Stowell • Elizabeth Sudano • Richard Trevisan

## • GRAZIE 2023 BUSINESS MEMBERS •

- Diane Ferrara / [Hillview Packing Company, Inc.](#)
- SDS NexGen Partners & Mulcahy Family / [SDS NexGen Partners LP](#)
- Myrlin & George Taddie, Jr. / [Tadco Supply \(Janitorial, Paper, Lighting Supplies\)](#)
- Kathy & Karl Winkelman / [Gioia Company](#)
- Stephen Tritto / [The Villages Italian Club](#)
- Kenneth & Leslie Newington / [Serenity Studios Skin & Body](#)
- Jim & Janice Jones / [Custom Pad & Partition Inc.](#)
- Al & Diana Vallorz / [Mangia Tutti Inc dba Tony & Alba's Pizza & Pasta](#)

## • GRAZIE 2023 PATRON MEMBERS •

- Sal Alini & Soly Paterson
- Maria Cancilla-Bandy
- Linda & Bob Binkley
- Joseph Bogusky
- Nina Boyd
- Carl & Norma Brannon
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### 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 22 years of sales, marketing, trust, probate 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, Senior Real Estate Specialist, Certified Probate & Trust Specialist, Pricing Strategy Advisor Certification, Short Sales & Foreclosure Resource Certification, 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 client's 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.

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