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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Thursday, Oct. 18, 2012**
IAHF General Membership Event
- **Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012**
Pasta and Pottery
- **Thursday, Oct. 25, 2012**
Dinner at Paesano Ristorante in San Jose
- **Friday, Dec. 7, 2012**
World of Italian Opera & Boutique
- **Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012**
Regional lunch, celebrating Christmas in Italy, "Una festa del Ceppo"

New Service - IAHF NEWS via Email!

Would you like to receive the newsletter before it goes to press? Send your email address to iahsj@sbcglobal.net and we will send the IAHF newsletter to you via email! 🍷

Volume 1, Issue 10 • © 2012 Italian American Heritage Foundation

Halloween, or All Saint's Eve, is becoming a popular day for costume parties and events in Italy. While the main holidays are still All Saints Day on November 1 and All Souls Day on November 2, the custom of celebrating Halloween is starting to take hold in many Italian cities.



President's Message

by Ken Borelli



CHANGE

Last week, Governor Jerry Brown signed SB 1298, making California the third state in the union to legalize "driverless vehicles". In addition, Google's co-founder, Sergey Brin, claims robotic cars may be a reality in five years! Hopefully, that timeline will be in the reality of many of our lives. I started to think about all of this and the fast pace of change we are all experiencing and recall the angst and debate at the IAHF when we decided to get a fax machine, yet at the same time how fast it became a major part of our IAHF business, and saved us much extra work.

Cell phones, emails, texts, et. al. have now become a major reality, and a part of daily business. To some extent, we at the IAHF are still behind the curve on this technology. I am probably one of the slower ones on the curve. That is why we have a diverse and multifaceted board. Even so, just when you have mastered the technology, something has replaced it and the innovation is now obsolete. From an organizational point of view, this certainly presents some operational paradoxes, especially for those groups with a goal of preserving tradition and heritage. Ironically, in order to continue with our mission we also need to be aware of, and knowledgeable about, adopting today's technology to meet our needs as an organization. This observation sometimes creeps up on us when we least expect it, such as when we

were told that our fire prevention equipment in our kitchen was obsolete and we had to upgrade it with the latest technology. So technology, too, becomes the daily issues of foundation management, whether it be communication and publicity, or to improved our business operation.

Sociologists have long observed this phenomenon, and why we get into major rifts over change. It is also noted that even when we do

we focus on preserving our Italian heritage, technology has made heritage not a thing of the past, but living in the heritage/reality of Italy today. Just consider how many of us visit Italy regularly, or at least text or call, family and friends around the globe. For our grandparents generation that would have been unthinkable. The need to preserve heritage now takes on a very different meaning than what many of our early members expected of us.

Also going back to my initial observation on "robot cars", for many of us in a certain age group, loss of mobility is a major concern. I see that issues played out in many of our IAHF families, especially when the decision needs to be made of not being able to drive anymore yet really wanting to get out and partake of community activities. In a very practical sense, then, I am looking forward to the time when this reality helps us be as mobile as we are able to be. As a foundation, one of our goals is to make sure we have at least a rudimentary awareness of this technology as a way of conducting the Heritage's multifaceted business. Meanwhile, it's a tough nut to crack, especially without new technology, to try to help those with limited mobility who want to attend our activities. Hopefully, we can problem solve together on this very critical need and not have to wait for robot cars! 🍷



a good job in employing the actual technology, we fail to see how the technology impacts our personal life and convictions, hence the term "cultural lags". What we sometimes fail to realize is how fast these technical changes propel us to a point that we fail to integrate these changes into our values. I cite this because as

Please note that the next newsletter will be our November / December Holiday issue. That will be the last newsletter for 2012. The IAHF wishes everyone Happy Holidays!

THE ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION PRESENTS

ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA

SATURDAY, AUG 25 • 11:00 AM TO 8:30 PM

SUNDAY, AUG 26 • 11:00 AM TO 6:00 PM



UN GRAZIE DI CUORE!
(A HEARTFELT THANK YOU)



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IAHF MEMBER BUSINESSES

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- Borelli Investment Co.
- Campo di Bocce of Los Gatos
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- John, Eric and Diane Paulson
- Mark Rindge, D.D.S. and Barbara Rindge
- See Spot Run Dog Walking (Rochelle Migliore)
- Steve Sgarlato
- Vito's Trattoria

IAHF NEWS

Send your letters, comments and articles to:

Editor, IAHF NEWS
425 N. Fourth St.
San Jose, CA 95112
Phone: 408-293-7122
Fax: 408-293-7154
E-mail: iahtfsj@sbcglobal.net
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Ad Rates & Deadlines

We accept business card size ads, camera ready art or digital ads.

Ads are due in THE IAHF office by the 5th of the month prior to the month of publication.

Rates are payable in advance:

- \$75 for minimum of three months
- \$275 for twelve issues.

All advertisements must be in accordance with the rules and requirements as determined by editorial policy. Paid political advertisements are not to be interpreted as an endorsement by the Italian American Heritage Foundation or its newspaper, the IAHF NEWS. In addition, the newspaper reserves the right to reject ads based on the paper's editorial policy.

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MAURO BATTOCCHI

On October 1st, Mauro Battocchi, the new Consul General for Italy in San Francisco visited the IAHF. Accompanied by Stefano Mancini from the Consulate office, the meeting was quite a success! A tour of the IAHF was given to our special guests and a dialog was established with the goal of further coordination and collaboration between the Consul Office in San Francisco and our local Vice Consul office in San Jose and the Italian American Heritage Foundation. Here is the English version of Mauro Battocchi's welcome:

Pictured left to right: Judy Verona Joseph, IAHF Newsletter Editor and Public Relations, IAHF President Ken Borelli, Consul General of Italy, Mauro Battocchi, Silvia Raviola Jercinovich, Vice Consul of Italy in San Jose, Delia Schizzano, Italian language teacher, Tony Zerbo, IAHF Board Director

Dear Friends,

Polish author Henryk Sienkiewicz once wrote that everyone has two homelands: one is their own, the other is Italy.

This is true in general, but especially for the San Francisco Bay Area and for many other parts of the American West. Most of the credit

goes to the hard work of so many Italians and Italian-Americans that over several generations have built and forged the history of this part of the world.

As I come to San Francisco as new Consul General of Italy, therefore, I would like to express my sincere admiration and thankfulness to all of you Italians and Italian-Americans living here. Thank you for bringing so much all the inventiveness, industriousness and charm of our Country. I am deeply honored to be able to represent Italy in San Francisco and in the Pacific North-West. It is a complex task, but I know that I can rely on you. Together, today more than ever, we have to make an effort to promote Italy's culture, business and technology.

As Prime Minister Mario Monti said, Italy is now coming out of a critical phase of its history. As the euro crisis hopefully draws to a close, the task of the Italian diplomatic and consular network is increasingly geared toward fostering growth. We have to generate new opportunities to create new products, new companies, new jobs. San Francisco and other parts of the North-West - where innovation is in the DNA of society - can provide ideas, capital and talents to give Italy a new headstart. At the same time, Italy remains an extraordinary source of both intangible and tangible assets for Americans, from its lifestyle, its arts to its manufactured goods, a perennial source of pride for us all.

Please consider me and the Consulate General constantly at your disposal,

Cari saluti,

Mauro Battocchi • Follow me on linkedin @MauroBattocchi / Check out my blog: www.sanfranciscoitaly.com

ITALIAN MEN'S CLUB BINGO



Elks Lodge, 444 W. Alma St, San Jose • Phone: (408) 286-2007

- Every Monday Night; Doors Open at 4:00 PM
- Early Bird at 6:00 PM; Regular Session at 6:45 PM
- Play \$1,199 Flashboards, Cherry Bells (pull tabs) and all Games Pay \$250.00 (except for Early Bird)
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- ATM Machine Available
- Outstanding and Delicious Home-Style Meals
- Join Us: We're Always Looking for New Members!
- We Host a \$5.00 Senior Lunch and Bingo every Monday afternoon starting at 11:00 AM
- Check our website: <http://www.italianmensclub.com>



IAHF'S TWILA VENUTI MEMORIAL LIBRARY THE RECEIPT OF SOME ENRICHING DONATIONS

IAHF Librarian, Alice Lopez has been busy at work indexing and cataloguing some very wonderful additions to our library. We have received several donations in the area of tabletop photo books of Italy, history, novels, Italian language texts, and most recently, Salvatore Di Vita's fascinating biography of Antonio Ghezzo, entitled Living in the Mouth of the Wolf, about life in Mussolini's Italy. Sal spoke and gave a reading at the IAHF, Tues, Sept 25th, and we have added his book to our collection.

As a reminder, take some time out and check our IAHF Library. The hours are the same time as the IAHF, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm, and Friday 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Alice has done a wonderful job in making it a very user friendly space. A special thanks to Neno Aiello and Bill Venuti for their recent donations among some others who we did not have their names for this acknowledgement. It is an enriching benefit of being a member of the IAHF. There are not many places that you can pick up material about Italy, including current copies of the Italo- Americano Newspaper. Recently some of the material from the library was used for a community adult-ed course on Italian-Americans in Santa Clara County. Neno also spoke at the course, and is the process of writing a family biography of his family's life and times from immigrating from Isola della Femina, Sicily through the World War 11 years and the internment experience in Pittsburgh, California and the Korean War. Once the book is out we will have a discussion about self publishing with Neno. Also we have a number of people able to speak about Italy and Italian-Americans at a social club, so if you are interested in securing a guest speaker call us at the IAHF and we will try to match you up with a speaker.

IAHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCIES



We are beginning to recruit to fill vacancies for the 2013 Board. This is an exciting time to be part of a vibrant cultural organization which focuses on promoting our heritage, and traditions in Santa Clara County. Many of you have roots in this valley that go back to the early Italian American Community and the founding of this organization, others have become recent members, and have enjoyed what a gift and joy it is in celebrating our heritage especially in the arts, scholarship, and social life of our community. The common denominator is we are all united in appreciating and supporting our Italian American traditions! We welcome your personal visions, commitments and also want to encourage you to consider a leadership position with the IAHF by becoming a Board member for 2013. This is a dynamic position, that will utilize your personal talents and visions. It will also challenge you creatively in an exciting and enriching way. Our goal is to promote heritage, and support the Italian American experience in this valley and beyond. Your active commitment and support is truly appreciated!

Applications for nomination to the 2013 Board of Directors are available at the IAHF Office. Consider making this vital and exciting commitment to your heritage by applying for a term as a board member of the IAHF. For more information about the positions available, contact Mike Console, Membership Chair, or Ken Borelli, President. Both can be reached at the IAHF at 408-293-7122.

The Qualifying Guidelines Include: Guidelines for Board membership:

- 1) Have an interest in Italian History and Culture and a general knowledge of the purpose goals and achievements of the IAHF.
- 2) Be available to attend Board meetings and special assignments related to the IAHF.
- 3) Have an interest in and be willing to work to further the constructive image of the Italian Americans in Santa Clara County and beyond.
- 4) Have had some volunteer experience serving on community based boards
- 5) Be a dues paying member in good standing for six months

If you are interested in becoming a Board member contact the IAHF office for an application at 408-293-7122, or contact our membership chair Mike Console, or President Ken Borelli.

PART TIME HELP NEEDED: IAHF HALL RENTAL SUPERVISION

The IAHF is contracting for a Hall Rental Supervisor to supervise and monitor hall activities during rental events. Normal work hours are immediately prior to, during and after a hall rental. Most of our hall rentals are on the weekend although there are some mid week activities. Experience should include some monitoring/hall security, building maintenance, catering, good people skills, able to work with the public, and some light janitorial tasks. Supervision is on an "on call basis" depending on the rentals. The time involved is approximately 8 to 10 hours per event. **This is a paid position.** If you are interested in being considered for this contract position please contact the IAHF at 408-293-7122.

HANK CAPUTO REMEMBERED



In this life of the IAHF, many people have contributed to its welfare and well being as a foundation. Obviously with basically only one paid person, our volunteers take on great significance. Hank was one of those stellar volunteers, who, along with his wife Grace, did so much to improve our facility and organization. As a Festa volunteer, IAHF board member, gardener, or all around repair and remodeling person, he was a person who you could count on to "chip in" at the IAHF, with his labor and expertise. In essence he "walked the talk", and in all candor, had little patience for people who "talked and didn't walk"! Sadly Hank passed away Sept. 13, 2012.

Hank is survived by his wife and partner in so many of our IAHF activities, Grace. They just celebrated 70 years of marriage prior to his death. He also leaves behind his daughter Kathy and her partner Dee, son Hank Jr. and wife Patti, grandsons Michael and Marc and many friends. Hank gave of his time to not only the IAHF, but also to the Italian Catholic Federation, Tricarico Club, and Knights of Columbus (4th degree). Hank also was a butcher for the Denver Meat Company and worked in construction for Stevens Park. He was also very much an outdoors man, and a horseman. He was a member of the Sheriff's posse, and very much a working cowboy. A celebration of his life was held on Sept 17th at St. Martin of Tours Church. He will be missed and a special acknowledgement to his wife and family on behalf of the IAHF. -- Ken Borelli 🍷



BOCCE IS ALIVE AND WELL!

For many of our members and friends, playing bocce is a yearly event at the Festa. Obviously that does not need to be so. IAHF member, former board member, and Festa bocce chairperson, Ralph Di Tullio has been hosting a lively and friendly group, who gather at Nonno's Restaurant in Redwood Estates every second and fourth Thursday to enjoy this relaxing sport along with solving all the problems of the world over some interesting discussions.

At 10:00 a.m. the group meets at Nonno's, pick their teams, depending on who can make it, and play for two hours. After an intense match, the teams take a lunch break, around noon, consisting of salad, pizza, and or beer, then continue the dialogue and tackle all the "ills of the world", sometimes they may go back and play a bit more bocce, if they are not too tired or full. Bocce can be taxing to your competitive spirit! Cost for bocce and lunch is \$12.00 per person. They would love to expand their circle, and you are cordially invited to join the group, when you free and able too drive up the hill. New comers and those who want to learn the game are also welcomed. Bocce is an easy game to learn, but in truth, hard to master, especially regarding ball control, having elements of both bowling and pool in a good game. Of course at Nonno's friendly conversation is also added to the mix. In reality, this is a low key bocce group and no reservations are necessary, simply contact Ralph Di Tullio at 408 354-9449 for more information and details about the schedule. -- Ken Borelli 🍷



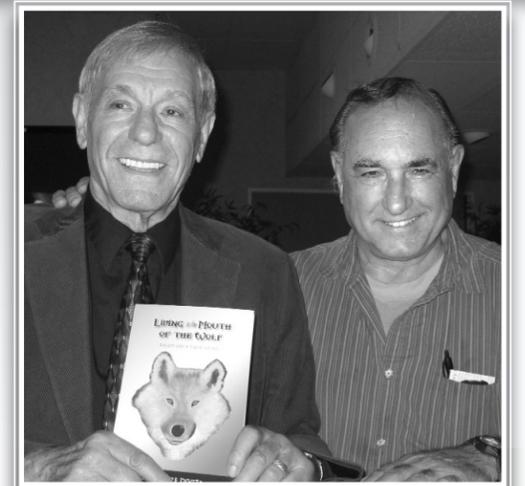
LIVING IN THE MOUTH OF THE WOLF

On September 25th, the IAHF hosted author Salvatore Di Vita, as he read and discussed his biography of Antonio Ghezzo, a young man who grew up in Mussolini's Italy and the transitions that occurred in Antonio's life. Ultimately, the book follows Antonio's transformation from a young *fascisti* to a desperate partisan just trying to survive in Italy's World War II war torn environment. It also highlights a personal conflict of divided friendships and loyalties, including relating to his father who was a military officer in the King's National Army, as opposed to the Fascist loyalist of the time. All this during a very intense period of Antonio's teenage years. Its hard to imagine a teenager today either in Italy or the USA having to make such life altering decisions.

It is to Salvatore Di Vita's credit as a writer, that once he hooks you into this biographical saga, you really can't put the book down. What I did was race to the end of the book, just to know what the next page will bring...I realized after the lecture, I need to go back to re-read many of the details of the story. The book is also a valuable history lesson about pre and post war Italy, and while it is a personal account there still is enough factual information in the context to make you want to search out additional information about those life altering World War II experiences.

An interesting observation too is that many Italian heritage organizations concentrate on the early stages of Italian immigration to the USA, the Little Italy's and life in the Italian Communities of the 1880's through to the 1900's. What is harder to follow is information about the response of the Italian American community prior to the war, followed by the war years and then the emergence of a post war immigrants from Italy; Mr. Ghezzo, being one, currently living in the Pasadena area of California. In many ways these experiences are actually more relevant or connected to our personal heritage than the early tales of immigrant life. Yet at the same time, perhaps too, it is just because of this timeline, that the subject is a hard one to discuss for our members. I hope that a review of Salvatore Di Vita's book is the beginning of some of your own personal discoveries, and if interest exist, the subject of another IAHF event.

A special thank you to Maria Gloria of San Francisco for helping to bring Salvatore to San Jose from Southern California, Delia Schizzano's Italian Language Class, Norma Mestice, Corrado and Zina Russo and Corinne Tomeo for providing us with the delicious antipasti. A special acknowledgement too, to U.S. Born, Alfredo Chioti who was recently acknowledged by the Italian government for his tragic recruitment into the German labor brigades of the time, and all those who shared their personal war time experiences at this stimulating event. We have a copy of Salvatore's book at our library for your perusal, likewise we also have information about ordering the book for your personal library at the IAHF. A fascinating read! -- Ken Borelli 🍷



CENA FUORI

We have one more visit scheduled for October 25th at Paesano's, in Little Italy. We welcome your Santa Clara County suggestions for next year's list within our Cena Fuori guidelines. They are as follows: Promote family owned Italian restaurants. The suggested cost of the dinner, including tax & tips is not to exceed \$30 a person. Beverages to be handled by the individual and the restaurant needs to provide us with 3 entrees to choose from, one being meatless. Contact us at the IAHF with your suggestions and join us for this great culinary adventure! 🍷

Paesano
RISTORANTE ITALIANO

SAVE THESE DATES!!!

On Friday, December 7, 2012 save the date for our ANNUAL HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS WORK OF ITALIAN OPERA AND BOUTIQUE dinner and performance, featuring the stars of Opera San Jose, unique holiday items and always wonderful holiday surprises for information to follow.

On Thursday, December 20, 2012 our regional lunch will celebrate Christmas in Italy "Una festa del Ceppo."

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that actress Susan Sarandon is Italian?

Susan Abigail Tomalin was born in New York City. She is the first of nine children born to Lenora Marie (née Criscione) and Phillip Leslie Tomalin, who worked as an advertising executive, television producer, and nightclub singer during the big band era. Her father was of English, Irish, and Welsh ancestry. On her mother's side, she is of Italian descent, with ancestors from the regions of Tuscany and Sicily. Sarandon was raised Roman Catholic, and attended Roman Catholic schools. She grew up in Edison, New Jersey. -- Judy Verona Joseph 🍷

