Italian American Heritage Foundation Newsletter & April 2012 Founded August 5, 1975 & Celebrating 36 Years





COMMUNITY IS A WORK IN PROGRESS

And then some... If you have been keeping up with our IAHF activities over the last couple of months, I am sure you're aware of the extent and scope of our events. Each one, from exciting new films, specialty cooking programs, lectures, and all, requires the goodwill and support of a large cadre of volunteers. In a sense, however, the word "volunteer" is a misnomer. What we are really talking about is a way of life, hence a sense of community. This article wants to explore the IAHF's roll in nurturing an expanded a sense of Italian Americana right here in Santa Clara County. Part of this article and discussion is an extension of chatting with one of our past co-chairs of the Festa di San Giuseppe, Denise Campagna, when she observed that

it really "takes a village" to do the St. Joseph Day Event.

There are several months of activity and planning for the Festa di San Giuseppe, this year spearheaded by a new chair, Kamake Franciosi, before, during, and after the event, in order to actually experience the wonders of that special day (a separate article by Kamake in this paper highlights some of

the logistics of all this). Yet, reflecting on Denise's observation a bit, what we have been doing at the IAHF highlights a "work

in progress" about our culture and heritage, and the ability to keep it relevant and viable. Change is a constant, and at the very same time is rooted in our past experiences. Interesting, too, is that these connections

are always reinvented and manifested in our various projects and activities.

Our great volunteers (and there are so many) play a vital part in affirming our vitality and relevancy as a culture. One other interesting thing about this observation is that while we are not always in the public light with so many of our activities, we are at the same time, "amazingly" quiet about

our achievements and contributions to the community, given a perception of being an "outgoing group". As any Italian American knows, we do a lot of "communicating" but usually and intensely with each other. That seems to be part of our heritage, too, but if you

would ask mainstream Santa Clara County about us as an Italian American community, I am not sure people would be aware of the very dynamic aspect of our heritage that is played out in our events, activities, and cultural institutions. The emerging Little Italy initiative is one seed of recognition, the other of course is our Festa, yet underlying



all of this is the fertile good will and vision that also produces our scholarship program, photo collection, opera events, professional newsletter, and a floury of other activities that seem to go under the community radar. It reminds me, too, of something William Faulkner observed about his homeland rooted in Southern US lore, when he wrote, "that the past is never dead, it isn't even dead". And from my observation, what you don't recognize or come to understand about the past has a sneaky way of resurfacing with some interesting twist and consequences. Any thoughts or beacons of light as we navigate within our own community?

St. Joseph's Table 2012

This was my first year chairing the *Tavola di San Giuseppe*, and I was concerned about how it would turn out. It was intimidating to have to follow in the footsteps of the Turturici and Campagna families who, over many years, strove to honor St. Joseph with a feast which to this day has a proud reputation for "abbondanza." Then there was the challenge of fitting what should have been a year's worth of work into the space of three months. And lastly, this year's feast and mass were dedicated to Sal Turturici and Mae Ferraro who were the foundation of this old Sicilian tradition at the IAHF. How was I ever going to assemble a feast worthy of their legacy? The obstacles seemed insurmountable. My prayers were answered in the form of a team of seasoned professionals whose diligence, encouragement, and experience helped create the miracle that



was this year's feast. In the end, our 250+ guests enjoyed a delicious meal prepared and served entirely by volunteers with food that was donated by numerous generous individuals in our community. Thanks to the generosity of our guests, we raised \$1500 in donations that was split three ways to benefit The Salvation Army, Martha's Kitchen, and Loaves & Fishes. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and we were all proud of a job well done.

I would like to humbly express my gratitude to the following individuals for their gracious and selfless devotion to the success of the feast, because, without them, this blessed event would not have been possible:

Sandy Bettencourt Santino Franciosi Ken Borelli Mary Bova Clay and Mary Brasuell Sal and Denise Campagna Sam Campagna and Lima-Campagna-Alameda Mission Chapel Adrianna Citti-Glascott and Citti's Florist **Emily Corral** Joe Cozzitorto Joe and Cathy DeMaria Joseph Fasano Ann Fitzgerald Lucia Franciosi

Lee George Carmella Guido Carmella Gullo Chuck Gullo **Christine and Mary Hudson** Joni Lang Cleo Logan Ryan DeVincenzi Melander Tim and Nancy Melander Monsignor Milani Bess Nicosia **Beverly Owens** Steven Pera and Roma Bakery Ginny Ronchetti

Ioe Rotolo Corrado and Zina Russo Gene and Joanne Sanfilippo Delia Schizzano Irv Sprugasci Kristi Stanyard Rose Sunseri **Maxine Taylor Corinne Tomeo** Joanne Troy Rosalie and June Turturici Marilyn Uzzardo Al and Diana Vallorz and Tony & Alba's Marie Yurosko

I consulted with as many people as I could to ensure the list was as accurate as I could make it, and I offer my deepest and most sincere apologies to anyone I might have missed. Your help and donations are greatly appreciated, and I'm proud to have had the opportunity to work with you! Thank you and God bless you all! - K.R. Franciosi, Tavola di San Giuseppe Chair, 2012

KUDOS TO NANCY!!!!

Former IAHF President, and current board member Nancy DeVincenzi Melander was recently honored for her countless hours of community service, and dedication to community by the the South Bay Region's Junior League at their 43rd Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon held at the Santa Clara Convention Luncheon. The theme was" Celebrate, A Passion to Serve". Nancy was given a certificate of Appreciation by the United's States Senate, Legislature, California Assembly, and the Junior league, in honor of her community service. It was a very special affair with about 600 attendees, and reaffirms the vitality of our IAHF talent pool, not just to serve the vision of the IAHF, but in promoting a quality of life that is Valley wide! "Brava".

SAVE THE DATE!

TALIAN FAMILY FESTA 2012

RETURNS TO

Guadalupe River Park & Gardens on Saturday, August 25 AND Sunday, August 26



Release Your Inner Chef!!

The 2012 IAHF Italian Family Festa is in need of folks who love to cook and would like to volunteer their time as shift chefs for the IAHF food court. The food booths will consist of; Spaghetti and Meatballs, Meatball Sandwich and a Pesto Pasta Bowl with Garlic Bread. The organization will provide all the necessary cooking equipment, utensils and food products required to prepare the food items. Cooking shifts will be in 3 hour intervals for either Saturday or Sunday.



Be part of this wonderful event by providing our patrons with the best of Italian delicacies prepared by none other than our own IAHF Chef's! In addition, knowing that through your efforts you have contributed in making some young person's dream of a college education become a reality through the IAHF's "Youth Scholarship Program"....PRICELESS!

Mille grazie, the 2012 Italian Family Festa Team Contact us at festavolunteers@yahoo.com

THE FESTA NEEDS YOU

Want an easy way to be a part of the Festa? Donate to the Festa Opportunity Drawing.



- Do you have a vacation home? *Donate a weekend stay.*
- Season tickets to the Sharks? *Donate 2 tickets to a game.*
 - Have another idea? *Contact us, we're all ears!*
 - All proceeds support IAHF

For more information contact: Nancy Morreale @ 408-368-9094 (telephone) or by email at nmorreale11@yahoo.com

Donate to the 2012 Festa - see our Donation form on the back page!!

MEDICI BALL

Press Release / For Immediate Release

Contact: Chris Di Salvo Mobile: (408) 506-0455 E-mail: profeff@aol.com



Marilyn & Frank Dorsa



Marge Valente



Joan & Richard Della Maggiore

County of Santa Clara, Province of Florence Sister County Commission Celebrates 25 years

San Jose, CA -- The County of Santa Clara, Province of Florence, Sister County Commission will be celebrating 25 years with the Medici Masked Ball, May 5. The anniversary celebration will take place at the DoubleTree Hilton, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose.

President Andrea Barducci, Province of Florence Italy, and a delegation from the Province will be in attendance. In addition, Davide Ermini President of the Florence Council, Riccardo Nocentini, Mayor of Figline Valdarno that is a Sister City with the City of - Milpitas will also be in attendance. There will be an opening performance by Edoardo Turbil, piano and Miriam Prandi, cello, from Scuola di Musica de Fiesole, Italy.

As with previous Medici Masked Balls, the ball will honor the 2012 Medici Citizens of the Year, that include Marilyn and Frank Dorsa, Marge Valente, and Joan and Richard Della Maggiore.

Marilyn and Frank Dorsa are San Jose natives who have contributed greatly to the Italian community and the arts. For over four decades, Frank and Marilyn have been strong business leaders and philanthropists, shining as terrific examples for their dedication to the community. Marilyn has served on numerous arts and philanthropic boards and committees. She was on the founding board of the San Jose Museum of Art, a board member of Opera San Jose, President of the San Jose Art League, President of the board of the DeSaisset Museum, University of Santa Clara, a member of the Grandview League and Valle Monte League. She served as a Commissioner to the Florence-Sister County Commission for 13 years. Frank has been a member of the Knights of St. John for many years. Together they have supported many charities and organizations in our community, including American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, Arts Council Silicon Valley, Broadway San Jose, Family Support Housing, Live Oak Adult Day Care Center, Lucille Packard Hospital, March of Dimes, and Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Marge Valente has been a tireless volunteer for non-profits in Santa Clara County for the last 30 years. Some of the organizations she has served are Hope Rehabilitation Services, Catala Club, Italian American Heritage Foundation and many more. She is a past member of the Florence Commission.

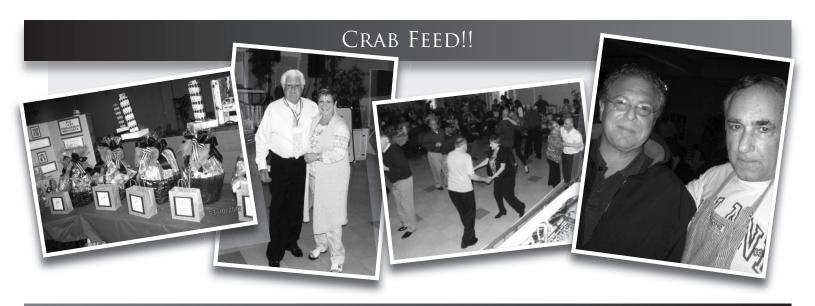
Joan and Richard Della Maggiore live in South County and support the South County Catholic High School, the Bishops Circle, the Salvation Army and the Armory in Gilroy. They serve on the St. Catherine's Annual Golf Classic Committee and continue to serve the less fortunate through their work at Reach Out.

The Medici Masked Ball begins at 5:30 p.m. with a no host cocktail reception and silent auction followed by dinner and an awards ceremony. Upon completion of the live auction, ball goers can dance to a performance by Italian tenor Pasquale Esposito and Band. The event is black tie optional and masks are encouraged. The fee to attend the event is \$150 per person and sponsorships of the event are also available.

For more information: phone 408-299-5115 or log on to www.sccgov.org/mediciball.

As a self-supporting entity, the County of Santa Clara, CA USA/Province of Florence, Italy Sister County Commission's Medici Masked Ball is the commission's signature fundraising event. The commission provides scholarships to students from Santa Clara County who are participating in university approved international study programs in Florence and, coordinates and hosts delegation visits to and from Florence, and leads projects that promote educational, cultural and economic exchanges between the two regions.

The County of Santa Clara, CA / Province of Florence, Italy Sister County Commission's mission is to foster the exchange of art, commerce, culture, education and technology in many diverse areas between the people and governments of the County of Santa Clara, USA and the Province of Florence, Italy.



Honoring WW II Italian American Veteran Samuel Licata



A letter to Samuel's son Dave Licata

Dear Dave,

Your friends at the IAHF were saddened to hear of the loss of your father, Samuel. We were very fortunate to have had the opportunity to honor him at last years IAHF unique event regarding "Una Storia Segreta." In many ways Samuel's contributions as a war time medic is symbolic of that "heroic generation" who lived through such terrible times, as well as performing acts of great courage and self sacrifice, that it is hard to fathom today. I am sure many of his friends and comrades did not survive those terrible battles, but many did too, thanks to the heroic efforts of front line medics such as your father who disregarded their own safety to courageously "save lives"! As you recall, we were privileged to honor your father as a part of a program that focused on the World War II years and the many conflicts and problems the war represented for our Italian American Community, especially on the West Coast. Your father's actions highlight a little known fact that the largest ethnic group in the US Military at that time were Italian Americans. They served on both fronts from the Pacific to Atlantic, fighting to defend a country we all love. We are indebted as a community to people like Sam, who's legacy is the freedoms we enjoy today. Its important that we continue to learn from, preserve and document those achievements. As a foundation that is part of our mission and goals. The collective contribution of the many men and woman who have helped build our society is really not fully understood, but as we work together to get the word out, especially about the "heroes among us" we can begin to truly appreciate what, in our collective sense, the children of

Italian immigrants, such as your father, contributed to this great land.

With deepest condolences to your families on the loss of your father Sam, as well as expressing our sincere appreciation for a life well lived. — Ken Borelli, IAHF President

THE HOUSE ON PLAVE STREET

This is the story of a family of nine children, from the end of the 1800s to the mid 1900s, which had been a period of incredible changes in life and customs.

The story takes place in Auronzo, a little village in the Dolomite Mountains, as well as some towns in the United States.

The story is fascinating, realistic, and slightly satiric in wit with unusual weaving of past and present.

The lives of the protagonists, altered by the historical events, are extremely different one from another: some are gentle and romantic, others dramatic, adventurous or even tragic.

The reader will be enthralled by reading this story which recognizes the wisdom, desire to learn, joy of living, tenacity, and the value of strength and honesty of the venetian people.

The authors: Lara L. Carese and Trisha C. Fe, are writers with years of work with text books, novels and articles in various magazines.

The book has an Italian version *La casa in via Piave* and soon a Spanish version. The book is published on Amazon-Kindle, now in a special free promo offer.

For more info, contact Grace Cugntti at gracecugnetti@hotmail.com

2012 - 2013 IAHF SCHOLARSHIPS

The Italian American Heritage Foundation is proud to offer college scholarships for the 2012-2013 academic school year. The scholarships are being offered to help students meet their financial needs in higher education. An additional aim is to help stimulate more interest in Italian culture among young people of Italian heritage.

Scholarship applications are open to high school senior students of Italian descent. In addition, a change in the criteria will now allow more students to apply. It is no longer mandatory for

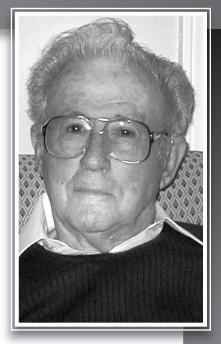
the family of the student to be a member of the IAHF. They must either be attending a high school in Santa Clara County or be a child or grand-child of an IAHF member.

Interested applicants can find the application form on the IAHF website at www.iahfsj.org. It is also available at the IAHF office at 425 North Fourth Street, San Jose, CA 95112 or telephone 408-293-7122. Applications are due no later than May 4, 2012. Winners will be presented the Scholarship Award at the Sunday Family BBQ on June 24, 2012.

Members are needed to serve on the Scholarship committee. The Scholarship Committee is responsible for the selection process of applicants, and in helping with the Sunday Family BBQ. If interested, please contact Christine Hudson by leaving a message at the IAHF office.

Volunteers are also needed to help with the Family BBQ on June 24.

There is also a great need to have new Sponsors to the Scholarship program. In this severe economic climate, many families are struggling just to make ends meet, let alone help their children with college. And the cost of higher education is skyrocketing. Please consider sponsoring an individual scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic year. It's a wonderful way to not only assist a deserving student achieve their dream of college, but it would be a legacy or tribute to a family name or family member. Honor your grandparent, parent, or just your family name with a one time or yearly donation to this wonderful program. Help keep the traditions and culture of Italian Americans thriving by becoming a sponsor today. -- Christine Hudson | Scholarship Chairperson



Anthony Lovaglia Scholarship

The IAHF is proud to announce a new scholarship from the Lovaglia family on behalf of their father, Anthony Lovaglia. Sincere thanks to the Lovaglia family. This is a bio about Anthony Lovaglia:

Anthony Richard Lovaglia was the first generation born in America to immigrant parents from Italy. He was born in San Jose, CA on January 25, 1923 to Domenica and Saverio Lovaglia who immigrated from Tricarico and San Cherico, Italy. He was raised on Gregory Street with five siblings. Gregory Street was primarily an Italian neighborhood which later became known as "Goosetown".

Education was always very important to Tony. He began his college career at San Jose State before World War II. After serving as an ensign in the aerologist department of the Navy, he enrolled at UCLA to finish his AB degree, changing his major from foreign languages to mathematics. He earned a MS in math from Stanford, and a PHD from UC Berkeley. Being a teacher appealed to him because of the influence of his own teachers. He felt a love for knowledge and wanted to impart that to others.

In 1951, he returned to San Jose State as an assistant professor in the math department. Eventually becoming full professor, he imparted that knowledge to hundreds of students for 35 years. Throughout his life he never stopped speaking out for the disadvantaged, or to right a wrong. Tony Lovaglia passed away on November 30, 2011.

Folding Metal Chairs for Sale for only \$3 Each!!!

The IAHF has a collection of folding metal chairs for sale for the *incredible* price of only \$3 each for IAHF members and \$5 each for non-members. The chairs are in good condition and useful for a variety of purposes, like big Italian parties. So, if you need some good, sturdy folding chairs (and you know that a few would come in handy), please call Rosa at the IAHF office at 408-293-7122 for more information.



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IAHF NEWS

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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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Upcoming Events

- Thursday, May 3
 Dinner at Vito's NY Trattoria
- Tuesday, May 8
 Una Festa Fiorentina
 A dinner & concert honoring a delegation
 from the Florence Sister County
 Commission
- Friday, May 11
 Benefit for Opera San Jose
- Thursday, May 17
 Emilia-Romagna Regional Luncheon
- Thursday, May 31
 Polenta Dinner with the Tricarico Club

New Service - IAHF NEWS via Email!

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

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