

# IAHF NEWS

OCTOBER 2016 • ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION • ESTABLISHED IN 1975 & FOUNDED AS A NONPROFIT IN 1976 • CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

RICHARD STEWART | IAHF NEWSLETTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

IAHF OFFICE #: (408) 293-7122 • TAP HERE FOR [WWW.IAHFSJ.ORG](http://WWW.IAHFSJ.ORG)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the Italian American Heritage Foundation,

At the end of August we presented our Festa at our new location, History Park San Jose. There were some apprehension and worries, but nevertheless, we took on the project with high hopes and an abundance of energy. As it turned out, our worries were unfounded. The new venue attracted people from all over the Bay Area and beyond. Our attendees included folks from the peninsula, the East Bay, San Francisco and as far as Sacramento and Fresno. People loved our new location, the shade provided by the trees, and the excellent entertainment. They stayed and enjoyed the food, events and music. Everywhere I went, I heard complements on how much people loved the new venue. And this year, we did well financially too. All in all, it was a very successful event in which all our volunteers should be proud.

Now we turn to our year-end events. Our next big event is our Annual Membership Meeting. This meeting will be held on October 20th and will also include a dinner. This event is free to all members and you be able to hear about our business, finances, membership, and direction. You will be able to meet the candidates that are running for re-election of our Board of Directors. After the meeting and in keeping with our bylaws, we will be sending out ballots. Be sure to vote and send back your ballot. It is very important that we receive enough ballots back in the mail to constitute a quorum.

In November we will be having our 40th Anniversary Gala. By now, you should have received your invitations. This elegant event is going to be beautifully decorated and include musical entertainment by Alfie Dreifuss and his five-piece band. The delicious meal will be catered by Florentine's of Saratoga. There will be music, dancing, "*buon cibo*", and great company. You can reserve your spot by replying to the sent invitation, going online at [IAHFSJ.org](http://IAHFSJ.org), or by calling in your credit card number. This promises to be a fantastic event so you don't want to miss it.

Then on December 15th, we will have a luncheon to celebrate Buon Natale. As with all of our luncheons there will be a presentation and an excellent *pranzo*. We will also be singing Italian Christmas carols. So, if you have a favorite carol that you would like us to present, please contact me. Or, if you would like to do a solo song, we love to hear from you.

As our Foundation grows and prospers and brings forth these wonderful events, I want to thank you all for your continued support and volunteer efforts that keep us rich in a community spirit of cooperation and good will.

*Grazie Mille,*

David Perzinski / President, Italian American Heritage Foundation 

## IAHF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016

### IAHF OFFICERS

- David Perzinski - President / *Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation*
- Ken Borelli - 1st Vice President / *IAHF Events (including Annual Italian Festa) / Cultural Activities / Grants*
- Joanne Sanfilippo - 2nd Vice President / *Building Administration and Maintenance / Hall Rentals*
- Richard Stewart - 3rd Vice President / *Marketing and Publicity / Newsletters / Library and Archives / Scholarship Program / Website / Social Media*
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- Joyce Allegro - *Board Member*
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- Steve Cornaglia - *Board Member*
- Pamela Oliver Lyons - *Board Member*
- Carlo Severo - *Board Member*
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# Member SPOTLIGHT

## Benvenuti New Members as of July 2016

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Peter Allen (Aiello) II</li> <li>🌿 Pasquale Anastasi</li> <li>🌿 Matt Archibald</li> <li>🌿 Frank &amp; Diane Beitz</li> <li>🌿 John &amp; Vicki Brigantino</li> <li>🌿 Matt &amp; Sue Cadile</li> <li>🌿 Loret &amp; Christine Carbone</li> <li>🌿 Lori Carelli-Terry</li> <li>🌿 Ann &amp; Philip Castrogiovanni</li> <li>🌿 Ed Citti</li> <li>🌿 Ettore Coluzzi</li> <li>🌿 Corey Crawford</li> <li>🌿 Joe &amp; Mary-Margaret Dellicarpini</li> <li>🌿 Jane Derosa</li> <li>🌿 Denise Dettore</li> <li>🌿 Angela Di Berardino</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Thomas &amp; Clara Di Stefano</li> <li>🌿 Dana &amp; Peter Dinno</li> <li>🌿 Ruby Domino</li> <li>🌿 Diana Donovan</li> <li>🌿 Donovan Erba</li> <li>🌿 Joanne Escobar</li> <li>🌿 Carole Fernandez</li> <li>🌿 Dianna Ferrera</li> <li>🌿 Gino Fortino</li> <li>🌿 Joe &amp; Tanya Friscia</li> <li>🌿 Judge Al Girolami</li> <li>🌿 Samantha &amp; Joshua Glincher</li> <li>🌿 Claudia &amp; Thomas Gray</li> <li>🌿 Stacy &amp; Shayne Hale</li> <li>🌿 Mara Harrington</li> <li>🌿 Rod &amp; Lynne Johnson</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Jon &amp; Gayle Kanter</li> <li>🌿 Jerri Kazmierczak</li> <li>🌿 Robert La Rocca</li> <li>🌿 Jo Ann &amp; Tony Lauer</li> <li>🌿 Rosino LeGan</li> <li>🌿 Joan &amp; Tom Lewis</li> <li>🌿 Lorraine Lucivero</li> <li>🌿 Bianca Lupo</li> <li>🌿 Art Maggio</li> <li>🌿 Ashley Mapp</li> <li>🌿 Marie Marino</li> <li>🌿 Holly McCurry</li> <li>🌿 Mary Menniti</li> <li>🌿 Eric Merriman</li> <li>🌿 Scott &amp; Kerri Mesa</li> <li>🌿 Gary &amp; Contessa Messiana</li> <li>🌿 Adrian Nestor</li> <li>🌿 Lou Pambianco</li> <li>🌿 DT Passantino</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Gerald &amp; Marina Patzner</li> <li>🌿 Rick &amp; Eva Pepitone</li> <li>🌿 Christopher &amp; Corinne Phipps</li> <li>🌿 Joseph Piazza</li> <li>🌿 Richard &amp; Laura Porzio</li> <li>🌿 Maureen Psomas</li> <li>🌿 Frank &amp; Linda Ricchio</li> <li>🌿 Lisa &amp; Doug Robb</li> <li>🌿 Lauren Romanazzi</li> <li>🌿 Marie &amp; Basil Romero</li> <li>🌿 Murphy &amp; Carol Sabatino</li> <li>🌿 Phil Scalia</li> <li>🌿 Vito &amp; Jill Scarnecchia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 Stephen Schrage</li> <li>🌿 Melinda &amp; Dennis Serles</li> <li>🌿 Martin &amp; Beatriz Serovpeyan</li> <li>🌿 Rebecca &amp; Manuel Souza</li> <li>🌿 Richard &amp; Marie Strezo</li> <li>🌿 Joe &amp; Josie Taddeo</li> <li>🌿 Shirley &amp; Tony Tarantino</li> <li>🌿 Charles and Patti Territo</li> <li>🌿 Catherine &amp; Yolanda Villarreal</li> <li>🌿 Lisa &amp; Joseph Viso</li> <li>🌿 Derek &amp; Jessica Von Borck</li> <li>🌿 Salome Woodward</li> </ul>
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## 2016 Business Members

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 <a href="#"><u>Anastasi Law Group</u></a></li> <li>🌿 <a href="#"><u>DiNapoli Specialty Food</u></a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 <a href="#"><u>Charles Gagliasso Trucking, Inc</u></a></li> <li>🌿 <a href="#"><u>Gioia Company</u></a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌿 <a href="#"><u>Hillview Packing Company, Inc</u></a></li> <li>🌿 <a href="#"><u>Tri-Star Inspection Services</u></a></li> </ul>
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# IAHF 40<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Gala

CELEBRATING OUR PAST  
BRIDGING OUR FUTURE



Saturday, November 5, 2016 🌟 6 PM to 10 PM 🌟 IAHF Hall San Jose



*All IAHF Members & Guests  
are invited to join in this Momentous,  
Elegant, Once-in-a-Lifetime Occasion*

## 6 PM *Champagne Hour* 🌟

Nibble hand crafted appetizers, sway to the live music of Marcello Severo Trio. Toast our history with a glass of champagne, meet and greet old and new friends.

## 7 PM *Alla Italiana Seated Dinner* 🌟

Antipasto Caprese with Tonno and Peperoncino | Cesar Salad |  
Penne D'Assisi pasta

Entrée: Choice of NY Strip Steak or Grilled Salmon with Fresh Vegetable

Dessert: Tiramisu

Wine, Coffee, Tea, Espresso cart

## 8 PM *Dancing to The Alfie Dreifuss Orchestra* 🌟

**RESERVE YOUR PLACE AT THIS VERY SPECIAL EVENING NOW**

**\$80.<sup>00</sup> Per Person 🌟 Cocktail Attire**

RSVP: [events@iahfsj.org](mailto:events@iahfsj.org) or call 408.293.7122

Tables will be set for 8 guests each

Larger and smaller parties upon request

🌟 *Catered by Florentine Trattoria of Saratoga* 🌟

***Buon Anniversario!***

Seats  
Going Fast!  
Reserve  
Your Place  
Today!

# Italian Family Festa

August 27 & 28 • History Park San Jose Park



2016 Festa Photos by Ernie Murata





2016 Festa Photos by Ernie Murata



# ITALIAN POWER

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

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

Visit [www.iahfsj.org](http://www.iahfsj.org) today - **information is power!**

# Growing Our Heritage at the Festa and Beyond



At this year's Festa Villaggio Culturale, "Growing our Heritage" was a dynamic theme, both at the Culinary Stage and exhibition tent. For those of you who were not able to hear or attend the presentations, we are going to try to knit some of those activities into future events at the IAHF. We had several showings of the video *Pomodoro*, by Michael LoVaglia, a lecture and display by Mary Minniti of the National Italian Garden Project, and a gardening workshop by the staff from Emma Pruesh Park Community Gardens. This was in addition to several other dynamic lectures and exhibitions at the Villaggio.

At the lecture by the Garden Project, our own IAHF member Rose Crimi presented Mary with some cuttings from her Bifara fig tree, along with its unique history directly from Altavilla Milicia, about 15 miles east of Palermo. Rose also noted this tree was planted at her home in 1965 as a sapling from the old Teresi Ranch on Winchester Blvd. A piasano of Rose's father, Joe Lazzara, planted the variety. In that this fig needed a pollinator, Joe later came back once the tree was established and grafted wild stock as a pollinator. Rose gave a detailed explanation of its history. In similar ways, many a home gardener has special seed stocks, that the Italian Garden Project is very interested in collecting.

As an aside, a week later, several people from the IAHF visited the National Heirloom Expo, September 6-8, in Santa Rosa. If you have any interest in heirloom vegetables, this exposition is a must. It is an annual event held at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds and draws on experts from all over the globe. You can go on line to [theheirloomexpo.com](http://theheirloomexpo.com) for more information. The event reinforces the vital importance of home gardeners in maintaining and handing down heritage in the form of their home garden seed banks. Many of the gardens reflect the flavors of ancestral roots, in our case of Italy, but, in reality, the entire world.

It's a very much a "growing" legacy! I do not believe the complete story of the contribution of Italian Americans to the agricultural life of California and the West has ever been well told or documented. It's usually a blip in a documentary about Italian Americans, yet consider the contributions of Italian Americans in local agriculture, from the canning industry through truck gardens and supplying many a local community with a wide range of fruits and vegetables. This is definitely a project worth undertaking and documenting. Our archives really just scratch the surface.

An example of this omission and what I am talking about was, quite recently, the SF Chronicle published a 2016 Wine Country Guide (Sept. 2016). In the preface they credit George Yount as starting the first vineyard in Napa County. While that may be so, there was not one word about the literally thousands of Italian American immigrants who not only planted grapes and founded wineries in Sonoma and Napa Counties, but sold grapes to Italian family winemakers in San Francisco and throughout the nation. The same pamphlet then jumps to today's designer high end wineries, while our history in the area has all but disappeared. Even so, all you need to do is visit some of the old Catholic cemeteries in Napa and Sonoma Counties to fully realize the large Italian immigrant populations that contributed to the development of the agricultural base of the area, as well as built the wine making legacy that is Napa and Sonoma counties today. The reality is that if we as a community do not document our heritage, no one will do it for us, and no history of California will include this rich legacy from our immigrant ancestors. We really have some gardening to do!

-- Article and photos by Ken Borelli 🍷

# The Story of *Teatrino di Bambini*

During the first year Festa 2014 the little children's theater had no name. Marie Bertola, lecturer at Santa Clara University suggested the name, *Teatrino di Bambini*. Home is where language begins, so our purpose has been to share with grandparents, parents and children the Italian language through story and song based learning. *Teatrino di Bambini* has existed only at Festa time. A devoted group of bilingual volunteers and professionals of

all ages provide enjoyable ways of learning Italian. Program highlights have included; children's fairytales with roots from the Italian Renaissance; Sicilian comedy & wisdom; famous modern Italian cartoon characters starting with La Pimpa followed by the Italian Pinocchio, an appearance by La Befana and much more.

This little children's theater has a growing loyal following. Kathy Winkelman began to notice our efforts. She promised to donate not only money but real support. Why? She responds, "I personally love working to support and promote our beautiful Italian Culture and Art and have a background working with youth. GIOIA ITALIAN ART and PRODUCTS is dedicated to bringing the arts to you and supporting artists of Italy and the US. The IAHF is a wonderful club, educational resource, and gathering for all that love everything Italian. When I experience the Italian Children's Theater at the Festa and learned about the vision and goals I was excited to be part of bringing it to fruition. A good friend and beautiful Artist Francesca Benevento was able to create the vision and Gioia financed the creation and production. My joy, La Gioia, will be seeing children's faces as they learn more about and experience first hand our beautiful culture rich in the arts. See you at the Festa! Make sure to come see the *Teatrino Di Bambini*!"

Many people are aware of the great talent of Artist Francesca Benevento, who agreed to work on the series of banners and magnificent backdrop shown this year at the 2016 Family Festa *Teatrino di Bambini*. Her love of Italy and art began at an early age. In her own words, "When I was 10 years old I took a trip to



Italy with my family. We traveled to Rome where I visited the most beautiful works of art, the city influenced my dreams of becoming an artist. Since then I have had a love affair with art and I have been able to create art through painting and visual design." Brava!

Here is some of the history behind the backdrop design. As you look at the backdrop you will see through the window Florence, Italy, where the Renaissance concept of morality stories for children was developed. Later these stories were adopted throughout Europe and became the familiar fairy tales known by many children today.

On the inside window ledge sits Pinocchio, whose story was first published 1880 as "Storia di un burattina" or *Avventure di Pinocchio* in the children's magazine "Il Giornale per i Bambini". The author Carlo Lorenzini had the pen name Carlo Collodi, a very famous Italian writer. Collodi is the name of his mother's hometown in Tuscany. Next to Pinocchio is La Pimpa the red spotted dog with two of her friends below, a cow and a pig. La Pimpa is a very famous creation of Francesco Tullio Altan presented in the monthly children's magazine *Corriere dei Piccoli* from 1975 - 1995. Today you can watch La Pimpa cartoons on YouTube. In the lower left appears Topo Gigio the adorable Italian mouse who was presented in the United States on the Ed Sullivan show on December 9, 1962. Originally a creation of Italian puppeteers lead by the Italian television children's programming producer Maria Perego. This mouse became a favorite of all ages.

Thank you, Kathy Winkelman of La Gioia Italian Arts and Products, the very talented Artist Francesca Benevento, and Eddie Lira, Printer extraordinary for your support this year.

The *Teatrino di Bambini* has been a three year collaboration of many amazing special volunteers dedicated to the purpose of bringing or keeping Italian language in the home.

Everyone is invited to stop by and take a look at our beautiful backdrop and panels. See you at Festa 2017!

-- Article Written by Pam Oliver Lyons



## Scholarship News: AVAILABLE CHAIR

It has been a great pleasure working on the scholarship committee for the last three years. It is probably the most rewarding volunteer job a person could ask for. I regret to say that I must step down for the 2017 scholarship year. I will be out of the country during the crucial months of May and early June.

Please consider volunteering for this job.

I have prepared a scholarship folder, both in electronic and paper form. The folder contains a step-by-step method for introducing the scholarship to the public, the 2017 scholarship application, a method for evaluating applications

and essays, letters of congratulation and regret, and a format of the scholarship awards dinner. Of course, all of this is just suggestion material, you will be free to do as you please.

Richard Stewart, our third vice-president, has the responsibility of the scholarship program, so you would be working with him.

If you are interested in this volunteer position and are available in the spring and early June please contact me for a meeting at [lbinkley@iahfsj.org](mailto:lbinkley@iahfsj.org)

-- Article by Linda Binkley 

## A Little Italian

## By Request

by Linda Binkley

Rio Bò is the name of both the river and village described in the poem. It might be a real place, it might be imaginary, but it is certainly completely believable. Here everything is diminutive... (casettine 'little houses', praticello 'small meadow', esiguo 'narrow'), a place of nothingness (da nulla 'of nothing'), but at the same time it is a magnificent place.

Rio Bò  
Tre casettine  
dai tetti aguzzi,  
un verde praticello,  
un esiguo ruscello: Rio Bò,  
un vigilante cipresso.  
Microscopico paese, non è vero?  
paese da nulla, ma però,  
c'è sempre di sopra una stella,  
una grande magnifica stella.  
Occhieggia con la punta del cipresso  
di Rio Bò.  
Una stella innamorata! Chi sa  
se nemmeno ce l'ha  
una grande città.

Rio Bò  
Three little houses  
with pointed roofs,  
a small green meadow,  
a narrow stream: Rio Bò,  
a vigilant cypress.  
Microscopic village, isn't it true?  
a village of nothing, but nevertheless,  
above it there is always a star,  
a great magnificent star.  
It winks to the tip of the cypress  
of Rio Bò.  
A star in love! Who knows  
if not even  
a big city has such a one.



## IAHF Administrative Assistant Needed

To perform a wide variety of clerical and administrative duties in support of day to day operations, including hall rental sales. Computer skills necessary. Spanish a plus.

Hours are: M-Th: 1-5 PM; F: 1-6:30 PM.

Contact 408-293-7122. Please send resume to IAHF at [iahfsj@iahfsj.org](mailto:iahfsj@iahfsj.org).

# Letters TO THE EDITOR

Great job as usual! The peanut farmer was certainly interesting...a story I'd never heard before. - Ann 🌿



## *A Venetian Gondola in Amsterdam!*

Loved the story of Gondolas in the latest issue of the IAHF Newsletter.

On my 90th birthday my family and I were celebrating on a private boat, cruising the canals in Amsterdam at sunset when we spotted this Italian Gondola in front of us and then passed it.

I learned that a young lady, who lives in Amsterdam, went to Venice and bought a used gondola, had it brought to Amsterdam, and now is doing very well rowing passengers on the canals there in her flowing red gown. Quite a unique sight!

How are plans for the reunion? I plan to attend the War Brides lunch on Sept 10th in Campbell. -- Marge Papp 🌿



## IAHF EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

A couple of days before our Family Festa rolled out, Central Italy suffered a devastating earthquake. What to do? President Dave Perzinski and his administrative team in conjunction with

Joe Rizzi and members of the Festa Planning Committee felt the immediate action was to collect funds, via NIAF's (National Italian American Foundation) nationwide emergency plea for donations. This effort was in conjunction with the Italian relief efforts. The response from our Festa visitors was heartwarming. We had donation bottles at the stage and Membership booth and a special donation was made at the pre-Festa Mass organized by Cathy DeMaria and attendees.

Throughout the two day period, the IAHF was able to collect over \$2,500 that was immediately forwarded to NIAF. In fact, we were one of the first Italian American organizations nationwide to do so. In like manner, IAHF members at Tony and Alba's Pizzeria decided to do-

nate funds based on a special pasta dinner ordered at the restaurant. Other valley organizations are also planning events, and we are happy to report additional donations are in the process of being collected at the IAHF, including at our General Membership Meeting in order to send another donation to the relief fund.

The communities hardest hit include Amatrice, Accumoli and Pescara del Tronto. This is a rural part of central Italy, and traditionally during the August vacation period families usually visit the sea coast or mountain villages from their homes in the industrial areas, accounting for even more people in the area than usual. Our hearts go out to the victims and the people who now have to make difficult choices related to rebuilding and going on with their lives along with trying to relate to this tragic and devastating loss of life, and its impact upon both their families and community. Even so, it was particularly heart warming, too, to receive donations from the greater community at large in our own Santa Clara Valley. We like to say California is a lot like Italy geographically, and that is true, but along with that comes some serious seismic fault zones all too well known. While we can help with Italian relief, it is also a timely reminder to do some home preparedness to have backup plans, relief materials, foods and other supplies stored at home if and when "the big one comes"!

— Article by Ken Borelli 🌿



### Emergency Earthquake Relief Fund for Italy

The IAHF is setting up an emergency relief fund for Italy and the victims of the recent earthquake disaster. Please send any donations to the IAHF. Checks should be made payable to IAHF. All monies will be forwarded to NIAF, National Italian American Foundation for their relief program.

Tap Here for Earthquake Preparedness at Home

# IAHF *Library* NEWS

*The IAHF library is much more than just books*

## MAGNA GRAECIA

### ANCIENT GREEK CITIES IN ITALY

**Magna Graecia:** Latin, meaning "Great Greece", Greek: Μεγάλη Ἑλλάς, Megálē Hellás) is the coastal areas of Southern Italy on the present-day regions of Campania, Apulia, Basilicata, Calabria and Sicily that were extensively populated by Greek settlers; particularly the Achaean settlements of Croton, and Sybaris, and to the north, the settlements of Cumae and Neapolis.[1] The settlers who began arriving in the 8th century BC brought with them their Hellenic civilization, which was to leave a lasting imprint in Italy, such as in the culture of ancient Rome, in which the Roman poet Ovid in his poem *Fasti* referred to the south of Italy as the land of greater Greece.

[Tap Here](#) to view an interesting YouTube video about Magna Graecia

-- Article submitted by Richard Stewart 🌱

#### SOME OF THE MAIN CITIES OF MAGNA GRAECIA



Roger D. Woodard (2008), "Greek dialects", in: *The Ancient Languages of Europe*, ed. Roger D. Woodard, Cambridge: Cambridge



## IL VOLO

Il Volo is an Italian pop trio, consisting of singers baritone Gianluca Ginoble and tenors Piero Barone and Ignazio Boschetto. They describe their music as "popera". Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Il\\_Volo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Il_Volo)

Tap the links below to view Il Volo on YouTube

Nel Blu, Dipinto Di Blu (Volare)

Gira El Mundo Gira

Life Is Beautiful

## Etna Lava Stone

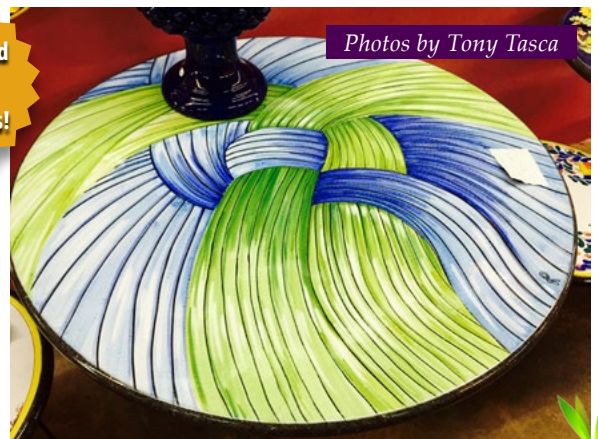
Lava stone tables and kitchen and bathroom bars from Sicily, Santo Stefano di Camastra, traditional production by the family business SERRAVALLE.

Tap below to view the beautiful lava stone pieces made by this Sicilian family:

<http://www.eatart.be/etna-lava-stone-tables/>



Guaranteed  
to last  
5,000 years!



Photos by Tony Tasca

## LOOKING BACK:

### *Italian Immigrants Build Church in Santa Clara Valley*

In July of 1904, the Santa Clara Valley's new, and conscientious, immigrant citizens began working together with one goal in mind: to construct a lavish church that would embody the spirit of their newly established Italian community.

It would be a church that represented century-old traditions and beliefs; it would exemplify hope and prosperity. Architect Alberto Port would construct the church. It would be located in the heart of the community at River and San Fernando Streets. Its design would be a small duplicate of the great St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome.

The donations for this monumental task came from the valley's prune orchards, fields, and the emerging fruit industry.

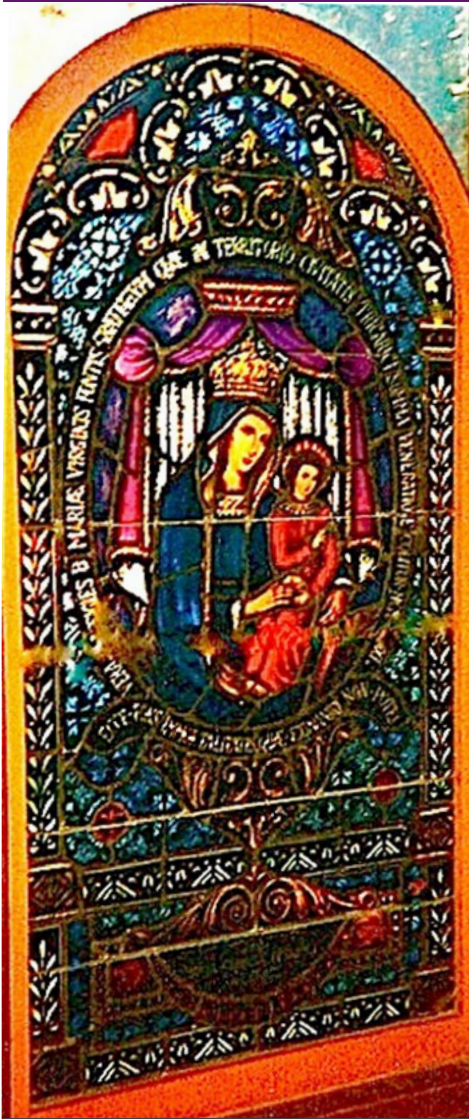
My Grandparents, Maria and Antonio Curci, like their fellow immigrants, worked long hard hours in the orchards and canneries of the valley, contributing much of their time and earnings toward the completion of this grand project. Their dream for a community church was realized on October 6th, 1905.

Grandma Maria and Grandpa Antonio were among the many young couples to marry in the Holy Family church. The day of her wedding, Grandma Maria's heart beat fast with excitement as the moment of the ceremony drew near. As a devout young catholic, she had taken communion earlier that day at the rail of the Holy Family Church. Her impeccable spirit, now as pure and white as the bibbed collars worn by the parish nuns.

The year was 1910; the spectacular church was filled to capacity with community well wishers who had come to bestow their blessings upon the handsome young couple. Friends and onlookers crowded the church steps standing three-deep in doorways to witness the holy sacrament.

A wedding among the young immigrant community was a welcome celebration.

The event represented a continuity of their people. Adhering to their sacred beliefs and family traditions, Maria and Antonio recited their marriage vows in the sanctity of the Holy Family church. And there, for the next 60 years, their descendants would also attend Sunday mass and receive the holy Sacraments.



*The Stained Glass Window donated to The Holy Family Church by my grateful Grandmother, in gratitude for the safe return of her 5 sons from WW II. Heavy contributors to the church included the Christian Mothers, Holy Name Society, Italian Catholic Federation, and the Holy Family sisters.*

During the early years of their marriage, Grandpa Antonio went to work laying track for the city railroad lines. Work was scarce, and, like many immigrant workers, he was fearful of losing his job; refusing to miss even a day's work though he was suffering from influenza.

His condition worsened and he developed double pneumonia. At the tender age of 32, just 6 years after his wedding day, Grandpa Antonio passed away leaving Grandma Maria a widow with two children and one on the way. It was during this time of her life that Grandma experienced her greatest comfort at the prayer rail of the Holy Family church. Unable to find work, her children sick with influenza and the bank about to foreclose on her home, she found courage and inspiration while praying to her patron Saint Mary.

With a prayer in her heart, and her rosary beads in her hand, Grandma Maria attempted one last time to find work on the cannery lines.

That morning, through coincidence or divine intervention, a new foreman was on the job. He felt compassion for grandma's plight, and gave her a spot on his cannery line. After a few years on the job, a romance blossomed between Grandma and the cannery foreman, Tony Dinapoli. He was a widower with six children who greatly admired Grandma's dedication to her family. They were later married in the Holy Family Church and together raised a total of 12 children.

I remember once asking my Grandma Maria why it was so important to her people that they construct such a lavish cathedral when many of them barely had enough food to eat. Grandma answered with an Old Italian saying. Translated it means: "Out of our habits grow our character, on our character we build our destiny." The church had come to represent the spirit and character of these

hardworking young immigrants, who they were, and what they would become. It stood, for many years as a tribute to the good habits and fine character of a brave and tenacious people.

Another church would soon take in its place and like its namesake, the new Holy Family Church, located on Pearl

Avenue, arose like a phoenix out of an orchard of prune trees. The original bell that rang for so many years from the old church belfry is now preserved in a revered spot at the new location. The new Holy Family Church may not be as ostentatious as its namesake, or as lavish with artifacts as the original, but its spiritual foundation remains equally as strong.



*My grandparents on their wedding day,*

My generation shares a deep love and respect for our immigrant grandparents, for our grandfathers who worked two jobs and sharecropped the local ranches and for our grandmothers who spent long hours on the cannery lines, earning 5 cents a bucket cutting 'cots and tomatoes so their kids could climb out of poverty and take their place in society.

The success of the valley and the generations that followed is a tribute to their dedication. Today, our once fruitful valley has become known for its microchip production.

I suspect there would be no Silicon Valley if not for the bounty given our economy by our early valley orchardists.



*The Holy Family Church my grandparents helped construct and were married in. What the 1906 San Francisco earthquake couldn't do to the church, a bulldozer accomplished in 1960 when the grandiose church was leveled to make way for the city's Guadalupe expressway.*

Valley ranchers, along with the canneries, packing plants and immigrant labor, all worked in separate ways to achieve together what we all enjoy today. It is a valley rich in family traditions and agricultural history.

Source: [http://newsblaze.com/thoughts/opinions/looking-back-italian-immigrants-build-church-in-santa-clara-valley\\_39972/](http://newsblaze.com/thoughts/opinions/looking-back-italian-immigrants-build-church-in-santa-clara-valley_39972/)

-- By Cookie Curci | Fri October 9, 2015

## Interesting Facts About Italy

1. The name Italy comes from the word *italia*, meaning "calf land," perhaps because the bull was a symbol of the Southern Italian tribes.
2. Italy is approximately 116,400 square miles (including Sicily and Sardinia), which is slightly larger than Arizona.
3. Italy is one of the most crowded nations in Europe. Its population is estimated to reach 58,126,212 by July 2009. The population of United States is estimated to reach 307,212,123 by that same date.
4. The capital of Italy is Rome (also known as the Eternal City) and is almost 3,000 years old. It has been the capital since 1871 and is home to the Dome of St. Peter's, the Sistine Chapel, the Coliseum, and the famous Trevi Fountain.
5. The official name of Italy is the Italian Republic (Repubblica Italiana).
6. Italy is said to have more masterpieces per square mile than any other country in the world.

-- Article Submitted by John Romano

Tap here for more interesting facts about Italy | Source: [http://facts.randomhistory.com/2009/05/14\\_italy.html](http://facts.randomhistory.com/2009/05/14_italy.html)

Having built up a prestigious and powerful state, Prince Ivan III decided to decorate his city with new buildings to reflect its grandeur. He wanted the most beautiful buildings, the latest designs and the most cutting-edge technology. So the prince sent his servants to Italy to hire the best architects of the Renaissance era to design buildings for the Kremlin complex in the center of Moscow.

"At the turn of the 15th and 16th centuries, like most European countries, Russia's architecture experienced the Renaissance," Moscow Architectural Institute Rector, Dmitry Shvidkovsky explained.

"Here in the Kremlin we can see the characteristics of different facets of the Italian renaissance: Venetian, Bolognese, and Milanese. It was completed with Russian ideas, giving birth to a very interesting new style that generated a revolution in Russian architecture."

The Kremlin's Dormition Cathedral was built by Bolognese architect Aristotel Fioravanti. Some researchers believe he was chosen by Princess Zoe Sophia Palaiologina, the second wife of Ivan III. She was the niece of the last Byzantine emperor and she had lived in Italy before marrying Ivan.

"When Sophia arrived in Moscow, she was not alone – she brought with her a grand entourage. We know that the main Kremlin cathedral was in a very bad state and nobody knew how to reconstruct it. It was likely Sophia's idea to search for an architect in Italy," said architectural historian Federica Rossi.

Italian architect Aristotel Fiorovanti refused to reconstruct the dilapidated cathedral. Instead, he opened a brick factory and used the new materials for a new building. The Orthodox demands of the client were skillfully combined with the latest Renaissance innovations and in just four years a masterpiece was born.

"Some scholars believe that he not only created the Dormition Cathedral, but also began the construction of the Kremlin walls," Rossi said.

Most of the Kremlin walls and towers were built by Pietro Antonio Solari and Marco Ruffo from Milan. Solari and Ruffo constructed the Palace of Facets – a small part of the grand palace that has not

# The Italians

## WHO REVAMPED RUSSIA



*Several centuries ago, the Renaissance changed the face of Moscow forever.*

been preserved. Both architects are known in history under the common last name 'Fryazin', which is how the Moscovites called those who came from Italy.

Ivan III would never see this masterpiece of the Venetian school: the Cathedral of the Archangel. Its creator, Aloisio de Montagnano, came to Russia a year before the death of the ruler.

Shvidkovsky said that the Italian influence transformed Russian architecture: "After Italian architects worked in the Kremlin, Russian architecture became more joyful, more bright, more picturesque."

But the work of Italian architects in Moscow extends beyond the Kremlin. The first so-called 'tent-roof' stone church in Russia was constructed in the summer residence of the Russian rulers, at Kolomenskoe, which is now part of Moscow. Little is known about its creator, Pietro Annibale, who, like many other Italian architects, never left Russia.

Rossi said: "He tried to escape Russia but he was stopped at the border. He was questioned and the documentation from that interrogation has survived, which gives us some insights into him. [He helped to create a new style here in Russia], and when a new style appears in architecture everyone starts to work with it."

Like many researchers, Federica believes that the new style inspired the creator of Russia's most famous cathedral, located in Red Square. Saint Basil's Cathedral is composed of nine churches, and the central one has the same 'tent-roof' form. The name of the architect is still unknown.

"We see the dialogue of the Russian and European cultures in this cathedral; those cultures talk and listen to each other," said Saint Basil's Cathedral guide Maria Galkina.

There were dozens of Italian architects who came to Russia from Renaissance Italy.

Could one of them perhaps have been the creator of the masterpiece of Saint Basil?

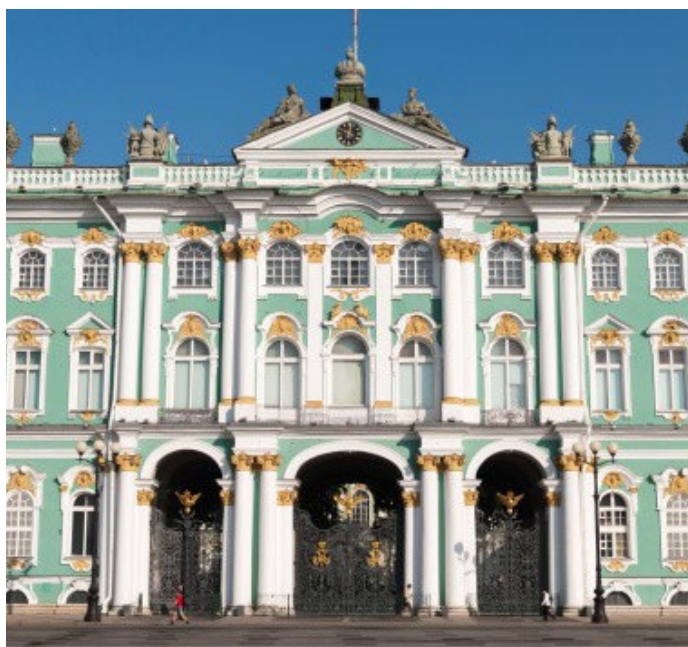
This secret remains a mystery – one that may never be solved.

*continued >>>*

## Moscow Metropolitans

### Factfile

- More than 60 Italian architects were invited to Moscow in the 15th and 16th centuries
- There are more than 600 churches in Moscow. Among them, a number were either built or strongly influenced by Italian architects
- The five-domed Cathedral of the Kremlin's Assumption Cathedral (1475–1479) was built by Italian architect Aristotele Fioravanti
- The five-domed Archangel Cathedral (1505–1508) was built by another Italian architect Aloisio de Montagnano
- The Faceted Chamber (1487–1491) was built by Italian architects Pietro Antonio Solari and Marco Ruffo as a stateroom for major ceremonial events. The chamber was part of a palace, only a small fragment of which remains standing today



- The Great Bell Tower (82 m): (1505–1508) located near the Archangel Cathedral, was built by Italian architect Bon Friazin. It was the highest construction in Russia at the time, and became a composition center of the whole Kremlin ensemble

- Kolomenskoye is a former royal estate situated several kilometers southeast of Moscow. Its exceptional Church of the Ascension (1532) is believed to have been built by Italian architect Pietro Annibale. Commissioned by Vasily III to commemorate the birth of his son, the future Ivan the Terrible, it is one of the oldest architectural monuments of the 16th century and is believed to be

the first tent-roof stone church in Russia. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site

Source: <http://www.euronews.com/2013/07/25/the-italians-who-revamped-russia> -- Submitted by Richard Stewart



### Upcoming Election of

## IAHF Board of Directors

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

### ***Election of Directors on the Agenda!***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Corso di Cucina\*

Our cooking class on September 1st featured my mama Tanina's delectable polpette (meatballs). My mama's meatballs were the best I've ever tasted and I shared her recipe with our students. Secret ingredients make these meatballs tender, juicy and delicious. The class participated in chopping, mixing and frying the meatballs and later added them to our homemade pasta sauce to continue the cooking process. In the meantime, the pasta was cooked to perfection and mixed with the meatballs and sauce.

Oh the best part, ah yes, was when we all sat together and sampled our creation together. A little vino, pasta, polpette and good friends...what could be better? Buon appetito!

Our next cooking class will be a sausage making class on October 6th. If you would like to attend the class, please do so online or call the IAHF office.

-- Article Written by Lucia Clementi

\*Cooking Class



Photos by Denise and Victor Vaccaro



# OAKLAND'S LITTLE ITALY



Italian Americans thrived in the East Bay from the 1890's to the 1960's, particularly in Oakland's "Little Italy" in the Temescal neighborhood.

Between 1910 and 1930, Oakland had one of the biggest Italian populations in the state, ballooning from 3,800 to 6,360 in the U.S. census.<sup>1</sup>

Major Italian immigration to the United States got underway in the late 19th century and would last through 1910. More than two million Italians left Italy, primarily the northern regions, for America. Today, about 1.5 million of their descendants live in California alone.<sup>2</sup>

Oakland, the other city by the bay, was a magnet for Italian immigrants in the early decades of the 20th century. Some relocated from San Francisco after the devastating 1906 earthquake and fire; many more came to Oakland predominantly from Italy's northern regions of Piedmont, Liguria, and Lombardy in search of opportunity and prosperity.<sup>3</sup>

Many newcomers settled in the Temescal neighborhood of North Oakland which "offered sunshine and soil for fruit and vegetable gardens; elbow room and affordable housing; easy street car access; and most vitally, job opportunities."<sup>2</sup>

Italian immigrants often found themselves restricted by education, language barriers and prejudice to jobs, usually manual labor, that longer-established locals considered less desirable.<sup>2</sup>

The East Bay economy in that era provided opportunity for many such jobs including those in the garment trade, window washing and janitorial services, laundry work, seasonal food canning, the burgeoning automobile service industry as well as the fading livery stable business, work in restaurants



and food markets, truck farming, and construction.

Sometimes the job opportunities became quite selectively regional. For a time, one had to be from the Genoa region to have a decent chance of getting a job in the Oakland scavenger industry.<sup>2</sup>

Sometimes the discrimination encountered by Italian immigrants in em-

ployment was re-directed at other groups. One photograph of an Oakland market shows a sign reading "This market does not sell any meats purchased or handled by Chinese or Asiatics. We believe in America for Americans." Ironically, at times Italian Americans themselves were not considered white by Anglo Saxon society.<sup>2</sup>



Food was at the center of many Italian-American enterprises. "Delicatessens, produce shops, and retail food import shops owned by Italian Americans were (and still are) a common sight in East Bay streets." A number of successful Italian owned bakeries were started, although they were often called "French-Italian" in an effort to attract non-Italian customers.

Oakland's Rivoli Deli, G.B. Ratto & Company, Genova Deli, the Toscana and Colombo Bakeries, Lucca's Deli and Bertola's restaurant formerly at the corner of Telegraph and Shattuck were just a few of the Italian American businesses that prospered in the area.

Some Italian immigrants took up truck farming, supplying East Bay cities with fresh produce. They found good farmland on Bay Farm Island in Alameda and other southern Alameda County sites where subdivisions sprout today.

Before municipal garbage collection, Italian immigrants developed private routes, collecting garbage from East Bay homes and businesses — "a horse, a wagon, a



strong back, and you were in business." Operations were consolidated by 1920 into one major scavenger company, headquartered in Temescal, whose blue painted vehicles—often called "blue taxis" or "honey wagons" — roamed East Bay streets.

The company followed meticulous recycling practices nearly a century ago. In addition to separation of glass and metals, food scraps were sold as hog feed, buttons were cut off old clothes and re-sold to laundries and tailors, scrap cloth and old clothes went as rags to auto repair shops and janitorial businesses, and newspapers and cardboard were recycled at local paper mills.

The construction industry also provided employment as "countless Italian American craftsmen took their Old World construction skills and applied them to the needs of their newly adopted country." Some started out as laborers and later organized their own contracting firms.<sup>2</sup>



"Providing labor for roadways was a major source of employment," as was quarry and mason work. Skilled Italian-American artisans worked on the massive stone buildings of the UC Berkeley, campus.

Two big local quarries, the Bilger Quarry, "la Cava," in Oakland and the Hutchinson Quarry, "la Cava di Berkeley" at the top of Schmidt Lane in what is now El Cerrito, employed large numbers of Italian immigrant men who often lived on site in boarding houses.

The Bilger Quarry is still visible from the Rockridge Long's Drugs / Safeway complex, so the next time you shop there, recall the hundreds of Italian American men — many from the regions of Piemonte and Liguria—who labored there in the Bilger works for two dollars a day and slowly reshaped the southern end of the aptly named Rockridge district.<sup>2</sup>

Source: [https://localwiki.org/oakland/Italian\\_American](https://localwiki.org/oakland/Italian_American)

-- Article submitted by Richard Stewart 🐉

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### A Message from Richard Stewart

*IAHF Newsletter Editor*

It's always great to get stories from members of the IAHF for the Newsletter. It adds vitality, diversity, and a sense of family and community. I'll be looking forward to your contributions.

Please send your proofread entries to Richard Stewart at [news@iahfsj.org](mailto:news@iahfsj.org)

Thank you! 🐉

Be **IAHF Green** and go paperless!!!

Please **click here**

or call 408-293-7122.

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## October

**October 6:** Sausage Making | \$30 | Instruction by Joseph Fasano | 7:00 PM | Class limit 25

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

## November

**November 5:** 40th Year Celebration of the IAHF | Dinner, Music, Dance | A Benefit for the Organization | Celebrating our Past. Bridging our Future | Members and Non Members: \$80

**November 17:** Assorted Biscotti for the Holidays | \$25 | Various Instructors | 7:00 PM | Note: Due to scheduling conflicts this date was changed from Nov. 3 to Nov. 17 | **NOTE:** *Class is sold out, please call the IAHF to be on the waiting list.*

## December

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

**December 15:** Regional Lunch | \$13 member | \$16 non-members | 12:00 PM

YOU CAN CLICK HERE TO RSVP AND TO PRE-PAY AT  
<http://www.iahfsj.org/#!/events/cfog>

RSVP FOR ALL EVENTS (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED) BY EMAILING  
[eventsrvp@iahfsj.org](mailto:eventsrvp@iahfsj.org) or by calling 408-293-7122

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

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

## **Circulation: 500**

### **Size Pricing**

#### **Bus card 3.25"W x 2.25"H**

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

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### **Artwork**

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

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

### **Contact**

Richard Stewart: 408-821-4260  
or [news@iahfsj.org](mailto:news@iahfsj.org)

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*Specializing in Rose Garden, Willow Glen & surrounding communities*

## *Professional Experience*

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

## *Education*

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

## *Professional Philosophy*

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

## *Professional Affiliations*

- California Association of Realtors
- National Association of Realtors
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## *Personal Background*

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

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

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

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

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

*For posting Events, please provide the following information:*

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

### Articles

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

### Photos

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

Transmission:

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

Format:

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

Size:

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

Credits:

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

Captions:

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

Questions?

- Please contact Richard Stewart, IAHF Newsletter Editor, at 408-821-4260, or at [news@iahfsj.org](mailto:news@iahfsj.org) 📧



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