

# IAHF NEWS

Italian American Heritage Foundation Newsletter • October 2015 • Founded August 5, 1975 • Celebrating 39 Years



## President's Message

Last month we celebrated our annual Italian Family Festa in San Jose. Joe Rizzi was once again our Festa organizer, who, with the help of many others, put this wonderful event together. I was surprised at the opening ceremonies when we received so many proclamations and declarations from so many government dignitaries. We are a truly well recognized organization, and acknowledgement from senators, congresspersons, mayors and supervisors made me feel proud of our organization. Cathy De Maria hosted the opening ceremonies and did a great job of it.

Our Villaggio Culturale Italiano was outstanding. There were many cultural displays and maps that people enjoyed. People from all over were able to connect with their heritage and witness the great contributions of Italian-Americans. Our Teatrino per Bambini was a great success and so was our Authors' Stage.

We are in search of some good people who would like to become members of our Board of Directors. We have a few new openings. If you would like to be engaged in our governing counsel, please contact us by October 23. We have applications and a review board that is waiting for your interest.

As our facility ages, we are constantly needing new repairs. Recently, we have purchased a new ice machine and a new refrigerator to replace the old ones that were no longer functioning. We need to start looking long-term and preparing for upgrades that will soon be needed. Our roof can get by with repairs for maybe another year, but will eventually need replacing. It would also be good to start thinking about a new carpet for our building. We have been holding back on raising prices for membership and events but expenses are going up and it may be time to increase some of our charges. I would appreciate any feedback on this and hope that you will let me know your thoughts. You can email me at [perzinskidavid@gmail.com](mailto:perzinskidavid@gmail.com) or call me direct at 408-582-3403.

Thank you all,

David Perzinski / President, Italian American Heritage Foundation 🌿

### Message from Richard Stewart IAHF Newsletter Chairperson

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 edited entries to: [news@iahfsj.org](mailto:news@iahfsj.org)

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## Join the Membership Committee

We are looking for members to help us grow our membership, chair our special member events and generally assist in our outreach to all our members. If you're interested contact Mike D'Ambrosio, Membership Chair, at [membership@iahfsj.org](mailto:membership@iahfsj.org) or call the office at 408-293-7122. 🌿

## Benvenuti New Members as of Sept 20, 2015

✿ G. Vittoria Abbatte ~ Individual  
✿ Nedra Abono-Petty ~ Family  
✿ Marie Anderson ~ Individual  
✿ Sue Avila ~ Individual  
✿ Robert and Jill Binkley ~ Family  
✿ Tracy Bizelli and Trey Sloan ~ Family  
✿ Linda Brown and  
Jeanne Cienfuegos ~ Family  
✿ Sebastian and Carol Caprino ~ Family  
✿ Roselie Centanni-Sanchez ~ Family  
✿ Bob Clavelli ~ Individual  
✿ Ed and Betty Colombo ~ Family  
✿ Cindy and Michael Crusco ~ Family  
✿ Gary and Anna De Vita ~ Family  
✿ Bruno Dezan ~ Family  
✿ Debra Di Ciuccio ~ Family  
✿ Mike Domeniconi ~ Individual  
✿ John and Delores Dovano ~ Family  
✿ Justin Fernandez and  
Michela Federico ~ Family

✿ JoAnn Gullo ~ Individual  
✿ Debbie Hagar ~ Family  
✿ Frances Hogan Hogan ~ Family  
✿ Alan and Marie Lamantia ~ Family  
✿ Constance LoBue-Scarpelli ~ Patron  
✿ Joe and Kaye Lucito ~ Family  
✿ Cindy Mackey ~ Family  
✿ Kristina Mallamace ~ Family  
✿ Bridget McKay ~ Individual  
✿ Joanne McMillen ~ Individual  
✿ Al and Tammy Meier ~ Family  
✿ Gwen Mercado-Reyes and  
Joey Reyes ~ Family  
✿ LeRoy and Joanne Meredith ~ Family  
✿ Rose and Lee Myers ~ Family  
✿ RosAnne Nandan ~ Family  
✿ Elizabeth Novelo and  
Chris D'Angelo ~ Patron  
✿ Kurt and Gail Pagnini ~ Family  
✿ Peggy Palmer ~ Individual

✿ Sandra Louise and Joel Peart ~ Family  
✿ Len and Sloane Perroots ~ Family  
✿ Donald Piazza Piazza ~ Individual  
✿ Anthony Pinata ~ Individual  
✿ Linda Righi ~ Family  
✿ Patrick Riley ~ Family  
✿ Marlene Rinella-Caredio ~ Individual  
✿ Jodi Rivard ~ Family  
✿ Tim and Renee Ross ~ Family  
✿ Tina Ruggiero and  
Bryan Sousa ~ Family  
✿ John Sokol ~ Individual  
✿ Anthony and Cassandra Tasca ~ Family  
✿ Bianca Vallorz and  
Michael Amato ~ Family  
✿ Angela Williams ~ Patron  
✿ Lucinda Woerner and  
Franz Schmidt ~ Family  
✿ John and Karie Yost ~ Family

## Grazie 2015 Patron Members

🌿 Joyce and Jerry Allegro  
🌿 Linda and Bob Binkley  
🌿 Drs. Peter and Cheri Binkley  
🌿 JoAnn and Roger Bjornstad  
🌿 Ken Borelli  
🌿 Nina Boyd  
🌿 Dr. Tony and Clare Cedolini  
🌿 Mike Console  
🌿 Rose Crimi  
🌿 Mike and Maggie D'Ambrosio  
🌿 Gwen and Rich Daulton  
🌿 Frank De Turreis  
🌿 Melvin and Anna Di Salvo  
🌿 Ralph Di Tullio  
🌿 Ben and Christine Foster  
🌿 Maria Gloria

🌿 George Guglielmo  
🌿 Joe and Rosella Guttadauro  
🌿 Jim and Janice Jones  
🌿 Ann and Bob Kibort  
🌿 Constance LoBue-Scarpelli  
🌿 Cleo Logan  
🌿 Jeanne McCann  
🌿 Peter and Gail McHugh  
🌿 Dan and Eva Miranda  
🌿 Bobby and Ruth Moorhatch  
🌿 Olga and Anthony Nespole  
🌿 Elizabeth Novelo and  
Chris D'Angelo  
🌿 Pam and Steve Lyons  
🌿 John and Marge Papp  
🌿 Tony and Pat Passarelli

🌿 Dave Perzinski  
and Lucia Clementi  
🌿 Kevin and Aurelia Pezzaniti  
🌿 The Piazza Family  
🌿 Jacqueline Pighini  
🌿 Robert Anthony Quint  
🌿 Paolo Romano  
🌿 Christina Sanfilippo-Coghlan  
🌿 Carlo and Rosa Severo  
🌿 Virginia Sincich  
🌿 Corinne Tomeo  
🌿 Bruce, Jodi and Keeley Unger  
🌿 John and Marge Valente  
🌿 Matt Weppeler  
🌿 Angela Williams  
🌿 Tony Zerbo

## 2015 Business Members

🌟 Avalon Salon & Spa  
🌟 Charles Gagliasso Trucking, Inc  
🌟 DiNapoli Specialty Food

🌟 Gioia Company  
🌟 Giovanni Giannotta  
🌟 Hillview Packing Company, Inc

🌟 Rosetta De Luca, Intero Real Estate  
🌟 Tri-Star Inspection Services



# ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA 2015 Villaggio Culturale Italiano



Grand Tour of Switzerland



Dr. John Scandizzo on Maps



Lecturer Dr. Roseanne Giannini Quinn, Ph.D.



Grandmother Maria Bandy Teaching Sicilian



Library Theater's Tech Support Steve Lyons



Ladies enjoying Villaggio Culturale Italiano



Italian Lace Exhibit



Trabia Exhibit



Italian Lace Exhibit



The Region of Sicily





# ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA 2015 Villaggio Culturale Italiano



The Romaggi Adobe Association Exhibit



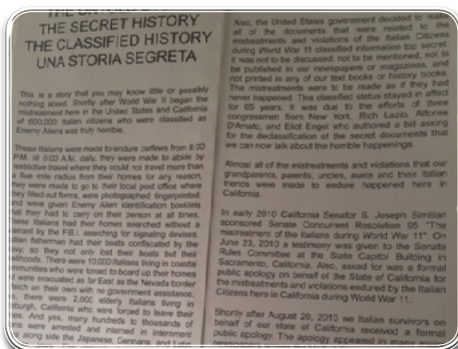
Italian Americans in Santa Clara County



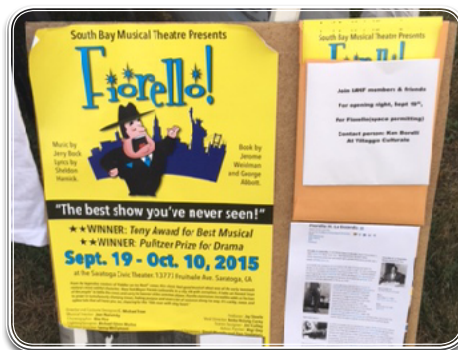
Trabia Exhibit



Where in Italy were your ancestors born?



Molise Exhibit



Fiorello! Don't miss the show at the Saratoga Civic Theater



It's great to Volunteer at the Festa



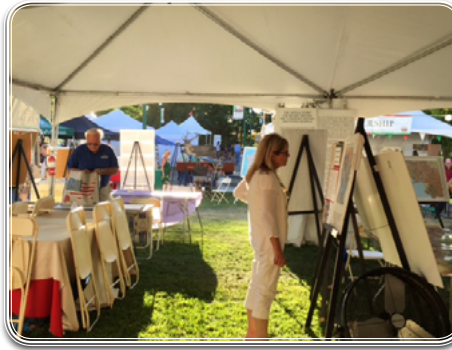
Crests and Relief Maps of Italy



## ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA 2015 Villaggio Culturale Italiano



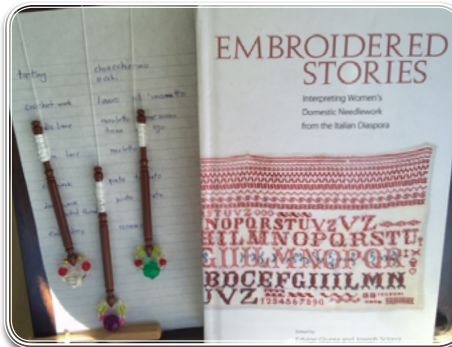
Italian Lace Exhibit



A Special Tribute to Irene Dalis



Trabia Exhibit for Membership



A Special Tribute to Irene Dalis

## ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA 2015 Teatrino per Bambini



Delia's Grandson Solo Performance Encore



Author Michelle Longega Wilson Workshop on Writing and Publishing for Children



Delia & Grandsons



Master of Ceremony Pam Lyons for Teatro per Bambini





Villaggio Culturale Italiano Master of Ceremony Ken Borelli



Neno Aiello in the Korean War



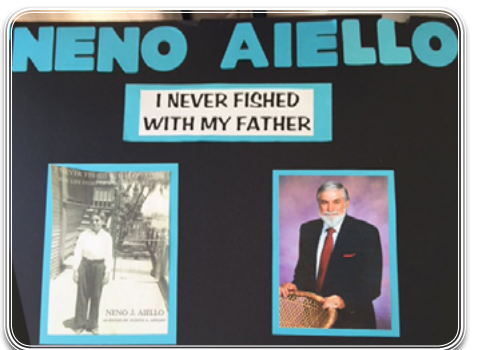
The Aiello Family



Julia Clark Dobel of Piazza St. Francis, Poets Plaza and Porziuncola Nuova



Author Neno Aiello



I Never Fished With My Father by Author Neno Aiello



WWII Foreign-born WWII War Bride Banner



Richard Stewart telling stories about WWII foreign-born Italian war brides who married United States military personnel



## The Italian Family Festa's *Villaggio Culturale*

This year at our annual Family Festa, witnessed a true renaissance of Italian American Culture, I am deeply appreciative of all the work of the IAHF's Cultural Committee for taking the "Cultural Tent", literally center stage.

Along with all the great musical events, displays, food art and craft booths, wine tasting, bocce, you could have, in addition, literally spent most of the two days at the Villaggio, with the stage presentations.

These events included: A special musical presentation on discovering the other Italy, the Swiss Italian Canton of il Ticino. Likewise an exhibit in the cultural tent, an update on the Romaggi Adobe, one of California's oldest structure from

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49er days, presented by Adrian Nestor, a fascinating book by Kathleen Ann Gonzalez A Beautiful Woman in Venice (a special program also in the making for 2016), Valentina Cirasola's books on a return to simplicity and the cuisine of Puglia, a special salute and networking with the Piazza St Frances, Poets Plaza and Porziuncola Nuova, with Julia Clark Dobel of San Francisco, a reading of Old Italians Dying by SF's poet laureate Lawrence Ferlinghetti, and a program about the "other" Italian American Poet, Diane Di Prime, an amazing poet in her own right, and a leading Beat poet of the "SF Renaissance" and our own IAHF member, Neno Aillo reading an auto biographical book, I Never Fished With My Father. And local lore was also included in special readings by Maria Bandy and her niece about "Nofrio" a popular early radio comic who spoke in both Italian and Sicilian. Along these lines Sal and Denise Campagna had an upscale display on Trabia Sicily and a new Trabia Club

forming, and an engaging Genovese American author, Donna Marie Ferro talking about her book The Embracing Circle, which was in many ways a reconciliation with her unique heritage in the mountains of Liguria, , along

with a discussion of the next generation, the special heritage of the children of the World War II War Brides, coordinated by Richard Stewart.

Two family roots projects were presented by John Romano and his family traditions in Molise, and Neno Aiello with roots in Isola della Femina, Sicily. Its still amazing how many people do not know about the internment issues related to World War II, and Chet Campanella display was engaging. Equally fascinating was the Italian lace makers demonstration coordinated by Marge Scandizzo, with her husband John, doing the Italian Roots map.

If this venue was not full enough we also had a two day Youth Stage, with readings by publisher Claurdia Cernulli with her daughter, an introduction to Italian Children's books with board member Marie Bertola doing the readings, and a very special presentation by

Michelle Longega Wilson, age 9 , who is a trilingual author, and her mom, talk about writing and marketing children's books, In addition Dr. Theresa Sabatino of the Sabatino Memorial Family Resource Center provided a mini culinary talk for children, and some exciting parent child readings by Mariella Ruta and her son, on popular Italian Cartoon Characters, Grace Cugnetti and daughter reading from local teen literature, and our own Italian Professor Delia Schizzano providing simple Italian lessons through game and songs, and her grandsons Zachary and Spencer Anctil doing the honors with song and dance. There was also a special La Bufana visit, a library display of children's books and a tireless master of ceremonies Pam Lyons and her husband Steve who made the programs run on time and keep the technology in line , with videos, music and electronic media.

I have just scratched the surface of all that went into this years Cultural Village, and it also represented the dedication of many IAHF volunteers. For that, a definite word of gratitude , that I think was seconded by all the people who visited Il Villaggio, some in vans from Oakland , Stockton and others from SF, Santa Rosa, and Sacramento. It also highlights that our cultural connections are regional wide, as underscored by the official opening of the villaggio by the Italian Cultural Attache, Paolo Barlera from the Italian Consulate in San Francisco. -- Ken Borelli ~

## The Italian Family Festa's *Teatrino Per Bambini*

For the first time in 2014 the IAHF Library presented a small theater for both family and children's programing to highlight the library's startup of a children's book collection. The purpose was make available hard-to-find Italian American bilingual books for parents, and grandparents, wishing to keep Italian language and heritage alive in their homes. While Italian is being dropped from many school curriculums, the library considered the fact, "Language begins in the Home". In

support of that belief, IAHF Library split the small theater into two theaters. This created a Family Theater for preserving the whole stories of Italian American culture and heritage, and also, created a new Children's Theater focusing on language and story, as cultural media learning tools. On the Children's Theater stage this year, presenting was shared by both parents, grandparents, and the children, themselves. Opening the new Children's Theater, Long Bridge Publishing based in San Francisco,



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CA, presented two new books and a couple of their most popular books from prior years. This children's bilingual publishing house was founded by author-publisher Claudia Cerulli. She was born in Rome but relocated to the bay area with family as a young mother. Claudia wanted bilingual books for her daughter but could not find anyone publishing them so she started her own publishing house! Brava!

She wrote the book, *Ottavia, E I Gatti Di Roma, Octavia, And the Cats of Rome*. This book provides both entertainment, language as well as, cultural learning tools for children appropriate to ages 4-12. By following *Ottavia*, the mischievous but lost young colosseum cat, on her adventure through the streets of Rome, the reader by using a map can participate in learning about Rome. Another book within the same age group, from this same series is written by Mathew Frederick, and titled, *Adriano, Il Cane Di Pompeii or Hadrian, The Dog Of Pompeii*. Again, the history and significance of Pompeii is written between the lines of this action story. Both of these stories have heros or heroines who are homeless animals. Each book ends well and has at the end a list of Italian rescue groups working to make sure homeless cats (Rome) get good care and the dogs (Pompeii) get adopted. ( If interested, check out [www.romancats.com](http://www.romancats.com) and [www.icanidipompei.com](http://www.icanidipompei.com) )

Claudia also read from two books published this year, *A Fish In Foreign Waters: A Book For Bilingual Children* by Laura Caputo. This is a book about "a fish who struggles to fit in and discovers that being bilingual is an advantage and not something to be ashamed of" ( [www.longbridgepublishing.com](http://www.longbridgepublishing.com) ). *Il Macinino Magica, The Magic*

*Peppermill*, retold by Daniela Pruitti Ciapello features an Italian folktale told using "an experimental... bilingual text... introducing some Italian words into English text and English words into Italian text,

to facilitate the learning process. The child should be able to guess the meaning..." within the "context of the sentence". [www.longbridgepublishing.com](http://www.longbridgepublishing.com) . Both of these books are for ages 0-6 years.

Claudia donated both of her new books to our library. The library has all of these books. The IAHF library is a privately funded library open to the public, therefore anyone may check out a book. Long Bridge Publishing has a wide selection of books, posters, games and activities available for purchase at [www.longbridgepublishing.com](http://www.longbridgepublishing.com).

Another highlight of the Children's Theater were the presentations of the Italian Cartoon Character "La Pimpa". Lecturer Marie Bertola and daughter, did an interactive presentation on Saturday of an Introduction to La Pimpa with a Language component. This was followed on Sunday by Montessori Teaching Student Mariella Ruta and son introducing Pimpa and Friends. Each day the library activities guest volunteers worked closely with children in the audience who enjoyed learning Italian words spoken by La Pimpa in cartoons and read from books, all available from the IAHF library. Please look at official website (sito ufficiale) if interested in purchasing La Pimpa merchandise [www.pimpa.it](http://www.pimpa.it).

Are you still wondering who or what is La Pimpa? She is a small red polka dot dog cartoon book character created in 1975 by Francesco Tullio Altan, from Treviso, Veneto, Italy. "Today more than 150 books in addition to many stories...films.... videos..." have been written and produced about Pimpa and Friends, much to the delight of Italian children everywhere, who have frownup with La Pimpa cartoons,

similar to American children with Clifford the Big Red Dog, or Big Bird.

Some quick examples of the many other wonderful presenting guest volunteers visiting the Children's Theater over the two day Festa, were: Nancy Melander who performed *La Befana*, making a 'surprise' visit during Maria Bandy's Sicilian Nursery Rhymes lesson: The IAHF Storytellers, who read the *La Befana's* story and later presented a small portion of the children's pizza cooking lesson plan written by Dr. Theresa Sabatino: Grace Cugnetti presented her Italian children books with universal themes on such current topics as bullying and acceptance of differences: Sunday ended with Delia Schizzano's talented grandsons song and dance performances to a full house.

But wait, there was one more amazing presenter! Michelle Longega Wilson, una giovane autrice. The youngest presenter, Michelle spoke fluent Italian and English as she read from her bilingual series second book, *Lost In Venice*. This was after her presentation, " How To Write Your Own Books"...a workshop for children, which was well attended by many aspiring child writers sitting in front row seats! It should be no surprise that everyone, no matter their age, young or old, were amazed and learned from her presentation. She had been "awarded Italian American for the Day by the NIAF of New York, Special honor from the Mayor of South San Francisco, and featured in The San Jose Mercury News, Italo Americano and in many other media. For her books and blog search: [www.amazon.com/Michelle-Longega-Wilson](http://www.amazon.com/Michelle-Longega-Wilson) .

The 2015 Festa Children's Theater had a very full offering. It is the hope of the IAHF Library, that families with children will visit the library, take out the children's books, enjoy the many Italian and English books in our collections and bring Italian language and culture into the home. While Italian language programs get cut from school programming, it seems fundamental that the preservation of a heritage is tied to the preservation of the language(s). (Contact IAHF Librarian: Richard Stewart 408-821-4260. Sì, parla italiano.)

-- Pamela Oliver Lyons

Festa 2015 Library Activities Chair 🐾





# Mille Grazie to Everyone

Who Donated Their Time, Treasure & Talent  
to Make the 2015 Italian Family Festa **FANTASTICO!**



## OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

- |                           |                          |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Joyce Allegro           | • Madeline Damiano       | • Cathy Jamello           | • Shannon McIntosh      |
| • Craig Artherholt        | • Anne DeFour            | • Bob Jamello             | • Shana Mendoza         |
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| • Diane Ayala             | • John Dods              | • Jane Jerziorski         | • Alma Mia              |
| • Cheryl Barecelona Singh | • Janice Down            | • Ryan Kane               | • Debbie Monelo         |
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| • Jo Bertaccini           | • Charles Farrell        | • Richard Keating         | • Larry Monette         |
| • Charo Beuth             | • Stefanie Fauvor-Madero | • Carisa Keller           | • Shandiz Montazeri     |
| • Arushee Bhoja           | • Mary Lou Filice        | • Danny Keydeniers        | • Therese Montgomery    |
| • Bob Binkley             | • Marta Fleming          | • Rekha Khubchandani      | • June Moon             |
| • Linda Binkley           | • Makena Fong            | • Allisha Kojo            | • Patricia Morreale     |
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| • Angela Cadile           | • Milva Gobbi            | • Benjamin Lee            | • Natalie Nguyen        |
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| • Ester Camacho           | • Paul Guevara           | • Sally Leishman          | • Pam Oliver-Lyons      |
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| • Francine                | • Jo Ann Gullo           | • Kathy Lohman            | • Brent Oya             |
| • Caracciolo-Fleming      | • Gunderson High School  | • Angela Loverro Williams | • Eliot Park            |
| • Betty Casey             | • Key Club               | • Sarina Low              | • Richard Parola        |
| • Clare Cedolini          | • Sunny Han              | • Lindsey Low             | • Amanda Peth           |
| • Tony Cedolini           | • Kathleen Hanes         | • Megan Luong             | • Uyen Tu Pham          |
| • Nala Chen               | • Don Havens             | • Rebecca Luu             | • Piedmont Hills High   |
| • Joyce Ching             | • Marcy Haynes           | • Veronica Luu            | • School Key Club       |
| • Gracie Chung            | • Kaete Hester           | • Rachel Ly               | • Pattiann Poch         |
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| • Mike Console            | • Homestead High         | • Tony Maciejowski        | • Sofia Ramos           |
| • Steve Cornaglia         | • School Interact Club   | • Giuseppe Macri          | • Michael Renteria      |
| • Franca Cozzitorto       | • Tom Hu                 | • Judy Maggerise          | • Robert Rivera         |
| • Jana Curby              | • Sabrina Huynh          | • Charisse Mahr           | • Joseph Rizzuto        |
| • Vicki Currier           | • Anthony Iantosca       | • Ann Maletta             | • Judi Rizzuto          |

*continued >>>*



## OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS *continued*

- Elayne Roeth
- Nanoo Salvato
- Joanne Sanfilippo
- Marj Scandizzo
- John Scandizzo
- Leticia Scaringe
- Gloria Segale
- Sherri Segelken
- Jocelyn Segelken
- Jacki Shaver
- Mel Soraes
- Brianne Sprugasci
- Mitch Sprugasci
- Richard Stewart
- Sylvia Sundholm
- Maureen Susino
- Brandon Tam
- Allison Tran
- Joanne Troy
- Anna Tudino
- Fran Vader
- Karen Vanderpan
- Kay Virgilio
- Jason Vu
- Austin Wangyu
- Joya Whitford
- Nanci Wilborn
- Andrey Wong
- Claire Wynne
- Natalie Yeh

## OUR GENEROUS DONORS

- Maria Bandy
- Janet Barone / *In memory of Marilyn Uzzardo*
- Ken Borelli
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- Bob and Shirley Cancellieri
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- Vera and Jack Pedretti
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- Jan Prinzivalli
- Phillip Pruski
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- DGDG
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- Heavenly Greens
- Renewal
- SolarCity
- Sungevity
- Union Bank
- Welk Resorts

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- City of San Jose
- City of San Jose Councilmembers:
  - Pierluigi Oliverio, District 6
  - Magdalena Carrasco, District 5
  - Raul Perez, District 3
- Ash Karla, District 2

## OUR TIRELESS PLANNING TEAM

- Deb Benavides
- Roger Bjornstad
- Ken Borelli
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- Cathy De Maria
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- Myrna Hallett
- Rachelle Hepburn
- Catrina Jamello
- Chris Mahr
- Patti Maletta
- Nancy Morreale
- Dave Perzinski
- Joe Ponte
- Joe Rizzi
- Brenda Rogers
- Mike Sprugasci
- Tony Sprugasci
- Tony Zerbo





# Behind the scenes of the *Festa...*

by Joe Rizzi

**BRAVO** to the 2015 Festa Planning Team led by Chair Joe Rizzi and Co-Chair Nancy Morreale. It literally takes a year of planning to put all the pieces together to ensure a memorable event. The Festa planning team worked tirelessly as a cohesive collective unit crossing every "T" and dotting every "i" to ensure success in producing a quality event. The job begins with grant writing, food and arts vendor applications, negotiating service-vendor contracts, securing County health, fire, alcohol and park use permits, booking entertainment and hiring the best-in-class safety and security personnel. Parking is always a challenge and has to be dealt with, a special thanks to our friends at the Social Services County Building and Ken Borelli's efforts in providing the IAHF with the much needed parking space.



Chair Ken Borelli's Cultural Village design was a labor of love providing the most powerful and interesting presentations to date. Each hour of both days offered a variety of lectures and presentations on a multitude of subjects. Villaggio Culturale activities of author lectures needed to be scheduled, easels set up with historical visuals, a stage for children's storytelling was organized by Pam Lyon. Mike D'Ambrosio and Nancy Morreale did an outstanding job with the Membership booth presentation with the membership crew signing up 50 new members! Grape stompers had mushy fun, fun, fun thanks to Dave

Perzinski as chair aided by MC's Gene and George Guglielmo leading the charge. The always popular bocce court was managed by Grand Bocce Master Ralph DiTullio and his partner Dr. Tony Cedolini who also became a de facto bocce ball teacher. Cathy De Maria organized and executed another very successful opening ceremonies with a collection of dignitaries including our new (Italian) mayor Sam Liccardo. Cathy and husband Joe also provided our patrons with a inspirational Sunday mass for over 100 attendees in the beautiful wine tasting garden.

Last but certainly not least, the Sprugasci clan led by Mike and Tony Sprugasci and Chris Mahr made sure our customers had plenty of cold beverages throughout the weekend, Patti Maletta and Lucia Clementi did an outstanding job in our savory and sweets booths. Deb Benavides provided the bookings of excellent one-of-a-kind roster of specialized Arts and Crafts vendors. The Community Awareness Area was represented by six outstanding organizations thanks to JoAnn and Roger Bjornstad. Nancy Morreale and husband Sal ensured that the Opportunity Drawing booth was stocked full of great prizes. All of the wonderful decorations for IAHF booths, main stage, shade canopies, wine garden and dinner rounds was the work of Linda Filice and her merry band of helpers. Wine Tasting Garden Chairs Catrina Jamello and Brenda Rogers created a wonderful wine lover's experience with seven local wineries serving their prized fruits of the vine. Myrna Hallet and IAHF Treasurer Frank DeTuris did an outstanding job organizing and executing the Cash Control effort. The PR and Marketing effort was a great success this year with both Tony Zerbo and Nancy Morreale working diligently in getting the word out to a number of media outlets. We read articles in regional newspapers, heard radio spots and saw Festa activities on local cable TV. With the addition of Rachelle Hepburn and her social-media skills we were effectively represented in the digital world of Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

All in all it was a another amazing effort by an amazing group of passionate and dedicated volunteers, Mille Grazie a tutti! 🍷





## Great View: IAHF Member's Trip to Italy



MARGARET PAPP  
HAVING LUNCH  
OVERLOOKING THE  
GRAND CANAL  
IN VENICE

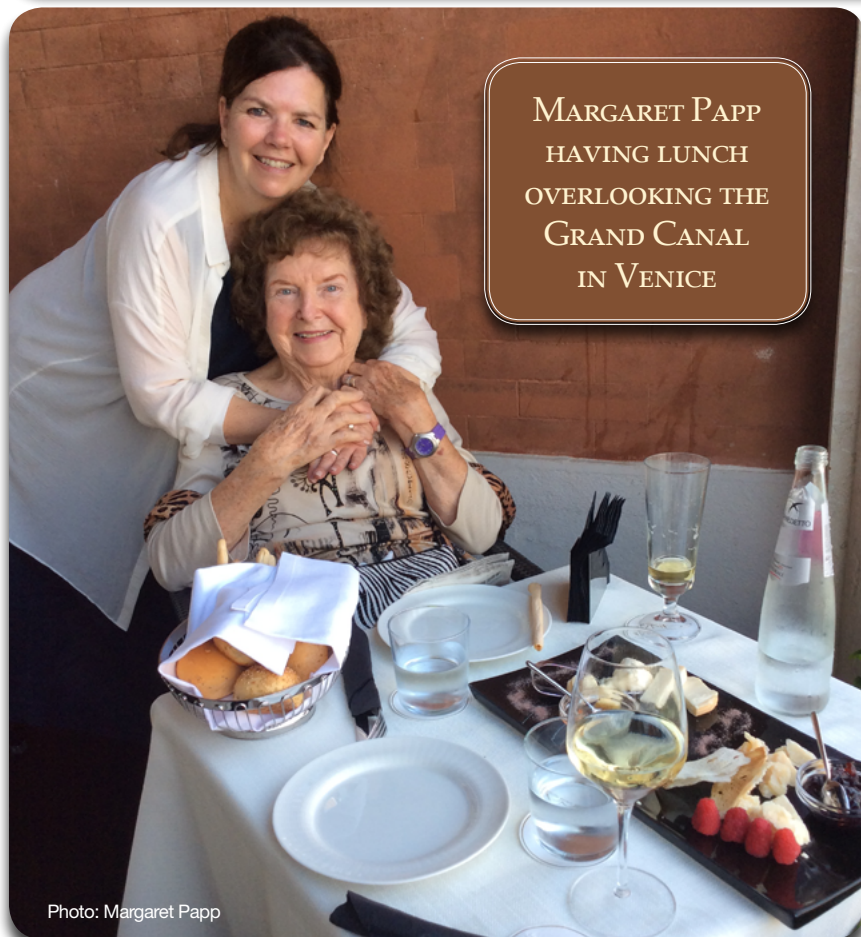


Photo: Margaret Papp



Photo: Margaret Papp



Photo: Margaret Papp

### *Message from IAHF Newsletter Chairperson*

I'm always amazed of the interesting articles I've been receiving from IAHF members for the IAHF Newsletter. Please keep them coming.

In the October Newsletter I added a new category. This section is about members' travels to places Italian. These places don't have to be in Italy. Italians went and go to places in countries all over the world. It would be wonderful to have entries to the IAHF Newsletter about Italian places you visited recently.

Send your entries to [news@iahfsj.org](mailto:news@iahfsj.org)

Richard Stewart, IAHF Newsletter Chairperson





## A Message from IAHF President Dave Perzinski

We are now recruiting for openings on the IAHF Board for 2016. If you are interested in becoming a board member please contact me at the IAHF and I will send you an application. It is critical to our Foundation to have new board members, in order to provide the continuity of activities for this, now, a 40 year old organization!

We can all be proud of the accomplishments of the Foundation yet these same accomplishments rest upon a dedicated group of volunteers who give of their time and energy to make this one of the major regional Italian American Organizations on the West Coast. We truly are a grass root organization and rely on the commitment of our membership base. Our common goal is supporting our Italian Heritage. The Foundation is open to all who support the mission statement of the organization. Considering being a Board Member is one creative and dynamic way to support the IAHF, and its mission statement of "preserving and promoting the rich culture of Italy and



increasing an awareness of the achievements and contributions made by Americans of Italian descent."

In order to qualify as a Board Member, you have to be a dues paying member for six months, in good standing. The terms of office are for two years.

A selection committee will review your application, provide any orientation or questions you may have, then an opportunity will be provided to introduce a candidate at the general membership meeting. If there are several candidates for the Board Vacancies a ballot will be sent out to our membership. If we do not have multiple candidates for these positions, a vote will be taken at the general membership meeting under the auspices of the Chairperson of the membership Committee. As an FYI too, IAHF officers are selected from the vote of the Board of Directors, for a year long term. All these are covered under our by-laws, and should you wish to review the by laws, I would be happy to share them with you. I want to thank you in advance for considering being a part of a great governance team. ~

## A Little *Italian* By Request

Every member of the IAHF knows *MANGIA* means EAT, but eating in Italy can sometimes be confusing. Here is some vocabulary to guide you through the menu categories in most all Italian restaurants.

*L'antipasto*: This word literally translates "before the meal." Americans generally use the word "appetizers" and lately "small plates." In Italy this will include dishes such as bruschetta, mozzarella in carrozza, or arancini and various crudités`.

*Il Primo Piatto*, or *Il Primo* or *I Primi*: This translates as "first course" and consists of your choice of minestra, minestrone, pasta, and risotto.

*Il Secondo Piatto*, or *Il Secondo* or *I Secondi*: This translates as the "second course" or what Americans would call the entrée`. It consists of your choice of meat, poultry, game or fish. It may occasionally be served with a vegetable, but only with specific dishes.



*Il Contorno*: This translates as "side dish" and is served along with *Il Secondo*. It should not be overlooked as these dishes are often spectacular. Choices are many including broccoli, broccolini, melanzane, spinaci, insalata mista, fagioli, and patate. Contorni are served on a separate plate.

*Il Dolce*: This translates literally as "the sweet" but of course Americans use the word "dessert." Some national favorites are *tiramisu`*, *crema di zabaglione*, *torta*, *baba`*, and *cannoli*. Fruit and cookies may also follow a meal. (If you have room!)

To ask for the bill, say: *Il conto per favore*.

If you want the waiter to keep the change you can just say: *Va bene così`*.

Buon appetito!

Submitted by Linda Binkley ~



Regional Luncheon

# Calabria

Photos by Madeline Damiano





## A Prelude to the Story Told on N. Alameda Blvd. in front of Little Italy



Italian War Bride Francesca Sorvillo and Captain Clarence Stewart went together in his WWII Jeep to their wedding Ceremony on top of Mount Vesuvius on July 7, 1945. Naples was the worst bombed city in Italy. There was no food, no water and no electricity. Permission had to be granted by your Commanding Officer to get married. After the Italian Campaign, the war was officially over in Italy. Afterwards, permission was granted to get married.

This wedding had everything provided under the sun. It was a gift from from the 12 Weather Squadron. Everyone arrived at the wedding ceremony in jeeps and military trucks from Naples, Italy. General Mark Clark, Commander of the Fifth Army, sent the flowers, seen on the jeep, as a wedding gift. He also sent his personal press photographer to take Kodak Kodachrome colored pictures (a rarity for 1945). Also, as a wedding gift, the 12th Weather Squadron staff provided a one-week vacation on the Isle of Capri.

The exhibit was well received by passerbyers, customers at the cafe and the merchants of Little Italy. Customers at the cafe enjoyed reading stories about foreign-born war brides as they sip their coffee. Everyone was very pleased to read these stories because they never knew this great history of the world's largest mass migration of women to the United States.

The merchants in Little Italy said we'll support you anytime and we would like you to bring your exhibit back anytime.

I want to express my gratitude to them for their enthusiasm and support.

A few years ago, Little Italy invited the WWII war brides, their spouses, children and friends to a dinner celebration to honor these war brides in their piazza. Fifty story boards were put on display about how these women fell in love with United States military men and their journey to the United States.

Richard Stewart 🌿

## Love, WAR & AN ACT OF CONGRESS

Story told at the Family Cultural Stage by Richard Stewart

"Not since the 1920's had so many people, particularly women, immigrated to America in such a short period of time. These war brides came here not seeking economic opportunity nor religious or political freedom, they are unique among other great waves of immigrants. They left their countries not for greener pastures, but for the love of US Servicemen and US Servicewomen." (Martin Nobida, The Campbell Reporter, June 1, 2005.) Because war brides scattered when they arrived, not clustering, as other immigrant groups commonly did in Little Italy's or Chinatowns or in any one social strata, historians have largely overlooked them."

They met in wartime, then fell in love. And though it's been 67 years since the War Brides Act passed, the women who followed U.S. GIs home after World War II remember the romances — and sacrifices — as if they were yesterday.

The romances started in the usual ways. A glance, or maybe at a dance, but under the most unthinkable of circumstances: In the throes of World War II. From England to France and Italy to Australia in the early 1940s, tens of thousands of allies in war became allies in love.

With two words — "I do" — American GIs and the young lovelies with the lilting accents they met in London ballrooms or on the streets of Melbourne began to write life stories that would cross oceans and datelines, cities and prairies, cultures and religions.

Congress passed the War Brides Act in December 1945, easing immigration laws and rolling out the welcome mat for one of the nation's most unusual waves of immigrants: one overwhelmingly female and motivated by the most powerful magnet — love.

Within months, a military movement dubbed Operation War Bride began delivering to U.S. shores the women who'd won American soldiers' hearts abroad. GI brides began arriving by the boatload over 60 years ago, scattering to New York suburbs, Detroit slums and Oregon ranches.

Of those who remain, many are widowed and in their 80s. Although six decades have passed, memories of those intense days seem sharply etched. When the women tell their stories, details spill as easily as tea from a pot.

Sources vary widely on how many foreign women married U.S. GIs. The World War II War Brides Association estimates that as many as 1 million women from 50 countries wed Americans between 1942 and 1952, during the war or the occupation that that followed.



Germans, Japanese and other women whose countries had faced off against the Allies met such powerful challenges as language barriers and racism when they moved to their servicemen-husbands' homes in the United States. But in some respects, the estimated 60,000 to 70,000 women from Great Britain, and 7,000 or so from Australia and New Zealand, who formed the front flank of arriving war brides, paved the way.

They met obstacles of their own. For one thing, those U.S. GIs seemed attractively homogeneous overseas: sharp in their pressed uniforms and trim haircuts, with important and even heroic jobs to do. But when their brides stepped off ships or the so-called bride trains to catch the first glimpse of their beloveds in this country, some discovered men altogether different from the fellows they'd first met.

Lieutenants turned out to be loggers. Majors weren't officers, but insurance salesmen. Some who'd seemed to swim in cash during the war struggled for it in peacetime. Others, who'd been romantics overseas, were abusive on the home front.

Many brides were sorely homesick. That was true for Jenel Virden's English mother, who ached to return to Cambridge after moving to her husband's place, without indoor plumbing, in middle-of-nowhere Kellerton, Iowa. Like most of the war brides, she didn't have the money to return home. Finally, pregnancy persuaded her to stay. As they settled in and had families of their own, the women often made sure that the next generation soaked up some of each culture — a little Yorkshire pudding along with the hamburger. They contributed in other ways, too, becoming U.S. citizens, voting, paying taxes, raising children. "They did all the things that women do," Virden says, "that keep a nation going."

- Written by Kathy Muldoon  
Oregonian Press 🌿

# The WWII Enemy Alien Program & Lessons for Today



2nd program in a 3-part series uncovering the treatment of German, Italian and Japanese immigrants during WWII

## *Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park, Richmond, California*

An attack on America inspires fear, fury and calls for retaliation run rampant. The time is not September 11, 2001, but December 7, 1941, when the United States entered World War II (WWII). Over 70 years ago, thousands of German, Italian and Japanese immigrants in the U.S. and Latin America experienced arrest, forced relocation, internment, and even deportation to war zones because of their nationalities. What can we learn from our past as the U.S. government continues its attempts to balance national security concerns with the protection of individual liberties?

On Saturday, September 12th at 11:00 AM, Rosie The Riveter/ World War II Home Front National Historical Park will hosted the first program in a 3-part series uncovering the treatment of "enemy alien" immigrants in the U.S. and Latin America by the U.S. government during WWII. Focusing on "The WWII Enemy Alien Program and Lessons for Today", program speakers included:

- Lawrence DiStasi, past president of the American Italian Historical Association/ Western Regional Chapter; Project Director of Una Storia Segreta: When Italian Americans Were "Enemy Aliens" exhibit; and author of Una Storia Segreta: Essays on the WWII Internment and Evacuation of Italian Americans (2001)
- John Christgau, author of numerous books, short stories and articles, including ENEMIES: WWII Alien Internment, the first book published about the highly secret WWII alien enemy internment program (1985, 2010); and frequent guest lecturer to

professional and educational groups.

- Grace Shimizu, director of the Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project and the Campaign For Justice: Redress NOW for Japanese Latin Americans!, and coordinator of the Enemy Alien Files Consortium.

This first program explored how wartime fears, anti-immigrant attitudes and racism affected men, women and children against whom no charges of wrong-doing were ever brought. Throughout the 1930s, as turmoil in Europe and Asia escalated, the U.S. government prepared for the possibility of U.S. involvement in war. Preparations included surveillance of German, Japanese and Italian immigrants—both in the U.S. and Latin America, compiling lists of "potentially dangerous persons," alien registration, and planning for internment and deportation.

On the day Pearl Harbor was attacked, FBI and INS agents began arresting aliens, many thousands of whom were interned for up to seven years. The U.S. government also went outside its borders to bring more than 6,000 German, Japanese and Italian residents of Latin America to internment camps all over the United States. Many of these internees were deported to war-torn countries in hostage exchanges for U.S. citizens trapped abroad.

Many of the actions taken during WWII, including the mass incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans (of whom two-thirds were U.S. citizens), were based on presidential Executive Orders, bypassing Congress and the Constitution. Since the Afghanistan/Iraq War and even before 911,

Muslims and people of Middle Eastern and South Asian ancestry have struggled against stereotypes based on their national origin or religion. Their civil rights are still at risk as the government attempts to balance legitimate national security concerns with the protection of individual liberties. This nation has grappled with these issues before. What can we learn from the hidden WWII experiences of "enemy aliens"?

**Oct. 24, 2015:** "German, Italian and Japanese Immigrants in the U.S. & the WWII Enemy Alien Program"

**Nov. 14, 2015:** "U.S. Rendition of Japanese, Germans & Italians from Latin America During WWII"

**Space is limited and reservations are required for this program; please call 510-232-5050 ext 0 and leave a message with your name and phone number, and specify the date of the program you would like to attend.**

The Rosie the Riveter Visitor Education Center is open seven days a week from 10 AM to 5 PM and is located at 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond, CA 94804. For more information and directions to the Visitor Education Center, please call (510) 232-5050 ext 0 or please go online to: **(PLEASE CLICK HERE) >> <http://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/directions.htm>**

Admission is free to the Visitor Center as well as all park sites and programs.

If you would like to receive information about upcoming park events, please visit [www.rosietheriveter.org](http://www.rosietheriveter.org) and sign up for the email newsletter. The Rosie the Riveter Trust is the non-profit association that is building a community of support for this national park.

**Lawrence DiStasi**  
<http://distasiblog.blogspot.com/> 

Rosie says:  
***This is a  
Must See!***







# Wineries of Santa Clara Valley

## History

**"Silicon Valley" - it's easy to forget this area's role as California's first premium wine production region - the Santa Clara Valley. Native Americans named it "the Valley of the Heart's Delight." French and Italian immigrants who settled here during the Gold Rush era recognized the rich soils and Mediterranean climate as the perfect New World home for their European grape varietals. And so it begins...**

The history of winemaking and viticulture in the Santa Clara Valley goes back to the 18th Century. From the discovery of native "Vitis Californica" grapes growing wild and the first plantings of Mission grapes at the Santa Clara Mission in 1798, through boom years and depression, phylloxera and prohibition, the region has some of the richest tradition of anywhere in the country.

There are more than several of our wineries, still in operation, that have celebrated or will soon celebrate their 100th year anniversary of producing and selling wine.

Our oldest winery is Morgan Hill Cellars which celebrated their 100-year anniversary in 2013, after being owned by three consecutive Italian families: the Colombano's, the Pedrizzetti's and now, the Sampognaro's. The winery was founded in 1913 by Camillo Colombano, an Italian immigrant, after he smuggled Barbera rootstock hidden inside his boots with the purpose of starting a vineyard. When Camillo retired in 1945, he sold his winery to John Pedrizzetti, also an Italian immigrant and a local farmer who renamed it Pedrizzetti Winery. And then in 2006, when the Pedrizzetti family

was ready to retire, they sold the winery to Mike and Maryclaire Sampognaro, the current owners.

The history of Ross Vineyards and Winery dates back to 1915 when Joseph and Josephine Coffe, French immigrants, purchased a 300-acre ranch in the Paradise Valley region of Morgan Hill, along Llagas Creek, which is now Chesbro Reservoir. On this ranch, Joseph Coffe planted 40 acres of wine grapes for winemaking at his successful business, "The Wine Depot" in downtown San



Jose. It was their grandson, Alphonse Jr., Pauchon, who persuaded the new owners of the ranch, Judy and Jerry Ross, to replant grapevines in 1999. All of the original ranch buildings and farming equipment are still there on the ranch. Wine tasting takes place in the old barn held together by square nails and with the original horse tack hanging from the rafters.

Kirigin Cellars was originally founded by an Italian immigrant, named Pietro

Bonesio in 1916. Pietro started Uvas Winery on a piece of land called Rancho Solis in Gilroy. In 1932 Pietro turned the winery over to his three sons Louis, Victor and Charlie and the winery was renamed, Bonesio Brothers. When the Bonesios' retired in 1976, they sold the winery to Nikola Kirigin-Chargin, a winemaker from Croatia. Nikola renamed the winery Kirigin Cellars and made high quality wine until he too, retired and sold the winery. The current owner, Dhruv Khanna, purchased the winery in 2000 and restored much of the 48 ½ acres back to its former glory. The Bonesio's original home built in the early 1900's and made from timber hauled from Mount Madonna, is a historical landmark, still on the property.

After Alfonso Bertero emigrated here from Turin, Italy, he founded the Bertero Winery in 1917. Alfonso sold wine for religious purposes during Prohibition, but soon turned to bootlegging after realizing how profitable it was. Wanting to show off his new-found wealth, he built a home with crushed abalone shells on the outside walls so that it would sparkle in the sunlight. This home is still standing next to the winery and visible from the roadside. The winery was sold to David and Valerie Vanni in 1989 and was re-named Rancho de Solis (Solis Winery) –in reference to an 1830's Mexican land grant, west of Gilroy. When the Vanni's retired, they passed the winery to their two sons, Michael and Vic.

The Guglielmo Winery holds the distinction of being the oldest, continuously operated family winery in Santa Clara Valley. Emilio and Emilia Guglielmo came to America in 1909 and after toiling and saving for 15 years they founded

Emilio Guglielmo Winery. During the Prohibition years between 1920 and 1933, it was illegal to make or sell alcohol except in small quantities for home use or for religious purposes. A trap door, located beneath Emilio's bedroom floor, led to a secret cellar which held several tanks of wine. Emilio supplied his family, the Church and even an elected official or two. The winery was passed down to Emilio's son, George and then again, to George's three sons: George E., Gene and Gary who own and operate the winery today.

With the rise of Silicon Valley, farmland gave way to technology parks, housing and shopping malls. Well known, respected wineries such as Mirassou and Almadén were sold and their old vineyards torn up and subdivided. In much of the county its viticultural history is represented by little more than street names and historical markers. Winegrowing continued in the south of the county; around Hecker Pass and Watsonville Road a number of family owned wineries continued to produce wines, mostly for local consumption.

Rapazzini Winery was opened in 1962 by Jon Rapazzini at the intersection of Highways 101 and 25 just south of Gilroy California. Winemaking is under the direction of Chef Alex Larson, a graduate of the California Culinary Academy. Alex and his brother, Charlie, run the day to day operations and produce a variety of sparkling, varietal and fruit wines, including Garlic Wine.

The Cassa Brothers winery which had operated from 1948 to 1969 was bought by the Fortino family. Brothers Ernest and Mario came to America from Italy in 1959 and together founded the Fortino Winery in 1970. Two years later, Mario established the Hecker Pass winery a short distance up the road. In 1978, the Fortino Winery was one of the first wineries in California to establish a wine club.

Thomas Kruse, a seller of home

winemaking supplies, launched his eponymous winery in 1971 and stayed in business until his retirement in 2014. Tom was a well-respected winemaker, making sparkling wine by the traditional method or *méthode champenoise* and was well known for helping other small vineyards and wineries get started.



Since 1908 when the original ancestors planted the first orchards in the Pacheco Valley, Casa de Fruta, is a true American success story that blossomed from the roots of an immigrant Italian. In the 1940's three teenaged brothers, George, Joseph and Eugene Zanger, opened a cherry stand on the Pacheco Pass Highway. Zanger Vineyards produces classic Cabernet and fruit wines.

School teachers Terry and Mary Kay Parks founded the Sycamore Creek winery (BW 4759) in 1976. Some of their early vintages were exceptional, with their 1978 Cabernet Sauvignon still being in fine condition 30 years later.

Sarah's Vineyard (BW 4868) was established by Marilyn "Sarah" Clark in 1978. An enigmatic woman, she reputedly took the name Sarah from the previous owner of the property. She was also known as Marilyn Otteman,

though it's unclear whether she was ever married. Her first vintages were made with purchased grapes, and then in 1980 she began planting Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

In 1987 the historic Almadén vineyard was sold to a development company. The vineyards south of Blossom Hill Road are now a housing community. Little remains of the old winery save for one brick building which housed the original wine making and storage rooms and few token grapevines planted in a park.

The area's resurgence gained pace in 1989.

The key event was the designation of a distinct American Viticultural Area, or AVA; prior to this the region's wines were typically labeled 'Central Coast' or 'Santa Clara County'. Gene Guglielmo, grandson of winery founder Emilio, researched and filed the petition, and on March 28th 1989 the Santa Clara Valley AVA was finally declared. It encompasses an area of over 300,000 acres within Santa Clara County and included all the existing wineries in the area not currently part of an AVA, as well as several notable vineyards, such as the Vanumanutagi, Dorch and Wiedeman vineyards.

The first new vineyard to be planted within the newly formed AVA was the 20 acre Mannstand vineyard. For the first two harvests the fruit was all sold to Storrs in Santa Cruz. Then in 1996 the owners began wine production under the Mann Cellars label.

In 1893, school-teachers, David and Sophia Garrod, emigrated with three small children from England to the U.S. and purchased their first ten acres of fruit orchards in the Valley of Hearts Delight. In the sixties and seventies, when Santa Clara Valley farming transitioned to the central valley, the Garrod orchards were replaced with riding stables and then vineyards at their Saratoga location. In



1994, the ranch became a blend of trail rides, picnics and wine tasting when the Cooper-Garrod tasting room was opened.

Passed down through six generations of the same family and for over 150 years, Fernwood Cellars is situated on the oldest, continuously owned property among all the existing wineries in the Santa Clara Valley. The Oettinger family opened Fernwood Cellars in 1999 on land his great-great grandfather settled on in 1863, when it was known as Pleasant Valley (now Gilroy). Fernwood Cellars resides on Redwood Retreat Road – the same road his ancestors built and conducted séances at their famous hotel, Redwood Retreat Hotel, in the early 1900's. Matt and Tiffany Oettinger manage the vineyard as well as the nearby Vanumanutagi Vineyard.

Further down the same road, Dan & Therese Martin began planting Cabernet Sauvignon and other varieties on their 17 acres in 1993. Later bonded as Martin Ranch Winery, their first commercial release was in 2002 with the introduction of labels J.D. Hurley and Therese Vineyards wines.

1999 saw the beginning of one of the most ambitious new plantings in the area when Bill and Brenda Murphy acquired 150 acres in San Martin around Corde Valle golf course and resort and opened Clos LaChance Winery.

That same year Marilyn Clark, owner of Sarah's Vineyard, wanted to retire. Before selling her winery, Marilyn spent the night in a tepee to consult the spirits about selling to Tim Slater, a suitor for the property. By morning she had her answer and Tim became the new owner of

Sarah's Vineyard. Tim began a program of investment, refurbishing the vineyards and specializing in Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Rhone varietals.

Stephen Dorcich has been farming around 80 acres near Uvas Creek for many years, selling the fruit to several local wineries. In 2007 he entered a partnership with winemaker Jason Goelz, who had been producing wines under the Sapid label. The result of this partnership is Jason



Stephens, with a wide distribution across the U.S.

At around 1 million cases annually, the valley's largest winery currently operating is J. Lohr, although they do not grow or source any fruit within the valley. The company farms around 3000 acres, mainly in Arroyo Seco, Paso Robles and Napa Valley; their products range from inexpensive, mass-produced supermarket bottlings to highly regarded vineyard designate wines.

The early 2000's brought Castillo's Hillside Shire Winery owned by Jess and Roni Jo Castillo. It's a family-affair with their son, Nate, managing the vineyard and tasting room and their daughter Vivienne, designing their labels and entertaining the crowds that visit their unique, European styled tasting room.

An increasing number of smaller vineyards have been planted in the AVA in recent years, with labels such as Creekview Vineyards, owned by Greg Peterson and Aver Family, owned by John and Caroline Aver, being produced under 'custom crush' agreements at larger premises. Other newer wineries started by engineers from Silicon Valley, include Lightheart Cellars and Satori Cellars. Lightheart Cellars, a small estate winery in San Martin, is owned by Sheldon Haynie and Jane Mika-Haynie. Satori Cellars is owned by Tom and Sandy Moller who planted their first vineyard on about 20 acres of their property in 2000.

The Santa Clara Valley continues to draw new wineries including two in South East Gilroy: Sunlit Oaks Winery opened in 2013 by John and Rita Grogan. Four new wineries opened in 2015: Stefania Wine owned

by Stefania and Paul Romero opened in Gilroy and three others opened in San Martin: Miramar Vineyards owned by Ed Castro, Seeker Vineyard- owned by Karen Seeker and Lion Ranch Vineyards and Winery owned by Kim & Todd Engelhardt.

As the AVA celebrates the quarter century mark, the valley's winemakers and grape growers continue to maintain the traditions of Charles Lefranc, Paul Masson, Peter Mirassou and Mario Gemello in producing some of the finest wines in the country.

*For more information on the early history of the Santa Clara Valley see the book Like Modern Edens: Winegrowing in Santa Clara Valley and Santa Cruz Mountains 1798-1981 by Charles L. Sullivan (1982) and The Wineries of Santa Clara Valley by Bev Stenehjem (2015).*

— Submitted by Richard Stewart 🍷





## Grazie Delia Schizzano

*"A different language is a different vision of life."* –Federico Fellini

On a cool and clear January evening, 2007, my husband Tony and I met Delia Schizzano for the first time. We gathered in the long, narrow meeting room behind the IAHF office to discuss our attendance at Delia's Italian language classes. She was friendly and casual, and we immediately felt comfortable with her. Little did we know that this night would be the beginning of life-changing adventures. In the process of learning the Italian language, we made close friends, with whom we've enjoyed Italian food, celebrated Italian traditions, attended Italian opera, provided scholarships for deserving youth, and traveled to Italy. Together, not only have we have gained a greater proficiency in the language, we have acquired a deeper understanding of Italian culture and an enhanced ability to pass it on to the next generation.

Italian born, with extensive experience in teaching languages, Delia is a passionate instructor, who inspires and ignites her students' enthusiasm for learning. During the past eight years, she has experienced continuous and increasing demand for her Italian classes.

Delia currently offers multiple Italian language classes at the IAHF, with varying emphasis and levels of proficiency. Her classes encompass conversation, grammar, reading and literature, film, and travel. The classroom atmosphere is casual and supportive, yet goal oriented and challenging. Delia encourages personal expression, such as the sharing of cultural traditions, travel experiences, slide presentations, and discussions of current affairs. She also provides enrichment activities, such as films and guest speakers. Delia's students consist of individuals from various countries and cultures as well as from many professions and walks of life. The fee is very affordable, and there are no books or materials for the students to purchase. The only enrollment requirement is that all students be members of the IAHF.

We, the members of the IAHF, extend our deep and sincere appreciation to Delia Schizzano for her formidable contribution to preserving and promoting the language, culture, and traditions of Italy. Delia, insegnante straordinaria, GRAZIE MILLE!!!

– Written by Clare and Dr. Tony Cedolini ~



## Italian Film Festival

<http://www.italianfilm.com/>

## Go Green, Go Paperless, Save the IAHF \$\$\$

Recently the IAHF Board approved increasing the IAHF Newsletter budget an additional \$400 a month. Now, everyone will be getting both the email and postal mail versions. Each issue of the postal version costs the IAHF about \$2 when you take in all of the expenses including formatting, printing and postage.

To be **IAHF Green** and go paperless, please [click here](#) or call 408-821-4260.

Richard Stewart, IAHF Newsletter Chairperson ~





## Italian Gardens: *Nature Reserve of Ciane River and Saline of Syracuse*

We The Italians Magazine #67 | 2015 September, 4

Author : Italian Botanical Heritage

In Sicily, 8 km west of Syracuse, surrounded by orange trees and vineyards, is the Nature Reserve of Ciane River and Saline of Syracuse. The name Ciane has Greek origins and draws the blue-green color of its waters (Cyanos). The reserve includes the river, which originates in Cugno Cardinale and flows into the great harbor of Syracuse, and the wet area of the salt marshes. Established by the Department of Environment and Territory of the Sicily Region in 1984, the reserve is oriented to the preservation of the papyrus.



The reserve covers 317 hectares of marshland and flat land, characterized by marshy vegetation and citrus groves, crossed by a route running through small bridges or browsing directly on water. The reserve can be observed from the archaeological

site of the Temple of Olympian Zeus, located in an elevated position at a short distance.

### Flora & Fauna



The vegetation along the banks formed by riparian plants, among which dominates the *Cyperus papyrus* var *siculus*, from which are extracted natural fibers for the production of papyrus paper: according to recent studies, it seems that it is in-



digenuous of Sicily. The stems, 3-4 meters high, topped by a tuft inflorescences, create an African environment.

We can also find the common reed (*Phragmites australis*), the purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), the water mint (*Mentha aquatica*), watercress (*Nasturtium officinale*) pendulous sedge (*Carex pendula*) and sedges shore (*Carex riparia*). Ash trees, poplars and willows are the kind of tree surrounding the papyrus.

The reserve hosts many migratory birds such as the Italian knight (*Himantopus himantopus*), the moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) and the bittern (*Lobrychus minutus*) and waterbirds such as the flamingo, the gray heron, purple heron, mallards and teal.

-- Submitted by Richard Stewart 🌿





## GREAT ITALIANS OF THE PAST

# GIOVANNI PIETRO ANTONIO NOBILI, SJ



John Nobili, born Giovanni Pietro Antonio Nobili, (S.J.) (born April 28, 1812 - March 1, 1856) was an Italian priest of the Society of Jesus. He was a missionary in the Oregon Territory and later founded Santa Clara College in California, United States.

Born in Rome in 1812, and educated at the Roman College. Nobili entered the Society of Jesus in 1828 and taught humanities in Jesuit colleges in Italy, notably the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He was ordained a priest in 1843. Nobili was later assigned to do missionary work in North America and was assigned to accompany Father Pierre DeSmet, S.J. in his missionary work in the Oregon Territory. Nobili's missionary work took him amongst the many Native American tribes in the territory, where he learned the tribes' languages and customs.

Nobili stayed in the Oregon Territory until 1849, when he was ordered to go to California. Joined by Father Michael Accolti, S.J., Nobili

first traveled to San Francisco, then onto San Jose. Upon his arrival in San Jose, Archbishop Joseph Alemany appointed him the pastor of Mission Santa Clara, then recently acquired from the Franciscans. He continued his missionary work in part, ministering to the sick and dying during a cholera epidemic in 1850.

As part of his pastoral work, Nobili established a preparatory school in 1851 on the mission's premises. In 1853 the school began offering advanced courses, and its name was changed to Santa Clara College. During Nobili's tenure as president, a new academic building and dormitory (1854), a gymnasium (1855), and a small gothic chapel (1856) were constructed. According to the 1854-55 Catalogue, he also directed the purchase of a "new and complete philosophical and chemical apparatus, comprising all the recent improvements" previously unavailable in California.[1] The College would later grow into present-day Santa Clara University.

While overseeing the construction of the chapel in January 1856, Nobili stepped on a nail. He died of Tetanus shortly thereafter in Santa Clara on the first day of March. Archbishop Alemany presided over his funeral Mass and laid his body to rest near the altar of the unfinished chapel.

Nobili Avenue in Santa Clara and the Nobili Residence Hall at Santa Clara University are named in his honor.

### References

1. ^Quoted in University of Santa Clara: A History. Santa Clara, CA: University Press, 1912.

### External Sources

- University of Santa Clara (1912). University of Santa Clara. University of Santa Clara: a history from the founding of Santa Clara Mission in 1777 to the beginning of the University in 1912. Harvard College Library: University Press. p. 22.
- Biography at the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online

– Submitted by Richard Stewart 



[Click here to hear the great Leoncavallo as Pagliacci on YouTube](#)



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*"A divine spirit -- to rejoice and delight the heart," according to a nine-year-old Egyptian Pharaoh who heralded the first recorded appearance of a clown around the year 2270 B.C. The comic spirit of clowning exists in just about every known culture. It is as old as civilization. This ancient craft speaks to that which is human in all of us.*

The western tradition of clowning can be traced to ancient Greece where strolling clowns were seen in Sparta as early as the seventh century B.C., called "deikeliktas" or "those who put on plays." These clowns portrayed everyone from soldiers, fools, and witches to slaves and Greek gods.

Throughout the Middle Ages and early Renaissance, jesters or fools perpetuated the art of clowning in the palaces of kings and great nobles. Jesters played an important role in the social culture of Medieval Europe by serving as "safety valves" or the "social conscience." They could answer back to kings, bishops, and all in authority. By making fun of anyone and satirizing social customs and more, jesters were often catalysts for social change.

It was also during this period that the colorful costumes associated with today's clowns had their beginnings. During this period, Jesters adopted a standard uniform of bright green and saffron colored coats, hose and a hooded cap which was topped by tiny bells designed to tinkle whenever the wearer moved.

Although many clowns entertained at court, the vast majority continued to be street performers. They were adept at a variety of skills, such as magic, contortion, juggling, acrobatics, story telling, puppetry, tightrope walking, exhibiting trained animals, ballad singing, and clever dialogue.

"Zany," "jester," "fool," "minstrel," and "mime" are but a few of the historical synonyms for "clown." The English equivalent used today did not appear until the sixteenth century. "Clown" originally meant "clod" and was often used to denote a clumsy country bumpkin. These rustics were considered very funny, and comedic actors soon imitated their ways. These actors were called clowns.

Whatever term is applied, the medieval clown's ability to perform unusual acts of skill in a daring yet comic manner became an important part of modern circus clowning.



But then came a somber period in the history of clowning. The Puritans closed the English theatres in 1642. When theatres reopened in 1660, clowns were no welcome in the sedate drama of the Restoration. Undaunted, English clowns continued to perform on improvised stages, at fairground booths and short farces known as "drolls."

During this same period, the spirit of improvisation reached new heights in Italy in the form of street theatre called "commedia dell'arte" or the comedy of professional actors. From the 1500's to the 1700's this form of Italian theatre thrived and gave birth to a roster of comedic characters which may still be seen today. These include Harlequin, with

his popular patchwork costume, and Pierrot, one of the first clowns known to use whiteface makeup.

The "commedia" influence was noted in France, where clowns incorporated juggling, tightrope walking, and tumbling in front of fairground theatres. These performances were used to entice fairgoers to pay to see the main show inside the fairgrounds.

During the eighteenth century, this form of improvisational theatre came under attack by authorities who claimed that "more established" theatre had a monopoly on drama. Hence, the fairground zany resorted to the use of pantomime, since English and French restrictions did not include silent acting.

As pantomime gained in popularity, Harlequin and Pierrot were transformed into romanticized heroes. This transformation, along with the emergence of a new entertainment form, allowed the reappearance of the lively, more versatile clown.

In 1768, on the outskirts of London, a former sergeant major in the British Cavalry, Philip Astley, presented a show which combined the comedic and acrobatic skills of the clown with the precision of military horsemanship. Immediately popular, what we now call the "circus" was born.

However, Astley never called his establishment a "circus," which refers to the circular riding ring. The modern circus received its name a few years later when in 1782 one of Astley's former horsemen, Charles Hughes, founded the Royal Circus.

The comic character that is usually associated with the word "clown" -- often interchangeable with the nickname "Joey" -- was originated by Joseph Grimaldi in the early 1800's. Joey's comic gift was the flexibility and expressiveness of his face and body. His winces, glances, grins, and scowls projected his emotions to the farthest reaches of the theatre. Grimaldi used makeup to exaggerate his rubbery features. His makeup designs, applied over a base of pure white, supplied the basic funny face on which clowns still compose their greasepaint variations today.

Dan Rice, whom some have called "the original American white-face clown,"

made his first circus appearance in 1840. With his distinguished goatee, top hat, blue leotard, and red and white tights, "Yankee Dan" is considered to have been the model for "Uncle Sam."

The importance of Dan Rice and the one-ring circus to nineteenth century America is best demonstrated by the influence they had on the people they touched. When Dan Rice's show played McGregor, Iowa in 1870, five brothers were fascinated by the performance and decided to start their own circus. The amateur presentations of the Ringling brothers would eventually evolve into the famous Ringling Bros. Circus.

Meanwhile, a new type of clown, created by Tom Belling in 1869, was emerging on the other side of the ocean in Berlin, Germany. Garbed in an eccentric outfit and performing a series of actions that seemed at once stupid and spontaneous, Belling was greeted by delighted German audiences with cries of "Auguste!" which was slang for "silly" or "stupid."

By the end of the nineteenth century, the smaller tents of the one-ring show had given way to the "big-top" and the circus enjoyed a golden age. As the large, new, three-ring format evolved, clowns were presented with their greatest challenge yet. Spectacular movement, bright costumes, oversized props, loud explosives, and flamboyant makeup became essential ingredients in the clown's new formula for laughs. By 1907 when the Ringling brothers purchased another popular circus, Barnum & Bailey, the profession of clowning had reached one of its highest peaks.

But only a few decades later, it seemed the ancient art of clowning was dying. By the late 1960s, there were estimated to be fewer than 200 professional circus clowns in the entire United States. When Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus was purchased by the late Irvin Feld in 1967, there were only 14 members remaining on the Circus' Clown Alley.\*

To preserve the rapidly dwindling profession, Irvin Feld founded Ringling Bros.

and Barnum & Bailey Clown College in 1968, providing the first formal training ground for clowns. Since then, the College has had more than 1000 aspiring mirthmakers pass through its doors, rejuvenating the Circus' Clown Alley.

Today, Clown College offers a varied and imaginative curriculum which reflects the skills and traditions of this ancient and international art. Boasting an impressive faculty roster and star studded list of alumni, there is little doubt that the vision and dedication of Irvin Feld has been richly appreciated. Clown College graduates offer amusement -- a legacy of gladness and goodwill to be shared with audiences for years to come.

\* Clown Alley is a term which refers to the private section of the arena where clowns put on their makeup and store their props.

Source(s):

[http://www.shrineclowns.com/html/clown\\_history](http://www.shrineclowns.com/html/clown_history)

-- Submitted by Richard Stewart ~



## Totò: Italian Actor

Written by The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica

Also known as: Antonio de Curtis Gagliardi Griffo Focas

Born: November 7, 1898, Naples, Italy

Died: April 15, 1967, Rome, Italy

Totò, byname of Antonio de Curtis Gagliardi Griffo Focas, Italian comic, most popular for his film characterization of an unsmiling but sympathetic bourgeois figure, likened by international film critics to the American film comic Buster Keaton.

Totò was born to a family of impoverished Italian nobility. He served in the military during World War I and then began his stage career by working in music halls. He appeared

extensively on the legitimate stage prior to his 1936 film debut in *Fermo con le mani* ("Keep Your Hand Still"). From that time on, the screen was his medium, and, as Totò, he became one of Italy's favourite comics.

Most of his 100 films were made in Italy and include 29 in the "Totò" series, such as *Totòtarzan* (1950) and *Totò e Cleopatra* (1963). Other films include *Guardie e ladri* (1951; *Cops and Robbers*), *L'oro di Napoli* (1954; *Gold of Naples*, a four-part comedy drama directed by Vittorio De Sica), *La Loi c'est la loi* (1958; *The Law is the Law*, with the French comic Fernandel), *La Mandragola* (1965; *The Love Root and the Mandragola*), and the allegorical *Uccellacci e uccellini* (1966; "Big Birds and Small Birds"; Eng. trans. *The Hawks and the Sparrows*), a film written and directed by Pier Paolo Pasolini. -- Submitted by Ricahrd Stewart ~

Click here  
to watch  
Totò  
on YouTube



# IAHF Quarterly **Schedule of Events\***

## 🌿 **October / Ottobre 2015**

Thursday, Oct. 15 / Noon / Regional Lunch, featuring Basilicata, with Tony Amato & friends

Sunday, Oct. 18 / 1:00pm to 6:00pm / Patron's Dinner at Nonno's in Redwood Estates

Thursday, Oct. 29th / Cena Fuori, at Aldo's in Los Gatos 7:00pm

## 🌿 **November / Novembre 2015 \***

Thursday, Nov. 5 / 7:00 pm / Cooking Classes, Holiday cookies (The class is sold out and waiting list only)

Thursday, Nov. 12 / 7:00 pm / Cooking Classes, Sausage. (This class is also sold out.)

Sunday Nov. 15 / 11:30 am / Field trip to Brigantino Olive Orchard --a working ranch, to learn about the olive crush and their award winning olive oils, followed by lunch and lecture at the San Juan Oaks Country Golf Club House, Hollister / Call to register and directions to the orchard / Tour starts 11:30 am / Allow about an hour and a half to drive from San Jose to Hollister

Tuesday, Nov. 17 / General Membership Meeting Dinner and Meet The Candidates for the 2016 Board.

Free to all members / Guest: \$15.00 / 6:30 pm.-Social Hour; 7:00 pm Dinner / 7:45 pm Meeting / Call the IAHF to register.

*\*Due to the General Membership Dinner and Thanksgiving week, there will be no Regional Lunch and Cena Fuori.*

## 🌿 **December / Dicembre 2015**

Friday, Dec. 4 / The 28th Annual World of Italian Opera and Holiday Boutique, Holiday Buffet with arias by the Resident Artist of Opera San Jose / \$35.00 IAHF Members / \$40.00 Non Members / \$20.00 Students with Valid ID

Thursday, Dec. 17 / Noon / Regional Lunch and traditional "Festa di Natale" Celebration

## 🌿 **January / Gennaio 2016**

Thursday Jan. 21 / Noon / Regional Lunch, featuring the Swiss Italian region of Il Ticino, with our Tincinese consultants

Thursday, Jan. 28 / 7:00 pm / Cena Fuori -- Giorgio's Italian Food and Pizza, on Foxworthy Ave. San Jose

Saturday, Jan 30 / Annual IAHF /Tricarico Club Benefit Polenta Dinner, with Tony Amato and his Tricarico Culinary Team

You can click here to RSVP  
and to pre-pay at  
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## BEBOP, SWING AND BELLA MUSICA

By Bill Dal Cerro and David Anthony Witter / Bella Musica Publishing, Chicago IL 2015

**Note:** Richard Vanucci is our "IAHF Cultural booster and member from Castro Valley. He is donating this awesome book about Jazz and the Italian American Experience to the IAHF Library, and I am currently reading it now. Its a great summer read. Richard's jazz mentors include Chet Baker, Art Pepper, and Frank Rosolino and has produced jazz gigs at various venues though out the Bay Area, including two years ago a special display at the Martin Luther King library in San Jose. He is on our "to do list" to visit the IAHF, and explore this theme in depth.

Richard writes, "Jazz music has been part of American Culture since the early part of the last century. Italians have been an integral part of that mosaic since its nebulous inception in New Orleans. Just how pervasive is the Italian American influence is perceptively probed in a new book, "Bebop, Swing and Bella Musica--Jazz and the Italian American experience by Bill dal Cerro and David Witter. While not denying that jazz has a specific root in the Black experience, as saxophonist Joe Lovano has observed,, it's also about the branches of the tree. Jazz is about cultures coming together, inspiring each other which makes it so beautiful."

Time and time again dal Cerro and Witter point out how festa bands and their roots in the rugged hills of Sicily provided the basics for the Bella Musica of Sinatra, Rosolino and Tristano. Part of the great melting pot known as New Orleans gave us one of Americas's greatest art forms. Bebop, Swing and Bella Musica is an introduction to that world, and the Italian American connection. -- Ken Borelli 🌿



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