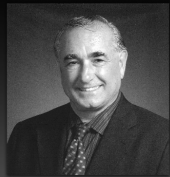


IAHF NEWS

ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER • SEPTEMBER 2011 • FOUNDED AUGUST 5, 1975 • CELEBRATING 36 YEARS

President's Message

by Ken Borelli



WHAT A PARTY!!

And hard to believe, more to come! First of all, on behalf of the IAHF, I want to congratulate the so many people that helped make this celebration possible, from those in leadership positions to those in attendance and supporting our booths and vendors. Without all of you, this living statement of our heritage would not have been possible. On a personal note, a special thanks to Cathy De Maria for making the opening ceremonies run so smoothly - there is so much behind the scenes work and hours spent to the critical opening ceremony; to Judy Verona Joseph of Primo Public Relations for really getting the word out (over 25,000 visitors); and to our Festa Director Joe Rizzi, who was running in so many directions....a true "orchestra conductor"! *Bravi!* Our 31st Annual IAHF Family Festa truly displayed the vibrancy and excitement of our Italian American Community. We were particularly appreciative of the visit to the Festa for the first time by the Consul General of Italy in San Francisco, Fabrizio Marcelli. Likewise, the Festa took on added significance as the celebrations acknowledged the 150th Anniversary of the Unification of Italy. And, of course, it was important that our setting was in the historic part of San Jose, being revitalized as the emerging Little Italy neighborhood, in the heart of downtown San Jose. The proverbial pictures that speak a 1000 words are included in this edition of

the paper. It would be nice to rest on this incredible experience but this is a year-round organization, and while we are also evaluating the Festa, how to improve it, deal with glitches, and all, we also have an exciting series of events that we are entering in on for autumn and winter (Yes, volunteers are needed at those events, too!).

As previously noted, on Sunday, Oct.23, 2011, we are having a very special program honoring one of our own local musical legends, SHORTY JOE QUARTUCCIO. Shorty Joe will be receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Italian American Heritage Foundation for his contributions the South Bay Musical Scene, in Country and Western Music. Joining us in this tribute will be nephew and Opera San Jose Conductor Anthony Quartuccio; from LA the voice of Monreale, Sicily, Joe D'Angelo; and steel guitarist Bobby Black, along with Richard Shon and the Saddle Cats. Shorty Joe, aka Giuseppe Quartuccio, was born in Monreale, Sicily, and raised in San Jose. His tale as an immigrant child, listening to the music of the times on his radio, and then learning to play that music, and then performing with the greats of Country/Western, is the stuff of musical fables, and is as American as apple pie and pizza! There is a separate flyer that highlights this event but it underscores the vitality of our immigrant family roots and lega-

cy. And, to borrow from an observation made by former Assemblyman Dominic Cortese, during the unveiling of the banners in Little Italy last month..."The Italian American experience did not end with the migration from Italy to *l'America*, it just began"...and Shorty Joe's life time achievements reaffirms that observation.

And for those with a more classical bent, there will be a chamber music group from Venice visiting San Jose in November, and we hope to have some group seating made available. In a separate

article "The splendors of Venice in the Bay Area will be explored".

This, too, is a must see series of events for those interested in the art and culture of the region known as *Il Veneto*. I also want to put in a plug for your support of the IAHF Board and to consider joining the Board and participating in the running of the organization. The IAHF is very happy to note the re-birth of our Young Italian Organization called CIAO SAN JOSE. We are actively recruiting new members to take "ownership of that group" and outreach to that vital part of our extended family. In the fall, too, will be the resumption of Italian classes, movies, lectures, and this year, too, hosting the visit of the Patrons of Italian Culture from Los Angeles. It is exciting to work with all this positive energy and potential, so you volunteers know you are making a difference. *Grazie tante!*



BOARD VACANCIES FOR 2012 & NEW GUIDELINES

Consider becoming a Board Member of the IAHF and being a part of an exciting time of change and potential for our Italian American Heritage!

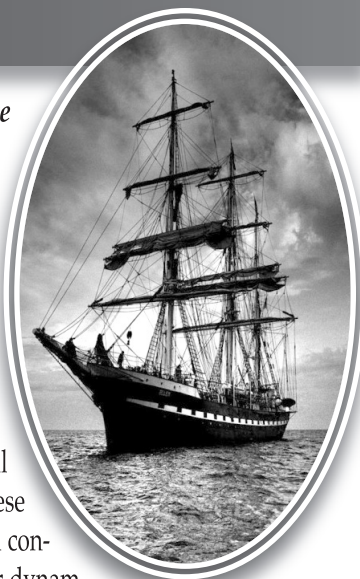
We have posted the announcement for becoming a Board Member in our previous editions of the paper, and at last month's Board meeting our By-laws committee made recommendations to the Board that were adopted at the August meeting to reduce the time to be an active member of the IAHF to run for the Board from one year to six months.

With our major membership push last year we have recruited many enthusiastic and talented new members, and, quite frankly, we want to harness that enthusiasm and talent pool as soon as feasible into the governance of the IAHF. Also discussed, but with no action taken, was to dedicate one Board seat to the emerging re-established Young Italian Group, along with setting up a new Board mentorship program. The lifeblood of all community-based organizations is its membership base and support. As many of you have experienced over these many years, the vitality of the IAHF is also membership-based. As we chart new courses for our organization and continue with our overall mission of promoting Italian and Italian American heritage, we are actively soliciting your dynamic support and welcome your participation in the cultural life of our Foundation.

The Board also streamlined the guidelines for Board membership to read:

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

If you are interested in becoming a Board member contact the IAHF office for an application, or contact our membership chair Mike Console, or president Ken Borelli. The candidates for the Board positions will be interviewed by a membership committee, and introduced at the general membership meeting in October, followed by an election in November, or by a write ballot at the October meeting. In unity and mutual support we can perform wonders. -- Ken Borelli



UNA STORIA SEGRETA IS NOW IN DOCUMENT FORM



As many of you know in April and May, the IAHF hosted a regional forum on the internment of Italian Americans during World War II. The event was co-hosted by the Western Regional Chapter of the American Italian Historical Association. Several Congress people, State legislators, members of our local governmental agencies, prominent Italian American groups were also present at the venue. Participating at the event were family members of those who were directly impacted by this difficult time. This is a major part of Italian American History that is still not understood.

With the goal of shedding some light on the "war years" the seminar was developed along with a month long exhibit at the Martin Luther King San Jose Main Library. We are now fortunate to have the workshop

proceedings on DVD. It was video taped by George Geevargis of Niramco Enterprises Inc. from San Francisco, Ca. The video tape needs some editing, and we would like to make this important and historical document available to you. I need to know by way of a call or email to the IAHF of your interest in having a copy of the meeting/focus group. The video will be shared at cost, and the cost will depend on how many people would be interested in having a copy. If you are interested in a copy of the video please call the IAHF and we will develop a distribution list. This is a "must" document to share with your club, classroom, family get together, and a timely reminder of a not too distant part of Italian American history that impacted so many lives in so many different ways. For more direct information on the event itself check out one of our back editions of the IAHF News, MAY 2011.

UN GRAZIE DI CUORE!

*Heartfelt Thanks to All Who Helped Sponsor This Wonderful Festa
With Much Appreciation -- The Festa Planning Committee*



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Our 31st Annual Italian Family Festa





Save The Date!

Thursday, September 29, 7:30–9pm

\$15 members; \$18 non-members

Speaker: Massimo Chisessi

It's one of Italy's most iconic foods.

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We'll discuss the selection and cultivation of heirloom varieties that flourish in our microclimates, traditional and innovative preservation techniques and IAHF members will relate their memories of how immigrant parents and grandparents taught them to grow and prepare this delicious fruit.

We'll end the evening with a tasting of 10-12 types of heirloom tomatoes to illustrate the versatility of one of our favorite foods. Beverages will be available for purchase. 🍷

*That's
Italian!*



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IAHF NEWS

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UPCOMING EVENTS SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2011

- 🍷 *Sept. 29th*
Tomatoes!
With speaker Massimo Chisessi
- 🍷 *Oct. 23rd*
Shorty Joe Tribute
- 🍷 *Oct. 27th*
General Membership Meeting

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send the IAHF newsletter to you via email! 🍷

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What a Party! See You Next Year!

