

LA VOCE DI GCICS

GULF COAST ITALIAN CULTURE SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. BOX 2591, SARASOTA, FL. 34230

WWW.GCICS.ORG

NOVEMBER 2015



Ladies and Gentlemen of our Society:

I have been asked to be brief with my letter this month so I hope you will read it. Your Directors have put into place a sound structure for managing, governing and growing our Society. We are positioned to make a growing and most beneficial impact on our community. You will be able to look with great pride on your membership.

However, as the Bible says "to whom much is given much is required". I ask each of you to seriously consider giving an additional donation to fund our present and future needs. Please rest assured that we are very careful with each expenditure. The awarding of scholarships is our cornerstone but all the other areas including the finest web site in FL require our constant efforts. So, if each member donated an extra \$25 or \$50, it would make a world of difference toward allowing us to sustain our efforts.

Allow me one story. I can still see the look on my father's face in 1960 when my mother said 'Mike, I want a diamond blue Thunderbird'. He looked up from his dinner smiling and said 'Sure, just pick the money off the money tree in the backyard'. Mom responded 'Mike, we don't have

a money tree' to which he said 'Then I guess you will have to pray for the money'. She said 'Mike, we have the money in our checking account'. Well, I will never forget the look in his brown eyes when he said 'Okay, get what you want, but that's it'!

The point is we have good causes but we can't spend what we do not have. Most of the money we have is earmarked for the awarding of scholarships and not for member activities. We do want to have fun together but since we rarely charge more than cost for our events, we need money to run the Society. It is common sense. We have a wholesome mission that includes cultural, educational, fitness and social initiatives. With your help and participation we can achieve the most wonderful things in all of these areas.

The Board of Directors would like to wish the members and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Ciao for now, Anthony

NOVEMBER ITALIAN BARBECUE AND BOCCE EVENT

We promised that we would reschedule the "Italian Barbecue & Bocce Event" since so many members are not here in the summertime and some members felt it would be too hot in July. You will have the opportunity to purchase a GCICS shirt that is spectacular. See Sheryl Lazzarotti for the shirts. So do bring your checkbook.



Menu: President Anthony will be grilling homemade Italian sausages while VP Joe will be handling the peppers and onions; GCICS will provide the paper products, Italian rolls and condiments (e.g., ketchup, salt/pepper). Anthony and Joe will be serving up these goodies.

What You Should Bring: A side dish to serve 6-8; and whatever you wish to drink. Also bring chairs, hats for the sun and sunscreen.

Title: Italian Barbecue & Bocce Event

Date/Time: Sunday Nov 8, 2015 1:00-5:00 pm

Location: Bocce Court at Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast at 400 Palmetto Ave.

Point of Contact: Joe Moccia: marymoccia@verizon.net

Donation: The event is a fundraiser for our Scholarship Program. Therefore, we are requesting a voluntary contribution of \$15.00 per adult which you would send to Joe Moccia as your RSVP. (Joe has moved; his new address is: 705 Whitfield Ave., Sarasota, FL 34243)

CHRISTMAS GALA/HOLIDAY PARTY

Merry Christmas



The Christmas Gala/Holiday Party is the only event featured for December, and it is a big one. The event has always been festive, friendly and fun-filled and this year promises to be more of the same. However, the venue has changed. This year, we will be going to the Palm Aire Country Club to enjoy dining and dancing to celebrate the season.

MENU

FIRST COURSE

Soup: Acquacotta alla Toscana

SECOND COURSE

(Select Your Entree)

Porchetta

Pork Tenderloin with fontina risotto, green beans and porcini mushroom sauce

OR

Lobster Ravioli with Sherry Sauce

OR

Spinach Ravioli

(Vegetarian Option)

THIRD COURSE

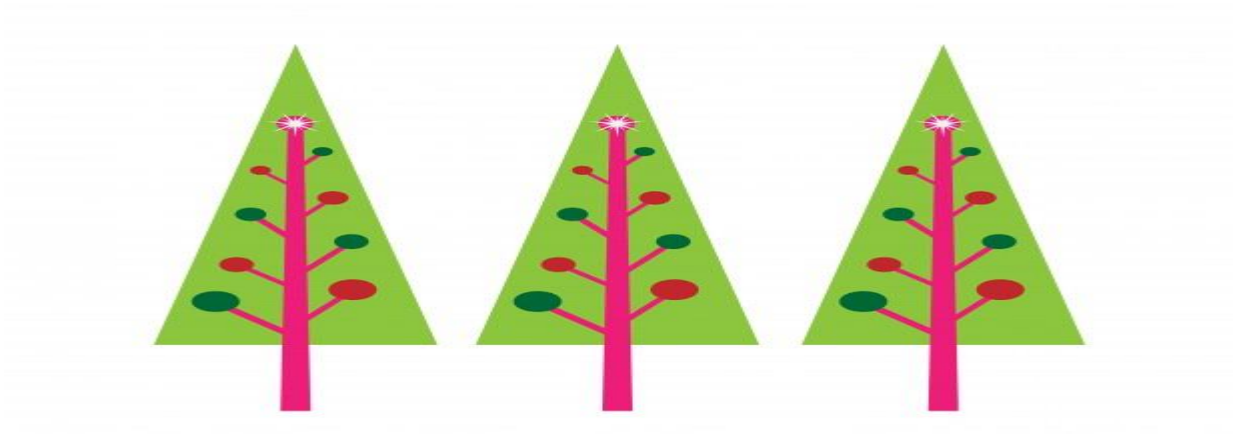
DESSERT

Chocolate Ricotta Torte

BEVERAGE

Coffee, Iced Tea, Hot Tea

CASH BAR



- WHAT:** Christmas Gala
- WHEN:** Sunday, December 13, 2015; 5:30PM – 9:00PM
- WHERE:** Palm Aire Golf and Country Club
5601 Country Club Way (off Whitfield Ave in Palm Aire)
- COST:** \$45 per person all inclusive, make check payable to GCICS and note entrée(s) choice on Memo line
- RESERVE:** By December 7, 2015
- POINT OF CONTACT:** Mail check to:
Linda Mercurio, 5770 Deer Hollow Lane W., Sarasota, FL. 34232
Phone: 941-400-1156



REVIEW OF THE OCTOBER ITALIAN HERITAGE BRUNCH

On Sunday, October 25, 2015, forty-six members of our society joined together at Mattison's 41 to celebrate Italian Cultural Heritage Month. Our own Joseph Latona was the guest speaker at this event. He gave a spectacular talk about Italian commerce which was well received by the guests.







FROM THE SUNSHINE LADY –ISABEL ISTORICO



IN MEMORIUM

Bea Papa, a devoted and active member of GCICS, passed away in her hometown of Cloversville, New York. She and her husband Charlie were long-time members of GCICS. Bob and Natalie Amedeo were able to attend the funeral services representing GCICS. A note of condolences was sent to Charlie and his family.



Get well wishes were sent to Marie McEntee for a speedy recovery after her surgery.

ITALIAN HERITAGE NEWS



On September 21, 2015, Cav. Josephine A. Maietta, President of the Association of Italian American Educators, Inc., proudly communicated, in a correspondence to Italian American educators, that the College Board has reinstated the Italian AP (Advanced Placement) examination. The exam had been discontinued as an offering for high school AP students to take and earn 3 college credits after passing the Italian AP exam. The discontinuation was largely a reflection of the fact that the College Board viewed Italian as an AP course in popular decline. The reinstatement, announced during a presentation at Hofstra University as part of the College Italian Experience Festival, represents an acknowledgement by the College Board that there has been renewed interest in studying Italian as a testament to the resilience of Italian Culture and the importance of Italy and Italians in the development of Western civilization and thought. Spearheading the drive to reinstate the Italian AP exam, thus allowing high school AP students to earn 3 college credits, were members of the Italian Consulate in New York City and the Italian Embassy in Washington D.C. as well as New York State Comptroller, Tom DiNapoli, a well-respected elected official of Italian American descent. Congratulations to all involved for making a difference and fighting to preserve and reinforce the study of Italian.

BOCCE CORNER NEWS

As this article is being written, we have not yet played our first group bocce. Our season opener is scheduled to be played on Sunday, October 18, which has been announced in the previous newsletter. Remember bocce will be played every Sunday at 1:30PM at the Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast at 400 Palmetto Ave., Osprey. Bring chairs and something to drink while enjoying playing and seeing our friends from our club in this beautiful location on the bay.

A reminder: Our club is honored to be invited to teach bocce to attendees of the Gulf Coast Foundation Fall Festival on November 7. Come by to encourage the new players as they learn this fun game. About 1000 people are expected to attend the event. Parking will be at the 2 churches on Highway 41, with shuttle trolleys providing transportation to the site. Hours are 11AM to 3PM.

Sheryl Lazzarotti has arranged for GCICS club shirts to be available to order. For only \$25, you can show your pride in our organization by wearing one to the Festival. Available colors are red, white or forest green. What a great conversation starter when you wear our club logo on your shirt!

You can always call for further information: Doris Hurban: 941-966-2745
Tom Hurban: 941-507-3048

RECENTLY ACQUIRED GIFT CERTIFICATES DONATED FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING



Goodfellas
Amore
Le Colonne
Lee Roy Selmon
Oh Momma Mia
Favs Italian Cucina
Solrito Mama
15 South Cafe
Hillview Grill
Toasted Mango
Mazzone

Mandeville Beer Garden
Beckhams
Queen of Sheba
Millie's
Mattison's 41
Mediterraneo
Boatyard
Cosimos

Stonewood Grill
Seasons 52
Wine to Buy
Southside Grill
Griers
Stottlemeyer's
Oasis Cafe

MEMBER NEWS



The reproduction of the musical “The Civil War” was performed at The Neel Center for Performing Arts in Bradenton. Our member, Marco Mazzone was part of the producing group but not in the production. He was introduced as having performed on Italian Television in La Verdi Note and as a stage manager of the Bernstein School of Musical Theater Italian Productions. He performed in 2009 in “Sweeney Todd”, 2010 in “Bye Bye Birdie” and in the USA was cast in the role of Jack in the production of “Into the Woods” and in 2015 in the summer production at SCF of “The Wild Party.”

2015 – 2016 GCICS Italian Classes



Location: Bay Village, 8400 Vamo Road, Sarasota, FL 34231, Telephone: 941 966 5611

Conditions of usage: Guests must park below, immediately to the left of the gate upon entry. Either walk up the stairs or the road to the main entrance. Participants must sign in at reception and wear a name tag the entire time in the building. Absolutely forbidden, food or any beverage including bottled water brought into the meeting room.

Directions to the room location: After sign-in at reception, proceed to the left. Just after the elevators, (in front of the gift shop) turn left and proceed half-way down the hall. The room we meet in is on the right (just past the computer room and just before the mailroom). The room is almost directly across from the restroom.

Textbook information: Book may be purchased on line. Barnes and Noble sometimes has this book in stock. It is appreciated that students have the book for the start of these sessions.

Book information: Italian: A Self-Teaching Guide by Edoardo A. Lèbano, Publisher John Wiley & Sons, Inc. , copyright 2000, ISBN 978-0-471-35961-6

Note: Conversation classes will start in October, but the language classes will NOT start until November.

Monday class times are:

Beginning Italian 12:00-1:00

Intermediate Italian 1:00-2:00

Conversation Class 2:00-4:00

Dates:

November 2, 9, 16, 23

NO CLASSES in December.

January 11, *18, 25 ***Deadline for any new members in Beginning Italian is January 18**

February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

March 7, 14, 21, 28

April 4, 11, 18, 25

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Past Presidents

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Gabriella Thurston 1993-2001

Patrick Corsentino 2001-2004

Arthur Castraberti 2004-2006

Marie Corsentino 2007

Mary Amabile Palmer 2008-2010

William Korp 2010-2014

RESTAURANTS OFFERING 10% DISCOUNT TO MEMBERS **PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE RESTAURANTS**

Café Americano 365-1026
1409 Main St., Sarasota

Café Amici 951-6897
1371 Main St., Sarasota

Café Baci 921-4848
4001 Tamiami Tr., Sarasota

D'Corato 330-1300
322 So. Washington Blvd., Sarasota

Mona Lisa 377-6562
4989 Ringwood Meadow, Sarasota

Phila. Cheesesteaks & Hoagies 926-0441
7523 S. Tamiami Tr., Sarasota

Piatti Italian Bistro 923-5570
6630 Gateway Ave., Sarasota

Primo Ristorante 359-3690
8076 Tamiami Tr., Sarasota

Valentino's
Cooper Creek Blvd. 359-6400
Clark Road 921-9600

GCICS PATCHES

GCICS has patches with our logo for sale. These logos have a safety pin attached on the back. Therefore, they can be attached to any garment. The patches will be great to wear at our events and bocce tournaments. Please contact Joe Moccia at 387-2039 if you are interested in purchasing one for \$7.