

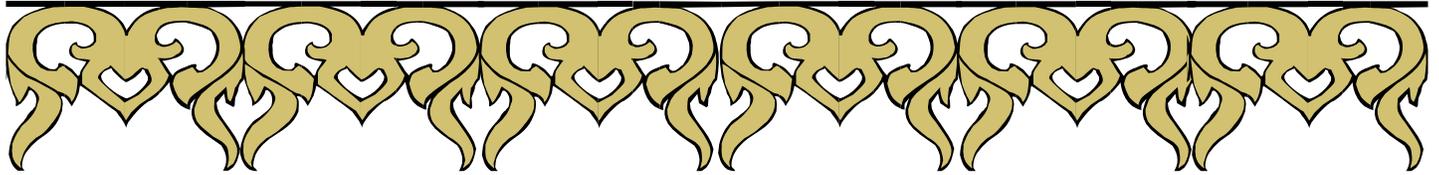
# LA VOCE DI GCICS

GULF COAST ITALIAN CULTURE SOCIETY, INC.

PO BOX 2591, SARASOTA, FL 34230

WWW.GCICS.ORG

March 2014



While the rest of the Eastern US has struggled, this year with frigid weather and record-breaking snowfall, down here on Florida's Gulf Coast, we have had a little bit of rain, a few cool nights and mostly sunny days. Thus this reminder to future GCICS event planners, do not schedule any daytime activity on the barrier islands during January, February or March! Evening events can be great though. Please see the write up on the Valentine's Day dinner/dance and kudos to our social and cultural chair, Connie Campisi, with the help of Ellen Roderick and Joe Moccia, for pulling things together, and the chef for providing us with a delicious dinner. See also the report of the January 25<sup>th</sup> dinner fundraiser at Connie's house.

On February 28, the board will hold a special planning meeting at Café Baci from 12-3 PM. This is the fourth year we will meet specifically to address issues we have

wrestled with over the years, such as attracting younger members and de-emphasizing fundraising while maintaining our Italian Heritage scholarship program. As announced in the February La Voce all members are invited to attend. Hope to see you there.

You should have received your 2014 Membership Directory by now as it was mailed in mid-February. The directory includes a current list of the local restaurants that are offering a 10% discount to GCICS members. If you do not have a current restaurant card, or you did not receive the current directory, you may obtain one from membership chairman, Bob Amedeo ([bobnatamedeo@comcast.net](mailto:bobnatamedeo@comcast.net)).

Ciao,

Bill Korp





## UP COMING EVENTS

In Order by Dates

### *Art Lecture Series*

On Friday, March 7, 2014, GCICS will hold its next lecture event. Dr. Joseph A. Polizzi will take his subject matter from his latest book entitled “The New Flowering: Cameo of Women Depicted in Ottocento Italian Art.” This year we will learn about what prompted the Italian artists to go to Paris and what they accomplished there. In the course of his presentation, the lecture will pose these questions:

- 1) Given the glories of Italy’s Renaissance and Baroque artistic periods, was there really a “black hole” (even “death”) in Italian painting thereafter?
- 2) Were the French Impressionists the very first to paint with a certain “new” method?
- 3) Were there any particular “standouts” among Italian painters of the nineteenth century?

Come for some answers and more!

View some etchings from Dr. Polizzi’s collection.

Dr. Joseph A. Polizzi is a social scientist, professor emeritus, and author. Dr. Polizzi attended Aquinas Institute, received a B.S. from St. John Fisher College, a M.A. from Fordham University and a Ph.D. from Cornell University. A Fulbright Scholar to Italy, Polizzi studied at the University of Perugia and the University of Naples. He is the author of books, articles and reviews on Italian society and culture. Dr. Polizzi is best known in Sarasota for his 1985 work, “Lady of Asolo, A Pictorial History of the Life and Times of Caterina Cornaro,” which for years was a favorite publication offered at the gallery shops of The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art.

<b><u>WHAT:</u></b>	Lecture Series – Italian Painters in 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Paris
<b><u>WHEN:</u></b>	March 7, 2014
<b><u>TIME:</u></b>	1:30 PM
<b><u>FOOD:</u></b>	Refreshments
<b><u>COST:</u></b>	Free
<b><u>HOSTED BY:</u></b>	Robert Amedeo
<b><u>WHERE:</u></b>	Community Foundation of Sarasota County 2635 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34237 (near Tuttle)
<b><u>RESERVE:</u></b>	By March 1, 2014 to Bob Amedeo at 941-387-018

## La Festa Di San Giuseppe

Now a yearly tradition, beloved by all, we are celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 6PM. The event will be chaired by Connie Campisi.

### **MENU**

#### SALAD

Italian Salad

Romaine Lettuce, Garlic Croutons, Tomato, Asiago Cheese, and Fig Citrus Vinaigrette

#### PASTA

Linguine

With bread crumbs, olive oil and garlic

#### ENTRÉE & VEGETABLE

Short Ribs Osso Buco Style

Braised short ribs with carrots, celery, and onion

Shrimp Scampi Skewer

Shrimp Sautéed in butter, garlic, white wine and parsley

Green Beans Almandine

Green Beans with butter and blanched sliced almonds

Garlic Bread

Toasted Bread with garlic butter, paprika, mozzarella and parmesan cheese

#### DRINKS AND DESSERT

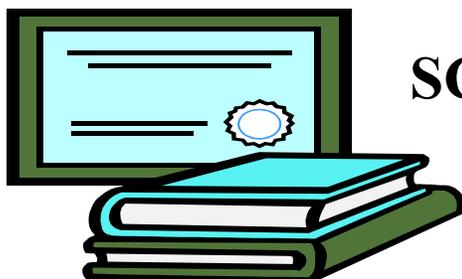
Iced Tea, Lemonade, and Coffee

Cream Puffs

Wine will not be served. If you wish to imbibe, please bring your own bottle of wine.

Don't forget that it is a tradition to wear red on St. Joseph's Day

- WHAT:** *La Festa Di San Giuseppe* (The Feast of St. Joseph) Dinner
- WHEN:** Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at 6 PM
- WHERE:** Roskcamp Center (corner of 13<sup>th</sup> Street and US41 in Sarasota
- TIME:** 6 PM
- COST:** \$35/per person
- RESERVE:** By March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Make check payable to GCICS and mail to:  
Connie Campisi, 739 Shadow Bay Way, Sarasota, Fl 34229  
941- 918-8969



## SCHOLARSHIP GALA

### Dinner Dance

Our most elegant, satisfying and beloved Dinner-Dance, Scholarship Gala is scheduled, this year, on Sunday, April 6, 2014 at the Laurel Oak Country Club in Sarasota. For specifics, please see the detailed outline below. It has all the ingredients for an exceptional evening. You will have the privilege of sharing in the experience of college-bound local Italian American high school graduates who will be selected to receive our 2014 merit scholarships. It is expected that the youth program of the Sarasota Ballet, *Dance the Next Generation* will attend to receive our Award and participate through a brief performance. The popular DREAMCLASSICS group, with vocalist Pam Jeffries, will provide music for our listening and dancing pleasure.

- WHAT:** *Scholarship Gala*
- WHEN:** Sunday April 6, 2014
- TIME:** 5:00 PM
- WHERE:** *Laurel Oak Country Club*; 2700 Gary Player Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34240
- COST:** *\$60.00 per person*
- RESERVE:** *By Wed. Apr. 2, 2014*; Mail checks payable to "GCICS", noting entrée choice(s) on memo line to: Linda Allegretti Ahern; 4238 65<sup>th</sup> Plc. East, Sarasota FL 34243 (941) 309-3390
- DIRECTIONS:** US I-75 to Exit 207 (Bee Ridge); East on Bee Ridge about 1.75 miles; Left on Gary Player Blvd to Gate; Identify your party as attending Scholarship Gala at Club House.

## PROGRAM

Cocktail Hour 5 – 6:00 PM (Cash Bar)

Antipasto Display

Assortment of Abruzzese Cured Sausage, Mortadella, Fried Mozzarella Sticks, Gorgonzola, Aged Provolone  
Grilled Artichokes, Asparagus, and Eggplant; Roasted Mushrooms, Marinated Mixed Olives.

PRESENTATIONS 6:00 – 7:00

### Menu

#### *Dinner following Presentations*

House salad: Mixed green with Radicchio and Frisee Balsamic Vinaigrette

Assorted Rolls and Butter

Entree; Choice of:

\_\_\_\_\_ Veal Medallions in a Piccata Capers Sauce

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Marsala, Seared Chicken Breast topped with Mushrooms & Marsala Wine Demi

\_\_\_\_\_ Crab Crusted Corvina (Sea Bass) Lemon Zest, Garlic and Parsley Roasted Tomato Butter

Each Entrée accompanied by sides of Mezze Penne and Sauteed Green Zucchini  
1 Served Glass of Wine (red or white) Included; Extras at Diner's cost.

Dessert Plated

Mini Cannolis, Biscotti, Pistachio Bark

Coffee – Regular or Decaffeinated; Tea - Hot or Iced, and Water Included

## REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

### RABBI AIELLO COMPLIMENTED

Shortly after Rabbi Barbara Aiello's recent return to Sarasota from her visit to the Nir Tamid del Sud, the first synagogue, after a five hundred years hiatus, established in Calabria, Italy, at the Rabbi's initiative, she was presented a framed Resolution, prepared and shepherded through adoption by the Board of the Gulf Coast Italian Culture Society, Inc. (GCICS), by its Scholarship Chair, Anthony Cagliostro. The Resolution expresses the Society's "sincerest appreciation and highest esteem" for Aiello's presentation The Secret Jews of Calabria and Sicily at GCICS' last Italian Cultural Heritage Month celebration.

GCICS' President, William R. Korp, echoing the Resolution observed that the Rabbi's presentation was a significant contributor to the "magnificent success" of our Celebration, and disclosed that the GCICS Board also authorized the grant of a token honorarium to support the work of the Italian Jewish Cultural Center of Calabria which the Rabbi founded and directs.

Rabbi Aiello, in accepting the Resolution expressed her pleasure, not only at the fact that GCICS made the effort to provide tangible proof of its appreciation and equally as important the recognition that her presentation was the fruit of "original research." She expressed grateful surprise that the Society chose to support its sentiments with an honorarium.



(L-R) GCICS Scholarship Chair Anthony Cagliostro, Rabbi Barbara Aiello, & GCICS Pres. William R. Korp  
(Courtesy Photo by J. Maher)

## DINNER SOCIAL FUNDRAISER

Text by Jack Norman

Photos by Ellen Roderick

On Saturday evening, January 25, 2014, GCICS members and friends gathered at the home of Board Member Connie Campisi, in Osprey, Florida. As expected, Connie was a gracious hostess, as she opened her lovely home to a “pot luck” get together/scholarship fund raiser. The event was well attended with more than 30 participants enjoying the congenial company and delicious food. As an added treat, Connie generously paid for a keyboardist, Arthur Brown, to play low-key mood music throughout the evening as a backdrop to pleasant conversation and leisure interaction. The scrumptious buffet included pasta, ham, zucchini and eggplant, various sausage and chicken dishes, and caprese salad. Prior to the main course, attendees enjoyed chips and dips and other tasty treats to whet the appetite and satisfy the palate. To cap off a fun evening, wonderful and taste tempting desserts were offered for our delectation. The Italian wedding cake was a winner, as were all the other sweet treats. All in all, the event was a “hit” – and gives us just one more reason to appreciate and value GCCS membership. BUON SUCCESSO!



**VALINTINE DINNER DANCE**

Text and Photos by Mary Rinaldi

Over forty GCICS members and guests attended the Valentine's Day Dinner Dance hosted by Connie Campisi held at the Lido Beach Holiday Inn on February 14, 2014. The penthouse party room had floor to ceiling glass windows overlooking spectacular views of the Gulf. The tables and chairs were covered in white linens. The centerpieces on the tables consisted of shiny red bags with red feathers sitting on a square mirror along with red stones. Also, located at each female guest's place setting was a heart shaped box of chocolates. We mingled; we ate delicious food; and we danced to the great music of DJ Mike Pandolfino of Sound Waves. Oh did we dance! We line danced; we did the tarantella; we did the horah; we slow danced; we fast danced; what fun was had by all. You know this was true when a couple of party crashers came in to dance with us. Good job Connie Campisi.



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Patricia Novak

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Anthony Cagliostro

[gcicscholar@gmail.com](mailto:gcicscholar@gmail.com)**Past Presidents**

Joseph Raffaele, PhD	1988-1992
Gabriella Thurston	1993-2001
Patrick Corsentino	2001-2004
Arthur Castraberti	2004-2006
Marie Corsentino	2007
Mary Amabile Palmer	2008-2010

**ITALIAN CLASSES****2013-2014 SCHEDULE**

Both the language classes and the conversation classes will be held at The Landings in the Sarasota County Schools Administrative Building located at 1950 Landing Boulevard (behind "Sweet Tomato Restaurant").

Basic Italian: Mondays 2:00-4:00 pm

Instructor: Patricia Novak – 941-753-8357

Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Apr. 7, 14, 21, 28

Italian Conversation: Wednesdays 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Frank & Pina Pergolizzi –

Cell: 203-583-2323

Phone: 941-497-5678

Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26

Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**SUNSHINE LADY – ISABEL Istorico**

Warm thoughts and best wishes for a speedy recover were sent to Pina Pergolizzi who is undergoing some medical procedures.

GCICS  
PO Box 2591  
Sarasota, FL. 34230

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>  
<<Address>>  
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