

# *LA VOCE DI GCICS*

GULF COAST ITALIAN CULTURE SOCIETY, INC.

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

WWW.GCICS.ORG

March 2018

*Dear GCICS Members,*

We, the Board of Directors, are pleased to announce that four new Directors have been elected and are fully participating in Board business. In December, we selected Nancy Schubert to serve as Courtesy Chair. She replaces Isabel Istorico who stepped down but remains a club member. A special thank you is extended to Isabel. Nancy has provided guidance to members in this newsletter on notifying her of members who are in need of kind notes, cards and so forth. In January, we selected George Arfield to serve as Social/Cultural Chair. He is replacing Connie Campisi who for years performed those duties with steadfastness and flair. Thank you Connie for your dedicated service. In February, we elected Penny Thomas as Treasurer. She is replacing Dwight Pendola who served us faithfully as Treasurer for the past two years. He has some new career activities that preclude him from devoting the time needed to handle our monies. Thank you Dwight for stepping in quickly when we were in real need of a Treasurer. And also in February, we selected Pam Parodi to serve as Language Instruction Chair. As

many of you know, Pam and husband Silvio have been serving as our Italian language instructors for over a year.

Also, we want to welcome our newest members (the GCICS member who recruited the new member is shown in parentheses): Dominick DeCecco (Millie Bennett); JoAnne Ryan (Vikki Altobelli); Penny Thomas (Judy Herman); Frank Piccolo (Mary Lou Ferrari); George & Linda Muller (Tom & Doris Hurban); Fanny Moffa (Linda Ahern); Donna McKenzie (Linda Ahern); Henry & Jane Lowendick (Internet); and Stacey Hoey.

Finally, we extend a warm invitation to all members to our Cultural Lecture with light lunch on March 9th and our annual St. Joseph's Feast Day Celebration Dinner on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Both are announced below. As a Board we will always work to provide you with rewarding experiences and we are anxious to get to know our new members. Please introduce yourselves and we will strive to do the same.

*GCICS Board of Directors (13): Sheryl, Linda M., Ellen, Penny, Mary Lou, Mary, Linda A., Tom, Bill, Dwight, Nancy, George and Pam*

## GCICS LECTURE SERIES



On Friday, March 9, 2018, GCICS will hold its next cultural lecture. This time we learn about the unification of Italy which happened in 1861. Our guest speaker, Ambrogio (Gino) Calderone who is from Sicily, will once again be our lecturer. He was last with us in March 2013 when he presented: *A Trip to Sicily*. A light lunch of tea sandwiches with cold drinks and coffee will be served. This event will be chaired by Mary Rinaldi.



- EVENT:** GCICS Lecture Series: ***THE UNIFICATION OF ITALY, 1861***  
**WHEN:** March 9, 2018  
**TIME:** 12:30 – 2:30 PM  
**FOOD:** Light lunch  
**COST:** Free  
**WHERE:** Community Foundation of Sarasota County  
2635 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL. 34237 (near Tuttle)  
**RSVP:** Mary Rinaldi by March 5, 2018 at 941-907-9056 or [maryfrinaldi@yahoo.com](mailto:maryfrinaldi@yahoo.com)  
**RAFFLE:** Linda M. will be raffling off restaurant gift cards; do bring some cash.

## *LA FESTA DI SAN GIUSEPPE*



Now a yearly tradition, beloved by all, we are celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph on Sunday, March 18, 2018 from 2:00 – 5:00 PM. It will be held at Mama Leone's Italian Cuisine and Linda Mercurio will be raffling off restaurant gift certificates for our Scholarship Fund. Do not forget to wear RED in honor of St. Joseph.

### **MENU**

#### **SALAD**

House Salad  
Hot Italian Garlic Bread  
One glass of red or white wine

#### **ENTRÉE**

(SELECT ONE)  
Salmon Piccata  
Veal Piccata Al Limone  
Chicken Mediterranean  
Eggplant Parmigiana

#### **SIDE DISH**

(SELECT ONE)  
Sautéed Mixed Vegetables  
Penne Pasta with Marinara Sauce

#### **DESSERT & COFFEE**

(SELECT ONE)  
Cannoli with whipped cream  
Tiramisu with whipped cream

#### **CASH BAR**

- EVENT:** St. Joseph's Feast Day Celebration Dinner
- WHEN:** Sunday March 18, 2018, 2:00 – 5:00 PM
- WHERE:** Mama Leone's Italian Cuisine, 2300 Tamiami Trail N., Nokomis, FL. 34275
- COST:** \$36 per person (same price as the last two years)
- RESERVE:** By Wednesday, March 14, 2018 make checks payable to GCICS. Send to Dr. Ellen Rodrick, 770 South Palm Ave. #1003, Sarasota, FL, 34236 (941-366-6756)
- ORDER:** You must specify on a piece of paper with your check an entrée choice, side dish choice and dessert choice for each person. Each person will receive an index card with his/her order on it for handing to the waiter.

### BOCCE CORNER NEWS

The major news for February is the successful invitational tournament vs the CIAO Italian Club at The Cascades on February 2. Once again CIAO were wonderful hosts for both the bocce and the party afterwards. Our gang once again came through with great home-made desserts which we all shared. We won the dessert making but unfortunately lost the match [not even close], so they will keep the trophy until our next try. Our players are at a big disadvantage in not being able to adjust to delivering the balls slow enough on their fast courts. Since they have three nicely kept courts and beautiful club house, we really can't ask them to come to our different surface for a match, as playing on one court would take too much time. Thanks to all of you participants. We fielded seven four person teams and had twenty others join in as cheerleaders or party goers. Three very new members, Penny Thomas, Frank Piccolo, and Jane Lowendek were on our teams. Great!!

With the nice weather now, we invite you to join in our bocce playing fun we have Sunday afternoons from about 2 till after 4. As a reminder, we were asked not to use the court at the Bay Preserve on March 18, which is also our St. Joseph's Day gathering, and April 1, which is Easter. As always, call me with any questions or for directions: 908-507-3048, or e-mail me at [dorisntom@gmail.com](mailto:dorisntom@gmail.com).

Meet you on the courts!

Enjoy the photos.  
Tom Hurban





**GCICS MARDI GRAS/CARNEVALE PARTY REVIEW**  
**February 13, 2018**  
**Home of Mary Lou Ferrari**  
**Article by Dr. Ellen Roderick, GCICS Secretary**

Masks, colorful beads, costumes, wine, gourmet dishes, loads of camaraderie – these were the order of the day for GCICS's first ever Mardi Gras/Carnevale Party on Shrove Tuesday, 2018. Mary Lou Ferrari, GCICS Membership Chair, opened her beautiful home for us and she truly was the perfect host. And then there were the two talented head chefs, Tom Hurban and George Muller, marinating and grilling delicious salmon and pork loin with a special sauce. The gourmet dishes included chicken skewers, shrimp, assorted artisanal cheeses/crackers, eggplant parmesan, potatoes with bacon and other secret ingredients, Caesar salad with anchovy paste, salads (corn, broccoli, Waldorf), penne with Vodka sauce, bread pudding with vanilla sauce and birthday cake. Although 41 were expected, 35 attended and 35 had a grand time from all the feedback received. When the Board met on 3/31/17 to plan the GCICS 2017-2018 program, we thought that we would hold a Valentine Party. However, Valentine's Day was to coincide with Ash Wednesday, Feb 14, 2018. So that date was out. After some discussion, Doris Huban suggested that we have a Mardi Gras party the evening of Tues, Feb 13. And Linda Mercurio suggested we add the word "Carnevale" since we are the "Italian" club. Everyone liked that idea and Ellen said she would check with Vince Amoroso & wife Tam who had volunteered their home for the 2018 Valentine Party. Vince said Shrove Tuesday would be fine. But as we know, dear Vince passed away on Jan 20, 2018. And so we say GRAZIE MILLE to Mary Lou who, in Baltimore Orioles lingo, "stepped up to the plate."

Pictures by George Alfield



Doris and Tom Hurban, Pam  
Arfield, Mary Lou Ferrari



George Muller



Mary Lou Ferrari



Photos by Dr. Ellen Roderick



Joe Moccia



Mary Rinaldi



Linda Mercurio



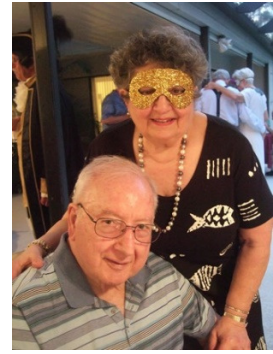
Gene McLoone & Ellen Roderick



Leita & Bob Davis



Jerry & Caroline Hall



Frank & Pina Pergolizzi



Steve & Aida LaBrutte



Maureen Napoliello, Joan DelGiudice, Joan Ferrante

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE**  
**"VINCE AMOROSO"**  
**October 28, 1947 – January 20, 2018**



On February 17, 2018, fifteen GCICS members attended a beautiful Celebration of Life, memorializing our dear friend and GCICS colleague, Vince Amoroso. Vince passed away while vacationing with his wife Tam Milton in Jackson Hole, WY. To lose a friend so suddenly, to lose a man so full of energy, loving life, loving Tam and son Michael, and showing kindness to all is quite a shocking matter. The Rev. Dr. Wesley D. Bixby, Senior Minister at First Congregational United Church of Christ, Sarasota, presided. He told stories of his times with Vince when they discussed theology, cooking, and life in general. Oh did Vince want the Reverend to become a "foodie" like himself. A talented choir, under the direction of Gregory Chestnut, Minister of Music, enhanced the service with *Amazing Grace, God, We Thank You for Our People, and Abide with Me*.

Two special groups of long standing friends spoke to the congregation about their adventures with and love for Vince. The first group, named "The Boys", was composed of 5 high school chums (Mt. Pleasant HS, Schenectady, NY, Class of 1966). The 4 remaining members spoke about their adventures as teenagers both in and out of school. Vince seemed to be the "ring leader" on more than one occasion. Through the years they held reunions with the Sarasota

reunion this week being the first without Vince. The second group of fellows (4 including Vince) shared a love of travel and food, making four trips to Italy together. A fifth trip had been planned for this spring and the fellows will make the trip, taking some of Vince's ashes to scatter in his home town.

A delightful luncheon followed where folks shared stories with tablemates of times spent with Vince. Mary Palmer told us how she became a friend of Vince and Tam. Mary had published an Italian cookbook and Vince, having learned about it, contacted her. He invited her to dinner at their home where he used some of her recipes to prepare the dinner. They became fast friends and Mary recruited Vince for the Italian Club. GCICS members participating in the celebration included: Joe & Blanche Barresi, Frank Cerullo, Leita Kaldi & Bob Davis, Steve & Aida LaBrutte, Gene McLoone & Ellen Roderick, Joe & Micki Moccia, Peggy Nardi, Mary Palmer, Mary Rinaldi and Joe Tomaselli. The entire club mourns Vince's passing and wishes brighter days ahead for his dear wife, Tam Milton, and loving son, Michael Amoroso.

Ellen Roderick  
GCICS Secretary



## GIFT CERTIFICATES



Linda Mercurio has received restaurant gift certificates. If a \* is after an eatery's name, this means they have donated in the past.

Audrey's Jamaican Cuisine 928-3300*	Stoneybrook Golf & Country Club 966-2847
Kacey's 378-3644*	Eggstrodinary 966-6652*
Hani Sushi 907-1290*	Sweet Tomatoes 922-4908*
Sonny's 345-0573*	Casey Key Fish House 966-1901*
Lido Beach Resort Cafe 388-2161*	Cafe Epicure 487-7792*
Captain Curts 349-7885*	Venezia 388-1400*
Ed's Tavern 907-0400	Spacco Italian Grill 312-4452*
Plaza Mexico 702-5963	print newsletter and they will give you 10% off per Connie)
Amore 383-1111*	Tandoor Indian Cuisine 926-3077
Carrabba's 925-7407*	Made 953-2900*
Shore 296-0301*	Three Dog Bakery 355-0399
Boatyard 921-6200*	Newks 351-1210*
Prague 329-2882	Casa Maya 907-9449*
JR's Old Packinghouse Cafe 371-9358*	Fuzzy Taco 822-8933*
Pinos 366-1440*	Seafood Shack 794-1235*
Paisano's 926-8422*	Green Zebra Cafe 388-2848
15 South 388-1555*	Blue Rooster 388-7539*
Bonefish Grill 360-3171*	Goodfellas Cafe 922-9470*
Beulah 960-2305*	Gold Rush BBQ 483-3137*
Cafe Amici 951-6896*	Off the Hook 923-5570
Tommy Bahama 388-2888*	Stevia Sweet BBQ sauce (1 gm sugar per serving) 483-3137
Salute 365-1020*	Il Panificio 921-6570*
Blu Kouzina 388-2619*	Beckhams 706-1654*
Patrick's 955-1481*	Millie's 923-4054*
Casa Di Pizza 359-2300*	Asaros at Bee Ridge 342-0090*
Mama Leone's 918-9889*	Veg 312-6424*
Flavios or Beulah 349-0995 or 960-2305*	Lotsa Lobster 918-2529*
Trattoria 907-1518*	Village Cafe 349-2822*
	British Open Pub 492-9227*
	The Original Egg 922-2868*
	Stonewood 355-3315
	The Rosemary 955-7600*

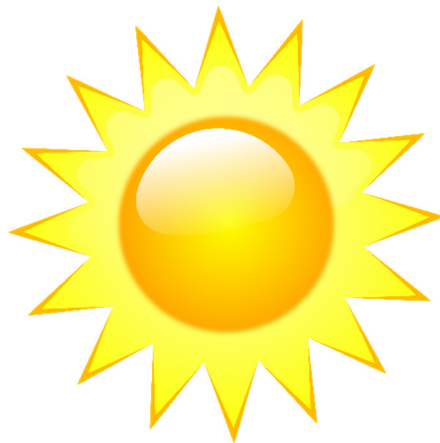
## *Courtesy Corner* *From Nancy Schubert*



To have requests properly executed, please email them to the dedicated email address for Courtesy/Sunshine to Nancy Schubert at [Sunshine.gcics@gmail.com](mailto:Sunshine.gcics@gmail.com).

Please follow the format below:

- 1) Occasion: death, anniversary, etc.
- 2) Type of message: snail mail card  
Email
- 3) Whom to address to: Names of people and titles
- 4) Address: Physical or email



## OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

### President

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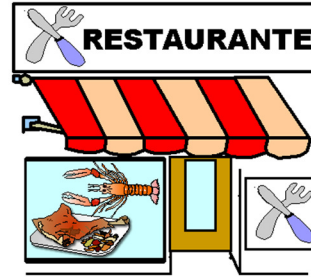
### Past Presidents

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
William Korp	2010-2014
Anthony Esposito	2015-2016

## RESTAURANTS OFFERING 10% DISCOUNT TO MEMBERS

### PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE RESTAURANTS

2017 – 2018



Beulah Restaurant @ 1766 Main St.	960-2305
Café Amici @1371 Main St.	951-6896
Café Baci @ 4001 S. Tamiami Trail	921- 4848
Café Barbosso @ 5501 Palmer Circle	922-7999
Chianti Ristorante @ 3900 Clark Road	952-3186
Flavio's 5239 Ocean Blvd., Siesta Key	349-0995
Good Fellas @ 4571 Clark Road	922-9470
Mona Lisa @ 4989 Ringwood Meadows	377-6562
Salute @ 1 <sup>st</sup> Street and N. Lemon	365-1020
San Marco @ 505 W. Venice Ave.	254-6565
Opa Opa @ 6525 Superior Ave.	927-1672
Valentino's @ 8203 Cooper Creek Blvd. 4045 Clark Road	359-6400 921-9600