

Founded 1994



Il Piccolo Giornale

November, 2016

Il Piccolo Giornale is the official newsletter of Club ItaloAmericano of Green Bay, Wi.

Website: <http://clubitaloamericano.org/> Facebook: Club Italoamericano of Green Bay

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Club ItaloAmericano

Spaghetti Dinner 2016

It's true! October is Italian Heritage Month in recognition of the many achievements, contributions, and successes of Americans of Italian descent. Therefore, more than 70 members brought their goodwill and their appetites on a beautiful warm fall afternoon to **Triangle Park in Baird Creek** to celebrate this recognition. And celebrate they did!

Patrick Kloster (affectionately known as **Patrizio Closterelli**) was the ever-ready Master of Ceremonies who wore a few hats this day. As sound engineer, his oversight made sure we never wanted for music. His Iphone conveniently doubled as a DJ. Melodies old and new wafted from the sound system

graciously provided by **Mark Mariucci's** clan. As MC, **Patrizio** kept the event rolling along sharing tidbits while directing members to the appetizers, main course or the dancefloor.

During the socializing hour, members were treated to an aromatic Sicilian eggplant antipasto caponata and was made by **Peg Ricci Anderson** and a round of **Can you guess which Italian American said this.**

Looking around it was great to see new members, guests, and alums chitchatting or with heads together filling in their guessing sheet.

Then it was time for the main course. And we were not disappointed. The planning committee cooked up one of the best spaghetti sauces the club has ever had. Thanks to the culinary chops of **Fatima and Patrick**, the sauce was

simply amazing. For the pasta, this year **bucatini** was chosen, also known as **perciatelli**, a thick spaghetti-like pasta with a hole running through the center. **The name comes from Italian: buco, meaning "hole", while bucato or its Neapolitan variant perciato means "pierced."** It was a hit. Along with this pasta, members and guests were treated to **Luigi's fantastic sausage** with peppers and onions and bread sticks, all done to perfection. **Janice Galt** once again provided the green salad with crisp mixed greens and farmer's market fresh tomatoes topped with Newman's organic balsamic and olive oil dressing.

Finally, right when we all needed an opportunity to move and jumpstart digestion, **Patrizio** called us together for the one and only **tarantella**. No Italian wedding or

celebration would be complete without the rhythmic song and dance of the **tarantella**. It is the most popular of all the Italian songs and it is even considered by many as the song of Italy. The song is both lively and graceful and the dance is one of light and quick steps mixed with passionate gestures. Its origin dates back to the Middle Ages and traces of a similar song can even be found in Magna Graecia.

Legend states that between the 15th and 17th centuries an epidemic of tarantism swept through the town of **Taranto** in southern Italy. This was as a result of being bit by the poisonous tarantula spider. The victim, which is referred to as the tarantata, was almost always a woman but never a high ranking lady or one of an aristocratic upbringing. Once bitten the tarantata would fall into a trance that could only be cured by frenzied dancing. People would surround the victim while musicians would play mandolins, guitars and tambourines in search of the correct rhythm. Each beat would have a different effect on the tarantata causing various movements and gestures. Once the correct rhythm was found it was almost certain that the tarantata was cured.

As legends have it there always seems to be more than one version. Another version states that a woman who was depressed and frustrated from the subordinate lifestyle would fall into a trance that could only be cured by music and dance. This normally lasted three days and during that time the tarantata would be the center of attention, which in turn would cure them of their frustrations and depressions. Of these two variations that most popular is the one in which the victim is bitten by the poisonous tarantula. This is why the tarantella is sometimes referred to as the dance of the spider.

With the lively beat of the tarantella in our ears and tapping feet, members formed three large circles and began. Circle right, circle left. Cross the floor with arm in arm.

And so it went as we danced through three renditions of this lively Italian folk song led by **Marlene Feira**.

Our club has some of the best darn cooks this side of **Sicily**, the dessert course was spectacular as well. Diners were treated to an amazing assortment of dolce: crunchy biscotti flavored with anise and chocolate dipped were provided by **Mary Teofilo, Peg Ricci Anderson and Vicky Piccione Sobeck**. **Mary** also made the rich and luscious tiramisu. **Marlene Sparapani Feira** baked a traditional delicious Italian ring cake called ciambellone cake (which translates to big donut). These amazing desserts were enough to tempt the devil himself!

Then it was time for clean-up and breakdown. As usual, many hands made the work light. This huge undertaking could not be possible without a dedicated planning committee. **Mille grazie** to everyone who contributed to making our 10th annual spaghetti dinner a huge success.

Our 9th Annual Musicale

By **Lynn Thompson**

On Tuesday evening, October 25th, club and board member, **Giovanni (John) Contratto** treated us to another fantastic Musicale!! Eighty people, members and guests of **Club ItaloAmericano**, were in attendance at the **Universal Unitarian Church**.

Every October talented vocalists and musicians, including many club members, come together to perform selections by Italian composers.

This year the theme was "**Stolen Melodies**," which cleverly added to our enjoyment by presenting songs in English, Spanish, and even Russian, followed by the original in Italiano, which, **John** explained, were not usually direct translations, though the melodies have been "stolen".

Some examples are: "**It's Now or Nev-**

er" (made popular by **Elvis Presley**), which uses the melody of **Capurro's "O Sole Mio," "I Want to Be Wanted"** (made popular by **Brenda Lee**) to the melody of **Calvetti and Ciapelli's "Per Tutta La Vita,"** and "**Don't You Know**" (of **Della Reese** fame) to the tune of **Puccini's "Musetta's Waltz!"**

Giovanni wove the selections together with his usual charm, providing background and anecdotes, which greatly enhanced the experience!

The audience was delighted to hear some of their favorite performers of Musicales past, as well as some new ones. Performing this year were **John Contratto, Randi Fay, Sergio Heredia, Mary Hall, Marlene Feira, Jennifer Stevens, Victor de Leon, Genadi Maltinski, and Emily Sculiuffo**. Club and board member, **Marlene Feira**, accompanied most of the performers on piano and performed two impressively complex and moving piano solos: **Fascination by Machetti and Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini**, as well.

Still in the afterglow of such a lovely musical experience, everyone shared savory antipasti and sweet dolci and enjoyed each other's company!

Grazie to all involved, especially **Janice Galt** for the venue arrangements, **Vicky Sobeck** for communications and registrations, and **Marlene Feira and Giovanni Contratto** for their wonderful talent and hard work!!

Club ItaloAmericano also would like to recognize Fosber America, Inc. for their annual \$100. donation!

Bravissimo!!

CENA DI NATALE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Save the Date! Mark Your Calendars!

The annual Christmas dinner which is our

premier event of the year is less than 5 weeks away! Soon you will receive a special invitation with all of the pertinent info via snail mail. Please make note of the deadline and get your reservations and checks in quickly.

WHERE'S YOUR RSVP??

During the course of the year, several of our club activities involve a meal at a restaurant. Most of these restaurants set up a special menu for our club and, therefore, need an accurate headcount approximately a week in advance so they know how many to prepare for.

If it is a prepaid activity such as our **Cena di Natale**, your check must accompany your reservation! It is very stressful and frustrating to have to send out several reminders as well as trying to accommodate people who respond after the deadline.

Please be considerate of the people who graciously volunteer to set up these activities and respond with a "yes" or "no" on or before the deadline. It will be greatly appreciated.

MEMERSHIP RENEWAL - 2017

Here is your opportunity to get a "jump start" on renewing your club membership for 2017. **Attached to this newsletter is the membership renewal form.**

Simply fill in the info, make your check out to CIAGB (dues remain at \$15.00 per person) and mail it to **Vicky Piccione Sobeck, 1810 Oakhill Drive, Green Bay, WI 54313.**

VOILA, you are a member in good standing for another year!

Notizie (News) from the Board

There have been two resignations from the Board of Directors in the past few months.

Pete Feira, a charter member of **Club ItaloAmericano**, served as its President, along with his wife **Marlene**, for 11 years. **Pete is now residing at Allouez Parkside Village Two on Libal Street.**

Vladimir Wojnar recently sold his business and retired. **Vlad** has been a club member for several years and served as our Vice President. He plans to spend his free time traveling for much of the year.

Patrick Kloster by unanimous vote will become our new Vice President. **Patrick** is also a long time club member and has served on the Board for many years.

Congratulazioni Patrizio!

One of the vacancies has been filled.

Mary BelmonteTabatabai will join us beginning in **January, 2017.** **Mary** and her husband **Morey** moved to Green Bay three years ago and immediately joined **Club ItaloAmericano.** She tells us that she likes spending time with her sisters, traveling, eating and drinking (wine of course). **Mary's** grandmother came from **Calabria** and her grandfather came from **Basilicata.**

Benvenuta, Mary!

Movie Anyone!?

By Lynn Thompson

Back in spring I announced an idea that I think will hit some of your spots for the forthcoming cooler weather, so I am republishing this version of the article. Try hosting an Italian home movie party it's a lot of fun!

Awhile back a few club members gathered at the home of **Steve and Shelley Bowe** to view the first segment of the club's copy of the Wisconsin Public Television production: **"The Italian Americans."** We started with hors d'oeuvres and wine, viewed

this great production together, then had a fun discussion around the table, enjoying the tasty meal prepared by **Shelley.**

We had such a great time together that we decided to recommend **"Italian Home Movie Parties"** to other club members. Anyone who wishes to host such a get-together could determine the movie, date, time, and whether the food is snacks, a meal, a dessert, etc., provided by the host or brought in potluck-style.

Movies can be obtained at the **Brown County Library** where there is a substantial Italian film collection. Several members of the club may also be willing to lend their own Italian movie videos. **Call or email Lynn Thompson if you are willing to share any of your Italian movies or are wishing to know which club members are willing to do so.**

Vicky Sobeck has copies of the wonderful 20th anniversary slide show produced by her husband, **Darrell** available for \$5, the soundtrack of which is marvelous and would provide excellent Italian music for your dining pleasure!

As a host you can either contact members from our club directory. Another option would be to send **Vicky** a write-up about your party, including date, time, place, what to bring, as well as a maximum amount of people you could host. **Vicky** would then openly invite our membership on a first come-first served basis. If you would like to invite new club members, **Vicky** could indicate some names to you, as well. Or, if you know anyone who may be interested in joining our club, this would certainly be a great way to make them feel welcome and to get to know them better!

It's a fun way to share our Italianismo and enjoy our club friends!!

Dinner And A Movie Night

Our fall movie is scheduled for November 16.

"La Strada" is the title of the movie.

Green Bay 33rd Annual AT&T Holiday Parade

The 33rd Annual AT&T Holiday Parade is swiftly approaching (November 19, 2016).

In 2015 Club ItaloAmericano of Green Bay was honored to receive the Grand Marshall award.

In order to make our presence known we will need the following from CLUB MEMBERS to make a GRAND appearance 2016.

Requirements for the 33rd Annual AT&T Holiday Parade:

1 Trailer

1 Vehicle to pull trailer

1 garage to house trailer within 1/2 mile from downtown (for the duration of the decorating process)

3 Club Members to be on the Food Committee

15 CLUB Members to be on the Float Decorating Committee

4 CLUB Members on the Costume Committee (seamstress or sewere)

20-25 CLUB Members to be participants in the Parade

If you have an interest showing your Italian Spirit by participating and/or are willing to contribute your time and talent please contact **Lisa Iapalucci for further details L.iapalucci87@gmail.com**

The theme for the Parade will be released at the end of July at which time our Italian theme will be able to be decided. Last year the theme was "La Bafana."

Club members who participated had a merry time as we swept the streets of Green Bay. We enjoyed our victory afterward with a celebratory toast at St Brendan's.

The parade is broadcast live and aired

throughout the holiday season— what a fantastic FREE Membership Drive!

CHRONOLOGY of EVENTS

2016

November 16. Dinner & an Italian Movie

November 19, Saturday Green Bay Holiday Parade

December 3, Saturday . . . Cena di Natale

CLUB LIBRARY

John Contratto has started a club library, which he will bring to each event he participates in.

Books may be borrowed for a month.

Names of borrowers, phone numbers and email addresses are recorded.

Books are welcome from lenders. All books will remain under the ownership of the lender. The club will not assume liability for any lost books.

THE CLUB LENDING LIBRARY:

LANZA

A biography of Mario Lanza
by Raymond Strait and Terry Robinson

SINATRA

by Anthony Summers

WONDERS OF ITALY

A Photographic Journey through Landscape, Art and Architecture

Oversize coffee table type book

PAGANINI

A biography of Nicolo Paganini (violinist)
By Leslie Sheppard and Dr. Herbert Axelrod

VERDIE

A biography of Giuseppe Verdi (composer)

By Francis Toye

GREEN, WHITE, RED

The Italian-American Success Story

By Dominic Pulera

THE COMPLETE OPERAS OF PUCCINI

By Charles Osborne

VIVALDI

By Marc Pincherle

VENICE: LION CITY

By Garry Wills

VENICE

Pictorial Travelogue

By Bonechi

FLORENCE

Pictorial Travelogue

By Bonechi

THE MEDICI

By Ferdinand Schevill

ARTICLES FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

Please feel free to submit articles or pictures for our newsletter. Information for each upcoming month needs to be **submitted to me by the 25th. (think Cmas) of the month.** You should email articles as an attachment in **Microsoft Word and pictures in a jpeg format.**

My email address is:

paolomarino1@gmail.com

Questions— call me at 612-360-8246

CLUB MEMBERS IN BUSINESS

We have several club members that are in the restaurant business:

Bilotti's in De Pere, Luigi's Italian Bistro in Green Bay, Sammy's Pizza in Green Bay, Titledown Brewery in Green Bay, Captains Walk Winery in Green Bay, Polito's Pizza

in Green Bay, the Oilerie in Fish Creek and on Lineville Road in Green Bay.

Whenever you visit these businesses, please mention that you are a member of Club ItaloAmericano as a support of their business and membership.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING

The next Board meeting will be on Thursday 17 November at Luigi's on Manitowoc Road at 5:30 pm. Board meetings are open to all members. Please join us we would love to have you there. We have fun and get things done!

Italian Heritage Month



MUSICALE-NUMERO NUOVE

Photos



Spaghetti Dinner Photos

