Founded 1994

Club Italo Americano Green Bay

Il Piccolo Giornale

November 2015

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Ninth Annual Spaghetti Dinner

October 10, 2015

By Lenora Fiorenza Rhyner

Squisito, Delizioso, Saporito, Gustoso, e Buono are five words that describe the spaghetti dinner held at **Green Isle Park in Allouez.** Because of the efforts of numerous **Club ItaloAmericano** members, it was a highly successful event. The total number attending was 70 with 16 being invited guests!!

From 4:00 until 5:15, antipasti comprised of either tomato bruschetta or spinach/artichoke on crostini along with black and green olives and cheese spread were available. Thus began a colorful and tasty celebration commemorating the founding of the **Americas by Cristoforo Colombo.**

As members and guests entered the pavilion, **Mark Mariucci** provided background music .There was no lack of socializing and no hesitation greeting each other with open arms and conversation. During this time, we had the opportunity to indicate on a wall-sized map of Italy and Sicily, the areas from which our ancestral families came. What was visually revealing is the fact that our ancestors emigrated from Italy, (the size of Arizona) and from the island of Sicily, (the size of Wisconsin), and we all came together in a pavilion in **Green Bay,Wisconsin!!!!**

Patrick Kloster, as our emcee, kept us on schedule with the introduction of guests, distributing forms for our Italian quotes contest, summarizing reasons to celebrate Columbus Day, extending thanks to our club board and directing us to the "table of plenty".

Led and encouraged by **Kitty Rosman,** several took advantage of participating in a Karaoke sing - along. Singing oldies but goodies, there were many happy and smiling faces on both sides of the microphone! The highlight was 70 voices joining in the chorus **of " That's Amore." Che divertimento!!! (What a good time!)**

Dolce (dessert) was next on the schedule: coffee and ice cream with three different kinds of biscotti donated by club members.

The winners of the Italian quotes contest were Anne Gollnick, Lisa Iapalucci, and Ron Cattelan.

Grazie to **Luigi's Bistro** for preparing the pasta, sauce, sausage and breadsticks.

Mille grazie to Dominic & Carlene Del Bianco and Wayne and Georgine (Fonzi) Knack, co-chairpersons of the dinner, and their committee who planned, set-up, prepared and efficiently served our repast. Thank you to all **Club ItaloAmericano** members and guests for participating with so much enthusiasm!!!

Club ItaloAmericano's

Musicale 2015

by Jo Anna Kloster

What do you get when you combine enchanting voices and the sweet sounds of the Italian language? Why, Musicale, of course!

Tuesday night, October 20, more than 78 members and guests of **Club Italo-Americano** filled the atrium of the **Unitarian Universalist Church** on Comanche. They were there for the club's much anticipated annual musical venue. **Musicale** is one of **Club ItaloAmericano's** most popular cultural events. Every October, talented vocalists and club members come together to perform operatic selections written by Italian composers from some of the most beloved operas. This year was no exception. **The audience was treated to selections from Verdi, Puccini, Donizetti, and Roffini.**

Warming up the crowd with an assortment of contemporary Italian favorites as well as folk tunes was the **Mariucci family: father Ardo and son David played acoustic guitar while accompanying brother Mark on vocals. Emcee, John (Giovanni) Contratto, strolled in with concertina in hand serenading the crowd with more vintage Italian favorites.**

John opened the program with **Libiamo from La Traviata.** He then reminded the crowd how Musicale is an informal affair. We love things Italian especially when we get a chance to express ourselves.

As our emcee John introduced each of our featured soloists with tidbits about each that was entertaining and informative.

Kent Paulsen, Melanie Riley, Mary Hall, Genadi Maltinski were our returning soloists as well as club member Mark Mariucci who followed **John's introduction with La donna e mobile from Rigoletto.**

New to Musicale was **Johathan Schweiger** who coincidentally plays in a Milwaukee rock band and who also grew up listening to his classically trained mother sing opera. John sang a much loved favorite, **Nessun dorma, from Turandot by Puccini.**

Mary Hall, choir master of Sturgeon Bay's Hope Church, treated us to selections from **Roffini (Barber of Seville) and from Verdi (Il Trovatore).** In her third trimester of pregnancy, **Mary** delivered an animated and upbeat rendition that delighted the crowd.

Kent Paulsen, a perennial favorite and former Saint Norbert Knight on Broadway, brought his humor and joive de vive as he delivered **Come paride vezzozo from L'elisir D'amore by Donizetti.** Kent pulled in the audience with his comedic bent and had them ad libbing giggles and verses at appropriate times in the song. Kent revealed that this was the first time he actually committed himself to sing the popular selection known as **"Figaro"**. His humor again tickled the audience when he shared how the first time he heard **Figaro** was in the cartoon Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd. He closed with a brief bit of history discussing when Italy was ruled by Austria.

Genadi Maltinski, a family medical doctor from Gillett, performed three selections with great emotion and delivery and accompanied himself on one selection with acoustic guitar: **Cortigiani, vil razza dannata from Rigoletto; E lucevan le stelle from Tosca; and Se il mio nome saper voi from the Barber of Seville.**

Accompanying the vocalists were two extremely talented club members: **John Contratto and Marlene Feira. Marlene** treated the crowd to a solo piece **by Verdi from the opera Rigoletto, Bella figlia dell'amore.**

Melanie Riley, a UW music department graduate, delighted the crowd with her clear and crisp vocals on **Caro nome from Rigoletto by Verdi and Quando men vo from La Boheme by Puccini**.

In the final selection a small group of club members joined guest vocalists in delivering a heartfelt **Va pensiero from Nabucco by Verdi. John** shared the roots of this song. Some scholars initially thought that the chorus was intended to be an anthem for Italian patriots, who were seeking to unify their country and free it from foreign control in the years up to 1861 (the chorus's theme of exiles singing about their homeland, and its lines **like O mia patria, si bella e perduta / "O my country, so lovely and so lost"** was thought to have resonated with many Italians).

The club thanks Janice Galt for securing Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church for this event, Vicky Sobek for helping to organize the event and John Contralto for emceeing. Club ItaloAmericano also recognizes *Fosber America Inc* for their annual $100 donation.

Dinner & an Italian Movie

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2015

Every fall and spring our Club selects and presents an Italian movie to be shown at the **Green Bay Film Society International Film Series at the Neville Museum.**

The comedy film "Big Deal on Madonna Street" [Italian title I Soliti Ignoti which translates as "The Usual Unknown Persons"] (1958) is directed by Mario Monicelli. This film is considered a masterpiece of Italian comedy. The plot centers on a group of small-time thieves who plan to burglarize a state-owned pawn shop [i.e. Monte di Pieta]. It includes typical elements of Italian comedy — satire about the government, and humor about the human condition and tragedy.

Dinner at Sammy's Pizza will be at 4:45 PM and the movie will begin at the Neville Museum at 7:00 PM. Please call, Vicky (Piccione) Sobeck at 865-7229 as

soon as possible, if you plan to have dinner at Sammy's. We need to give them a head count.

CENA DI NATALE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

SAVE THE DATE— Believe it or not, our annual Christmas dinner is only 6 weeks away! We already have the place (Green Bay Yacht Club), the music (Kyle Sweeny Trio from UWGB), our caterer (Kim Zimmerman), our decorations chairperson (Rosemary DesIsles) and our menu co-chair persons (Mary Teofilo and Peg Anderson). Watch for a special invitation via snail mail with more information.

Holiday Parade

Hello, my name is Lisa Iapalucci, I am on the Board of Directors with Club ItaloAmericano of Green Bay and the chair of the Committee for the 32nd Annual AT&T Holiday Parade in Downtown Green Bay.

This year's theme is **"Sounds of the Season".** The Club will be representing **"La Befana the Christmas Witch".** A float decorated in true Italian Style by several committee members representative of our heritage and culture will be our centerpiece as well as Italian and American music being provided.

The Parade takes place on November 21st at 10:00 am. As of this date, we are currently honored to be scheduled to start off the parade; what this means is that there will be minimal wait time (15-20 minutes). The parade route is approximately three (3) blocks long and takes no longer than 15-20 minutes.

I am personally inviting you to join us in starting the holiday season by supporting your Club and walking with us. The parade will be televised in front of the Courthouse on Channel 26 and will be aired throughout the holiday season.

I encourage you think about this, invite your family, friends and neighbor to join us. **Kindly respond to me via email at L.Iapalucci87@gmail.com.** I will contact you with further details as they become available. **Thank you in advance for your time, attention and commitment to Club ItaloAmericano of Green Bay.**

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming our three new members**. Judith Michaels'** maternal family came from **Monacilioni near Campobasso, Italy.** As happened so often, their last names were changed when they first entered the country. **Pietracatella became Pietracatelli and Martino became Martini**. Her grandparents lived in **Canada before coming to the U.S. Thomas (Mac) and Sylvia (Rauzi) McElroy whose mother and father came from Cloz, Tento**, have also become members this month**. Sylvia** has written a biography of her father **Guiseppe's** stories from childhood to death entitled **"Walk Brave, Walk Strong".** It has sold over 800 copies throughout the world!

Benvenuti a tutti!

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

It's that time of the year again. If you would like to pay your dues, you can. Send your check ($15 per person) made out to Club ItaloAmericano, to: Vicky (Piccione) Sobeck, 1810 Oakhill Drive, Green Bay, WI 54313-4800.

CLUB APPAREL -LAST CALL

We now have a sufficient number of items to place an order for our fall/winter club apparel! **The deadline to get in on this offer will be Friday, November 13.** Absolutely no orders will be accepted after this date. Remember all orders must be prepaid. **Checks should be made out to "Promotional Designs". To place your order, call Vicky (Piccione) Sobeck at 865-7229. Delivery will be approximately 2 weeks after ordering. Wouldn't these items make great Christmas gifts!!**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PASSEGGIATE 2015

Tanti grazie from Jackie (Gilardi) Kucera, Pete & Marlene Feira to Bill Fowle, Shelley & Steve Bowe and Paul and Collette Marino/Arkens for stepping up to the plate and organizing the 2015 passeggiate!

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Because of increased commitments and a move to **Appleton, Board Member Ron Bernard** has decided to step down but has assured us that he will remain a loyal club member. **Ron** served as a "fill-in" board member for snowbirds Bill and Peg Anderson in 2014 and continued as a regular until the present.

Grazie mille Ron, especially for all your time and expertise working on our Facebook page and our Web Site! We look forward to being with you at our events.

Arriverderci Rolando.

NEWS ALERT

Jennifer Stevens is a Native American vocalist who has participated in our Musicales. She wrote this note to our club.

Dear friends,

I will be having my debut solo exhibit on Oneida Pottery opening October 29, 2015 to April 30, 2016 at the Neville Museum, Green Bay, WI and starting May 15, 2015 to November 2016 at the Oneida Nation Museum, Oneida WI.

A historical journey of **Oneida pottery;** from a major part of Oneida People's lives, to extinction, and today's contemporary revival. I will share my journey and stories of how I started making pottery and how I traveled to New York State to research Oneida Pottery from 1100 AD to late 1600's at the New York State Museum, Albany, New York and Rochester Museum and Science Center, Rochester, NY.

Now is a special time in my life; I get the opportunity to learn about Oneida-Haudenosaunee and New York State pottery and bring what I have learned home.

My goal is always to do **"Community Building Through the Arts, "** either through my music or visual art; this exhibit is to strive to use the arts for community building which I have the pleasure to work with the Greater Green Bay and Oneida communities.

I am also having two pottery workshops for youth and families November 7, 2015 12 PM -3 PM at the Neville Museum and November 14, 2015 12 PM - 3 PM at the Oneida Nation Museum as we celebrate November's Native American Heritage Month.

The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation make this exhibit possible where I am one of their NACF Regional 2014 Fellows, which I am grateful for the opportunity.

Here is video about my Oneida Pottery Project and the stories behind my exhibit.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9F5E_7EKuk&feature=youtu.be

Warmest regards,

Jennifer

CHRONOLOGY of EVENTS FOR THE REST OF 2015

November 18, Wednesday . . .Dinner & an Italian Movie

December 5, Saturday...Cena di Natale

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 Christmas) 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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board meeting will be on **Thursday 19 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!

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, Titletown Brewery in Green Bay, and the Captains Walk Winery 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.

SPAGHETTI DINNER PHOTOS

MUSICALE 2015 PHOTOS

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