



IAHF NEWS

A CHRONICLE OF ITALIAN AMERICAN LIFE IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY FOR OVER 45 YEARS



ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION • ESTABLISHED 1975 • FOUNDED AS NONPROFIT 1976

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MARY PIZZO / IAHF NEWSLETTER EDITOR



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

That's a wrap!

2024 Italian Family Festa

And just like that, the 2024 Italian Family Festa is in our rear-view mirror. I'd like to start by thanking the hundreds of people who

volunteered. If it wasn't for them, our Festa would not be possible!

We were fortunate enough to see the return of the bocce court as well as the Italian folklore costume fashion show. It was wonderful to be part of the procession from the Cultural Tent to the gas station where there was a Lamborghini and Ferrari on display. Cell phones were pulled out taking video of the almost 40 people in the procession. When we all arrived there and were posed around the cars, many more stopped and took pictures. Delia Schizzano made most of these costumes by hand. It was unbelievable all the time she spent as many people went to her house to be fitted and brought to life these beautiful works of art!

The Kids Zone was hopping all day long each day. Everywhere you went, there were kids with painted faces that were beautifully done. We had several new

food booths and artist vendors join us this year. The cannoli and gelato booth always had a line and even sold out of cannoli on Sunday evening.

This year, I was able to get a different perspective of the Festa. I was able to walk around the park more this year than in the past. Some of you may remember that I had rotator cuff surgery at the end of May. I am still under a weight restriction on my right arm, so I had to depend on several people to help me prep my booths and deliver soda, water and ice. I owe a HUGE shout out to the following men: Andy Aguirre (the best husband in the world), Azie Habib, Paul Greco, Joe Rosati and Louie Lombardo. They were literally my "right hand men." I don't know what I would have done without them! From the bottom of my heart, *Grazie Mille!*

Upcoming Food and Toy Drives

Please be sure to make note on your calendar for the Food Drive that will benefit [Our Daily Bread](#) in Sunnyvale as well as the Toy Drive that will benefit [Family Giving Tree](#). We had a great turn out last year and are anticipating another wonderful turn out this coming Fall. More details to follow in our next newsletter.

~~~Dana Zuccarello Aguirre, President

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**Help us make Festa better by providing your feedback from the 2024 Italian Family Festa!**

We tried some new ideas this year and want to know what you think. Please click the link below to provide us your feedback in a quick 3 minute survey.

Share with friends and family who attended, the more feedback the better.

<https://form.jotform.com/242104331557145>

## September

• Sept. 05, Thursday / Cooking Class - Learn how to make a classic Ciambella Cake and an Italian Holiday Cake / 7-9pm / At the Hall / \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members / Purchase tickets [online](#) or by calling the IAHF at (408) 293-7122. Parking may be scarce due to another event scheduled for that same evening.

• Sept. 26, Thursday / Cena Fuori / Location TBA / Watch for details online and coming in an email message.

**Note:** There will not be a Regional Lunch in September.

## October

• October 3, Thursday / Cooking Class / 7-9 pm / More information to come.

• Oct. 07, Monday / Dinner and Wine Pairing / 6-9pm / A16 San Francisco / \$85 per person / If interested, call the IAHF at (408) 293-7122 by September 20.

• Oct. 08, Tuesday / Annual Membership Dinner and General Meeting / 7-9pm / At the Hall / Members only / All members must RSVP by clicking on this [online link](#) or by calling the IAHF at (408) 293-7122. Please RSVP no later than Oct 02.

## November

• Nov. 03, Sunday / Festa d'autunno at [Guglielmo Winery](#) / 5-9pm / \$80 per person / Make reservations [online](#) or by calling the IAHF at (408) 293-7122 by October 29.

• November 7, Thursday / Cooking Class / Holiday Cookies / 7-9 pm / At the Hall / \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members / Purchase tickets [online](#) or by calling the IAHF at (408) 293-7122.

## Coming Soon

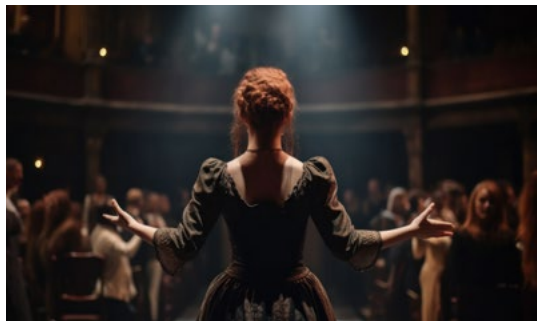
• Early December / Ballo di Natale / Christmas dinner dance featuring music from the Millennium Sounds Orchestra / More information to come.

## ONGOING LANGUAGE CLASSES

Italian Language Classes / Conversational and Intermediate - Online classes/ Weekly Monday and Wednesday / 6pm-7pm / Join with [Meetup](#) at <https://www.meetup.com/san-jose-italian-language-meetup-group>

Classes are taught by Marie Dalldorf, a native Italian. Classes are informal and free of charge, and we welcome people at all levels. We focus on conversational text and phrases to help you achieve more fluency, increase your vocabulary, and increase your confidence in speaking Italian.

# LA GRANDE OPERA ITALIANA- -PATRIMONIO DELL' UMANITA'



In December 2023, only about eight months ago but it seems like years ago at the rate we are going, UNESCO placed Italian Opera on its world cultural list that designates Italian Opera as an art form that is a "Patrimony of Humanity." These special awards are usually reserved for locations and special historic sites, like Matera Sasso in Italy. So it is quite an honor to acknowledge Italian Opera with this world class achievement, and now considered a "patrimony of humanity."

IAHF member and Professor emeritus, Bill McCraw, went on to note that to commemorate this recognition a grand concert featuring leading Italian and international singers was given at the Arena di Verona on June 7. Riccardo Muti conducted the

first part of the concert with special artist and conductors taking part in the festivities. The complete event is on YouTube, "La Grande Opera Italiana, Patrimonio dell'Umanita'" Also as an FYI the seating capacity of the Roman Arena—it's 22,000. Grazie Bill and Janet for sharing this amazing news with our members.

~~~ Ken Borelli

A CELEBRATION OF ITALIAN WINE WITH SHELLEY LINDGREN



In celebration of her visit to the IAHF there was a regional buffet and sampling of both Italian wines and varietals from Shelley's wineries. She is producing wines in 3 California locations, Hollister, Sonoma and Napa, under the Tansy Label. She shared with us two varietals: Fiana, and Fallaghina; additional wines included Borgo Torre-Le Marche, Rifonzoli-Rosso di Toscana, Massaro Del Fondo-Puglia, and Pinot Grigo -Venezia.

To try to summarize the content of the talk one would have to replicate the event. Suffice to say it was "wine talk" from begging to end and reflective of both a renaissance lady and an engaged audience. When these sorts of conversations "connect" they really become more than the sum total of their parts. It was very much a fascinating learning experience about the grape growing regions of Italy. Prior to visiting us, Shelley was a judge at a tasting of Sicilian wines in NYC.

Shelley also shared with us her vision of her restaurant, A16, on Chestnut Street in San Francisco. There are now plans to expand the operation with a similar restaurant in the area along with a wine tasting facility featuring her California wines, in Napa. We will keep our readers apprised of the opening of both new ventures.

I had always wondered about the name, A16, and in the Q/A someone asked about it and Shelley noted her restaurant was named after Autostrada 16, which traverses some of the major wine growing regions in Italy...which makes sense given her passion for Italian wines and all the years it took to research and write the book. A16 was a well-traveled route.

Shelley was knighted by the Italian Government for her work and promotion of Italian wines. A cornerstone of the book is moving beyond the Tuscan/Veneto/Piemonte triangle of Italian wines and opening to the spectrum to include all regions of Italian wine productions. Shelley and Kate's book begins to close a knowledge gap with a systematic survey of many of the regional varietal in Italy today. The book itself will be reviewed in a later article by our book critic Linda Binkley. One exciting piece of networking resulting from this event is planning two special wine related activities as follows:

PLEASE NOTE: The first event will be to work on a field trip to A16 in San Francisco, with a fixed prize menu, details to follow. In addition, many of you will recall two years ago when we sampled a special selection of regional wines from Guglielmo Winery. We have a tentative date Sunday November 3rd, which is the last Sunday of Daylight savings time, being planned, and will include a catered dinner and tastings from small planting of grapes from their family's origins. These wines are of limited production, can only be purchased at the winery.

"In vino veritas!" ~~~ Ken Borelli

INTERESTED IN VISITING A16?

Following Shelley's presentation, one thing led to another for a small but interested group of Italian wine enthusiasts. We are considering having dinner at her award-winning restaurant **A16** in San Francisco. Because it is a popular venue, with limited street parking, we are considering going on Monday, October 7th for dinner and wine pairing.

The restaurant A16 is located on Chestnut Street in San Francisco, near the Presidio. It is named after the Autostrada, A16, that traverses many important wine regions in Italy. It was a major route on Shelley's travels through Italy doing research on her landmark book [Italian Wines](#). Likewise, A16 has become a culinary landmark destination and Michelin recommended restaurant.

If you're interested in visiting A16 on that date, please call the IAHF (408 202-5773) by September 20th to let me know of your interest. I will get back to you regarding details as we plan this visit. This event is a "work in progress." Depending on interest we will work out the details for the event, including car pooling.

~~~ Ken Borelli



# AN OLD FASHION SUNDAY DINNER—WITH EMBELISHMENTS!



For many of us growing up in an Italian American household, Sunday afternoons were reserved for what I can only say was a "dinner process" that may have started around 2 and ended in the evening, who knows when! Friends and neighbors were also part of the Sunday family dinner tradition. To some extent, our Polenta dinner, for which we annually partner with the Tricarico Club, certainly had that feel. The time duration, of course, was a bit shorter, yet the embellishments by DJ Eric certainly brought the experience to a new level.

The Hall was transformed and decorated into a village-back-drop theme with center stage a glimpse into the fountains of Rome! That was the "ambience" for a delicious Sunday dinner. The Tricarico Club's polenta preparation is legendary. For those who were not able to have it last Sunday, the Club will be at the Festa with their Polenta Booth. The dinner was a "comfort food experience" minus a lot of the work, thanks to a dedicated crew of volunteers who made this event so special. The music and dancing by DJ Eric lasted until 7:30pm and was an easy way to burn some of the calories from the meal.



The dinner event started with welcomes by the Presidents of the two organizations, Dana Zuccarello for the IAHF and Ben DiNapoli for the Tricarico Club. Some special guests included the accordionist, Benito, and Rubin, owner of Cafe Vitale. We have had several Cena Fuori at this jewel of a restaurant in Los Altos, and we have bonded over his fine food and hospitality.



A special word of appreciation to the many volunteers who helped make this event so special. From the Tricarico Club, there was Mike D'Antonio Jr. and Sr., Ben Di Napoli, Bob LaMantia, Ted LaMantia, Ben Leon and Erin Wengrofsky. From the IAHF there was Maria Bandy, Azie Habib, Joe Lucito, Nora Monette, Stanley Olivar and Christian Zeffaro. Gratitude also goes to a special group of kitchen volunteers aka "Azie's Angels": Mimi Barkley, Antonina Ettare, Ida Hill, Kiku Johnson, Sheila Lawhon, Prateik Malik and Becky Wright. My apologies if I overlooked anybody!

We certainly could use some additional help down the line to "produce" similar events! Our dinner experience of approximately four hours represented five days of work, with food being freshly prepared even up to serving. The Hall decorations alone took about two days of prep, with a crew doing set-up while Eric worked on his decorations each day.

Eric's backdrops have set a standard that certainly will be challenging to replicate. We had some of the backdrops at the Festa for photo ops and for the Italian Costume Show coordinated by Delia Schizzano. Delia also shared with those in the audience information about the costume show planned for the Festa's Culinary and Cultural Stage, and the need for models of all ages for that Sunday afternoon show (see a separate article in the newsletter for details).

~~~ Ken Borelli





FESTA FASHION SHOW ARTICLE COMING IN OCTOBER ISSUE

As you'll see there is much to cover in this issue regarding our successful 2024 Italian Family Festa. What makes the IAHF's Italian Family Festa so unique is its multi-faceted celebration of Italian culture and heritage.

This year's fashion show was so exciting and had many members providing regional clothing, modeling and sewing, we could not do it justice in this issue. It was such a rich heritage experience that it merits something special in the form of a special article. What makes the IAHF's Italian Family Festa so unique is its multi faceted celebration of Italian culture and heritage. The fashion show is one of those venues and will be highlighted in the Oct. Newsletter. Stay tuned!

Look for a special coverage in the October newsletter regarding our Italian Clothing Fashion Show.



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ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA San Jose

Roma Stage and Grape Stomp Winners



ITALIAN FAMILY
FESTA
San Jose

SPONSORS

Our Annual Festa is a massive event that takes time, talent, dedication and money. Lots of money. The following list reflects just the beginning of those who have made a financial commitment as a Festa Sponsor. This list will continue to grow. Some have been helping us for years, some are brand new. We are very grateful to all our sponsors.

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ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA San Jose

Bocce, Music and food!





**ITALIAN FAMILY
FESTA**
S a n J o s e

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- Azie Habib
- Dana Zuccarello-Aguire
- Gene Guglielmo
- George Guglielmo
- Joe Rosati

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- Paul Greco

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CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

- Ken Borelli

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- Theresa Lawhead
- Ralph Occhipinti
- Mary Pizzo
- Tran Tran

GRAPE STOMP

- Joe & Kaye Lucito
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- Stanley Olivar

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- Mel Zaro
- Dana Zuccarello-Aguire
- Sue Minor

VOLUNTEERS

- Sharon McCray

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- Robert Martinez

ZONA DI RAGAZZE

E RAGAZZI

- Marie Rose Dalldorf
- Jan Prinzivall



Have photos of the 2024 Festa to share?

Please click on this link to upload:

<https://forms.gle/4GAqxyGESKTZQkKX8>

Thank you! -- Louie Lombardo / 4th Vice President

Help us make Festa even better!

We tried some new ideas this year and want to know what you think, please click the link below to provide us your feedback in a quick 3 minute survey. Share with friends and family who attended, the more feedback the better.

<https://form.jotform.com/242104331557145>



Thank you to our Festa volunteers!



Spotlight on Stanley Olivar, IAHF's Office Manager

All of us who have enjoyed activities at the IAHF have met our office manager Stanley Olivar. We are so fortunate to have him with us. He found us by chance, when someone approached him before Mass at Holy Cross and handed him a clipping of our newsletter with the help-wanted ad. President Dave Perzinski accepted his application, and after a few days, Stanley began work at the IAHF office. The Board of Directors members were quickly impressed with Stanley's skills, and his very apparent fondness for Italian culture. Stanley caught on quickly to how IAHF social events are handled and did especially well managing our busy rental program. In fact, in time, he contributed to improvements in several areas.

When I served as President, Stanley made my life so much easier. His help with the website and general online business was greatly appreciated. I was always careful to listen to his suggestions. During my work effort to save the statue of Columbus which City Hall no longer wanted, Stanley patiently helped me deal with my many meetings and was influential in involving the Knights of Columbus. Stanley is now a Fourth Degree member of the Knights.

Stanley's background is fascinating. Born in Manila, Philippines, he was raised by a single mom and with his maternal grandfather. His Catholic education from

kindergarten through college in the seminary shines through today with his involvement in the church and in his spirituality. It seems he was a bit of a prodigy in music and played piano to help fund his education that culminated in his receiving his degree in Philosophy. We have some events that are livened up thanks to Stanley's music.



Leaving the Philippines, he found work for several years in Saudi Arabia where he held various management positions over a six-year period. He worked in the corporate world in the daytime and played piano for Hyatt Regency in the evenings.

It is fortuitous for us that Stanley came to the Bay Area, and then, we had the good luck that an unknown member of his church community invited him to apply to work for the IAHF. He has become a valuable and appreciated asset to our organization. Stanley manages the IAHF calendar both for our social events and for our rental program. Stanley greets all potential renters and works closely with them to ensure their planned event goes smoothly and safely.

There is not a moment when he is not busy supporting the Board in some way: helping with the newsletter, communicating with members, keeping the membership roster and files up to date, helping to keep the hall in good order. We are fortunate to have him, and special thanks to the angel who recommended him to us.

~~~ Linda Binkley, photo credits to Daniel Frazer





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I will donate \$1000 to the IAHF for any referrals and a \$1000 referral fee to the member who makes the referral.

**St. Joseph of Cupertino**

**Pray for us.**

*(Feast day September 18)*

SRO





## Festa d'autunno alla Cantina Guglielmo!



By popular request we are going back to [Guglielmo Winery](#) for a special Sunday dinner! Save Sunday, No-

vember 3, for a South County adventure. IAHF members and friends will visit the historic Guglielmo Winery founded in 1925 by Emilio Guglielmo for a catered dinner and wine tasting starting at 5pm.

Dinner will be catered by "[Fire 4 Hire](#)." We will also enjoy some wine tasting of a special selection of limited release varietal wines grown from ancestral grapevine stock from the Piemonte region, the family's origin. This is a timely reminder too of this wonderful wine growing region right in our own back yard as well as our rich agricultural roots. We have planned this event on the cusp of daylight savings time so you can drive to the area in daylight. Come a little early and visit the tasting room and grounds at this landmark destination. The winery itself is a fascinating part of Bay Area history.

The menu will include antipasti, grilled romaine wedges with gorgonzola cheese and herb dressing. There will be a choice of entrees: stuffed bone in veal chop or herb crusted halibut, both with a side dish of red skinned garlic mashed potatoes and grilled asparagus with "focaccia al rosmarino." Dessert will be tiramisu.

We will be using the indoor reception room that accommodates approximately 80 people. We will try to have assigned seating of up to 8 people per table. The sooner we know the people in your party, the easier it will be to do the seating.

The Guglielmo Family Winery is located at 1480 East Main Avenue in Morgan Hill. The cost of the event is \$80 per person. To make your reservation [online](#), mail a check or pay in advance at the IAHF. Payment must be made by October 29, likewise no refunds can be given after that date.

Celebrate Autumn Harvest – "Festa d'autunno" with the IAHF at Guglielmo Winery!

~~~ Ken Borelli

The IAHF
Needs
YOU!



IAHF Board of
Directors

Applications
Now Open

The IAHF is seeking members to fill 2025 Board vacancies caused by term limitations and incumbents up for re-election.

This is an exciting time to be a Board member. We currently have an enthusiastic and varied Board that broadly represents the diversity of our Italian American Community. The role of our governing Board is to provide oversight for the operations of the IAHF, make the necessary decisions that impact membership and activities in accordance with IAHF Bylaws, and provide the leadership to implement our common vision! It is also a great opportunity to work with a creative team to plan and promote our Italian Heritage and assist the IAHF to carry out its vision and mission statement of sharing our culture and values with the community. We welcome new ideas about things to offer the Italian American community or thoughts about ways to improve what we are already doing.

Board members are expected to attend monthly Board meetings, participate in events, chair committees, volunteer as needed and be dedicated to promoting and preserving our Italian heritage and culture. The time commitment is ~15 hours a month outside of the monthly meetings. If you are interested in becoming a Board member, you can read the qualification guidelines and complete the on-line application here: [2025 Board Application](#). Once you've completed your application, all applicants go through a screening process and meet with the Nominating Selection Committee for an interview. Selected Board members will be introduced at our October Membership Meeting and, depending on the number of applications, there may need to be an election. Deadline for application submittals extended to September 30.

If you would like more information about becoming a Board member, please feel free to contact me at louie.lombardo@iahfsj.org. – Louie Lombardo / 4th Vice President

The **2025 Board Application** hyperlink is: <https://form.jotform.com/221435388962161>

Honoring a Hero: Joe Gallegos

Grand Marshal in D.C.'s Memorial Day Parade



Here is another heartwarming story about an IAHF centenarian, Joe Gallegos, "Grandpa" to his family. Joe was invited to be the Grand Marshal on the veteran's float for the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C. on May 27, 2024.

The American Veterans Center sponsored the trip. Joe was on the float with all veterans of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, plus the current Miss America, Madison Marsh, who is an active-duty Air Force Pilot.

Joe had a wonderful trip to D.C. His participation in the parade with the bands, cheering crowds and the sight of American flags waving made a lasting impression on him. Seeing all the veterans reminded him of the American sacrifice shared in Washington, D.C. and beyond. Joe was proud and honored to represent his fellow veterans and share their stories of service and courage that brought all of them together.



Throughout the week, he was honored in many ways. Among them, was his video interview by the American Veterans Center that will be published and preserved in the National Archives. His story will be part of American history. Joe shared stories about his experience working as a radio operator and making many trips across Western Europe transporting gasoline for General Patton.

Joe reflected on his gratitude and how proud he was of the honor he received to serve as Grand Marshal. However, he wanted to share the message of the importance of remembering and honoring veterans. Joe had a message to pass along to the future generation: "Carry on the best we can and trust God along the way."

At 100 years old, Joe continues to defy expectations by embracing new challenges and adventures. Several years ago, he began taking online Italian classes after many years of taking Italian classes with Delia. Joe eagerly attends the weekly online Italian classes. He is always prepared, and his enthusiasm is infectious. His classmates are inspired by his dedication and sharp mind, as am I, his teacher..

Photos provided by Joe's granddaughter, Kristen Gallegos: Joe's service photo from the service. Joe on the float at Boeing on the 4th of July with the Air Force Flag

~~~ Marie Rose Peirano Dalldorf



# Giugno 2024 Cena Fuori at Vin Santo



VIN SANTO  
RISTORANTE WILLOW GLEN

What better compliment to give than that of returning - again - and again - and again - like the song "Retorno a Sorrento" - "Siamo tornati a Vin Santo" for the fifth time!!!! (actions speak louder than words!)

There were 32 of us who enjoyed a comfortable evening on the spacious patio, readying for our al fresco dining experience. The cheerful and efficient staff went from table to table, taking drink orders and keeping us happy as we eagerly awaited our Cena. And, as in times past, we were treated with gracious hospitality!

To our delight, plentiful and delicious platters of bruschetta pomodoro appeared on our table. We savored the flavors of bruschetta topped with fresh, sweet tomatoes and basil. House made bread soon appeared along with our insalata mista, organic mixed greens garnished with Vin Santo's own in-house vinaigrette.

Our entrée choices to savor included "Melanzane Parmigiana" (eggplant parmigiana served with pasta marinara and fresh steamed broccoli); "Farfalle ai Crostacei" (bow tie pasta with sautéed shrimp, lobster and crab in a lobster Cajun tomato cream sauce); or Lasagna Tradizionale (fresh egg pasta with meat ragout, bechamel sauce, parmesan and mozzarella cheeses). The portions were HUGE as was witnessed by the small little boxes that started to magically appear on everybody's tables.

Yet, of course! - there's always room for dessert - especially when it is Vin Santo's very own Limoncello Cake - YUM!!!!

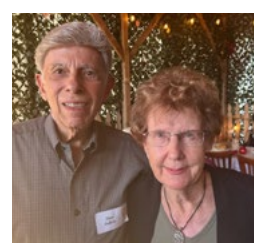
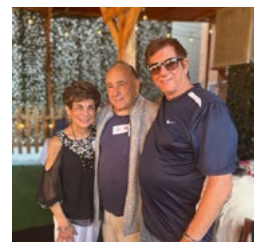
Some time back, Owner and Chef Umberto declared his primary goal in his restaurant is to "Provide the freshest, highest quality food, service and ambiance." We are delighted to acknowledge that this attitude is faithfully being carried on while he is away by his expert culinary staff! We were certainly wooed with the savory cuisine and hospitable ambiance for which Vin Santo is renown.

What an evening of *Mangia, Mangia!*

Special thanks to Ken and Stanley for their enthusiasm and fun spirit to continue to lead us on these Italian gourmet epicurean pleasure trips. Always a treat!

~~~ Cathy De Maria

NOTE: This restaurant closed its doors in July. We were fortunate to be able to enjoy and savor the culinary flavors of Vin Santo in June! We thank Vin Santo for its gracious hospitality during our several Cena Fuori visits.



Rosie the Riveter

We've all heard the story of Rosie the Riveter.

A Rosie (or Rosina, as some Italians preferred) was any woman who worked for the war effort. My mom did her part but kept it secret. It wasn't until after she died that we found her Air Raid Warden certificate. I would love to have talked to her about this important job.

Recognition for their hard work and dedication was many decades overdue, but that is being corrected. I've mentioned my neighbor Vita Fota in previous columns, who has participated in several reunions. She was excited to share that she and other local Rosies were honored at the Spirit of '45 weekend on August 10th, held in Kelly Park.

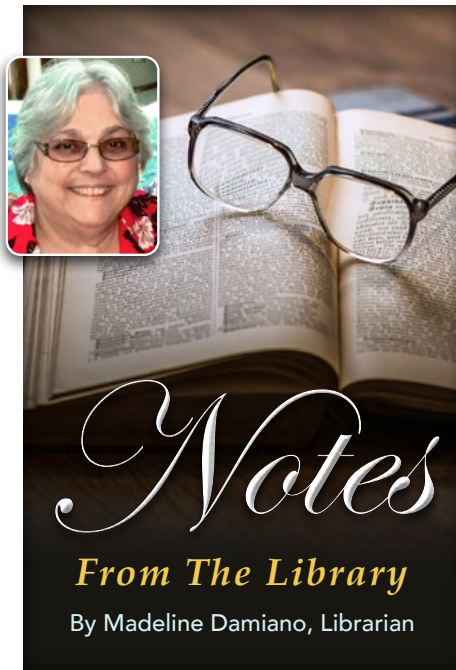


It didn't pay a lot, but she gained satisfaction from knowing her work was crucial.

Our Own Rosie

From 1942 to 1945 Vita worked as a Rosie in Binghamton, New York. Her brother had joined the Navy, and Vita wanted to follow his example. But she did not meet the minimum height standard (who knew there was such a thing?).

A referral to the Navy depot led to a job sewing work outfits and uniforms.



The large room housed 20-25 women, diligently working the foot pedals of the sewing machines as they pushed the cloth under the needles. Efficiency called for piecework; Vita worked with assembling the pants.

"Every morning at 7 o'clock, I would go to the depot, sit at my sewing machine, sew the uniforms, and then at 4 o'clock, I'd go home . . . I did that every day for those three years."



But Vita wanted to do more. At night she worked for the American Red Cross. She would greet

trainloads of soldiers while handing out coffee, donuts, cigarettes, sandwiches, pens, and paper. Although she enjoyed meeting the soldiers, it also felt bittersweet, wondering who among them might not make it home.

Were You a Rosie?

Celebrations of the Rosies seem to be ongoing. Vita has been invited to another recognition ceremony in San Francisco this October. Details are pending.

I am always interested in learning more about the lives of our members. If you would like your story to be told, please contact me.

Comments? Email me at librarian@iahfsj.org



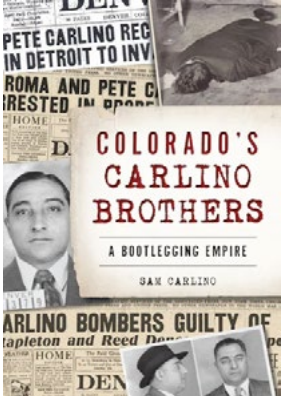
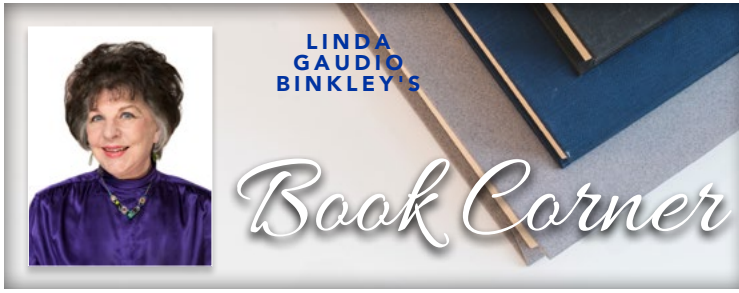
Seeking Artifacts: Italian POWs' Artistry on Display in 2025 at the Calandra Institute (NY)

[The Calandra Institute](#), a major research institute dedicated to the study and promotion of the Italian-American experience, is set to unveil a unique exhibit in April 2025, dedicated to showcasing the creativity and resilience of Italian World War II POWs held in the United States. This exhibit will feature an array of handcrafted objects, paintings, photographs, letters, newspapers, and other artifacts. Curators Laura E. Ruberto from Berkeley City College and Joseph Sciorra from the Calandra Institute are actively seeking crafts and artwork, for potential inclusion in the exhibit, whether created during their captivity or as post-war reflections.

This initiative presents a significant opportunity for the Twila Venuti Library at the IAHF to lend its support. If you possess any relevant artifacts or know of someone who does, please consider contributing to this important historical exhibit. For further information or to discuss potential contributions, please contact Vanessa Sordello, Library Intern, or Madeline Damiano, Librarian, by email at librarian@iahfsj.org or call our office at 408-293-7122. Grazie!

~~~ Marie Bertola and Madeline Damiano





## Colorado's Carlino Brothers, a Bootlegging Empire

By Sam Carlino

Author Sam Carlino has delved into his family history with intense, scholastic detail. His work has become a major contribution to the history of

the Mafia in the United States, specifically the lesser-researched Colorado area. The book is an eye-opener for those of us who thought Colorado was just cowboys and Coors Beer.

Colorado's Carlino Brothers, A Bootlegging Empire reveals a sordid story of murder and intrigue between the related Carlino and Danna families who sadly brought the Sicilian vendetta way of life to American soil. The number of murders the brothers were involved in is astounding. The connection of the Carlino brothers to the New York and Chicago Mafia leaders is researched and detailed and old

photographs of the Prohibition era enhance the narrative.

Author Carlino's San Jose family is well-respected, law-abiding, hard-working and successful. Sam always believed his grandfather had died of pneumonia. Finding the truth of his death by a Mafia gunman led Sam to become the family historian, albeit a sad history. Author Carlino shows exceptional writing skills, deftly sorting out the intricate and convoluted connections driving the illegal movement of Prohibition alcohol throughout Colorado and driving the on-going vendettas. It's sad to see family and friends turn on each other with murderous intent over control of the illegal business. The family made poor choices after immigrating from Sicily and most paid the ultimate price. Sam's grandmother proved to be boldly brave and escaped with her sons and created a new and beautiful life in San Jose, the true American dream.

Author Carlino's writing is swift and clear. It was a nice touch to see the chapter titles written in Italian, though I wondered that perhaps they should have been in Sicilian. Historians will appreciate Author Carlino's contribution to the history of the Sicilian Mafia as it existed in Colorado during and before Prohibition, a bloody time for those involved and a fearful time for the families.

Visit [Sam's Bar-B-Que](#) for a delicious meal and, if Sam is present, you can enjoy a pleasant conversation with him and buy a copy of his book, Colorado's Carlino Brothers, a Bootlegging Empire.

Linda Gaudio Binkley

## Try out your Italian skills on this

Draw a line from the Italian word to the English translation. Check your answers in the key below.

1. Il primogenitor
2. Il Maggiore
3. Il piu giovane
4. I gemelli
5. Adottato
6. Orfano
7. I parenti
8. I genitori
9. Il profenitore
10. Discendenti

- Decendants
- Twins
- Firstborn
- Ancestor
- Relatives
- the youngest
- the oldest
- Parents
- Adopted
- Orphan

Answer key: 1. Firstborn 2. the oldest 3. the youngest 4. Twins 5. Adopted 6. Orphan 7. Relatives 8. Parents 9. Ancestor 10. Descendants

# IAHF Board of Director's Meeting Minutes August 12, 2024

**Attendance:** Dana Zuccarello Aguirre, Frank De Turris, Ken Borelli, Azie Habib, Sharon McCray, Louie Lombardo, Marie Bertola, Madeline Damiano, Paul Greco, Joe Lucito, Nanci Wilborn, Tony Zerbo  
**Absent:** Mary Pizzo, Stephen Ricossa, Susan Monahan

Editor's note: Mary Pizzo was unable to attend this meeting as Secretary. The meeting was recorded; however the audio portion of the meeting was corrupted by static for 45-minutes of the meeting. The notes below are from of the items of business captured from the recording.

Dana opened the meeting welcoming everyone and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

- Ken motioned to approve July's Meeting Minutes, with the spelling corrections discussed by board members. Seconded by Azie. Approved for the record.

## **President's report, Dana Zuccarello Aguirre**

- To be updated at the next board meeting

## **CFO Report, Frank DeTurris**

- To be updated at the next board meeting

## **1st VP, Ken Borelli**

- Spoke about an planned 8/20/24 critique of St. Joseph's Day event. Discussion on how the donations will be distributed between Daily Bread and IAHF.
- Regional lunch was happening in 8/22. Cena Fouri are becoming very expensive and will require a price increase in the future.
- September 5 cooking class.
- September 6 will be Capo Festa Recap Meeting
- September 15 will be volunteer appreciation BBQ.
- IAHF has been asked by SF Italian Pride Foundation in North Beach to be in their parade. We would need a large convertible/truck. Perhaps the members could wear the Italian clothing that was shown at the Festa.
- General membership meeting will be October 8. Business dinner along with the election of officers.
- Ken and Nanci discussed the holiday raffle items for November 21.
- Looking for a big band for the December 6th Dinner dance, such as Joe DeRose.
- Ken said the Festa costume show/parade were well received. He wants a special edition/article on the costumes in the newsletter.

## **2nd VP, Azie Habib**

- YTD Rentals @ 22 events
- Building lights have been replaced with LED lighting.

## **3rd VP, Sharon McCray**

- Volunteer Appreciation event will use the back BBQ patio. Sharon wants to add decorations to the gazebo for the event. Robert will add plants to the front of the building to improve the gardens.
- The city of Campbell has invited IAHF to participate in their February 2025 celebration of prominent Italians.
- Sharon is attempting to total all volunteer hours including CAPOS.

## **4th VP, Louie Lombardo**

- Membership status report – 445 current members, includes 5 Lifetime memberships and 27 complimentary members, totaling 667 members. 17 new members from the FESTA

## **Librarian, Madeline Damiano**

- Madeline and Vanessa have begun scanning the photos from the history boards. The work goes quickly with the new scanner.
- Marie Bertola and Madeline presented information about an exhibit on WWII artwork, letters, photographs, etc., created by Italian POWs. They will create an article asking our members to provide items that could be considered for this exhibit. The article will need to be run 2-3 times. The exhibit will be in NYC in April 2025.
- Vanessa helped catalog the all the Italian books in our library.

## **Newsletter, Mary Pizzo**

- Mary requested articles for the September issue submitted by August 19.
- Ken expressed frustration with several articles that haven't been published in the newsletter.

Group discussion about the Festa, end of the day bands, and other Festa feedback before adjourning at 9pm.



# LEGACY CIRCLE



THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS CHOSE TO HONOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE IAHF TO THE COMMUNITY WITH A REMEMBRANCE IN THEIR ESTATES

- ◆ LINDA & BOB BINKLEY ◆ ALFRED L. CHIOTTI ◆ ROSE CRIMI ◆
- ◆ MADELINE DAMIANO & GILDA DE SIMONE-GROCCIA ◆
- ◆ STANLEY OLIVAR ◆ MATILDE & ITALO OLIVERIO ◆

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CONTACT [LEGACY@IAHFSJ.ORG](mailto:LEGACY@IAHFSJ.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

## • SUPER IAHF MEMBERSHIP •

We would like to acknowledge the generosity and support of the following members who have gone the extra mile to support the IAHF. These are difficult times for businesses to maintain financial strength. And as a non-profit business, this extra help improves our financial standing and keeps our mission alive and well.---Thank you!

### LA DOLCE VITA / \$3,000 LEVEL

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- Karen Vanderpan & John Dods
- Nanci Arata Wilborn
- Kathy & Karl Winkelman

~ ~ ~ Membership Listings by Louie Lombardo Acting Membership Chair  
\* indicates the member has shared their birthdate with IAHF  
† indicates the member has shared their anniversary with IAHF



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- Robert & Erin Basso / [RJ Properties Real Estate](#)
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- Matt & Arianna\* Horton / [Sereno Real Estate](#)
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- Diane Rubino / [Hill View Packing Company, Inc.](#)
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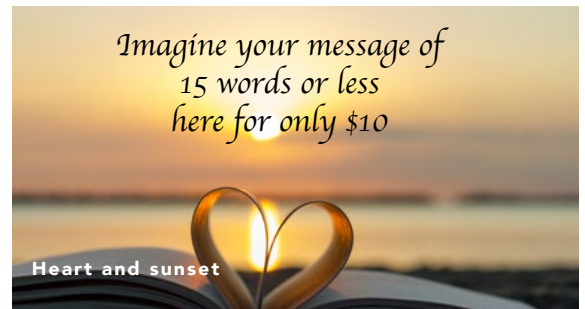
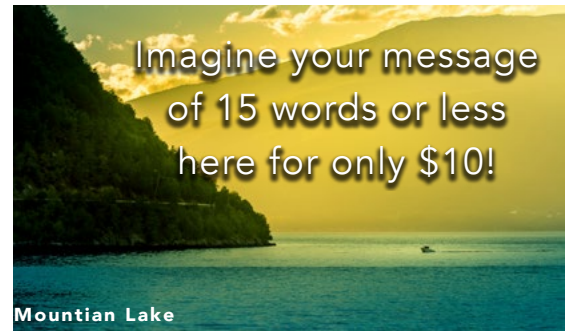
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| 1/3 page: 7.75" x 3.5"   | \$60             | \$160 | \$300 | \$500 |
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| Full page: 7.75" x 9.75" | \$100            | \$250 | \$450 | \$750 |

- Business Ads must be formatted in hi-resolution PDF, JPG, or TIFF to size specifications in RGB color mode
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# ROSETTA DE LUCA

## SPECIALIZING IN SILICON VALLEY

Rosetta is very proud to be an Italian American. She is very committed and passionate about supporting the Italian American Heritage Foundation. Rosetta will be generously donating \$1,000 for every referral or closed transaction coming from any member of the Italian American Heritage. This Contribution goes toward enriching and helping our IAHF thrive.



**Thinking of buying or selling? Or have any Real Estate Questions?  
Call Rosetta Today for a Free Professional Market Analysis.**



## ROSETTA DE LUCA

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[www.rosettadeluca.com](http://www.rosettadeluca.com)

DRE#01271464

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Rosetta is a full-time, professional real estate agent assisting in buying and selling homes in all of Santa Clara County. Throughout the years, Rosetta has earned many achievements and awards such as International Presidents Elite, Top Listing Agent, Top Buyers agent, one of Silicon Valley's Top 100 agents, and Top Producers with over 22 years of sales, marketing, trust, probate and negotiation experience. Rosetta takes pride in providing 100% quality service to all her clients and has earned an impressive reputation in the real estate community. She is known for her exceptional work ethic, effective communication skills, attention to detail, and fierce negotiating experience. With her clients' best interests at heart, Rosetta understands the meaning of commitment and dedication.

### EDUCATION

Since obtaining her California Real Estate license, Rosetta has attended mandatory legal classes, completing various state-required programs, such as Real Estate Principals, Real Estate Appraisals, 1031 Exchange Reinvestment Plan, Senior Real Estate Specialist, Certified Probate & Trust Specialist, Pricing Strategy Advisor Certification, Short Sales & Foreclosure Resource Certification, Limit Liability Company for Reinvestments, Protecting the Fee, Due Diligence and Disclosures, Agency Fair Housing, Trust Funds, Ethics and Risk Management, Survey Course and Risk Management. Professional Philosophy Rosetta's passion and philosophy have always been to put her client's best interests first, provide every client with the highest of business ethics, commitment, and 100% excellent quality service. Building a lifetime relationship by earning the respect and trust of her clients, is her ultimate goal.

PROVIDING THE QUALITY OF SERVICE YOU DESERVE!

# INTERO

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