

IAHF NEWS

DECEMBER 2018 • ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION • ESTABLISHED 1975 • FOUNDED AS NONPROFIT 1976 • CELEBRATING 42 YEARS

425 N. 4TH STREET, SAN JOSE, CA 95112 • (408) 293-7122 • TAP HERE FOR WWW.IAHFSJ.ORG

JOHN ROMANO / IAHF NEWSLETTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & DESIGNER



President's Message

Carissimi Amici,

♪Time To Say Goodbye♪ is a lovely melody made famous by Andrea Bocelli and Sarah Brightman. This has been a beautiful and rewarding year, but sadly it is time for me to say goodbye. This December I complete six years as a Board member and co-manager of the bar. And it has been a special honor to have served as the 2018 President of the Italian American Heritage Foundation. Our by-laws allow only six consecutive years of service, so, partiro`.

Even though I am leaving the Board and the bar, I hope to bring a couple of my projects to fruition as a volunteer, particularly the backyard improvement. It is inching along. We have removed the ivy that was strangling the cypress trees and we have ordered a new fence to surround the barbecue area. Next we are strengthening the canopy covering the barbecue. With the help of some dedicated individuals, I am going to do my best to see it ready for spring.

In a few short years the IAHF will be celebrating our 50th anniversary. Securing the future of the organization should be a team effort. Our Legacy Circle of donors will be an asset to the Foundation. Remember, the requirement to be a Legacy donor is simply to sign a paper saying that you have remembered the IAHF in your will or trust. No other information is shared. Items that the IAHF can sell or auction have the same positive impact as cash or stock: Think about Italian furniture or artifacts, a car, Italian-themed books, a scholarship in your family name, artwork. This is how Foundations continue their mission. See if there isn't something in your life that you could bequeath to our IAHF. Contact legacy@iahfsj.org.

Looking back, I am proud of having kickstarted the renovation of the library. It was a rocky start, having to divest of many boxes of VCR movies, book duplicates, as well as books not themed for our library. I could not have done this without serious volunteer help. And now, Madeline Damiano is chairing the library and together with her team of volunteers is bringing it up to professional library standards. It is a labor of love for all of us involved. As a volunteer, next year, I hope to work on the archives which have been somewhat overlooked this past decade.

I am also pleased to leave the IAHF with a well-protected Columbus statue and I owe a debt of thanks to the many organizations who made its enclosure possible. Working together the Board composed an employee handbook which we were lacking, and I saw as a necessity for an organization of our size. And I am so happy to now have an Advisory Board representing the many aspects of community life important to the IAHF. The advice and recommendations of these individuals have been of great value to me as president. I would like to have three more Advisors so we match the number of Directors. If you think you would be able to contribute, please let me know. This is an online group. No meetings are required.

I am so deeply thankful to our Board of Directors, our office manager, Stanley Olivar, my dear husband and co-manager of the bar, Bob Binkley, my Advisory Board and the dedicated volunteers who have provided me enthusiastic support. Thanks to you all for your friendship and kind words over the course of this year. Have a very merry Christmas and God bless you all with a new year of health and happiness.

Saluti! Linda Gaudio Binkley, la vostra presidentessa / linda.binkley@iahfsj.org 🌿

Events @ A Glance



- Dec 7 @ 6:00 PM / World of Italian Opera / IAHF Hall / \$40 / \$48 / \$20
- Dec 20 @ 12:00 PM / Festa di Natale / IAHF Hall / \$15 / \$18
- Jan 31 @ 7:00 PM / Cena Fuori / Zanotto's Market / \$35 @ the door



IAHF OFFICERS

- Linda Gaudio Binkley - *President / Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation*
- Frank De Turrís - *Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer*
- Ken Borelli - *1st VP / IAHF Events (including Annual Italian Festa) / Cultural Activities / Grants*
- Marie Rose Dalldorf - *Corporate Secretary*
- Dave Perzinski - *2nd VP / Building Administration and Maintenance / Hall Rentals*
- Felix Dalldorf - *3rd VP / Marketing / PR / Website / Social Media / Advertising / Wine Garden Chair*
- Tony Zerbo - *4th VP / Human Resources / Volunteer Development / Library and Archives / Succession Planning / Bar*

IAHF DIRECTORS AT LARGE

- Marie Bertola - *Board Member / Scholarship Chair*
- Chuck Gullo - *Board Member*
- Frank Locicero - *Board Member*
- Sharon McCray - *Board Member*
- Carlo Severo - *Board Member*
- Richard Stewart - *Board Member*
- Corinne Tomeo - *Board Member*
- Nanci Arata Wilborn - *Board Member*
- Tony Zerbo - *Board Member / PR Chair / Parliamentarian*

ADVISORY BOARD



- Aaron Nicholson / *Director of Marketing and Development, Opera San Jose, Opera Liaison*
- Cathy De Maria / *Community Leader, Program Organizer*
- Doctor John Scandizzo / *Retired Physician, IAHF Genealogy Program Leader*
- Emily Ray / *Music Director, Mission Chamber Orchestra, Classical Music Liaison*
- Father Anthony Mancuso / *Former President St. Francis High School, Professor Santa Clara University*
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- Nancy De Vincenzi Melander / *Former IAHF President, Daughter of IAHF Founder, Little Italy Liaison*
- Pierluigi Oliverio / *Former San Jose City Council Member, Community Leader*
- Professor Michele Santamaria Ph.D / *Italian Language Chairperson, San Jose State University*
- Rod Diridon / *Former County Supervisor and Public Transportation Leader*
- Vera Girolami / *National President of the Sons and Daughters of Italy*

Guess what...**We Passed the Bar!!!!**

We are so very proud of our beautiful bar and new hardwood floor surrounding it. And we know all of you appreciate it too. Thanks so much for all your kind comments over the years.

Bob and I began managing the bar six years ago, during my first year on the Board of Directors. It's been the most engaging and pleasant volunteer position to fill. Bartenders have the opportunity to interact with everyone in the hall, not just the few seated at your table. It's very rewarding.

The bar is a major asset of our hall. When you buy your drinks at the bar you contribute to hall upkeep and improvement **AND ALL TIPS GO TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**. We always make enough in tips to fund an IAHF scholarship, so you see, your purchase is important. Please do not import wine from home.

Our new bartenders will be our former IAHF President Nancy Morreale and in-coming BOD member Azie Habab. Azie has been on the Festa planning team for three years and Nancy is Festa Director. Good people!!!!

Azie and Nancy plan to continue serving lovely wines in beautiful glasses. If you think you might enjoy pouring wine, please contact Nancy at nancy.morreale@iahfsj.org and she will put you on the bar volunteer contact list. For some of our events we need three behind the bar.

Salute! -- Article by Linda and Bob 🍷





MEMBER

SPOTLIGHT

BENVENUTI New Family, Individual & Student Members from May 2018 to December 2018

- Nikhil Agrawal
- Greg & Pamela Amico
- Stacey Armetta
- Don & Kristi Baker
- Juanita Barbera
- Theresa Biagi & Robert Krebs
- Rosemary Bosque
- Frank & Mayra Busalacchi
- Melanie Calabrese
- Gina Caminiti
- Christopher Campagna
- Luigi & Anna Canepa
- Madeline Chiavetta
- Mark & Cynthia Ciccarello
- William Condon & Nancy Lippi
- Vyarah Cristie-Jeheon
- Diane Dalton
- Gaby Decker
- Lawrence DeSantis
- Steven Fanelli
- Pasquale & Georgia Fortanetta
- Lexie Fry
- Anthony & Pamela Galano
- Azie Habib
- Janet & Richard Hanly
- Tirone Haynh
- Jacopo & Pier Indelli
- David Ornelas Jackson
- Mary Ellen Jones
- Betsy & Marion Kean
- Mark & Andrea Kenter
- Randy & Annette Lewis
- Giorgio & Thomasene Luzzatti
- Jeana Marie Pizzo Maggio
- Joe & Fran Martarano
- Pat Martinez
- Mary E. McCall
- Julia & Brian McCrone
- Christina & Philip McDermott
- David McGoveran
- Linda Melliush
- Diane & Steve Moffett
- Deanna Monestero
- Carmine Napolitano
- Mark & Ann Narciso
- Domenico & Anna Onorato
- Leonard & Claudia Ordonio
- Joy A. Pace
- Jeanne Paris
- Jim Pignone & Leslie Snow
- Virginia C. Puccio
- Christina & Philip McDermott
- Susan Ross
- Andrea Sanfilippo
- Nino & Janette Saso
- Lauri & John Scirigione
- Theresa & Daniel Simanek
- Charlene Staricco & Jeff Feierfeil
- Debbie Toso
- Janice Travis
- Brianna Virta & Bertan Vaglam
- San Jose Opera Guild
- Italian Cultural Society of Sacramento

GRAZIE 2018 Patron Members

- Sal & Maeve Alini
- Joyce Allegro & Jerry Sheridan
- Richard Arzino, Esq.
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- Drs. Peter & Cheri Binkley
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- Vince & Colleen Cortese
- Alfio & Gerry Crema
(Crema Properties)
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- Joe & Cathy De Maria
- Frank Deturris, Sr
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- Mel & Anna Di Salvo
- Dr. Thomas & Clara Di Stefano
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- Debby Edginton
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- Brian & Sandra Faircloth
- Steven Fanelli
- Joseph A. Fasano
- Cornelius Fiocco
- Frank Fiscalini
- Ben & Christy Foster
- Ebe Frasse
- Angie Fredrick
- Scott Gallo & Joseph O'Hara
- Peter & Marge Gaudio
- Judge Al & Vera Girolami
- Maria Gloria
- Joseph & Carmella Gullo
- Charles P. Gullo, Jr.
- Joe & Rosella Guttadauro
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- Robert & Carol Jonlynn Karr
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- Steven & Alma Landi
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- Jack & Vera Pedretti
- Dave Perzinski & Lucia Clementi
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- John & Debora Poch
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- Anthony J. Zerbo

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- Madeline Chiavetta / [Coldwell Banker](#)
- Rosetta De Luca / [Intero Real Estate](#)
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- C. Gagliasso / [Charles Gagliasso Trucking, Inc.](#)
- [Emilio Guglielmo Family Winery](#)
- Stephen & Susan Guzzetti / [Silicon Valley Property Source](#)
- Vito Scarnecchia / [Real Estate Service](#)
- Enrico & Antonina Sciaky / [Intrepid Security Solutions](#)
- Al & Diana Vallorz / [Tony & Alba's Pizza & Pasta](#)
- Kathy Winkelman / [Gioia Company](#)

Membership Dinner 2018

The Membership dinner evening was especially enjoyable this year. Ken and his team prepared some delicious and unusual dishes for us. The minestra beginning was warm and wonderful and just right for a chilly evening. The stuffed and slow-roasted tomatoes were remarkable as were the sautéed slivered red peppers and tomatoes. And the polenta rings topped with salami and cheese disappeared quickly. The capellini with chunky meat sauce was outstanding. And of course, cannoli are always a fine finish. It's amazing that Ken comes up with all these delicious recipes for us. And he and his team are all volunteers! We are so lucky to have them!

The business meeting was begun with a minute of prayerful and thoughtful silence for the victims of these horrific conflagrations besetting our state. The IAHF donated a sum to the Red Cross. It is such an overwhelming tragedy.

Board members were all introduced as well as the Scholarship and Membership chairpersons. Following that four Board of Directors

candidates were introduced. We welcome Diane Ayala, Jan Prinziavalle, Azie Habab, and Dana Zuccarello. The future looks good!

Frank DeTurris, our Chief Financial Officer began the meeting with an excellently presented financial overview showing charts and bottom lines. Everything was very clear and this resulted in lively interaction with the audience. It was very satisfying to see how knowledgeable and interested our membership is. After Frank, all the officers and chairpersons spoke a bit about their responsibilities and accomplishments. We have a BOD to be proud of, for sure!

We were happy to raffle off donated tickets to Il Divo coming to San Jose for a concert in December. Congratulations to Frank Restivo the lucky winner. And thanks to our third vice-president, Felix Dalldorf for organizing the free drawing.

The evening was gratis to membership, but the bar and the See's candy sales gave a little boost to the IAHF. Thanks so much to all who participated. -- *Article by Linda Binkley* 🌿

It's Membership Renewal Time!



As your Membership Chair, I want to thank all of you for your support, participation and contribution to this wonderful organization which celebrates rich Italian culture. As part of this celebration, your membership dues keep Italian culture alive. So if you have already paid your 2019 dues, thank you for renewing promptly. If you haven't renewed and would like to continue your membership, please either call the IAHF office at (408) 293-7122, complete the form at this link: <https://form.jotform.com/70715760769163>, or send in your check today. This will ensure that you continue receiving the newsletter, receive discounts on our events and are part of this dynamic community.

-- *Grazie mille e Buon Natale, Lucia Clementi* 🌿

On the heels of Il Divo's recent 15th anniversary album announcement, the iconic group brings their Timeless Tour to City National Civic in San Jose on Friday, December 14th. Fans can expect incredible performances from the new album Timeless as well as hits from Il Divo's vast catalog of songs, paired with a breathtaking production that will include dancers, acrobats and much more. Discovered and mentored by Simon Cowell 15 years ago, Il Divo has evolved into the pre-eminent tenor powerhouse vocal group with four sold-out world tours to date, over 30 million albums sold, 160 gold and platinum albums in 33 countries to their credit and were the first Classical Crossover artists to have an album debut at #1 on Billboard's Top 200 chart.

Tickets for the December 14th San Jose performance start at \$35 plus applicable charges and are available now [HERE](https://www1.ticketmaster.com/il-divo-timeless-tour-san-jose-california-12-14-2018/event/1C0055039655786D). (<https://www1.ticketmaster.com/il-divo-timeless-tour-san-jose-california-12-14-2018/event/1C0055039655786D>)

IL DIVO *Live* San Jose, Friday, Dec 14



Aiuto! (Help!)

Did you know you can help the IAHF without costing you anything? If you buy online at Amazon, you can setup your account to automatically donate a portion of your eligible purchases to the Italian American Heritage Foundation at no extra cost to you!

The trick is to use Amazon Smile, smile.amazon.com, instead of just using regular www.amazon.com. When you do this and log into Amazon, it will ask the name of the charity you want to receive donations on your behalf, just enter **Italian American Heritage Foundation** in the Search box:

The screenshot shows the Amazon Smile interface. At the top, it says "amazon smile" and "Hello, Felix". Below that, it prompts the user to "Select a charitable organization to start shopping". There are two main options: "Choose one of our spotlight charities" and "Or pick your own charitable organization:". Under the spotlight charities, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is featured. A search bar at the bottom contains the text "italian american heritage foundation" and a "Search" button. A red dotted line with an arrow points from the text in the previous paragraph to the search bar.

In the list of charities, be sure to select the Italian American Heritage Foundation in **San Jose!!!**

The screenshot shows the search results for "italian american heritage foundation". It displays three results, all for the "Italian American Heritage Foundation Inc" with the description "Cultural, Ethnic Awareness". The locations listed are "New Brunswick NJ", "Albany NY", and "San Jose CA". The "San Jose CA" result is circled in red, and a red dotted line with an arrow points from the text in the previous paragraph to this result. On the right side, there is a "Spotlight Charities" section listing "Susan G. Komen", "ASPCA", "charity: water", and "St. Jude Children's Research Hospital", each with a "Select" button.

Amazon will remind you that you must use smile.amazon.com when shopping in order for a portion of your purchases to be donated to the IAHF, then you can shop all you want knowing you are helping us each time you use Smile for your shopping! Be sure to change your bookmark or favorite to use Smile!

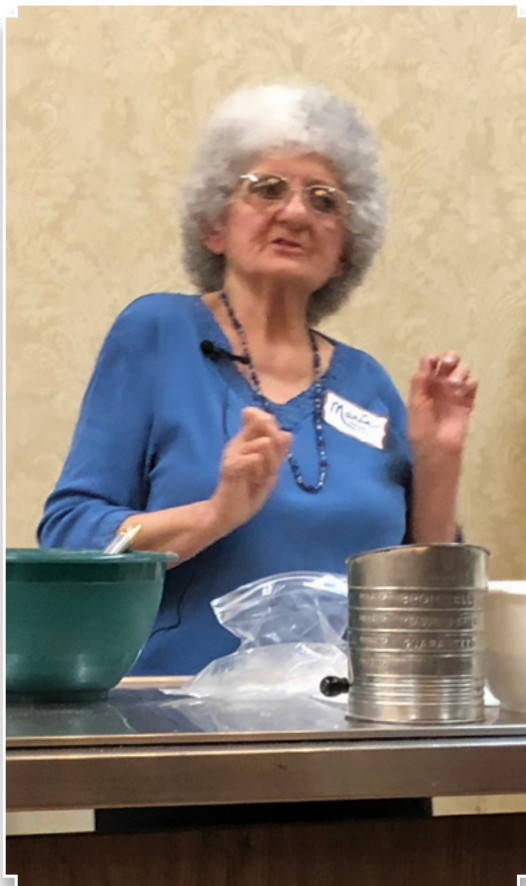
If you already use smile, you can always change your default charity to the IAHF, every little bit helps!

Merry Christmas and happy shopping. -- Article by Felix Dalldorf 🎄



Cooking Class

NEWS



We started November off on a sweet note with our annual Holiday cookie class. This sold out class always attracts many students to attend and this year was no different. We had about 30 students at the IAHF kitchen to learn Kathy Lohman's and Maria Bandy's secrets to making the most delightful Italian cookies. Also in attendance were some of our junior members, who had fun working with the cookie dough!

Kathy Lohman taught the students how to make her wonderful Orange Biscotti Balls. She gave a step-by-step narrative in making these yummy morsels

beginning with creaming the butter and sugar, adding eggs, flour, baking powder, orange juice and orange rind. Next, the dough was rolled into small balls, placed onto baking sheets and into the oven they went. Once they came out of the oven and cooled, a powdered sugar frosting was prepared and poured onto the cookies and then topped with colorful sprinkles.

Up next, was Maria Bandy, who taught the class how to make Tetu-Chocolate Spice Ball Cookies. Her recipe included eggs, sugar, canola oil, milk, orange juice, liqueur, vanilla, orange rind, raisins, chocolate chips, toasted almonds and walnuts, flour, cocoa powder, cinnamon, cloves and baking soda. Each of the first eleven ingredients were added, blended well and whisked. After that, the dry ingredients were sifted together, added to the egg mixture and mixed by hand. This dough was also rolled into small balls, dropped onto baking sheets and placed into the oven. Like Kathy's recipe, these delicious balls are topped with a powdered sugar frosting and sprinkles.

I have to mention that these two instructors are truly the goddesses of baking. I have yet to taste cookies that are better than the ones that they create. Not only are they amazing bakers, but I so enjoyed the stories that they told as they prepared the batter. Maria told of her mother's outdoor wood-fire oven in their back yard and that when her mother prepared dough, she always blessed it by indenting the dough with a cross with the palm of her hand. Kathy also told her secrets as she prepared her batter to a captivated audience. The beauty of our



cooking classes is that authentic, traditional recipes are passed on to our students and these talented, accomplished ladies did just that.

As always, at the end of our cooking classes, the students brought their cookie treasures home to savor later. As I've mentioned before in my articles, these classes teach the art of Italian cooking and they also create

friendships, build community and stimulate personal growth. This class concludes our cooking class series for 2018. We plan to begin the classes again in March of 2019, so stay tuned!

– Article by Lucia Clementi / Photos by Dave Perzinski 🍁



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A STAR IS BORN:

the italian-american connection



I happened to be reading a review of the current re-make of the movie *A Star is Born* in my local weekend paper, The Sonoma County Gazette, 11/18. The reviewer, Diane McCurdy, called attention to the chemistry between Lady Gaga and co-star and director Bradley Cooper. It took me by surprise, but Diane noted the Italian American connection in her review of the film.

She reminded me that Lady Gaga is actually Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta and Bradley Cooper is the son of Gloria Campano. According to McCurdy, they bonded over heritage and a great friendship that in many ways contributed to this production being quite special, having a definitely operetta character. "It is not a musical", McCurdy noted, "as the songs are integral, but the music becomes

the dominant feature". I have not seen the other film versions, but believe me this version was intense enough. "Sad movies make me cry!", but really worth seeing. It also highlights how much of the Italian-American experience is part of mainstream America, as the setting for *A Star is Born* is definitely an American Country Western phenomenon. It reminds me, too, of our members from afar (Sacramento), Shorty Joe and Jennie Quartuccio. Shorty Joe was elected to the County Western/Swing Music Hall of Fame for his contribution to adding the element of swing to country music and giving it that certain danceable rhythm. We are certainly hoping for a visit from them next year, and if Stefani and Bradley wants to come, they're welcome, too (what a program that would be)! -- Article by Ken Borelli 🍁

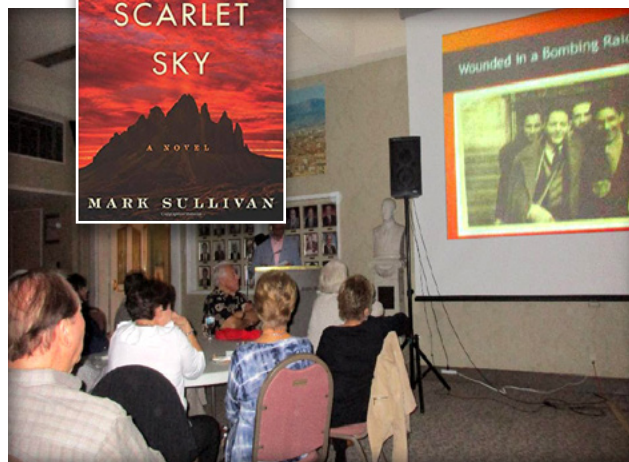


A PRESENTATION to REMEMBER

On the evening October 22nd, World War II history came to life for 115 of us who gathered at the Italian American Heritage Foundation for Michael Lella's presentation based on the popular Amazon best seller, "Beneath A Scarlet Sky". Because of the unexpected large group who attended, the staff had to roll out more tables and chairs to accommodate all the guests! And it was for good reason that this event was well attended because this is an exceptionally written book.

The book is a biographical novel of Michael's father, Guiseppe (Pino) Lella's, experiences during WWII in Northern Italy. During his presentation, Michael so eloquently described Pino's heroic journey as a guide and savior of Italian Jews during WWII and his work as the chauffeur of a Nazi general. Having read this book, it was indeed a treat for me to hear about Pino's life story in Michael's narrative. As part of his presentation, Michael transported us even further by projecting photographs of the individuals who were involved with Pino during this time period, including his father Michele, his mother Porzia, his brother Mimo, his sister Cicci, his uncle Albert, his aunt Greta and his best friend Carletto. Putting faces on these individuals gave one a sense of an actual connection with them. Pino and his family and friends became more authentic as Michael escorted us through Pino's adventures.

Although "Beneath A Scarlet Sky" takes us through the ravages of war, it is also a love story. We read of a beautiful woman that Pino meets named Anna and the love that grew between them. During Michael's talk we learned that Anna and this love story truly existed and he gave us the sense that she still lives in Pino's heart. To illustrate, here is his quote from the novel "I still love



her...I'm grateful for her. She was a gift that I'll always treasure in my heart."

Even though the book is considered fiction, Michael reminds us that it is 90% factual. He explains that in one section of the book, Pino is selected to be the Nazi general's chauffeur because he was able to repair the general's disabled car, when in fact this did not happen. In reality, Pino was preselected to be the general's chauffeur and in fact is not mechanically inclined in the least! This is just one example of the "inside scoop" that Michael shared with us.

We also learned that Pino lived in the United States for years, endured two divorces, coached and taught skiing, sold and raced Ferraris, and rubbed elbows with many Hollywood celebrities.

Michael concluded his narrative by explaining that 91 year old Pino is now living in Northern Italy and does not consider himself to be a hero, but instead a coward. Also, that his father did not want to relive the horrors of the war, but instead wanted to forget this dreadful time period. But fortunately for us, he worked with Michael Sullivan (the author of the book) to create this masterpiece, providing us with the opportunity to learn and grow from his journey. For me, this book gave me insight into the realities of WWII in Italy.

Michael's superb PowerPoint presentation mesmerized his audience. Later he autographed copies of "Beneath A Scarlet Sky" for a long line of enthusiastic readers and I felt honored to be among them.

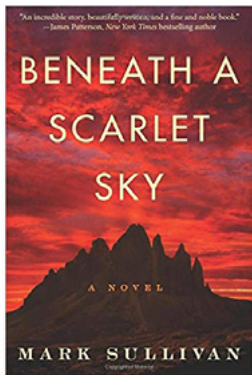
(Please see the book review of "Beneath A Scarlet Sky" by Linda Binkley on page 9 in this newsletter.)

– Article by Lucia Clementi / Photos by Dave Perzinski 🌿



Beneath A Scarlet Sky

by Mark Sullivan 🌸



Like many guests who listened to Michael Lella speak at the IAHF about his father's fascinating life, I went home and lost a good night's sleep reading the amazing adventure. What we have here is an enticing work of biographical fiction against the vivid and horrific backdrop of World War II in northern Italy. Mr. Lella shared with us that while some of the scenes were fictionalized, the facts of the story are 90% or more true.

The novel begins gently enough with the reader being introduced to the Lella family which happens to include a German-speaking aunt. All are passionately anti-fascist and anti-Nazi. The city is over-run and essentially ruled by Germans. So the Lella family must tread carefully.

The action starts with a bombing and Michael's father, Giuseppe, nicknamed Pino, and his brother Domenico, called Mimmo, are shuttled off to a monastery school in the Alps for their own safety. In fact, it was hardly safe, and at the young age of 17 Pino, a life-long skier, begins his magnificent work of guiding Jewish refugees over the Alpine passes to safety in Switzerland. The dangers of snow, ice and avalanche as well as bandits and Nazi patrols create chilling images.

Upon Pino's return to Milan he finds himself immersed in Nazi life which results in enormous conflicts for the young man. The fact that Pino finds love amid this dark and ugly situation is a testament to the human spirit. But don't think that things go well. Pino has quite an amazing struggle, all presented in horrifying detail.

For those of you who did not attend the lecture by Mr. Lella, I might add that you missed a great presentation. The novel, unfortunately, contains no photographs. Michael projected photographs of every major character of the story, including the Nazi generals Pino became involved with. I was happy to have been able to recall those images as I read.

Most of us in my age bracket have parents, especially fathers, who fought in WWII. We have heard stories, seen movies and read books on the topic. Something about this book, though, is special. It has a certain element of warmth that makes the reader feel that Pino and his family are friends of ours. We see the war in northern Italy in a close and personal and intimate way. I highly recommend this book which is in our IAHF library.

-- Article written by Linda Binkley 🌸



Okay, language students: **This is for YOU!**

Studenti, divertitevi con questo poema!



Il Mesi dell Anno

Autore sconosciuto

Gennaio freddoloso, Febbraio spiritoso,
Marzo pazzello, Aprile mite e bello,
Maggio sognatore, Giugno cantatore,
uglio Luglio nuotatore, Agosto gran
signore, Settembre grappolaio, Ottobre
castagnai, Novembre triste e stanco,
Dicembre tutto bianco.

January cold, February witty, March crazy, April mild and beautiful, May
dreamer, June singer, July swimmer, August a gentleman, September
grape picker, October chestnut picker, November sad and tired,
December all white.

Note to students: Days of the month are not capitalized in Italian. But the
first letter of a line of poetry often is capitalized.

Author unknown

The Months of the Year

Students, have fun with this poem!

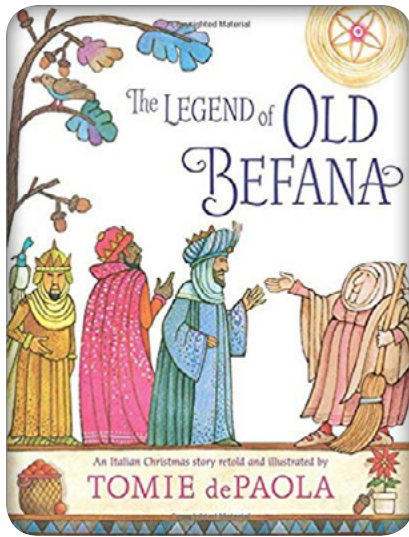
It's always great to get newsletter stories from IAHF Members

It adds vitality, diversity, and a sense of family and community.

Please send your proofread entries to Felix Dalldorf at news@iahfsj.org

Please check the **Submission Guidelines** on page 13 of this issue for more information, or online at iahfsj.org/submission-guidelines





In Italian folklore, La Befana is a witch who brings well-behaved children treats on the morning of the Epiphany, January 6. But if the child had misbehaved during the year he or she may wake up to a lump of coal.

Of course, our gift-giver, Santa Claus, has permeated all societies; but in the interest of promoting the old culture, let's take a look at La Befana. La Befana has been flying around Italy on her well-worn broomstick delivering sweets or black coal to boys and girls long before our beloved Santa joined us. In fact, the witch-like Befana has been in the Italian tradition at least since the eighth century as part of the celebration of the holy feast day of the Epiphany.



The Epiphany marks the celebratory (though not liturgical, end of the Christmas season. It commemorates the day when the three Wise Men (the Magi) arrived at the manger bearing gifts. Throughout Italy at this time of year beautiful manger scenes called cresces are on display, all heralding the arrival of La Befana with her bag of sweets.

The legend tells us that the Magi met La Befana as they were traveling and following the star that would lead them to the Christ child. The old lady kindly hosted the weary travelers for an evening in her cozy cottage. The next morning, they invited her to accompany them to Bethlehem. Being busy cleaning her home, La Befana declined the invitation. After second thoughts La Befana filled a bag with sweets and little gifts for the new baby and began her own quest for the Christ child. According to legend. She is still looking.

La Befana continues to travel the world on her broomstick every Epiphany Eve, finding every house where there are children, and leaving candies for the good children and just coal for the bad. Thanks to Eataly Magazine for reminding me of the holiday. -- Article by Linda Binkley ★

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🍷 *Saving The Best - **Il Migliore** - For Last* 🍷

CENA *Fuori*

In September, Ken's "foodies" enveloped Palermo located on Auzeiras in the former Paradiso's Deli site – in not only the restaurant, the parking lot as well! Renato Cusimano and his wife Diane welcomed us into their "home," serving hot out-of-the-oven and right off-of-the-pan, freshly baked pizza slices. The small and cozy dining room was filled to capacity as we all reveled in the delicious Sicilian cuisine along with cocktails and of course Vino!

Renato and Diane are the perfect hosts, serving up fabulous Sicilian delights including and certainly not limited to arancini, caponata, insalata siciliana (with oranges and anchovies), pansotti, spaghetti prepared with a vast variety of sauces, tortellini, veal dishes, chicken dishes, prawns and filet of sole – and don't forget the dolci!

Pancia Piena per tutti!

In October, Aldo's Ristorante was our destination – and its reputation precedes it as the dining room overflowed with IAHF members and friends! Also the perfect host, Aldo went around the room, greeting everybody and extending his more than gracious hospitality. The very efficient and personable staff ensured that everybody enjoyed their Aldo's



experience – beginning with the cocktail orders that had the bartender jumping along with many glasses and bottles of Vino being served up!

The always perfect meal began with Aldo's Insalata della Casa and his famous homemade pane with the roasted garlic olive oil for bread dipping – how many times were the bread and oil asked to be refilled!?

Entrée choices were MORE than abundant: Pollo Marsala, Scaloppine di Montagna, Basa Filet and Timballo di Rigatoni – did somebody say they wanted one of each?! All were served with either the renown sautéed spinach or sautéed fresh vegetables and potatoes. And once again – save room for dessert with family style serving of BOTH mini cannoli and profiterole!

As always, announcements were shared about the upcoming IAHF events, with special well wishes for a happy holiday season with this being the last Cena Fuori for 2018.

Grazie Mille to Ken Borelli for this monthly treat – and to all of his inside helpers who recommend and give him a "scoop" on their favorite dining places throughout the year.

-- Article by Cathy De Maria 🍷

PALERMO

🍷 *Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo a Tutti* 🍷





A Lesson in Humility

My first venture overseas was in 1986. Having banked my vacation, the plan was to spend six weeks touring Europe with Marie (my wife) – but this was not the classical romantic getaway as we brought both our mothers in tow. Not knowing what to expect, our only reservations were the airplane and the car. Armed with my “Europe on Six dollars a Day”, we were confident we would find accommodations along the way, but after visiting a few of the places listed in the book, threw it out and decided we would need to break the budget.

It turned out that having no set plans or itinerary made the trip the most memorable and adventurous of our lives. While we thoroughly enjoyed the usual tourist traps, we found our drives through the countryside to be the most scenic and relaxing. A thoroughly enjoyable trip, it was not without its moments like getting trapped in the staircase at the Cathedral in Milan (see the Aiuoto article in the July 2018 issue).

When we finally made it to the family in Italy, we were greeted by the relatives with hugs and kisses on both cheeks, fighting over who got to feed us the next meal, the best food you can imagine, and dinners at long tables outdoors talking and laughing, stretching far into the night.

If someone ever asked my wife where she was born, she would tell them “San Colombano Certenoli”; then when they asked where that was, she would say near “Leivi”; and when they asked where that was, she would say near “Chiavari”, each time mentioning a larger city in hopes they might recognize something. Finally, she would always say near “Genoa”, which seemed to satisfy the inquiries.

It came time for one of the most humbling experiences of my life, to visit the house where my wife was born. We mounted what turned out to be an expedition. We left town and drove on roads that were getting ever smaller, then they changed to gravel, and then to dirt, and then to tire ruts, and then there was no more. We abandoned the cars and armed with machetes, took the trail, which turned into foot tracks, and over rocks and stumps, and through the overgrowth, in search of the house where she was born. We had lost track of time, hacking through the underbrush when miraculously, rounding a corner, we came across a stream, and there on a rocky outcrop across the way was what was left of the house.

The house was spectacular by Italian standards; three stories tall, poised at the confluence of two streams, stairs leading to the front entrance in

the front, and a giant waterwheel in the back; this was the mulino her grandparents built all those years ago, bereft, abandoned, and open to the elements. Here, the local farmers used to trek bringing their grains to be ground into flour. Here the stories of my wife’s paternal grandmother long ago, losing her arm to the giant stones grinding the grains. I could visualize the stories, the humble life, the simple rewards.

Then Marie told me a story she remembered from her childhood – how her mother, blessed with a few extra eggs would take them to market to sell, so they could save a few Lira for the church festival. It was not until then, standing at the bottom of this valley, looking up at the mountain between us and the town, knowing what it took to get here, miles from any neighbor and several hours walk, most of the distance with no roads, her mother would start off with a few eggs in her basket and two small girls in tow - I imagined what life was like all those decades ago, and the necessary struggles and sacrifices made daily just to survive. I honestly trembled in my humility. I looked at my wife with tears in my eyes thinking of her childhood, and finally understanding. She was only five years old, her older sister only nine years old, when with only thirteen dollars in savings, the promise of America, lured them to leave all they had and seek a better life.

Often, people hear the stories of the struggles of immigration, and cannot really imagine the sacrifices made by their ancestors. Here, I as literally standing in their tracks, and my mind could not comprehend this life. And knowing that when they did come to America, and both the girls got sick, the doctor charged ten of their thirteen dollars! I felt ashamed that my life was so easy by comparison.

I cherish my memories from this trip and many of my other travels. Maybe these were overpowering because Marie was born in Italy, and I could relate to the stories as we stood at this place in her history, and I could see the tears in her eyes as she would tell me the stories. It makes me reflect back to other stories passed down through my family, and makes me think twice, and I take the time to try and place myself in their footsteps and understand the barriers and challenges they overcame; and I call to mind my trip to the house where my wife was born, and it helps me to gain some perspective, and I am in awe.

-- Respectfully Submitted, Felix Dalldorf 🍷

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SCHEDULE OF

Events

If you would like to volunteer to work on any of these events. please contact Ken Borelli, VP, Events / Chair, Cultural Committee at kjosephb@aol.com

DECEMBER

Dec 7 / World of Italian Opera / 6 PM / IAHF Hall
[RSVP at eventsrsvp@iahfsj.org](mailto:eventsrsvp@iahfsj.org) or call 408-293-7122

Dec 20 / Festa di Natale / 12 noon / IAHF Hall / Menu: Cancellilla style pizza / Seasonal salad(non romaine due to recalls) / Brodo Parmesan / Pasta with a chicken / pancetta tomato cream sauce / Italian sweet sausage braised in red wine with vegetable / Dessert Members: \$15; Non-members: \$18 / [RSVP at eventsrsvp@iahfsj.org](mailto:eventsrsvp@iahfsj.org) or call 408-293-7122

JANUARY

Jan 31 / Cena Fuori / 7 PM / Zanotto's Market, 1421 Foxworthy Ave., San Jose / \$35 at the door / [RSVP at eventsrsvp@iahfsj.org](mailto:eventsrsvp@iahfsj.org) or call 408-293-7122

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Schedule of Events is subject to change

SCUSAMI!

Please note the Festa di Natale will be on December 20th, not November 20 as stated in the postcard mailing.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

★ IAHF Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Submission deadline: 20th of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter

Revision deadline: No later than the 25th of each month

Articles

- Please carefully proofread, spell check and grammar check before submission by the 20th of the month
- Please submit articles unformatted, in either Word or as email text
- Please include source URL when submitting articles from the Internet

Events

- Please provide the following information:
Official name of event / Date of event / Time of event / Location of event / Cost of tickets / Description of event

Photos

- Please send photos as email attachments, not embedded in a text document or in an email message
- Photos should be JPG format, big, bright, and sharp, with no timestamps or watermarks, 500 kb and larger
- Each photo MUST have an individual name – photos named FullSizeRender or thumbnail cannot be used
- Please include the name of the photographer when submitting photos

Questions?

Please contact Stanley at iahfsj6@gmail.com or visit iahfsj.org/submission-guidelines for more info.





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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 18 years of sales, marketing 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, 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 clients 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.

Professional Affiliations

- California Association of Realtors
- National Association of Realtors
- San Jose Real Estate Board
- Re-Infolink Multiple Listing Service

Personal Background

Spending quality time with family and friends, exercising, running and giving back to the community

It is my ultimate goal, as your professional real estate agent, to provide you with quality service, exceed your expectations and make your real estate transactions a positive and painless experience. My overall local expertise and extensive real estate experience will benefit you whether you currently are selling or buying a home, or are a returning client checking out the many homeowner resources I offer.

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