

**NEXT GENERAL  
MEETING:**

**January 14, 2024  
2:00 PM  
CASA Italiana  
Burien, WA**

December 2023   
**il Ficcanaso**

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ITALIAN CLUB  
ESTABLISHED APRIL 26TH 1920

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*Buon  
Natale*



**Message from the President**

Ciao Tutti!

As I write this I am on my grand adventure to NYC! The sun is shining, and I can see the Brooklyn Bridge from my hotel room. I am only blocks from Little Italy and it's all decorated for the holidays!

This Saturday December 2nd we will have our Christmas Luncheon at Angelo's in Burien and next week I, along with our current Board members and past Presidents, will celebrate the year's accomplishments. I appreciate all the time and energy they have put into our club.

Our next meeting will be held Sunday January 14th, 2024, at 2:00pm.

Wishing you all a warm and blessed holiday with your families. I look forward to seeing you in January!

Buon Natale,

Con Amore ed affetto,

Audrey

**Secretary's Report**

**by Dennis Caldirola**

The total number of members in good standing has dropped by one this month to a total of 141 because we discovered that one of the names in our roster was of a member who had actually dropped out almost a year ago. In other organizational news: 2024 membership cards are going out to Honorary Life Members this next week, along with 2024 dues invoices to everyone else. Watch for yours in the mail.

The big news this month is that with Christmas fast approaching, there will be no December General Meeting, leaving us to focus on the Christmas Luncheon at Angelo's in Burien, Saturday, December 2nd at 1 PM. Then on Tuesday, December 12th, the Past Presidents Dinner will be held at Tutta Bella in South Lake Union at 6 PM. All present Officers and Board Members are invited as well as ALL Past Presidents of our Club through the years.

In my other role as Director of Festa Italiana, it is an honor to thank Tom Grossi, Anna Popovich and Joe Picciano

*(continues next page)*

## il Ficcanso

Official Bulletin of the Italian Club of  
Seattle, established April 26, 1920

Publisher: Carolyn Strong  
service@strongimpressions.com  
Editor: Dennis Caldirola  
Dennis@FestaSeattle.com

### Italian Club Officers for 2023

President: Audrey Manzanares  
(206) 779-7325

Vice President: Martin Nigrelle  
(206) 310-7689

Secretary: Dennis Caldirola (206) 282-0627

Treasurer: Joe Picciano (206) 713-9346

Ex Officio: Anna Popovich (206) 453-4002

### Trustees:

Tom Grossi (425) 557-0071

Diana Kaczor (206) 232-7880

Linda Madrid (206) 286-8131

Sergeant at Arms: TBD

### Committee Chairs:

Bylaws..... TBD

Crab Dinner.....Audrey Manzanares

Day at the Races .....Joe Galluccio

Festa Sausage Booth .....Tom Grossi/Joe

Picciano/Anna Popovich

Health & Welfare.....Gemma Thielges

Festa Italiana Luncheon

.....Audrey Manzanares

Mariner Baseball Night....Martin Nigrelle

New Membership ..... Dennis Caldirola

Parliamentarian.....TBD

Scholarship .....Diana Kaczor/

Martin Nigrelle/Audrey Manzanares

### *(Secretary's Report continued)*

and the rest of the Italian Club volunteers who worked this year in the Isernio's Sausage Booth at the Italian Festival. In two days their sales totaled \$7,481 thereby netting the Italian Club a check from Festa for \$3,331.36! Great Job Everyone!

*Vi porgo tanti auguri di una felice Festa di Natale!*

## Casa Italiana – Italian Cultural Center -- UPDATE

By Martin Nigrelle

Those of you who attended the November meeting were witness to some of the changes taking place as the renovation work goes from engineering schematics, architecture plans, & government permits, to the physical. The fence has been completed with gates at north & south ends & a new flow for traffic in & out of the Casa parking area. Please follow the signs & enter from the south gate, and exit via the north gate. Tarmac has been removed to allow for the planting of the Cypress trees that will follow the fence line. Excavation of the original concrete & soil to make way for a more robust foundation for support columns related to the new beams installed at each level of the building.

Further, framing work has been undertaken to ensure support for the future kitchen hood & new fire escape. (the work to support the new fire escape is depicted in the included picture).



The Casa Caffè remains open with hours of 9:30a to 3:30p, Wednesday through Saturday. Please pardon our dust while Casa works to meet its potential. In fact, stop on by, get something from the Caffè & check out the progress yourself. We would love for you to see the Casa take shape first hand.

## Viva Italia! The Passion of Italian Cinema



See life as a human comedy, embrace beauty, feel deeply, pursue the sweet life with Italian gusto! Festa Italiana and Greg Olson Productions present a series of nine films that illuminate the golden age of 1960s-1970s Italian cinema, when traditional ways of thinking and behaving were challenged by liberated artistic, philosophical, political, social, and sexual ideas and mores.

DIVORCE ITALIAN STYLE, THE ORGANIZER, LA NOTTE (we begin with a three-film tribute to supreme Italian actor Marcello Mastroianni), ROCCO AND HIS BROTHERS, IL SORPASSO (THE EASY LIFE), MAMMA ROMA, THE CONFORMIST, INVESTIGATION OF A CITIZEN ABOVE SUSPICION, LA GRANDE BELLEZZA (THE GREAT BEAUTY, a stunning Oscar-winning reflection and progression of the 60s-70s spirit). Rare 35mm prints; 4K digital restorations by Martin Scorsese and Gucci, Cinecitta, Cineteca di Bologna, Fondazione Bernardo Bertolucci, Cineteca Nazionale, and the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. Films in Italian with English subtitles.

Wednesday nights at 7:30 pm, February 28-April 24 at the SIFF Cinema Uptown Theater in the heart of the lower Queen Anne restaurant district. Uptown concessions include wine, beer, coffees and teas.

Series tickets for nine films \$80 for members of Festa Italiana, SIFF, SAM, UW Italian Studies and Cinema Studies, Alliance Francaise de Seattle, Cornish, NWFF, SFI, TheFilmSchool, Scarecrow Video and KING FM. Series tickets \$90 for the general public. Single admissions \$15 at the door if seating is available.

*TICKETS GO ON SALE WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6th at [www.StrangerTickets.com](http://www.StrangerTickets.com)*



## Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 2 at 1 pm

### Angelo's of Burien

601 SW 153rd St, Burien

No-host Dinner, Beverages paid for by Italian Club

**Please bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots**

RSVP by 5 pm on 11/30/23



#### AND SAVE THE DATE:

for the Dante Society's annual

**FESTA di NATALE**

**POTLUCK and TOMBOLA GAME**

*to be held this year in collaboration with*

**Il Punto**

*on*

**Wednesday, December 13, 2023**

**6:00-9:00 PM**

**at Jefferson Park Lawn and Bowling Club**

4101 Beacon Ave S. Seattle

***watch for the reservation announcement  
later this month!***

## Football Squares for 11-12-23

By Martin Nigrelle

At the November meeting we were able to watch the Seahawks game. As an added form of entertainment, we also ran a game of "Squares".

Players were able to choose squares at random at a cost of one dollar a square.

Numbers for each team were assigned by random drawings, after the squares were all claimed.

At the end of each quarter the player who had a square that matched the ending digit of each team, was awarded \$25.

The winners were: 1st Quarter: Joyce Ditore

2nd Quarter: Kenny Volpone

3rd Quarter: John Ditore

4th Quarter: Gemma DiJulio

It turned out to be a good time for the Ditores to attend their first Italian Club of Seattle meeting. Maybe they will join the club? 😊

If you enjoyed watching the game & playing Squares as a part of the General meeting on a Sunday, be sure & let the board know.





## “La Serenissima”

by Joel Patience



The Venice City State has been known for centuries as - “La Serenissima”- "The Most Serene Republic." This is due to its historic ability to avoid conflict and use diplomacy and mediation instead of turning immediately to war.

I started this watercolor scene on the Venetian waterfront ... where I always feel safe and peaceful at night.

It features the Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute which started being constructed in 1631 as a celebration at the end of the Black Plague. Between the visits by the Black Death in 1360 and 1631, almost 80,000 Venetians died and 600,000 people in its territories. Among the many deaths were some of the highest political and religious personages.

This particular image is set to become part of my line of giant beach towels created from some of my travel paintings.

I'm proud to have added this acquerello sul nero of Venice, Italy to my exhibition at US Bank in Edmonds.

*Christmas Greetings from beloved Seattle entertainer Lenny Luzzi, now living in Nashville who says "Buon Natale! Looking forward to seeing everyone next year at Festa Italiana."*

Nashville

**LENNY RAY LUZZI**

## ICoS Calendar

### December 2023

No ICoS General Meeting  
2nd Christmas Luncheon, Angelo's 1 pm  
12th Past Presidents Dinner, Tutta Bellas  
17th 11am - Special Mass at Our lady of Mt Virgin  
25th Christmas Day  
27th Input Deadline for *il Ficcanso*

### January 2024

4th Trustee's Meeting  
14th ICoS General Meeting  
25th Input Deadline for February  
*il Ficcanso*

### February 2024

4th ICoS General Meeting  
11th Superbowl  
14th Valentine's Day  
23rd Input Deadline for March  
*il Ficcanso*  
TBD Crab Feed

### March 2024

7th Trustee's Meeting  
14th ICoS General Meeting  
25th Input Deadline for April  
*il Ficcanso*

### April 2024

11th ICoS General Meeting  
25th Input Deadline for May *il Ficcanso*

### May 2024

2nd Trustee's Meeting  
9th ICoS General Meeting  
12th Mother's Day  
26th Input Deadline for June  
*il Ficcanso June 2023*  
29th Memorial Day

### June 2024

13th ICoS General Meeting  
16th Father's Day  
TBD Italian Heritage Night at the Mariners

### July 2024

4th Independence Day  
No *il Ficcanso* this month

### August 2024

8th ICoS General Meeting  
TBD Italian Community Picnic  
Royal Arch Park, Maple Valley  
No *il Ficcanso* this month

### September 2024

1st Italian Day at the Races, Emerald Downs. First race 2 PM.  
2nd Labor Day  
5th Trustee's Meeting  
12th ICoS General Meeting  
TBA Festa Luncheon, SYC  
TBA Festa Mass in Italian 5 PM  
28th & 29th Festa Italiana Italian Festival, Seattle Center  
Oct. 2 Input Deadline for October  
*il Ficcanso*

### October 2024

10th ICoS General Meeting  
29th Input Deadline for November  
*il Ficcanso*

### November 2024

7th Trustee's Meeting  
TBD Auburn Annual Veterans Day Parade  
14th ICoS General Meeting  
21st Thanksgiving  
27th Input Deadline for December  
*il Ficcanso*

## ITALIAN CLUB MEETINGS

**January General Meeting will be held at 2 pm, Sunday, Jan. 14, 2023**

Dinner starts on the hour, with the meeting to start 30-45 minutes after, along with prize drawings at

**Casa Italiana, 13028 1st Ave S, Burien, WA 98168**

### Trustee Meetings:

Next Trustee Meeting, Thursday, January 4th at 6 PM

View the  
All-Community  
Calendar at:

[www.casaitalianacc.org/  
calendar/public/](http://www.casaitalianacc.org/calendar/public/)







Audrey Manzanares  
Broker, CNE, ABR, SRES  
206-779-7325  
audrey@windermere.com  
audreymanzanares.com



**The Italian Radio Show**  
Italian News, Food, Music & Events  
Weekly on KMET 1490 - ABC News Radio Palm Springs  
Tony La Stella & Marzia Caputo, Hosts

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Created by David Madrid

