

**DUE TO ONGOING
VIRUS CONCERNS,
THERE ARE
NO GENERAL
MEETINGS UNTIL
SOMETIME IN
2021**

il Ficcanaso

DECEMBER 2020



OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ITALIAN CLUB
ESTABLISHED APRIL 26TH 1920



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Secretary's Report

By Dennis Caldirola

Buone feste, tutti! As usual, notices for 2021 membership dues will be mailed out the first week of December. Notices will not be sent to those who have been voted into the Club since June 1, 2020, nor to those who have Honorary Membership or Full Life Membership. Those 16 members will receive their free membership cards shortly. Once again, we should acknowledge the last living Full Life Member and Past President, **Luigi Borda**, who joined the Club in 1949 and will be 99 years old this coming Christmas Day!

Since 1989, members who have attained Life Membership pay 1/2 dues or \$25 per year. To qualify, you must be over 70 years of age and have been a member for at least 35 years. Our records show that out of 184 members, 18 currently have Life Membership status. If you think you qualify, call the Italian Club cellphone at (206) 631-1950 and have that information verified.

In honor of the fact that this past year was the Centennial Celebration of the founding of the Italian Club, a special edition of the Membership Directory will be published sometime next year. If you haven't paid your dues by then, you will not be included. Since we are still unable to meet in person, please send your dues checks in the special envelope provided.

Vi invio i nostri più sentiti auguri di Buon Natale.

Message from the President

Hello Everyone!

I hope everyone had a safe Thanksgiving and are in the best of spirits. I know these times have been difficult but we'll get through it.

At this time I would like all of you to read the articles that Martin Nigrelle has written for this issue. He has gone into great detail about the New Casa, and instructions on how we should proceed with the voting from our members. It is very important that we look at the dates. Voting will begin on December 7th and end on December 14th. As stated, call me at my home phone 206-453-4002 or my cell 206-399-2805. Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in the coming year.

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless.

Sincerely,

Anna Popovich

il Ficcanaso

Official Bulletin of the Italian Club of Seattle
Established April 26, 1920
www.italianclubofseattle.org

Editor:

Joe Jacobin (206) 723-7049
joejacobin@gmail.com

Italian Club Officers for 2019

President:

Anna Popovich (206) 453-4002

Vice President:

Amadeo Rossi (425) 391-9148

Secretary:

Dennis Caldirola (206) 282-0627

Treasurer:

Joe Galluccio (206) 773-9776

Ex Officio:

Audrey Manzanares (206) 779-7325

Trustees

Tom Grossi (425) 557-0071

Barbara Galluccio (206) 275-4688

Martin Nigrelle (206) 310-7689

Frances Rossi (425) 391-9148

Joe Picciano (206) 713-9346

Sergeant at Arms: **Cathy Lembo**

Committee Chairs

Adult's Christmas Party.....**Anna Popovich**

Bylaws..... **TBD**

Crab Dinner.....**Anna Popovich**

Family Christmas Party..... **TBD**

Day at the Races**Joe Galluccio**

Festa Sausage Booth **Tom Grossi**

Golf Tournament**Brian DiJulio**

Health & Welfare.....**Gemma Thielges**

Luncheons**Audrey Manzanares**

Mariner Baseball Night.....**Martin Nigrelle**

New Membership **Dennis Caldirola**

Parliamentarian.....**Dorothy Whitney**

Picnic**Ron Roletto**

Scholarship**Amadeo Rossi**

The Pandemic, A Cultural Center, and A New Opportunity for the Membership

By **Martin Nigrelle**

Later in December please look in your email for a new opportunity to make sure the club follows the direction of the members, while utilizing technology already at our finger tips.

In light of the challenges to hold a regular General meeting during the current pandemic, Anna Popovich, the club president along with the rest of the board has decided to use electronic means to support a vote by the general membership. In this case, on a new item previously not in the budget for 2020.

The board has voted unanimously to put forward for review, & subsequent approval/denial via electronic vote (email) by the membership: The donation of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) and the pre-payment of rent for General meetings of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) for a total of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in support of the purchase & development of the new Casa Italiana – Italian Cultural Center. The treasurer of the new Casa has confirmed the ability to receive, properly document, and support the pre-payment of rent. It may be of interest to know that the Treasurer is Jeff Vert who has been preparing this club's tax statements for some time now.

The new Casa Italiana is to be situated on a five lot piece of property in Burien already purchased by a newly formed 501c3. If approved, the \$50,000.00 (as noted above) will be put toward the capital campaign dedicated to completing the purchase & improving the space for use in the short term. Further efforts & funds will be used in the development of a commercial kitchen & meeting hall onsite. More project details have been shared in other written means, in previous editions of the *il Ficcanaso* and for some by email, as the campaign to raise the rest of the money needed has recently begun in earnest (no pun intended). The capital campaign is intended to raise nearly three million dollars in total, better than five hundred thousand has been raised thus far. There are some details of the proj- (“A New Opportunity”... continues on page 5)

Health & Welfare

by Gemma Di Julio Thielges and Assistant Angela Di Julio Wright

I hope everyone enjoyed a Happy Thanksgiving in spite of having to avoid large family gatherings. Even with all the challenges of 2020, I think we would all agree that we have many blessings for which to be thankful.

Requesting prayers for **Brian Di Julio** who will be having back surgery on December 28th. Hopefully, this will give him relief from the pain he's been experiencing for the past months.

I heard from **Linda Pagni Desimone** who said, "I am having shoulder replacement surgery on December 9, 2020. Because no one is traveling for Christmas, I thought this would be a good time to recuperate!" We should all have plenty of time to say a few extra prayers for the success of Linda's surgery and an easy, successful recovery for her and Brian Di Julio.



Holly Croce Cochran shared that her daughter **Margo Fiones** & her husband **Justin Fiones** (Grandson of **Lou & Antoinette Fontana**) had a beautiful Baby girl, **Rosetta Marie** (left), on October 30th. She said they couldn't be happier! Sending good wishes for a happy and healthy future for the baby and her family.

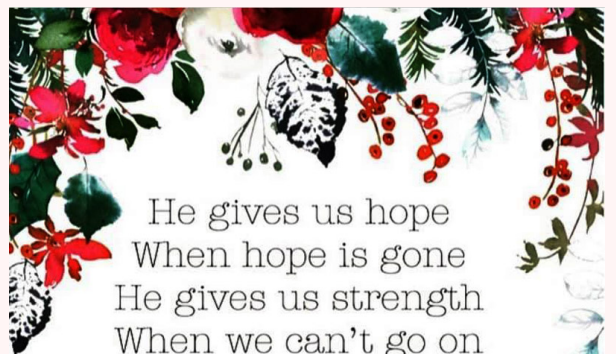
We received the following message from **Fr. Paul Magnano** in response to Holly's news: "Congratulations to Margo and Justin! I'm still keeping Cathy in my prayers. What a big and wonderful famiglia Italiana!"

Angela Wright had a surprise, but welcomed, phone call recently, from **Rosa Facciuto!** Rosa is doing fine and yet, like most of us, is not liking the continued imposed isolation due to the virus. She was, as usual, cheerful and interested in knowing how we were all doing. As our phone

visit was ending, she invited me and others, to give her a call. She would love to hear from us. Calling one another – our Italian Club friends – from time to time, is a great way to help us keep our spirits lifted.

Deanna Larson Dent sent this, and we thought it was a very positive, uplifting message (at right):

Peace on Earth, Good Will toward all. Merry Christmas & Happy 2021.



He gives us hope
When hope is gone
He gives us strength
When we can't go on
He gives us shelter
In the storms of life
When there's no peace on earth
There is peace in Christ

Two Casas?

By Martin Nigrelle

Some of the members of the club, hopefully most of us, are aware of the effort that has been undertaken to secure property in Burien to become the Casa Italiana – Italian Cultural Center.

In addition, hopefully the majority of us are also aware of an older organization also known as Casa Italiana – Italian Community Hall.

Currently both of these organizations exist and have their own active boards.

Why two Casas with similar, but different names? One may ask...

The original Casa (Community Hall) was created to manage the monies from the sale of property previously dedicated as the Italian Community Hall in Seattle. The mission of this Casa has always been to find a new suitable location and channel the funds from the sale of the previous property to the purchase of the new property to be used for the same purpose, a place for the Italian and Italian-American community members to gather and celebrate the culture that has come from Italy. Over time this same Casa ran into challenges to agree upon new properties. As a workaround, the budgets were amended to support Casa facilitating the member clubs' rental costs for the related general meetings and support some Italian Community events as well. Bylaws were written setting up both a board of Directors and a board of Governors, resulting in nearly 25 board members, and an approval process that required a majority vote by both boards in order to move forward. The original Casa has not been a 501c3 for quite a few years.

Recently, the new Casa (Cultural Center) was created. The work to create a new Casa was required to get a 501c3 charitable status in place (so that donations can be written off taxes), and craft a new board structure that could act quicker to meet the demands of purchasing property. The new Casa has a smaller board of Directors made up of 11 members & does not have a secondary governing board. The similar yet different name was intentional to honor the continued purpose of the establishment of a physical location for our community, and reflect the idea of not just a meeting hall, but a location that would facilitate activities to celebrate all things of Italian origin. Such things include (but are not limited to) language and art in the form of language classes for a variety of student types, a lending library dedicated to books or media in Italian, written by Italians or about Italians, offices for smaller organizations that will include the Italian Honorary Consul, events based on Italian seasonal & holiday occurrences. The difference in name was also influenced in that a functioning charitable Cultural Center is more likely to qualify for grants, than a "meeting hall."

The first Casa (Community Hall) voted across both of its boards to donate the principal amount of their current funds (funds leftover after the Mastro investment became insolvent), \$275,000 to the new Casa, in as *("Two Casas?"... continues on page 5)*

“A New Opportunity”... continued

ect online at the dedicated web site: <https://casaitalianacc.org>.

How the voting works:

For well over a year now Dennis Caldirola, our Secretary, has been using Gmail to send out email notices to the membership. In this case a special email will be sent to the members we have on file. The special email will be used to have members cast their vote. Instructions to ensure clear understanding of how to properly cast a vote via the email will be included. Any members who are not using email, will be able to call our President Anna Popovich. Anna has committed to receive & record the votes of any of our members who are not able to use email to cast their vote. Anna can be reached at: (206) 399-2805

The voting period will be one calendar week beginning on Monday December 7th, 2020 & concluding Monday December 14th, 2020. Votes submitted after the deadline will not be counted.

For those interested a tour of the building, please feel free to reach out to Martin Nigrelle. Times can be arranged with Martin or others from the board of the new Casa. COVID prevention efforts are required, which means masks are to be worn & tour groups will be limited in size. Martin's contact information is located on page 2 of the club newsletter.

“Two Casas?”... continued

much as the actions & mission of the new Casa met the purpose with which the first Casa was founded.

At this time the first Casa has a much smaller investment portfolio, but is likely to continue to exist for the duration of the capital campaign of the new Casa. This is in essence a safeguard to ensure that if for any reason the new Casa is forced to sell the property, the old Casa could recover its donation as best as possible. So yes, for now two Casas.

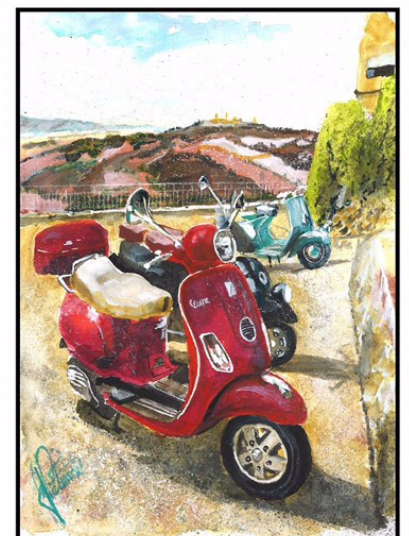
The web site for the new Casa Italiana – Italian Cultural Center: <https://casaitalianacc.org>.

The Facebook page for the new Casa Italiana – Italian Cultural Center: <https://www.facebook.com/casaitalianacc/>.

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*100 Years
1920-2020*

*You're Invited
To
The Italian Club of Seattle
Centennial Celebration*

April 24, 2021

5:30pm

Washington Athletic Club

*Dinner and Dancing with
The Danny Quintero Big Band*

\$100 per person

Reservations no later than April 4, 2021

Contact

Audrey Manzanares

206-779-7325

amanzanares@live.com

Cocktail Attire

No Host Bar

Limited free parking available

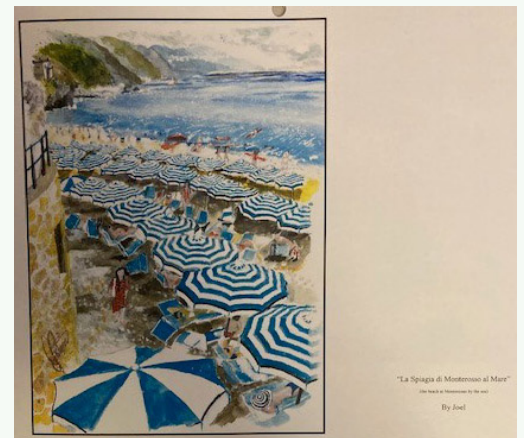
Pandemic Quarantine Calendar Fun

By Joel Patience

Every year we do a family painting calendar. Even the children are encouraged to submit water-colors of things they did or places they visited.

After Dale proof reads it, we print 30 or more copies to send to various family members.

We get to take artistic license and even have a little fun. Columbus Day has been changed to "Columbus Discovers Tomatoes," which, of course, directly influenced food in Italy.



ICoS Calendar

December 2020

No Trustee Meeting this month
25th Christmas Day
26th Input Deadline for January
il Ficcanaso

January 2021

7th Trustee's Meeting **VIA ZOOM!**
11th ICoS General Meeting
25th Input Deadline for February *il Ficcanaso*

February 2021

No Trustee meeting this month
11th ICoS General Meeting
14th Valentine's Day
25th Input Deadline for February *il Ficcanaso*
Crab Dinner, St. Alphonsus

March 2021

4th Trustee's Meeting
11th ICoS General Meeting
19th St. Joseph's Day, "Bingo Italiano" on Zoom
25th Input Deadline for March *il Ficcanaso*

April 2021

No Trustee meeting this month
8th ICoS General Meeting
24th Italian Club Centennial Celebration, Washington Athletic Club
25th Input Deadline for May *il Ficcanaso*

May 2021

6th Trustee's Meeting
11th ICoS General Meeting
25th Input Deadline for June *il Ficcanaso*

June 2021

No Trustee Meeting this month
10th ICoS General Meeting
June 25, 26, & 27 Portland Festa Italiana 2021 at Oaks Park

July 2021

4th Independence Day
No *il Ficcanaso* this month

August 2021

TBD Italian Community Picnic, Royal Arch Park, Maple Valley
No *il Ficcanaso* this month

September 2021

2nd Trustee's Meeting
9th ICoS General Meeting
25th Input Deadline for September *il Ficcanaso*

October 2021

No Trustee Meeting this month
14th ICoS General Meeting
25th Input Deadline for November *il Ficcanaso*

November 2021

4th Trustee's Meeting
Auburn Annual Veterans Day Parade
11th ICoS General Meeting
CASA meeting
25th Input Deadline for December *il Ficcanaso*
26th Thanksgiving

On-Line *il Ficcanaso*

If you would like to receive the *il Ficcanaso* via e-mail rather than have it mailed to you, let us know. Send an e-mail to Dennis Caldirola (Dennis@FestaSeattle.com).

The current newsletter, in color, is posted at: <http://italianclubofseattle.org/newsletter.html>. Save a tree & some postage – Go Digital!

**Your Ad or
Business Card
Here!
See Joe
or Barbara
Galluccio**

**Please send Calendar
Additions or Updates by
the 25th of each month to
Joe Jacobin (joejacobin@gmail.com or 4822 S.
Juneau Street, Seattle, WA
98118-2848). Thank you.**



Scott Fitzpatrick

Vice President - Marketing

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Marzia Caputo, Host

Tony La Stella, Host

Monday's 4-5PM
KKNW 1150AM (Seattle)
LISTEN TO THIS WEEK'S SHOW OR
PAST BROADCASTS AT:
WCIR.biz

David Madrid, Creator




**NO GENERAL
MEETINGS
UNTIL 2021**

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

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