

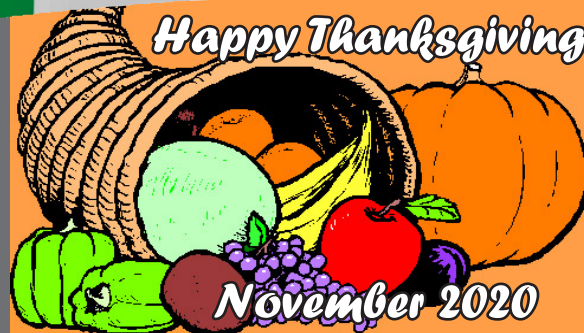
**DUE TO ONGOING  
VIRUS CONCERNS,  
THERE ARE  
NO GENERAL  
MEETINGS UNTIL  
2021**

# il Ficcanaso

NOVEMBER 2020



OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ITALIAN CLUB  
ESTABLISHED APRIL 26TH 1920



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## Secretary's Report

*By Dennis Caldirola*

Now that Halloween has come and gone, can Thanksgiving and Christmas be far behind? In this year of constant sameness, it will feel good just to change the appearance of our homes and the music in the background! To that end, Festa Italiana has decided to participate in Seattle Center Winterfest by videotaping a virtual "**Italian Christmas in Seattle**," featuring a presepio, La Befana and of course, "Tu Scendi dalle Stelle." Watch for it in mid-December.

At present, the Italian Club of Seattle has 184 members and, 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 special members will receive their free membership cards shortly after the 1st of December.

*Vi Invio gli Auguri della Festa di Ringraziamento.*

## Message from the President

Hello Everyone!

I hope all of you are in the best of health and in good spirits. It's hard to believe we are going into our 8th month without a meeting.

At this time I would like to ask each one of you to read the article about the New Casa Italiana written by Martin Nigrelle, President of the organization. He explains in great detail what has transpired in the last couple months to place the local Italian community in possession of a potential "home" for the future.

The Officers and the Board of Trustees of the Italian Club of Seattle voted to donate \$50,000 to this project, subject of course to a vote of the membership. How we will conduct this vote has yet to be worked out, probably a combination of over the Internet and by US mail. What is important is that each of you have the facts and can make an informed decision at that time. If you have any questions, please direct them to me, via email or telephone, and I will pass them on to the appropriate contact who will respond to you.

Diana Warczak, President of Westside Italian Club, informed me that there will be no Christmas party at the Rainier Golf and Country this year due to Covid 19.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you and your loved ones. Take care and God Bless.

Sincerely,

**Anna Popovich**

## il Ficcanaso

Official Bulletin of the Italian Club of Seattle  
Established April 26, 1920  
[www.italianclubofseattle.org](http://www.italianclubofseattle.org)

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### 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 NEW CASA ITALIANA

### Challenges & Opportunities in our Community



(\* Architect's rendering)

**By Martin Nigrelli**

**President, CASA Italiana**

In Corporate-speak, a challenge is often referred to as “an Opportunity.” In reality, they are distinct items that sometimes overlap and sometimes are completely unrelated. We have a mix of both ahead of us.

Some of you may be aware the greater Seattle area has been without a space for the Italian & Italian-American communities to meet for decades. Recently, an opportunity surfaced in that a parcel of land in Burien was put up for sale that included two different structures and enough space to support development and parking space. To add to the appeal of this opportunity, the price was seen to be significantly under the current market value.

The Location: Primary address: [13028 1st Ave S, Burien, WA 98168](https://www.google.com/maps/place/13028+1st+Ave+S,+Burien,+WA+98168). The site is comprised of 5 lots, two of which have structures on them, one residential and one commercial. The residence is occupied by long-term renters and one of the empty lots is being rented short term as a staging area for a local construction project. Two of the five lots are already generating income.

The sale of the property and the amount of time to act were impacted by the (“**NEW CASA**”... *continues on page 4*)

## Health & Welfare

*by Gemma Di Julio Thielges and Assistant Angela Di Julio Wright*

**Angela & Bill Wright** spent a week at the Ocean in Lincoln City in October. The weather was quite nice, it was very relaxing, and just a nice get-away for the two of them.

We continue to remember **Todd Elliott** who is still being treated for a recurrence of cancer and for **Frances Rossi** who is recovering from recent surgery. I heard back from Frances on October 22nd who reported, "The surgery went well. Went to the doctor yesterday to have my drain removed. The lab results showed no cancer. Healing well." I know she appreciated our prayers and is thankful for the great report.

**Anna Popovich** shared that she spent a weekend with her son's and her daughter's families. They went to South Sound, near Olympia from a Thursday until Sunday. She was tested for Covid 19 on the Monday before, and quarantined until they left on the following Thursday. They rented a beautiful house right by the water. They did their own cooking. Anna brought spaghetti sauce & meatballs for one dinner. She said it was a wonderful way to get away and to be together with her family. She was tested in the SODO area on 6th Avenue, with no waiting and she assumes her insurance will cover the cost. They took precautions but were so happy to have gotten away together.

This came from **Brian Di Julio** who has been suffering with long-term back pain: "The DR looked again at my new MRI and it has worsened, and he suggested spinal fusion surgery, and I'm trying to schedule it for some time in the next few weeks...essentially the L5 vertebrae which is the very last one before the S1 which is the long tailbone piece at the very bottom of your spine connected to your pelvic bone...this disc is pushing forward creating a closing of the hole on the side of the spine that your nerve travels thru... it has moved farther forward or more out of whack since my earlier MRI in March...I'm excited to get it finally repaired and will keep you posted, and ok with sharing with club members. Prayers are always appreciated and helpful indeed!!" Praying for a successful surgery and a quick and easy recovery.

Dennis informed me he saw in Sunday's Seattle Times that **Maria Malaspina Lembo** passed away. She was exactly 100 years old. Our sympathies to the family.

Happy Thanksgiving. It most likely won't be the family gathering that we normally would enjoy but it's still a time to be thankful for all our blessings. And in spite of the challenges we have had to face in 2020, we still have many blessings for which to be grateful.

## Famous Italians Born in November

Lou Ferrigno (9th)	John Basilone (9th)	Ellen Pompeo (10th)	Victor Emmanuel III (11th)
Randy Savage (15th)	Mantovani (15th)	Tiberius (16th)	Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (17th)
Brenda Vaccaro (18th)	Joel McHale (20th)	Emilio Pucci (20th)	Franco Nero (23rd)
Lucky Luciano (24th)	Pope John XXIII (25th)	Alfonso Cuarón (28th)	G. Gordon Liddy (30th)



**“NEW CASA”... continued** seller’s willingness to hold a three year note at 3.5% interest, assuming the sale could be closed by a date the seller set. As such due diligence inspections, legal reviews, and other actions were taken (including creation of new 501c3 corporation), to meet the conditions of the offer.

The sale price of 1.3 million dollars, to be paid as: \$450 thousand down payment, second payment of \$50 thousand 90 days later and \$800 Thousand (plus interest) due to the seller in three years.

A small group of people came together based on their roles in local established organizations. Two of those organizations are CASA Italiana – Italian Community Hall, and Il Punto. Both of these organizations have at their foundation the charge/direction to facilitate the establishment of a dedicated place to embrace, promote, and celebrate Italian Culture & Heritage. Contributions from these two organizations are the foundation for the down payment made to purchase the property. The balance of which was comprised of private donations.

Friday October 3rd, 2020, the down payment and closing costs were paid to escrow and the sale recorded!

So what does this mean in terms of challenges and opportunities? The down payment is just the beginning. It is the beginning of a capital campaign to support financing the rest of the purchase price, and the subsequent re-model/build out of the existing facilities, along with the development of the rest of the property. With the purchase secured, there are both short and long term challenges and opportunities. On the challenges side there are financial notes to be paid, building improvements to be made, and supporting capital to be raised. The beauty of the situation is in the opportunities that have become available. The act of fund raising can include the side benefit of bringing like-minded community members together.

In addition, the community now has a location and more to the point: a building: a building to call our own, a building in which to conduct smaller meetings (inside COVID guidelines as appropriate), language classes, and establish a permanent lending library. Il Punto! has given notice at their current rented location and will be moving the inventory of their Italian Library to the new site as the an- (**“NEW CASA”... continues on page 5**)

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## “NEW CASA”... *continued*

chor for a new lending library. Agreements have been made to make workspace available to the Honorary Italian Consul. Efforts are underway to designate space in the commercial building to offer Italian language classes for a variety of student types, and for the storage and display photos and other memorabilia that are in part, the historical record of the efforts and contributions of Italians in the Northwest.

While some would seek to deface the Columbus statue that once adorned the Seattle waterfront, there are those among us who feel a need to celebrate contributions from the likes of Joe Desimone who secured Boeing as a major Seattle employer and created the Pike Place Farmers market. Owning this space will allow the community to properly recognize and celebrate those contributions. Who knows, we may even have a place to properly house the Columbus statue in a manner that allows for people to appreciate it and preserve the statue from getting defiled on a yearly basis. More on that, hopefully, as work begins in earnest to create the new Casa Italiana Italian Cultural Center.

The Italian Cultural Center vision and capital campaign include plans for the expansion of the commercial space to include a meeting hall and commercial kitchen that will support local club general meetings, and events for the community, as well as private event rental. The opportunities do and will abound, we are just leaving the starting gate and the journey includes a long and winding road.

More details to come, and your interactions and contributions are welcome.

Please check out the initial social media efforts just underway (below), we welcome input in form of questions, comments and of course donations.

Web site: <https://www.casaseattle.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/casaseattle>

Grazie mille to the original CASA Italiana – Italian Community Hall, Inc., il Punto!, and Jerry Mascio.

## Some untranslatable words that only exist in Italian

What’s the word for the mark left on a table by a cold glass? Oh that’s right, there’s no word in English for that – but in Italian, on the other hand...

Every language contains certain words or phrases that just can’t be translated into a single English word. And Italian is full of examples. You’ll come across some of these words in everyday speech, while others may be used only in, say, poetry or politics. Here are some of the most interesting ‘untranslatable’ Italian words, along with our best shot at a translation.

**Culaccino** - You know that annoying mark that you get when you put a cold or wet glass down on a table? Well, in Italy it’s so bothersome there’s a word for it: *culaccino*. Derived from *culo* (“bum”), the same versatile word can also mean the dregs in the glass itself, or the end of a salami or loaf of bread.

**Menefreghista** - You may have heard the phrase “*Non me ne frega!*” uttered in Italy, meaning “I don’t care!” Well, in Italian there’s also a noun to describe someone who’s par-



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*1920-2020*

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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*

ticularly prone to this way of thinking. A “don’t give a damn-ite”, if you will.

**Baffona** - A lady with a moustache. But it’s so much more elegant when you can say all that in one word.

**Pantofolaio** - “Couch potato” is probably the closest translation for this one, but it doesn’t quite capture the humour of this Italian word. You may know already that pantofole mean slippers in Italian. A pantofolaio is someone who prefers the quiet home life (hence the slippers) and avoids any activity which may disrupt the tranquility of their existence.

**Sprezzatura** - This word, popularized by Renaissance man of manners Baldassare Castiglione in his Book of the Courtier, is so untranslatable that you’ll sometimes hear it used in English. The best definition we’ve got for it is “studied carelessness” or well-faked nonchalance. Castiglione considered it essential to any true gentleman: “I have found quite a universal rule which in this matter seems to me valid above all other,” he wrote, “and in all human affairs whether in word or deed: and that is... to practice in all things a certain sprezzatura, so as to conceal all art and make whatever is done or said appear to be without effort and almost without any thought about it.”

From: <https://www.thelocal.it/20180509/ten-untranslatable-words-that-only-exist-in-italian>

## ICoS Calendar

### November 2020

- 5th Trustee's Meeting **VIA ZOOM!**
- 7th Auburn Annual Veterans Day Parade (No organized marchers)
- 16th CASA meeting **VIRTUAL ON-LINE MEETING**
- 25th Input Deadline for December *il Ficcanaso*
- 26th Thanksgiving

### December 2020

- No Trustee Meeting this month
- 13th ~~Adult Christmas Party, Rainier Golf & Country Club in conjunction with the Westside Italian Civic Club~~ **CANCELLED**
- 25th Christmas Day
- 26th Input Deadline for January *il Ficcanaso*

### January 2021

- 7th Trustee's Meeting
- 14th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner
- 25th Input Deadline for February *il Ficcanaso*

### February 2021

- No Trustee meeting this month
- 11th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner
- 15th Valentine's Day
- 25th Input Deadline for February *il Ficcanaso*
- TBD Crab Dinner, St. Alphonsus

### March 2021

- 4th Trustee's Meeting
- 11th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner
- 25th Input Deadline for March *il Ficcanaso*

### April 2021

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

### May 2021

- 6th Trustee's Meeting
- 13th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner
- 25th Input Deadline for June *il Ficcanaso*

### June 2021

- No Trustee Meeting this month
- 10th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner
- 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/Dinner
- 25th Input Deadline for September *il Ficcanaso*

### October 2021

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

## 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](mailto:Dennis@FestaSeattle.com)).

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

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**Please send Calendar  
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Joe Jacobin ([joejacobin@  
gmail.com](mailto:joejacobin@gmail.com)) or 4822 S.  
Juneau Street, Seattle, WA  
98118-2848). Thank you.**





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David Madrid, Creator




**NO GENERAL  
MEETINGS  
UNTIL 2021**

## ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

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