



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Monte Marchetti

Greeting Everyone,

I don't know about you but I am really ready for summer this year. I have had my fill of rain, moss and the sunny Saturday before Easter filled me with hope.

Special thanks to everyone for their contributions and volunteer efforts that help improve the Italian Club of Seattle and create a better social experience for all.

My focus is improving the fun factor and the general meetings filled with laughter and people enjoying each other is a clear indicator we are on the right path to fulfilling our cultural destiny enjoying the Italian Lifestyle.

What is the secret to of the Italian lifestyle? Let's examine some attributes and values of living life Italian style. First and foremost for the people of Italy is placing

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In their own words ... Marylouise Masenga Leone's **Recollections from the Italian Club**

My parents were among the founding members of the organization. My father, Victor Masenga, was the 5th president of the Italian Club. My mother, Catherine, was the first president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Italian Club.

Coffee and cookies after Sunday Mass at Mt. Virgin

I remember going with my mother to visit at the member homes, after Sunday Mass at Mt. Virgin Church, for coffee and cookies. Often we visited at Mrs. Alphonse LaSalle's home, which was near the church. There we would meet various club members (such as Nellie Ive and Lena Christopher).

The LaSalle's were great bakers. I remember them showing me the many breads, cakes and cookies they had prepared for the holidays... I was really impressed to see that, and they gave me a can of cookies to take home and enjoy.

Club Picnics and Drinking Fountains

I loved to go to the yearly club picnics. I remember that one year (when I was about kindergarten age) we went by ferry boat to the site, which had drinking fountains, and I had such fun playing with the water that I was soon thoroughly soaked, much to the chagrin of my mother.

The Di Julio brothers and many of the club members worked to make the picnics successful events. Everyone enjoyed the music, games and food.

Parties and Dinner Dances

Everyone loved a party. The dinner dances were enjoyable to the whole family, parents and children. The whole family used to go to the dance. You would see parents, with their children holding on to them, dancing along. Baby sitters were not needed. Everyone went to the dance together.

Christmas and Children Gifts

My father died in December just before Christmas. My brother, Bob, and I put up a Christmas tree. The club officers, and many members, visited our home. To our surprise they brought boxes of fruit, cakes, and breads, as well as beautiful toys, books for my brother and me. We were all most grateful for the club member's generosity.

General Meeting & Dinner

Thursday, May 12
Mount Virgin Church Hall
Dinner (\$10) at 6:30PM
Progressive price ... \$25

Spring-Summer Events

May 10 ... Casino Trip
May 12 ... Regular Meeting
June 15 ... Mariner's Ball Game
June 22 ... Quarterly Luncheon
July 16 ... Emerald Downs

Next Luncheon

Wednesday, June 22
11:30AM
Courtyard at the Marriott
925 Westlake Ave. N.
Carolyn Jackson, Chair
11:30 to 1PM

il Ficcanaso

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www.italianclubofseattle.org

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Membership: **Martin Nigrelle**

Day at the Races: **Joe Galluccio**

Mariner Baseball Night: **Martin Nigrelle**

Picnic: **Ron Roletto**

Halloween Party: **Andrea Petrone**

Adult Christmas Party: **Joanne Marchese**

Children's Christmas Party: **Tom &**

Nancy Grossi

Bylaws: **Barbara Peretti**

Luncheons: **Carolyn Jackson**

Scholarship: **Martin Nigrelle**

Miss Italian Club: **Barri Grossi**

Health: **Carolyn Jackson**

Parliamentarian: **Lou Cella**

Golf Tournament: **Brian DiJulio**

Crab Dinner: **Anna Popovich**

Day at the Casino: **Michael Lazzaretti**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

value on the simple things of life, family and community rather than material things that seem to occupy the thoughts and minds of western culture.

Many people in Italy experience nirvana with long small course meals extending several hours with people they cherish. In America a good strategy to capture this simplicity would be to slow down and prepare a home cooked meal at least once a week and take the time to enjoy it with friends and special bottle of Chianti. Maybe it's due to the lack of refrigeration in Italy most people's diet revolves around fresh healthy food that is prepared slowly with loving hands and hearts. Another differentiating feature is living with childlike curiosity and passion for life. Become committed to being a lifelong learner, it worked for Columbus, Marconi and Da Vinci and it can work for you to.

It can be difficult in modern American society to get lost in the hustle and bustle and speed through life ignoring the ways of our ancestors only to find we are doing more and enjoying it less. I catch myself pondering the work life balance and am committed to embracing the Italian lifestyle that is part of my DNA. I hope you will join me in being the awareness behind the impulsiveness to go fast and take time to enjoy all our activities and each other. Since I took office I have had many suggestions on how we could do things better and I really appreciate the feedback and advice. After a few months of listening I have decided that first and foremost I will consider all suggestions and see if it fits with a venue that pays respect to our culture and heritage of strong community, enjoying each other and the simplicity of being around the people we love.

People have asked about my recipe from the crab feed and where it came from and so I would like to share it with you and the story on how it evolved for me. My love of cooking came from experiences as a child where my Grandma (Caterina Astesano Marchetti) would come over and prepared homemade pasta and

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ravioli with her bare hands using only a rolling pin and hand forged tools she brought from Italy. Without any measuring cups she would hand craft food that would produce flavor and smells that I still can't replicate today. Her cooking was out of this world and her magic was the smile on her face, the twinkle in her eyes and the songs she sang to us and she worked the dough as she put it all together. It is a powerful lesson understanding that what we learn and experience through love and laughter will surely make an impression and motivation to recreate those experiences. Remember people eat with their eyes first and of course the Italian secret ingredient LOVE.

Here is the recipe for the pasta I served at the crab feed.

- 1 lb. pasta (uncooked)
- 3 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 cup reserved pasta water
- 7 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil divided
- 1/2 stick of butter
- 4 tablespoons fresh minced garlic, divided
- 1 teaspoon dried red pepper flakes
- 1 ounce anchovies canned
- 2 tablespoons of capers
- 10 chopped Kalamata olives
- 1/4 cup chopped parsley
- 2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Salt and black pepper

Melt olive oil, butter and garlic (finely pressed or chopped), cook slowly so as not to burn the garlic. Add anchovies, salt and pepper (lightly) leave on low heat while pasta cooks.

Cook pasta al dente reserving some starchy water for sauce. (10-11 minutes).

Drain and place in bowl, add sauce and lemon juice and reserved pasta water. Plate and spread Parmesan cheese, olives, capers and Italian Parsley on top. Place sliced lemon wedges around the edges and serve

Amore,
Monte Marchetti

We are in the beautiful month of May, the month of Mothers. Bless them all.

A great big Happy Birthday to all our May celebrants. Your flower is the Lily of the Valley and your birth stone is an Emerald. May your year be filled with love, family, friends and good health.

So much going on, where do we begin? Yep, your right "at the beginning." Where is that?

How about "You many only be one person in the world, but you may be the world to one person." Doesn't that make you feel good?

I thank the Marriott Courtyard Hotel and our speaker, Jerry Rosso, of Rosso's Gardens, for being so cooperative when we cancelled our April Luncheon. Both were understanding that a Past President of the Italian Club's funeral was being held the same day and many of our members that generally attend the lunch would be attending the funeral.

A reminder, our next Luncheon (God willing) will be on Wednesday June 22nd.

Our sympathy and prayers to the Family of Past President, **Carl Romei**. Carl served as president in 1995. He will be missed.

Condolences and prayers to the family of our member, **John J. Merlino**.

Also to Mary Hoffa and family on the passing of her sister, Josephine Ramaglia.

May they all rest in peace.

Tony Facciuto took a spill at a banquet, hit his head and leg. His head had nine stitches and leg two stitches. *You're in our thoughts and prayers. You too, Rosa.*

Dorothy Whitney also took a spill, actually tripped, working at a banquet, injured her shoulder and has had surgery on it and is recovering, slowly but surely, under the watchful eyes of Dick.

We have missed **Roy and Betty Skibo** the last few months at our meetings.

I gave them a call, they called back, and they shared the news that they had moved from their home to an assisted living Apartment in Totem Lake, he said it's really Kirkland. Betty has had back problems and will be having surgery this month. Their telephone number is the same, their new address will be forthcoming. Let's keep them in our prayers.

Tony and Rose Petrarca's 26 year old Grandson, Gabino is in liver failure and is waiting for a transplant. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Gabino, Tony, Rose and Family.

Heard **Mike Lazzaretti's** been down with that darn old flu bug, it hasn't stopped him from working on our Casino trip on the 10th. Take care Mike. See you on the 10th.

Prayers and good thoughts to **Mimi Burwell**, she was in the hospital, but is doing fine now.

We missed **Ron Roletto** at our last meeting, but he was traveling. He covered nine States. He said he had a great time. Tell us all about it at the meeting. *Welcome home Ron*

Also doing a lot of traveling was **Bill Picchena**. Mexico and Miami will never be the same.

He is still bragging about the Italian restaurant they went to in South Beach

Miami. It's name is *Hosteria Romana*, in case you're traveling down that way.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Trond and Anna Tucci** and little brother Ringstad on the arrival of the sweet addition to the family. A darling little girl.

Holly Croce Cochran had a great time running around Europe with her daughter.

Well, time is running out and so is news. We do have some reminders,

May 10 ... Casino Trip

May 12 ... Regular meeting

June 15 ... Mariner's Ball Game

June 22 ... Quarterly Luncheon

July 16 ... Emerald Downs

August 14 ... 100th Anniversary of Mt. Virgin Church. Mass & Reception

Sept. 10 ... Festa Mass and Reception - 5 P.M. Mass

That's it for now, but let's end on a cherry note,

To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.

Until next time, stay healthy and enjoy.

The informer, Carolyn, aka SISTER

*The Italian Club informer,
Carolyn, Aka Sister*



The beautiful month of May

Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration Set for June 16-19

The Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration, June 16-19, 2011 will have major attractions for us Italians.

Evening concerts include:

Thursday, June 16:

Steve Albini from the San Francisco area ... Italian American and an extraordinary musician.

Friday, June 17:

Mario Pedone born in Italy, raised in Venezuela and now living in Texas ... fabulous accordionist.

Saturday, June 18: Vincenzo Abbracciante from Puglia Italy; one of the world's most exciting accordionists; this is a MUST!

Vincenzo is a third generation accordion player with mind blowing



technique and style like no other. Vincenzo started his career winning the championships playing the standard accordion favorites. Now, he has flown to another level of accordion playing in the jazz world.

He is one of those young players that will change the face of the jazz accordion for years to come.

Vincenzo's first USA performance and jazz workshop will be held at the Accordion

Festival in Leavenworth on June 18th, 2011.

Vincenzo will be playing the latest Borsini accordion which has taken a year to build by hand.

Check out website at: www.accordioncelebration.org.

Club Membership

By Martin Nigrelle (Membership Chairman)

At this month's General meeting we will be voting on applications for two new members.

Maria Bellavia has recently moved here from Rochester, NY. Her maternal grandfather hailed from Palermo, Sicily.

Maria's two son's John & Christopher also live in the greater Seattle area.

Also applying for membership is **Linda Frangello Franco**, Seattle resident and retired nurse, daughter of longtime member **Ed Frangello**. Grandparents were from the Frangello and Isernio families.

Sponsors are **Dennis Caldirola** and **Martin Nigrelle**.

Volunteers Wanted



Joe Sargent is seeking volunteers for the Festa Sausage Booth in September.

Italian Club Scholarships – Four Applications Received

By Martin Nigrelle (Italian Club Scholarship Chair)



A total of four applications were received in time for consideration for the three scholarships available to be awarded for the 2011-2012 School year. The value of each scholarship is \$500.00. The funds are paid to the school directly in the name of the recipient.

The applications will be reviewed and the related information & transcripts verified this month.

Next steps in the scholarship process:

- May 2011 – Applications reviewed & verified
- June 2011 – Recipients notified personally & announced in *il Ficcanaso*
- September 2011 – Certificates presented to Recipients @ the General Meeting
- October 2011 – Scholarship payments made to schools

The qualifications each recipient needs to meet or exceed are as follows:

1. A parent of the applicant (student) must be in good standing in the Italian Club for at least three years. (Grandparents are not included).
2. The parent(s) of the applicant must attend at least three club meetings during the year.
3. The applicant (student) is enrolled in a Catholic high school (grades 9 through 12) for the 2011-2012 school year, in the greater Seattle area
4. The applicant (student) must have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (with official transcript) and take part in extra-curricular activities, community service, etc.
5. Each applicant must write & submit a letter describing themselves and activities in which they are participating. (focus on community & charitable involvement is recommended)
6. The application and transcript must be post marked no earlier than April 1st 2011 and no later than May 1st 2011.
7. Applications that are incomplete or missing a transcript will not be considered.

Mariners' Italian Heritage Night

By Martin Nigelle, Chairman

I have one more ticket for seating with the Italian Club at Italian Heritage Night @ Safeco Field sponsored by the Mariners & Verizon.

People interested in more tickets can purchase them from the Mariners. The tickets are available through the Mariners (group sales). Full details are available at: <http://mariners.com/italian>.

The event:
7:10pm, Wednesday June



15th 2011 the Mariners will be hosting the Los Angeles Angels.

Price: \$27.00 for field Level & \$13.00 for upper level, this is the same price as last year. The Mariners have graciously agreed to donate \$2.00 per ticket sold for the event to Festa Italiana.

As a part of the event Verizon has sponsored a giveaway item: an Italian themed baseball cap.



Day at the Races Set for July 16 By Joe Galluccio, Chairman

The annual Seattle Italian Club day at the races is going to be held on Saturday July 16th at 2PM at Emerald Downs

in Auburn. Bring some guests, and join your friends from the club for a fun filled afternoon of horse racing. Your \$48.00 ticket includes admission to the track, a tip sheet, a reserved seat in the Shinpoch room, which is located on the fourth floor in the clubhouse area overlooking the finish line, and a delicious buffet lunch. This year the menu for the buffet is sliced marinated flank steak with caramelized onion jus,

grilled chicken with Asian glaze, herb roasted potatoes, vegetable platter, ceasar salad, fresh fruit bowl, assorted rolls and butter, coffee & tea service, and assorted cake tray.

The pari-mutual betting windows are only a few steps from your reserved seat and it is really easy to make your wager on your favorite horse. The view from the room is beautiful and the entire afternoon is very enjoyable. If you have never been to "A day At the races" give yourself, and anybody else you feel would enjoy it, a memorable day at Emerald Downs.

Reserve your seat now by contacting **Joe Galluccio** at **206-275-4688**

The Search for Miss Italian Club is On! By Barri Grossi, Chairman

We are starting our search for this year's Miss Italian Club to represent The Italian Club of Seattle in the Miss SEAFair competition. The Miss SEAFair competition is much more than a stereotypical beauty pageant. Referred to as a scholarship program, the foundation of the competition is the blend of volunteer work, academic achievement and creative talent that each woman displays during the month of preparation for her moment in the SEAFair spotlight.



For more details and the official application, please visit <http://www.seafair.com/foundation/subcontent.aspx?SecID=938>.

If you are a woman, 18 years or older, enrolled in a college, university, or vocational program and are interested in being the next Miss Italian Club of

Seattle, complete the application and mail to **Barri Grossi** at barriw@gmail.com no later than May 16, 2011.

OUR ITALIAN HERITAGE

Top Ten Places to Visit in Italy

Italy has many beautiful and historic cities worth a visit. Travel to cities is best done by train as driving in Italian cities may be very difficult and the extensive Italian train system is inexpensive. Most city centers are well-suited to walking and parts of the city centers may be closed to transportation. Large Italian cities generally have good public transportation, too.

Rome

Rome is the capital of modern Italy. Rome is full of history everywhere you look. It has many ancient monuments, interesting medieval churches, beautiful fountains, museums, and Renaissance palaces. Modern Rome is a bustling and lively city and has some excellent restaurants and nightlife. The Vatican and St. Peter's are also found in Rome.

Venice

Venice is a unique city built on water in the middle of a lagoon. Venice is one of Italy's most beautiful and romantic cities as well as one of the most popular for visitors to Italy. The heart of Venice is Piazza San Marco with its magnificent church. There are many museums, palaces, and churches to visit and wandering along Venice's canals is interesting. Venice is in the northeast of Italy and historically was a bridge between East and West.

Florence

Florence is one of the most important Renaissance architectural and art centers. Its Duomo and Baptistery are magnificent but crowded with tourists as is their large piazza. Florence has several interesting museums with many famous paintings and sculptures. There are also Medici palaces and gardens. Florence is in Tuscany.

Milan

Milan, one of Europe's richest cities, is known for stylish shops, galleries, and restaurants and has a faster pace of life than most Italian cities. It also has a rich artistic and cultural heritage. Its Duomo, with its beautiful marble facade, is magnificent. La Scala is one of the world's most famous opera houses.

Naples

Naples is one of Italy's most vibrant cities. It lies on the coast south of Rome and is the most important city in southern Italy. Naples has recently undergone some renovation but still retains much of its old character. It holds many historical and artistic treasures.

Verona

Verona is known for the story of Romeo and Juliet and for its Roman Arena, the third largest in Italy and the venue for a top opera festival. Verona has a good medieval center, Roman remains, and an interesting castle complex.

It's the fourth most visited city in Italy and well worth a stop on a northern Italy travel itinerary.

Turin

Turin, host of the 2006 Winter Olympics, is a major cultural hub with excellent museums, elegant shops, and good restaurants. There are also some very nice examples of baroque architecture and historic palaces. Turin has many historic cafes, artisan workshops, and arcades. Turin is in the northwest of Italy, between the Po River and the foothills of the Alps.

Bologna

Bologna is known for its beauty, wealth, cuisine, and left-wing politics. Its streets are lined with beautiful arcades, making it a good place to walk even in the rain. It has one of Europe's oldest universities and a nice medieval center. There are several attractive squares, lined with buildings with nice porticoes. Bologna is the capital of the Emilia-Romagna region in northern Italy.



Perugia

Perugia is a very cosmopolitan city and home to two universities. It hosts a world-famous jazz festival in the summer and its University for Foreigners is a great place to learn Italian. It's a walled city on a hilltop with great views over the valley and has several important monuments and a good central square. Its history goes back to the ninth century BC. Perugia is in the center of Italy and is the capital of the region of Umbria.

Genoa

Genoa, on the northwest coast of Italy, is Italy's principal seaport. Genoa was a 2004 European Culture Capital; money flowed into the port city made famous by Columbus and now it's a better place than ever to visit. Genoa has a fascinating aquarium, an interesting port area, and a historic center said to be the largest medieval quarter in Europe, with a wealth of churches, palaces, and museums.

“Large Italian cities generally have good public transportation.”

Italian Club Calendar of Events

General Meetings: Dinner (\$10.00 charge) followed by meeting at 6:30PM








Meeting on SECOND Thursday of the month, Mount Virgin Church Hall

Luncheons: 11:30PM at Marriott Courtyard (925 Westlake Avenue North) are held quarterly

Social Hour 11:30AM, Luncheon 12 Noon

Finance and Bylaw Meetings: 7PM at IC Office

Trustee Meetings: First Thursday of every other month, unless otherwise noted

MAY 2011	JUNE 2011	JULY 2011
<p>10: IC Day at the Casino Michael Lazzaretti, Chair</p> <p>12: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"></div>	<p>2: Trustees Meeting</p> <p>9: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM</p> <p>15: Seattle Mariners Baseball, Italian Heritage Night, Martin Nigrelle, Chair</p> <p>22: IC Luncheon Courtyard at Marriott, Carolyn Jackson, Chair</p>	<p>Summer Break No Meetings <i>No il Ficcanaso</i></p> <p>16: Horse Racing at Emerald Downs, Joe Galluccio, Chair</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"></div>
AUGUST 2011	SEPTEMBER 2011	OCTOBER 2011
<p>Summer Break No Meetings <i>No il Ficcanaso</i></p> <p>21: Italian Community Picnic</p> <p>25-27: Festa Italiana - Portland</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"></div>	<p>1: Trustees Meeting</p> <p>8: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM</p> <p>9: IC Golf Tourney. Echo Falls Brian DiJulio, Chair</p> <p>10: Festa Italiana Mass Carolyn Jackson, Chair</p> <p>20: Festa Downtown Luncheon</p> <p>23: Festa "Taste of Italy"</p> <p>24-25: Italian Festival at Seattle Center</p>	<p>8-9: Great Italian Festival Reno, Nevada</p> <p>13: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM</p> <p>29: Halloween Party Andrea Petrone, Chair</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"></div>
NOVEMBER 2011	DECEMBER 2011	JANUARY 2012
<p>3: Trustees Meeting</p> <p>10: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM .. Nominations will be taken from floor for 2012 officers</p> <p>16: Past Presidents Luncheon Carolyn Jackson, Chair</p>	<p>3: IC Children's Christmas Party Tom & Nancy Grossi, Chairs</p> <p>8: IC General Meeting/Dinner Elec- tion of Officers, 6:30PM</p> <p>11: IC Christmas Party, 4-8PM Embassy Suite, Tukwila Joanne Marchase, Chair</p>	<p>12: IC General Meeting/Dinner Installation of Officers, 6:30PM</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"></div>
FEBRUARY 2012	MARCH 2012	APRIL 2012
<p>2: Trustees Meeting</p> <p>9: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"></div>	<p>8: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"></div>	<p>18: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM</p> <p>24: IC Luncheon Courtyard at Marriott, Carolyn Jackson, Chair</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"></div>



il Ficcanaso

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**Winners at the April Meeting
Kaczor wins \$50 Prize**

The birthday winner for April was **Tom Grossi**. The spirits and coffee cards were won by **Dot Whitney, Monte Marchetti, Deb Quein, Marie Dahlgren, JoAnne Lazzarretti, Rosa Fasciutto, Max Leone, Paul Pioli, Patty Pillatare, Joan DiJulio and Carole Bishop.**

The name drawn for the Progressive Prize was **Carl Romei**, our beloved past president who just passed away. Subsequently, the next drawing for the \$50.00 prize went to **Mike Kaczor**. The May jackpot will be \$25.00