

General Meeting,
Dinner Thursday
April 11th, 2013
6:30pm
Mount Virgin
Church Hall

il Ficcanaso

APRIL 2013



OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ITALIAN CLUB
ESTABLISHED APRIL 26TH 1920

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Baseball Italian-American Style

*By Martin Nigrelle –
Event chairperson*

Just over half the original 60 tickets the club purchased have been sold. Tickets will continue to be available on a first come first served basis at the April General meeting. They are field level seats at \$43.00 each. Payment can be made by cash or check (payable to the Italian Club).

What makes this year great?

- The Mariners are hosting the New York Yankees
- The event is on a Friday Night
- The seating is on the first base side (closer to most of the action)

Italian Heritage Night 7:10pm, Friday June 7th, 2013. The giveaway item this year will be a white baseball cap customized for the event. The cap will feature the Mariners "S" in a red &

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Message from the President

Hello fellow members,

Spring seems to be roaring in (you know "in like a lion, out like a lamb..."), it feels good to see the sun later than 5pm. With the fairer weather comes more opportunities to do things outdoors. In America, Baseball season is fast upon us and stores like Costco & Fred Meyer are selling outdoor furniture. In Italy the month of April brings Easter celebrations (Easter Monday is a national holiday), along with the feast of San Marco & artichoke festivals. Summer can't be too far behind.

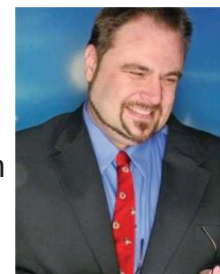
I have to say thanks to Robert Sylvester for the great article about his family heritage in last month's newsletter. I think it would be great to have such articles in the newsletter as a regular feature. If anyone else is interested in contributing such an article, please send your submission to our Editor, Nick Grossi.

Big thanks go out to Tom Grossi & Joe Galluccio for stepping up to co-chair the Festa Sausage booth!! Thanks, guys. Your efforts will not go unrecognized. With the notes and knowledge shared from the last five or so years, the booth should only get better, more efficient, and easier to run. Anyone interested in participating in this year's Sausage Booth should let Joe or Tom know.

Opportunities in & for the club:

- Community Service? I think this may be a great way for the club to give back to Seattle's Italian community and raise awareness of the club at the same time. Last month we heard of one suggestion: cleaning/restoring the old Sick's Stadium sign. If you know of any opportunities or are interested in such a project, please contact me. There may be an opportunity for a club sponsored dinner for those involved afterward.
- Is there a club member who would like to take on chairing a pasta dinner? That may be a great way for the club to continue financing for the scholarship fund without having

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il Ficcanaso

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

Editor:

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Italian Club Officers for 2013

President:

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Diana Kaczor (206) 232-7880

Secretary:

Dennis Caldirola (206) 282-0627

Treasurer:

Joe Galluccio (206) 275-4688

Ex Officio:

Monte Marchetti

Trustees

Tom Grossi (425) 557-0071

Rod Warczak (253) 359-7210

Audrey Manzanares (206) 779-7325

Barbara Galluccio (206) 275-4688

Linda Madrid (206) 286-8131

Sergeant at Arms:

Ron Roletto

Committee Chairs

New Membership.....**Diane Kaczor**

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.....**Audrey Manzanares**

Scholarship.....**Diane Kaczor**

Miss Italian Club.....**Audrey Manzanares**

Health.....**Gemma Thielges**

Parliamentarian.....**Lou Cella**

Golf Tournament.....**Brian DiJulio**

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

Day at the Casino.....**Michael Lazzaretti**

President' (continued)

to tap into the club's general funds directly. If you are interested in running such an event please let me know, phone, e-mail, or in person.

- Do you have access to someone involved in or working with people in Italy that may be interested in making a short presentation at a general meeting? Please let me know, we may be able to schedule them in. I think it would be great to have a better understanding of what activities our fellow Italian Americans are involved in.

Do you have comments, questions or concerns about the club? Feel free to contact me directly by phone: (206) 310-7689 or e-mail: martin.nigrelle@hotmail.com.

Martin Nigrelle, President Italian Club of Seattle

Baseball (continued)

green on the front, an Italian flag on one side & the words "Italian Heritage Night" on the adjustable strap at the back of the hat.

The Mariners are looking to expand the Italian themed happy hour in advance of the first pitch in the area known as "The Pen." If we sell enough tickets, we can get the first group pitch and other activities, more details to come.

Our man Alex Liddi is currently listed as a member of the 40 man roster, let's hope he makes Active on the Mariners roster in time for the game, keep your fingers crossed for the only Italian born player in the MLB today.

Ticket prices are \$43 for field level (\$17 discount) & \$20 (\$13 discount) for seats in the upper deck. To purchase tickets directly from the Mariners, please visit the web site dedicated to the event: <http://Mariners.com/italian>. As with the last few years, the Mariners will be donating \$2 per ticket to Festa Italiana. The event continues to prove (and improve) to be a great night out with fellow Italian-American friends & family and in turn benefits a great cause, come on out to the ballpark!!



***In My Own Words* by Italian Club Member Vincent Ferrese**



Vincent Ferrese

La Mia Famiglia Storia

Sure, our families go back hundreds of years, but why is it that for most of us, it all starts with our grandparents? Both sets of my grandparents immigrated to America from Italy. While I cherished all four of them, I became best acquainted with my mother's parents, Vincenzo and Antonuzza Bellissimo. It's not that I didn't like my dad's side, but my mother kept the social calendar, and lo and behold, we ended up for Sunday dinners at my maternal grandparents house more often than not. Now, it didn't hurt that grandpa always had a stash of those big Hershey bars for the kids and homemade wine on hand for my dad while grandma kept the fridge full of flavored soda pop.

My grandfather was one of five boys raised in the southern Italian village of Villalonga. The five brothers were born between the years 1874 and 1893, with my grandfather, Vincenzo, being the youngest. Growing up in a small town made it easier for my grandfather to court and marry my grandmother, whose union has allowed me the opportunity to write this story.

Around 1915 these two love-birds got hitched and shortly thereafter, they sailed to the land of plenty, America, where they met up with grandpa's four older brothers. The boys all worked in the coalmines of SW Pennsylvania. It was a dirty and claustrophobic job that none of them particularly cared for, so they jumped at the opportunity to go west working for the Union Pacific Railroad. Not long into their journey, while working in Wyoming, their boss absconded with their entire pay, never to be seen again. How did they get home with little or no money, you ask? Heading back east, they hooked up with a wild-west show, and before long reunited with their loved ones in Pennsylvania. Back to the coalmines they went!

Now back with his lovely wife, Antonuzza, my grandparents had their first of six children, Rosa my mom, who was born in 1921. When my mother was just seven years old tragedy hit the family when two of grandpa's brothers died in the 1928 Mather Pennsylvania coalmine explosion. My grandpa would have been in that horrific explosion had he not been sick at home that day. Needless to say, my grandfather never returned to the coalmines. At the same time, the steel mills of Pittsburgh were unionizing and with grandpa being, shall we say "connected", he entered the factory and we became "Steelers". Shortly after, grandpa focused on passing his U.S. citizenship exams. Now remember, my mom was born prior to her parent's becoming U.S. citizens, which meant that she was a dual citizen of Italy and the United States. "Big deal", you might think, but that detail has allowed my three boys and me to obtain our dual citizenships as recently as 2011. I am grateful for this for two reasons: 1. It has brought me full circle back to my Italian roots and heritage and 2. It will allow my boys the opportunity to work in any EU country should they so choose.

My mom and dad met in 1940 with dad quickly heading off to Africa to serve five years in WWII. I recall him telling of the difficult emotional time fighting his fellow Italians in Italy as well as witnessing the death by firing squad followed by the upside-down hanging of Mussolini in April of 1945. I was born in 1949 (the second of four) and, with a large extended family I was instilled with the values of my Italian heritage and culture. Around age ten, I realized that my life's profession

(Continued on page 4)

Health & Welfare

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

Past President (1975 & 1976) and member Gene Merlino celebrated his 100th birthday on February 25th with family and friends! Congratulations and Best Wishes, Gene. Gene's sister-in-law, 90 year old Lottie Merlino (widow of Ernie Merlino: Italian Club President 1984-1985), went to be with her Lord the same day. Dee Cella's brother Rudy Simone died on March 19th; her cousin Lena Massa Hard passed on February 22nd and earlier; in 2012 her brother Ed Simone died. We offer the Cella and Simone families and the family of Lottie Merlino our sympathy, prayers and friendship.

Lou Guzzo was hospitalized in March and is now in a care facility. Pico Peretti, husband of Dawn & son of Barbara, was thought to have the flu but it turned out to be leukemia. He is being treated at U.W. Hospital & Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. There are daily updates on his condition if you go to dailypostcarepages.com. Barbara Galluccio had major back surgery in February but was looking great just one month later at our March meeting. I don't think anyone would have known about it except for the brace she was wearing. Velva Saltarelli & the "boys & girls" club she is involved with (it includes Rosa Facciuto, Mary Hoffa & a few others) enjoyed another one of their "field trip" outings. This time it was to the Chocolate Factory in Fremont. They use organic cocoa beans from Africa to make their chocolate. This is a group of fun, spunky seniors! Bill Picchena enjoyed nearly a week in the sun at the Best Western in Rancho Mirage. He was with daughter & son-in-law Jacque & Bill & their children Jillian, age 21 & Ray, age 16. They had 85 degrees or better every day! And here we were in the 30's and we even had some snow. Angela & Bill Wright had a great 10 day stay with their daughter & her family in Scottsdale, AZ. They were kept busy with the 3 grandchildren's activities (ages 14, 11 & 2) & also enjoyed ideal weather.

Hope everyone had a Happy
Easter



Gemma & Angela (the sisters)

La Mia Famiglia Storia (continued)

was going to be in architecture. I don't recall why, but I never looked back and have spent the past forty years as an architect.

Five years at Penn State architectural school (yes, Joe Paterno, was there even then), an early marriage at age 22, and a decision to follow my grandfather's trip to the west, ultimately brought me to Seattle in 1975. Now, like most of you, this rain still gets to me. Yet, you know how it is -- you get your job, your house, your friends, your church, your favorite shops, and your kids and you are likely here forever. I believe a longing for all of those Italian gatherings from my childhood is what brought me to the Italian Club of Seattle. Being at these monthly events reminds me of those standing-room-only Sunday dinners at grandma's or those fabulous weddings with a bride's party of nearly a dozen and 250 guests for a sit down dinner of wedding soup and pasta. Being around all of you helps me recall so many events that I attended growing up. With my lovely wife and best friend, Amber, and three awesome sons -- Tony, Robert and James -- I am truly blessed.

Sit back now, join me with that cup of coffee and, yes, that biscotti, and think of all of those blessed memories that each of you have . . . God Bless, migliori amici (best friends)!

Italians in the Hawk's Nest

*By Martin Nigrelle -
President*

The Seattle Sounders FC created their own Italian Night. They will be hosting F. C. Dallas at 7:30pm Saturday May 18th in Century Link Field. Chris Carra from the Sounders has offered a stadium tour 60 minutes before the match starting by NW box office entrance for the first 100 people who participate in this event. Tickets will be discounted to \$23.00 each, for seating in the area known as the Hawks Nest, the north end of the field behind the northern goal.

Anyone who is interested in sitting together please let Martin Nigrelle know before buying tickets. Or if you have your own group of 10+ people you would like to sit with, you can arrange for Special block group seating, Contact Chris Carra: Chrisca@SoundersFC.com | 425.203.8319 <https://oss.ticketmaster.com/html/go.html?l=EN&t=seattlemls&o=8767517&g=501>



"A Day at Snoqualmie Casino"

by Michael Lazzaretti

Spend the day at Snoqualmie Casino Wednesday, May 1 2013. The cost is \$10.00 and for that you get \$10.00 cash back and a free Buffet.

We leave from Embassy Suites: Located at 3225 158th Avenue Southeast, Bellevue, WA. Pickup is in front of the Embassy Suites Hotel at the flag pole. Parking is available in the Embassy Suites Parking lot. The bus leaves at 9:55am, arrives at 10:25am and returns from the casino at 3:25pm. Please pay driver on day of trip. Cash only. I need to know no later than Wednesday, April 24 2013 so I can reserve seats.

You can reach me at 206-323-9441.

Membership

*By Diana Kaczor, New
Membership Chair*

There is one new application to vote on at the April meeting. Cathymarie Barolletti lives in Seattle. She has a daughter, Cathy and a son, Jon. She is a CPA and works at the partnership Bancroft, Buckley, Johnston, & Serres. Cathymarie's grandmother and grandfather hail from the city Trento in Italy.

There was one new member application voted on at the March general meeting. Please join in welcoming Christopher Chicoine to the club.

Do you have friends or family interested in joining our club? The club continues to offer a great deal for those interested in joining: The \$75.00 initiation fee is waived for new applicants. New applicants can join for \$50.00 instead of \$125.00 well under 50% of the normal cost to join the club. Please have them use the Application button found on the club's web site: <http://www.italianclubofseattle.org>.

2013-14 Scholarship – Application Form is Available

By Diana Kaczor – Scholarship Chair

The Italian Club of Seattle is awarding up to three individual \$500.00 scholarships. The scholarships for the 2013-2014 school year will be awarded to students who are selected based on meeting or exceeding the scholarship criteria (noted below). As in years' past; the better the GPA, the better chance of scholarship award.

Next steps in the scholarship process:

- May 2013 – Application submission window closes, application verification
- June 2013 – Award Recipients determined in the June board meeting, all applicants notified of their status
- September 2013 – Award Recipients published in the il Ficcanaso and presented @ General Meeting
- October 2013 – Scholarship payments made to the schools on behalf of the recipients

The qualifications each recipient needs to meet or exceed are:

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 high school (grades 9 through 12) for the 2013-2014 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 a letter telling about themselves and activities in which he/she is participating.
6. The application and transcript must be post marked no earlier than April 15th 2013 and no later than May 10th 2013.
7. Applications that are incomplete or missing a transcript will not be considered.

2013/2014 Italian Club of Seattle Scholarship Application Form

Applicant's name: _____

Applicant's Parent(s) (Italian Club Member(s) in good standing): _____

High School Applicant will be attending in the 2013/2014 School year: _____

Applicant's Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

The Application form must be accompanied by:

1. Official Transcript, from the Middle or High School the applicant is currently attending (2012-2013 school year).
2. Letter detailing the applicant's participation in extra-curricular activities & community service

Applications are to be sent to: Italian Club of Seattle - Scholarship
c/o Diana Kaczor
P.O. Box 9549
Seattle, WA 98109-0549

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

Trustee Meetings:

- First Thursday of every other month

Secretary's Report

THIS IS YOUR LAST *IL FICCANASO*! Your Italian Club dues for this year are due by April 15, 2013. As per the by-laws, at that point, anyone still in arrears will be dropped from the mailing list and the email database.

At present, the Italian Club of Seattle has a total of 254 members. As of March 28th, only 209 have paid their dues leaving 45 who have not yet responded. If you have friends or family members you think are delinquent, now would be the time to call them and encourage them to stay in our great organization.

If you plan to attend the April meeting, you can save yourself 46¢ and the Club 92¢ by paying your dues in person and having your membership card issued immediately. This will be your last chance!

Dennis Caldirola

On-Line *il Ficcanaso*

Since last month, several members have opted to receive the *il Ficcanaso* via e-mail rather than have it mailed to them. If you would like to try this method, let us know. Send an e-mail to Dennis Caldirola (dennis-caldirola1@gmail.com) or Joe Jacobin (joejacobin@gmail.com).

The *il Ficcanaso* is available on-line at: <http://italianclubof-seattle.org/newsletter/ilficcanaso.pdf>.

April 2013	
11th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM

May 2013	
2nd	Trustee Meeting
9th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM

June 2013	
7th	Seattle Mariners' Italian Heritage Night (NY Yankees)
13th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM

July 2013	
4th	Independence Day
	No <i>il Ficcanaso</i> in July or August

August 2013	
4th	Italian Heritage Day Emerald Downs
6th	Festa Volunteer Meeting, Mt. Virgin Church, 7PM
18th	All Italian Community Picnic Royal Arch Park, Maple Valley
22-24	Festa Italiana, Portland, OR

September 2013	
10th	Festa Volunteer Meeting, Mt. Virgin Church, 6PM
12th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM
14th	Mass in Italian at Mt. Virgin Church, 5PM
24th	Festa Downtown Luncheon, 11:30AM
27th	Taste of Italy, Armory, Seattle Center, 7PM
28-29	26th Annual Italian Festival, Seattle Center (10AM)





il Ficcanaso
 The Italian Club, Inc.
 P.O. Box 9549
 Seattle, WA 98109-0549

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

WINNERS

The Birthday Winner for March was Rod Warczak.

Spirits, Coffee Cards and diners were won by: Dale Bonn, Barb Peretti, Marie Dahlgren, Linda Madrid, Michael Troiani, Ron Roletto (twice), Ron Alia (twice), Monte Marchetti (twice), Anna Popovich, Robert Sylvester, Inez Bellotti, Paul Pioli and Delores DiVitis.

The Progressive Prize of \$25.00 would have been won by Michael Monroe had he been present. The Jackpot now goes to \$50.00 for the April Meeting.



Nancy Grossi

Opera singer/Entertainer
 Available for Parties, Weddings,
 Funerals, Anniversaries, etc.
 Call: 425-765-5007 or email
NancyGrossi@hotmail.com

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 6:30pm
 Mount Virgin
 Church Hall**



#TAXTACTICS

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