



il Ficcanaso

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ITALIAN CLUB
ESTABLISHED APRIL 26TH 1920

**General Meeting,
Dinner – Thursday,
September 8th, 2016**

6:30 pm

**St. Patrick's
Parish Hall**



THIS ISSUE:

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In My Own Words By Robert DeDonato ***Sylvester Club Member*** ***about his Grandfather, Early NW*** ***Pioneer Xavier P. DeDonato***

(Editor's Note: with the recent passing of Robert Sylvester, we are re-running this article from March of 2013. Rest in Peace, Robert.)



Xavier P. DeDonato (above) was born in St Louis, MO. August 19th 1883. His father was Lucian DeDonato and his mother Mary Lavezza. At age 5 his family moved to Roslyn, WA. There he would meet and then marry, in 1908, his wife, Flora Agnes Corgiat. They were the second couple to be married at St. James Cathedral in Seattle.

Xavier graduated from Angel College

"In my own words" continues on page 4

Message from the President

Welcome back, everyone!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer. I am looking forward to our September meeting. We're also looking for a new Sergeant-at-Arms due to the passing of Robert Sylvester whose presence we will greatly miss. September is a busy month with Festa, San Gennaro and Italian Day at the Races. Please remember to support all these events.

We will continue to meet at St. Pat's Hall and Doug will continue to provide dinner. The possibility of meeting at Mt. Virgin is out of the question unfortunately due to the fee required for rental. If anyone has any ideas for a different meeting place please contact me directly.

Festa is fast approaching so anyone interested in helping out at the Festa Sausage Booth should contact Tom Gros-si. Along with the Crab Feed, this is one of the primary fund raising activities of the club. It is important we have the right people and the right number of volunteers to help make the booth a success. Please consider volunteering. There are multiple jobs as well as time slots available. Whether it is cooking or cashiering or in between, we could use your help.

Tom still needs help chairing the Italian Club of Seattle booth at Festa. This booth will be indoors and out of the weather. The chairperson will be responsible for organizing volunteers to staff the booth and work with me to ensure the booth has the right items to share with the public in promotion of the club. Activities include handing out printed club information and/or applications, collecting applications, and sharing the general good will of the club. Please contact me if you are interested in chairing or volunteering at the booth.

I will see you at the general meeting Ciao!

Diana (Faccione) Kaczor
President Italian Club of Seattle

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

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Audrey Manzanares (206) 779-7325

Barbara Galluccio (206) 275-4688

Ron Roletto (206) 722-2712

Sergeant at Arms: **TBD**

Committee Chairs

Adult's Christmas Party.....**Linda Madrid & Audrey Manzanares**

Bylaws.....**Barbara Peretti**

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

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

Day at the Races**Joe Galluccio**

Festa Sausage Booth**Tom Grossi**

Golf Tournament**Brian DiJulio**

Halloween Party.....**Andrea Petrone**

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

Luncheons**Audrey Manzanares**

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

New Membership**Linda Madrid**

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

Picnic**Ron Roletto**

Scholarship**Linda Madrid**

Children/Family Halloween Party

When witches go riding

and black cats are seen,

the moon laughs and whispers

"It must be Halloween"

Please Save the Date:

Saturday, October 29th, 2016

St. Patrick's Church Hall.



Annual Festa Volunteer Meeting Coming Thursday, September 8th

by *Dennis Caldirola*

Dear Friends of Festa,

Want to explore your Italian ancestry? Love to play Bocce? Do you wish to be up close and personal with famous chefs? Festa Italiana has just the opportunity for you!

Each year, during the last week of September, our wonderful Italian Festival is celebrated and enjoyed by thousands of people like yourself.

In early September, we hold an annual volunteer meeting where we meet new volunteers, encourage volunteers to sign up for specific activities, talk about any changes for that year, and pass out volunteer T-Shirts. Anyone and everyone is invited.

This year, the meeting will be held in a new location, the school hall at St. Patrick's Church, 2702 Broadway East, Seattle, WA 98102 (at the intersection of I-5 and SR 520). The date is Thursday, September 8, 2016, 5:30pm.

See you there! Need more information? Please email us at info@FestaSeattle.com or call or office at (206) 282-0627. Grazie!

BTW: members of the Italian Club of Seattle are invited to stay for dinner at 6:30 PM.

Health & Welfare

by Gemma Di Julio Thielges and Assistant Angela Di Julio Wright

Welcome back to our monthly Italian Club meetings. The summer always seems to pass by very quickly. Hoping everyone enjoyed a safe, fun, relaxing few months.

Joel Patience & wife Dale Bonn went exploring this summer to western Oregon with its wine regions and stayed at the Out and About Treehouse Bed and Breakfast located near Cave Junction, OR. The O&A has 15 tree houses and a couple of rooms in the lodge. Tree house main floors range from 15' off the ground up to 55'! Some are connected by suspension bridges. Their tree house had a full bath including a claw-foot tub and gas grill on the deck. The resort has great breakfasts, zip lines, horses and a pool fed by a freshwater stream. They start taking reservations July 1 for the following year. They thought it would be a great place for a family reunion.



We lost several members over the summer months - **Joan Razore**, who had turned 100 in

April, passed away on August 3rd. Our Sergeant at Arms and very active member **Robert Sylvester** passed away on August 11th. **Lorraine Picardo Stensen** who enjoyed attending the annual crab dinners, passed away on July 2nd.

This news came in from **Angelo & Mary Merlino**: "Mary and I will be going to Rome and meeting with relative Caterina and then to Villa Montestigliano in Tuscany with my cousin Larry Pesce & his wife Sandy and cousin Phyllis Dowlin along with her husband Dave. Three other couples will join us in Tuscany. Mary & I will visit Boys Town of Italy. My cousins and we will then go on a Northern Mediterranean cruise before heading home." Wishing them safe travels; sounds like a great trip.

Angela & Bill Wright have been on the go this summer - a couple of trips to the Oregon Coast, one with friends and one was their annual week with their children and grandchildren. They've had trips back and forth to son and daughter in Spokane and daughter in Arizona and son in Bellingham. Now they're looking forward to the wedding of oldest grandchild this month in Spokane.

Brian & Barb Di Julio hosted a wonderful Di Julio family picnic at their beautiful home on Lake Washington on August 14th with over 100 relatives. Beautiful, warm day and fun to be together. Some of our siblings and cousins who are all members of the Club, attended: **Barb & Brian, Brad, Jim & Joan, Angela, Gemma & Jerome, Margaret & Bill, Jane Hall, Chip, Sister Mary Lou, and Steve.**

Mt. Virgin class of 1958 will gather for our yearly lunch again on Sept. 10th. Not sure who all will be there but **Judy Seth, Marie Dahlgren, Ron Alia and I** are certainly looking forward to it.

Fr. Gary Morelli reported that he is on a new treatment for his cancer and would appreciate the prayers of the Italian Club. He also sends his blessings.

Bill Picchena enjoyed a 12 day trip with daughter Jacque and grandson Roy. They flew to Budapest, Hungary for a river cruise to Slovenia, Austria, and Germany. They flew home from Munich. The weather, the food, the boat crew were all great. It was a Disney cruise on a 3 month old boat that held about 250 people. Disney leases the boats as they do not, at this time, own any river boats. Their granddaughter (Roy's sister) works for Disney cruises.

(Health & Welfare continues on page 4)



Day at the Races

by Joe Galluccio, Chairman

Dear Members of the Italian Club of Seattle:

I wanted to let you know that Italian Day at the Races is scheduled for Sunday, Sept 4th at Emerald Downs. We need to have at least 25 attend. I am hoping you'll come through as you have done in the past. It's the same fee as last year; \$55.00. That includes admission ticket, program, reserved seat and lunch buffet in the Shipcock room plus participation in all the Italian activities down in the Paddock. Please email me (galluccios@msn.com) with the number of tickets you need. I hope to hear from you soon, and that you will attend Day at the Races this year.

Thanks again.

Health & Welfare (continued)

Dorothy Miori Whitney's sister Dolores is doing well after her surgery last year. She's driving and getting around. Our prayers appear to have been answered and the family appreciates them.

Please keep in mind that this is your column. I merely try to let people know what's going on amongst our members. If I don't hear about it, I cannot report it. I count on all of you to keep me informed. It's so much more interesting if many members contribute. I know I enjoy reading your news and others have responded the same.

Wishing an enjoyable and information-filled year to those who are going back to school. Looking forward to seeing those who are able to be at our Sept. meeting.

"In my own words" (continued)

in Oregon and went on to Barns Medical College, now at part of Washington University in St Louis before coming to Seattle. There he and Flora settled down in Georgetown, WA while it was then an unincorporated city before being annexed to Seattle in 1910. Flora and Xavier went on to have 10 children while living in Georgetown for 22 years.

Cecilia (Lockwood) Marguerite (Meade), Francis, Lawrence, Beatrice (Sylvester), Richard, Vincent, Leo, Lorraine (Tuesley), Gerald. Theirs was a life of love and joy. They were a very tight knit family where those closest in age would form the tightest bonds that would last all their lives.

While in Georgetown, Dr. DeDonato would become the Health Commissioner, where his name, along with others, is inscribed in the cornerstone of the Georgetown City hall bldg (now SPD precinct). Around 1930 the family moved to Capital Hill across from Holy Names Academy at 720 22nd Ave East.

Papa, as he was known to all, had his medical offices in the Cobb building in downtown Seattle. Over the years many family members and friends would work for Dr. DeDonato. He was the first Italian doctor and made many house calls carrying the little black bag that was the outward sign of a physician back in the day. During the Depression, many of his patients could only pay in the form of chickens or eggs or meat. Mama and Papa would regularly invite guests for dinner along with the 12 other people living in the house. Life at 720 was a constant whirlwind of people coming and going. He also had the medical symbol Aesculapius (also called Asklepios), a staff or rod, with a snake curled around it. It is the staff or rod of the ancient mythical god of medicine.....on the grille of his Buick. This would be beneficial during the war as he was given priority for gas rations.

Over the years Papa had quite a collection of friends and admirers. Shortly after Pearl Harbor he was asked by the local papers if he supported the United States in its battle against the Axis powers. He replied that he would not hesitate to send all his

boys to fight for our country. In fact, he did. Although his oldest son, Francis, was killed in a tragic car accident at the age of 24 and Lawrence, along with my dad worked at Boeing, all remaining four boys were fighting for the US by the end of 1944. Sadly, his wife, Flora, suffered a massive stroke and died shortly after her last son left for the Merchant Marine. All returned safely but, as was the unspoken rule, never talked of the war, even to each other.

Dr. Dedonato was very active in the community as a spokesman for the Italian Community, Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus, President of the Dante Alighieri Society, co-founder of the Carroll Club, member of the Catholic order of foresters, a leader in the St Martin's Layman's Retreat League, the Holy Names Society of St Joseph's Church and one of the founding members of the Italian Club of Seattle to name a few.

About the only recreational time he had for himself was spent smoking cigars and playing poker with a constant revolving group of friends. He also was a close friend of Mother Cabrini, founder of Providence Hospital, who later became St Francis Xavier Cabrini after her canonization in 1946. She also founded many other schools and hospitals including Sacred Heart Villa in NE Seattle. My two brothers, sister and I attended this school for our elementary years as it was just down the street from our home on Ivanhoe Pl. NE.

My mom, Beatrice, known as Bede, told me of so many memories she had living on Capital Hill, going to St Joe's and then to Holy Names. She told of how Papa would do all his Christmas shopping on Christmas Eve, walking the floors of Frederick and Nelson with sales staff in tow. Buying three of this, four of that. She said they were so grateful to get anything because of the immense love and respect she and her siblings had for their parents. More than once the family would return home after losing a few wheels or smashed fenders. Papa would have the car repaired without any kind of an outburst. The boys would get a stern look and know they would work to repay him. Their greatest fear would be to not be in the good graces of their father. Decades after their passing, mom and my uncles and aunts would tear up at just the mention of their parents' names and talk on and on about their character, morals and the love they had for them. Undoubtedly, this was Papa's greatest legacy which has been passed on to generations that followed.

During the war, Papa would write at least 10 letters weekly to his five sons and those daughters living away from home. As a man of a very formal education living in a much more eloquent time, his letters were legendary both in their content and penmanship. He decided to combine the letters he received and in turn sent a weekly letter to all with the greeting, "Dear Subscribers". On one father's day his son Richard wrote the most heart wrenching letter from the South Pacific. In it he extolled on the virtues of this great man, his desire to emulate him to his best and thanked him for being the best father, husband and role model in glowing verse.

One of Papa's joys in life was his car. He mostly bought big Buicks or Cadillacs. As he died when I was only four, I do remember being given shots in our living room and his '49 Buick with the giant chrome bumper and grille. He also loved to drive fast. He must have had to arrive in Belmont CA in a day without the benefit of any interstates. It was on a return trip that he died as a passenger in a head on collision just south of Crater Lake as a logging truck turned left in their path. Xavier set the gold standard in our family for which many have tried but failed to equal. Truly an inspirational man who was beloved by all.

Che Dio benedica l'anima di questo grande uomo.

Robert DeDonato Sylvester

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il Ficcanaso

The Italian Club of Seattle Presents
Festa Italiana Luncheon
Wednesday, September 14th
11:00am to 1:30pm
at the Sorrento Hotel
900 Madison Street, Seattle, WA

\$55 (includes parking)
Checks made to "ICoS"

Mail to Audrey Manzanares
829 NW 54th St., Seattle, 98107

Information or Questions:

amanzanares@Live.com – 206-779-7325

Keynote Speaker: Richard Benedetto founding member of USA Today, retired White House correspondent and columnist for USA Today and political columnist for Gannett News Service.

Presentation of:

Gil Centioli Award to Jerry Mascio

Patricia DeLaurenti Volunteer of the Year Award to Joanne Spino Marchese

**Menu: Pear & Apple Salad
Pepper Grilled Chicken Breast
With Wild Rice and Vegetables
Tiramisu**

No Host Bar



Crown jewel of farthest, leftest corner of the country, Seattle has a long and fabled history of doing things its own way. Hotel Sorrento has been part of that history since the beginning (almost): When we opened our doors in 1909, our first guests were the anxious prospectors, cagey entrepreneurs and curious tourists who attended the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, which was pretty much the first time anyone outside the Northwest had ever heard of Seattle. Intrepid men and women from near and far came to rest their heads in our guest rooms, celebrate their adventures in our sumptuous Fireside Room, and dance and dine at the Top o' the Town, the city's highest restaurant way up on the seventh floor. The Sorrento became Seattle's original hub of hospitality, creativity and urban life.

**General Meeting,
Dinner – Thursday,
September 8th, 2016
6:30 pm
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall**

September 2016 	
1st	Trustee Meeting
4th	Italian Day at the Races Emerald Downs
8th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM
9-11	San Gennaro Festival Georgetown
10th	Festa Mass Mt. Virgin Church, 6:30PM
14th	Festa Italia Luncheon Sorrento Hotel
23rd	Giada Valenti Concert
24 & 25	Festa Italiana, Seattle Center
28th	Input Deadline for October <i>il Ficcanaso</i>

October 2016 	
	No Trustee meeting this month
13th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM
8 & 9	Italian Festival, Reno, NV
16th	Seattle Fedele “John Croce” Homemade Wine Festival
25th	Input Deadline for November <i>il Ficcanaso</i>
29th	Halloween Party St. Patrick’s Church Hall

**ITALIAN CLUB
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

General Meetings:

- Drinks & Dinner (\$10.00 charge) followed by meeting & prize drawings, 6:30pm on the SECOND Thursday of the month, St. Patrick’s Parish Hall

Trustee Meetings:

- First Thursday of every other month

November 2016 

2nd	Past Presidents Luncheon 11:30 AM, il Fornaio
3rd	Trustee Meeting
10th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM
25th	Input Deadline for December <i>il Ficcanaso</i>
24th	Thanksgiving

December 2015 

	No Trustee meeting this month
TBD	Adult Christmas Party
8th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM
14th	Family Christmas Party
24th	Input Deadline for January <i>il Ficcanaso</i>
25th	Christmas Day

**Mt. Virgin Feast Day
Sept. 4th**

Our Lady of Mt Virgin Feast Day, Sunday, September 4th, Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church will celebrate the “Our Lady of Mount Virgin Feast Day.” This Mass will be a multi-lingual service (possibly with a prayer spoken in Italian). All are invited and welcome to participate in this special celebration. We all know that Mount Virgin holds a special place in the hearts of the Italian community, so this may be a nice way to show our support.

The Mass will be held at 10 am and with a reception to follow. The ladies of the church will be cooking for attendees of the reception.

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 (denniscaldirola1@gmail.com).

January 2016 

1st	New Year’s Day
5th	Trustee Meeting
12th	IC General Meeting/ Dinner 6:30PM
25th	Input Deadline for February <i>il Ficcanaso</i>





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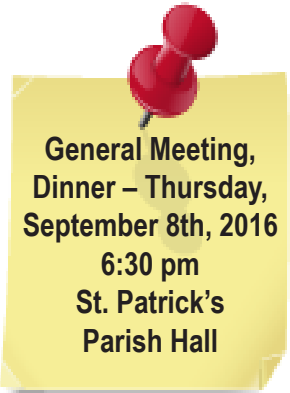
WINNERS

Drawings were conducted by Sergeant-at-Arms Robert Sylvester.

The Birthday Winner for June was Marty Nigrelle.

Spirits, Coffee Cards & Dinners: were won by Margaret Ward (2x), Dot Whitney (2x), Dale Bonn (2x), Francis Rossi, Robt. Sylvester, Max Leone, Marty Nigrelle, Dennis Caldirola, Katherine Langenegger and Joanne Spino Marchese.

Progressive Prize: Of \$50 would have been won by Sr. Suzanne Perri had she been in attendance. Jackpot goes up to \$75.



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Dinner – Thursday,
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6:30 pm
St. Patrick's
Parish Hall

The NW Italian Radio Show

KKNW 1150 AM Seattle

KLAY 1180 AM Tacoma

Every Monday 3-5 PM

Simulcast & Past Programs at:

www.WCIR.biz

*Celebrating All Things Italian &
Italian-American*

David Madrid, Host

Co-Host: Tony La Stella

**ADDRESS SERVICES
REQUESTED**

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