



L'Unione Italiana

Celebrating 100 Years In Our Building

**volume 20, issue 1
January/February 2018**



1731 East 7th Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33605
(813) 248-3316
www.italian-club.org

Club Office Hours

Monday-Friday
9:00am-5:00pm

Cemetery Hours

Open Daily 8:00am-3:00pm
(Located at 26th St. & 24th Ave)

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of L'Unione Italiana is to preserve and honor the culture, traditions and heritage of the Italian Community and to maintain the historical facility as a functioning memorial to the working class immigrants. We will support this mission through the dues and contributions provided by the members, their families, friends, and government. In return we will add value to the membership by providing social activities, fellowship, Italian arts and culture; these activities will provide for growth and stability in the membership, creating a safe and comfortable environment for both members and employees. As the oldest historical leader and the voice of the Italian community, we will operate in an environment characterized by the highest ethical standards and provide open and honest communication with the members and the community.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor, Barbara Denti Pool
Staff Writer(s), Gilda F. Capitano
Design/Production,
Mark Stanish, Jr.

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JANUARY 2018

Club Closed January 8th-11th for termite treatment

January 5th	Krewe of Italia Indoor Bocce Tournament
January 19th	January Birthday Celebration @ CRUSH
January 21st	Holocaust Remembrance Event
January 26th	Member Appreciation Night @ CRUSH
January 28th	Extravaganza: Vegas Showcase

FEBRUARY 2018

February 10th	Knight Parade Events (<i>Bleacher Seats & Private VIP-Party Available, as well as Parade After-Party</i>)
February 16th	February Birthday Celebration @ CRUSH
February 18th	Spaghetti Dinner At The Club
February 24th	Fiesta Day In Ybor City

LOOKING AHEAD

March 17th	St. Patricks Day Parade Events (details pending)
April 5th	Wines of Italy (details pending)
April 7th & 8th	Festa Italiana - Two Day Event
April 13th	Casino Italiano
April 14th	41st Annual Italian Invitational
June 4th-8th	Campo Italiano



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Ciao A Tutti Italian Club Members,

Happy 2018 to all our members, both old and new!! hope everyone had a beautiful holiday season, a Merry Christmas, and a wonderful New Year! The Club was buzzing these past couple months, with back-to-back events straight through the holidays.

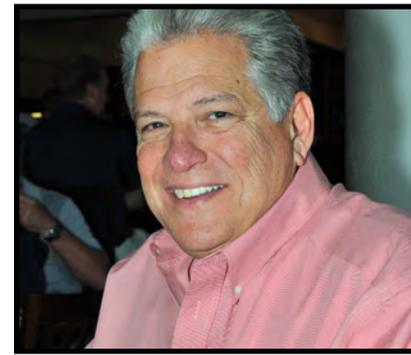
I would like to take this opportunity to specifically recognize the Ladies Auxiliary, who recently donated over \$9,000 to the Club, Cemetery, and Krewe in total. Many of you may not be aware, but in accordance with the Ladies Auxiliary bylaws, at the conclusion to each calendar year, the auxiliary donates the monies they raised throughout the year back to the various entities of the Italian Club. Thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary for all your hard work, dedication, and contributions to the Club and our mission. In saying that, I would like to remind everyone that the Ladies are in the final stages of compiling the **2nd Edition of their Cookbook**. I encourage all of our culinary extraordinaire's out there to submit your recipes so that they can be passed on to future generations.

As we have said previously, the Club and its staff are focused on providing our members with events and activities throughout the year that add value to your membership. As you flip through the pages of this newsletter, you will see several upcoming events specifically designed and targeted for our members. In February, the Club will host two events that I encourage the membership to take advantage of. The first, the Knight Parade Parties, will occur on Saturday, February 11th. The Club will once again be selling **Knight Parade Bleacher Seats**, only this time we are adding a **Knight Parade Private VIP Pre-Party** with an open bar and appetizers prior to the parade starting. This is definitely unique to Ybor City and this Club, so don't delay in getting those seats! On February 18th, the Club will once again be hosting a **Family-Style Spaghetti Dinner**, which only costs our members \$10 to attend. If you like entertainment and special acts, please also note that the Club will host a **Vegas Style Showcase** on January 28th.

By now many of you have heard that our Italian Club Building is turning 100 years old in 2018, a truly remarkable milestone for our Club and our building. Throughout the year, the Club will host events specifically marking this occasion. Please make sure you check your emails and the newsletter for updates. This will be a year unlike any other for our Club, and we are proud that each of you will be celebrating along with us.

Lastly, all membership cards have been mailed out to renewed members. In order to receive discounted parking in the Italian Club lot during our events, you must have that membership card with you and show it to the parking attendant. Also, please make note that the Club is no longer using the PO Box address – so kindly update your records to reflect the building address of 1731 E. 7th Avenue, Tampa, FL 33605.

Cordialmente, Sal Guagliardo, President



*Sal Guagliardo
Board President*

Board Of Directors

Sal Guagliardo (President),
Grace Ippolito (Vice-President),
Townsend Belt (Secretary),
Jay Anthony (Treasurer),
Kathy Perez-Dutton, Don Bodie, Rick Califano, Dennis Costantino Jr., Sharon Mangione, Michelle Cardamone, Vince Sinardi, Jamie Granell, Gianna Tagliarini-Caravella, Sam Manna, Doug Dallio, and Louis Minardi, Gilda Capitano

ADVISORY BOARD

Joseph Capitano, Jr.
Joe Capitano, Sr.
(Immediate Past President)



Cultural Corner by Gilda F. Capitano

Members, Please view the logo to the left which celebrates the 100 years of our historic building. Our building was designed by famous & award winning Architect, M. Leo Elliott. Please note that 2018 marks our 100 year of this building, therefore, you will be seeing this logo along with info about upcoming events. Thank you Ken Ferlita for designing our 100 Year Logo. Sempre Avanti, Gilda F. Capitano



Celebrating 100 Years

As the Club embarks on a year full of special events, proclamations, and galas recognizing our building turning 100 Years Old - we'd like to take a moment to share the stories of some of our members who can tell us the stories of what it was like back before the bright lights, and before Ybor became such a lively entertainment district.

L'Unione Italiana Clubhouse The "Grand Lady of Seventh Avenue"



Part I – The first 50 years

By: Barbara Denti Pool

Celebrating the 100th Year of the opening of our beautiful historic Clubhouse is indeed a grand experience and we are all immensely proud. I spent a delightful afternoon with my friends—and revered members—brothers Joseph and Philip Caltagirone (both of whom are in their 90s), whose recollections assisted in this writing. Their family was an integral part of this Club, as their great uncle Philip Licata was the third President and held the office for 17 years during "The Golden Years" of our Club.

L'Unione Italiana (Chartered in 1894 as "Societa Italiana di Mutuo Soccorso L'Unione") was the culmination of the dreams of the immigrants who arrived from Sicily in the latter part of the 1800s. Before the first building was erected in 1911 across Seventh Avenue from our present "palace" the meetings were held in the homes of the members. Many services were provided for the benefit of its nearly 500 members and it was the hub of social, medical, cultural, educational needs and also as the entertainment venue for its members.

The first Mutual Aid Society was created for members providing, in addition to medical ser-

vices, a fund that provided money for last expenses and aid for the family of a deceased member. Every member was required to donate at least \$1, many gave much more. The Society was so successful that then-President Roosevelt sent a delegation to the Italian Club to meet with our Board of Directors to replicate the program, which is similar to the HMOs of today.

The construction cost of the first 3-story building was \$40,000 and it provided a gymnasium, Cantina, Dominoes tables and bar; it was primarily a "men's club" as women were prohibited from entering such establishments at that time. In 1915 a devastating fire completely destroyed the beautiful and hallowed building and all that remains today from that first clubhouse are the green metal posts that can still be seen across the street and the engraved Cornerstone which was salvaged and is mounted in front of the new building. The members vowed to rebuild, in the true Sicilian manner of never accepting defeat!



Cornerstone from first Italian Club building that was destroyed in 1911 fire.

For the next three years the members diligently raised the funds to rebuild the present magnificent building we now enjoy and so proudly offer to the members and the public to rent for social events, entertainment, educational, professional conferences, etc.

This cost to erect the new Clubhouse in 1915 was \$80,000 and boasts some of the most exquisite embellishments, furnishings and Old World Craftsmanship to be seen in Tampa. The architects were M. Leo Elliott and B. C. Bonfoey. Elliott also designed many famous Tampa sites, i.e., City Hall, Franklin High, etc. The beautiful floor tiles throughout the building were hand painted and fired by the famous Salvatore Cappello; the finest marble and intricate ironwork still grace the structure. L'Unione Italiana is on the National Register of Historic Places.



Our present Cantina was the scene of many activities in those days. The men, usually dressed in suits, gathered to play cards, Dominoes, smoke their cigars and partake of all that was available. There was of course the gymnasium including weights, a well-stocked bar (which was white marble!), and on the west wall was a bowling alley. The 10 pins and balls were very small back then. Billiard tables rounded out the scene. On the first floor a remarkable Library (where the Museum is presently) was stocked with the latest available Italian newspapers sent from New York, magazines and publications of the day, and a plethora of books...all in Italian, of course. Folks would come to get news of the day from our "Readers" who shared the bounty with others. The Ticket Office for the Theater was located where the elevator now stands. The space under the stairway was the Coat Room.

The second floor today remains the "Theater" and it has a history that must be shared by those with

whom we are blessed to still have among us! In the early days the floors were slanted toward the stage and theater seats were placed for optimum viewing; even the sunken "orchestra pit" was staged properly. Well, except that the "prompter cubicle was too small" according to the grumbling of the man who was in charge of that position and was quite small himself!

"The Golden Days" of L'Unione were the scene of so many first class events: Operas, Dramas, Singers, Dancers, Burlesque, Vaudeville acts and even films. At one point, we even had a Theater Marquee mounted in front of the building! The artistic backdrops for the performances were lowered from the 3rd floor to the stage below. Joe and Philip told me of some of their escapades growing up in the footprint of the Club. The Mezzanine was one of Joe's favorite places to creep into and enjoy some of the shows, unbeknownst to his family. However, in those days, young boys wore knickers not long pants like the adults, so Joe sneaked into Philip's closet, snagged a pair of the latter's long pants, went to the Club, walked up to the ticket booth, purchased a ticket with money he saved, then ducked into the Mezzanine last row in the end seat and thoroughly enjoyed his first Burlesque Show, knowing that his father, grandfather and grand uncle were in the first row and were unable to see him.

The 3rd floor was the elegant Ballroom where many of the elders attended dances while their younger children were only allowed on the 2nd-floor where alcohol was NOT available and they, accompanied by chaperones, danced the night away to the music of a live band as did their parents. Many a marriage was arranged in that fashion, I am told.

The dark days of World War II enveloped the world and the Club was transformed to a dark and sad time that was very devastating and the pall that ensued lasted for decades, unfortunately. But fortunately, the good men and women of this Club rallied and eventually restoration in amounts exceeding \$1 million brought back the original grandeur. Read more in upcoming issues of your Newsletter for Part II.

NOTE: THROUGHOUT THIS 100TH YEAR, LOOK FOR EVENTS HONORING OUR ANNIVERSARY!!!

CHIAVARI CHAIR

Fundraiser

We are looking for your support, as we look to enhance the beauty and elegance of our Grand Ballroom with a classic Chiavari Chair, a design concept from the northwestern Italian Coast. The Club will need to purchase approximately 300 of these chairs to accommodate our large ballroom. Each chair, golden in color, with its own cushion, will cost approximately \$50. These chairs will be used for weddings, special celebrations, as well as member events that occur throughout the year.

We are reaching out to our incredibly generous members, families, friends, and neighbors to help us achieve this goal, by donating \$50 or more towards this cause. This donation will be 100% tax deductible, and all donations will be recognized by a framed piece that will be located in our building.



259

**chairs sold as of 12/18/2017.
Help us get to 300!**



If you would like to help us achieve our goal, please complete the information below, and mail in a check for the appropriate amount. Each chair will be \$50, and we welcome multiple chair donations.

Please indicate how many chair(s) you would like to donate: _____

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number () _____

THANK YOU YOUR CHAIR DONATIONS

Thank you to all those who have donated! Since we began this campaign in September, we have raised enough funds for 250 chairs, a great achievement for our Club and membership.

Manuel & Loretta Campo	5	Donna Ippolito	1
Antoinina Watkins	2	Andrew Arena	1
Cathy Lynn Accurso	1	Rosalia Scaglione Family Partnership	20
Elizabeth Accurso	1	Ray Lista Jr. & Kristin Appleby	1
Dr. Felix & Angie Cannella	1	Katherine "Kaye" Lovallo Coddington	1
Angela Guagliardo	1	Francis "Buzz" & Susan Bruno	2
Manuel & Carol Ippolito	2	Al & Mary Diecidue	2
John & Lydia Oliva	2	Jack & Judy Rodriguez	2
Phillip Saladino	3	William & Patricia Guglielmi	2
Philip V. Martino	4	Tom & Valerie LoCicero	1
Joseph Capitano, Jr.	2	Charles Rumore & Jackie Kasperski	2
Rose Lee Garcia	2	Angeles S. Ferlita	2
Rosalie Guarino Simms	2	East-West Animal Hospital	1
Paul A. Caltagirone	1	Dennis J. Costantino Jr.	1
Louis & Roberta Caltagirone	1	Linda Register Costantino DVM	1
Sylvia Guagliardo Reina	1	Lela Raia Costantino	1
Jesus F. & Yolanda Mandese Lima	1	Connie Sedita	2
Graziella Lambert	1	Ed & Marcia Austin	1
Sebastian "Buster" & Lisa Castellano	1	Anthony & Marilyn Messina	2
Jonathan & Frances Gorab	2	Eduardo Garriga	1
Jose & Antoinette Churruca	1	Gary & Linda Cacioppo	10
Dr. & Mrs. Fred Slone	1	Don & JoAnn Ferlita	2
Dr. Samuel Oscar Slone	1	Timothy & Christine Stives	2
Doug Dallio	2	Joe & Debbie DiStefano	2
Scott & Kathy Dutton	2	John & Theresa Montaldo	2
Philip Caltagirone	1	Sam, Sharon, & Christopher Mangione	1
Dr. August J. & Jean Mauser	2	Rosalie Rowe	1
AJ's Cigars To Go Of Tampa	2	Joe & Gilda Capitano	3
Rose Barbie	1	Sal & Cathy Guagliardo	4
Richard Figlio	2	Jack & Evgenija Shiver	1
Thomas Menichino	2		
Vigo Importing	10		
Nick J. Ligori	2		
Dr. Antonio & Clarisse Castro	2		
Gasper & Norma Martino	1		
Joe & Gianna Caravella	1		
Anthony Pedicini	1		
Bob & Susan Salvaggio Gilmore	1		
Joseph Mantione	4		
Angelo & Grace Ippolito	2		
Grace Monte Ippolito	1		
Christopher Ippolito	1		
Michael Ippolito	1		

With the tremendous response to this fundraiser, it has been decided that this newsletter will be the last announcement/request for Chiavari Chair donations. We cannot express our sincere gratitude for the incredible support we received. It should be noted that we have already begun offering these chairs to wedding & event clients in 2018, which means not only will they enhance the beauty of our ballroom, but they will also add much needed revenue to Club as well.

If you have not already done so, please consider donating to this cause and helping us get to our goal of 300 chairs! As of this publication we are just 49 chairs away! Grazie!



INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATIC CORPS OF FLORIDA
 IN COOPERATION WITH
The United Nations Association of Tampa
Tampa Sister Cities International
The Florida Holocaust Museum

Request the honor of your presence at a ceremony in observance of
 the 6th annual

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY
Sunday, January 21, 2018
Registration/seating starts at 2:00 p.m.-Ceremony 3:00 p.m. promptly

Italian Club of Tampa
 1731 E. 7th Ave., Ybor City Tampa, Fl. 33605

Program

- Proclamations:** *City, County, Senate, State*
- Welcome:** *Vincent Genovese, Executive Director*
- Opening Remarks:** *Annette Klein, Consul General of Germany*
- Candle Lighting Ceremony:** *Rabbi Barbara Aiello*
- Reflections by Holocaust Survivor:** *Betty Grebenschikoff*
- Ambassador, Consul General of China:** *Li Qiangmin*
- Consul General of Israel:** *Lior Haiat*
- Chairman, Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce:** *Steven Bernstein*
- Closing Remarks:** *Ambassador Barbara Stephenson, President of American Foreign Service Association*
- “Kaddish”:** *Rabbi Carla Freedman*

Music: *Tara Swartzbaugh, Pianist ; Jill Pfluke, Violinist*
Bay Area Cantorial Association Cantors: *Riselle Bain, Laura Berkson, Rick Berlin, Diane Becker-Krasnick, Joy Katzen-Guthrie, Jonathan Schultz*

LIMITED SEATING-FREE ADMISSION BY INVITATION ONLY
 PARKING AVAILABLE IN BACK OF CLUB
RSVP: BY 1/13/2018 to: vgenovese@idcfl.org
www.idcfl.org



BENVENUTO TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Robert M. Youngblood
Christine Marie Vergallito
Michael Gullo, Sr.
Matthew & Lindsay Sinko

TOUCH Vodka (Jeffrey Lemen)
Ross Ferlita & Jane Toombs
Albert & Michelle Piccolo
(children: Albert III and Nichole)

Welcome to the family!

We had a very successful 2017, welcoming nearly 150 new members to our family. We are so very thankful that we are able to continually grow our membership each year. Much of our success in membership can be attributed to the hard work our Membership Chairperson, Dennis Costantino Jr., who along with the Krewe of Italia worked tirelessly to spread the word about our Club and what we do. It should also be noted, that while the Club's membership grew, so did the Krewe of Italia.

We are hopeful, that in the new year to come, as we celebrate 100 years in our building, that we can grow on the success of 2017 and continue to expand our membership. We encourage you, as a current member, to encourage your fiends and families to attend our events and our CRUSH Happy Hour, so that they can see just what being an Italian Club Member is all about! To obtain a membership application, please email mark@italian-club.org



Reminiscences

Many of our members and their families have spent countless hours in and around the Club enjoying the conviviality of the membership and many have spent countless hours VOLUNTEERING for the continued success of this establishment. It is because of the VOLUNTEERS' unselfish contributions that we still survive as an institution to be envied. SO SHARE YOUR MEMORIES...however long or short with all of us!! Just call the office and we'll get right back to you to write and publish your stories.

If you have a story to share, or photos, please send them to Barbara Denti Pool at barbara1010@tampabay.rr.com. Thank you so much for sharing your stories!



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ITALIAN CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Italian Club Christmas Party was held on Thursday, December 7th, and welcomed nearly 200 members and friends for a wonderful evening to kick-off the holiday season. Many of those in attendance commented that it was one of the best Club Christmas parties that they had attended in years. Many others commented that it was the largest crowd they had seen in some time and it was so nice to see so many familiar faces.

From beginning to end, the room is filled with laughter and cheer, and was overflowing with holiday spirit. It was truly a wonderful event that served as an opportunity for all of us to come together in the spirit of the holidays.

This event also served as an opportunity to welcome the many, many new members that signed up in 2017. By our last count, we added nearly 150 members to our family in 2017 alone. We are very proud and honored to have such a vibrant and thriving membership. We look forward to 2018, and to seeing the many new and familiar faces throughout the year!





KELLY WALLS
(813) 770-7978

Photo

KAZAM.KELLY@GMAIL.COM
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA FOLLOW UP & THANK YOU!

On December 3rd, the Italian Club hosted its Annual Breakfast with Santa event in the Club's theater. We were happy to welcome nearly 180 guests to the Club for this very special family friendly event. Pulling off an event like this takes a team of effort, and we'd like to take this opportunity to thank our team of staff, special guests, sponsors, and supporters, for all their help in making this event such a success. We'd like to recognize the significant support, sponsorships and donations from the following groups and individuals:



Sunny Florida Dairy
 CRUSH Catering
 Joe Photo Tampa
 ID Visual Effects & Sound
 Bella Danza Collective
 Maria Capitano Pardo
 Clarissa Stokes
 Blake High School

Entertainment Revue
 Frank Rey Dance Studio
 Marley Taylor
 Live Stage Entertainment
 Paul Ferlita
 Don Bodie
 & all the staff who helped!

Save The Date

71st Annual Fiesta Day

February 24, 2018

11am-6pm
 Free Admission
 100+ Vendors
 Heritage Trail

YBOR CHAMBER City of Tampa Florida

This family-friendly, FREE "street festival" celebration commemorates these Cuban, Italian, Spanish, Jewish and German immigrants that settled in Ybor City in the late 1800's as the cigar factories thrived. Fiesta Day attracts families and people of all ages.

The Italian Club of Tampa will be setting up food tents & gift shop tents for this festival, so please make sure to come support the Club for Fiesta Day! Bring your family & friends and show off your beautiful Italian Club!

See You There!

Spaghetti DINNER



February 18th - Starts at 2:00pm

The Italian Club of Tampa is kicking off the new year with our popular Italian Club Spaghetti Dinner. This dinner, served family style, will include a Caesar Salad, Garlic Toast, & Homemade Spaghetti & Meatballs. Bring your whole family for a delicious homemade dinner, served just the way your mama used to make it. A full bar will be available as well.

Members - \$10.00pp

Non-Members - \$15.00pp

ADVANCED TICKETS REQUIRED

Please contact the Italian Club Office at (813)248-3316 to purchase tickets. All major credit cards are accepted.

Krewe of Sant' Yago Illuminated **KNIGHT PARADE**

Saturday, February 10th

The Krewe of Italia invites you to join us for our Annual Knight Parade After Party being held at the Italian Club on Saturday, February 10th from 9:00pm-12:00am (door open time will depend on the time the parade ends). We will have entertainment on our first and second floor, along with fully stocked cash bars.

After-Party Tickets Just \$5

After-Party tickets are only available day-of at the door. This event is open to the public. Free entry for all Krewe Members & Parade Participants with valid wristband.

Bleacher Seats & Private VIP Pre-Party

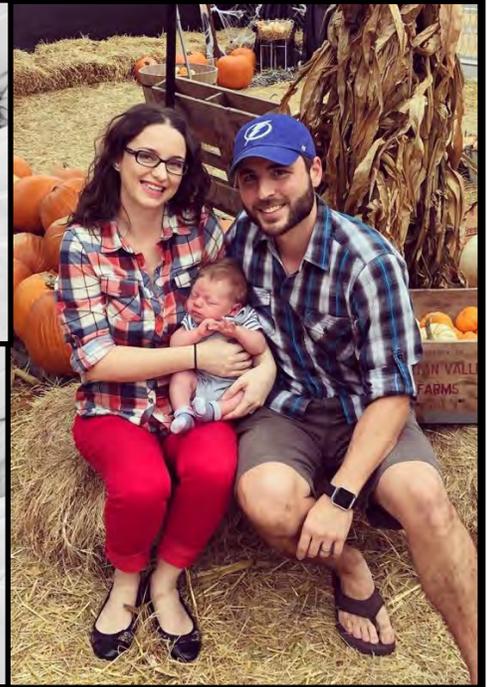
The Italian Club of Tampa will have LIMITED SEATING in our Club Bleachers. These seats are among the best on the parade route, with a front row seat on 7th Ave. This year's bleachers tickets include a private VIP Pre-Party in the Club's Cantina with hot hors d'oeuvres and an open premium bar from 6-7pm, along with seating in the bleachers during the parade which starts at 7:30pm. At the conclusion of the parade, bleacher seat pass holders will also have complimentary entry to the Club's two floor After Party. You may purchase bleacher seats from The Italian Club for \$45.00/seat, call us at (813) 248-3316 to purchase your seat now!



MILESTONES & ANNOUNCEMENTS...

If you would like to announce a Milestone in our next newsletter, please send an email to mark@italian-club.org notifying us of what type of announcement it is, who it's for, etc. The more information you can provide the better (we may edit the content to fit).

Announcing the birth of Mason Joseph DiStefano, born on September 29th, 2017 to Jenna and Michael DiStefano. 9lbs 14 oz. 21 1/2 inch's. Grandparents are Debbie and Joe DiStefano.



Congratulations



Happy Birthday to Valarie LoCicero, who is celebrating her birthday on January 23rd!



Nick Matassini at the city clerk's office in Santo Stefano Quisquina, Sicily obtaining a copy of his grandmother's birth certificate. Nick was there with a small group of Tampanians on a tour put together by Que Pasa Tours.



Picnic with the past 6 generations. Gaetano and Rosina Ferlita great great great grandparents of John McCoy and Kirstan Lyle

MILESTONES & ANNOUNCEMENTS...

If you would like to announce a Milestone in our next newsletter, please send an email to mark@italian-club.org notifying us of what type of announcement it is, who it's for, etc. The more information you can provide the better (we may edit the content to fit).



"Congratulations to Joseph and Veronica Lazzara who were married on November 11th, 2017 at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Joseph is the proud son of Italian Club members Santo and Celeste Lazzara and sister Francesca. We wish them many years of happiness together."



On late Friday afternoon, 12/1/17, Sancho and I brought home, Tootsie, dob 12/29/15. She is a tiny chocolate pomeranian who weighs 6lbs. 9oz. She is settling in very nicely; non-threatening to Sancho (they aren't sniffing butts, but are licking noses). She does indeed have white markings, but her tail looks like white milk mixed with cocoa powder. She is having a great time getting her bearings and Sancho sometimes seems to know that he has to be a role model and teach her a few things. For example, he does not play, no matter what she does; but he does always led the way. Of course, she is sleeping in my bed along with Sancho, but still hasn't gotten the hang of how to get up and down.

Shared By: Tessie Ferlita!



Italian Club Member Dena Jones is happy to announce that on January 31st, 2018 she is retiring from the Air Force after 20 years of service! Congratulations and thank you for your service!



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www.getawaytraveltampa.com

EXTRA VAGANZA

Vegas Style Showcase



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Impersonator**



**Keith Coleman – The
Best Johnny Cash
Impersonator in the
U.S.A.**



**The Jersey Girls – Fantastic
Entertainers Direct From Chicago**

**Ron & Classics – Great
Show and Dance 50's-
80's Music Group**



Sunday, January 28th, 2018

Heavy hors d' oeuvres 1:30pm-2:30pm with Cash Bar

Showtime 2:45pm-4:45pm

Tickets: \$40.00

Make check payable to the Italian Club Cemetery

Mail to: John Centinaro, 2704 W. Juneau St, Tampa, FL 33614

Call John @ (813) 933-1869

Show location: Italian Club 2nd Floor Theater: 1731 E. 7th
Avenue, Tampa, FL 33605. Phone: 813-248-3316

CRUSH

Happy Hour

CRUSH Happy Hour has become the premier social event at the Italian Club. We welcome all members, friends, families, and guests to this unique happy hour experience unlike any other in Ybor City. We are open every Friday, from 5pm-9pm.

Check out whats happening in January & February!

- **Friday, January 5th** - Join us on the third floor, as CRUSH combines with the Krewe of Italia Bocce Tournament with all the fun of happy hour with a fun twist!
- **Friday, January 12th** - CRUSH Happy Hour welcomes Tom Menichino to join our culinary team as our one-night only Guest Chef!
- **Friday, January 19th** - Do you or someone you know celebrate a birthday in January? Join us on this night as we celebrate ALL January Birthdays with some great specials! Special guest entertainment by Ron Carmichael!
- **Friday, January 26th** - Join us for Fourth Friday & Member Appreciation Night! \$10 Dinner Buffet with advanced reservations along with drink specials and special live entertainment! Special guest entertainment, Lorelei on the Rocks Band!
- **Friday, February 2nd** - Come and dance the night away with live entertainment and delicious homemade dinner. Our bar will feature some delicious drinks at unbeatable prices!
- **Friday, February 9th** - CRUSH Happy Hour welcomes Joe DiNicola to join our culinary team as our one-night only Guest Chef!
- **Friday, February 16th** - Do you or someone you know celebrate a birthday in February? Join us on this night as we celebrate ALL February Birthdays with some great specials!
- **Friday, February 23rd** - Join us for Fourth Friday & Member Appreciation Night! \$10 Dinner Buffet with advanced reservations along with drink specials and special live entertainment!





KELLY WALLS
(813) 770-7978



KAZAM.KELLY@GMAIL.COM

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THE ITALIAN CLUB PRESENTS



EVERYONE IS WELCOME
CRUSH
Happy Hour

EVERY FRIDAY FROM 5 TO 9 PM
2 FOR 1 MASI WINE **\$3 WELLS** \$3 DOMESTIC

LIVE MUSIC // APPETIZER & PASTA BAR

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TO ALL OF OUR FRIENDS, FAMILY,
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KREWE OF ITALIA UPDATES...

Felice Anno Nuovo from The Krewe of Italia!!!!

Felice Anno Nuovo from The Krewe of Italia!!!!

2017 was a fantastic year for The Krewe of Italia and 2018 looks like it will be just as successful. 2018 brings a few new faces to their board as well as a new President and Vice-President. Tom LoCicero leaves as President with a legacy of more than doubling the number of Krewe members in 2017. He will remain on the Board as Past President, Ex-Officio. Taking the reigns as President is Gianna Tagliarini Caravella. She has been with The Krewe since it's inception in 2004. She previously served as the Secretary and later Vice-President. Joining her as Vice-President is Debbie DiStefano. Debbie has been a Krewe member since 2010 and on the Board for the last 3 years.



The Krewe of Italia kicks off the 2018 Gasparilla Parade season with their popular Bocce Tournament, Friday, January 5th at 6:30 P.M. The fun will be on the third floor of the Italian Club. To sign up a four-person team or become a court sponsor, visit www.kreweofitalia.com and sign up through Eventbrite. Team slots do fill up quickly and the team prizes are second to none!

January 20th is the Gasparilla Children's Parade. This is a family event. To register and participate with the Krewe of Italia, visit the Krewe's website.

To usher in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Italian Club's building, on January 27, 2018 - Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla Parade, Krewe of Italia will be unveiling their new costumes.

Have you ever thought about joining the Krewe of Italia? Contact The Krewe Board at koi.italianclub@gmail.com for more information. To apply, the application is on the next page of the newsletter (page 23)

Not too sure about joining yet? Then you can be our guest! The Krewe of Italia has a guest program. Visit www.kreweofitalia.com to register as a guest for one of the upcoming parades.





Krewe of Italia



Membership Application

Name

First

Middle

Last

Are you a current member of the Italian Club of Tampa

Yes

No

If yes, what type of membership do you have?

Individual

Student Family

Business/Patron

Business Name

If no, please complete the Italian Club Membership Enrollment Application attached or find the online version at www.italian-club.org

Home Address/Mailing Address

Street or PO Box

City

State

Zip

Email Address

Home #

Mobile #

Work #

Date of Birth

Emergency Contact Name

Contact #

Sponsoring Krewe of Italia Member

I hereby make this application for membership to the Krewe of Italia and understand I must maintain a membership with the Italian Club of Tampa in order for the for the Krewe membership to remain valid.

I affirm that I will conduct myself at all times in a manner that will not damage the name or reputation of the Krewe of Italia nor the Italian Club of Tampa.

I affirm that I will abide by the rules set forth by the Krewe of Italia and the Italian Club of Tampa.

Membership Dues:

Individual Annual Krewe Membership Dues: \$225.00

Italian Club of Tampa Annual Membership Dues: \$150.00 for an Individual and \$200.00 for a Family Membership



41st Annual Italian Invitational

www.ItalianInvitational.com



Casino Italiano:

Friday April 13th, Italian Club
Golf Tournament:
Saturday April 14th, Temple Terrace

Benefiting:
Alpha House of Tampa &
Special Olympics of Hillsborough

FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY...

Welcome to a new club year! As you read more about us you will see that we are a vibrant organization composed of a varied group of women who cherish the traditions, culture, and history of the Italian Club.

Our membership is diverse, with women of all ages and educational and professional backgrounds. The Ladies Auxiliary provides great opportunities to see friends, make new acquaintances, and participate in fundraising and FUN-raising activities for The Italian Club.

We sponsor a number of programs that varies from Themes 'n Tea and Campo Italiano to dances and events celebrating our culture. Our expanded mission also includes volunteering in The Italian Club Gift Shop and other Italian Club functions as well as authoring the Italian Club Cookbook Volume I, "*Un Assaggio Dalle Nostre Cucine*" and the in-the-works next volume (Send in your recipes). We bring the year to a close with an elegant holiday luncheon.

I and my Officers invite you to join us for membership, social activities, and a sense of community.

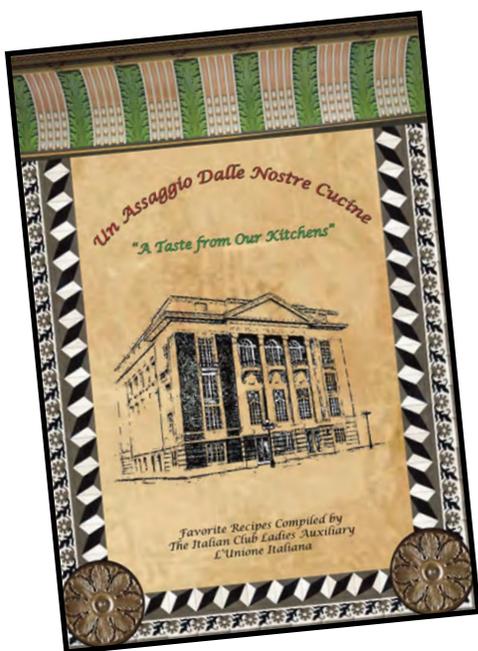
Felice anno nuovo!

Sharon Mangione, Italian Club Ladies Auxiliary President



The Italian Club Ladies Auxiliary is now on Facebook! Please make sure to go and "LIKE" our page so you can stay up to date on upcoming events and happenings!

Italian Club Ladies Auxiliary



LAX 2ND EDITION COOKBOOK

Holiday greetings to all the members and friends of The Italian Club. The Ladies Auxiliary is busy working to put together Volume II of *Un Assaggio Della Nostre Cucine* so as you prepare your holiday meals, please stop for a few minutes to jot down one or two, or even three, of your favorite family recipes and send them to us by snail mail at the Club or via email to cstives@msn.com. And just because it's being published by the Ladies Auxiliary of The Italian Club, the recipes don't have to be exclusively Italian. We are a melting pot of nationalities, so many of you have Spanish, Cuban, Puerto Rican, German, Polish, English or Asian recipes that have special place in your family. There's even a space on the submission sheet for you to tell everyone why the recipe is special, if you want to. Feel free to ask your neighbor or friend, who makes a dish you really like, to submit his/her recipe. Everyone submitting recipes will be acknowledged in the new cookbook.

Our goal is to have the next edition available at Festa in early April, but with everything that takes place between submission of the recipes and delivery of the finished copies, we need all the recipes not later than January 15th.

Volume I was a wonderful success, netting several thousand dollars in profit, so far, that has gone to the Club for general purposes and with your help, Volume II can be just as successful. Thank you, in advance, for your participation.

The Cookbook Committee, The Ladies Auxiliary

Italian Club Ladies Auxiliary Cookbook Project

Instructions for completing recipe collection form

Thank you for submitting recipes for the upcoming Italian Club Ladies Auxiliary cookbook. With your help, this project will be a great success. Here are just a few guidelines to observe when submitting your recipes.

- Please **PRINT** neatly using ink, not pencil, and place only **ONE** recipe per form. If you need more space, use another sheet of paper (8.5 X11") and staple both completed pages together.
- Please include a phone number where a committee member can reach you if we have questions about the recipe.
- Please be consistent with the spelling of your name as the recipes will be listed by name as well as title in the index. Do not use "Jane Smith" on some recipes and "J. Smith" on others.
- List ingredients in the same order as is used to incorporate them into the recipe.
- Include container size when appropriate, i.e. 16 oz jar, 24 oz can, not small jar or large can.
- Keep directions in paragraph form, not in steps.
- Use names of ingredients in directions, e.g. "Combine flour, salt & sugar", rather than statements, e.g. "combine first three ingredients".
- Be sure to include **oven temperature, cooking time, pan shape and size, number of servings** and other details to help the user.
- The "Personal note about this recipe" can be its origin or another interesting fact, e.g. "From my grandmother who emigrated from Sicily in 1911", "I won the blue ribbon at the Kansas state fair in 2001 for this recipe", or "This is my husband's favorite recipe that he likes to have on his birthday".

- **SPECIAL SYMBOLS:**

You can designate one of the following symbols, where appropriate, to be printed next to your recipe:

Slow cooker

Hot & spicy

Heart healthy

Freezes well

Vegetarian

Holiday

Quick & Easy

Diabetic friendly

- **SEND TO:** Send completed forms to: *c/o Sharon Mangione, Italian Club Ladies Auxiliary Vice President, smangion@tampabay.rr.com*

LADIES AUXILIARY BEAUTY OF FALL FASHION SHOW

Back in October, the Ladies Auxiliary hosted an incredible Beauty of Fall Fashion Show, with fashions provided by LuLuRoe and La France Boutique. Special thanks to our fashion show chairs Stephanie Perez and Maria Pardo, along with the many models and volunteers who helped make this event so beautiful and unique!



ITALIAN AMERICAN WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE EVENT

Back in October, the Ladies Auxiliary hosted the Italian American Women of Excellence Event, at which four Italian-American women were recognized for their respective achievements. The event was chaired by the Ladies Auxiliary President, Sharon Mangione. The grand ballroom was beautiful decorated by AnnMarie Hanecki to celebrate the event and the fall season. All those in attendance enjoyed a delicious meal and a beautiful program.

CORRECTION - The November/December 2017 newsletter incorrectly spelled an Italian American Women of Excellence Award Winner. Angela Biase Genco was awarded in the Civic & Culture category, back in 2009. Our apologies on that error.



Congratulations to Stella Bullara Williams, who received the Italian American Woman of Excellence Award for Education.



Congratulations to Andrea Messina Gebbia, who received the Italian American Woman of Excellence Award for Business/Professional.



Congratulations to Violetta Mandese, who received the Italian American Woman of Excellence Award for Culture/Civic.



Congratulations to Joelle Ann Mannino Ober, who received the Italian American Woman of Excellence Award for Government/Public Service.





Summer Camp for Children

“LET’S KEEP THE CULTURE ALIVE”

Children learn about the Italian culture through.....

Music, Dance, Arts and Crafts, Crochet, Cooking.

Traditions, Language, Storytelling, Dominoes, and....

INDOOR BOCCE!

June 4-8 2018

9:00am - 1:00pm

L'Unione Italiana

1731 E. 7th Ave Tampa, FL 33605

\$75.00

Grades 2-7 are eligible to attend.

Email: ahanecki@gmail.com **FOR INFORMATION!!!!!!**

AnnMarie Hanecki 813-277-6940

CEMETERY COMMITTEE NEWS...

On November 18th, the Cemetery Committee hosted a Casino Night, with over 120 guests attending. Guests enjoyed a deliciously catered meal by Tony's Ybor Restaurant, followed by a wonderful evening of Vegas style gaming in the Club's ballroom.

We'd like to thank the Casino Night Committee for their hard work and dedication to this event's success. The committee spent countless hours volunteering their time securing event sponsors and working out the finite details that are important for events such as this. While there were many volunteers who helped with this event, we'd like to recognize three individuals who were vital the event's success: Rochelle Orr, Sarah Valdes, & Mary Jo Paniello. Their hard work, combined with the sponsors and volunteers together have raised over \$6,000 for the Cemetery Fund.

In addition to the committee, we'd also like to recognize the following event sponsors:

Que Pasa Tours
 Sal Guagliardo & Family
 Sunny Florida Dairy
 Don Bodie & Family
 Scott & Kathy Dutton
 Dutton Law Firm
 Joe Capitano, Sr. & Family
 Mark Chadwell & Family
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Jack & Nancy Suarez
 Tannia Peoples
 Dr. Santo & Susan Paniello
 Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel
 Pat Musaloino
 Malio's
 Don & Dina Smith
 John & Melissa Castellana
 Ian & Valerie Cordell



The Italian Club Cemetery received donations in memory of the following individuals:

Katie Lorenzo
 Jeffrey & Pauline Fisher
 John & Sharon Lazzari
 Frank & Evelyn Ferreri
 Robert & Virginia Shiverdecker

Vivian Palori
 Alfonso & Rose Lee Garcia

Elizabeth Russo
 Vincent J. Pardo

Freddie Fernandez
 Vincent J. Pardo

Anthony Acosta
 Carmen Manali

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP DAY - THANK YOU!



On November 4th, the Cemetery Committee hosted its annual Cemetery Clean-Up Day, with a large turn out of volunteers to help beautify our grounds, scrub headstones, and clean-up debris. We'd had a gorgeous day to work with - and with the help of our volunteers we really made the property beautiful in honor of our loved ones who have passed.

We also had the opportunity to work with the Gaither High School Italian Club and Gaither High School Honor Society, both of which came out to volunteers as part of

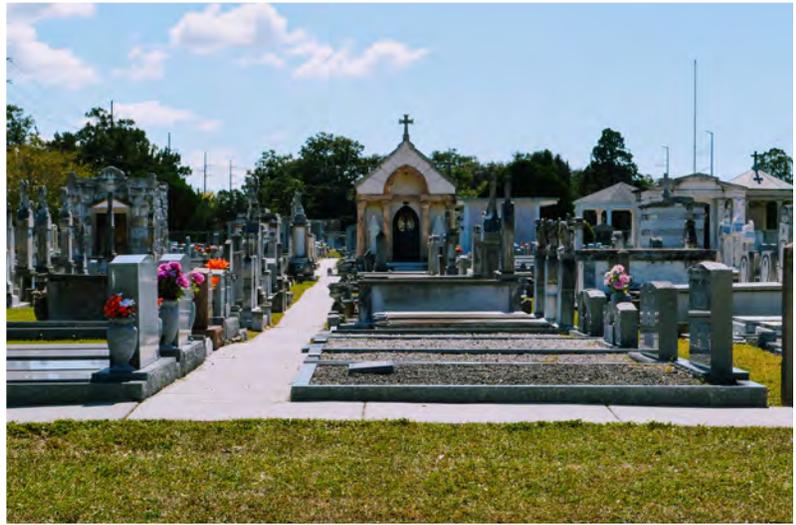
their dedication to the program and their heritage. Italian Club Member, Katherine Pescante was proud to bring her students to help with such a wonderful event. In addition to these students, we had numerous volunteers and members who helped throughout the day. We'd like to thank all of you for your help and hard work that day - without your support we couldn't have made it happen!



PICNIC WITH THE PAST & MEMORIAL MASS

Italian Club members, families, friends, and supporters enjoyed a beautiful sunny afternoon as we participated in the 15th Annual Picnic with the Past & Memorial Mass on Sunday, November 5th. We couldn't have asked for a better day, with over 120 guests attending both the mass and picnic. Guests enjoyed delicious food courtesy of Tony's Ybor Restaurant, along with a wonderful afternoon of camaraderie and storytelling.

We'd like to thank the many volunteers who helped out that day, including the Cemetery Committee and the Krewe of Italia. Without the help and support of our members, we would not be able to pull off events such as these.





KELLY WALLS
(813) 770-7978

KAZAM.KELLY@GMAIL.COM
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21st Annual

Festa
ITALIANA

SATURDAY
& SUNDAY
APRIL 7-8

2018

TWO-DAY ITALIAN
FOOD & CULTURE
FESTIVAL

www.FestaitalianaTampa.com

**FESTA ITALIANA 2018
NEWS & UPDATES**

Festa Italiana expands to TWO FULL DAYS of live entertainment, Italian food, culture and heritage at Centennial Park in historic Ybor City. Mark your calendars for the BIGGEST Festa Italiana to date on Saturday, April 7 & Sunday, April 8, 2018.

We'll be first kicking off the weekend at our Wines of Italy party at the Italian Club of Tampa on Thursday, April 5, 2018. #ItalyInTampa



Find us on
Facebook

To stay current on all the new & exciting Festa Italiana news & updates, make sure to go and "LIKE" us on Facebook. The page is updated regularly - so please sure to share with your family & friends and help spread the word!

FESTA ITALIANA Tampa





THANK YOU TO OUR *Festa* **ITALIANA** SPONSORS!

ITALIAN FESTIVAL WEEKEND

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 Boza & Roel Funeral Home

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 Kelly Day's Firehouse Tavern
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 Carmine's
 Trattoria Pasquale
 Tony's Ybor Restaurant
 Maggiano's Little Italy
 Ava
 Tampa Bay Brewing Company
 Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza
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 Da Sesto Italiano Ristorante e Vino
 Al's Finger Lickin' BBQ
 Ducky's
 Café Paradiso
 Vizcaya Restaurante and Tapas Bar
 That's Amore Catering
 Big Ray's Fish Company
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 La Tropicana Café
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