

General Dinner Meeting

Thursday, December 11
Mount Virgin Church Hall

Past Presidents Luncheon

Wednesday, December 17
Rock Salt Steakhouse

il Ficcanaso



Official Bulletin of the Italian Club ... Established April 26, 1920



Merry Christmas—Buon Natale



President Corner



By Brian DiJulio

**“Remodeling”
Ourselves**

I have always tried to share my own life experiences with you in these articles, not because I think you can learn something from me but because it gives me the opportunity to reflect and learn more about myself and how I can change to be a better person, and thus a better President for this Club and all of you.

Here’s my latest revelation: We’ve been remodeling our house for the last 5 months. Being the impatient person that I am, I had projected a completion date of the 4th of July... It is now December 5th. I have learned that remodeling your home teaches us many great lessons that can help us be better people overall...here’s a few examples.

I used to think that just putting a fresh coat of paint over a rotten stretch of siding was a quick and perfectly acceptable way of solving the problem. But even though the paint makes it look pretty on the exterior, deep down the problem

Continued on page 2

Honoring Past Presidents at Luncheon Set for December 17

By Carolyn Jackson, Luncheon Chairperson

When: December 17, 2007 Time: 11:30 A.M.

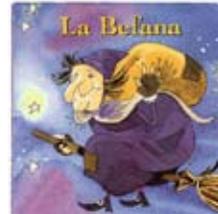
To honor all past presidents, male and female, and their spouses, you are invited to attend lunch on December 17 at the Rock Salt Steak House (see reservation forms and information on page 5). All those who wish to join them are welcome ...with the normal charge (\$18.00) of our regular luncheon.

Pease RSVP to **Carolyn Jackson** by calling (206) 725-9405 or email to **srmaryhollywater@aol.com**.

La Befana, the good witch

The Epiphany in Italy means that a good witch, La Befana, may visit your house and bring you candy or a piece of charcoal.

It is the eve of Epiphany, the night of magic ... when anything can happen. It is terribly hard for children to go to sleep on this night. But now they are tucked snuggly in bed, dreaming of the exciting morning to come. Stockings, empty and waiting, hang by the fire. Everything is quiet, the house if very still.



Across the dark winter sky a strange figure flies like the wind. For a brief moment it is silhouetted against the moon. The figure pauses in it’s flight, then dives

earthward. Whoosh! Down the chimney it pops. Quickly it checks to make certain the children are sound asleep. Reassured, it cackles happily as it fills the stockings from a bulging sack.

It is a witch! She is very, very old and bent, dressed all in black. Her white hair is long and straggly, her nose is hooked, and she rides a broomstick. Her name is Befana and she, not Santa Claus, traditionally brings gifts to the children of Italy.

Continued on page 3

**General Dinner
& Meeting**

THURSDAY, December 11

**Mount Virgin Church Hall
2800 S. Massachusetts Street, Seattle**

**Dinner at 6.30 PM ...
followed by the general meeting.**

Election of Officers



**Children’s Santa
Breakfast**

**Children’s Santa
Breakfast on
Saturday Morning, 8:30AM
December 13, 2008**

Look for coupon on page 6

**Italian Club
Past Presidents
Luncheon**

**WEDNESDAY
December 17, 2008**

**Rock Salt Steakhouse
1232 Westlake Ave. North
11:30 Social Hour - 12:00 Lunch**

il Ficcanaso

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

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ITALIAN CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2008

President:

Brian DiJulio (425) 820-4424

Vice President:

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Secretary:

Dennis Caldirola
(206) 282-0627

Treasurer:

Joe Galluccio
(206) 275-4688

Ex Officio:

Mike Kaczor (206) 232-7880

Trustees

Tom Grossi (425) 557-0071
Michael Lazzaretti (206) 280-6691
Diana Kaczor (206) 232-7880
Monte Marchetti (425) 255-2641
Fran Albanese (425) 672-7133

Sergeant at Arms: **Ron Roletto**

Committee Chairs:

Finance: **Tino Lazzaretti**
Membership: **Monte Marchetti**
Day at the Races: **Joe Galluccio**
Mariner Baseball Night: **Marty Nigrelle**
Picnic: **Ron Roletto**
Halloween Party: **Tom & Nancy Grossi**
Adult Christmas Party: **Anna Popovich**
Children's Christmas Party: **Molly Grossi**
Bylaws: **Barbara Peretti**
Luncheons: **Nick Grossi**
Scholarship: **Marty Nigrelle**
Miss Italian Community: **Fran Albanese**
Facilities: **TBD**
Health: **Carolyn Jackson**
Parliamentarian: **Lou Cella**
Golf Tournament: **Rosanna Bellotti**
Crab Dinner: **Anna Popovich**

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President Corner

Continued from page 1

is still there and will only come back to haunt me later. I realized that I had developed the habit of doing the same thing with other areas of my daily life. Instead of doing the work, facing the real problem, or unpleasant truth, I would find ways to quickly "paint over" the problem and convince myself that I had taken care of it. It looked good on the surface, but deep down, I needed to rip out that "rotten wood", as painful as it may be, and start over. Although I know I'm not alone in this, and that we all have a tendency to often look for the quick fix, or for immediate gratification, I still found it a bit shocking as to the reality of the habit I had developed. The remodel of the

house had led me to the realization that I needed a little "remodeling" myself. It's not going to be easy, but I'm excited about what the "new Brian" will look like.

I encourage us all to "Remodel" ourselves when it comes to how we deal with our fellow members and view the Club in general. With an exciting new President coming in, (our first female President!), it's a great time to "renew" our dedication to making this Club truly better for all our current and future members. Let's not just "paint over" things we know need changing, but rather have the courage to really build a Club that will continue to last for another century and beyond!

SECRETARY'S REPORT ... December, 2008 *By Dennis Caldirola*

As usual, notices for 2009 membership dues will be mailed out the first week of December.

Notices will not be sent to those who have been voted into the Club since September 1, 2008 nor to those who have Honorary Membership or Full Life Membership. Those seventeen members will receive their 2009 membership cards shortly. Incidentally, **Larry Bianchi** having passed away this year, we should acknowledge the last living Full Life Member, **Luigi Borda**, who joined the Club in 1949. Congratulations, Lou, you're the last man still standing!

Since 1989, members who have attained Life Membership pay 1/2 dues or \$25. To qualify, you must be over 70 years of age and have been a member for 35 years. If you think you qualify, call the Italian Club office at **(206) 282-0627** and have that information verified.

If you plan to attend the December meeting, you can save yourself and the Club 42¢ each by paying your dues in person and having your membership card issued immediately.

Tanti auguri per un Buon Natale ed un felice e prosperoso Anno Nuovo!

Election of New Officers Set for December Meeting

Nominating Committee: Chair **Dorothy Whitney** said that the nominating consisting of herself, **JoAnne Lazzaretti** and former president **Mike Kaczor**, have presented the following slate of officers for election at the December meeting:

President: **Anna Popovich**

Vice President: **Monte Marchetti**

Secretary: **Dennis Caldirola**

Treasurer: **Joseph Galluccio**

Trustees: **Diane Kaczor** (2nd term) and **Paul Pioli** (1st term).

Dorothy Whitney called for any nominations from the floor for every posi-

tion and receiving no response, closed the nominations for 2009.

Trustees returning for their 2nd year are **Fran Albanese**, **Tom Grossi** and **Michael Lazzaretti**. **Brian DiJulio** will automatically become Ex-Officio.

Membership News

By Membership Chairman Monte Marchetti

Application received from:

Diana Lafornera
4709 - 112th Ave N.E.
Kirkland, WA 98033
425-827-4728

She is a homemaker.

A very blessed and happy Christmas.

Well, another month has passed, and here we are with joy, love and sharing in our hearts this beautiful season.

Again, I'm wondering, "where should I begin?" O.K., good news first.

I know there's a lot out there, but for what I have heard and been shared ... here goes:

We are happy **Tony Facciuto's** procedure was a success and is recuperating nicely with the special care he's receiving from his nurse, Rosa. He is hoping to attend the past president's luncheon. You are in our prayers Tony.

Heard that **Joe Patricelli** is doing better and receiving special care and attention from his family and staff at Wesley Homecare Center in Des Moines. (Hint, if you want to send a card).

John Croce's wife, **Rose**, had surgery and is home and receiving loving and tender care from John and the family.

Talked to **Mary Lou Leone** about the upcoming past presidents' luncheon on the 17th. She is so sorry she'll not be attending the adult Christmas party, the meeting or the past president's luncheon, she does have a real good excuse, Mary Lou will be having a total left knee replacement on December 4th. Followed by extended physical

Continued from page 1

La Befana, the good witch

Befana pays her annual visit on January 6th, the date when the Three Kings offered their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrr to the newborn Christ Child in Bethlehem.

In the weeks preceding Epiphany many youngsters write notes to Befana telling her the presents they would most like to receive. Girls and boys in Italy have to watch their manners as Epiphany nears. Befana knows what they have been up to and ill-behaved youngsters just might awaken on Epiphany morning to find a lump of coal in their stockings instead of candy and toys.

Befana's story begins at the time of the birth of Christ. According to legend, the Three Kings journeyed through Italy on their way to Bethlehem to worship the Christ Child.

therapy. We'll miss you Mary Lou, you will be in our thoughts and prayers. Be good to her Max.

To all our members, home bound and out-of-towners, you are in our thoughts and prayers. Have a blessed Christmas surrounded by family, friends, peace and love.

Our children's Christmas party is coming, (I know and so is Christmas) the date, December 13th. It's going to be a busy day. Thank you **Molly and Tony Grossi** for chairing this special party and to all your committee members for their time and work.

The adult's Christmas party, will be held two days after our December 11th meeting, yes, same day as children's party, (they have to have fun too) Saturday December 13th. A big thank you to **Anna and Bob Popovich** and **Diane and Mike Kaczor** for their time and work to make it the success we know it will be. I heard that **Bill Picchena** did a little legwork for the event, to all that helped, God bless and thank you.

On a happy note, little **Giada Ramona Caldirola** was baptized on Saturday the 6th of December at St. Anne's Church, God bless and watch over her. To the proud parents, Andrea and Dennis and Comare and Compare Nancy and Tom Grossi ... Congratulations!

They stopped to ask directions from an old woman who was sweeping out her cottage, and they invited her to join them.

"I can't" she snapped gruffly. "I'm much to busy. And I've never heard of Bethlehem."

So the caravan moved on, the old woman staring thoughtfully after it. Shaking her head, she returned to her sweeping, trying to put the exotic travelers out of her mind. But she was lonely. Her husband had died long years before. She had always loved children and often wished she had some around to keep her company. Now there was a very special child someplace called Bethlehem. Wherever that was.

"I'll go after all!" she cried. "If I hurry,

Heard **Inez Forno** traveled to Napa Valley wine country and was treated to some special events and some wine tasting.

Our November meeting was held at Mt. Virgin's Hall and our wonderful chef and her crew did their regular superb gourmet table setting and serving. Judy, Jerry and Christine, we thank you for your talents and the extra pounds around our middles.

Our condolences to **Dolores Patricelli Ashbaugh**, and family, on the loss of her sister, **Gloria Patricelli Disantis**. (I went to grade school with Gloria) may she rest in peace and join the choirs of angels with her lovely voice.

Just received a call re Joe Patricelli and he had to return to the hospital. So more prayers. Please.

I'm running late, so this is all the news I can pass on at this time ... with the exception: please past presidents, will you be attending the December luncheon where you and your spouse will be the Italian clubs guests? I have to have a no. Please please please respond.

Again a happy and Holy Christmas and New Year to you and yours.

Stay happy and healthy. Amen.

Carolyn Jackson the Informer.

perhaps I can catch up with them. I want to see the Christ Child, too, and bring him a gift"

And so she set out with her broom and a sack of goodies for the Infant Jesus. The way was long and difficult, and the old woman soon was lost. She never did find the caravan, nor did she reach Bethlehem. Yet the story says she never gave up trying to find the Christ Child. Befana still searches, even today, even after all these centuries.

Whenever she comes to a home where there is a child, she drops in to see if it might be the one she seeks. It never is, but she leaves a gift anyway. For Befana has come to realize, over the years, that her searching is not in vain, that in a way the Christ Child can be found in all children.

Italian Club ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday Night, December 13
at Courtyard by Marriott, Seattle/Lake Union
925 Westlake Ave. North, Seattle
(Free parking in building)

Entertainment and dancing to music by Nick Potdbnya

No Host Social hour at 5:30 PM

Casino opens at 6:00 PM

Dinner Buffet begins at 7:00 PM

Bar will be open during dinner

Cost is \$55.00 per person



Buffet Menu

Appetizers:

Tomato Basil Bruschetta

Salad:

Mixed greens with Crumbled Gorgonzola and Walnuts with Red Wine Vinaigrette

Entrée:

Fresh Seared Halibut With Dill Caper Wine Sauce

or

Grilled New York Steak with Portobello Mushroom Bearnaise Sauce with Rosemary Garlic Red Potatoes
& Asparagus with Hollandaise

Dessert:

Specialty Cheesecake

I/we wish to attend _____

Number in party _____ Please seat us at the _____ table

Choice of entrée Halibut _____ N.Y. steak _____

Please make your reservation early. No tickets sold at the door.

Please make your check payable to the Italian Club and mail to:

Mike & Diana Kaczor - 2616 W. Lynn St., - Seattle, 98199



The Italianette ... Free Classes Available

I want to invite all the members of the Seattle Italian Club to enroll their children and grandchildren in the Italianette Class.

We meet the first Saturday of the month from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 at the South Bellevue Community Center.

Our goal is to keep the Italian culture

and language alive. The classes are FREE OF CHARGE for children age 6 to 12.

Please join us for Italian language class, songs and culture activities.

Thank you, Tina Conforti

To sign up please contact: Tina Conforti at (425) 427-9515.

E-mail to oggiitaliayahoo.com

Past Presidents Luncheon

When: December 17, 11:30am

Where: Rock Salt Restaurant

Who: Past Presidents, Male and Female and their spouses (complimentary) and those who wish to join us the cost is \$20.00.

PS: Major 2007 Event Chairs will be invited as guest of President DiJulio.

RSVP

Name: _____ No of Guests: _____

Contact:

Carolyn Jackson at 206-725-9405

2706 30th Avenue South

Seattle, WA 98144

Winners

Winners of the Raffle in November The drawings were conducted by **Ron Roletto**. Winner of the birthday prize was **Lou Cella**.

Turkeys were won by **Roy Skibo, Lou Cella, Sister Mary Lou DiJulio, Tina Conforti, Jerome Theilges, Michael Troiani, Velva Saltarelli, Linda D'Onofrio, Dot Whitney and Nello Prissinotti**.

Spirits, coffee cards and dinners were won by **Anna Popovich, Paul Pioli (3 times), Dick Whitney, Carol Riotto, Fran Albanese, Ed DeRocco, Dennis Caldirola, Caroline Jackson, Erin Jacobs, Mary Hoffa, Mary Zorotovich, Jerry Lewis (2 times), Antonette Rupp, Roy Skibo, Barbara Galluccio, Rose Prissinotti, Bill Pecchena and Tom Grossi**.

Mike Caso's name was drawn for the Progressive Prize but he was not there so the new jackpot goes up to \$75.00.

Italian Club Membership Applications Available

Please contact:

Monte Marchetti
907 Grant Avenue South
Renton, WA 98055
Phone: 425-255-2641



Ronald O. Alia
Regional Agent
Residential Real Estate

Cell: 206.679.0791
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CHILDREN'S SANTA BREAKFAST

Saturday Morning, December 13, 2008



For reservations, please call **Molly Grossi** at 425-557-2847 or send by email to: mtgrossi@aol.com

Greeters will be ready to receive all guests at 8:30 A.M. with freshly baked cinnamon rolls right out of the oven, juice for children and freshly brewed coffee for the adults. Breakfast will begin at 9:00 A.M. prepared by the Lewis family.

After breakfast, the children will gather to sing and listen to stories while we wait for Santa to arrive. The atmosphere will be very festive with Nick Grossi playing Christmas songs on the accordion.

Each family will be asked to bring a gift for a child, baby or teenager, unwrapped, to be donated to the Forgotten Children's Fund. All gifts must be new.

Thanks, and we hope to see you there! The breakfast will again be held at:

North Shore Senior Center, 10201 East Riverside Dr. - Bothell, WA. - 206.487.2441

Children of members only must be of age 1 to 10 and one parent must be a member of the Italian Club. Grandparents are welcome . . . Please remember this event is for members only.

Bring a gift for a child, baby, or teenager, unwrapped

Member name: _____

Phone number: _____

Child's name _____ age _____ boy or girl _____

Italian Club Calendar of Events

General Meetings: Dinner (\$5.00 charge) followed by meeting at 6 pm.

Meetings on SECOND Thursday of the month

Luncheons: 11:30 am at Rock Salt Steak House (formally Latitude 47) on the **THIRD Wednesday of each month**

Social Hour 11:30, Luncheon 12 Noon

Finance & Bylaw Meetings: 7 pm at IC office

Trustee Meetings: First Thursday of every other month

DECEMBER 2008	JANUARY 2009	FEBRUARY 2009
<p>11: IC General Meeting/Dinner Election of Officers IC, 6pm</p> <p>13: IC Christmas Party, 5:30PM Chair: Anna Popovich & Mike Kaczor</p> <p>13: IC Christmas Children's Party 8:30AM - Chair: Molly Grossi</p> <p>17: Luncheon honoring past presidents and 2008 chair persons 11:30am Rock Salt Restaurant Chair: Carolyn Jackson</p>	<p>8: IC General Meeting/Dinner Installation of Officers 6pm.</p> <p>21: IC Luncheon</p> 	<p>7: Trustees Meeting</p> <p>14: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6pm.</p> <p>20: IC Luncheon</p> 
MARCH 2009	APRIL 2009	MAY 2009
<p>12: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6pm.</p> <p>18: IC Luncheon</p> <p>21: Crab Fest St. Alphonsus Anna Popovich, Chair</p>	<p>2: Trustees Meeting</p> <p>9: IC General Meeting/Dinner</p> <p>15: IC Luncheon</p>	<p>14: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6pm</p> <p>20: IC Luncheon</p> 
JUNE 2009	JULY 2009	AUGUST 2009
<p>4: Trustee Meeting</p> <p>11: IC General Dinner Meeting, 6pm</p> <p>TBA: Horse Racing at Emerald Downs, Chair - Joe Galluccio</p> <p>TBA: Baseball Night, Safeco Field Marty Negrelle</p> <p>17: IC Luncheon</p>	<p>Summer Break</p> <p>No Meetings</p> <p>No <i>il Ficcanaso</i></p> 	<p>Summer Break</p> <p>No Meetings</p> <p>No <i>il Ficcanaso</i></p> <p>TBA: Feragosto, various locations</p> <p>TBA: Italian Community Picnic</p> <p>TBA: Festa Italiana - Portland</p>
SEPTEMBER 2009	OCTOBER 2009	NOVEMBER 2009
<p>3: Trustee Meeting</p> <p>10: IC General Meeting, 6 pm</p> <p>19: Festa Italiana Mass</p> <p>22: Festa Downtown Luncheon</p> <p>25: Festa "Taste of Italy"</p> <p>26-27: 22st Annual Italian Festival at Seattle Center</p>	<p>8: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6pm</p> <p>TBA: Golf Tourney, Bear Creek Chair: TBA</p> <p>21: IC Luncheon</p> <p>TBA: Halloween Party for kids Chair: Tom & Nancy Grossi</p> <p>TBA: Children's Halloween Party 12:30pm St. Josephs Church Hall</p>	<p>5: Trustees Meeting</p> <p>12: IC General Meeting Nominations will be taken from floor for 2007 officers 6pm</p> <p>18: IC Luncheon</p> 



il Ficcanaso

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

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

Past Presidents Luncheon
Wednesday, December 17
Rock Salt Steakhouse

Visit our new website at:
www.ItalianClubofSeattle.org

Buon Natale
**TU SCENDI
DALLE STELLE**

Tu scendi dalle stelle
o re del cielo
e vieni in una grotta
al freddo e al gelo
e vieni in una grotta
al freddo e al gelo

O bambino mio divino
io ti vedo qui a tremar
o Dio beato, ah quanto
ti costo l'avermi amato
ah quanto ti costo
l'avermi amato.

