

General Dinner Meeting
Thursday - April 8, 6pm
Mount Virgin Church Hall
April Luncheon
Wednesday, April 21

Buona Pasqua (Happy Easter)

il Ficcanaso



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

President Corner *By Anna Popovich*

Thanks to Our Volunteers, Crab Feed is Huge Success



We just had our fourth annual crab fee. Thank you to all that made the crab feed a huge success.

Brian DiJulio who made the long trip to Tokeland to pick up the crab. **Ron Roletto** for purchasing all the supplies. Thanks to **Monte Marchetti** and his kitchen crew. All this hard work done by **Paul Pioli, Phillip** and **Maria Pacini, Dick** and **Dorothy Whitney, Al Carlson, Paul Case, Rich Hall** and **Marty Nigrelle**. To all our wonderful waiters, what a great job.

Thank you **Carolyn Jackson, Michael Toriani, Kathy Kindell, Michael Lazza-**retti, **Debbie Quien, Mark Panelli, Nick Panelli, Robert Sylvester, Phil LaFor-**nara, **Angela Wright, Inez Fournu**. Thank you **Ron Roletto, Michael Toriani** and **Milo Locklear** for setting all the tables. Thank you to all the raffle sellers. **Joanne Marchese, Barbara Peretti, Diana Kaczor, Antoinette Fontana**. Thank you **Bob Popovich** for purchases all the beverages and setting up along

with **Lou Fontana**.

Thank you to all the people who brought raffle items. **Ron Roletto, Dick Whitney, Bob Popovich, Carolyn Jackson, John & Joanne Marchese, Sharon & Paul Pioli, Lazzaretti Family, Marty Nigrelle, Barbara Peretti, Orly Saltaretti, Mike Kaczor, Roy Skibo, Robert Ruppin, Nick and Ginny Grossi, Caroline Petre, Scott Merrell**.

Thank you to **Tom Grossi** and his friends who took down all the tables and chairs. Thank you to all that stayed and helped clean up. Once again **Paul Pioli** the one that



opens the doors and the last one to leave, Thank you.

As you can see by the number of people that got involved, how could you not have a successful crab fee. We look forward to next year and hope to see all of you.

MS Walkathon 2010 Set for Sunday, April 11



Dig your walking shoes out of the closet ... The Italian Club will be participating in the 20th Anniversary of the MS Walkathon this Spring.

The four mile walk takes place at Husky Stadium on Sunday morning April 11th beginning at 9:30.

Complimentary food, beverages and entertainment is provided prior to the start of the Walkathon and afterwards as well.

A special Italian Club t-shirt commemorating this event will also be given to all who walk or provide a donation.

Contact **Steve Piergrossi** at (206) 390-0677 or e-mail him at spiergrossi@comcast.net for details.

Italian Club Membership Applications Available

Please contact:

Monte Marchetti
907 Grant Avenue South
Renton, WA 98055
Phone: 425-591-5541

General Dinner & Meeting

THURSDAY, April 8

Mount Virgin Church Hall
2800 S. Massachusetts Street, Seattle

Dinner at 6.00PM ...
Followed by the general meeting.

Progressive prize ... \$100

A Saturday at the Races



Joe Galluccio, Chairman, has announced a date for A Day at Emerald Downs. The date will be **June 19th**. Mark your calendar now. Details will follow in the next *il Ficcanaso*.

April Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

The Courtyard by Marriott
925 Westlake Avenue North
Seattle, Washington
Phone: 206-213-0100

il Ficcanaso

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

Editor:

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ITALIAN CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2010

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Joe Galluccio

(206) 275-4688

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Brian DiJulio (425) 820-4424

Trustees

Tom Grossi (425) 557-0071

Michael Lazzaretti (206) 280-6691

Diana Kaczor (206) 232-7880

Marty Nigrelle (206) 310-7689 (Cell)

Diana Lafornera (425) 827-4728

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: **Andrea Petrone**

Adult Christmas Party: **TBD**

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

Nancy Grossi

Bylaws: **Barbara Peretti**

Luncheons: **Carolyn Jackson**

Scholarship: **Marty Nigrelle**

Miss Italian Club: **Margaret Marchetti,**

Carole Bishop and Linda Madrid

Facilities: **TBD**

Health: **Carolyn Jackson**

Parliamentarian: **Lou Cella**

Golf Tournament: **Brian DiJulio**

Crab Dinner: **Anna Popovich**

THE ITALIAN CLUB OF SEATTLE, Inc.

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Italian Club Luncheon, April 21st By Carolyn Jackson, Luncheon Chair

This is the time of our quarterly lunch. The date is Wednesday April 21, 2010. The place is the Puget Sound Room at the Courtyard Marriott. Social gathering begins at 11:15 a.m. and lunch will be served at 12 o'clock noon. There's plenty of free parking in their basement and an elevator for our convenience. The price is \$23.00 per person

Those of you that were lucky enough to attend our November lunch all mentioned the lunch was delicious ... so we will have the same menu this time: salad, chicken, mashed potatoes, dessert, coffee and tea.

We will sing "happy 90th birthday" to the Seattle Italian Club. We were founded on April 26, 1920 ... a great time to celebrate.

A thank you to past president, Italian vice consul, Franco Tesorieri for obtaining our speaker for the day,

Alessandro Canali, attorney, with the Italian judicial system in Rome. Mr. Canali has the capability to practice in the USA as well as in Italy. Franco will be the presenter of our speaker and will fill us in with all the details. He will be interesting, so, plan on attending.

Reservations a must by Sunday, April 18. Please all, "a reservation made, is a reservation that has to be paid." I'll be happy to take reservations via phone, (206-725-9405), email (srmaholywater@aol.com) or at our meeting on the 8th. Checks made out to the Seattle Italian Club for \$23.00.

Door prize gifts will be appreciated, you all have been so good in the past and it is fun to win something. Please plan on attending, we need at least 20 plus reservations. So let's be there or be square.

Winners by Nick Grossi

Those who won Spirits, coffee cards, Polenta and beer were:

Delores DiVitis, Marty Nigrelle, Barbara Galluccio, Anna Popovich, Sharon Pioli, Carolyn Jackson, Paul Pioli, Diana Kaczor, Chip DiJulio, Fran Albanese, Robert D. Sylvester, Debbie Quien, Diana Warczak,

Ginny Grossi, Diana Lafornera, Bill Picchena and Joanne Marchese.

The birthday winner for March was **Jerry Lewis**. The Progressive Prize of \$75.00 would have gone to **Joe Marra** had he been present.

The prize now goes to **\$100.00** at the April meeting. Could it be you?

SECRETARY'S REPORT ... April 2010 By Dennis Caldirola

April 15th is the deadline! No, we're not talking about taxes, we're talking about the deadline to pay your Italian Club dues for 2010. As per the bylaws, at that point, anyone still in arrears will be dropped from the mailing list (this could be your last il Ficcanaso!) and perhaps more importantly, dropped from the new roster which we will begin compiling on April 16th.

At present, the Italian Club of Seattle has a total of 256 members. Thankfully as of April 1st, 235 have paid their dues leaving only 21 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 44¢ and the Club \$1.32 by paying your dues in person and having your membership card issued immediately. This will be your last chance!

New Roster to be Printed

It is time to print the new Italian Club of Seattle roster, bylaws and list of Past Presidents. The 2010 edition will be going to press on May 1st and since this is a biannual production, no changes, additions or deletions can be effected for the next two years. Please look at your copy of the 2008 edition and if you would like to change anything, please call the Italian Club office or email the secretary at Dennis@FestaSeattle.com.

Note To Advertisers:

The nature of the the roster is that members will keep it and refer to it frequently over time.

Now you can keep your name or the name of your business in front of 250+ fellow members of the Italian Club for two whole years.

To purchase an ad at very reasonable rates, please contact **Nick Grossi**, editor of *il Ficcanaso* at 425-454-5575 ... Cost is \$100 for full page, \$50 for a half page and \$25 for business card size.

A blessed, joyous and happy Easter filled with the three good "F's ... family, friends and food.

It's been a busy month. Spring has sprung and the weather has been very cooperative. Thank God.

What has been going on in your life?

It's with sympathy and prayers we announce the passing of past president **Verna Collela** in February. Verna served as president of the women's Italian club in 1996 & 1997. She had been living close to her son in Olympia and was buried on Whidbey Island. May she rest in peace.

Lou Carrosino had triple bypass surgery. He's slowly recovering and gaining back his strength. Helen hopes he'll soon be coming home under her care and watchful eyes.

I reported at our last meeting that **Earl Hoffa** had been in the hospital, he was having a difficult time breathing. Mary reported he was released and returned to his group home in West Seattle. Then Earl was taken again to the hospital with the same problem. He spent St. Patrick's Day there and is now back to the group home.

Received a call from **Lou Borda** and he shared that his sweetie, Madeleine, had been in the hospital she is recuperating and will soon be home. Lou, Earl, and Madeleine you are in our prayers and thoughts.

Doing much better but is wearing a back brace, after her fall in Mexico, is **Sr. Mary Lou DiJulio**.

Speaking of Mexico got a call from **Bill Picchena** and proudly he wanted us to know that he wouldn't be at our meeting,

because he, with his family, will spend most of the month in Puerto Vallarta. Have fun Bill, enjoy the sun, and watch what you eat and drink and come home safe with lots of great memories and stories to tell.

To our home bound and members that are unable to attend the meetings, we do miss you. We send our prayers and best wishes for a happy and loving Easter.

Welcome back to our travelers. **Ron Roletto** enjoyed his vacation, visiting friends and seeing all the sights. He is a busy man. We hope **Carol Bishop** enjoyed her vacation. We will be anxious to hear all about it.

Welcome back to **Kristi Branze Thorn** from Hawaii. Congratulations on your election as president of the Seattle Sons of Italy lodge. **Holly Croce Cochran** is the new recording secretary.

I was reading the Northwest Progress and a couple names jumped out at me. Leo and **Carol Costello** were honorary grand marshals in the 39th annual St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday, March 13th in downtown Seattle. Also included in the column, Carol served as the organization's first female president in 1999. Way to go Carol.

We missed **Joe Sargent** at our crab feed. Rebecca shared that he had hurt his back and was home and missed being with us. We missed you too, Joe. Take care and feel better soon.

Past president, **Steve Piergrossi**, attended the crab feed. He complimented the chefs and servers and seeing so many of his friends was an added pleasure. Steve was also promoting the upcoming 20th. MS walk-

athon set for April 11th. Full information is in this edition of *il Ficcanaso*. Get out your walking shoes.

A bit of information from an Italian Club member: "The cost of a ticket for crossing the street when it says 'don't walk' is \$56.00!" Wow this information is from the voice of experience. (I told you I wouldn't tell "who").

We welcome any news about you or your family that you are willing to share. I'm ready to take your messages.

"Love begins with a smile, grows with a hug, and ends with a kiss"

To our April birthday celebrants: can't stop 'em, can't skip them, can't reverse them, and can't ignore them. So have a great and happy day and year.

We have a date! Hope you are all saving the following days

April 4 — Easter Sunday

April 8 — Regular meeting

April 21 — Italian Club luncheon

May 13 — Regular meeting

September 11th — Festa mass, 5 p.m. Mt. Virgin church reception to follow in hall.

Well, this is it for now ... "a closed mouth gathers no feet" so time to close mine.

Well, maybe one more ... The world's shortest sermon: "when in doubt - don't." Amen

Take care, enjoy and stay healthy.

Your informer

Carolyn E. Jackson (sister)

OUR ITALIAN HERITAGE

Italians and Easter ... By Tina Conforti, Field Reporter

While the religious meaning of Christmas is Jesus' birth, Easter is the passion of His death and resurrection. So during Holy Week in Italy, people celebrate with various processions.

In Florence, the tradition is the "scoppio del carro" or the exploding cart. A huge cart is decorated and filled with fireworks. It is dragged thru Florence by white oxen decorated in garland until it reaches the Duomo (cathedral) and the fireworks are set off.

In the town of Sulmona, Abruzzo, there is the re-enactment of "La Madonna che scappa in Piazza" or the Virgin Mary racing through the square. On Easter Sunday, the Virgin Mary is portrayed running through the square to embrace the resurrected Jesus Christ.

What my children remember most about celebrating Easter in Italy is the huge, colorfully wrapped chocolate Easter eggs. Nothing at all like the 3 or 6 ounce foil wrapped versions of chocolate Easter eggs found in the United States. The Easter eggs in Italy are a foot tall, hollow eggs filed with a toy, and decorated in the most beautiful paper and tied with a ribbon bow. It is not unheard of that for a wedding proposal, the hopeful groom to be requests a confectioner that the hollow egg be filled with the engagement ring as a surprise to the hopeful soon to be bride.



Besides the amazing chocolate Easter eggs, Easter dinner usually consists of lamb, artichokes, asparagus, peas, and lasagna. Dessert can consist of the Pastiera. Depending on the region, the Pastiera is made from faro (a grain) or rice, ricotta, and flavored with candied orange pieces. Another dessert is the Columba Pasquale, a cake in the shape of a dove. Before the meal, the head of household, usually the father, blesses those partaking of the dinner by wetting the palms from Palm Sunday with water and sprinkling those in attendance.

Easter doesn't end on Easter Sunday in Italy. The Monday following Easter is a holiday of its own. Shops and businesses are closed for the "pasquetta" or little Easter. In Naples, on the Monday following Easter, many Neopolitans leave the city for picnics on the nearby islands of Capri or Ischia. Also, they may go to Sorrento and the other cities of the Amalfi coast to enjoy open air concerts or picnics with family.

There is an Italian saying "Natale dai tuoi, Pasqua dove vuoi" which translates to "spend Christmas with your family, and Easter where you want." This might be a straightforward and old fashioned saying to help decide how to split the holiday.

Buona Pasqua (Happy Easter).

New Club for Trentino Americans

A new club has been formed in Seattle devoted to Trentino culture. The vision of the group is to preserve the food (including polenta!), language, music, traditions and other customs of Trentino, Italy, and to promote companionship among those who share inter-



est in or heritage from Trentino.

Feel free to contact Joan Barker, joanbarker@mac.com for more information.

It sounds like it will be a lot of fun, with social meetings 3-4 times a year that will complement the activities of other Italian organizations.



"Italian icon" harpist Floraleda Sacchi to perform solo recital in Pacific Northwest

International touring harpist and recording artist Floraleda Sacchi will present a solo recital on Wednesday, April 21 at 7:30 pm at Mercer Island Presbyterian Church, 3605 84th Ave. SE, Mercer Island. Sacchi will perform repertoire spanning three centuries, by Lou Harrison, Philip Glass, Nicola Campogrande, Sophia Corri-Dusseck, Enrique Granados and Carlos Salzedo.

General admission is \$10, and advance tickets are available at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/106731> Tickets can also be obtained at the door. Sacchi's concert is presented by the Seattle Chapter of the American Harp Society, in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute.

The Search for Miss Italian Club By Margaret Marchetti, Chair

The Italian Club will be awarding a \$500 scholarship to a young woman selected to represent us. Unlike other scholarships offered in the Italian community our applicants only need to have a parent or grandparent who is a member in good standing with the Club. If someone has applied in the past, she would be eligible to apply once again. All other requirements are dictated by Seafair.

The Seafair Scholarship Program for Women is one of Seattle's most time-honored traditions, now in its 61st year. It is designed to give young women the opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity of the Puget Sound region and enrich their lives through education, philanthropy and community involvement. The Scholarship Program for Women strives to empower young women in reaching their personal and professional goals.

To become Miss Seafair, young women are judged on academics, public speaking, interview skills and creative expression. Participants compete for nearly \$20,000 in scholarship assistance.

Participants will also visit nearly 20 community events, festivals and parades throughout the summer as well as hospitals and retirement facilities bringing Seafair to those who can't experience it on their own. All participants will leave the six week program with leadership skills, confidence, college scholarships and a lifetime of memories!

Seafair Participant Guidelines:

- Applicants must be 18 years of age (as of August 8, 2010) or older.
- A United States citizen or permanent resident.
- Be able to show proof of enrollment at a post secondary school, college, university, or vocational institution for the Fall 2010 – Spring 2011 quarter/semester(s).

Call **Margaret Marchetti** at **425-430-8300** for an application. Deadline is May 1, 2010 for receipt of application, recent photo & resume. Info can be mailed: PO Box 427, Renton WA 98057 Seafair information can be found at <http://www.seafair.com/events/scholarship/>.

April 30, 2010, 7:30pm and May 1, 2010 7:30pm

Giuseppe Verdi's Don Carlo at Bellevue Opera

Tickets are available now for both performances of Verdi's Don Carlo. Performed at Bellevue's Meydenbauer Theater, the reserved tickets are available for \$35 with Student and Senior pricing available. Visit our website www.bellevueopera.org for links to ordering tickets ... or, visit www.brownpapertickets.com/event/98844.



Giuseppe Verdi

Performed in Italian with English supertitles DON CARLO is possibly the most intense, deep, nuanced, rich, and masterful work of the "mature" Giuseppe Verdi, an extensive and monumental

showcase of everything Verdi. It is also the Verdi opera that exists in the most number of versions. The version of this "Grand Opera" is the 1884 Four Acts version that Verdi reduced and changed into Italian from the original 1867 Five Acts version in French.

The story is based on conflicts in the life of Carlos, Prince of Asturias, after his betrothed Elisabeth of Valois was married instead to his father Philip II of Spain as part of the peace treaty ending the Italian War of 1551-1559 between the Houses of Habsburg and Valois.

Membership News

By Membership Chairman Monte Marchetti

Chairman Monte Marchetti conducted the balloting for one new applicant for membership, **Nils Seth**. He was voted into the Club last month. *Welcome to the Italian Club!*

There has been no applications for membership this month.

Need a Ride?

Trustee **Diana Lafornera** (425-827-4728) has offered to give a ride to the meetings to anyone on the Eastside who needs one. *Thanks Diana.*

Deadline Dates for Inputs to *il Ficcanso* for 2010

Issue - Deadline

May - May 3
 June - May 28
 July & August - no newsletter
 September - August 30
 October - October 4
 November - November 1
 December - November 29

Italian Story Times

Join us for stories, songs, and activities in Italian

Event type: Children's Story Time
 Sunday, April 11, 2010, 1:30 PM
 Mercer Island Library, Ages 3 to 7

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SKYLINE PROPERTIES INC. - BROKER OF RECORD



Applications are Now Being Accepted for Italian Club High School Scholarships for the 2010-2011 School

By Martin Nigrelle (Italian Club Scholarship Chair)

The Italian Club of Seattle will again be awarding up to three \$500.00 scholarships for the 2010-2011 school year to students who are selected based on meeting or exceeding the scholarship criteria (noted below).

Next steps in the scholarship process:

- April 2010 – Applications submitted
- May 2010 – Applications reviewed & verified
- June 2010 – Award Recipients announced in il Ficcanaso
- September 2010 – Award Recipients presented @ General Meeting

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

1. A parent of the applicant (student) must be in good standing in the Italian Club for at least three years. (Grandparents are not

included).

2. The parent(s) of the applicant must attend at least three club meetings during the year.

3. The applicant (student) is enrolled in high school (grades 9 through 12) for the 2010-2011 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 him/her self and activities in which he/she is participating.

6. The application and transcript must be post marked no earlier than April 1st 2010 and no later than May 1st 2010.

7. Applications that are incomplete or missing a transcript will not be considered.

2010/2011 Italian Club Scholarship Application form:

Applicant's name: _____

Applicant's Parent(s) (Italian Club Members) _____

High School Applicant will be attending in the 2009/2010 School year: ____

Applicant's Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

The Application form is to be accompanied by:

1. Current Official Transcript
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 Martin Nigrelle
14539 Evanston Avenue North
Shoreline, WA 98133

Mariners' Italian Heritage Night, Tickets Available!



By Martin Nigrelle

The Italian club has sold 45 of the 52 field level tickets for purchase @ \$27.00 each within the Ital-

ian Club if you want to sit with your friends in the Italian Club, contact Martin Nigrelle. More tickets are available through the Mariners at <http://mariners.com/italian>.

The Mariners & Verizon are sponsoring Italian Heritage Night, Tuesday July 20th 2010, 7:05pm the Mariners are hosting the Chicago White Sox.

Ticket prices are \$27.00 (Field level) & \$13.00 (Top deck). The giveaway item for this year's game will be a scarf designed & created just for this event. Ticket prices include \$2.00 that will be donated to Festa Italiana the free festival celebrating Italian-American heritage in the Pacific Northwest for over 20 years.

DAVIS GRIMM PAYNE and MARRA

JOSEPH G. MARRA
ATTORNEY

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Areas of Labor and Employment Law*

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Italian Club Calendar of Events

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

Meetings on **SECOND** Thursday of the month, Mount Virgin Church Hall

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

Social Hour 11:30, Luncheon 12 Noon

Finance and Bylaw Meetings: 7 PM at IC office

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

APRIL 2010	MAY 2010	JUNE 2010
<p>1: Trustees Meeting 8: Thursday - IC General Meeting/Dinner 11: Sunday - MS Walk-a-thon Steve Piergrossi, 206-390-0677  21: IC Luncheon, Carolyn Jackson, Chairman</p>	<p>13: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6pm </p>	<p>3: Trustee Meeting 10: IC General Dinner Meeting, 6pm 16: IC Luncheon, Carolyn Jackson, Chairman 19: Horse Racing at Emerald Downs, Chair - Joe Galluccio</p>
JULY 2010	AUGUST 2010	SEPTEMBER 2010
<p>Summer Break 20: 4th Annual Seattle Mariners Italian Heritage Night Chairman Marty Nigrelle No Meetings No <i>il Ficcanaso</i> </p>	<p>Summer Break No Meetings No <i>il Ficcanaso</i> 15: Ferragosto, various locations 15: Italian Community Picnic 27-29: Festa Italiana - Portland</p>	<p>2: Trustee Meeting 9: IC General Meeting, 6 pm 11: Festa Italiana Mass Carolyn Jackson, Chairman 21: Festa Downtown Luncheon 24: Festa "Taste of Italy" 25-26: 23rd Annual Italian Festival at Seattle Center</p>
OCTOBER 2010	NOVEMBER 2010	DECEMBER 2010
<p>9-10: Great Italian Festival, Reno, NV 14: IC General Meeting Dinner 6pm TBA: Golf Tourney TBA: Halloween Party for kids Chairman Andrea Petrone</p>	<p>7: Trustees Meeting 14: IC General Meeting - 6pm Nominations will be taken from floor for 2010 officers 17: Past Presidents Luncheon, 90th year celebration Chairman, Carolyn Jackson</p>	<p>9: IC General Meeting/Dinner Election of Officers IC, 6pm TBA: IC Christmas Children's Party 8:30AM, Tom & Nancy Grossi TBA: IC Christmas Party </p>
JANUARY 2011	FEBRUARY 2011	MARCH 2011
<p>13: IC General Meeting/Dinner Installation of Officers 6pm. </p>	<p>3: Trustees Meeting 10: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6pm. </p>	<p>14: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6pm. TBA: Crab Feed </p>



il Ficcanaso

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

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



Visit our website at:

www.ItalianClubofSeattle.org

Recipe ... For a Special Dinner

AGNELLO AL VINO PUGLIA (ROASTED LAMB WITH RED WINE)

Preparation - Medium

Serves 4 - 6

Ingredients:

4 1/2 pounds (2 kg) lamb with bones, such as lamb neck and breast or shoulder cut into 3 1/2 inch (8-cm) pieces

4 1/2 pounds (2 kg) red or white new potatoes, peeled and sliced 1/4-inch (a little less than 1-cm) thick

1 red onion, coarsely chopped

2 or 3 sprigs of fresh rosemary

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

1/3 to 1/2 cup olive oil

2 cups (500 ml) dry red wine

1 cup (250 ml) water

PREHEAT the oven to 350 degrees F (170 degrees C.).

Directions:

LAYER the meat, potatoes, and onion in a large roasting pan and put the rosemary sprigs on top. Season with salt and pepper to taste and drizzle with olive oil. Roast for 15 minutes.

REMOVE the pan from the oven, and pour 1 cup of the wine over everything. Scrape the bottom of the pan with a spatula to get up all the brown bits and pieces of onion stuck to it. Return to the oven and cook, stirring a couple of times, until the meat is tender, 20 to 30 minutes longer, depending on the age of the lamb. Remove the meat and potatoes to a serving platter and keep warm.

PLACE the roasting pan directly on the burner. Pour in the remaining 1 cup wine and the water. Reduce over high heat, scraping the bottom of the pan and stirring, until the liquid reduces to a sauce.

TASTE for seasoning, pour over the lamb and potatoes, and serve.

From: THE FLAVORS OF SICILY, Anna Tasca Lanza