

**General Dinner Meeting**  
Thursday - February 10 - 6:30pm  
Mount Virgin Church Hall

**No February Luncheon**

Happy Valentine's Day  
**il Ficcanaso**



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



**New Officers Sworn In**

Lou Cella conducting installation of new officers: new trustee Ron Alia, new trustee, Barbara Peretti, new president Monte Marchetti, new vice president Marty Nigrelle, second term trustee Michael Lazzaretti, proxy (for absent Tom Grossi) Brian DiJulio, second term trustee Diana Laformara, secretary Dennis Caldirola, proxy (for absent Joe Galluccio) Ron Roletto, and ex officio Anna Popovich.

**President Corner**



**Greetings Everyone**

*By Monte Marchetti*

I would like to start my term in office with special thanks to **Anna Popovich** for all her hard work and dedication during her term. I really enjoyed watching Anna perform her duties as she guided the Italian Club of Seattle through challenging times.

As the first lady president she brought great honor to all of us setting a precedent and doing a first class job executing her duties. I would also like to thank the board and all the volunteers for all their contributions putting together first class events and venues that brought joy to our community, family and

friends. I would like to continue to expand on the progress with enhanced activities that deliver the Italian experience to an even wider audience. I welcome all your offers to help as we celebrate our Italian heritage with pride and honor.

I am listening to all your inputs and want to make sure everyone feels free to contribute and share in this experience. We have so much to be grateful for and even with the difficulties we may be facing in modern times, our struggles are minor compared to what our ancestors faced when they arrived in America.

I love to hear all the stories of how the early Italian immigrants got by with little money and opportunities. I look at my Grandparents who at 16 and 18 years old arrived at King

Street Station with some dried fish, a little money and high hopes. Eventually they prospered from years of hard work and thrift. I wish my grandparents could see the level of prosperity we enjoy now because it was their dream and dedication that paved the way for our future.

We have lots to be proud of; the Italian culture boasts great architecture, art, food and music that have been a part of Italian people lives for centuries. Our club has a unique opportunity to share all of that and more with a larger community in the hopes that future generations will appreciate the rich heritage that is ours. It's great to be Italian so let's have some fun and enjoy the life.

**General Dinner & Meeting**  
**THURSDAY, February 10**  
**Mount Virgin Church Hall**

**Dinner at 6:30PM ...**

Followed by the general meeting & installation of officers

Progressive prize ... \$50

**Crab Feed**

**Saturday, March 19 - 6:30pm**



**All You Can Eat!**

*Details on Page 5*

**NO FEBRUARY LUNCHEON**

**Next Luncheon Scheduled for April ... Details to Follow**

**For information:**  
**Contact Carolyn Jackson**  
**Phone: 206-725-9405**

## il Ficcanaso

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

Editor:

**Nick Grossi**  
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### ITALIAN CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2011

President:

**Monte Marchetti**  
425-591-5541

Vice President:

**Marty Nigrelle** (206) 310-7689 (Cell)

Secretary:

**Dennis Caldirola**  
(206) 282-0627

Treasurer:

**Joe Galluccio**  
(206) 275-4688

Ex Officio:

**Anna Popovich**  
(206) 453-4002

Trustees

**Tom Grossi** (425) 557-0071  
**Michael Lazzaretti** (206) 280-6691  
**Ron Alia** (206) 779-9821  
**Diana Lafornera** (425) 827-4728  
**Barbara Peretti** (206) 723-3614

Sergeant at Arms: **Ron Roletto**

Committee Chairs:

Membership: **Marty Nigrelle**

Day at the Races: **Joe Galluccio**

Mariner Baseball Night: **Marty Nigrelle**

Picnic: **Ron Roletto**

Halloween Party: **Andrea Petrone**

Adult Christmas Party: **TBA**

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

Bylaws: **Barbara Peretti**

Luncheons: **Carolyn Jackson**

Scholarship: **Marty Nigrelle**

Miss Italian Club: **TBA**

Facilities: **Board**

Health: **Carolyn Jackson**

Parliamentarian: **Lou Cella**

Golf Tournament: **Brian DiJulio**

Crab Dinner: **Anna Popovich**

Financial Advisor: **Barbara Galluccio**

THE ITALIAN CLUB OF SEATTLE, Inc.

Box 9549  
Seattle, WA 98109  
(206) 282-0627  
www.ItalianClubofSeattle.org

## Membership News

By Membership Chairman *Monte Marchetti*

### Leonard Matthew Smith

11101 SE 208th St. #323  
Kent, WA 98031  
His grandfather, Felice Russo  
was from Calabria.

### Evelyn Frances Compo

725 - 9th Ave. S. #367  
Kirkland, WA 98033  
Her grandfather, Emmanuel  
Campo was from Ragusa, Sicily.

The members of the Italian Club  
approved the applications for  
membership for **Tony LaStella**  
and **Karen Bianchi** at the January  
meeting.

*Welcome to the Club, Tony and  
Karen!*

## Winners At The January Meeting

by *Nick Grossi*

The drawing was conducted by  
**Ron Roletto**, Sergeant at Arms.

The birthday winner was **Quinto DiVitis**.

*The spirit and coffee cards were won by:*

**Lou Carrosino, Velva Salterelli,  
Michael Fitzgerald (twice),  
Marie Dahlgren (twice), Barbara  
Peretti, Joe Sargent, Michael  
Lazzaretti, Ed DeRocco's grand-  
daughter, Dennis Calderola,  
Deb Quien, Phil Segadelli  
(twice), Bill Pecchena, Max  
Leone, Linda Madrid, Delores  
DiVitis and Mary Hoffa (twice).**

The Progressive Prize would  
have been won by **Vito Chiechi**  
had he been there. The jack pot  
goes up to \$50.00 at the February  
meeting.

## Deadlines

by *Nick Grossi*  
*Final inputs dates for il Ficcanaso:*

**March - February 23**

**April - March 27**

**May - May 1**

**June - May 30**

## Proposed Budget for 2011

Treasurer **Joe Galluccio** has fi-  
nalized the budget for 2011 and  
it was presented to the Trustees.  
It will be voted on for final ap-  
proval by the general member-  
ship at the February meeting.

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Advertising	\$1,000	\$1,000
Casa Subsidy	\$500	\$900
Crab Feed	\$3,500	\$3,000
Festa Italiana	\$2,500	\$2,400
Interest	\$5,500	\$9,500
Member Dues	\$10,500	\$10,200
Scholarship		\$1,500
<u>New Members</u>	<u>\$1,250</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
	\$24,750	\$29,500

<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Accountant	\$1,750	\$1,250
Administration	\$6,750	\$7,050
Board Meetings	\$900	\$900
Dinner Meetings	\$2,000	\$3,000
Donations	\$500	\$200
Festa Italiana	\$3,000	\$3,000
Halloween Party	\$200	\$200
Insurance	\$700	\$750
Kidney Fund	\$400	\$250
Legal Fees	\$10	\$10
Luncheons	\$200	\$125
Newsletters	\$8,750	\$8,825
Office	\$200	\$150
Past Pres. Brunch	\$750	\$750
Picnic	\$500	\$500
Postage	\$400	\$275
Pres. Discretionary Fund	\$300	\$300
Progressive Draw	\$250	\$250
Rent - Meetings	\$2,750	\$2,750
Rent - Dexter Office	\$880	\$880
Rent - Storage	\$480	\$480
Roster	\$1,800	\$0
Scholarship	\$1,500	\$1,500
Seafair Miss Italy	\$50	\$50
Website Redesign	\$350	\$300
Xmas Party - Adult	\$500	\$500
<u>Xmas Party - Children</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,300</u>
	\$36,870	\$35,545

Happy Valentine's Day, may you be filled with family, love, health and friends.

How shall I start this month's column? Haven't heard much about what you've been doing or about to do. The little I did hear, I'll share. Our President, Monte and his better half, Margaret, will be enjoying a little R & R. Playing and resting (haha) in Las Vegas. Come back winners and relaxed.

We thank **Lou Cella** for serving as the Chairperson of the Installation of our new officers at our January meeting. Per usual, Lou did a great job. Again a big thank you to **Anna Popovich** and her group of officers for their successful year of service, and hearty congratulations to Monte Marchetti and his officers of 2011.

Received a call from **John Merlino's** wife, Judy, asking us to keep John in our thoughts and prayers. John has ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease. Love and prayers John.

Prayers and thoughts are also needed for **Madeleine Borda**. Lou is the chief care giver.

Bless you both.

Heard that **Betty Borracchini** hurt her ankle. Be careful Betty.

Let's remember our shut-ins and some of our long time members. To name a few, **Lena Boitano, Carmen and Margaret Murray, Gene and Inky Merlino, Angie Molinaro, Lou Guzzo, Carl Romei, Mari Betz,** and **Vito Chiechi** we know there are more of you, you ALL are missed and in our thoughts and prayers.

That darn flu is sure traveling round. Once you have it, it seems like it keeps repeating it's self like an old song. Stay warm and healthy. Thanks to the bug, our Treasurer, **Joe Galluccio**, missed our last meeting. I'm fighting the bug now and it

does hang on, so to all of us, I know there many others out there, get better and let's stay healthy.

Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

Many members were seen at the Gov. Rossellini's Scholarship Dinner held at Kennedy High School. The Governor was his charming smiling self. What a speaker.

Happy 101st birthday Governor. Blessings and prayers from all your friends in The Italian Club of Seattle.

We hope the **Ruppins** enjoyed their stay in the sun. Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting and hearing all about your time spent away from home.

On a sad note, heard **Kenny and Cathy Croce Volpone's** home was broken into. Cathy says, thank God, they weren't home; the Robbers didn't miss a thing. God bless you Kenny, Cathy and Danny. Thank God you're safe.

Heard **Mike Kaczor** is doing a little grandpa babysitting. Good for you Mike.

**Brain DiJulio** and his group sure are the busy entertainers. You can keep up with his gigs by going on Facebook. Good for you and your group Brian.

Dennis, Andrea and sweet little Giada had a great time while on vacation in Hawaii. Nice tan, welcome home.

There was a write up in the Catholic Northwest Progress Jan. 13, 2011's edition re Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Parish. The column's heading was "SMALL PARISH WITH 'BIG HEART' turns 100. No, all of you I wasn't one of the first parishioners in this new Parish. Remember, I'm only "84". It's a history of OUR Church. I'm sure many more of you can remember other historical

events of the Parish. There will be a huge celebration on Sunday August 14, 2011. All are invited. The New Archbishop has been invited to celebrate Mass and a reception will follow. If you have pictures or other memorabilia that we can use, (all items will be returned) they would be greatly appreciated.

Laughter is the brush that sweeps away the cobwebs of the heart. Let's keep laughing.

A Happy Birthday to all our February celebrants, boy didn't that last year go fast.

Your Birthstone is an Amethyst and your flower is a Violet. May this year be filled with happiness and love.

It nice to see all our members at the meetings, and especially nice when some of our members, that have been unable to attend lately, are present. So, **Vince and Amber Ferrese, Ed DeRocco, Matthew and Michael Fitzgerald and Linda Madrid**, happy you were able to make the first meeting of 2011.

Can't think of anything else that can be printed (boy, that leaves a lot unsaid) so, I guess it's time to say AMEN, and PLEASE, if you do have something you would like to share, give me a call or Email me. I'm sure you all have my number and address (another pun).

One of my favorites:

"God never asks about our ability or our inability just our availability".

So, on that note, that's it for another month.

See you at the meeting or at some other event.

The H & W informer.

Carolyn Aka SISTER

## Italian Club High School Scholarships for the 2011-2012 School

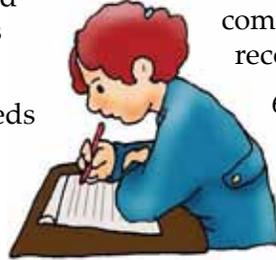
By Martin Nigrelle (Italian Club Scholarship Chair)

The Italian Club of Seattle will again be awarding up to three \$500.00 scholarships for the 2011-2012 school year to students who are selected based on meeting or exceeding the scholarship criteria (noted below).

Parents & Students take note, we had more applications than scholarships last year, keep those grades up!!

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 a Catholic high school (grades 9 through 12) for the 2011-2012 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 & submit a letter describing themselves and activities in which they are participating. (focus on community & charitable involvement is recommended)
6. The application and transcript must be post marked no earlier than April 1st 2011 and no later than May 1st 2011.
7. Applications that are incomplete or missing a transcript will not be considered.

Next steps in the scholarship process:

- March 2011 – Application Forms published in il Ficcanso
- April 2011 – Applications submitted
- May 2011 – Applications reviewed & verified

## Bill Picchena says he'll be there! How about you? By Martin Nigrelle



Despite the historical record, Bill has pledged to be in attendance this year. Wednesday June 15th 2011, 7:10pm the Mariners will be taking on the Los Angeles Angels. The giveaway item for this year's game will be an Italian themed baseball cap.

The Mariners are still looking into different options that may help increase the marketing of the event. Why do we care? you ask, well it just so happens that the bigger the attendance the more the event can be tailored to the group, example; if we get 600 (or more) people to attend we can have an Italian singer (with Mariners approval) sing the national anthem. The Mariners web site for the event has not been redesigned for the 2011 season yet. The Italian Club will likely purchase a set of tickets the same as last year, but this has not been confirmed with the board yet. More details will be

published in the March edition of the il Ficcanso. The tickets will be available on a first come – first serve basis, both through the club

(group tickets) & through the Mariners (general seating). More details on ticket availability as soon as they are available.

DAVIS GRIMM PAYNE and MARRA

**JOSEPH G. MARRA**  
ATTORNEY

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**Italian Club of Seattle**



**Crab Feed**

**Saturday, March 19 - 6:30pm - \$30 per person**

**All You Can Eat!**

**St. Alphonsus Church Hall**

**5816 15th Ave. NW, Seattle (Ballard)**

**Delicious Fresh Dungeness Crab!**

**Rolls - Angel Hair Pasta Aioli**

**Beer/Wine/Pop/Ice Cream - Drawn Butter**

**Buy your Tickets Today! ... Anna Popovich 206-453-4002**

**Bring your own crab cracker!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Send Me \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets or Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Tables of Ten for My Family

Here's my check for my Ticket(s) reservation(s)

*Mail to: Anna Popovich - 2901 NE Blakley Street, #505, Seattle, WA 98105*

## OUR ITALIAN HERITAGE



### February Festivals and Holiday Events in Italy

Carnevale, Italian carnival, tops the list of February festivals all over Italy. In Catania, Sicily, the big festival is for Saint Agatha's Feast Day, the second largest religious procession in the world. Most other February festivals are in the first part of the month, prior to the start of Lent.

#### Carnevale - Carnival in Italy

Carnevale, Italian for carnival, is one of the most popular festivals in Italy. Carnevale comes 40 days before Easter so the date changes each year (and festivals can sometimes start in January). See carnevale dates by year. The biggest Carnevale celebrations last for several weeks. Although Venice and Viareggio have the most well-known celebrations, Carnevale is celebrated all over Italy in a variety of ways. Some of the more unusual Carnevale celebrations are the orange-throwing battle in Ivrea, Albanian celebrations in Calabria, and a Roman carnival in the Aosta Valley.

#### Saint Agatha's Feast Day - Catania, Sicily

Saint Agatha, a martyr who died in 252 at age 15, is the patron saint of Catania, Sicily, and an exciting festival is held in her honor in Catania. The 2-day procession, said to be the second largest religious procession in the world, begins February 4. Following a mass at dawn, the statue of St. Agatha that houses her relics is placed on a fercolo, a 40,000 pound silver carriage, that will be pulled up Monte Sangiuliano by 5,000 men. The huge festival lasts for two days and two nights and as with most Italian festivals, there is also plenty of eating and drinking and a huge fireworks display at the end.

Theresa Maggio gives a lively description of the Festival of St. Agatha in her very interesting book, *The Stone Boudoir: Travels through the Hidden Villages of Sicily*.

#### More February Festivals in Italy

Saint Biago Day, February 3, is a minor celebration all over Italy. Saint Biago is the saint of the throat. It's tradition to eat leftover panettone with a glass of wine to bless your throat. In some places, Saint Biago Day is celebrated with parades, music, a special mass, or bonfires. In Mugnano di Napoli, near Naples, there's a huge fireworks

display as it's the home of one of the biggest fireworks companies in Italy.

Almond Blossom Fair in Agrigento, Sicily, is a weeklong festival from the first through the second Sunday in February. The fair is combined with an International Folklore Festival with music, singing, parades, puppet shows and open-air performances. Traditional Sicilian sweets made with almonds and almond paste are served. Balconies are decorated with flowers and people often wear colorful costumes. The finale includes a Sicilian cart parade and fireworks.

Valentine's Day, February 14, is not celebrated as fanatically as it is in the United States but lovers do give lots of flowers and candy. The Umbrian town of Terni, who claim Saint Valentino as their patron saint, celebrate with a torchlight parade.

Saint Faustino's Day, February 15, commemorates the saint adopted by single people in Italy. If you see a sign for a Saint Faustino Day party it's most likely a party for singles. Saint Faustino is actually the patron saint of Brescia.

Feast Day of Saints Faustino and Giovita, February 15, is a big festival day in Brescia, in northern Italy. The day is filled with music, vendors, and food followed by a huge fireworks display at night.

Saint Joseph's Eve, February 18, is celebrated in Rocca San Casciano in the Emilia Romagna region of northern Italy with a big parade followed by a competition between the two districts to see which one can build the biggest bonfire. Of course, there's also food and wine.

San Remo Song Festival, Festival della canzone Italiana, is a huge five-night competition amongst Italian singers. Started in 1950, the Sanremo Song Festival has made many Italian singers and songs famous. The song festival is currently held in mid-February rather than in March as it was in the past.

Olive and Bruschetta Festival, the third Sunday of February, is celebrated in the Umbrian town of Spello. Farmers parade on decorated tractors and there's music, dancing, and food.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT ... February 2011 *By Dennis Caldirola*

Well, the economy must be improving because out of the 254 current members of the Italian Club of Seattle, and as of February 1st, 191 have paid their dues for 2011. Unfortunately, that still leaves 63 members who have not yet responded that they'd like to retain membership in this great organization. If you plan to attend the February meeting, you

can save yourself 44¢ and the Club \$1.32 by paying your dues in person and having your membership card issued immediately. Otherwise, "past-due" notices will be mailed out Tuesday, February 15th. Please don't make us "lean" on you.

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. Our records show that out of 254 members, 46 currently have Life Membership status. If you think you qualify, call the Italian Club office at (206) 282-0627 and have that information verified.

# Italian Club Calendar of Events

**General Meetings:** Dinner (\$5.00 charge) followed by meeting at 6:30PM.

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

FEBRUARY 2011	MARCH 2011	APRIL 2011
<p>3: Trustees Meeting 10: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM.</p> 	<p>10: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM. 19: Crab Feed <b>Anna Popovich</b>, Chair</p> 	<p>7: Trustees Meeting 14: <b>Thursday</b> - IC General Meeting/Dinner, 6:30PM. 20: <b>Wednesday</b> - IC Luncheon,</p> 
MAY 2011	JUNE 2011	JULY 2011
<p>12: IC General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM</p> 	<p>2: Trustee Meeting 9: IC General Dinner Meeting, 6:30PM 15: Seattle Mariners Italian Heritage Night, Chairman <b>Marty Nigrelle</b></p>	<p>Summer Break No Meetings <i>No il Ficcanaso</i> 20: IC Luncheon</p> 
AUGUST 2011	SEPTEMBER 2011	OCTOBER 2011
<p>Summer Break No Meetings <i>No il Ficcanaso</i> <b>TBA:</b> Ferragosto, various locations 21: Italian Community Picnic 25-27: Festa Italiana - Portland</p>	<p>1: Trustee Meeting 8: IC General Meeting, 6:30PM 10: Festa Italiana Mass <b>Carolyn Jackson</b>, Chairman <b>TBA:</b> Golf Tourney 20: Festa Downtown Luncheon 23: Festa "Taste of Italy" 24-25: Italian Festival at Seattle Center</p>	<p>8-9: Great Italian Festival, Reno, NV 13: IC General Meeting Dinner 6:30PM 29: Halloween Party for kids</p> 
NOVEMBER 2011	DECEMBER 2011	JANUARY 2012
<p>10: IC General Meeting - 6:30PM Nominations will be taken from floor for 2010 officers 16: Past Presidents Luncheon, Chairman <b>Carolyn Jackson</b></p> 	<p><b>TBA:</b> IC Christmas Children's Party 8: IC General Meeting/Dinner Election of Officers IC, 6:30PM <b>TBA:</b> IC Christmas Party</p> 	<p>12: IC General Meeting/Dinner Installation of Officers 6:30PM.</p> 



## il Ficcenaso

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

### ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



### Need a Ride?

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



### Recipe for Valentine's Day

**Apple Raisin French Toast Strata** ... A simple but elegant way to make Valentine breakfast fast. Put together the night before, and bake while you're in the shower. Serve with lots of extra maple syrup! You may also add extra raisins if you wish."

#### Ingredients

- 1 (1 pound) loaf cinnamon raisin bread, cubed
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, diced
- 1 cup diced peeled apples
- 8 eggs
- 2 1/2 cups half-and-half cream
- 6 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1/4 cup maple syrup

#### Directions

1. Coat a 9x13 inch baking dish with cooking spray. Arrange 1/2 of the cubed raisin bread in the bottom of the dish. Sprinkle the cream cheese evenly over the bread,

and top with the apples. If you like extra raisins, add them now. Top with remaining bread.

2. In a large bowl, beat the eggs with the cream, butter, and maple syrup. Pour over the bread mixture. Cover with plastic wrap, and press down so that all bread pieces are soaked. Refrigerate at least 2 hours.

3. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).

4. Bake 45 minutes in the preheated oven. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving.



#### Nutritional Information:

Amount Per Serving Calories: 354 | Total Fat: 23.1g | Cholesterol: 195mg