

**General Meeting,  
Dinner – Thursday,  
January 9th, 2020**

**6:30 pm  
St. Patrick's  
Parish Hall**



# il Ficcanaso

JANUARY 2020



OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ITALIAN CLUB  
ESTABLISHED APRIL 26TH 1920

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## Secretary's Report

*By Dennis Caldirola*

Happy New Year, everyone! As usual, notices for 2020 membership dues were mailed out the first week of December. Since that time, a total of 99 members have paid their dues. You should be aware that one of our invoices came back because the cover sheet – the part with your name and address on it – was torn off. If you received only the cover, or, more likely, if you did NOT receive a dues statement at all, please contact the office immediately.

In honor of the fact that this is the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Italian Club, a special edition of the Membership Directory will be published in April in anticipation of the Centennial Celebration at the Seattle Athletic Club on April 25th. If you don't pay your dues by then, you will not be included. If you plan to attend the January meeting, you can save yourself and the Club 52¢ each by paying your dues in person and having your membership card issued immediately.

And, in honor of our 100th Anniversary, we are reprinting the columns I wrote at the behest of then-editor, Gino Alvau, about the first 10 or 15 Presidents of the Italian Club. Gino actually had me go out and interview them because, thank goodness, most of them were still alive! The first column ran in January, 1973 and then ran monthly for the next couple years. Our first two presidents' interviews are on page two.

*Vi invio i nostri auguri di un Buon Anno Nuovo!*

## Message from the President

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

I hope all of you had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends.

The Christmas party with the West-side Italian Civic Club was fun and well attended. I'm looking forward to seeing more members from the Italian Club attend next year. Maureen Watson was in charge of the raffle, and again it was outstanding.

The event that you all have been waiting for, the annual Crab Feed, is set for February 29th at St. Al's in Ballard. Check for the reservation in this issue of the *il Ficcanaso*, and call me if you wish to reserve a table.

The next big event the 100 Year Celebration of the Italian Club of Seattle is on April 25th, 2020. We will have all the information and the reservation in the February *il Ficcanaso*.

I wish everyone the best of health for the coming New Year.

Prayers for all our service men and women who serve our country.

Sincerely,

**Anna Popovich**

## il Ficcanaso

Official Bulletin of the Italian Club of Seattle  
Established April 26, 1920  
[www.italianclubofseattle.org](http://www.italianclubofseattle.org)

Editor:

**Joe Jacobin** (206) 723-7049  
[joejacobin@gmail.com](mailto:joejacobin@gmail.com)

### Italian Club Officers for 2019

President:

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

Vice President:

**Diana Kaczor** (206) 232-7880

Secretary:

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

Treasurer:

**Joe Galluccio** (206) 773-9776

Ex Officio:

**Audrey Manzanares** (206) 779-7325

### Trustees

**Tom Grossi** (425) 557-0071

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

**Martin Nigrelle** (206) 310-7689

**Amadeo Rossi** (425) 391-9148

**Frances Rossi** (425) 391-9148

Sergeant at Arms: **Micheal Troiani**

### Committee Chairs

Adult's Christmas Party... **Audrey Manzanares**

Bylaws..... **TBD**

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

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

Day at the Races ..... **Joe Galluccio**

Festa Sausage Booth ..... **Tom Grossi**

Golf Tournament ..... **Brian DiJulio**

Health & Welfare..... **Gemma Thielges**

Luncheons ..... **Audrey Manzanares**

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

New Membership ..... **Dennis Caldirola**

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

Picnic ..... **Ron Roletto**

Scholarship ..... **Diana Kaczor**

## Early History of the Italian Club



Nicola Peolella was the first president of the Italian Club. His term was for the year of 1920. He also served as president in 1924. Nicola was one of the founders of the Italian Club. He had a long and illustrious career in our community. He came to America a well-educated pharmacist and practiced in Seattle for many years. He was well known for his knowledge of Italian Culture. During his many years he was the Italian Consul and presented the Italian Hour on radio as recently as in the 1950s. In his later years he came to be fondly known as the "Dean of the Italian Colony."



Felix Rosaia was the second president of the Italian Club. His term was for the year of 1921. He was one of the founders of the club and one of its most active members over the years. He was born in Masacarrara, Italy. He immigrated with his parents to the vicinity of Palo Alto, California. At the turn of the century he came to Seattle, in fact, just prior to the San Francisco earthquake. Three of his brothers soon followed. He first established a florist shop in the Butler Hotel, later moving with his brothers to 3rd and Madison, and later still establishing his own shop on the N.W. corner of 3rd and Madison, where he remained for many years. It is easy to see why he was always urged to be on the Sick Committee. There are few photos or movies of club activities back in the old days that don't reveal Felix's presence. He participated actively in picnics and the many other events of his days such as the "Nights of Venice Ball." In the early twenties Felix made many trips into our Northwest forests collecting Douglas Fir seed. He sent large quantities of seed to Italy for reforestation purposes. In 1927 the King of Italy conferred upon Felix the title of "Cavaliere Ufficiale" for his unselfish contribution to the welfare of his native land. Felix left no children but he is most fondly remembered by his nieces and nephews and all those who he came in contact with over his many years in the Seattle community.

The Italian Club of Seattle, Inc.  
P.O. Box 9549  
Seattle, WA 98109  
(206) 282-0627  
www.ItalianClubofSeattle.org

# il Ficcanaso

**\$50.00  
PER PERSON**

## **CRAB FEED**

**Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 6:30PM**

## **ALL YOU CAN EAT!**

*Ocean Fresh Dungeness Crab!*

Spaghetti Aglio, Olio e Pepperoncino

Drawn Butter, Rolls and Ice Cream

Beer, Wine, Soda

**Buy Your Tickets Today!**

**Anna Popovich – [206-453-4002](tel:206-453-4002)**

St. Alphonsus Church Hall  
5816 15th Ave NW, Seattle (Ballard)



## **CRAB FEED REGISTRATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Send me \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) or reserve \_\_\_\_\_ table(s) for my family.

Tickets : \$50 per person or \$500 per table

Mail to: Anna Popovich - 2901 NE Blakeley St. Apt 509, Seattle, WA 98105-3163

## Health & Welfare

*by Gemma Di Julio Thielges and Assistant Angela Di Julio Wright*

We hope everyone enjoyed a Wonderful Christmas with family & friends.

**John Brondello, III** shared that they are “Bringing the family to New York City for New Year’s. We’re looking forward to the Christmas decorations & family time together.” Sounds like a great way to begin the New Year. We’re wishing them safe travels and a fun time.

**Velva Saltarelli** said she had a good time at the West Side Christmas party but unfortunately she broke out in painful shingles afterwards. But being the trooper that we know her to be, she is already much better and hopefully was able to enjoy Christmas with family & friends.

**Angela & Bill Wright** spent a few days over Christmas and another few days after New Year’s with two of their four children, eight of their 14 grandchildren and their one great-grandchild in Spokane. They made the second drive over so they could help celebrate their first great-grandchild’s first birthday. **Sister Mary Lou Di Julio** was also there to enjoy her role as Sister, Aunt, Great Aunt and Great-Great Aunt!

**Carmen (Razore) & Jim Sepic** were in Denver over Christmas with their son Scott, his wife Page, and their little boys, Vincent age 4 and Evan age 2 1/2. It’s becoming a tradition, starting the kids out young, helping to make pizzelles together. In fact, when an Italian friend’s or relative’s son or daughter gets married, **Jerome & I (Gemma)** usually give a pizzelle iron as their gift. (Pictures, top to bottom: Carmen and son Scott; Scott w/ son Vincent and the beautiful pizzelles; Scott, Vincent and wife/the boys’ Mom Page in the background; and the last photo is of little Evan, doing his own thing!)

**Audrey Manzanares** shared that her daughter, Marissa, and Marissa’s boyfriend came home for the week and they celebrated together for five days straight. They went to Enchant at T-Mobile Park Christmas night, had dinner at 13 Coins and walked thru the city looking at all the decorations. Audrey writes: “My heart is so happy!!” I think most of us would agree that being with family is such a blessing.

**Chip Di Julio** reported that his Di Julio siblings (six of the seven of them) gathered on December 22nd at Bellevue’s Tutta Bella for their annual family Christmas celebration. There were “36 adults and many kids.” The oldest sibling, **Margaret (Di Julio) Ward**, again made her famous calendar for each of them. Last year it was family (siblings)



## Health & Welfare (continued)

photos for every month from previous gatherings. For 2020 she surprised them with photos of their parents, Guy & Norma, and both sets of grandparents, the DiJulio's and Norma's parents, the Pagnutti's (of Spokane). Chip said they were heading to their Blue Lake house with son Nick's three children, and then on to daughter Simone's on the Methow River for New Year's and a little quail hunting and cigar smoking. He also added, "I'll try to make it to more meetings this year!!"

We wish everyone a New Year of good health and happy times. God bless us all in 2020!



## WINNERS

Drawings were conducted by Michael Troiani.

The Birthday Winners for December were Anna Popovich and Angela Wright.

Spirits, Coffee Cards and Dinners: William Wright, David Madrid (3x), Judy Seth, Frances Rossi (2x), Dick Whitney (2x), Matthew FitzGerald (2x), Joe Picciano (2x), Audrey Manzanares (2x), Anna Popovich (2x), Linda Madrid, Patrick FitzGerald, Rosetta Beyersdorf, Diana Kaczor and Mona Nelson.

The Progressive Prize of \$50 would have been won by Velva Saltarelli had she been present. The jackpot now goes up to \$75

## 100th Anniversary! Save the Date!

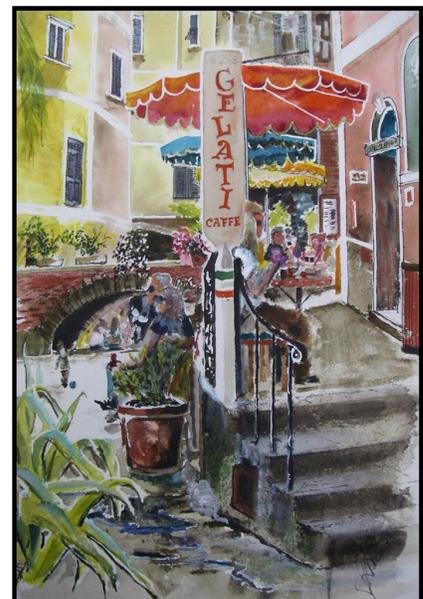
Saturday, April 25th, 2020 is the celebration of the Italian Club of Seattle's 100th Year which will be at the Washington Athletic Club

More information coming soon in your *il Ficcanaso*!

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## Carnevale

**By Matteo Filipo FitzGerald**

Carnevale season is upon us! The actual day of festivity is March 5th this year. I am writing this article to share some information about Carnevale, and also to put forward a Calendar of Carnevale events/history of the days/traditions.

To start, some history: Carnevale is a pre-Lentian festival in areas with Christianity that celebrates many feasting days, before the 40 days of fasting before Easter, known as Lent (February 26, 2020).

In Italy, and many places around the world, this period in February/March is filled with parades, parties, feasts and special treats. One of the most famous Carnevale Festivals in the world is that of Venice, which is world-renowned for the craft of its artisans and the splendor of the festivities. Venice used to be the gateway of the land trade routes from the Middle East and Asia, and is one of the wealthiest places on the planet after-all, so it makes sense.

Another is that of Acireale, a coastal city in Sicily near where I spent much of my childhood and younger years in northern Catania. They make incredible, intricate floats that are paraded around the streets.

One of the more interesting aspects of Carnevale though, is that social norms were up-ended, if only briefly. One of the reasons that the masquerades were, and are, so interesting is that they allowed and allow the lower classes (social, political, economic, etc.) to mingle with the upper classes (and vice versa) on an even level, through the veil of anonymity. Carnevale is also known, historically, at least for the common people, as being a period of debauchery and excessiveness. Due to the historical nature of a lack of refrigeration technology and know-how, this period was regarded as the last opportunity for quite a while before eating well again could occur, so people let loose. It was usually the last opportunity for many in society, for quite a while, to enjoy much lard, butter or meat, as these would go bad quickly. We now live in an enlightened age with the scientific discoveries and implementation of wonders of pasteurization and extensive advances in refrigeration, and a far greater knowledge of the causes of disease, especially food borne illnesses, so this context of the festival has been lost, as many of the old ways have fallen to the rise of the new.

Foods of Carnevale: Cannoli – in Sicily, originally for Carnevale, but now popular year-round. Chiacchiere/cenci/frappe – fried dough strips, usually with powdered sugar or lemon (or both). Very similar to the sopaipillas, a fried dough dish often associated with the culinary traditions of those of Spanish heritage in the Americas.

Calendar of Carnevale: Giovedì grasso (Fat Thursday) is the last Thursday before the official day of Carnevale. Traditionally this is a day dedicated to eating, especially eating sweets and other delicacies. So, essentially, a lot of eating, and eating all sorts of dishes.



\*“Official” Carnevale Day: Martedì grasso (Fat Tuesday/also known as Shrove Tuesday/February 25, 2020) The day before Lent, this is the last Feast day before Easter. It is traditional in some places to eat pancakes on this day.

Thank you all for reading to the end of the article, and have a wonderful Carnevale (buon Carnevale a tutti!). Ci vediamo (we'll see each other).

## ICoS Calendar

### January 2020

- 7th Trustee's Meeting (Date Change)
- 9th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM
- 25th Input Deadline for February *il Ficcanaso*

### February 2020

- No Trustee meeting this month
- 1st SOI Crab Dinner, Holy Family, Auburn
- 10th CASA meeting, Angelo's in Burien
- 13th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM
- 14th Valentine's Day
- 25th Input Deadline for February *il Ficcanaso*
- 29th Crab Dinner, St. Alphonsus

### March 2020

- 5th Trustee's Meeting
- 7th Seattle Sons of Italy Annual Banquet, Kennedy High School
- 12th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM
- 25th Input Deadline for March *il Ficcanaso*

### April 2020

- No Trustee meeting this month
- 5th Seattle Sons of Italy Homemade Wine Festival, Our Lady of Mt. Virgin
- 9th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM
- 25th Italian Club Centennial Celebration, Washington Athletic Club
- 25th Input Deadline for May *il Ficcanaso*

### May 2020

- 7th Trustee's Meeting
- 11th CASA meeting, Angelo's in Burien
- 14th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM
- 25th Input Deadline for June *il Ficcanaso*

### June 2020

- No Trustee Meeting this month
- 6th WSICC Dinner Show, St. Bernadette's in Burien
- 11th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM
- 18th Italian Night at the Mariners vs. Kansas City Royals

### July 2020

- No Trustee or General Meeting this month
- 4th Independence Day
- 19th Italian Club Day at the Races Luncheon at Emerald Downs
- No *il Ficcanaso* this month

### August 2020

- No Trustee or General Meeting this month
- 11th CASA meeting, Angelo's in Burien
- 16th Italian Community Picnic, Royal Arch Park, Maple Valley
- No *il Ficcanaso* this month

### September 2020

- 3rd Trustee's Meeting
- 6th Italian Day at the Races at Emerald Downs
- TBD San Gennaro Festival, South Angelo Street, Seattle, WA
- 10th ICoS General Meeting/Dinner 6:30PM
- 12th Mass in Italian, Mt. Virgin
- 18th Festa Luncheon, Seattle Yacht Club
- 25th Taste of Italy, Seattle Center, 7:00-10:00PM
- 26 & 27 Festa Italiana, Seattle Center

**General Meeting & Dinner**  
**Thursday,**  
**January 9th, 2020**  
**6:30 pm**  
**St. Patrick's Parish Hall**

## ITALIAN CLUB MEETING CADENCE

### General Meetings:

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

### Trustee Meetings:

- First Thursday of every other month (date change for January)

**Please send Calendar Additions or Updates by the 25th of each month to Joe Jacobin (joejacobin@gmail.com or 4822 S. Juneau Street, Seattle, WA 98118-2848). Thank you.**



# Scott Fitzpatrick

Vice President - Marketing

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January 9th, 2020  
6:30 pm  
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Tony La Stella, Host

David Madrid, Creator

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