



## Bel Canto e Bel' Italia

By Rosanna Aiuppa



Is it the melodious sound of the history of this relatively young nation? Italian music and singers so popping out into the Mediterranean many varied cultures. Here, in its sounds and rhythms of Greek, Arab, Spanish, Slavic, and Teutonic people, interesting how genetic diversification, temperate climate and beautiful landscape. Choral singing dominated the north and remote Sardinia. Solo singing flourished in the more outgoing personalities of the south.



Italian language or is it the complexity (only 150 years old) that makes it so popular? This boot-shaped peninsula, juxtaposed between the Mediterranean Sea and the Tyrrhenian Sea, has always been the catch basin of many ancient roots, one finds the melded influences of Greek, Latin, Etruscan, Celtic, Persian, Norman, and Arab, all having left their mark. It is this rich history combined with the sunny, temperate climate and beautiful landscapes to find expression in music. The mountains of the north and remote Sardinia.

The ancient lyres, flutes, bells, castanets, tambourines, harpsichords, and *zampone*s that had accompanied these ancient rhythms, gradually evolved and became violins, guitars, harps, pianos, and other modern instruments. Dance had always been used as an expression of victory, sadness, joy, thankfulness, and appeasement of the gods and nature. The *Tarantella*, the most iconic of all Italian dances, is a folk dance of the south, created to symbolically dance off the effects of the poisoning of the deathly, dreaded tarantula.

The Italian Renaissance marked man's awakening from a thousand years of darkness. The Florentine poet, Petrarch, made popular the rediscovery of ancient Latin and Greek manuscripts. Small groups of musicians and nobles in Venice and Florence met in rooms (*cameras*) and wrote music to accompany these ancient tales. They were called *Camerata*. From these poems, when accompanied by an instrument, came the *Cantatas*. Galileo's father, Vincenzo, wrote one of the first Cantatas based on a tragic episode from Dante's *Inferno*. In 1600, Jacopo Peri was invited to compose a work for the celebration of the marriage of Marie De Medici and Henry IV of France. The first opera to be performed in public was thus born. It was called *Eurydice*. From these beginnings the world has been blessed with the lasting magic of the classics from Vivaldi, Mozart, Bach, Beethoven, Haydn, Scarlotti, Verdi, Puccini, Wagner, Toscanini, Mancini, and on and on!

During the Great Immigration, Italian immigrants took with them little more than their skills, willingness to work, traditions, and love of music. As they settled in a *Little Italy* conclave of a large city, they found solace in starting small theatre and musical productions, recreating their festas and their beloved religious traditions, which always included food and music. This gave them a sense of comfort and a means of expressing the nostalgia they felt for the homeland and relatives left behind. America was truly the melting pot and music was one of the main ingredients in that pot.



Luciano Pavarotti

The large number of Sicilians settling in New Orleans combined the innate musical talents of their offspring with the joyful and yet soulful sound of jazz, producing greats such as Louie Prima, Mario Lanza, Tony Bennett, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Perry Como, Connie Francis, and Franki Valli.

(continued on page 8)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

This is usually when I welcome spring, but I think spring started around February this year. Speaking of spring, on April 28th, we need some volunteers to help do a little spring cleaning in and around the Pavilion. John Ritz is providing a dumpster to help with the clean up. If you have a few hours to give, please contact Maria DeNitto.

In an effort to make our Card Room more accessible to our membership, we have installed a combination lock system. You no longer need a key to enter the Card Room, just a simple four-digit numeric code. You may acquire this code by calling the IACC Office anytime between 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM Monday through Friday. Only members will be given the access code to the Card Room.

A new Marketing/Communications Committee is now beginning. This new committee would be responsible for: defining the IACC logo, the Website, Internet Social Media, *Siamo Qui*, PR format for all club events and activities, as well as a marketing plan for the IACC. If you interested in chairing or serving on this new committee, please contact me.

I understand there has been an outbreak of fierce competition, followed by uncontrollable laughter, and it all started with pins...bowling pins that is. Every Wednesday night a group (which is getting larger) of IACC members get together at Westlawn Lanes. There is no formal league or teams, just members getting together and having a great time. If you have a few minutes, stop by and see for yourself.

Congratulations to everyone who worked on the St Joseph's / St Patrick's Mass & Brunch. It was very successful.

Please don't forget that we have a general membership meeting on Tuesday April 17th at 7:00 PM. It would be nice to see you there.

Happy Easter!

G. George Urciuoli, President

## April Calendar

View our complete online Calendar at [calendarwiz.com/iacc](http://calendarwiz.com/iacc)

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Every Monday        | Italian Grand Buffet                                  |
| Every Wednesday     | IACC Bowling 6:30 PM                                  |
| Monday, April 9     | Men's Bocce Meeting<br>Men's Club 6:30 PM             |
| Wednesday, April 11 | Women's League 6:30 PM                                |
| Tuesday, April 17   | Board Meeting 6:30 PM<br>General Membership 7:00 PM   |
| Sunday, April 22    | Mother Daughter Luncheon and<br>Fashion Show 12:30 PM |
| Wednesday, April 25 | Book Club 7:00 PM                                     |
| Friday, April 27    | IAHFI Wine Tasting Event 6:30 PM                      |
| Saturday, April 28  | Pavilion Clean Up Day 10:00 AM                        |
| Monday, April 30    | Mal'Occhio (Evil Eye) Film 7:00 PM                    |

ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER  
257 Washington Avenue Extension  
Albany, New York 12205

*a place where family and friends can  
meet, eat, play and  
celebrate Italian heritage*

### IACC Office

Linda Sciocchetti IACC Secretary  
Monday - Friday 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM  
518.456.IACC | FAX: 518.456.0338  
membership@italianamerican.com

### OFFICERS

|                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| PRESIDENT          | GEORGE URCIUOLI           |
| VICE PRESIDENT     | ANGELO TARANTINO 355.1316 |
| TREASURER          | DAVID CESARI 365.5830     |
| SECRETARY/CHAPLAIN | JIM SANO 438.4631         |

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Please submit articles, suggestions, or comments to:  
Rachel Cameron, Editor, [rcamero@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rcamero@nycap.rr.com)

Save the Date

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Friday, May 4   | Poker Tournament in Pavilion                      |
| Tuesday, May 15 | Women's Bocce League begins                       |
| Sunday, June 17 | St Anthony's Mass & Pancake<br>Breakfast 10:30 AM |
| Sunday, Oct 21  | Italian Concert at Palace Theatre                 |

# Salute! A Toast to Our Children!

Hosted by the Italian American Heritage Foundation, Inc.

A wine tasting event to benefit  
The Children's Italian Summer Program

Friday, April 27, 2012  
6 PM – 9 PM

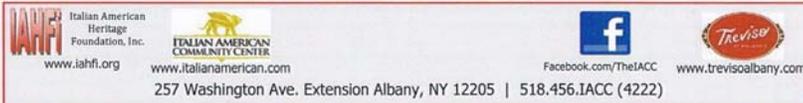
at the Italian American Community Center

Join us for Wines from Around the World,  
Specialty Hors d'oeuvres and Tasting Stations,  
desserts, Silent Auction, Door Prizes and our  
\$10,000 Sweepstakes Giveaway\*

**Price: \$40 Individual | \$70 Couple**  
Please RSVP by April 24, 2012

For reservations call the 456-IACC (4222)  
Checks (IAHFI) or Credit Card payments accepted.

\*We reserve the right to hold the drawing until a minimum of 150 tickets are sold.



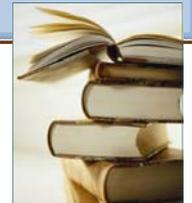
## This Space Could Be Yours!

Help us connect the IACC's  
"Buyers and Sellers"

We are looking for help from our members and readers of the *Siamo Qui* (SQ) to suggest businesses that would be interested in placing their marketing message in our monthly newsletter.

- The SQ is sent to each member/family, is archived on our website for anyone's review and is available for visitors to Mallozzi's Treviso Restaurant, banquet, wedding and event attendees.
- Ad layout and design assistance at no extra cost
- All full year SQ advertisers will have their logo and website link added the IACC Business Supporters section of our IACC website.
- Display ads begin at one-eighth page size
- We even offer a no cost online option.

To get started with an ad or to refer a potential advertiser, please contact Dom Indelicato, SQ Advertising Director, e-mail: [d.indelicato@yahoo.com](mailto:d.indelicato@yahoo.com) / cell: 573.5227 or the IACC Office at 456.4222.



## The Book Club *Returns To Venice*

By Dick Ognibene



On **Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**, at 7:00 PM in the Boardroom, the Italian American Community Center Book Club will journey to Venice for the second time, in order to observe Commisario Guido Brunetti, the lead character in Donna Leon's internationally acclaimed mystery series, solve another crime. *Drawing Conclusions* is the twentieth volume in the Brunetti series. A twenty-first book is due sometime in April.

Brunetti is both a perceptive investigator and a warm-hearted family man, traits that make him one of the most admired characters in contemporary mystery fiction. Readers experience witty and warm dinner table conversations he has with his wife Paola and their children, and, of course, commentary about the delicious food prepared even for mid-day meals. In his police work, Brunetti is supported by Inspector Vianello, one of the few colleagues who understands and has faith in Brunetti's cerebral methods and by the wonderfully resourceful Signorina Elettra, an administrative police office manager who knows how to maneuver around restrictions that would hamper Brunetti's work. While Donna Leon's books teach us about the culture and ways of life in the unique place that is Venice, she also shows us the crime and corruption that exists below the surface.

In *Drawing Conclusions*, Brunetti is called away from dinner to investigate the death of a widow in her modest apartment. Although there are some signs of a struggle, the medical examiner rules that she died of a heart attack. Brunetti, however, feels the need to investigate a little further. He discovers that her home was used as a safe house for women who were the victims of domestic abuse. When he interviews neighbors and individuals who ran the old-age home where the victim volunteered, he finds clues that could possibly be motivation for murder.

The Brunetti series has such a devoted following that there have been tours organized around places that are settings for the mysteries. There is even a cookbook with recipes scattered throughout the texts. The Brunetti books are a delight to read and *Drawing Conclusions* is no exception. For further information, contact Dick Ognibene at 372-4919 or at [rtognibene@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rtognibene@nycap.rr.com).

# Ann Marie Lizzi Rizzo:



## Working Mother

Ann Marie Lizzi Rizzo epitomizes the lives of so many young women today who manage successful careers while raising a family, leading fulfilling social lives and contributing to their communities. Ann Marie attended the College of Holy Cross as a double major in pre-med and English, since she was conflicted between her respect for science and her love of theater and the arts. Upon her graduation, working for the summer at St. Peter's Hospital, she met a woman who was producing a documentary on the New York State Court of Appeals and was hired as a production assistant. The rest, as they say, is history.

Ann Marie is currently Production Manager of the award winning Production Department at Time Warner Cable Media where she has worked for the past thirteen years. She has produced, directed and edited numerous award winning commercial campaigns for a variety of local, regional and national businesses. Some of her recent campaigns have included St. Peter's Hospital, Mooradians Furniture and the Marrello Family of Restaurants.

Ann Marie has also worked as a freelance feature film producer and editor. "The Skeptic" is the second film that she edited and associate produced and is currently available for viewing on DVD and Movies On Demand. She has also worked as a producer and director at local TV stations WXXA Fox 23 and WRGB CBS 6 where she served a three and a half year stint directing local news and producing original shows. In addition, Ann Marie owned her own production company, Utopia Pictures, which produced numerous corporate industrials.

Ann Marie's work has been acknowledged and awarded. She has been the recipient of a New York State Emmy Award and was named one of 2009's Top 40 Under 40 by the Capital District Business Review. Committed to the needs of the community, Ann Marie serves on the board of the American Cancer Society Board of Advisors, the Schenectady County Community College Foundation, the Albany Ad Club as immediate past president, and on the NYS Alliance for Women in Media. She also served on the board of Gilda's Club Capital Region for two terms and continues to work on behalf of the renamed organization, HopeClub.

In addition to growing a successful career, Ann Marie manages to tend to a growing family. Her husband, John Rizzo, is the Business Manager for the Guilderland Central School District. Together they have two children, Loughlin, who is two, and Tessa, who is eight months old. Their busy schedules can only work because John and Ann Marie are supportive of one another and work together to make sure that the children are cared for and that their work obligations are fulfilled. Ann Marie has been a member of the IACC for the past 14 years and served as the public relations chairperson for several years. She created TV spots for the IACC and advertised upcoming events, including those for the Festa. In early 2000, Ann Marie secured HBO as a monetary sponsor of Dominic Chianese's appearance at the club's Valentine Dinner. The money raised was used to help build the shrine to St. Anthony.

The IACC means a great deal to Ann Marie. As a single person, she enjoyed the social aspects of the IACC. Now, as a wife and mother, she is rediscovering the IACC for the sense of family and community that it provides to her and her family. As an avid swimmer, Ann Marie enjoys the pool community and cherishes the friendships that she has made.

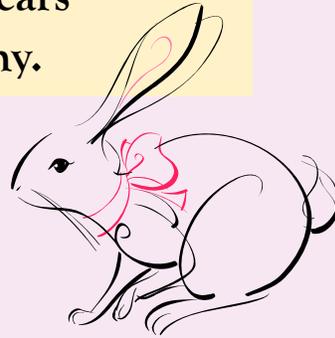
Ann Marie Lizzi Rizzo serves as a model for all those women working hard to juggle career and family. Her busy life provides for her total fulfillment, both in work and in love.



*Rizzo Family: Ann Marie & John with daughter Tessa & son Loughlin*



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## **\$10,000 Sweepstakes**

*Still Time to Enter!!*

The grand prize of \$10,000 has yet to be awarded! It is not too late to buy your \$100 ticket for the \$10,000 Sweepstakes! We hope to hold the drawing at the IAIFI Wine Tasting Event on April 27th. Remember that we reserve the right to hold the \$10,000 drawing until a minimum of 150 tickets is sold. Call IACC Office at 456.4222 for details.

## **FAMILY EASTER MINI PARTY**

**Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>  
1-3 PM \$5.00 per child**

The Women's League will be sponsoring this family event upstairs in the IACC Boardroom. We will be decorating Easter Egg Cakes and have an Easter Egg Hunt. Please make your reservation by calling the Membership Office at 456-IACC by Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.



## **Stewart's Donation to IAIFI Children's Summer Camp**

Each year, from Thanksgiving through Christmas, as part of a Holiday Match Program, area Stewart's Shops collect donations and match the funds. IAIFI's Children's Summer Camp recently received a \$450

donation from this Holiday Match Program. The camp will use these funds to pay for special programs and cooking supplies. The children will make some wonderful Italian treats including pasta and desserts.

Please support Stewart's Shops in order to express appreciation for their support of our Children's Summer Camp.



## **Comedy Night at IACC**

*By Lynn Indelicato*



*John DiCrosta*



*Mike Speirs*

There are many well-known quotes extolling the virtues of laughter. Victor Hugo, famed French novelist, poet and playwright is quoted as saying "Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face". Laughter has been attributed to the health and well being of both our souls and physical and mental health.

On Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the IACC hosted our first Comedy Night. From all accounts, the evening was a huge success! Following a light dinner buffet, attendees were entertained by two comics from the Comedy Works, Mike Speirs and John DiCrosta. Right from the start, they both held the audience in the palms of their hands. They had an uncanny ability to transform commonplace events from our everyday lives, such as the interaction between child and parent during school break or the process of ordering a cup of coffee, into entertaining visual humor with a live stage dynamic that kept everyone laughing and laughing! On stage, it was obvious that John DiCrosta was entertaining himself, as well as the audience, as evidenced by the number of times he cracked himself up! Looking around the room, throughout the evening, it was evident by the unadulterated laughter, often times hearty belly laughs with tears streaming down our cheeks, that a good time was had by all!

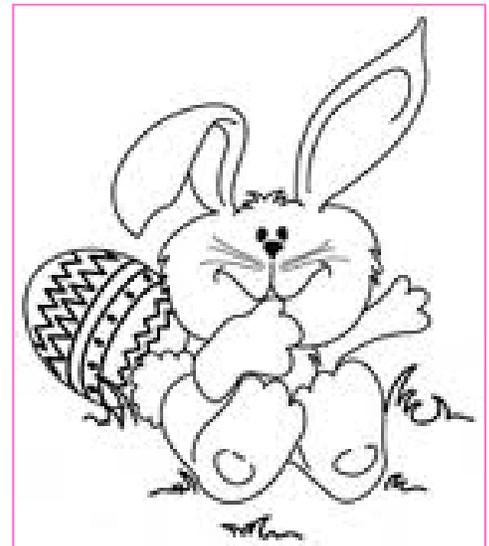
Many thanks to Dom Indelicato for bringing the evening together and to all those who helped in making it a success: Christine & Joe DiLonna, Frank Zeoli, Rosanna Aiuppa, and Angelo Tarantino. It was certainly a memorable evening - so much so that we are hoping to host another Comedy Night in the future. Keep checking *Siamo Qui* for information about our next Comedy Night!

# NY Yankee Baseball Bus Trip

The IACC is considering sponsoring a bus trip to a Yankee baseball game on a weekday (date yet to be determined). We are interested in determining how many would like to attend, before we schedule a bus and buy tickets. Please call the IACC Office by April 10<sup>th</sup> with the number of tickets you would be interested in purchasing. Assume the cost would be approximately \$60 per person for regular tickets and \$199 for a luxury suite. There are 35 members who have already expressed an interest in participating in this event. This trip is open to non-members as well. Details (date, final pricing, seat location, etc.) will be forthcoming.



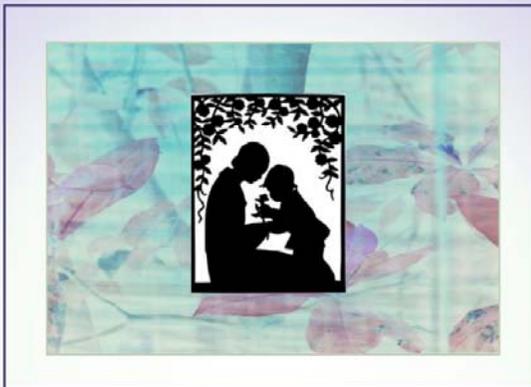
## Kids' Place! COLORING CORNER



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## LADIES IN LAVENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2012 12:30-4:30PM



22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON

### MOTHER DAUGHTER LUNCHEON

Start the afternoon off with a Mimosa Toast, Spring Salad, Villa Italia Rolls, followed by Entrée Selections ~ Chicken Francaise, Stuffed Sole with Seafood Stuffing or Grilled Vegetable Risotto. And for the Little Ladies, a Shirley Temple Toast, followed by Kraft Mac & Cheese, Chicken Tenders & French Fries. Enjoy complimentary soda, juice, coffee & tea all afternoon while you take in the Fashion Show and treat yourself to a Villa Italia layer cake for dessert. Raffle Prizes and Giveaways!

**\$25 for Ladies & \$10 for Little Ladies\* (12 and under)**

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## Friday MAY 4<sup>th</sup>

Reserved Seating Only | Only 63 seats available

In the IAHF Pavilion

**Cost \$120**

\$20 reserves your seat. Balance \$100 due by April 15

Minimum of 50 players - prizes reduced if minimum players not reached.

**Payouts:**

1st - \$2000

2nd - \$1000

3rd - \$750

4th, 5th, & 6th - \$150

**Minimum Bet:**

7PM - \$1-\$2

8PM - \$2-\$5

9PM - \$10-\$25

No Checking

10PM \$25-\$50

11PM-\$100-no limit

**Games:**

5 Card Stud | 5 Card Draw | 7 Card Stud | Texas Hold 'Em

Proceeds benefit the Italian American Heritage Foundation, Inc.

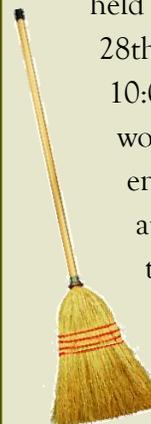


Contact John Ritz with any questions or to reserve your seat. 434-0209 Weekdays or 477-7477 Nights and Weekends

### Pavilion Clean Up Day

*By Maria De Nitto*

Pavilion Clean Up Day will be held on Saturday, April 28th. We will begin at 10:00 AM. Please bring work gloves and lots of energy. We appreciate your help to make the Pavilion ready for all our wonderful spring and summertime events.



### Friday fun Night

*By Maria Marchio*

We hope to begin Friday Fun Nights in the Pavilion this summer. Please watch Siamo Qui for details.



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*(Continued from cover page)*

They combined the American sound with the phrasing, emotion, and charm of their Italianism. They paved the way for Americans to broaden their musical taste for the likes of Bocelli, Pavarotti, Madugno, Albano, Laura Pausini, Gigi D'alessio, and Davide Righechi. You do not have to understand the words. The music speaks the universal language that all understand. These artists grew up in their immigrant families' homes and went on to combine the American sounds of their generation with their God-given talent and some great genetic melding that began so long ago in that sunny, musical, magical place, Italia.

# Women's League

Hi Ladies,

Many, many thanks to Caroline Mancino for a truly fabulous meeting last month. I have heard from many women that they had a wonderful time! The representatives from the Paul Mitchell School in Schenectady came with hair style tips, a gift basket for one lucky winner, and haircut coupons for everyone. They also did a hair and make-up demonstration with our League Secretary, Lynn Indelicato. It sounds like it was so much fun. Kudos to you, Caroline!!

We have our Mother Daughter Luncheon and Fashion Show coming up on April 22nd. This is one of our favorite events. It is always a fun, exciting afternoon for all. The details are in Siamo Qui. If you haven't yet made plans to attend, please do so. You will be so happy you did.

This month I hope many of you come and enjoy a "Girls' Night Out" with a great meal and a couple of friendly games of

Bingo. Our meeting is on Wednesday, April 11th at 6:30 PM. Our dinner choices are Sliced NY Strip Steak with a mushroom-wine demi glace or Grilled Atlantic Salmon. They are both served with potatoes and vegetables. Our Vegetarian Option will be Grilled Vegetable Risotto. We'll have a mixed green salad with Gorgonzola and house dressing. The meal will be completed with assorted cookies and pastries. By Monday, April 9th, please contact Jeanne Sacca at 869-8440.

Hope to see many of you there,

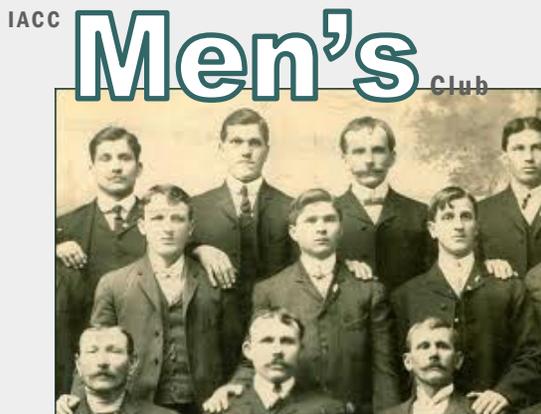
Donna Zumbo  
Women's League President



## Women's Bocce League

By Sharon Patrei

Ladies, please join us for the 2012 Women's Bocce League. Our first game will be May 15 at 6 PM at the bocce courts. After our first night of bocce, our games will start at 6:30 PM. We would especially like to welcome new members and "old" members who have not yet joined in the fun. It is a simple game that needs no prior experience to play. We have a good social time together and every year we meet new people. There is no fee to be a team member. Please call me, Sharon Patrei, at 765-3283 to join. I truly look forward to seeing new members and...not old members. but old friends, as we play through the 2012 season.



Men's Club will meet on **Monday, April 9th at 5:00 PM** for dinner at the Monday Night Buffet, followed by our business meeting at 6:30 PM in the Membership Room. We will discuss the May 4th Poker Tournament and the upcoming Men's Bocce League. To make reservations for dinner before the meeting or to register for the Poker Tournament, please call

John Ritz at 434.0209 M - F 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM or evenings & weekends at 477.7477.

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 14.

John Ritz, President

## Men's Bocce League



By Jim Sano

Many members enjoyed the Monday buffet prior to the March 12th combined Men's Club and Men's Bocce League meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 9th at 6:30 PM and we are planning on having dinner at 5:00 PM. If you are interested in joining fellow bocce players at the buffet, please make reservations with John Ritz at 434-0209 by April 6th. It is important for all bocce players to attend the meeting, because we will be discussing and making decisions about the following topics: whether to play on Monday or Wednesday nights, the method of determining teams, a monthly social event, an end-of-year banquet, participation in area bocce tournaments, as well as whether to invite other bocce leagues to play bocce and socialize.

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## CARING & SHARING

By Anna Acconi

### April Birthdays:

Christine Bruno  
Anthony Carioto  
Ennio Corsi  
Nicholas Criscione  
Angelo Culmo  
Joseph Farinacci  
Clara Ferrarese  
Louise Giuliano  
Amy Infante  
Rev. Dominic Ingemie  
John Lins  
Isabel Mancini  
Michael Melkonian  
Robert Michel



David Parente  
Paul Petersen  
Virginia Pioggia  
David Quadrini  
Cindy Riggi  
Mary Ritz  
Theresa Russo  
Margaret Sano  
Lawrence Scarano  
Teresa Swanson  
Gloria Yacono

### Recuperating

All of our good wishes go to **Mario** and **Clara Ferrarese** who have been dealing with health issues.

### Condolences

Last month we reported the death of **Joan Cappellano**. Sadly, this month we must report the passing of her husband of 54 years, **Charles Cappellano**. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Cappellano family.

Condolences to **Joe and Charlotte Lombardo** on the death of Joe's sister, Carmella Lang.

### Bragging Rights

**Maran Stephanie Franke**, daughter of **Stephen and Fran Franke** and granddaughter of **Marie Franke**, was married to **Edward Thomas Person** on November 12.

Please contact Anna Acconi at 966.8664 or aacconi111@aol.com

## New Members

### Eric & Deb Baum

Albany  
Sponsor: Angelo Tarantino

### Mark Kos & Angela Cortese

Albany  
Sponsor: Jeanne Bucci

### William Horan & Nancy Scott-Horan

Albany  
Sponsor: Maria Marchio

### Salvatore & Karla Ravida

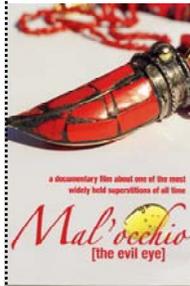
Albany  
Sponsor: Mike Macri

### Rocco & Dina Rotundo

Schenectady  
Sponsor: Peter Farina

### Michael & Teresa Swanson

Albany  
Sponsor: Angelo Tarantino



## Mal'occhio Film

You are invited to share in a screening of a documentary film entitled: **Mal'occhio (The Evil Eye)**. This film looks at the evil eye belief within the Italian community. The documentary was filmed in Montreal, Vancouver, Italy, and New York. It is 52 minutes in length. The filmmaker will be present at the screening and will be available for discussion immediately following the film. This event is FREE and open to members and non-members. DVD copies of the film will be available for purchase after the screening for anyone who is interested.

April 30, 2012 | 7:00 PM | IACC Boardroom

## Membership Committee

The committee has been very busy recruiting new members with great success! We have scheduled 2 new member socials to introduce new members to some of our committee chairs and to let them know about some of our upcoming activities. If you know of any potential members, please give them my name and number, so they may contact me with any questions:

Angelo Tarantino, Membership Chair - 424-2668

## St Joseph / St Patrick's Mass and Brunch

By Maria Marchio & Santa Pasquini

Our St Joseph / St Patrick's Mass and Brunch was great. About 84 people attended. Father Chiamonte's sermon was very moving and had the attention of everyone in the room. Thank you to Father Chiamonte for his service and everyone who attended. The Brunch by Mallozzi Group following Mass was delicious. Pam and the entire wait staff did a superb job. We hope to see even more people in attendance next year.



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## Italian Easter Pie

Recipe courtesy Emeril Lagasse, 2004  
Submitted by Maria La Morte



### Directions:

Make the pie crust by sifting the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt into a large

bowl. Add the butter and

shortening and, using your hands or a pastry blender, work the fat into the flour mixture until it resembles coarse crumbs. In a small bowl whisk together the eggs and vanilla and add to the crumb mixture. Work the mixture with your hands, adding only as much milk as is needed to form a dough. Work only until the dough just comes together; do not overwork. Divide the dough into two portions, one slightly larger than the other, and wrap both portions in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Remove the larger portion of dough from the refrigerator and, on a lightly floured surface using a lightly floured rolling pin, roll the dough out to a thickness of 1/8-inch. Fit the dough into the bottom of a 9 1/2-inch deep dish pie pan. Trim the edges so that an inch hangs over the sides and refrigerate. Roll out the second portion of dough to a thickness of 1/8-inch and transfer to a baking sheet and refrigerate, wrapped in plastic, while preparing the filling.

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F.

In the bowl of an electric mixer, beat the ricotta cheese with the sugar until combined. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the orange zest, cinnamon, chocolate, and pine nuts and stir to combine.

Pour the filling into the pastry-lined pie pan. Using your fingers, lightly moisten the edges of the pastry with a bit of cool water. Place the second portion of pastry over the top of the pie and cut the edges to match those of the bottom crust. Press edges together then fold inward to make a raised edge. Crimp the edges decoratively using either your fingers, a fork, or a crimping tool. Make several small slits in the top of the pastry to allow steam to escape while baking.

Bake the pie for 1 hour, or until the pastry is light golden brown and the filling is just set. If the edges of the pie begin to get too brown, shield them with a piece of aluminum foil wrapped around the pie.

When the pie is set, remove it from the oven and allow to cool on a wire rack. Serve the pie either slightly warm, at room temperature, or chilled.

### For the crust:

- 3 cups flour
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 stick cold, unsalted butter, cut into cubes
- 1/4 cup vegetable shortening
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 to 3 Tablespoons cold milk

### For the filling:

- 1 1/2 pounds ricotta cheese, drained well
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 5 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon finely grated orange zest
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup finely chopped semisweet chocolate
- 1/4 cup lightly toasted pine nuts or almonds

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Intermediate Level

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for textbook and other necessary materials





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