



September 2019

Volume 37 No. 9

# *The News*

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE



**AUGUST 30-31**  
**SEPTEMBER 1**

**EVERYONE SHOULD BE ITALIAN**  
**AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR**



## **The Mission Statement of the American Italian Heritage Society**

The fundamental purpose of the American Italian Heritage Society is to encourage, promote and preserve Italian culture and heritage with its activities centered upon Italian traditions, foods, language, culture, history, religion, folklore, customs, celebrations, music and family genealogy. Your president and board of directors are dedicated to this mission but we need your moral and financial support to be successful.

The News is a monthly publication of the American Italian Heritage Society, an independent, nonprofit organization, legally incorporated in Nebraska. The deadline for submissions is the second Wednesday of the month. Correspondence and articles can be sent to [secretary@omahaitaly.com](mailto:secretary@omahaitaly.com)



# BUONA FESTA



## DATES & TIMES

Friday Aug. 30 6pm - 11pm

Saturday Aug. 31 5pm - 11pm

Sunday Sept. 1 Noon - 11pm

## TICKET SALES

\$5.50 Advanced\* and \$7.00 at Gate

Children under 12 Free with an adult

\*Advanced tickets can be purchased at Hy-Vee, Rockbrook Camera or il Palazzo. Please sell as many as you can. Send in all Advanced Ticket sales by Sept. 13.

## PARKING & SHUTTLE

\$10 paid parking on site - limited spaces

Free parking and shuttle from Kelley Park - 126th & Fort St.

## FOOD & DRINK

30 delicious, authentic Italian food items all prepared by AIHS volunteers at inside and outside food lines and booths. Imported Italian wine and beer available.



## ENTERTAINMENT

Santa Lucia Band - Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Singer and guitarist Kim (Cortese) Eames  
Friday at 6:45 p.m.

Singer and guitarist Billy Troy  
Saturday at 6:45 p.m.

Las Vegas performer Sebastian Anzaldo Jr.  
"Sebastian sings Sinatra"  
Sunday at 6:30 p.m.

Singing act Mark Morello and Bernadette Smith on Saturday 7:30 p.m. inside and Sunday 3:15 p.m. outside.

La Banda singing inside Friday and Sunday 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Daddy Mac & The Flak - main entertainment inside on Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Short breaks during food demos.

Dance under the Stars starting at 8 p.m.

The 70's Band - Friday

The Brit's - Saturday

Taxi Driver - Sunday







## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**FIREWORKS DISPLAY**

Celebrate the Festa with a bang on Friday and Sunday night with Bellino Fireworks. Saturday will be a bad weather backup date.

**PICTORIAL HISTORY**

Photos of the past and society events.

**FOOD DEMOS**

Learn how to cook authentic foods by the experts - Nonnos, Nonnas and professional chefs. Please see program

**CHILDREN ACTIVITIES**

There will be plenty of fun for kids: face painting, Italian cutouts for fun photos, balloon sculptors, a magician, painting easels, and bounce houses for both children and toddlers.

**BOCCE BALL**

Friday Celebrity bocce- Sports personalities, local politicians and/or city reps. Competition begins at 7 p.m.

Saturday: Open competition. Bring a team of 2 to 4 players and go against another team for Festa bragging rights as best of Saturday night. Games start at 5 p.m. until dark.

Sunday: Three team challenge; Sons of Italy, Santa Lucia, and AIHS will compete in round robin tournament starting at 5 p.m.

**ITALIAN MASS**

A traditional Catholic Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, September 1 at 10:15 a.m. This Mass is partly said and sung in Italian. Father Scott Hastings will be celebrating the Mass.

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO VOLUNTEER!**  
**CALL TERRY AT 402-333-6815**



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[www.omahaitaly.com](http://www.omahaitaly.com)



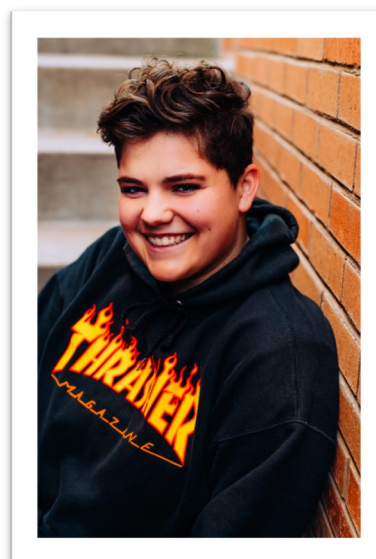
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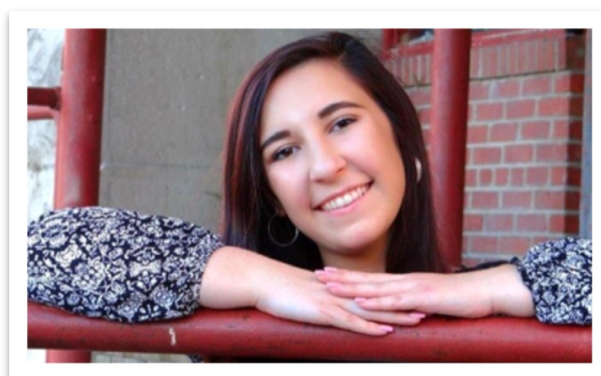
## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

Emily Schneckenberger, daughter of Jamie and Naina Scheckenberger, said she is so honored to have received the AIHS scholarship. Emily recently graduated from Marian Highschool. At Marian she was involved in clubs such as art club and rock band club which she helped moderate. Emily also volunteered at the Open Door Mission. She is currently enrolled at Metropolitan Community College and will be pursuing her general education.



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Jessica Mueller, the daughter of members Rick and Emma Mueller, will be a sophomore at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is studying Journalism and Communications. Last year, Jessica made the Chancellor's List with a perfect 4.0.

Jessica had an opportunity this summer to work on a commercial shoot for UNMC, which is in line with what she is studying and wanting to pursue. She is hoping to study abroad in Italy soon to learn and soak in her Italian heritage. She has enjoyed her many years of volunteering at AIHS and is looking forward to working at the Festa once again this year!







## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**ORSI'S CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF BUSINESS**

Founded in 1919 by World War I veteran Alfonso Orsi, Orsi's Bakery & Pizzeria is one of the last remaining icons of Omaha's Little Italy. For decades, their Italian twist bread and hearty Sicilian style pizza has been a staple of Omaha.



In 1949, Alfonso retired and his son Claudio Orsi took over the bakery and ran it until 1987, when his son Robert "Bob" Orsi took ownership. In 1997, a devastating fire gutted the bakery. The community helped the family clean up the rubble and raise funds to rebuild. Several months later, the bakery was rebuilt in the same location. In 2006, Bob's son, Bob Orsi Jr., and Jim Hall, along with their wives, bought the bakery from Bob and continued the business of providing fresh Italian bread and pizza pies. In 2010, Bob Orsi Jr. sold his share of the bakery and Jim Hall and his wife, Kathy, became the sole owners. Congratulations to Jim & Kathy for continuing the Italian tradition of serving delicious Italian cuisine!



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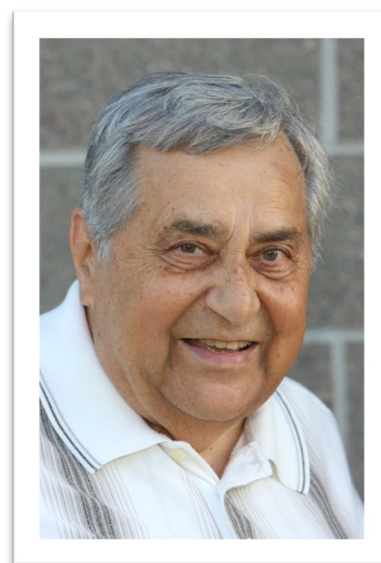
**PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS**

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including George Scalise, Teri Carlino, Helen Rotella, Gary Ford, Jim Capellupo, Ted Bolamperti, Romana Olivotto, Kim Neppl, Dick Wieler, Fred Pisasale, Marie Shafer, Erin Venditte, daughter-in-law of Pat Sr. and Jan Venditte, and David Harris, son of charter member Madeline Harris. Our condolences for the family and friends of Chris Lypaczewski, Bill McDonald and Subby Anzaldo who recently past away. Please contact Diana at the office to add to this prayer list. 402.493.8888.

**SUBBY ANZALDO MEMORIAL**

Sebastian A. Anzaldo, Sr. a long time member of the Society, passed away at home this month and will be deeply missed . Subby and his dear wife Janice have celebrated over 63 years of marriage. They have supported or attended almost every event that the American Italian Heritage Society has promoted throughout the years.

A former Mayor of Omaha, former Omaha City Councilman and past Zoning Board member, Subby Anzaldo was always involved in serving the community. He represented South Omaha as a Councilman and was instrumental in improving Columbus Park and building the Columbus Park Community Center in the Italian neighborhood where St Ann's parish was located. Recently it was renamed by Mayor Jean Stothert as the "Subby Anzaldo Columbus Park Community Center". We as Italians are very proud of this honor that he received.



Being a musician his entire life, Subby played in the Eddie Haddad band across Omaha and in this past year was inducted into the Nebraska Music Hall of Fame. He was an entertainment promoter throughout the Omaha area and for the Society, Subby booked all the Festa entertainment pro bono for the last thirty five years. Mille Grazie. Each year at the Festa, he welcomed all the entertainers, sat in the front row making sure they were on time and paid promptly after their performances. He was well respected by all in his field. We were fortunate to always have great entertainment at the Festa. We are excited that his son Sebastian Anzaldo Jr., a Las Vegas entertainer, will once again perform this year at La Festa Italiana on Sunday evening with his performance " Sebastian Sings Sinatra".

Subby's family and many friends gathered this past Saturday for his requiem at St. Peter's Catholic Church. His funeral was celebrated with a beautiful liturgy with singing from St. Peter's Cantorum and the Rizzuto sisters, a most meaningful homily by the Reverend Carl Salanitro along with a performance by the Santa Lucia Band before and after the service. It was a very honorable funeral and a respectable farewell for our dear friend Subby Anzaldo.

Subby gave a lot of himself to his community, to the Italians of Omaha and to his family. Our Society appreciates his years of support and service. He was a good man and a good friend. What he has done for us and the Italian community will now be a memory that we all will cherish and miss.

Submitted by Dr. Terry Bolamperti, President AIHS



## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

The membership meeting was held on August 12, 2019 and called to order by President Dr. Terry Bolamperti with 33 members in attendance. It was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with veterans Jimmy Mazzei and Tom Clark as flag bearers. There was a moment of prayer for ill members of the Society including members Kim Neppl, Ted Bolamperti, Marie Shafer, and Erin Venditte, along with Subby Anzaldo who has recently passed away. New members welcomed at the meeting were Rosie Comine, the mother of Board Member Missy Orlando and Brad and Susan Nocita who recently joined the Society and are planning a trip to Italy soon. The July meeting minutes were read and approved. The Treasury Report was given and approved by members. All members were reminded to send in their yearly dues if they have not already done so.

For Old Business, it was reported that 95% of all Festa food prep has been completed. Just last week the pastry crew headed by Rose Leo-Koch and Mary Kay Falco-Ford completed the huge task of making over 4700 cannoli and over 6,000 biscotti. The salad dressing and homemade ravioli are the only items left to be made. Once again, these Captains and their crews were thanked for all of their hard work and service given to the Society in helping to make the Festa a success.

New Business was discussed including the changes in the ballroom made by The Omaha Event Group who are now overseeing the rental of the Palazzo for weddings, parties, corporate events and other rentals. They have removed the carpeting and have polished and buffed the floor and have installed beautiful chandeliers throughout the ballrooms. All members were very impressed with the recent changes that added to the elegance of the ballrooms. It was mentioned that if members want to rent the Palazzo, the Society will receive a higher percentage of the rental fee. If any members wish to rent the Palazzo please be sure to call our secretary Diana to initiate the rental process.

The Festa was discussed in detail and Dr Terry noted that we still need one captain and volunteers for the inside Food Line. He asked that if anyone has any relatives or friends that wish to volunteer, please contact Diana or Dr. Terry and we will put them on the volunteer list. Dr. Terry also asked for Festa volunteers to help unload the supply truck on Saturday, August 24 from 8:30 am till 1 pm. Help is also needed to help set up the booths for the Festa starting Monday afternoon, August 26th. Volunteers were also urged to come and help with clean up and tear down on Monday, Labor Day.

The rest of the Festa was discussed including entertainment, the Sunday morning mass, the bocce ball tournaments, food demos, fireworks and parking. All members were encouraged to sell all their tickets and come and have a good time at the Festa and help make it a success.

The meeting was adjourned and the piece of the pie winners drawn were John Portera and Terry Clark. Fresh pizzas were served and camaraderie was enjoyed by all. All were invited to attend the next meeting which will be held on September 9, 2019. Submitted by Dr. Terry Bolamperti

**AIHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Chairman of the Board:** Lisa Bolamperti-Garrett  
**President:** Dr. Terry Bolamperti  
**Vice President:** Wayne Moore  
**Secretary:** Missy Orlando  
**Treasurer:** Open Seat

**Board Members:**  
Dawn Abboud  
Pat Peterson

**The American Italian Heritage Society**  
5110 North 132 Street • Omaha, Nebraska • 68164  
402.493.8888 Fax: 402.493.1502





THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

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