



The News

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE

SAUSAGE SALE

Saturday, Dec. 7
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sausage: \$28 / 5 pounds
Peppers: \$14 / quart
Olives: \$12 / quart



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or email secretary@omahaitaly.com.

Please include: name, phone number,
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peppers and olives. Emails will be replied
to, phone messages will not.

We need your help cutting meat!

Thursday, Dec. 5 & Friday, Dec. 6
from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Call 402.493.8888 if you can help.

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.



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

UPCOMING EVENTS**Spaghetti Dinner**

Sunday, November 3 - 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$9 - Children \$4.50

Takeout available - please bring own containers

Members please bring desserts for Bake Sale.

****Society Specialty Foods for Sale at Spaghetti Dinner****

We are making the following items fresh for you to purchase: spaghetti sauce, meatballs, sausage, salad dressing and pastries. Festa t-shirts will also be for sale.

November Member Meeting

Monday, Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

December Cookie Exchange

December 9 at Member Meeting

Important Reminder: Please send in Festa ticket money and Membership Dues which were due in June.

OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

The General Membership Meeting was called to order by President Terry Bolamperti and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with veterans Lou Buda and Tom Clark as flag-bearers. There were 30 members in attendance. Newly attending members welcomed were Nikki Capellupo-Sandemeyer and John Mangiamelli. Both have been longtime volunteers at Society events. Nikki's parents are members Jim and Gaye Capellupo and her grandparents were Charter Members Pete and Yolanda Capellupo. John's father was Sam Mangiamelli, who was a strolling mandolin player entertaining at all of the earliest Festas at the Omaha Civic Auditorium and Peony Park over 35 years ago. Both gave brief histories of their Italian heritage, including immigration of John's family from Carlentini in Sicily and Nikki's family from Rubio in Veneto.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Terry Bolamperti and approved by the membership. Old business discussed was the Festa. A detailed Festa report was given discussing booth revenues and all aspects of the event. Terry Bolamperti once again thanked all the volunteers that helped in any way. New business was discussed including a short presentation by Terry Bolamperti honoring Christopher Columbus on the holiday commemorating his Discovery of America. Revision of our "A Taste of Italy" cookbook was discussed. A committee headed by Toni Bac, Anne Marie Falco-Marr and George Grillo will take on this task. There will be more information on this after the first of the year. We also have our original cookbook "A Taste of Italy" available for sale.

The fall Spaghetti and Meatball & Sausage Dinner will be held on November 3rd and all are asked to sell tickets, attend and volunteer if possible to make it a success. Many signed up to help at the meeting. Also it was announced that AIHS specialty food items will be sold at the Spaghetti Dinner, including sauce, meatballs, sausage, and salad dressing. We will also be selling Italian pastries along with Festa T-shirts and sweatshirts. Please support the Spaghetti Dinner.

AIHS Board elections will be held at next month's November Membership Meeting. Board members serve a three year term and are the governing body of the Society. Lisa Garrett nominated Nikki Sandmeier, Jeff Ladwig and John Mangiameli to run for the Board. Nominations were seconded by Missy Orlando and all accepted the nominations.

The meeting was adjourned and the Piece of the Pie winners were Denise Adams and Rose Leo-Koch. After the meeting members enjoyed camaraderie along with freshly baked Festa pizza prepared and served by Terry Clark, Tom Clark and John Portera. Members were welcomed to the next Membership Meeting which will be held on Monday, November 11, 2019.

Submitted by AIHS President, Terry Bolamperti



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BOARD ELECTIONS

According to the Bylaws, Board Elections will be held at the **November 11 Membership Meeting**. Nominees are approved by the vote of the general membership. Members who are up-to-date on their membership dues will be given a ballot to approve/disapprove individual nominees. After voting, ballots will be counted and results will immediately be announced and reported to those in attendance. If any member is unable to attend, an absentee ballot must be returned to the AIHS office by the Friday, November 8 in a sealed envelope marked BALLOT on the front with **both printed name(s) and signature(s) on the back for validation**. Absentee ballots will be validated by the Secretary and/or the Nominating Committee.

Terry Bolamperti is a Charter Member of the AIHS and has been involved with the Society every year since it was founded in 1981. He has been a Festa Committee member for every Festa and has been the Chairman of the Festa for the last 11 years. He has chaired many of the Society's spaghetti dinners and sausage fundraisers and was also the Chairman of the 25th and 30th AIHS Anniversaries Celebrations. Terry has served on the AIHS Board of Directors for the last 12 years and is currently President of the Society. Terry Bolamperti is practicing dentist in Omaha and is a graduate of Creighton University Dental School. He's been married to Michaela (Scalise) for 45 years. Michaela has also been involved in many events of the Society throughout the years. They have two daughters, Talia who is married to Bob O'Malley and Chaella who is married to Tyler Youde. Terry and Michaela have four grandchildren: Dominic, Vincent, Anthony and Rocco.

My name is **Jeff Ladwig**. I've been married to Deb Ladwig for 38+ years. We have two adult children - Brandon and Abbie. I worked in the heating and air conditioning trade for 38 years. I was blessed to retire in December 2018 to spend more time with my grandson, Anthony. I enjoy being part of his Cub Scouts. I've served on my Church's Financial Board for the past 16 years, co-leading our building committee. I've volunteered at the Pastry Booth at La Festa for many years alongside my mother Cookie Ladwig.

John Mangiameli, son of Sam and Pat Mangiameli, has been a long-time member of the American Italian Heritage Society and is looking forward to be on the Board of Directors. John is the founder and owner of Creative Hair Design Salon & Spa which has been in business for 39 years and employees 95 people. He is married to Debbie and they have three kids — Talia, a Mechanical Engineer and a Yoga instructor, Carissa, Manager at Creative Hair Design, and Sam, owner of Top Cut Lawn and Landscape. John's father played the Mandolin at Santa Lucia and La Festa for years. John for many years has been a volunteer on the inside food line and was part of the tear down crew.

We, **Nikki (Capellupo) Sandmeier** and Josh have been members of the society for almost 10 years. We have a son, Landon who just turned 9. For the last 15+ years, I have been a co-captain for the Outside Food line for the annual La Festa. I also regularly volunteer for events throughout the year at the Palazzo. I am the daughter of Jim and Gaye Capellupo, who have also been members for several years and volunteered their time to the annual La Festa. My grandparents, Yolanda and Pete Capellupo were charter members of the society.

**ABSENTEE BALLOT
FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS****Circle One**

Terry Bolamperti	For	Against
Jeff Ladwig	For	Against
John Mangiameli	For	Against
Nikki Sandmeier	For	Against

**ABSENTEE BALLOT
FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS****Circle One**

Terry Bolamperti	For	Against
Jeff Ladwig	For	Against
John Mangiameli	For	Against
Nikki Sandmeier	For	Against



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

REPORT ON THE 35TH LA FESTA ITALIANA

**Huge Crowds - Perfect Weather - Great Entertainment and Fireworks
Authentic Italian Food - Italian Imported Wines and Beers
Delicious Desserts - Reminiscent Photos - Warm Camaraderie**

These words describe the Festa Italiana this year. The Festa Committee organized and planned a well-run Festa at the Palazzo. Operations ran smoothly and efficiently by Festa Chairman Terry Bolamperti. It was a great Festa with enthusiastic volunteers and huge, fun-loving crowds.

Thanks goes out to all the crew that was responsible for unloading the Festa truck, repairing booths that needed it and setting up all the outside booths, bars and tents and equipment needed for both inside and outside. Special thanks and appreciation to Jim Mazzei, Tom Clark and Wayne Moore and their crews for all they did before, during and after the Festa. They were busy all weekend fixing, solving and repairing problems that came up.

Kim Neppi took care of the advertising needed for the Festa resulting in big crowds at the gate. Lisa Garrett and Missy Orlando and their crew ran the entrance gate of the Festa and were kept busy all weekend welcoming guests as the shuttle buses continually dropped them off at the gate. Lisa and Missy also checked in the many volunteers who worked the Festa all weekend.

A multitude of authentic Italian foods were prepared by members and many compliments were given. As the Festa opened, huge lines formed at the Food Lines. Gaye Capellupo, Gary and Mary Kay Falco-Ford chaired the Outside Food Line. Captain Toni Bac and first time Captain Pat Peterson handled the Inside Food Line very proficiently. The pasta, meatballs and sauce were delicious. The freshly baked pizzas and our famous AIHS sausage and peppers were a hit as well as Chicken Sicilian, Chicken Parmesan, garlic cheese bread, tomato bread, and Italian salads.

Bob Rodino once again efficiently ran the kitchen, the heartbeat of the Festa, with all of his hard working kitchen crew. The Deli served a variety of items including hand-made fried ravioli and stuffed peppers. Deli Captains George Grillo and Jimmy Caniglia and their crew also served olivi scuciadi or cracked Sicilian olives, chichede, semenza and cumpettes. These foods bring back lots of memories.

All the outside booths were decorated festively with Italian colors, lights and flags. Outside food lines were crowded and runners kept busy keeping the lines supplied. The Pizza Booth manned by the Larry Belfiore and Sal Belfiore families was active making freshly prepared pizzas and selling them as fast as they could bake them. The Sausage and Peppers and Meatball Sandwich booth was run by Captain Bob Peklo and family. We had many compliments as usual for our AIHS sausage and pepper sandwiches.

The Seafood Booth, run by Dawn Bolamperti, Daniel Ripa and Sal and Joann Risicato, offered freshly prepared sautéed scampi and fried calamari. We thank Ted Bolamperti, Sr. for ordering all the supplies for the Festa. Naina Bolamperti-Schneckenberger kept all the paper goods and plastic ware supplied to all booths throughout the Festa. This helped Captains run their booths more efficiently.

The bars were run by bar manager Wayne Moore and Captains Kris-Wortman Pickett, John Portera and Bob Eichelberg. These bars served a lot of local and Italian beers and imported wines and liquors.

A variety of Italian desserts were offered at the Festa. The Pasticceria, headed by Rose Leo-Koch and her crew served thousands of homemade Italian pastries including cannoli, biscotti and pizzelles. The Steve LaGreca family served several flavors of soft serve Sorbetto in addition to Spumoni. Micky Scalise-Bolamperti and family and the Maria Scalise-Fillippeli family ran the ever popular Fried Dough Booth serving fresh hot fried dough as fast as they could make it to a line that never seemed to end.



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The Festa is a family-oriented event with many, many children attending. The children's activities area was chaired by Lisa Marescalco-Keres and included a fun bounce house, face painting, fun tattoos, painting and coloring. The children were kept very busy and had a fun time. Thanks also to Dan DiGiacinto for his non-stop balloon sculpting throughout the weekend. Mary Thompson and her crew entertained the crowd selling pickles and gift items.

Many guests young and old attending the Festa enjoyed the Bocce Ball Court managed by Tom Morinelli. There was a celebrity Bocce Ball competition on Friday night. On Sunday there was a tournament with competition between Sons of Italy, the Santa Lucia and the AIHS. Our Society won the tournament and has bragging rights for another year!

Lucille Gibilisco and Diane Russo once again displayed a meaningful Pictorial History. World War II service men and family wedding photos are always a hit. Lucille also displayed many of the old grade school class photos and Society events. It was a great pictorial history and it brought back good memories for many.

First time Captain Denise Adams and her family chaired the T-Shirt and Italian Novelties Booth. It was very successful and they nearly sold out of many of their items. The Food Demonstrations were organized well and the presentations were well attended by many who learned and watched food demonstrations given by Rose Marie Longo-Chamberlain, George Grillo, Chef John Kennedy, Chef Ethel Merriman of Maresco's Deli and Chef Leo Fascianella of Pasta Amore Ristorante. Everyone was pleased with the demos and also enjoyed the samples.

The entertainment was lively and festive with local and professional performers throughout the Festa. Subby Anzaldo Jr. booked all the entertainment for the Festa and performed "Sebastian sings Sinatra" on Sunday night. His father, Subby Anzaldo Sr., passed away weeks before the Festa. The inside stage was named (with a banner) in his honor as a memorial for all that he did for the Festa throughout the years. Always a delight is the performance of the popular Santa Lucia Marching Band and La Banda led by Mike DiGiacomo. The Big Bands rocked the crowd each night to close the Festa. Bellino Fireworks wowed the crowd with an exciting show of fireworks on Friday and Sunday night. We received many comments that our fireworks show is the best in the city.

The Sunday morning Festa Mass was Celebrated by Father Scott Hasting. The AIHS choir, led by John Digilio sang mass responses and several Italian songs. It was a solemn and uplifting ceremony. The Palazzo ballroom was nearly full with over 175 in attendance. The mass was offered in memory of the deceased members of the AIHS.

Guests were welcomed by Mitzi Mangiameli and Ann Marie Falco-Marr and their crew at the Information Booth. They recruited 20 new members at the Festa. Emma Leo- Mueller and her crew kept busy all weekend working the money room late into the night. We are very grateful to Sergia Muellner and her family who ran the Volunteer Dining area. They served all volunteers throughout the weekend with a smile.

The AIHS would like to thank all those who took part in the Festa in any way. This includes all who helped in planning, food preparation, in moving equipment and supplies, in loading and unloading vehicles before the Festa, setting up the booths, setting up decorations, putting up signs and banners, setting up the kitchen equipment and for all the many volunteers at the Festa. Thanks to Bob Peklo and his crew for engineering the electrical needs. Thanks also goes out to the absolutely great crew who showed up on Monday for the Festa tear down when all of the enthusiasm and energy was nearly gone. This was one of the most helpful and one of the biggest Monday crews we've ever had which resulted in getting done more efficiently and much earlier this year. The extra help received on Monday was extremely appreciated.

In conclusion, the 34th Festa Italiana was a huge success, with great food, fun and entertainment. It was an expression of Italian heritage. It was a taste of Italy. A big Mille Grazie "a thousand thanks goes out to all who helped or took part in any way." Grazie e Ciao!! Submitted by Festa Chairman Terry Bolamperti



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PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

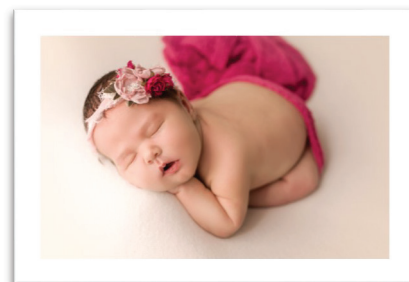
Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including George Scalise, Teri Carlino, Helen Rotella, Gary Ford, Jim Capellupo, Ted Bolamperti, Romana Olivotto, Kim Neppl, Dick Wieler, Fred Pisasale, Marie Shafer, Lou Marcuzzo, Erin Venditte, daughter-in-law of Pat Sr. and Jan Venditte, and David Harris, son of charter member Madeline Harris.

Please contact Diana at the office to add to this prayer list. 402.493.8888.

CONGRATULATIONS

Happy 66th Wedding Anniversary to Al and Marge Italia - November 28

Members Dana Morinelli and Brad Williams welcomed their daughter Mila Joan Williams on September 6, 2019.

**AIHS COOKBOOKS**

A committee was formed for the revision of our "A Taste of Italy" cookbook. It is headed by Toni Bac, Anne Marie Falco-Marr and George Grillo. There will be more information on this after the first of the year. We also have our original cookbook "A Taste of Italy" available for sale for \$23.50, tax included.



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HY-VEE JOINS TAGG!

We are thrilled to announce that Hy-Vee is now on TAGG! All local stores will happily donate 1% of your purchases to the American-Italian Heritage Society! Just scan a picture of your **whole receipt** on the free Together A Greater Good mobile app.

BOCCE BALL

Indoor bocce is scheduled to begin in January 2019. League play will be on Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. If you played on a team in past seasons, we are looking forward to seeing you again. New teams or individuals are always welcome.

The season will run approximately 12 weeks with some open dates due to scheduling accommodations. All matches will be played at AIHS il Palazzo.

Please let Tom Morinelli know if you or your team is planning to play this season. Call 402-312-5959 or email tmorinelli@hotmail.com.

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**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

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL OUR MEMBERS! WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOUR FRIENDSHIP, SUPPORT AND SERVICE!

The American Italian Heritage Society
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