



March 2020  
Volume 38 No. 3

# *The News*

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE



**SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS DINNER - MARCH 15**

**SAUSAGE & PEPPERS FUNDRAISER - APRIL 4**

## **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).



## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**UPCOMING EVENTS****March Membership Meeting**

Monday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m.

**Two AIHS Spaghetti & Meatball Dinners**

Sunday, March 15 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 26 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Sausage Fundraiser**

Saturday, April 4 pick-up from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Wine Tasting Experience**

Saturday, May 16 - Details to come

**SPAGHETTI DINNER DETAILS**

Please join us for our traditional Spaghetti Dinner on **Sunday, March 15th at Il Palazzo** from 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Dinner comes with a sizable portion of spaghetti, meatballs, salad with our homemade dressing and bread for just \$9.50 for adults and \$4.75 (12 years and under). You can't beat! Gluten-free will be available upon request. Beverages, pastries and cannoli available for purchase. No tickets will be mailed. Tickets will be available to purchase at the door.



We are asking members to donate baked items for our bake sale. Please note if your donation contains peanuts or tree nuts.

Plus, our AIHS Cookbook, "A Taste of Italy," will be on sale! 2 for \$40.00 or 1 for \$23.50. These make wonderful shower or wedding gifts!

Want to help with the fun? This is a quick and easy way to log in volunteer hours for school, church or other organizations. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer for the day, we can sure use extra help. Please contact Diana at 402-493-8888 ext 1 or email her at [secretary@omahaitaly.com](mailto:secretary@omahaitaly.com).

**ST. JOSEPH'S DAY TABLE**

We will have our traditional St. Joseph's Day table on display at the Spaghetti Dinner on March 15.

The Feast of St. Joseph is celebrated on March 19. He is the patron saint of Italy and the poor. Tables honor St. Joseph for the relief of the famine in Sicily.





## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**EASTER SAUSAGE FUNDRAISER DETAILS**

The spring sausage sale will be **Saturday, April 4**  
**pick-up from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Sausage: \$28 / 5 pounds**

**Peppers: \$14 / quart**

**Olives: \$12 / quart**

Place your order by calling 402.493.8888 or email [secretary@omahaitaly.com](mailto:secretary@omahaitaly.com). Please include: name, phone number, regular or hot sausage and number of peppers and olives. Emails will be replied to, phone messages will not.

**We need your help cutting meat!**

Thursday, April 2 & Friday, April 3 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 4 at 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Call Diana at 402.493.8888 if you can help. We must start on time Saturday to ensure orders are ready for pick up!

**ORDER EXTRA FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & EASTER BRUNCH!**

Like all of our fundraisers, proceeds help our Society flourish and enable us to continue celebrating our Italian heritage and AIHS traditions. Please ask your family, friends and co-workers who aren't members if they would like to try our homemade sausage! They won't be disappointed and store bought will never taste the same. Order for them or send them the details!

Don't forget to order extra sausage for your Easter brunch! Our sausage pairs well in any egg casserole and makes an excellent sausage bread.

**SPEAKING OF FAMILY & FRIENDS...  
GET A NEW MEMBER TO JOIN THE SOCIETY**

We will be having a Membership Drive this year. More details to come, but please be thinking about people who would be interested in joining the American-Italian Heritage Society. Remember, you don't have to be Italian! Anyone is welcome.



[facebook.com/AIHSOmaha](https://facebook.com/AIHSOmaha)



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



[secretary@omahaitaly.com](mailto:secretary@omahaitaly.com)





## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

The general membership meeting, held on February 10, 2020, was called to order by President Terry Bolamperti and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with Vietnam veterans John Portera and Joe Daniels as flag-bearers. There were over 30 members in attendance. Members were asked to take a moment of silence to remember all of our members that are ill. Special prayers were requested for our AIHS Secretary, Diana Cotten who has had some recent health issues.

We **welcomed** longtime member, Kristine Wortman-Pickett who was in town and joined us at the meeting. Kris shared her childhood memories of helping at the Festa in the Fried Dough Booth and helping her mother in many of the food preps at the old hall on 14th Street. Dr Terry shared memories of Kristine's parents, AIHS Charter Members Henry and Theresa (Cristani) Wortman and how they volunteered their help throughout the earliest years of the Society. Kristine and her husband Trevor currently chair one of the busy outdoor bars at the Festa. Kris said she and her family enjoy volunteering at AIHS events. The minutes of last month's meeting were read and approved. The Treasurers Report was given by President Terry Bolamperti, which was approved by members. He mentioned more rental revenue is needed.

**Old Business** was discussed including the Dan Polley-Lou Buda awards given to Rose Leo-Koch and Gino Crissafuli. Congratulations to these two hard working dedicated members. Dr Terry gave a report of the Epiphany Celebration which was well attended by members. Special thanks was given to Chair person Emma Leo-Mueller and her crew and all volunteers that helped at the Epiphany. Special thanks also to Gina Bolamperti-Ripa and Gary Marasco who played the roles of the Befana and Santa.

**New Business** discussed was the **Carnevale** which will be hosted and held at Pasta Amore Ristorante on Tuesday, February 25, 2020. It was announced that there will be two **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraisers** this spring: March 15th and April 26th. Dates for sauce prep, meatball mixing, meatball rolling and baking and hall set-up were given and volunteers were asked to help. No tickets will be mailed for this first Spaghetti Dinner but are available at the door. The St Joseph Day Celebration and procession will be cancelled this year but we are planning to have a traditional **St Joseph table** honoring the Saint at the Spaghetti Dinner in March and donations for the poor will be accepted and given to St Vincent de Paul Society. Our Easter **Sausage Fundraiser** is planned on Saturday April 4th. Volunteers will be needed on Thursday and Friday April 2nd and 3rd and on Saturday April 4th. **Cooking classes** were discussed and may be held late Spring. We are planning a **Wine Tasting Experience** once again chaired by Tom Morinelli and will be held Saturday May 16th. A revision of our original cookbook "**A Taste of Italy**" is in the works and being chaired by members Toni Bac, George Grillo and Ann Marie Falco-Marr. John Portera gave a brief presentation on the status of **LB 848** which is a Nebraska legislative bill to do away with Columbus Day and change it to Indigenous People Day. The American Italian Heritage Society is strongly against this bill and members are encouraged to contact their State Senators to voice their opinion. The Sons of Italy, Santa Lucia Committee and the Knights of Columbus are also opposed to this change.

Congratulations was given to **The Sons of Italy** on their reopening. The first of their weekly Thursday Spaghetti Dinners was a huge success. The meeting was adjourned and Piece of the Pie winners selected were Tom Clark and Terry Clark. After the meeting camaraderie was shared and a hot bowl of homemade bean soup was enjoyed by all. Next meeting: 3-9-20. Submitted by President Dr Terry Bolamperti



## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**BE THINKING ABOUT OMAHA GIVES!**

Once again, the American-Italian Heritage Society will be participating in the annual Omaha Gives campaign on **Wednesday, May 20.**

Omaha Gives! is a year-round online giving platform organized by the Omaha Community Foundation . Each year, there is a 24-hour online giving event to celebrate nonprofits.

- Go online to [OmahaGives.org/AIHS](http://OmahaGives.org/AIHS)
- **Make a donation of \$10 or more to AIHS on May 20**
- Spread the word! Tell your friends that you need their help.
- Share/Like the AIHS Posts about Omaha Gives! on Facebook.
- All donations are 100% tax deductible.



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## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS**

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including Teri Carlino, Jim Capellupo, Romana Olivotto, Dick Wieler, Marie Shafer, Lou Marcuzzo, Diana John Cotten, Dee Mascarello and Betty Grillo. Our condolences to the family and friends of Fred Pisasale who passed away. Fred and his wife, Jean, have been longtime members. Our condolences to Mary Post whose son passed away. Please contact Diana at the office to add to this prayer list. 402.493.8888.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

**AIHS SCHOLARSHIP:** We will be offering two \$500 scholarships. Applications are now available to members' children attending a credited college. Must be members for 2 years.

**THE JOHN SCIGLIANO SCHOLARSHIP:** We are now taking applications for any AIHS members' children and grandchildren attending Creighton University in the science program.

If interested, please call the AIHS office at 402-493-8888 for either application.



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**Get Up! Get Out! Game On!**

All In Sports, LLC is a Sports & Social Club connecting individuals to a variety of recreational activities. Established in 2018, our mission is to encourage persons age 21 & over to be involved with year-round, indoor/outdoor entertainment.

Get UP! Get Out! Game On! Move with a Sports & Social Club that champions a FUN first social setting while meeting new people. Our relationships with local businesses provide an ideal atmosphere throughout the Omaha Metro. Whether you desire to participate in our **Game On Omaha bocce leagues** or just want to connect with people, you can experience both through our coed club events. To learn more or register for bocce leagues, go to [www.gameonomaha.com](http://www.gameonomaha.com).







## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**40TH ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK**

We are still accepting recipes for our **American – Italian Heritage Society 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** cookbook!

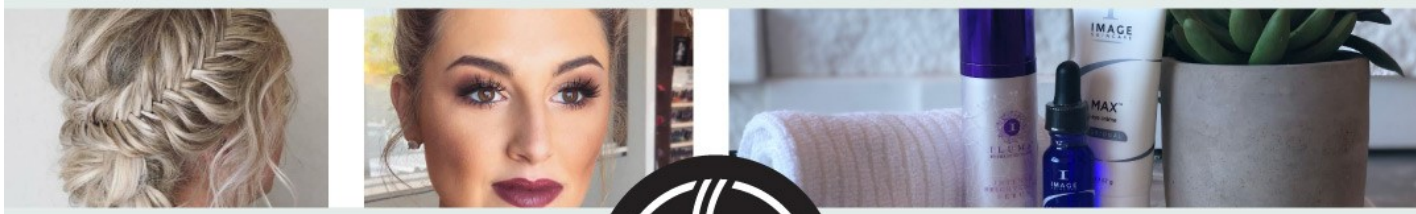
Your recipes should include the following elements; name of dish, ingredients - including measurements, cooking temperature (where appropriate), amount this recipe will serve, preparation instructions and your name.

We would prefer that you submit your recipes electronically to [amwbac@aol.com](mailto:amwbac@aol.com) but you can also mail them to:

Toni Bac  
7928 Brentwood Drive  
La Vista, Nebraska 68128



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**The American Italian Heritage Society**

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