



April 2021
Volume 39 No. 4

The News

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE

Spring Pasta & Meatball Drive-Thru Fundraiser



Sunday April 25th noon-6pm

Il Palazzo 132nd and Fort Street

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**April Membership Meeting**

Monday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Spring Pasta & Meatballs Drive-thru Spring Pasta & Meatballs Drive-thru on Sunday April 25th Noon-6pm. Volunteers needed to make meatballs and work event.

Wine Tasting Event

If there is interest, we are trying to coordinate this event in May/June. Stay tuned.

MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The General Membership Meeting, held on March 8, 2021, was called to order by President Terry Bolamperti and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with veterans Larry Belfiore and John Portera as flag-bearers. This was the first membership meeting since November 2020 due the rise in Covid cases and it was a very cold night resulting a low number of 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 Diana Cotten who is currently undergoing chemo therapy. We also bowed our heads in prayer for deceased longtime members Nancy Miceli and Ray Osborn.

The **Treasurers Report** was given by President Terry Bolamperti, which was approved by members. He mentioned that we have had no rental income for a year due to cancellations because of Covid regulations. We do have more than normal fundraisers to try and make up some of our losses. With Covid restrictions loosening up we do have many rentals scheduled in the future starting in April.

Old Business was discussed including the **Carnevale** which was held and hosted at Pasta Amore Ristorante on Tuesday February 16, 2021. Chuck Caniglia played the part of the Bishop of Carnevale and the packed house enjoyed a delicious antipasti, meal and dessert prepared by chef Leo Fascianella. The **Superbowl Italian Style fundraiser** was successfully held on the Saturday before the Super Bowl. We nearly sold out of almost all of our items for sale despite being held on a winter stormy and cold blizzard morning. We thank all that helped in any way to make this event a success.

New Business discussed included the upcoming **Pasta Fridays** which will be held on the Friday nights of March 12th and March 19th. Ted Bolamperti II will chair these events serving pasta and seafood. The **St Joseph Day Celebration** was discussed but it was cancelled earlier due to Covid restrictions. We have planned an **Easter Sausage Fundraiser** on March 27 and the **Spring Pasta Dinner** on April 26th. Both will be Drive-Thru events and volunteers will be needed. A **Virtual Wine Tasting** event is being considered also.

The meeting was adjourned and there was no Piece of the Pie drawing this month. Members enjoyed fresh homemade biscotti made by John and Kathy Portera after the meeting.

All are welcomed to the next Membership Meeting which will be held on April 12, 2021.

Ciao!



Pasta & Meatballs - Spring dinner drive-thru fundraiser

Drive-up, order your food and we will bring your meal out to your vehicle.

Pasta & Meatballs for 4 \$40 includes Italian salad/bread for 4
Cannoli (4) \$16 2 chocolate & 2 vanilla



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 Pasta and Cannoli, they won't be disappointed and store bought will never taste the same. Order for them or send them the details!

Welcome New Member

Welcome the newest member of the American Italian Heritage Society, the beautiful Miss Amelia Marie. Congratulations to Mike and Anna (Ripa) Patrick and big sister Sofia. Congratulations to proud grandparents Dan and Gina Ripa and great grandparents Ted and Jeaniene Bolamperti.



AIHS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE HELP WANTED

We are still looking for someone to help with our monthly newsletter and Website. If you have experience writing and designing in Word/Publisher or Word Press, we ask you please consider volunteering. This is a great way to help our Society from home and it only takes a few hours a month. Please contact Tammy at 402-493-8888



facebook.com/AIHSOmaha



www.omahaitaly.com



secretary@omahaitaly.com



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Tribute to Ray Osborne

Some may not be familiar with the name Ray Osborne but everyone should. Ray was very much a person that lead to the success of the Society since it's near beginning being a friend of Paul and Toni Capellupo Blazeovich, two of our founders who introduced Ray into the society.

Ray was a strong, big, healthy and hardworking electrician with many friends in his field. He was just recovering from a non-invasive cancer which was cured. With his family being separated, Ray was looking for more social life with his college buddy, Paul. He quickly got involved with doing volunteer work for the Society, as we transformed our newly purchased building in 1981 in 1983.

Ray secured his colleague, Ed Gable to rewire the building for code. They spent hours after work, well into the night, and weekends, completing this huge project "pro bono," saving the Society thousands of dollars in labor. Ray also secured materials at wholesale prices, again saving the Society the added expense.

Ray became a member of the AIHS folk dance group. His stature was no obstacle. Ray was a leader with the Folk Dancers for the newly nearly 15 years.

Ray's contribution to the Festas involved setting up and removing all of the electrical needs to produce our Festa. From our first Festa at Peony Park, in 1984, to the College of Saint Mary's through Metro Community College and then Roncalli, Ray provided us with all of the electrical details. Each venue had its own electrical layout that Ray had to adapt to. We could not have had our successful Festas without Ray's electrical expertise.

All of these projects required additional electrical workers and equipment such as, ladders and poles, which Ray supplied through his many friends in the electrical Brotherhood union.

I can't begin to estimate the 10s of thousands of dollars he and his colleagues saved us over the 25 years.

(Ray's legacy has been taken over by another union member, Bob Peklo, his brothers and friends>. Bob continues to save us money on electrical specifics.)

Ray's helping hand reached out farther than just electrical. He also helped with food prep and sausage making. He became our main mixer for 20 years...mixing more than 2000 pounds of meat three or four times a year.

After reading this you can understand why I made the statement "if you aren't familiar with the name Ray Osborne, you should be."

Sadly, Ray passed away on February 18th after a long illness. His son Shawn plans to have a celebration of life in April or May, of which we will be informed.

Thanks Ray. You are a treasure to the Society in more than one way.

God bless you and grazie mille from **all** of us.



Pictured with Josephine Lohmeier
dance partners (~1980)





THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

ITALIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK

Support a local writer and AIHS advertiser by purchasing "An American Mouse goes to Italy".

Mooch is a mouse. He lives in a quiet Midwestern town in America. Like every mouse, Mooch loves cheese!

One day, he finds himself in Italy! He discovers all the delicious cheeses, and beautiful sights of Italy. He learns some new words while he's there!

Beautiful illustrations show many scenes from Italy. Vocabulary words are introduced in Italian, and Italian cheeses are celebrated.

Available on Amazon.com and www.AmericanMouseGoesToItaly.com

****Many members have purchased this book and are very pleased****

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PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including Teri Carlino, Romana Olivotto, Dick Wieler, Marie Shafer, Lou Marcuzzo, Dee Mascarello, Betty Grillo, Lou Buda, Joe Daniels, Diana John-Cotton, Maria Leo and Elanore Morinelli.

Grazie/Thank you

“Thank you” notes were received from both our 2020 Scholarship winners Nick Garrett and Jacy Dragsten. Congratulations to you both!

A “thank you” was sent on behalf of AIHS to the family of Joan Swan for her generous donation. Joan included the American Italian Heritage Society in her will/estate planning.

The American Italian Heritage Society is a qualified 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation for Federal tax purposes.

Please consider including American Italian Heritage Society in your estate planning.

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. **Deadline May 1.**

Membership Dues

Letters will be mailed out to the members to renew membership dues. Please continue to support us, as we hope to return to our normal events very soon. Invite friends to become members.

PLEASE CONSIDER ADVERTISING WITH US!

We are looking for additional businesses to advertise in our monthly newsletter. If you have a business or know of one that would like to advertise in our newsletter, we encourage you to call the office at 402-493-8888 or email secretary@omahaitaly.com.

AIHS COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

Our original cookbook “A Taste of Italy” is still available for sale for \$23.50, tax included. There are many great authentic, family recipes and Society specialties.

TAGG (Together A Greater Good)

Download the TAGG mobile app on your smartphone. Visit participating businesses, snap a photo of your receipt. Choose American Italian Heritage Society.

AMAZON SMILE

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Italian Easter bread “Columbra”**Dough:****8-10c flour****3/4 T black pepper****1/1/2 T baking powder****1 1/4 T salt****9 eggs well beaten****1/2 c ham broth****1/2 lb lard melted/cooled**

Mix all dry ingredients, make a well, add broth, lard and eggs, mix and knead to bread dough consistency, cut in half, two 12' rounds let rest.

**Filling:****3 sticks 1/2" slices of pepperoni****1lb capicola sliced****1lb provolone sliced****1lb swiss sliced****18 hard boiled eggs****1/2 c raw chopped bacon****1/2 c chopped parsley****1lb cooked ham sliced**

Roll dough out, on half, begin to layer, first with egg halves yolk down.

Pepperoni between eggs, layer ham, swiss, capicola and provolone, add chopped bacon and parsley.

Shape like calzone, secure edge, make decoration for top, add egg wash and sprinkle with sugar. Bake until golden 350 for ~45 min.

This recipe has been our Easter breakfast for 7 generations now, originally from Mary Milioni Cifuno who was from Accettura Italy. We are preserving our Italian Heritage by sharing this recipe with future generations.

**2021 AIHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS****Chairman of the Board:** Lisa Bolamperti-Garrett**President:** Dr. Terry Bolamperti**Vice President:** Jeff Ladwig**Treasurer:** Nikki Sandmeier**Secretary:** Toni Bac**Board Member:** Melissa Orlando

The American Italian Heritage Society
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