



May 2021
Volume 39 No. 5

The News

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE

American Italian Heritage Society Membership Drive

The American Italian Heritage Society encourages, promotes and preserves Italian culture and heritage with activities centered upon Italian traditions, foods, language, religious fests, history, folklore, customs, celebrations, music, dance and family genealogy.

As we approach 2021 renewals, we want to remind all our members of the benefits of being part of the Society. Please take some time to think of others in the community, family members, co-workers and friends, who would be interested in joining. Membership renewals will be sent in May. Please make sure you pay your dues by the June 1st deadline.

Membership Benefits

- **Monthly Membership Meetings**

Camaraderie with members discussing Italian interests. Guest speakers on such topics as history, culture, foods, travel, oral histories and genealogy.

- **Sausage Sales**

AIHS makes Italian Sausage three times a year as a fundraiser for the Society.

- **Scholarships**

Two generous College scholarships given out annually to active members children.

- **Complimentary Events**

The Summer Family Picnic and The Epiphany Celebration offer complimentary dinner and entertainment.

- **Educational Classes and Membership Events throughout the year.**

- **Newsletter**

Monthly Newsletter in color, the pipeline for information and communication of Society events and interesting articles on Italian heritage.

- **La Festa Italiana**

A Celebration of Italian Heritage for the Omaha community for over 36 years.

Note: Numerous fundraisers and events were cancelled due to the pandemic, we hope you continue to support our club so we can return to having live events.

Please Join AIHS today! Call our office at 402.493.8888x1 or email to secretary@omahaitaly.com

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

May Membership Meeting

Monday, May 10th at 7:30 p.m. at IL Palazzo

Presentation on the Carlentini/Omaha Sister City Project by Sheri Kanger at May meeting.

Festa Pizza Fundraiser - June 5th 9-11am. Must Pre-order!

Sausage fundraiser - June 26th 9:30-1pm. Must Pre-order!

***** Volunteers needed to make pizzas and sausage and also help with pickup.**

Sister city Project Omaha/Carlentini

There is a process currently underway for application for Carlentini, Sicily to become the next Sister City for Omaha. This project must go through both cities for approval. Representatives from Carlentini have nearly completed their approval and those in Omaha are closing in on making this a reality. The Santa Lucia Festival Committee is spearheading the project along with support from the American Italian Heritage Society and the Order of the Sons of Italy. These organizations are the core of the American-Italians of the Omaha community. Members from all three Italian organizations are on the committee for this project.

A high percentage of Italians that immigrated to Omaha over a century ago in the early 1900's came from the Carlentini area to work for the Union Pacific Railroad. Most of the immigrants lived in houses just south of the loading docks of the UP railroad in the 6th and Pierce area which came to be known as **Little Italy**. They left their families and their homeland to come to America for a new life and opportunities for jobs and a better future for their children. They however kept their heritage and culture dear to their hearts. Since there is such a majority of Italians in Omaha with roots in the Carlentini area, it seems more natural than any other city to become a Sister City to Omaha.

At the next AIHS General Membership Meeting on Monday, May 9, 2021 at 7:30 pm, Sherr Kanger, who is a member of the Project Team, will give our members a presentation on the Omaha-Carlentini Sister City project. Her presentation will be given directly at the adjournment of our meeting. Sheri is an enthusiastic speaker and will offer a fact-filled interesting talk. Plan on attending and feel free to invite a guest.

Spring Fundraisers follow-up

The Easter sausage fundraiser in March was a huge success. We sold out of sausage, olives, peppers, sauce and meatballs. The next sausage sale is the end of June.

The Spring Pasta Dinner fundraiser also a successful drive-thru. We saw over 150 cars, we sold over 500 pasta dinners, and 400 cannoli. The smell of the delicious pasta sauce and those meatballs wafted through the halls of the IL Palazzo. We especially want to thank those who prepared the food for another delicious meal. Thanks to all the volunteers, behind the scenes packing salads, bread and meatballs; and to those that worked the day of the event. Events like this need volunteers, consider donating your time to help at a fundraiser, we always have a great time. Thanks to Rotella's Bakery for bread donation. We sincerely want to thank all those who came out to support this fundraiser, to help make it a success once again. Looking forward to our next event Festa Pizza sale first Saturday in June.

Membership Drive

Enroll a New Member!

The American Italian Heritage Society is having a Membership Drive from now until June 15th. The Membership Committee has a goal of increasing the membership by at least 25%. Encourage family members and friends to participate and become part of our organization. We are asking that all members **recruit one new member** (single or family) to join the Society. If all our members do this, our membership will double. Let's hope that happens.

Membership applications will now have a section designated to include "sponsor" which can be found at the bottom of the application. Contact Tammy at 402-493-8888 x1 to request a application to be sent to you by either mail or email. If you enroll a new member, put your name on their application as the sponsor.

Member Renewals

Member renewal letters will go out soon. Please remember to send in your dues as soon as possible and recruit a new member to keep our Society going strong.



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

April Membership Meeting

The General Membership Meeting, held on April 12, 2021, was called to order by President Terry Bolamperti and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with veterans Lou Buda and Joe Daniels as flag-bearers. There were 15 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, Lou Buda, Cookie Mascarello-Ladwig and Pat Rodino. We also bowed our heads in prayer for deceased longtime members Ray Osborn, Marie Shafer, and Russel Koken, all of which offered their services generously to our Society.

We **welcomed a new member** present at the meeting, Sheri Kanger. Sheri was always interested in pursuing her Italian heritage. Her grandfather, Alfio Ruma was from Carlentini Sicily and and her grandmother Teresa Manino-Ruma, was from Naples area. Growing up in the 12th and Martha St. neighborhood she enjoyed experiencing her family's Italian food, customs and history. Currently she is very involved with progression of the Carlentini/Omaha Sister City project that is now underway between the two cities. She has offered to give a presentation on this project at the next general Membership Meeting in May.

The **Treasurers Report** was given by President Terry Bolamperti, which was approved by members. He mentioned that we will be starting rentals of the facility in April and May which is very good news since we have had no rental income for a year due to cancellations because of Covid regulations. We have had more than normal Society fundraisers to try and make up some of our losses. With Covid restrictions loosening up we will have more and more rentals in the near future.

Old Business was discussed including the **Sausage Fundraiser and the Pasta Fridays** held in March which were both successful. We want to express our thanks to all the members and friends that volunteered their time and efforts in the food preparation and cooking along with packaging and selling and servicing the patrons in the Drive-Thru events. Thanks to all that helped in anyway.

New Business discussed included the upcoming **Pasta Dinner** which will be held on the Sunday April 25th from Noon til 6:00 pm. Volunteers will be needed for preparation of sauce, meatballs, salad dressing, pre-cook the pasta and setup, packaging and delivery to customers in the Drive-Thru. We are also planning a Festa Pizza fundraiser on June 5th. The annual **Membership Summer Picnic** will be cancelled due to Covid restrictions. We hope to resume the Membership Picnic and the Epiphany Celebration in the future as the Covid restrictions lessen. The **La Festa Italiana** was discussed and the plan is to **proceed with the Festa** as long as the Covid restrictions continue to ease up.

The **AIHS Membership Drive** is resuming as dues statements will be mailed or emailed to all members in May. All were asked to enroll a new member.

The meeting was adjourned and the Piece of the Pie winners drawn were Denise Adams and Sheri Kanger. After the meeting members enjoyed camaraderie and pizza cooked by Larry Belfiore. The next meeting we plan on having a presentation by Sheri Kanger on the Carlentini/Omaha Sister City Project.

Submitted by President Terry Bolamperti

All are welcomed to the next Membership Meeting which will be held on May 10th, 2021.

Ciao!



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

FESTA PIZZA FUNDRAISER**Pick-up June 5th 9am-11am.**

- Cheese pizza \$20
- Sausage pizza \$25

Email: secretary@omahaitaly.com

Please use email to preorder now until June 3rd while quantities last, limited supplies available.



Please include in your Email: your name and phone number
of Cheese pizza and # of Sausage pizza

Pizzas are prepared fresh, wrapped and frozen to keep fresh until you bake it.

Baking Instructions are included.

AIHS Member Denise Adams is moving out of state

Antiques & Vintage House and Garage Sale
May 21 & 22, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (no early birds!)

2501 Hancock St., Bellevue, NE
Contact: Denise Adams, 623-262-0305
Accept Cash or Credit Cards Only

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| • Art – Oil & Watercolor, Prints | • Vintage Vinyl Record Albums |
| • Clothing – antique, vintage | • Toys – incl. Lionel Trains |
| • Books & Paper – antique/modern | • China – fine & heirloom |
| • Sports & Camping – golf, fishing | • Mid-Century Pottery, dishes, glass |
| • Antique Cameras & Equipment | • Vintage/Retro Collectibles |
| • Furniture – lots! & Tools | • Crafts – Quilting, patterns, jewelry |
| • Costume Jewelry | • Dolls – foreign, porcelain, others |

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 Pizza. They won't be disappointed and delivery will never taste the same. Order for them or send them the details!

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/AIHSOmahawww.omahaitaly.comsecretary@omahaitaly.com



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Leo Fascianella poem

Do not run.

If you run, you won't notice.

The most beautiful things in life.

Go slowly.

Smell the roses.

Look at the colors.

Breathe in the air.

Slowly.



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****



Pasta Amore

Open Monday - Saturday
4:30 p.m. to Close

Rockbrook Village 108th & Center
402.391.2585



No Drilling. No Needles.
No Anxiety.

MAHA
LASER DENTISTRY

Dr. Anthony Bolamperti D.D.S.
402.397.3411 • OmahaLaserDentistry.com



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

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

Memorials:**Marie Shafer****Russel Koken****Camilla Seminara**

Longtime supportive members Marie Shafer, Russel Koken and Camilla Seminara have passed away last month. They will be missed dearly. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Grazie/Thank you

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.

Membership Fees

Letters will be mailed out to the members to renew membership due by June 1st. 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

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Works with Amazon Prime. Select the American Italian Heritage Society as your charitable organization.





THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

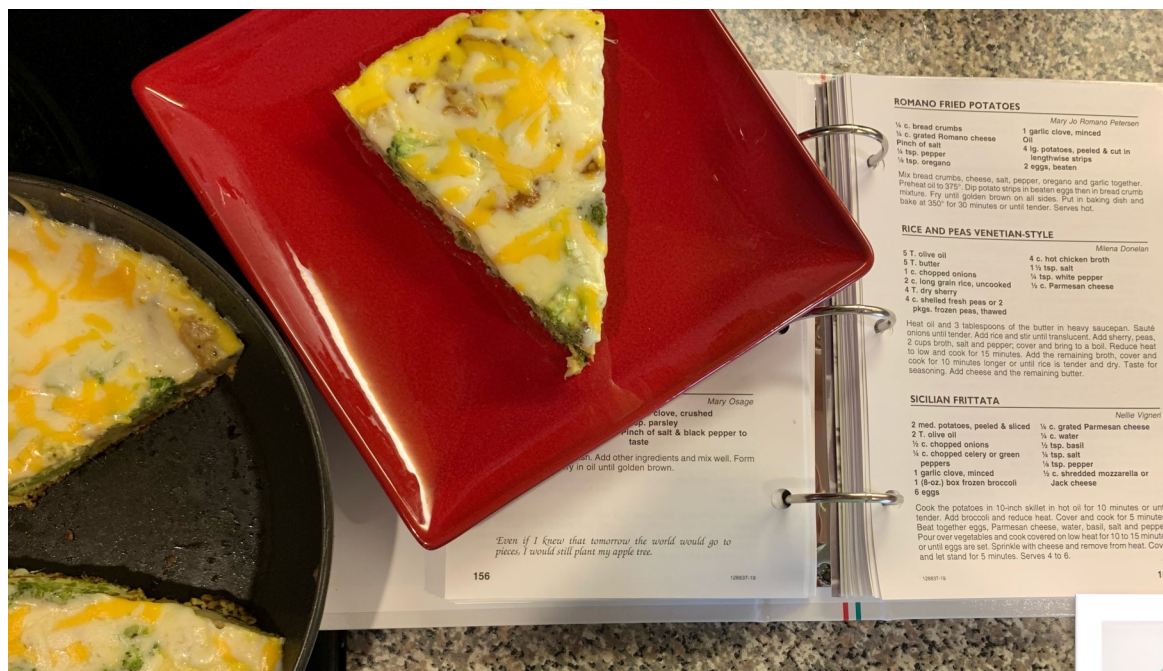
Sicilian Frittata

2 med potatoes, peeled/sliced
2 T olive oil
1/2 c chopped onion
1/4 c chopped celery or peppers
1 clove garlic, minced
1 cup broccoli
6 eggs

Nellie Vigneri

1/4 c parmesan
1/4 c water
1/2 t basil
1/4 t salt
1/8 t pepper
1/2 c shredded mozzarella or jack cheese

Cook potatoes until tender in hot oil for 10 minutes. Add broccoli, reduce heat. Cover and cook 5 minutes. Beat eggs, parmesan, water, and seasonings, pour over vegetables cook covered low 10-15 minutes until eggs are set. Sprinkle cheese and remove from heat, cover let stand 5 minutes. Serves 4-6. Recipe can be found page 157 of the Taste of Italy Cookbook.



A Taste of Italy Cookbook available at all events \$23.50

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
5110 North 132 Street • Omaha, Nebraska • 68164
402.493.8888 Fax: 402.493.1502



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

5110 North 132 Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68164

Return Service Requested



Buona festa della mamma

Happy Mother's Day!

Serving families for over 132 years.

**Heafey Hoffmann
Dworak | Cutler**
MORTUARIES & CREMATORY

402-391-3900

www.heafeyheafey.com



*Omaha's only Italian-inspired venue. Host your
next wedding or special event with us!*

Call 402 819-8792

