



December 2021
Volume 39 No. 12

The News

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE



This work of art was painted about 1482—when a team of Florentine and Umbrian painters were decorating the walls of the Sistine Chapel. Antoniazio Romano, a native of Rome, was an Italian Early Renaissance painter. He sets his depiction of the nativity—one of three scenes from the base (predella) of an altarpiece—in a landscape suggestive of Lazio, the region around Rome. <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection>

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

Sausage Sale Pickup - Dec 11th, 2021 11a-2p
Meat cutting Thurs 9th 8a-4p

Membership Meeting December 13th 7:30 pm
Cookie Exchange after meeting, Bring a dozen, we will enjoy some and take a plate home.

Epiphany Celebration

Sunday January 9th 2022

Rsvp please by Jan 5th

No January membership meeting

November 2021 Membership Meeting Report

The General Membership Meeting held on November 8, is 2021 was called to order by President Terry Bolamperti and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with veterans Lou Buda and John Portera as flag-bearers. New member welcomed was Sherry Kanger. She has been a member for the past year. Sherry's Italian heritage comes from her mother and grandparents from the Ruma, Puglise, Ciciulla and the Minino families. Sherry has been instrumental in starting the committees to initiate the Sister Cities Project to share Italian heritage with Carlentini, Sicily and Omaha. The American Italian Heritage Society along with the Sons of Italy and the Santa Lucia are all involved with this project. In September the Mayors of Omaha and Carlentini signed a friendship agreement on a zoom meeting. The Sister City Project will take a few more years to complete. She gave a brief report on the current plans. Sherry received a warm applause from the membership. The Treasurer's Report was given by President Terry Bolamperti and was approved by the membership.

Old Business was discussed including the successful fall **Pasta Dinner** held yesterday. We had a good crowd in attendance. It was a beautiful day with sunshine and 74 degree temps and we really appreciated having the big crowd on such a great day to work outside. We had a wonderful group of volunteers that ran the entire fundraiser efficiently. I want to thank everyone that helped in any way to make the event a success.

New Business. The **sausage fundraiser** was discussed which will be held December 11th. Volunteers will be needed to help with meat cutting and preparation of peppers and cracked olives. **Board Elections** were held at meeting and **Joe Garrett and John Portera** were elected as new Board Members for a 3 year term.

The **Italian Cookie Exchange** will take place at the December meeting. All attending were encouraged to bring homemade Italian cookies to share.

Members were reminded of the **Epiphany Celebration** which will be held on Sunday January 9, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned and members enjoyed pizza prepared and served by John Portera and Joe Daniels. All members are welcomed to attend the next meeting on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 7:30p.m. at the Palazzo.

Submitted by President Terry Bolamperti

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

NEWSLETTER/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



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Sausage Sale Pickup:

If you **pre-ordered** our Society's fresh Italian sausage, please remember pick-up is:

Saturday, Dec. 11th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sausage \$30 / 5 pounds Peppers: \$14 / quart Olives: \$12 / quart

AIHS food specialties will also be for sale including meatballs, spaghetti sauce, salad dressing and fresh Rotella's sausage buns.

Limited supply.

We still need help cutting meat and packaging.

Thursday, Dec. 9th 8a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Epiphany Celebration**

Sunday, January 9th 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Pasta & Meatball Dinner served at 1:30 p.m. Cash bar will be available.

The Epiphany is one the best family events we hold! It's a true ethnic event and part of our Italian culture. The Befana and Santa will be visiting and giving bags of treats to children under age 12.

Free to Members, Guests: Adults \$10 and Children \$7.

Reservations are necessary so all children get a giftbag. Please indicate the number of adults and children under age 12.

Call 402.493.8888 or email secretary@omahaitaly.com.



New Board Members: Board Elections were held at the November member meeting. All nominees were voted in and approved as new Board members. Congratulations and welcome to our two new Board members John Portera and Joe Garrett, with President Terry Bolamperti.



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Minestra Maritata (Italian Wedding soup)

Taste of Italy pg. 27

Rita

Soup:

12 1/2 cups Chicken Broth
1/4 lb pasta
(tiny cooked pasta or broken angel hair)
1 bunch curly leafed endive or fresh spinach
Grated parmesan or Romano
2 eggs beaten

Meatballs:

1 lb ground chuck
1 egg
1/2 cup bread crumbs
1/2 cup grated Romano
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1/2 tsp black pepper
oil

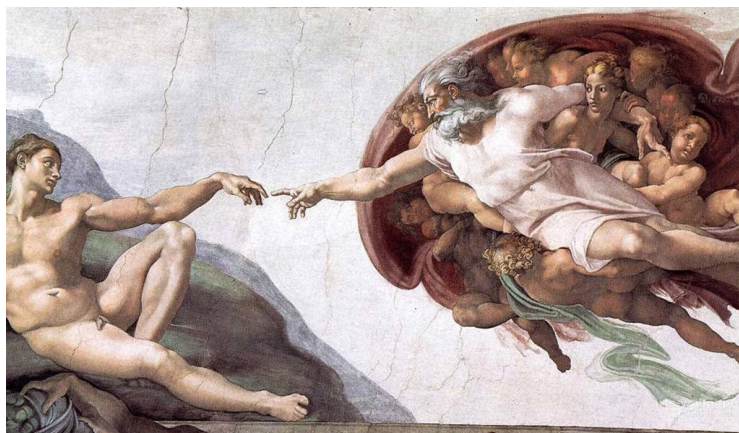
Mix the ingredients together for the meatballs and form into tiny (peanut size) meatballs. Brown in a small amount of oil. Reserve 1 cup of broth. Bring remainder to a boil and add browned meatballs, simmer for 15 minutes. Chop and clean endive or chop spinach then add to the soup. Cook covered for 5 minutes. Just before serving, add eggs to reserved broth. Beat together and add egg mixture to the soup to make it creamy. Serve with freshly grated cheese.



As is customary in Rome, the Christmas Day meal begins with a soup like “Stracciatella” (egg drop soup) or this “Minestra Maritata” soup which translates to ‘married broth’ and how it morphed to be called Italian Wedding soup.

Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel-The Exhibition

One of the greatest art masterpieces of the Renaissance will be on display through January 1, 2022 here in the Capitol District in Omaha. The life-sized up-close exhibit of Michelangelo's ceiling paintings were reproduced using unique high definition photos. The experience will present a never before seen prospective of Michelangelo's timeless masterpiece of thirty four frescos. Take advantage of this breathtaking exhibit by attending it with your family and experience the art of one of the most talented Italian artists, Michelangelo.



Date: Runs through January 1, 2022
Where: Capital District 11th & Capital Ave.
Hours: Thursday-Sunday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
(Time slots available every half hour)
Duration: Tour takes around 60 minutes
Price: \$23.00/adult and \$17.00/child
Promo code: AIHS \$15/Adult \$11/child

Go to website: <http://chapelsistine.com/exhibits/omaha/>

Scroll down for Group Sales, once in Group sales enter **COUPON CODE: AIHS** (for discount pricing)



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

FALL PASTA DINNER

Our fall Pasta and Meatball Dinner was held on Sunday, November 7, 2021. It was a very successful event and over 750 dinners were served. We want to thank all the members who sold tickets and attended the dinner. In addition we'd like to thank all the non-members, friends and neighbors who attended. All your support is truly appreciated.

The food was delicious and enjoyed by all who attended. As usual we received many positive compliments on the food from the guests that attended. We want to thank all those volunteers that helped in the days and weeks before the dinner, including the crews who cooked the sauce, the crews that made the meatball mixture and those that rolled, baked and bagged the meatballs, those that made the salad dressing and also the crews that precooked the pasta and helped set up the tables in the ballroom. Sincere thanks also goes out to the volunteers helping the day of the event including the kitchen crew, the salad crew and all those that helped on the serving line, the take-out area, the bake sale and the bar tenders. Thanks to those that helped run the front desk with ticket sales and selling the specialty food products and the members that sold the Festa t-shirts and sweatshirts. A very special thanks goes out to all those who helped with clearing tables and those very few who stayed late with banquet hall and kitchen clean-up.

At this busy dinner we also sold AIHS specialty foods which includes spaghetti sauce, meatballs, and salad dressing. Sincere thanks to all those who helped prepare and package all these food products. We made a good profit on these items along with the profit made from the successful and busy Pasta Dinner.

It takes many, many volunteers to put on this event and we want to thank each and every one of you who helped in any way. The success of this Pasta Dinner is due to our wonderful, dedicated and hard working volunteers. We can't thank you enough for all the service you offer to the Society throughout the years.

The guests were delightfully entertained with music and singing by Johnny Fascianella. He sang Italian songs for several hours to the pleasure of the those guests in attendance. The crowd offered him several well-deserved applause. The Society really appreciated Johnny Fascianella giving the Pasta dinner a special touch of class.

Many thanks once again to member Lou Rotella of Rotella's Italian Bakery for his generosity in donating the bread for the dinner. His continued support is sincerely appreciated.

Mille Grazie.

Submitted by President Terry Bolamperti





THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including Ted Bolamperti, Tom Morinelli, George Grillo, Cookie Mascarello-Ladwig, Ann Marie Falco-Marr, Teri Carlino, Lou Marcuzzo, Lou Buda, Dee Mascarello, Joe Daniels, & Maria Leo.

Memorial:

Keep these members who have passed away in your prayers: Pat Rodino

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.

Festa Tickets and Membership Dues

Please promptly return Festa tickets/money and mail membership dues as soon as possible.

5110 N. 132nd Street Omaha NE 68164

contact the office to drop off Festa Ticket money or to renew over the phone.

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. Hy Vee is among businesses that donate a % to AIHS for your purchases.

**AMAZON SMILE**

Christmas is coming, if you shop on Amazon, 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.



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www.omahaitaly.com



secretary@omahaitaly.com



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Patricia "Pat" Rodino Memorial

We are saddened upon the demise of Pat who has been challenging a chronic illness the last few years. Pat was a charter member along with her husband Vince, who served as a Society president. Both offered much to the society's expansion and its success. They engaged their five children to assist in many functions of the society with some taking leadership roles. Bob has served as president, committee chair, and has been the kitchen manager along with overseeing the kitchen during the festa for several years. If Pat was asked to assist with a project, there was no hesitation, and you would trust that it was done well without any fanfare or bolstering. Her humbleness was her signature virtue. A wonderful lady behind the scenes, who never complained, and had an attitude of "get-it-done, no thank you necessary." Pat in her earlier years served in the Navy Corp as a clerical clerk prior to her marriage. Very few knew of this endeavor, but it was one she was very proud serving. She surrounded herself with many friends they remained a vital part of her life. Her friendly demeanor and humorous wit insured along friendship. A long relationship with her Red Hat Ladies group fulfilled some of her social activities. We owe Pat and her family a gift of gratitude for their endeavors within the Society. She was an example of quote "it is in giving that we receive" and "fight all error but do so with good humor, patience, knowledge and love." (St. John of Kanty). We salute you, mate. Anchors Aweigh! God bless and thank you for all of those perfect pizzeli.

Submitted by Dr. Ted Bolamperti

Member Achievement

Submit Member Achievements by 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Dr. Anthony Bolamperti, was awarded for the fourth straight year "Outstanding Part-Time Instructor Award" in general dentistry at Creighton School of Dentistry. Tony teaches both clinical and restorative dentistry. Tony serves with the two other members with longevity part-time service as well. Tony's father, Dr. Ted, serving 56 years, Dr. Bill Carlisle with over 61 years of teaching and his son, Dr. Mike serves as full-time instructor. Congratulations Dr. Tony!

Submitted by Dr. Ted Bolamperti



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Merry Christmas

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