



September 2022
Volume 40 No. 9

The News

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE



38th Annual
Rain or Shine



SEPTEMBER 2 - 4, 2022

il Palazzo
132nd & Fort St.

Home of the American Italian Heritage Society

DANCE UNDER THE STARS 8PM NIGHTLY

Friday, September 2

6:00pm-11pm, The 70's Band at 8pm
Santa Lucia Marching Band, Local Entertainers

Saturday, September 3

5:00pm-11pm, Eckophonic at 8pm
Santa Lucia Marching Band & Local Entertainers

Sunday, September 4

Noon-11pm, Taxi Driver at 8pm
Santa Lucia Marching Band & Local Entertainers

FREE SHUTTLE PARKING FROM KELLEY PARK
located at 126th & Fort St.



38th ANNUAL
RAIN OR SHINE



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

UPCOMING EVENTS**La Festa Italiana**

September 2, 3 and 4th, 2022

September Membership Meeting

Monday, September 12, at 7:30 p.m. at Palazzo

August 2022 Membership Meeting Report

The General Membership Meeting held on August 8, 2022, was called to order by President Terry Bolamperti and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with veterans Jim Mazzei and John Portera as flag-bearers. Both were Vietnam War Veterans. There were 24 members in attendance. There was a moment of silent prayer acknowledging ill members along with deceased members of the Society. Welcomed was longtime member Diane Marino-Russo who shared some interesting history about her family who lived in Little Italy neighborhood where she grew up on 11th and Hickory St. She told us that her grand-parents on both sides were from Carlentini, Sicily. Her grandmother was a Cosentino whose brother, Peter Cosentino, was the first conductor of the Santa Lucia Band when it was started over one hundred years ago. Her father, Joe Marino worked at his Uncle Sam's movie theatre on 13th and Pine St. The theatre was originally the Maryland Theatre in the 1930s and then renamed the Berkeley Theatre in the 1940s. It closed in the mid 1950s. Diane's great Uncle Sam Marino remodeled the theatre which had about 500 seats. The marquee circled with lights is still in place today which can be seen on the east side of 13th and Pine St. as one drives by. The theatre was frequented by many young Italians from the neighborhood. Diane's comments about her family were a good lesson in Italian heritage. The minutes from the July meeting were read and approved. The Treasurers Report was given by President Terry Bolamperti, which was approved by members. Old Business discussed was that the Festa food prep is 95% completed with only the salad dressing and ravioli still needing to be completed. The Omaha Event Group has most of the summer Saturday nights rented and rentals have been increasing. Also it was reported that the Santa Lucia Festival was a great success and member Sherry Kanger was applauded for her efforts in getting Mayor Stefio of Carlentini and his group to attend the festival. This was done as part of the Sister City Project. Mayor Stothert and a group from Omaha will travel to Carlentini next month. New Business discussed was consumed with the Festa. It was announced that we need a couple captains for booths and we also need volunteers for multiple booths. The schedule of the entertainment was discussed along with the Fireworks planned on Friday and Sunday. The Festa truck will be unloaded on Saturday August 27th and we need help. Besides working at the Festa we most importantly need volunteers for Festa set-up on Thursday and Friday, September 1st and 2nd and for tear down on Monday September 5th. The meeting was adjourned and the Piece of the Pie winners were Terry Bolamperti and Anthony Espinosa. After the meeting, camaraderie was enjoyed by all along with pizza baked by Larry Belfiore. All were welcomed to attend the next membership meeting on September 12th after the Festa Italiana.

SEE YOU AT THE FESTA Dr. Terry Bolamperti



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

DATES & TIMES

Friday, September 2nd 6 pm to 11 pm
Saturday, September 3rd 5 pm to 11 pm
Sunday, September 4th Noon to 11 pm

TICKET SALES

\$7.00 at the Door
\$5.50 Advance tickets at all area Hy-Vee
and Rockbrook Camera
Children 14 and under free with paid Adult
Send in all Advanced Tickets by Sept. 10th.

PARKING & SHUTTLE

Free Parking and shuttle from
Kelley Field 126th and Fort Street
Paid Parking available at Il Palazzo

DANCE UNDER THE STARS

The 70's Band Friday 8 pm to 11 pm
Eckophonic Saturday 8 pm to 11 pm
Taxi Driver Sunday 8 pm to 11 pm

ENTERTAINMENT

Santa Lucia Band Friday/Sunday
La Banda Friday/Sunday
Party Foul Sunday
Axe Man Band Sunday
Johnny Fascianella Sunday
Mark Morello & Bernadette Smith Saturday
Johnny Adams Singer/Entertainer Sunday
Billy Troy Singer/Guitarist Saturday
Daddy Mac & The Flak Saturday/Sunday
Kim (Cortese) Eames Singer/Guitarist Friday

Food and Drink

30 Delicious, authentic Italian food items all prepared by AIHS Volunteers at outside food lines and booths including pasta and meatballs, sausage, and peppers, pizza, shrimp scampi, fried calamari, chicken primavera and our special fried dough. Inside specialty items available at the deli and pastries in the Gallery. Domestic and Imported Italian wine and beer are available.



FESTA Volunteers are still needed. Call Lisa at the AIHS Office at (402) 493-8888 x 1
to Volunteer. We work hard but have a lot of Fun!



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

The AIHS Volunteers have been hard at work preparing food to purchase at the Festa. Food Items range in price from \$1.00 to \$7.50. There is also Italian themed merchandise aprons, t shirts, hats and table clothes to name a few available to purchase as well.





THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

2022 AIHS Scholarship Recipient**Sara Rodriguez**

My name is Sara Rodriguez, daughter of Julie (Scalise) Rodriguez and Robert Rodriguez. I recently graduated from Millard South High School and am currently attending The University of Nebraska at Omaha. I have been a part of the AIHS since the day I was born, my American Italian heritage is one of the most important things to me and has continued to be a major part of my life. My Papa and my Nana, Gabriele and Immacolata Scalise, immigrated to the United States from Italy and have instilled in us our Italian culture and traditions. My Papa always wanted to remind us of where we came from, so entering his house was like transporting to Italy. My days and nights with him were always filled with Italian music on full blast while we all danced and sang or him sitting in his chair playing the harmonica or accordion for us while his kids and grandkids smiled around him listening. He also has a hand maid brick pizza oven in the backyard where we would make pizzas as a family and spend time together hearing stories of the old country. Another thing I will never forget is the importance of having a garden. At my Papas there was a huge part of the backyard dedicated to growing fresh produce and I will always remember him, my uncle, Paul Scalise, and Terry Bolamperti, working on the produce. My uncle Terry would then come back inside and hand my sister and me a



basil leaf, tell us to roll it around in our hands and stick it behind our ears to smell Italy all day. I have been helping at La Festa since I was a little girl and volunteered in the face painting and fake tattoo booth. When I got older and it was no longer, to quote my Zizi, "too dangerous," I started helping in the Fried Dough Booth. La Festa is always my favorite time of year because it gives everyone a chance to celebrate being Italian in a "family reunion" way. Volunteering with the AIHS has always held a special place in my heart, whether it was at a pasta dinner, La Befana, or anything else. It was important to me since it allowed me to celebrate my culture surrounded with good food, music, people, and memories for a lifetime. I look forward to continuing to volunteer and one day teach my children the importance of our Italian heritage and traditions my parents

shared with me. Winning this scholarship doesn't only make my family right now proud, but my family no longer with me proud as well. It will help with education expenses in my journey to becoming an English and Writing teacher where I hope to inspire the future kids of our country in the same ways I was inspired growing up. **Congratulations to 2022 A.I.H.S. Scholarship Recipient Sara Rodriguez**

FESTA FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Celebrate the Festa with a bang on Friday and Sunday night with Bellino Fireworks sponsored by Security National Bank and Di Giorgio's Sportwear.

**PICTORIAL HISTORY**

Photos of the past and Society events.



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

2022 AIHS Scholarship Recipient

My name is Ella Galligan I am honored to be a 2022 recipient of an AIHS scholarship. I am the daughter of Maria and Dr. John Galligan and the granddaughter of Dena and Larry Belfiore.

Fun fact, my mom was awarded an AIHS scholarship in 1992!

I have always worked at the Pizza Booth during La Festa Italiana. My grandpa and our cousins have managed the Pizza Booth for over 25 years. In June, I graduated from Millard North High School. While in high school, I managed to stay on the honor roll while working part time and serving as an ambassador for the Nebraska chapter of Miss Amazing. This nonprofit group strives to encourage and empower women and girls with disabilities.

I will be attending the University of Kansas this fall. My major is human biology and I have hopes of becoming a medical doctor. I am very proud of my Italian heritage and thankful to the AIHS scholarship committee for this honor.

Ella M. Galligan

Congratulations to 2022 A.I.H.S Scholarship Recipient Ella Galligan

**More FESTA Activities**

Sponsored by Pasta Amore Ristorante

FESTA Food Demos

Friday, Bruschetta	Jimmy Caniglia
Saturday, Homemade Gnocchi	Chef Jared Clarke
Sunday, Meatballs/Polpette	Chef Jared Clarke
Sunday, Riscotto Con Fungi	Chef Jared Clarke
Sunday, Caponata	Chef Leo Fascianella



**Congrats on the 38th
Annual La Festa Italiana
from the Bellinghiere
Longo, & Mike & Beverly
Vazzano families!**



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Festa Tickets

Advanced Festa tickets were mailed out to all members. Please try to sell as many tickets as possible. Additional tickets can be picked up at Il Palazzo during office hours. Tickets can also be purchased in advance at any metro area Hy-Vee stores and Rockbrook Camera. Advance tickets are \$5.50. Tickets at the gate are \$7.00. Children 14 and under are free with paid adult.

A Special Thanks

A Special thanks to Pam Rowland and the Santa Lucia Festival Committee for her Assistance in making the Festa a Great Event. Also thank you to all the members who have volunteered to make this years Festa a huge success. We work hard but have a lot of fun.

Mass at Festa

A traditional Catholic Mass will be celebrated at la Festa on Sunday, September 4th at 10:15 a.m. by Father John Pietramale. Afterwards, coffee and Italian cookies will be served.

Bocce Ball

Bocce Ball court will be set up for open Bocce Play all weekend long! There will be Bocce Ball Tournaments on Friday and Sunday with open Bocce Ball on Saturday.



Pasta Amore

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4:30 p.m. to Close

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FESTA ENTERTAINMENT

There will be dancing Under the Stars each night starting at 8 pm. In addition there will be entertainment indoors and outside. Including the Santa Lucia Band and other local entertainers. Food demo's will be held each day and sponsored by Pasta Amore.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including Ted Bolamperti, George Grillo, Cookie Mascarello-Ladwig, Teri Carlino, Geno Crisafulli, Lou Marcuzzo, Joe Daniels, Maria Leo, Margo Pirruccello, Kim Rodino, Cecilia Bellinghiere and Dee Mascarello.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Thanks to the many members that have renewed their membership. There are still many who have not sent in their dues. **Please mail dues and form to the office at: 5110 N. 132nd Street Omaha NE 68164 or contact the office to renew over the phone at 402-493-8888 x1.**

AIHS COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

Our original cookbook "A Taste of Italy" is still available for sale for \$25.00, 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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THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Ice Cream—Gelati

Page 208 A Taste of Italy

Josephine Distefano

4 c. sugar

2 c. hot water

2 T. Rennet Gelatin

4-5 cold milk

3 egg whites, beaten stiff

1 c. Cocoa or 1 can crushed

pineapple or lemon juice

4 c. cold water

When using lemon juice or pineapple, reduce the same amount of water. Mix the hot water and sugar together until dissolved. Add gelatin and dissolve. Add the flavoring and cold water, then add milk. Fold in the egg whites and make in ice cream maker according to directions. Makes one Gallon.



Children's Leisure Time Activities provided by Hines GLOW LLC. Day Passes will be available too. In addition we have face painting for the kids for a small fee.

Festa Fireworks Friday and Sunday Night!



CASANOVA'S BUTCHERY

ROCKBROOK

The old-fashioned butcher shop has returned to Omaha! Family-owned Casanova's Butchery is open in Rockbrook Village, 108th & Center. Casanova's sells only Choice and Prime beef—nothing less. Plus fresh pork, poultry, awesome burgers, homemade sausages, and amazing charcuterie, all at reasonable prices. Skilled butchers custom cut and prepare your order right in front of you. It's the way butchery used to be! Shop choice meats and buy them just how you want at Casanova's Butchery, open every day.

Casanovasbutchery.com | 531.867.7067
10914 Elm Street | Omaha, NE 68144
Casanovasbutchery@gmail.com



Rockbrook Village

Hours Monday - Saturday, 9am to 6pm
Sunday, 9am to 3pm



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

5110 North 132 Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68164

Return Service Requested



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