



March 2023
Volume 41 No. 3

The News

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE

SAUSAGE SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST

PICK UP

10 AM TO 1 PM

Sausage \$33 / 5 pounds

Peppers \$15 / quart

Olives \$15 / quart

Spaghetti Sauce \$9 quart or

2 quarts for \$16

Frozen Meatballs \$25 / bag of 25

Italian Salad Dressing \$4.50 / 16 oz



Place your order by Wednesday, March 29th, email secretary@omahaitaly.com or call 402-493-8888 x 1.

Please include: name, cell phone number, regular or hot sausage and amount of other items you are ordering. Thank you!

WE NEED YOUR HELP CUTTING MEAT!

Thursday, March 30th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, April 1st from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Call 402-493-8888 x 1 or email secretary@omahaitaly.com, if you can help. If you are going to volunteer either day, please place your food order by Wednesday, March 29th. Millie Grazie!

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

March Membership Meeting
Monday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Celebration
Sunday, March 19th

Easter Sausage Fundraiser
Saturday, April 1st

Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, April 30th

February 2023 Membership Meeting Report

The General Membership Meeting, held on February 13, 2023, was called to order by President Terry Bolamperti and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with veterans Lou Buda and Jim Mazzei as flag-bearers. There were 24 members in attendance. Members were asked to bow their heads in silent prayer for those members of the Society that are currently ill. The **2022 Annual Treasure's Report** was given by Terry Bolamperti and the **January 2023 Treasurer's Report** was given by Jeff Ladwig. Both reports were approved by the membership. There was discussion of the year and a half process of re-zoning of our property which was completed this summer with a Omaha Planning Board and City Council vote of approval. It was brought up that we may someday put up for sale some of our land on the north side but these plans are all up in the air presently due to the city's plan to widen Fort Street and 132nd Street, the costs of relocating MUD and OPPD major junction box hubs in the corner of the lot and the need for a road through our property for an ingress and egress for Century Link vehicles are all up in the air presently. President Terry Bolamperti remarked that this has been researched very thoroughly and our Civil Engineering firm, TD2, advised against putting any of our land up for sale at the present time.

Old business discussed was the **Christmas Sausage fundraiser** that was a big success. Also, the 2022 **Dan Polley / Lou Buda Award winners**, Sal and Giovanna Risicato, were announced at the meeting in December and listed in the January Newsletter. **The Epiphany Celebration** held on January 8th was a success with 150 people in attendance. We thanked Rose Koch and Gary Marasco, playing the parts of the Befana and Santa. Gratitude was extended to all the volunteers who offered their service and time to the Society helping for the events last month. **The water damage and restoration of the Palazzo** from the Christmas Eve Day busted water pipe was also discussed thoroughly.

New business was discussed including the **Carnevale** will be held on February 21, 2023, at Pasta Amore. The cost is \$65.00 for antipasti, dinner and dessert and it includes tax and gratuity. A cash bar will be available. The merriment will start at 6:11 pm and continue until 9:11 pm or later. All interested must call Pasta Amore for reservations. Members were encouraged to attend this fun event. Pasta Amore will offer a 10% discount off the entire bill to AIHS members. **The St Joseph Day Celebration** will be held on Sunday March 19, 2023, from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm. There will be a pasta dinner, a procession with The Holy Family, a short talk on the Saint and of course a decorated St Joseph's Table. Members are encouraged to attend.

We are planning an **Easter Sausage Fundraiser** on April 1st and a **Spaghetti Dinner** on April 30th. We will need volunteers making meatballs. Possible events in the future mentioned were Cooking Classes and a Wine Tasting Experience. We will be very busy the next 2 months. The meeting was adjourned, and the Piece of the Pie winners drawn were Terry Bolamperti and Gary Ford. Camaraderie was enjoyed by all, and members were welcomed to the next membership meeting which will be held on Monday, March 13, 2023.

Submitted by AIHS President Terry Bolamperti

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY CELEBRATION

**Join us for the St Joseph's Day Celebration at the Palazzo
on Sunday, March 19th from 12:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.**

We will be honored to have Fr. John Pietramale, pastor of Christ the King Parish join us. He will lead us in prayer before the meal and offer a brief and interesting presentation on St. Joseph.

There will be a procession of St Joseph, Mary and Jesus to the traditional St. Joseph's Day table. A pasta and meatball dinner will be served after the procession.

This event is free for all current members and their children. A \$10.00 donation is appreciated for guests. After costs, all proceeds will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul food pantry. We encourage all to give a donation to the poor in honor of St. Joseph. Canned goods and grocery items will also be collected and given to the SVDP Food Pantry. Please note that all expired food items that are donated will be discarded.

Please help us make this event extra special by bringing a dessert for all to share.

Reservations are requested to insure we have enough food for our guests.

Please call Lisa at 402-493-8888 x 1 with the number of adults and children attending. You can also email her at secretary@omahaitaly.com.

St. Joseph's Day in New Orleans

New Orleans Catholics celebrate St. Joseph's Day by constructing elaborate altars to honor the relief St. Joseph provided during a famine in Sicily. The tradition began in the late 1800's when Sicilian immigrants settled in New Orleans.

St. Joseph altars place the statue of St. Joseph at the head with candles, flowers and medals. Because the altars thank St. Joseph for relieving hunger, offerings of food are added to the alter. Food and donations are then distributed to the public with leftovers going to the poor.

Altars are found at local New Orleans churches, especially those with strong Italian roots, but they are also constructed in private homes, halls, Italian restaurants, and public spaces in different communities throughout the city.

New Orleans also celebrates St. Joseph's Day with their annual parade in the French Quarter. Marchers wear red, dress in black tuxedos and carry fava beans and flowers.



CARNEVALE MARCH 2023

The 2023 Carnevale sponsored by the American Italian Heritage Society was held at Pasta Amore on Fat Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Those attending enjoyed a night of pageantry, live music and a delicious meal which consisted of delicious Italian Specialties. The Bishop of Carnevale played by Gary Bosanek opened the evening ringing the bell at 6:11 pm as cocktails and antipasti were served. The dinner was served at 7:11 pm by Pasta Amore. The dinner included Venetian Spritz – Processo, Chopped Kale Salad with Lemon Vinaigrette and Olives, grilled Venetian Sirloin Steak, House made Fettuccine with Quattro Formaggio and Fritole Veneziane for dessert.

Throughout the evening attendees were entertained by lead singer Johnny Fascianella along with Steve Kuzela who played the music on the keyboard. At 8:11 pm the Bishop of Carnevale rang the bell again and announced the pageantry would now begin. The King and Queen of Carnevale were announced to those in attendance.

The Bishop placed the crowns and capes on the King, Leo Fascianella and the Queen, Rosalia Gish. All the people in attendance, many of whom wore costumes, really enjoyed the fun filled night. At 9:11 pm the Bishop of Carnevale announced the Carnevale pageantry and celebration would be coming to an end. He also reminded the attendees that the 40 days of Lent starts the next day on Ash Wednesday.

If you've never attended Carnevale before, please consider enjoying this unique and traditional Italian event next year. The Carnevale is always held in February on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. Many thanks to Matt Burbank and the staff at Pasta Amore for preparing this delicious meal and hosting this event at their restaurant.

Millie Grazie.

Submitted by Dr. Terry Bolamperti



Above are pictures from the Carnevale. A good time was had by all the people who attended this event.



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including Ted Bolamperti, George Grillo, Cookie Mascarello-Ladwig, Kim Rodino, Ann Marie Falco-Marr, Teri Carlino, Dee Mascarello, Joe Daniels, Cecilia Bellinghiere, Pat Peterson, Margo Pirruccello, Sebastian Youde, Maria Leo, Frannie Hutchings and Deacon Steve Grandinetti.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

AIHS SCHOLARSHIP: We will be offering two generous scholarships. Applications are now available to members' children attending a credited college. Must be paid 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 x 1 or email secretary@omahaitaly.com, for either application.

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 x 1 or email secretary@omahaitaly.com.

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.



Volunteers Needed for Making Meatballs

The Society will be making several batches of Meatballs for upcoming AIHS Society events on **Thursday, March 9 from 8 am to 2 pm**. We need as many people we can get. Have some fun, conversation and a nice lunch will be served to all volunteers. Bring a friend too!!!!

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.



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www.omahaitaly.com



secretary@omahaitaly.com



Spring Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, April 30th from
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Tickets: Adults \$12 Children \$6.00



Please invite your family and friends. Meal includes Italian Salad, your choice of 2 Meatballs or piece of our famous Italian Sausage, Bread & Butter. Cash bar available. Members please bring desserts or pastries for our Bake Sale, at Palazzo.



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Ricotta Stuffed Shells

Toni Capellupo Blazeovich

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 box giant shells | 1/2 c. grated Romano Cheese |
| Prepared Spaghetti Sauce | 2 eggs |
| 2 lbs. Ricotta Cheese | 3 T. chopped fresh parsley |
| 1 tsp. salt | 1/4 tsp. pepper |
| 1 1/4 lbs. shredded mozzarella cheese | |



Mix together all the cheese, saving 1/4 pound of mozzarella, eggs, parsley, salt and pepper. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Boil shells gently according to package directions, then drain. Cover the bottom of a large baking pan with a thin layer of spaghetti sauce. Fill the shells with the ricotta mixture, placing them filled sides up in the baking pan. Spoon a light covering of the spaghetti sauce over the filled shells. Sprinkle remaining mozzarella cheese and a little more Romano cheese and spaghetti sauce over the covered shells. Cover with foil and bake in a 325 degree oven for about 35 to 40 minutes. This cheese filling may be used in crepes for Manicotti. Use same procedure except place rolled crepes seam side down. Or you can use mashed meatballs in place of the Ricotta Cheese in the shells.

This recipe can be found on the “A Taste of Italy” Cookbook, on page 134. Toni Capellupo Blazeovich was a Founding Member of the American Italian Heritage Society. Cookbooks can be purchased through the AIHS Office for \$25.00. To purchase a cookbook call (402) 493-8888 x 1.



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

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