



February 2020  
Volume 37 No. 2

# The News

THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE



Pasta Amore & AIHS present  
**Carnevale**

**Tuesday, February 25**

Pasta Amore - 11027 Prairie Brook Rd

**Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.**

**Commencement at 6:00 p.m.**

**\$38.00 / person**

*Tax and gratuity not included.*

**Join us for pageantry, food, drinks & live music! Costumes are encouraged, but not required. A King and Queen of Carnevale will be crowned. If you've never attended Carnevale before, please consider enjoying this unique and traditional Italian event. Dinner will include bruschetta, arancini, caponata, fennel orange salad, paccheri bolognese pasta, chicken marsala with wild assorted mushrooms and cassatelli siciliane con ricotta. There is limited availability. Please RSVP to 402-391-2585.**

## **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](mailto:secretary@omahaitaly.com).



## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **February Membership Meeting**

Monday, February 10 at 7:30 p.m.

#### **Carnevale at Pasta Amore**

Tuesday, February 25 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **Spaghetti Dinner**

March 15 & April 26

Details in March Newsletter

#### **Sausage Fundraiser**

Details in March Newsletter

### 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lisa Bolamperti-Garrett, Chairman of the Board  
info@eat2succedd.xyz

Terry Bolamperti, President  
terry@bolamperti.com

Pat Peterson, Vice President  
patrickpeterson5@gmail.com

Melissa (Missy) Orlando  
Orlando3@cox.net

Nikki Sandmeier, Treasurer  
nikkisandmeier98@gmail.com

Dawn Abboud, Board Member  
theabboudfamily@cox.net

John Mangiamelli, Board Member  
jmchd82@gmail.com

Jeff Ladwig, Board Member  
jeffladwig1@cox.net

### 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.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP RAISING MONEY

By simply submitting pictures of your receipts at hundreds of local businesses to the **TAGG (Together A Greater Good) mobile app**, AIHS receives a percentage of your purchase!

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

#### **Participating businesses donating include:**

Hy-Vee, Addy's, Arksarben Cinema, Big Fred's Pizza, Blatt Beer & Table, Blue Sushi, Dave & Buster's, Dante Pizzeria, DJs Dugout, Dunkin' Donuts, Gigi's Cupcakes, Jimmy's Eggs, Jimmy John's, Mangelsen's, Mangia Italiana, , Newman's Pasta, Omaha Steaks, Omaha Tap House, Paradise Bakery & Café, Ragazzi's Pizza, Roja Mexican Grill, Spin!, Spirit World, Varsity Sports & Roman Coin Pizza, and Runza, See full visit of businesses online at [togetheragreatergood.com/participating-businesses](https://togetheragreatergood.com/participating-businesses)

## CELEBRATION OF THE EPIPHANY

We had a wonderful turnout for our annual Epiphany Celebration held at the Palazzo on Sunday, January 5, 2010. Approximately 200 people attended including members, guests and Society volunteers. This is one of the best family events of the AIHS with over 65 children there having a lot of fun. It is always very heartwarming when the Befana gets all the children dancing the Tarantella with her. Emma Leo-Mueller was our Chairperson once again this year. She and her group of volunteers worked very hard to make the event so special. We can't thank her enough for chairing this event for the last several years. The meal was fantastic, as always, with mostaccioli and meatballs and sausage, Italian salad and bread and butter. Members brought a vast array of desserts and cookies. Thanks to all the members that took the time to make the homemade goodies. The Society also had a cash bar serving wine and soft drinks. There were two food lines utilized and all the guests were served in twenty five minutes. Members mentioned that they were very happy that our Society promotes and preserves this Italian tradition and keeps it going. Santa and the Befana arrived shortly after the meal was served. The children were so excited as they anticipated their arrival. The children listened intently as the Befana told the story of how she lost sight of the Three Wise Men on her way to see Baby Jesus. She then lead the children in singing Jingle Bells Italian style. Once again this year, the Befana got all of the 65 children to stand and do the Tarantella with her and Santa Claus. Many adults in the crowd joined in and also danced with the Befana. It was a very festive event. Santa and the Befana then handed out goody bags filled with candy and fruit. We want to thank Lou Rotella for the donation of bread for the meal and Greenberg Fruit for the oranges donated for the goody bags. We also would like to express our gratitude to all the members that volunteered in the kitchen, front desk area, dessert table, the bar, the serving line, kids activities and all those who helped with food preparation and set up and clean up. Special thanks to Gina Ripa and Gary Marasco for their roles in this event. Great job everyone! Mille Grazie !!

Submitted by Dr. Terry Bolamperti.



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[www.omahaitaly.com](http://www.omahaitaly.com)



[secretary@omahaitaly.com](mailto:secretary@omahaitaly.com)





## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**AIHS COOKBOOK - RECIPES NEEDED**

Brrrrrr - A big pot of Minestrone – sounds good right now doesn't it! Thirty years ago our Society got together to produce a beautiful cookbook full of wonderful tasty Italian recipes from our members. We are now approaching our Society's 40 year anniversary and it's a perfect time to dust off those handwritten family Italian recipes to add to our **American – Italian Heritage Society 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** cookbook!

We are looking for your favorite Italian recipes to include in our updated cookbook. Your recipes should include the following elements;

Name of Dish

Ingredients - Including measurements

Cooking temperature (where appropriate)

Amount this recipe will serve

Preparation instructions

Your name



We know that your recipe is the BEST but please keep in mind that the Cookbook committee reserves the right to limit the number of duplicate recipes. We would prefer that you submit your recipes electronically to [amwbac@aol.com](mailto:amwbac@aol.com) but of course we understand that's not always possible so you can also mail them to:

Toni Bac  
7928 Brentwood Drive  
La Vista, Nebraska 68128

We'll have more updates in the future newsletters, but think about what you can contribute to the Society cookbook - sharing with members and non-members alike. In order to have a Bigger and Better cookbook ready for our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration please get the first wave of recipes to us by March 31<sup>st</sup> – we have room for 200 recipes so don't be shy!  
The AIHS Cookbook Committee

**LEARN ITALIAN - MANY WAYS TO SAY I LOVE YOU**

Italian is a romantic language! Here are a few ways to impress your sweetie this Valentine's Day.

**Buon San Valentino, Amore Mio**  
(Happy Valentine's Day, My Love)

**Amo te oggi e sempre.**  
(I love you today and forever.)

**Grazie Amore per rendere speciali i giorni della mia vita.**  
(Thank you My Love for making the days of my life special.)



## BEAN AND HAM SOUP

### INGREDIENTS

2 lbs. Northern white beans	2 med. onions, chopped
2.5 - 3 lbs. smoked ham hock	4 med. red potatoes
2 sticks butter	3 garlic cloves, minced
2 qts. tomatoes, crushed	1 T. thyme
3/4 c. flour	1/3 c. parsley, minced
4 stalks celery, diced	6 qts. Water
4 carrots, diced	Pepper to taste



Rinse beans under running water. Soak overnight in enough water to allow bean to swell; drain beans. In a large pot add 6 quarts water, beans and ham hocks. Cook on summer (never on boil) for 1.5 to 2 hours or until beans are tender. When bones protrude from meat and can easily pulled off, remove hocks. Let hocks thoroughly cool, discard skins, fat and bones. Dice ham into 3/4 inch squares, return meat to pot. Dice vegetables, all the same size, 3/4 inch squares and set aside.

In another pan on low heat, sauté garlic and onions in 2 sticks of butter; add flour a little at a time to absorb the butter. Cook for 3-4 minutes. Keep stirring. Do not brown. Add crushed tomatoes to flour mixture and mix well. Pour into pot. When beans are tender add diced vegetables; do not over cook vegetables. Add pepper. Do not add salt unless needed. Serve with toasted Italia bread.

AIHS Cookbook Page 25



No Drilling. No Needles.  
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### Pasta Amore

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## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS**

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including Teri Carlino, Jim Capellupo, Romana Olivotto, Dick Wieler, Fred Pisasale, Marie Shafer, Lou Marcuzzo, Diana John Cotten, Dee Mascarello and Betty Grillo. Please contact Diana at the office to add to this prayer list. 402.493.8888.

**SPECIAL THANKS**

The Society catered lunch for Creighton Dental School. Thank you to those who made special sweets: Bev Vazzano, Mary Kay Ford, Lisa Garrett, Gina Ripa, Ross Pisci, Mickey Bolamperti, Lucille Gibilisco, Suzi Peklo, Naina Schneckenberger, Carmen Grosse, George Grillo, Rose Chamberlain and Lucy Marasco.



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**Get Up! Get Out! Game On!**

All In Sports, LLC is a Sports & Social Club connecting individuals to a variety of recreational activities. Established in 2018, our mission is to encourage persons age 21 & over to be involved with year-round, indoor/outdoor entertainment.

Get UP! Get Out! Game On! Move with a Sports & Social Club that champions a FUN first social setting while meeting new people. Our relationships with local businesses provide an ideal atmosphere throughout the Omaha Metro. Whether you desire to participate in our **Game On Omaha bocce leagues** or just want to connect with people, you can experience both through our coed club events. To learn more or register for bocce leagues, go to **[www.gameonomaha.com](http://www.gameonomaha.com)**.





## THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

**REMEMBRANCE OF GIUSEPPE “JOE” RIZZO**

A member since the early 80's, Joe, along with his attractive wife Connie, immediately become very active in the Society throughout the next 20 years. Only a chronic illness prohibited them from continuing these activities.

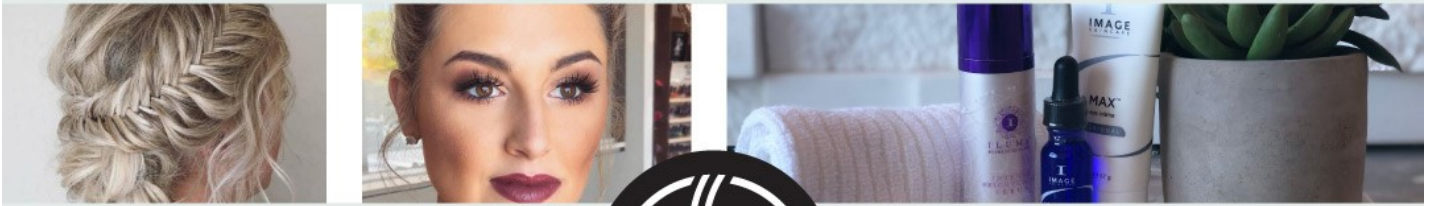
If there was an event, and we needed a volunteer, here came Joe. If there was a social event for the members, Joe and Connie would attend and always volunteer their services if needed. Joe was an example of a “zealous active member”.

La Festa Italiana was a large part of the Rizzo's participation. They joined in with many of their friends (pisano's) who immigrated from Carlentini in running the best Pasta Café in the very early Festas at the Civic Auditorium, Peony Park and Metro Tech. They became part of the Folk Dancing Group while being evolved in the Festa activities. Their attractiveness added to the flair of the Folk Dancers.

Cooking with our very first Chef, Gene Marchello was a delight for Joe. He would be there dawn to dusk. His humor was a distinctive part of his character. It was a joy to have him around. There are too many good stories to tell in this column.

Subdued by his chronic illness, Joe met his demise shortly after Christmas. Our condolences and prayers are extended to Connie their four children and seven grandchildren. Our most sincere and gracious gratitude for Joe and his family. Memories and great stories will be with many of us for many years.

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**The American Italian Heritage Society**  
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THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

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