



Novita' JANUARY 2022



P.O. BOX 1986

VENICE, FLORIDA 34284-1986

941-486-1492

www.italianamericanclubofvenice.com



FELICE ANNO NUOVO!



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First VP	Bill Meyers	468-6288
Second VP	Ann Brozosky	918-1805
Treasurer	Linda Falco	323-4214
Rec. Sec.	Tony Marchesano	518-821-8038
Corr. Secretary	Joe Bird	468-7981
Past President	Ron DeBacco	497-4046

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Bar	Lou Piazza	726-3400
Bocce	Marino Roncari	735-1071
	Pasquale Santaguida	475-0584
Building	Bill Charboneau	468-7058
	Dino Tommasi	973-296-8555
Cultural	Tony Greco	212-1103
Dining Room	Sandi Prunty	724-584-1109
Appreciation	Donna Sherman	587-1058
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	Donna Sherman	587-1058
	Tony Rondello	483-1050
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Hostess	Maria Tims	445-4756
	Nancy Canto	497-4046
Kitchen		
Membership	Kathy Carbone	928-0902
Novita'	Lina Decrescenzo	609-742-4593
	George Palmer	451-8744
Parliamentarian	Lou D'Amico	208-5652
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Social Fun	Jackie Briguglio	630-269-8692
Sunshine	Donna Sherman	587-1058
Travel	Grace Robbio	492-2266

Novità

Your Cultural and Social Newsletter



Volume 1

www.italianamericanclubofvenice.com

GENNAIO 2022

Parola del Presidente

Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti! I hope you've all enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and here's wishing us all a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year. Many of you know me as a dedicated contributor to our Club-Family, but I want you all to know that it is my *honor and privilege* to serve as your new leader. I stand on the shoulders of the GIANTS who have preceded me, but with your love and support I pledge my best to help our Club achieve even greater things.

Ciao, Josephine

*To all the volunteers who have helped to make our
Club Family a welcoming and fun Community ...
Tante Grazie!*



Follow us on
facebook

Novità

Your Cultural and Social Newsletter

Italian American Club of Venice, Inc. 1375
Ringling Dr., Venice, FL 34285

Lina Decrescenzo

and George Palmer, Editors

Web: italianamericanclubofvenice.com

email:

president@italianamericanclubofvenice.com

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In Loving Memory

Joe DiMarco

A SCION of the IACV, Joe's contribution to our Club Family cannot be weighed on any earthly scale. Our hearts are saddened but his warmth and kindness will always be felt even though he has been taken from us. We join his loved ones in remembering the joy he gave us while he was here.

(More sentiments and photos on following page)



With Deepest Sympathy
also for Donna Amato's
mother.

Photos: Angelo Tulimieri

Gennaio 2022

Su Mo Tu We Th Fri Sat

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January Notable Dates:

- Jan 6th - General Meeting 7 pm
- Jan 12th - Jimmy Mazz night 7:30 pm
- Jan 13th - BINGO 7 pm
- Jan 16th - Birthday/Anniversary celebration 4 pm
- Jan 20th - Movie Night 7 pm
- Jan 27th - Executive Board Meeting 6 pm
- Jan 29th - Country Western Night 6 pm

January 16th Birthday/Anniversary dinner will be a

"Souper Supper" please RSVP to Linda Falco

LGFalco1120@gmail.com

Luce del Sole Get well soon!



Kathy Carbone, Ron DeBacco, Bob Gilles, Matt Palucci, Marino Roncari, Pasquale Santaguida and Frank Uttaro.

Note: Please call Donna **Sherman 587-1058** if you know of someone needing the support of the members through cards, calls & prayers.

Email: creationcardbydj@gmail.com

Buon Compleanno!

Birthdays in the Month of JANUARY!



Donna Amato 8th, Charles Azzaro 15th, James Bari 22nd, Bruce Bastian 14th, Vito Caiati 24th, Michael Camardo 26th, Philip Caroleo 5th, Esther Charves 9th, Mario Comparetto 26th, Denise D'Amico 24th, Judy Davanzo 10th, Lucia Diggs 31st, Josephine Dittman 7th, Robert Dowling 17th, Robert Ferraro 7th, Steve Fornandel 9th, Gaetano Giarmoleo 1st, Bob Gilles 21st, Dolores Gray 9th, Wayne Klawier 28th, Sarah Lazara 17th, Cirino Lotta 9th, Peter Massoglia 29th, Joseph Palagonia 22nd, Elizabeth Pellegrini 22nd, Anthony Romano 17th, Edward Segowski 8th.

Contact **Membership Chair Kathy Carbone** to update your info if you were missed.

Free small carafe of wine during your birthday month

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

BOCCE Mondays and Tuesdays **8:30 am**

MAH JONG Wednesdays **1-4 pm**

POKER Wednesdays **7 pm-???**

BINGO 2nd Thursday **7 pm**

CULTURAL EVENTS 3rd Thursday **7 pm**

February - Save the Date

- Feb 3rd - General Meeting 7 pm
- Feb 10th - BINGO 7 pm
- Feb 12th - Valentine's Day Masked Ball 5 pm
- Feb 20th - Birthday/Anniversary Celebration 4 pm
- Feb 24th - Exec Board Meeting 6 pm
- Feb 24th - 27th - Feast

Pot Luck P to Z please bring a
dessert to share at the General
Meeting, store bought or home-
made.

Remembering Joe DiMarco

We gather as a Club Family with love in mutual support to celebrate the successful life and honor the memory of our revered brother Joseph DiMarco. Joe or “Peppe” was a teacher, confidant and consigliere; a venerable sage possessing a wealth of empirical and practical information which he readily shared.

One might ask: by what measures may a life be considered to have been successful?

- To have differentiated between knowledge and wisdom
- To have appreciated real beauty
- To have laughed heartily and loved sincerely
- To have found the best in others and nurtured it
- To have given of one’s self without thought of return
- To have won the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children
- To have maintained an even temper and set of fair values
- To have evinced courage and sustained faith
- To have understood that money or power do not equate with success
- To have been tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and wrong
- To realize that at least one other life has breathed easier because you have lived

With our sincere respect and infinite gratitude

These words, originally provided by Tony Rondello, are shared by the membership of our Club Family.



Mourners at the Cathedral ceremony



Mourners at the club afterward

[Click here for more photos](#)



Benvenuti'

Welcome New Members: *Nancy Blackstone, Ginger Christie, Peter Maniscalco, Nancy Menaldi-Scanlan, Judith Panetta, Dale Robinson, and David Sentner.*

Photo: Angelo Tulumieri



BINGO

Second Thursday of the Month

January 13th

Doors open at 6:45 pm

Early Bird Game at 7 pm

10 Games - 2 are Winner Takes All!

The Bar will be OPEN

Info:

Linda Falco

LGFalco1120@gmail.com

Italian American Club of Venice Presents Fabulously Entertaining



**Jimmy
Mazz**

**Wednesday, January 12th
7:30 pm**

**Snacks Cash Bar
Members \$15 Guests \$20**

**Tickets call or text
Dee 941-468-9029**

SADDLE UP

AND PUT YOUR BOOTS ON!

ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB OF VENICE

COUNTRY WESTERN NIGHT



**SATURDAY
JANUARY 29TH**

6:00 PM

**Catered by Gold Rush BBQ
Music by EC Listening
Members \$40 Guests \$50**

**Tickets call or text
Dee 941.468.9029**



Marino Roncari
(Leonardo of IACV)

Member of the Month

Member of IACV since 2005, Marino has done it all: bussing, dishwasher, food prep, tray carrier, Bocce leader, librarian, manning the Heritage Booth during the annual feasts, teaching Italian. We are in awe of his incredible contributions to the Club.

Marino's life, dedicated to work and art, inspires and motivates anyone who gets to know him.

He was born in Varese, Italy. He lived for a while in Florence, where he was exposed to the most incredible art ever. Marino, inspired by the greatest painters such as Michelangelo and Raffaello, has since dedicated much of his time to painting.

Marino is still grateful to his friend Luigi Brunella who taught him the basics of painting and instilled in him the passion of Plein Air Painting.

Marino worked for the IGNIS, an Italian household electric appliance company. In 1965 the company assigned him to work in New York City. Even with the difficulty of the new country and long hours of work, Marino integrated himself into the Italian-American community in a short time and continued his passion for the arts.

In 1973 Marino married his wonderful wife, Trudy. The newlyweds moved to Italy, but in 1980, they eventually returned to the US for good. They had two children, Davide and Cristina, and four grandchildren, Marino's absolute joy.

In 1991, Marino opened a frame shop in NY City, selling his paintings, brushes, colors, and canvas.

In 2005 Marino and Trudy retired in Venice. Marino continues his art. He is engaged in painting the landscape of Florida.

Many of Marino's paintings and photographs are featured in private collections in Italy, France, England, and the United States, and we can admire some of his masterpieces on the walls of our Club House.



Interview and photo by Lina Decrescenzo



Three of Marino's pictures taken from the Novita' July/August 2021 edition.



33rd Annual VENICE ITALIAN FEAST & CARNIVAL

Hosted
by:



Live Music | Entertainment | FOOD | Vendors | Rides & Games

FREE ADMISSION

February 24, 25, 26, 27, 2022

Starts at 4pm - Thursday & Friday
Starts at NOON - Saturday & Sunday

VENICE AIRPORT | Parking \$10

www.ItalianAmericanClubOfVenice.com/Feast/

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE:

THURS 4-4:30pm Venice High School Band
THURS 5-8pm The 301 Traveler's Band - The Ultimate Country Rock Experience

FRI 4-6pm The Best of Jimmy Maza Variety Show
FRI 7-10pm Bandana - Classic Rock and Roll

SAT 12-3pm License to Chill - Tropical Rock
SAT 4-5pm Tarantella Dancers - Italian Folk Dancing
SAT 6-9pm Kettle of Fish - Rock, Blues, and R&B

SUN 12-3pm All That Jazz

SUN 4-7pm Bandana - Classic Rock and Roll
Joe Cerrito on the Accordion in the Food Tent



Observer
MEDIA GROUP

Covid-19: by visiting the feast you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to covid-19. For the Safety of All - No Personal Food, Drinks, or Pets Permitted on the Airport Grounds



The Italian American Club of Venice Presents:

2022 Valentine

Masked Ball

*Saturday,
February 12*

5 to 6pm: Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres

6 to 7pm: Dinner catered by Daniel LaPorta of Cuisine on Call

7 to 10pm: Dancing to Sonny & Sable

Tickets: Members \$40 Guests \$50

To purchase, call or text Dee at (941) 468-9029

Tickets on sale through 1/31/22 No refunds

Photo
Booth

Gift Basket
Raffles

Red & Black
attire suggested,
but not
required

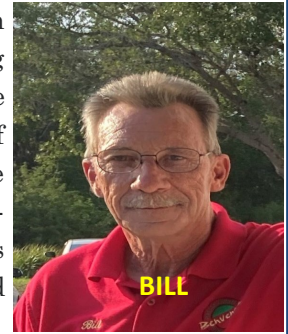
Let's Meet

Our New Executive Board



I was born Josephine Luisa Saccomanno and raised in Chicago. My paternal grandparents came from Calabria and maternal grandparents from Sicily. I graduated from the University Dayton and was employed as a corporate and real estate paralegal in the beginning and end of my career. In between, I was a Real Estate lender at the Harris Bank in Chicago. We moved here twenty years ago. I was widowed in 2014. My two daughters live in: Terra Ceia, FL, and Chicago and my Son in Los Angeles. I have three grandchildren. I joined the club in 2017, became a board member as Second VP in 2019 and Treasurer in 2020.

Bill is one of the real gems of our Club-Family. His career before the IACV spans an amazing breadth of professions. A mason (that explains why he's handy at fixing things around the club), a long-haul trucker, and a professional bowler (that's like bocce on steroids). Bill's a native New Yorker who moved to Venice in 1988 by way of Brooklyn and has endeared himself to everyone. There isn't a job in the Club that he hasn't leant a hand in doing and if you see or hear something getting done, you'll usually find him right in the middle of it. A loving father and grandfather, he runs his own landscaping business in Venice, too. We're lucky to have someone as big-hearted and giving as Bill as our new First VP.

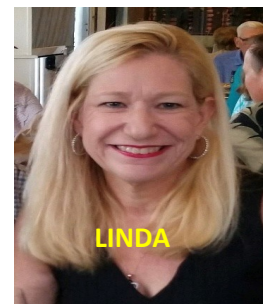


My maternal grandparents came from Meta and Rome. I've lived in Osprey since 2014 with my husband George and our golden doodle Sophie. I worked a farm through high school, was employed in restaurants, an IC designer, a network consultant for Merrill Lynch and Cisco, a systems analyst and QA manager.

Now retired, I'm the Volunteer Coordinator at Mothers Helping Mothers and attend Dee Martorana's crochet group. An IACV member since May 2017 and board member since January 2020, I'm in awe of past presidents Bruce, Ron, and Johanna, and the heart and soul they poured into this club. I look forward to assisting Josephine in fulfilling her vision for the future of the Club.

Born and raised on Long Island, I retired to the Venice area 21 years ago. I am a former NY State CPA, so the position of Treasurer fits my professional skill set. The majority of my time is spent volunteering here at IACV, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Spirituality & Retreat Center, and at the Cathedral. My motto: See what needs to be done and DO IT.

I joined the Club shortly after being widowed, looking for camaraderie and useful activity. I was embraced by a community that is a loving family, always accepting and supportive of each other. This past year was my first on the Executive Board, and I hope I've had an impact. I look forward to serving in my new capacity and am enthusiastic about serving in the year to come.



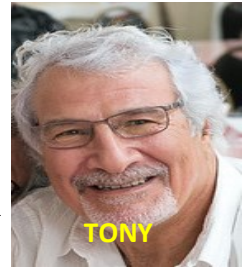
More of Our Board

I spent my first 13 years in the Bronx, part of a large extended Italian family. On my Dad's side I'm a member of "The Cousins," as in "Did you call/tell the Cousins?" I loved those huge holiday meals, meatless Fridays, Easter Bread and always church on Sunday.

I attended Northeastern University for my undergraduate degree, met my wife, Pat, on a Long Island beach and we married in '72. I began teaching in '73 in Manhattan, while completing a master's at Fordham. Our daughter Rachel was born in '75. We moved to Syracuse where I taught while finishing my degree in Educational Administration at SUNY Oswego, our son Brian was born there in '78.

My 39-year career in education and education administration took us to several New York cities (most of them cold in the winter!)

To me Venice is *paradise*! I love the area, the people, our new friends at IACV and *not shivering*! We moved here in 2016 after visiting since 2013. My wife said she'd never live in Florida but after 2 days on Siesta Key she fell in love with the area. Our children have gifted us with two beautiful grandchildren Michael & Samantha, 19 & 18 respectively.



TONY



JOE

I've worked in the kitchen, managed the bar, ran the golf and bocce tournaments, worked and took the money at the front door, worked the feast, (set-up, teardown, money booth, security and ran the spaghetti booth). I've been a board member in the past. To top it all off, I'm an *excellent* bocce player.

Easily the most recognizable and popular member of our little community, Ron is the one who makes the skittish new volunteers feel welcome whenever he drops around. Even with masks on, one of Ron's passes through the kitchen handing out candies and good wishes is a calming and welcome event. Thank you, Ron for being a wonderful Past President and a great friend to all of us.



RON

January facts (and fable):

The early Roman calendar excluded both January and February (who needs them anyway!)

January's Patron is Janus, the ancient Roman two-headed God of endings and beginnings.

Don't forget to don your red underwear to ward off any troublemaking witches and bring good luck in January!

Ellis Island opened on January 1st 1892 to become the immigration gateway for over 12 million people until its closure in 1954. Between 1900 and 1930 over 4 million Italians arrived in the US through Ellis Island.

The Club has recently received an anonymous donation for bocce equipment in honor of member Matthew J. Pristutti who enjoys the sport immensely. Thank you Signore or Signora for your generous gift.





Deck the Halls

DECEMBER 8TH'S CHRISTMAS ELF

DECORATING TEAM

TANTE GRAZIE FOLLETO



Elves Jackie Briguglio, Pat Marchesano, Denise and Lou D'Amico, Julia Griffith, Pat and Tony Marchesano, Trish Monaco, Ben Patrone, Sandi Prunty and Tony Rondello (under the watchful eye of Linda Falco) gave the Club its festive treatment.



Language Classes

Beginner I: Jan 10th– Feb 14th
Mondays 11:30-1 PM
Nancy Menaldi-Scanlan
239-200-3582
menaldiscanlan@gmail.com

Beginner II: Jan 10th– Feb 14th
Mondays 2-3:30 PM
Nancy Menaldi-Scanlan
239-200-3582
menaldiscanlan@gmail.com

Intermediate: Jan 6th – Feb 17th
Thursdays 3-5 PM
Vince Amato
631-224-1033
vin.p.amato1@gmail.com

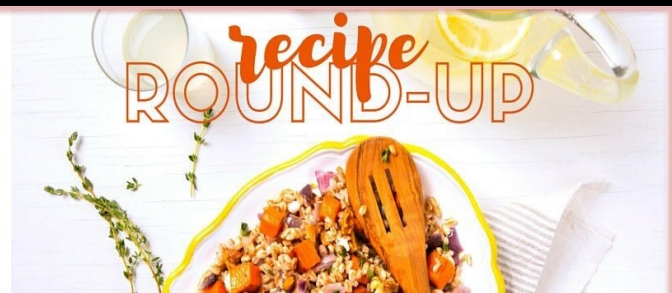
Conversation: Jan 11th –Feb 14th
Tuesdays 3-5 PM
Lina Decrescenzo
609-742-4593
carefor.you@aol.com

We are excited that the Club has obtained 20 tickets to the *Game of Romes* performance at *The Venice Symphony* on **Saturday, March 19, 2022, at 3:30 pm**. Tickets are **\$37.00 each** and are almost sold out (**ONLY 5 LEFT!**) Dinner to follow at an Italian restaurant (TBD).

Contact Cultural Chair Tony Greco
teegee654@gmail.com



A PEACEFUL DAY AT OLBIA, SARDINIA



Gail's

Spaghetti della Casa Palmer

Directions

Cook your favorite pasta (thin spaghetti is wonderful) al dente. Meanwhile sauté as much garlic as you think you can get away with in olive oil over a medium heat until the flavor is released. Toss in some peas and some cured ham (small cubes are fine) and heat through. Drain the pasta and place in a large bowl. Add sauté mixture and toss. Drizzle on more olive oil and serve piping hot in bowls with lots of Parmigiano Reggiano, chopped parsley and a sprig of fresh basil on top.

Recipe Note: After living in Naples, Italy for three years I discovered that the dishes prepared in the little local family kitchens were some of the best. This is one of my favorites.

Hint: Don't see friends for a while who aren't garlic lovers!

*The Armchair Traveler
goes to:*

Parma

*This year's "best place to
visit in Italy" per Oggi
magazine*

[Click here](#)



L'angolo Italiano

Come Parlare l'Italiano per un giorno

Io e John sposati ormai da un anno decidemmo di andare in Italia per visitare i miei familiari.

John non sapeva una parola d'italiano, si sentiva a disagio. Mio fratello Giovanni gli chiese di aiutarlo a fare il vino, ma John era sul punto di rifiutare, "I can't understand what he says."

Ma dato le mie insistenze acconsentì. Ne fui felicissima, così potei andare a trovare delle amiche con mia sorella.

Al ritorno dal paese trovai John in compagnia di Giovanni che parlavano animatamente o meglio gesticolavano con le mani mentre gustavano del formaggio e un bicchiere di vino nuovo.

"Com'è andata?" Gli chiesi.

Mi guardò, e con un sorriso che gli illuminò il viso, mi rispose: "Oh Lina è stato stupendo, ho imparato l'Italiano e a fare il vino. Più bevevo più capivo tuo fratello, ci siamo detto tante cose, non immaginavo di sapere l'italiano così bene!"

L'indomani mattina, purtroppo, John non ricordava più niente.



How to Speak Italian for one day

John and I, married for a year now, decided to go to Italy to visit my family. John didn't know a word of Italian, and he felt uncomfortable. My brother Giovanni asked John to help him make wine, but John was on the verge of refusing, "I can't understand what he says." But given my insistence, he agreed.

I was pleased so that I could visit some friends with my sister. On the way back from town, I found John and Giovanni were speaking animatedly, waving their hands in the air while enjoying cheese and a glass of new wine.

"How did it go?" I asked him.

He looked at me, and with a smile that illuminated his face, replied, "Oh Lina, it has been wonderful. I learned Italian and how to make wine, and the more I drank, the more I understood your brother; we said so many things, I did not imagine I knew Italian so well!"

The following day, unfortunately, John no longer remembered anything.

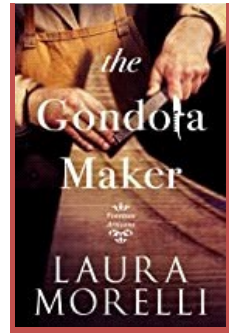
Lina Decrescenzo



The Gondola Maker

by

Laura Morelli



This book takes the reader back to 1581, in Venice, with Luca Vianello and his family's historic gondola-making enterprise passed down through generations. Young Luca is not only the heir, but incredibly talented. Sadly, a tragic accident causes Luca to run away, and he is forced to find another way to use his craft.

Morelli goes into depth about gondolas, coveted by the rich Venetians who were obsessed with making them more lavish, ostentatious. They were luxury craft. Read and learn about the ferros, the ornamentations on the front, which serve as a counterweight for the rower; forcolas, the oarlocks which allow for slow rowing, turning, slowing down, rowing backwards, stopping. Did you ever wonder why the gondolier always rows on the same side? It is because the gondolas are asymmetrical so this enables balance.

Luca's family lived in a squero. At the time of this story there were hundreds of these along the waterways of Venice. Many times the squero consisted of a two story building with a workshop on the first floor and living quarters on the second. They all had an inclined plane to connect to the waterway. Depending on the success of the craftsman, squeros would have a family home separate from the workshop. These were usually on square plots. Some actually still exist today.

I found myself on the internet looking up gondola history and learned that the Venetian Senate issued a law in 1562 which mandated all gondolas be black and bare, eliminating the luxury. This is somewhat like the "bonfire of the vanities" in Florence at the end of the 1400's.

The author enlightens the reader about the craftsman vs. the unbelievable wealth in that city. She also mentions churches that aren't on the regular scenic tour – San Silvestro, San Biagio, San Francesco della Vigna. I enjoyed the book, and Laura Morelli motivated me to do some research. So, I learned a lot. I hope you do, too.



Movie Night

Thursday Jan 20th at 7 pm

A cultural event film if there ever was one! Hilarious! Two Italian brothers put their last dollar into saving their New Jersey restaurant.

Tony Greco's rating: 5

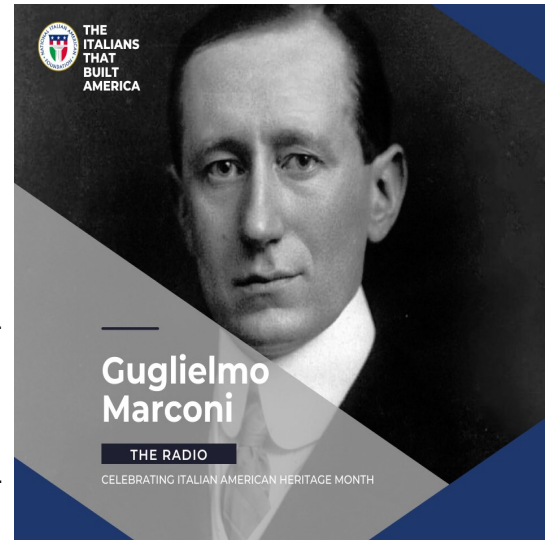


Free snacks provided BYOB

The Italians That Built America:

Guglielmo Marconi

Guglielmo Marconi was an Italian inventor and engineer best known for his work in long-distance radio transmission and his development of “Marconi’s law.” Born in Bologna in 1874 to Italian nobility, Marconi was privately tutored for much of his childhood and then later attended the famed University of Bologna. From a young age, he had an interest in science and electricity – more specifically, radio waves. He began conducting his own experiments, alone in his villa, with the goal of creating “wireless telegraphy;” that is, the ability to transmit telegraph messages without connecting wires—standard practice with the electric telegraph.



Marconi continued his work with the British at the BT Centre, where he successfully transmitted wireless signals. He was soon invited to the United States, where he began attempts to complete a transatlantic telegraph. In 1902, a transmission from Marconi’s established “Marconi Station” in Nova Scotia, Canada, became the world’s first radio message to cross the Atlantic from the United States to the United Kingdom. Marconi’s wireless transmissions played a significant role in assisting in maritime rescues, which made Marconi quite popular and famous (he even investigated the sinking of the RMS Titanic). He also developed “Marconi’s law,” the relation between the height of antennas and the maximum signaling distance of radio transmissions. He was widely recognized for his accomplishments in the United States, the UK, and Italy and received numerous awards. Marconi died in Rome in 1937.

-Al Massanti



New Year’s Eve fireworks over *Castel Nuovo* and *Napoli Harbor*

Our Italian Adventure

Episode 2: Our Introduction to *Napoli*

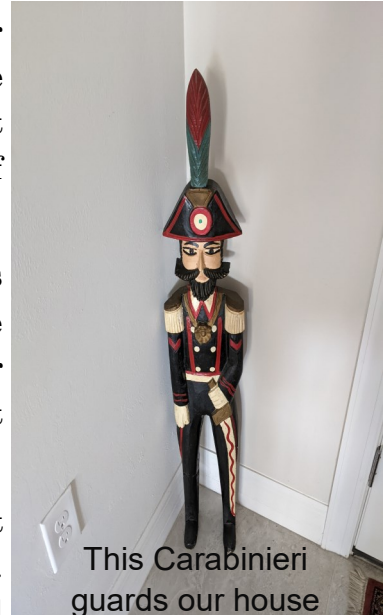
Our Navy sponsor booked rooms for us in the *Hotel Montespina*, a cozy place high on a bluff and only walking distance from the Naval Support Activity. We were lucky, because it was early August, when it seems all of Italy goes on vacation. The hotel was half a block from a very popular *terme*, where *Carabinieri* from *Milano* to *Messina* came for the mud baths and steamy showers.

We would be hotel guests for about three months while we waited for our furniture and household goods to arrive by ship from the US. The manager welcomed us and made us feel comfortable. He explained that supper in the dining room would begin at 7 PM nightly, and the chef would provide us many tempting local dishes.

When we began eating in the hotel restaurant, we were a little anxious because the menu (which changed daily) was printed in Italian, and we felt uneasy using our Italian-English dictionary in front of the other guests. But the waiters were patient and often translated for us. That seemed to work very well until the evening when *Coniglio* was featured.



Our waiter didn't know the English word for it but the four men at the next table quickly figured it out. They leapt to their feet and began jumping up and down with their hands by their ears imitating bunnies. Taking that cue, twenty other tables responded and soon the whole roomful of *Carabinieri* was hopping around and laughing with the American family they had adopted.



This Carabinieri guards our house

Ciao for now. Next month: We meet some of the more *colorful* local characters.

George Palmer

Napoli with Vesuvio in the background.



Carabinieri on parade