



NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

The Italian Center | 227 Mill Street Poughkeepsie NY 12603 USA | (845) 454-1492

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Newsletter Committee Report

Members and Friends of the Italian Center... May you cherish the special time spent with your family and friends during the upcoming holiday season and make many great memories!

We have so many great upcoming events at the Italian Center and we hope you will join us... Thank you for the continued support! *Dylan Harris, Secretary*

November/December - Events

Friday Night Dinner 5:00 – 9:00 pm / Dancing 8:00 – 11:00 pm

November 1 – Eric Santana D.J.

November 8 – Cruise Control

November 15 – Jungle Love

November 22 – Midnight Image

December 6 – Cruise Control

December 20 – Midnight Image

December 27 – Jungle Love

For Reservations: 845-454-1492 Ext. 3 or www.theitaliancenter.com

November 2 - Dinner and Show: Keith Dougherty “Bachelorette Party” (6:00PM)

November 4 - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting (6:00PM) - Provincial Dinner (Sicily) - \$25.00

November 5 - Members Meeting Night (6:00PM) - Joe Fiacco at 845-471-3965

November 11 - Riverbank Banjo Band (7:00PM - 9:00 PM) | Happy Hour (4:30PM- 8:00PM)

November 16 - Dinner Show featuring The Cast of Beatlemania (6:00PM to 10:00PM)

November 18 - Ladies Auxiliary Vendor’s Fair (6:00PM)

November 19 - Italian Movie “Happy As Lazzaro” (6:30PM - Doors Open | 7:00PM - Movie)

November 20 - Pirandello Institute Dinner Night (6:00PM)

November 26 - Provincial Night: Bologna - Joe Fiacco at 845-471-3965

December 2 - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting (Pizza/Salad - 6:00PM | Meeting - 7:00PM)

December 3 - Members Meeting Night (6:00PM) - Joe Fiacco at 845-471-3965

December 9 - Riverbank Banjo Band (7:00PM - 9:00 PM) | Happy Hour (4:30PM- 8:00PM)

December 13 - Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Party (6:00PM)

December 15 - Children’s Christmas Party (12:00PM to 4:00PM)

December 16 - Riverbank Banjo Band (7:00PM - 9:00 PM) | Happy Hour (4:30PM- 8:00PM)

December 17 - Provincial Night: Annual Christmas Provincial - Joe Fiacco at 845-471-3965

December 18 - Pirandello Institute Dinner Night (6:00PM)

December 22 - Member’s Christmas Party (12:00PM to 4:00PM)

Happy Hours (4:30PM - 8:00PM) | Saturday Lunch (11:30AM - 2:00PM)

Happy Hours are closed on Tuesday... Special Member Pricing and Limited Bar Menu.

Everyone is welcomed to the Saturday Lunch.

President's Letter



Many thanks to all who participated in recognition of our Italian Heritage this past October. After we laid a wreath at the foot of the Columbus Statue, those attending withdrew into the Center for presentations and lunch. I'd like to thank John Mazzetti for speaking about how the Columbus statue came to be. John described how he participated on a committee to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of Christopher Columbus which undertook the building and dedicating of our landmark statue in Columbus' honor. It was interesting to learn, that this committee which was chaired by Dom Letterii also included Lenny Spinelli, Berto Vecchiarelli and John Mazzetti all long-term active current members. Notable is that although the 10-foot statue cost \$42,000 to build, the committee raised over \$70,000 to construct the statue and landscape the surrounding area.

We were honored to receive the Proclamation declaring October 2019 as Italian Heritage Month from both the Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro and City of Poughkeepsie Mayor Rollison. In effect, these Proclamations recognize the contributions that Italian Americans have made to America and that the Italian Center is dedicated to promoting, preserving and celebrating our Italian culture and traditions in our community.



Murder Mystery Manhattan Theater group will return on Saturday November 2nd for a "Bachelorette Party" which will entertain you as you enjoy a delicious dinner. Get your grin on and attend.

In case you missed the "Chicago 9" performance in October, the "Cast of Beatlemania" will perform on Saturday November 16th. We will also have a great selection of the best bands in the Hudson Valley every Friday night in November.



At the recent Progressive Ball, we dedicated our dance floor to our dear friend, Tony Comunale, who loved to dance at our Club.



Special thanks to our 2nd VP Pat Fasolino, who organized and supervised the repair of the paved area directly in front of the Club's entrance. Pat has been able to keep the Italian Center property looking great and has decorated the parking area entrance with the signs of Autumn.



The Board has been very busy trying to juggle the many demands that confront us. We encourage members to attend our monthly meetings which allow members to voice their concerns and give the Board the opportunity to listen to your concerns and respond accordingly. As many of you know the 2019 Membership drive has not been as successful as we hoped for. However, the Board is unanimously committed to keep the Italian Center open through 2020 and to continue to maintain the goals of the Italian Center in the local community.

Along those lines our Scholarship program does us proud. This Board honors the Scholarship's Boards efforts and offers congratulations to the recipients of the 2019 scholarship awards. **Franco Giangrasso, President**

1st Vice President's Letter

The month of October began with the recognition of our Italian Heritage with Proclamations from both the County Executive and the Mayor of the City of Poughkeepsie and ended with the 85th annual Progressive Ball.

It was at the Progressive Ball where we honored in Memoriam our good friend and brother Anthony "Tony" Comunale by declaring the dance floor the "Tony Comunale Dance Floor". As many of you, who have attended our Friday night dance and special events, know Tony was usually the first up to dance and the last to sit down.

Although October was busy, November is shaping up to be an exciting opportunity to come to the Club and enjoy dinner (or Saturday lunch), dancing (Friday nights), a show (The Cast of Beatlemania), or simply a chance to meet with your friends.

Please note that the Holidays are fast approaching and the "Gem of Downtown Poughkeepsie" is available for your personal or business Holiday parties. *Nick Conte, 1st Vice President*

Secretary's Letter

As always, we hope our newsletters provide not only information on upcoming events but also deeper insights into the heart of the Club – its Membership and its Spirit.

We appreciate your continued support and value your input/feedback... *Dylan Harris, Secretary*

Ladies Auxiliary - President's Letter

Ciao miei amici del Ladies Auxiliary!

Our next meeting will be held at 6:00pm on Monday, November 4th, and I am very excited about having our Provincial Dinner on that evening. I am confident that many of you will come and join us in "A Taste of Sicily". I will be the "guest chef" for the evening and many at the October meeting expressed interest in helping with the preparation on the dinner. If you are one of those people or were not there and would like to help out in some way, please contact me. The cost for the dinner is \$25 and I would very much appreciate it if you would call or email me to let me know you can attend. (845-453-8017)

The menu for the Provincial Dinner will be:

<u>Italian</u>	<u>English</u>
Arancini	Cheese Filled Rice Balls
Insalata di Arance Orange and Onion Salad	Orange and Fennel Salad
Pasta alla Norma	Small Rigatoni with Eggplant Sauce
Pasta con le Sarde	Spaghetti w/Sardines
Pollo al Marsala con Funghi	Chicken Marsala w/Mushrooms
Salsiccia al Vino	Sausage w/Wine
Torta Cannolo	Cannoli Cake

There are many of our members who are gluten intolerant or have celiac disease; please let me know if you will be attending and I will make sure that you have food you can eat that hasn't been cross-contaminated.

We were supposed to hold our monthly film night on Tuesday, October 15th, however, due to a scheduling issue, we did not show the film. We will be showing the film that was scheduled for October: "Lazzaro Felice" ("Happy as Lazzaro") on Tuesday, November 19th (doors open at 6:30PM) and hope you will be able to join us.

ITALIAN FILM NIGHT AT THE ITALIAN CENTER

Presents:

HAPPY AS LAZZARO



Tuesday, November 19, 7PM

227 Mill Street, Poughkeepsie, NY // Call Toni at 845-453-8017 for any questions

No Cost // Donations Welcomed

Doors open at 6:30 // Light Snack Served & Cash Bar

This is the tale of a meeting between Lazzaro, a young peasant so good that he is often mistaken for simple-minded, and Tancredi, a young nobleman cursed by his imagination. Life in their isolated pastoral village Inviolata is dominated by the terrible Marchesa Alfonsina de Luna, the queen of cigarettes. A loyal bond is sealed when Tancredi asks Lazzaro to help him orchestrate his own kidnapping. This strange and improbable alliance is a revelation for Lazzaro. A friendship so precious that it will travel in time and transport Lazzaro in search of Tancredi. His first time in the big city, Lazzaro is like a fragment of the past lost in the modern world.—*Neflix*

The Vendor Fair will be held on November 18th at 6:00pm. We have many of our favorite vendors and also some new ones. Plan on coming to start your holiday gift buying early and please remember that this is open to the public so bring a friend!

At the October meeting, we held our Annual Pink Auction. Please read the below article regarding the Ladies Auxiliary Pink Auction (Miles for Hope).

On Saturday, October 5th, we celebrated Italian American Heritage Month and Christopher Columbus. Please see the below article on the Italian Heritage Ceremony.

We started with a wreath-laying at the Christopher Columbus Statue in front of the Italian Center and enjoyed luncheon that was compliments of The Italian Center – mille grazie Franco Giangrasso.



After the luncheon we were visited by Christopher Columbus (Lou Gallo) himself!

I have to say, Mr. Gallo was very impressive. He spoke for about an hour and we all could have listened to more. As Christopher Columbus, he told the tales of his life and rebuked a lot of the concerns and accusations that have been brought up in the past few years regarding his legacy.

As Italians and Italian-Americans, we should be very disturbed by what is being said about Christopher Columbus and how the celebration of his life and explorations are being threatened.

I only wish more people were in attendance to listen to his story. Please read below.

A Presto... **Toni Ann Perry, President, Ladies Auxiliary**

Ladies Auxiliary - Pink Auction (Miles for Hope)

At the October meeting we held our annual Pink Auction in support of Breast Cancer awareness, patient support, and prevention and cures. We thank Marie Netti for working so hard and making this event one of our best.

Pari Forood, the Executive Director of Miles of Hope (to which what we collected went) came to kick off the event and she brought Dr. Salvatore Raccui, Director, Breast & Women's Imaging. Dr. Raccui gave a talk on what is available for screening and imaging. Very informative and we thank the Dr. and Pari for taking the time out to come and talk to us.



Editor's Note: As always, the Ladies' Auxiliary does our Club Family proud. Always lending a hand in the work; always working to promote our heritage and good will in the Community. In October their Auction and Heritage Ceremony show the spirit and resourcefulness that make organizations loved and great. We thank and applaud them.



Italian Heritage Ceremony - October 5th

Prior to the ceremony the audience gathered in the lounge of the Italian Center on the morning of Saturday, October 5th. When all the honored guest arrived Toni Perry, President of the Ladies Auxiliary asked the guests to proceed to the Columbus Statue in the front of the Italian Center.

The chairperson for the event Rosemarie Calista thanked everyone for coming to the ceremony and turned the program over to Toni Perry who along with Franco Giangrosso, President of the Italian Center placed a commemorative wreath on the base of the statue.

Franco welcomed the guests and dignitaries in attendance. He then introduced the Mayor of the City of Poughkeepsie, the Honorable Robert G. Rolison. Prior to presenting his Proclamation for the City in honor of "Italian Heritage Month" Mayor Rolison made some warm and memorable remarks about the history of our Italian community and how the Italian Center has added stability to the downtown area of the city.

Mayor Rolison then read the Proclamation from the City of Poughkeepsie.



Following the reading of the Proclamation and the remarks made by the Mayor, Franco Giangrasso introduced County Legislator Joseph Incoranato, representing County Executive Molinaro who read the following proclamation signed by the Dutchess County Executive.

County Legislator Incoranato then made the following remarks:

County Executive Molinaro's Proclamation certainly reminds us and reaffirms that this is a special time for our nation to honor and recall the achievements, contributions and culture of Italian immigrants and their descendants.

Both of the Proclamations can be viewed in the Proclamations section of this newsletter.

His special message not only acknowledges the great Genoese navigator's fantastic accomplishments, but also commemorates the immigration of more than 5 million Sicilian and other southern Italians during the half-century from 1880 through 1930.

My own parents immigrated from the Naples area in the 1920's, settling on Manhattan's East Harlem neighborhood. Where like some of you and our relatives, they hoped, labored and struggled to achieve the American Dream for themselves and the next generation.

Many first-generation Italian-Americans fought and served with honor and distinction in America's armed forces during World War II. In fact, we represented the largest ethnic group opposing our enemies at the time. We also take great pride in the fact that we of Italian ancestry are well represented as leaders in our communities, as entrepreneurs, in finance, in entertainment, as pioneers of industry....and especially in the arts.

For example, a little-known historical fact is that the chief carver directing the incredibly complex Mount Rushmore project was an Italian immigrant Luigi Del Bianco.

Between 1927 to 1941, he directed some 400 workers who were building an amazing presidential memorial that people from across the nation and around the world would come to see and admire.

Those who attended the Columbus Day luncheon two years ago may recall that his grandson, Lou Del Bianco was our invited guest. After lunch, he told us the absorbing story of his grandfather's vital role in overseeing and personally sculpting the intricate carving to the four presidents.



Indeed, this holiday should especially remind those of Italian ancestry to be justifiably proud of our heritage and its significant contributions to the vitality, progress and leadership of our nation.

As President Reagan remarked in one of his speeches, Columbus Day has become a day, "to celebrate not only a fearless searcher, but the dreams and opportunities that brought so many here after him".

And so today, we join the rest of our nation in continuing to recognize and honor this explorer's magnificent accomplishment now –and for centuries yet to come.

Franco Giangrasso the President of the Italian Center and Toni Ann Perry, president of the Ladies Auxiliary thanked both Mayor Rolison and County Legislator Incoranato for participating in the ceremony. They then invited everyone in attendance to join them in a complementary luncheon and program, hosted by the Italian Center in honor of Italian Heritage Month.

The speaker for the event Mr. Lou Gallo who is a professor of History and a member of the Sons and Daughters of Italy Grand Lodge of New York, Commission of Social Justice. Mr. Gallo was dressed in 15th Century clothing and spoke in the "1st person" as if he was Columbus dispelling the myths that have been spread about Christopher Columbus throughout the years.

Lou's presentation was simply outstanding, most informative and dispelled many of the untruths about Christopher Columbus his explorations, discoveries, him committing genocide and being a racist.

2019 Bacile Scholarship Awards

The Bacile Scholarship Fund Board of Directors are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2019 scholarship awards. Once again, it highlights a major benefit of being a member of the Italian Center/Ladies Auxiliary. All four scholars are children of members.

The 2019 funding raising effort was very successful, with net proceeds to the Fund exceeding \$13K. In view of this, the Scholarship Board of Trustees voted for a one time change to increase the number of awards in 2019 from three to four \$3,000 scholarships. Congratulations are extended to the following recipients:

Megan Gallucci, a 2018 graduate of Roy C. Ketcham Senior High School, is the daughter of Michael and Cynthia Gallucci. While at Ketcham, Megan was a member of the National Honor Society, the Italian National Honor Society, a recipient of an Academic Excellence in Italian Language award and was very involved in extracurricular activities which included responsibility for leadership positions in many groups. Megan is a 2nd year student at the College of St. Rose, where she is majoring in Music Education and has made the Dean's List. She is also president of the all-female A cappella Group and is a province Representative of the NAFME/NYSSMA Collegiate Board. Meghan reports her Italian Heritage has been a guiding light throughout her life. Italian Culture has influenced her choice and passion for music and helped her determine her collegiate ambition of studying music.

Corrado R. Mazzarelli is a 2nd year student at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he is seeking a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering. Corrado is a 2014 graduate of Spackenkill High School and is the son of Antonio and Maria Mazzarelli. While in high school, he received many honors and awards including National AP scholar, 2018 AP scholar with Distinction and was a 2018 Presidential Scholar Candidate. Corrado was part of the Onstage Drama Club, where he received the SHS Best Actor Award, active on the JV and Varsity Soccer Team and a member of the 2018 Math Team. At RPI, he has been active in Intramural Soccer and Ballroom Dance and is the RPI Ballroom Team Captain. Corrado has been greatly influenced by his Italian heritage and believes he inherited from his grandfather the mettle to carry on. He explains "Being Italian to me means understanding what it is like to be the underdog, yet not giving up in your endeavors".

Isabella Rose Mora is a 2nd year student at Pace University Manhattan where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree with a biology focus. Isabella graduated from Highland High School in 2018 and is the daughter of Brian and Liz Mora. During high school she was on the National Honor Society, Tri M Music Honor Society.... where she was also Vice President, and active in many clubs and activities. Throughout most of this time, Isabella was a Dual Enrollment Student earning many college credits while maintaining a rigorous schedule of dance with the Kerry Dance Academy. She has made the Dean's List and the National Biological Honor Society at Pace and is a member of the Global Brigades Club. She demonstrated her determination and ability for hard work by maintaining a schedule during high school, including dual enrollment, dance and homework, which would prevent her from going to bed, most nights, before 2:00AM. Isabella earned enough credits to be able complete her BS in three years and go onto further her education in the medical field.

Miranda Schiavone, a 2018 graduate of Arlington High School, is the daughter of Joseph and Annelise Schiavone. Miranda is a 2nd year student at Penn State University and is working on a BS degree in mathematics with a minor in economics. While at Arlington, she was active in martial arts, received her 3rd degree Black Belt designation and was actively involved with the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry and St. Columba Church Parish. She was a member of the National Honor Society, the Spanish Honor Society and received many other awards and recognitions. Miranda received an IBM Thomas J. Watson Memorial Scholarship. At Penn State she is active in the Newman Catholic Student Assoc., intramural tennis and many other activities and was named to the National Society of Leadership and Success. From a young age she has been dedicated to martial arts and

had achieved her 3rd degree black belt by age 15. Marinda feels her martial arts experience has helped build her character with inner strength and determination to help her be a strong leader who leads by example.

The Board of Directors thanks those who applied for scholarships. Many outstanding students apply; unfortunately, not all can be selected. However, 2nd year students will have two more years to apply; 3rd year students can apply next year.

Membership Committee Report

Please take a moment to update your member information... If you have had some changes or simply would like to update your information with us, please send us an email at membership@theitaliancenter.com.

If you or someone you know would like to join, click the following to access the [Membership Application](#).

Please contact Nick Liguori at nfliguori@yahoo.com or call 845-309-2054 to help with the Membership Committee and/or provide ideas on how to attract and sustain good Members.

Along these lines I offered these ideas last month and again I'll highlight:

ASK SOMEONE TO JOIN OUR CLUB

ASK SOMEONE TO ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER

BECOME AN ITALIAN CENTER BOOSTER

GET SOMEONE TO READ OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The Club wants to be something special in the lives of its members and the community – get involved – make it happen – **it can and should be Great!**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The membership of the Italian Center would like to welcome our newest members! We are all very pleased that you joined our club and hope you participate and volunteer in the many activities and events. We also hope you bring your family and friends to your club and sponsor some new members. A special thanks to our current members who told you about our club and sponsored your membership.

Congratulations to all our new members for becoming the best part of our club, the membership!

Nominations and Elections of 2020 Trustees

Special Member Notice - Attention All Italian Center Members... The Nominating Committee would like to inform you that you have until the November Membership Meeting (**Tuesday, November 5th**) to nominate a member(s) to fill (3) three, 3-year Trustee positions on the Board of Trustees. There will be a total of three positions available and members must be present to vote. To be an eligible nominee the member must have paid his next year's dues (2020) either at or before the November 4th meeting.

The following Trustees terms will be expiring on December 31, 2019:

- Franco Giangrasso | Nick Liguori | Carmine Mastrangelo

Currently the following members' names have been nominated:

- Rick Bottini | Ernie Bruno | Franco Giangrasso | Nick Liguori | Carmine Mastrangelo | Jack Peluse

If you would like to nominate one or more members to fill any or all the 3 positions, please contact either member of the Nominating Committee.

Al Roberts, Nominating Committee
(914) 475-4151 | aroberts@srddl.com

John Mazzetti, Nominating Committee
(845) 797-5506 | john.mazzetti@yahoo.com

Wellness Committee Report

Convalescing at Home

Carmine Iadarola, Jr. | Giulio DiGiacomo | Sheldon 'Jiggs' Vetter

Residing at Assisted Living Facilities

Vincent Gabriele | Joe Dolce | Joseph Petito

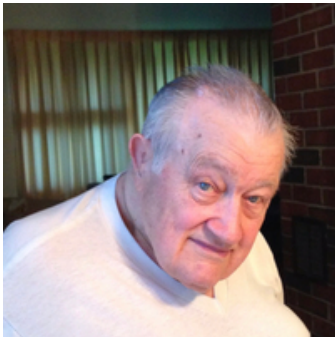
Deceased

Albert T. DeMarco, Sr.



Deceased Members October 2018 – October 2019

Anthony Comunale | Albert T. DeMarco, Sr. | Edward Kirby | Forrest Cousins | Lawrence Natoli
John Fiore, Sr. | Louis Nazzaro | Salvatore Gallo | Anthony Stortini | Americo Imperatore



Albert T. DeMarco, Sr. of Marlboro, NY, entered eternal rest on October 10, 2019 at Kaplan Family Hospice Residence in Newburgh, NY, the same city in which he was born and raised. He was 91 years old. He was the son of the late Dominick and Margaret DeMarco.

In 1951, he married his late wife of 62 years, Carmela DeMarco for whom he greatly missed over the past five years.

Al did short duty in the US Navy. He retired from IBM after a long and successful career. He also did part time work as a tax preparer. He was a member of the Italian Center in Poughkeepsie. "Big Al" was a strong and quiet man who was extremely devoted to his family. He was known for his love of sweets and video poker.

He is survived by his children Albert Jr. and Francine, grandchildren Albert III, Christina, and Sabrina, and a great grandson, Logan. In addition to his parents and wife, he was predeceased by his infant son, Thomas, as well as his brothers Eugene, Joseph and Frank.

Al was a thoughtful and caring man. He touched many via IBM positively. A credit to his heritage.

Advertising Committee Report

Thank you to the below advertisers for their generous support which helps the club provide our members and community with many Italian events and activities. We encourage our membership and all readers of our newsletter to support these great businesses. Full advertisements can be viewed in the Patrons and Supporters section of this newsletter and also viewed on www.theitaliancenter.com.

[FRIENDLY AUTO GROUP](#) | [MICHAEL TORSONE MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME, INC.](#)
[WILLIAM G. MILLER & SON FUNERAL HOME, INC.](#) | [SEVEN BRIDGES WEALTH ADVISORS](#)
[PRIME WEALTH MANAGEMENT](#) | [ARTHUR DEDOMINICIS, CPA](#) | [CR PROPERTIES GROUP](#)
[ADRIANA GALLO - INSURANCE AGENT](#) | [LOUISE MARCIGLIANO, LCSW](#)
[MILTON HARDWARE & BUILDING SUPPLY](#) | [SABIA AUTO EXCHANGE](#)
[HYDE PARK BREWING COMPANY](#) | [LEWIS & GREER, PC](#)

For advertising information, please contact Nick Liguori at nfliguori@yahoo.com or call 845-309-2054.

ITALIAN CENTER ADVERTISING FORM

For over a century, the Italian Center has served many members and the local community. It’s a well-known Club that celebrates Italian customs, traditions and cultural heritage. Beyond that, it hosts events and provides activities that serve the public at large. Many directly and through our public newsletter and websites have contact with the Club.

Your advertisement will be seen by our members and the public on “www.theitaliancenter.com” and in our monthly newsletter. These things are “online” and a link to your website will be provided. We strongly encourage our members, families, friends and the public to consider our advertisers. Please consider an ad in our publications/website. If you have any questions, please contact Nick Liguori, 845-309-2054 or nfliguori@yahoo.com.

Advertisements are priced accordingly based on a ¼ print page being about 14 sq. inches in the Newsletter:

For 12 months: Quarter (¼) Page is \$100, Half (½) Page is \$200, Full Page is \$400
(Actual sizing may vary on the website with user settings, etc.)

Business Name _____ Website _____

Contact _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Ad Size _____

Email _____

Please send your ad copy including graphics and this information and your payment to:

The Italian Center (Attn: Advertising Chairman), 227 Mill Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Booster Committee Report

The membership of the Italian Center would like to thank the following Boosters who have contributed to our club so we can continue to provide many activities and events to our members and community.

Thank you to all who have joined our Boosters, we recognize your generous contributions!

David and Anita Freer (\$100)	Vincent and Barbara Corona (\$100)
Tony and Elizabeth Daniele (\$100)	Nick Liguori and Family (\$100)
Umberto and Lisa Vecchiarelli (\$100)	John Bordi and Family (\$100)
Harry J. Stellar (\$100)	Anonymous (\$100)
Anonymous (\$250)	

If you would like to join our Boosters, please send a check for \$100, along with your name, phone, email and the name you would like listed to the Italian Center.

All boosters and contributions will be listed for one year in our monthly newsletters.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name to Appear of Booster List: _____

Send to: The Italian Center (Attn: Booster Chairman), 227 Mill Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Provincial Night Committee Report

Our Provincial Nights are a great experience and have become a tradition here at our club, it's one of the many ways we come together and celebrate our culture... Join us at the next one, you won't be disappointed!

Region	Province	Date	Chairman
Calabria	Catanzaro		Pat Fasolino
Abruzzo	Pescara		Franco Giangrasso
Campania	Napoli		Franco Giangrasso
Puglia	Bari		Franco Giangrasso
Sicily	Tutte		Franco Giangrasso
Toscany	Firenze		Franco Giangrasso
Lombardy	Milano		Franco Giangrasso
Veneto	Venezia		Franco Giangrasso
Liguria	Genovese		Franco Giangrasso
Lazio	Roma		Franco Giangrasso
Emilia-Romagna	Bologna	11/26/2019	Franco Giangrasso

Provincial Nights (Le serate provinciali) are amazing! Your place at the Table Awaits!

For reservations, please call **Joe Fiacco** at **845-471-3965**

<http://www.comuni-italiani.it/index.html>

<https://www.tuttocitta.it/>

Super 150 Club Fundraiser

Italian Center Members, Ladies Auxiliary Members and Friends of the Italian Center...

THE SUPER 150 CLUB IS BACK!

I am pleased to announce the 22nd Annual Club drawing for this year. Just like last year, the “Super 150 Club” will offer only 150 tickets at \$150 per ticket.

We will be offering **12 cash prizes totaling \$11,250: 1st Place Prize \$5,000, 2nd Place Prize \$2,000, 3rd Place Prize \$1,000, Four (4) 4th Place Prizes of \$500 each, Five (5) 5th Place Prizes of \$250.** All the net proceeds go to the Club’s Building Fund.

Each year through the efforts of the committee members this event has been a “sell out” so get your tickets early. **All drawings will take place at the Italian Center on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 8:00pm.** You do not need to be present to win.

As always, we would like to thank you and our Italian Center Friends for your continued support and wish you the very best of luck in this year’s “Super 150 Club” drawing.

If you would like a ticket, all you need to do is contact me at 845-379-0220 or at ray@raichelawfirm.com or Mark Webber at 845-235-2116 or golfpres1959@aol.com. You can also speak with any “Super 150 Club” committee member to purchase a ticket or you can get one at the bar, or on Provincial or Meeting night.

GET YOUR
TICKETS NOW

Remember, twelve tickets are going to win. Why not yours?! As the old saying goes: **You’ve Got To Be In It To Win It...** *Ray Raiche - Chairman, Super 150 Club*

85th Annual Progressive Ball - Sunday, October 26th

The **85th Progressive Ball** represents a long-held tradition that the founders of the Italian Center established; that the Center will honor its most outstanding members for their exemplary service and contributions to our organization. It has also been an opportunity for members to come together as a community and celebrate our heritage as well as the year’s honorees.

This year’s Progressive Ball is no different. True, it may not be a “Black Tie affair” with a dais full of Dutchess County notables as we have done in our past, but it will allow the members to thank the honorees and their families for all that they have done on our behalf.

This year’s honorees: **Vin Corona, Joe Giangrasso, and Anthony “Tony” Comunale, in Memoriam,** are classic examples of what qualifies an outstanding member over a period of years. It is not that they had assumed the burdens of leadership positions in the Club, but more that their continued, unheralded efforts to help our organization function on a daily basis, and to help sustain the sense of community.



As for our late, dear friend and brother, Anthony “Tony” Comunale, we will dedicate the dance floor in the Italian Center in Tony’s name. What better way to say thank you to a man who raised close to \$300,000 with 50/50 raffles, the ‘250’ club, annual trips to the Saratoga Race track, etc.. Tony loved to dance, and he was generally the first up to dance.

[Editor: he also loved the mic and we'll miss his encouragements and messages dearly] We will honor Tony one more time, but he will always be with us, especially when the music plays.

We honor our outstanding members for their years of service to our community, and we thank all our members for their support and membership. In short, the Italian Center is a community of Italian Americans who wish to sustain their unique culture and their heritage through membership in the Italian Center.

Proclamations

Proclamation

WHEREAS, since the historic journey of Christopher Columbus, generations of Italian immigrants have risked everything to follow their dream of coming to America; and

WHEREAS, these brave people came to a strange land; without knowledge of the language and in most cases, with very little money. Due to their great strength of character they survived and prospered; and

WHEREAS, for generations Italian American culture has been steeped in the family, food, music, arts and language, the traditions carry on today through practical living, working hard, eating well, and simply living the Italian way; and

WHEREAS, the Poughkeepsie Italian Center, the Ladies Auxiliary and Noi Italiani d'Oggi (NIDO), are Italian-American cultural Organizations dedicated to promoting the Italian culture and language. They are working together to promote Italian heritage month in the city of Poughkeepsie; and

WHEREAS, October is a month for all people to celebrate the legacy of Italy that has been maintained in the lives of Italian Americans. It is a time to show their pride, share their traditions and celebrate their culture; and

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Poughkeepsie, on behalf of the Poughkeepsie Common Council and all citizens hereof, I do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2019 as:

“Italian Heritage Month” in the City of Poughkeepsie, New York



Done under my hand and the Seal of the
City of Poughkeepsie this 23rd Day of
September in the year 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rob Rolison'.

Robert G. Rolison, Mayor



Dutchess County Executive

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** the world has never been the same since the historic journey of Christopher Columbus. Since then, generations of Italian immigrants have risked everything to follow their dream of coming to America; and
- WHEREAS,** these brave people came to a strange land, without knowledge of the language and in most cases, with very little money. Due to their great strength of character they survived and prospered; and
- WHEREAS,** Italian Americans have helped shape and develop our nation and play a vital role in the political, social, and economic system of our County and State.; and
- WHEREAS,** the Poughkeepsie Italian Center is dedicated to promoting, preserving and celebrating Italian culture and traditions; and
- WHEREAS,** October is a month for all people to celebrate the legacy of Italy that has been maintained in the lives of Dutchess County Italian Americans. It is a time to show their pride, share their traditions and celebrate their culture.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARCUS J. MOLINARO, County Executive of Dutchess County, do hereby proclaim October 2019 as *Italian Heritage Month* in Dutchess County in honor of all Italian Americans in Dutchess County and across America.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 5th day of October, 2019.

MARCUS J. MOLINARO
Dutchess County Executive

Newsletter Submissions

Want a Bit of Good Italian Style Serious Silliness - [Gianni Rodari](#) (Submitted by Tony Daniele)

Giovanni "Gianni" Rodari (23 October 1920 – 14 April 1980) was born in born in [Omegna](#), a small town on [Lake Orta](#) in the [province of Novara](#) in northern Italy. His father died when he was young and his mother raised him in a small [Varese](#) village (her home before marriage). Maybe some of you know the area?

A smart boy he went into the seminary to get a proper education (wasn't that the way – I know it was for my family). He didn't come out a cleric (not the first to take the education and run) but did develop into an award winning Italian writer and journalist. Not Sicilian by long shot but I don't hold that against him 😊.

He wrote what can be called children's books but like Lewis Carroll he was making adult social commentary through them. His [*Il romanzo di Cipollino*](#) a prime example. For his lasting contribution as a children's writer he received the biennial [Hans Christian Andersen Medal](#) in 1970 and many consider him Italy's most important twentieth-century children's author.

He has given me many giggles and a few profound thoughts through the years. I've only read him in Italian and if my wife and kids are any judge his stories may, as my nonna used to say, "lose in the translation". But probably that's my failing as a translating storyteller and I am sure his works properly translated into English work well because his books have been translated into many languages with much success. Sadly, few have been published in English. My GUESS is that his works being very successful in Soviet Union made them somewhat untouchable in USA/England at the time (mid-1900s).

Bottom line: if you cannot read him in Italian (preferred) get his work in English because they are amusing windows into the Italian mindset and culture of mid-20th Century.

I close offering a couple Rodari works I thought were genius that are easy reads: [*Novelle fatte a macchina*](#) and [*Favole al telefono*](#). You know you are into satira italiana pieno d'umorismo when you read a story that starts with "Un coccodrillo si presenta alla sede della RAI-TV, viale Mazzini 14, Roma, e chiede di essere ricevuto dal direttore del programma [Rischiatutto](#) [condotto da [Mike Bongiorno](#)] .." Impossibile a non ridere - almeno un po' – provateci! I believe [Telephone Tales](#) (a good start) in English will be out in December 2019 and [Amazon](#) is taking orders.

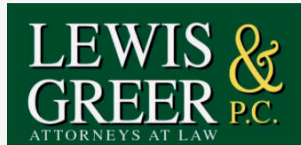


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With over 35 years of experience in the financial industry, Adriana joined our agency in 2016. She resides in the Hudson Valley area with her three children and is involved in the community by volunteering her time at the Putnam County Veteran Services. Adrianna is fluent in Italian and loves helping customers feel welcome at the agency. [read less...](#)



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