

DECEMBER 2010

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

What an amazing series of events we've just witnessed! Can you believe the S.F. Giants won the World Series and the 49ers won a game?? We have a new Governor and Nancy Pelosi is no longer Speaker of the House. We'll soon find out if these changes are good news or bad news. One of our very own has been elected to the County Board of Supervisors...Congratulations Mr. Don Horsley! A lot of propositions were passed and some went up in smoke. All the supper-time phone calls are over. It seemed as if every time I sat down to eat or watch TV the phone would ring. I would stop what I was doing only to hear (in my case, almost hear) some stranger telling me why I should vote a certain way. By the time I got back to my program I would have to rewind to remember what was going on, only to have the phone ring again just as I was catching up. They had me going in circles. And more on the subject of bells ringing; at the last Friday Dance I thought some ladies were whistling at me until I realized it was my hearing aids. Bummer!

I was told the recent rabbit and polenta dinner was excellent thanks to Chairman Andy Baldi and his committee including Judy Baldi, Michelle Baldi Graf, Nella and Mario Conti, Angelo Fanucchi, Gary Cahalan and Rudy Bertolozzi. I missed it but I'll try to hop in to the next one.

The next voice you read will be my conscience: Halloween brought back memories of a time, as a kid, when I went trick-or-treating with Ralph Delpiano and Jimmy Tarantino in San Francisco's Marina district. We'd press a buzzer on an apartment building and ask, "Trick or Treat?" when the resident came on the speaker. If we didn't get a treat we would provide the trick by sticking a toothpick in the buzzer and running away. The person would have to come down and remove the toothpick and if we deemed them to be especially mean we'd do it again! That was about as devilish as a parochial school kid got in those days. I just hope it wasn't one of your households. There, I said it and I don't feel any better. Maybe it was too much fun.

I was advised that in the last President's Corner I neglected to mention a few other things we've done at the club in 2010. We replaced our old coffee urn, upgraded the alarm system, painted and enhanced the bocce court with additional murals, widened the kitchen doorway and began serving better quality meats.

Well, put a fork in me - I'm done for the year.

I hope you all have (or had) a wonderful Thanksgiving. Cherish the time with your families and have a Merry Christmas.

Ciao for now,
Emil Giannoni
President
Sempre Avanti

Food for thought: An intellectual is someone who can listen to the William Tell Overture without thinking of the Lone Ranger.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Dec 1** Board of Directors Mtg. 7 PM
- Dec 3** Friday Dinner Dance, Roast NY Strip or Roasted Chicken* 7 PM dinner, 8 to 11:30 dancing to the music of the Bob Gutierrez Band. Members \$27.00, Guests \$35.00
- Dec 14** Scholarship Committee Mtg. 6 PM
- Dec 14** General Dinner Mtg., Roast NY Strip or Roasted Chicken* with Minestrone Soup 7 PM
- Dec 15** Board of Directors Mtg. 7 PM
- Dec 17** Friday Luncheon, noon, Baby Back Ribs or Roasted Chicken* \$18.00
- Jan 5** Board of Directors Mtg. 7 PM
- Jan 11** General Dinner Mtg. 7 PM

*Where indicated, Roasted Chicken is available if ordered in advance.

NOTE: There will be no Fellowship Night in December.

SUNSHINE

Get well wishes to:

Gianpiero Pucci
Franca Chiappe
Barbara Downing

Sympathy to:

Mafalda Mencarini (loss of husband Dino)

Congratulations to:

Bat and Olga Cava on their 70th wedding anniversary.
Egisto and Mary Fanti on their 60th wedding anniversary.

By Charlotte Conway (650) 341-4926
E-Mail charswebb2@aol.com

ATTENTION MEMBERS

The PIASC would like members to please inform the club if you know of any relative who was a member that has passed away so the club can acknowledge them.

THANK YOU - PATIO CLEANUP

Angelo Fanucchi would like to thank the following persons for donating their time to help trim the trees and clean the patio: Mario Patane, Bob Mariani, John Gonella, Jim Pine, Dave Armanino, Bob Batkovic and Sebastiao Eiras.

CORRECTION TO NYE FLYER

Ravioli will be served instead of Tortellini for the NYE Dinner Dance.



ELECTION OF 2011 OFFICERS

Election of officers will be held at the December 14, 2010 General Dinner Meeting. All members in good standing and senior members will vote for the following:

Board of Directors: (3 openings) (3 year term)

Andy Baldi, Joseph Balsama, Mario Conti, Francesco Curci, Achille Rodighiero and Bert Salvato.

NOTE: At the General Dinner Meeting on November 9, 2010, a hand vote was taken for all the officers for 2011 who ran unopposed and passed overwhelmingly that they be elected by acclamation.

TRIVA

ANCIENT GREECE IN MODERN CALABRIA

Ah, Southern Italy! The scent of almond blossoms and lemon trees wafting through the air, the clanging bells of old churches ringing over red tiled rooftops, and the gentle chatter of Greek on the streets and in the shops. Un momento! Greek?

MAGNA GRECIA

More than seven centuries before the birth of Christ, well before the first Roman set foot in southern Italy, the Greeks had built colonies along the shores of Calabria and Eastern Sicily that became Magna Grecia or Great Greece. The area was home to such renowned historical figures as the poet, Theocritus and mathematician and inventor, Archimedes, and remained part of the Greek Empire until the Romans annexed it in the third century B.C. The Romans brought their own settlements, but remained respectful of the Greeks, allowing them to maintain their own language and culture. In fact, Greek was treated as a second language in Rome where there was a sizeable Greek minority well into the Christian era.

Franco Mosino, professor in Reggio Calabria, has even argued that it was the Western Greeks who developed the Greek alphabet and wrote The Odyssey. "Many geographical names in the area are prominent figures in the tale," he says. "The monster Scylla is now the town of Scilla, overlooking the Strait of Messina; and Acolus, keeper of the winds, gave the name to the Acolian Islands just north of Sicily. "Some argue that ancient Greek has survived through the centuries up in Calabria's isolated mountain villages where the pastoral life permitted the villagers to keep to themselves well into the twentieth century. Even today these small mountain communities seem a world away from the coast through now there are at least drivable roads. The Romans brought Latin to Calabria and along the coast many people picked it up, eventually turning it into what we now call Italian, but two hundred years before Rome fell, the Greek Byzantine Empire showed up in the sixth century A.D. Its people spoke the Neo-Hellenic language of Athens, a more recent form of Greek and gave the region its name, *Tema tis Calavria* (now Calabria). There is an academic disagreement about whether the version of Greek spoken in Calabria is of Byzantine or Ancient Greek origin. Some words have survived from all the way back to the years Magna Grecia, but the survival of the entire language is threatened in the regions isolated Greco-Calabrian villages like Galliciano. "There used to be three elementary school teachers here and a doctor," says Leo, a local resident. "Now there's nothing. The only thing our young people want to learn is to drive." Calabrian Greek survives primarily through an oral tradition as the language of shepherds and villagers, though some written examples exist, usually in Latin script. The nineteenth century found folklorists transcribing local songs for posterity and more recently local writers have created original works that seek to preserve the language. A few local groups have occasional concerts, sometimes in exotic settings like the haunting abandoned Greek village of Roghudi deep in the Amendola Valley.

Source: Italian American Magazine.

(Part 1 of 2)



*Merry
Christmas*





MISSION OF THE PIASC

To preserve and enhance our rich Italian heritage and culture by promoting and providing social, recreational, educational, and entertainment programs and activities for our members, their families, and friends.



COORITALIA

ROOF TILES STONE WINDOWS

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CLUB HOURS

BAR: Tuesday thru Sunday, 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM except Friday, 3:00 to 11:00 PM.
OFFICE: Tuesday thru Saturday, Noon - 5 PM.
The Club is closed on Mondays.

**KEEP THE DATE OPEN
JANUARY 21, 2011
FOR THE BOCCE & PEDRO GAMES
FROM 6:30 TO 10:30 PM AT THE PIASC.
ENJOY A FUN EVENING.
NO CHARGE !!**

UPCOMING MAJOR EVENTS FOR 2010

Dec. 5 Appreciation Party
Dec. 12 Children's Xmas Party
Dec. 31 NYE Dinner Dance

Officers for 2010

President Emil Giannoni
Vice-President Angelo Fanucchi
Treasurer Henry Bergero
Secretary George Lencioni

Board Members

Emil Bagneschi John Bagneschi
Andrew Baldi Angelo Cacciatore
Gary Cahalan Renato Cernobori
Remo Giuntoli Alfredo Lucchesi
Bert Salvato

**FRIDAY LUNCHEON
DECEMBER 17, 2010**

**BABY BACK RIBS
OR**

**ROASTED CHICKEN
\$18.00**

**FOR RESERVATIONS SEND IN
COUPON WITH PAYMENT**

SERVERS WANTED

The PIASC is asking members who have grandchildren who might be interested to serve on tables at our events. Qualifications are: Have to be at least 16 years old, required work permit from high school and a copy of their Social Security card.

Please contact Gordon Fraser at (650) 343-7981.

3RD FRIDAY LUNCHEON

I PLAN ON ATTENDING THE FRIDAY LUNCHEON ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2010, AND REQUEST:

_____ # OF TICKETS AT \$18.00 PER PERSON (PAYABLE IN ADVANCE)

HOW MANY: BABY BACK RIBS _____ OR ROASTED CHICKEN _____

NOTE: RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BY WEDNESDAY, NOON!!!

I AM ENCLOSING MY CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____

NAME: _____

I WISH TO SIT WITH: _____

Make check payable to PIASC and mail to: 100 North B Street, San Mateo, CA 94401

PIASC 2011 WINTER BOCCE BALL LEAGUE

Start Date – Tuesday Players – January 25, 2011
Start Date – Thursday Players – January 27, 2011

Cost - \$40.00 - PIASC Member players (includes sit-down dinner with wine & dessert)
\$45.00 - Non-PIASC Member players (includes sit-down dinner with wine & (dessert)
\$25.00 - Guests (sit-down dinner only)

TUESDAY NIGHT _____ THURSDAY NIGHT _____

NAME: _____

PHONE NO.: _____

I AM ENCLOSING MY CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____

Checks payable to PIASC and please send the payment to:

Angelo Fanucchi
3721 Wilshire Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403

For additional information please contact Mario Patane at 650-598-9862.

PLEASE GET YOUR REGISTRATION IN EARLY - This year the league will be limited to nine teams on Tuesday night and nine teams on Thursday night. Therefore, the registration is on a first come first serve basis.

PIASC club members' registration is open. The Non-PIASC members' registration will begin immediately, but the players will not be considered until after January 3, 2011. **ALL REGISTRATION DEADLINE – January 14, 2011.**

For courtesy to the other players, if you know that you will be missing more than 2 games, **please do not sign-up to play.**
Please do not wear high heel shoes when playing, since they damage the courts.

PENINSULA ITALIAN AMERICAN
SOCIAL CLUB OF SAN MATEO
100 North B Street
San Mateo, CA 94401

First Class Mail
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