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BIRTHDAY'S:

April Birthday:

Ted J. Andreini 4/12
Armand A. DeFino 4/25
James S. Pigneri 4/28
James Scavo 4/21
John A. Vivone Jr. 4/24
John Labonia 4/22
Frank G. DeFrancisco 4/03
Peter Lipovac 4/30
John Best 4/29
Chris C. Coco 4/23
Blair Matt Ellis 4/16
Vincent J. Scavo 4/19
Ned Chioldo III 4/26
Frank Marasco 4/11
Macario Pane 4/02
Vincent DeAngelis 4/14

May Birthday:

Tony Bisignano 5/14
Tom Bordenaro 5/29
Michael Gentosi 5/05
Rich Cittarella 5/20
William Freel 5/14
Bruno Isolini 5/28
James Leo 5/03
Giovanni Leo 5/16
Charles Leo 5/01
John Lloyd 5/02
Charley Miller 5/14
Robert Pasutti 5/22
John Scaglione 5/10
Joe Tumea Sr. 5/03
Pete Tursi 5/27
Orlando Vivone Jr. 5/06

June Birthday:

Joe Baratta 6/07
James Caligiuri 6/18
Nick Cardamon 6/15
Joe Coco 6/19
James DeMatteis 6/09
John Fontanini 6/06
Thomas Fucaloro Jr. 6/22
John Mauro 6/09
Anthony Mauro 6/29
Carl Mazzie 6/13
Al Morano Jr. 6/11
Anthony Renda 6/05
Victor Scaglione 6/16
John Scavo 6/21
Peter Vivone 6/28
Dino Aversa 6/13
Anthony Cataldo 6/6
Cory Russo 6/13
Scott Tursi 6/23

SOCIETY OF ITALIAN-AMERICAN NEWSLETTER STAFF

PUBLISHER / EDITOR: SAMUIL PANE
EDITOR: VICTOR SCAGLIONE
DIRECTOR OF CIRCULATION: JOE PANE
ADVERTISING: SAMUIL PANE



SOCIETY OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Society of Italian-Americans

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2 APRIL 1, 2016

PRESIDENTS CORNER:



Buonasera,

I would like to start the spring newsletter by saying welcome to our newest member, Sam Fuccio. Welcome to the SIA.

Spring has sprung which means it's time for our annual Pitch Tournament with the Vittoria Lodge. The date has been set for Sunday April 24, 2016. We will play at the Lodge with lunch starting at noon and cards at 1:00pm. Find your SIA partner to help the club defend and take home the traveling trophy for another year.

Going forward we are moving our meetings to the Bellizzi-MacRea American Legion on SE. 1st across from Columbus Park. The next meeting dates are Sunday April 10th, Sunday May 15th (the second Sunday of May is Mother's Day), and Sunday June 12th. The executive board meeting is at 4:00pm followed by the regular meeting at 5:00pm. I hope to see as many members there as possible.

With the spring and summer months approaching, it is time for our club to get together and do some things as a group. Several members have made a suggestion that our club to take a trip somewhere to see a baseball game and maybe visit other Italian clubs we've visited in the past. Locally we can possibly look into another day at Prairie Meadows, or maybe a family picnic at Columbus Park, the possibilities are endless. Bring your ideas to the meetings and let's have some fun this year.

Finally, mark your calendars for this year's Viva L'Italia Festival. The dates are Friday July 29th and Saturday July 30th. Please volunteer your time in our men's booth. This year John Comito and John Sposeto have agreed to head up our stand. I want to thank Sam Pane for taking care of the booth the last couple of years. If you have additional free time, please volunteer your time in other areas of the festival, gates, beer garden, cultural center hall, anywhere help is needed.

Have a wonderful spring.

Sincerely,

Frank L. Morano, Jr.
President, Society of Italian Americans

The Next Meetings Will be At Bellizzi—MacRea

Legion Hall

April 10th

May 15th

June 12th

July 10th

4:00pm Board Meeting

5:00pm Membership

If you would like to get the newsletter by e-mail please contact Samuil Pane at

samuilpane@yahoo.com

Did you know that you can download a new membership form from our website!

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 24th Pitch Tournament with the Vittoria Lounge, Lunch at Noon Tournament Starts at 1:00 PM
- June 3-5 Kansas City Festa Italiana
- July 22-24 Milwaukee Italian Festival
- July 29-30 Italian American Heritage Festival of Iowa - Gateway Park - Des Moines

ST. JOSEPH CELEBRATION:

The Italian-American Cultural Center of Iowa held its 19th annual St. Joseph Altar celebration on March 18th and 19th, 2016. Both days were open to the public free of charge. All that attended either of the celebrations were given a gift bag containing a St. Joseph prayer card, St. Joseph medal, blessed bread and the traditional “lucky” fava bean. All proceeds, as well as the fruits, vegetables, breads, pastries and financial contributions were distributed to the St. Joseph Shelter, the Bidwell Center and the Catholic Worker House. I would like to thank all the members of the SIA that attend.

REGIONS OF ITALY— CALABRIA:

- Calabria is one of the oldest regions in Italy with the first evidence of human presence dating as far back as 700,000 years BC.
- The name derives from the Latin Brutium.
- The name “Italia” was in fact first given to Calabria in honor of its king Italo.
- The region covers 15,080 km2 and has a population of about 2 million.
- Calabria is often referred to as the Caribbean of Europe for its beautiful beaches and warm climate.
- La Sila is among Europe's greatest and vastest woodlands.
- Nowhere in the world does the bergamot tree, the essential oil and key ingredient in beauty products and Earl Grey tea, flourish as successfully as in Reggio Calabria.
- Calabria produces one-third of Italy's olive oil.
- Calabria is second after Sicily in the production of oranges, figs, and cedri limes.
- Cosenza occupies 44.1% of the surface of Calabria.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

Every year around this time the Italian-American Cultural Center has its Volunteer Recognitions Reception. I thought it would be a good time to talk about the center and what it means to us as Italians. As you know the Center is dedicated to the memories of the many Italians that came here before us. We should always support it not just monetary but also by going or helping out at the many activities they have over the course of the year, it is a big part of who we are and our heritage. And as Italians we need to look at getting our kids and grandkids to join the SIA or SIAA if we do not grow we will not be here tomorrow to carry on our heritage.

Thank You,
 Samuil Pane
 SIA Membership / SIA Newsletter Editor

SIA AND SIAA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

The Society of Italian Americans and its Auxiliary offer scholarships on an annual basis to students who meet the following criteria:

- Must be a child or grandchild of a current member of Society of Italian Americans or its Auxiliary
- Currently attending or will attend a 2/4 year College, University or Trade School
- Must submit a letter of application that includes: Grade Point Average, Extra Curricular Activities, Community Service Experience, and 2 Letters of Recommendation from non-relatives
- Must complete a 100-150 word essay describing **What being Italian-American means to you?**
- Must not have received a SIA/SIAA scholarship in the past

Scholarship applications must be postmarked by May 31st and should be submitted to:

Scholarship Chairperson
 Society of Italian Americans/Auxiliary
 PO Box 8337
 Des Moines, IA 50301

Application can be found at SIA website or by typing in the address below in your web browser

<https://siadm.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/sia-siaa-scholarship-final-040915.pdf>

INFORMATION:

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter please e-mail me with your stories and ideas.