



amici

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A PUBLICATION OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

ICS PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Ponte di Rialto is said to be the most visited, most photographed bridge in the Veneto region. It opened in 1591, and for 300 years it was the only way across the Grand Canal on foot.

Because galley ships of days gone by passed under the bridge, the arch, at 24 feet, is higher than many others. Gianpietro Zucchetta, resident authority on Venetian Bridges, has catalogued all 443 of them in his book *Venice, Bridge by Bridge...*

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Cari amici,

Summer is over and we welcome everyone to the 2012 – 2013 season of the Italian Cultural Society. As you know, each year we bring to our members a series of programs that celebrate Italy's enormous contribution to the arts and culture of the world. This year we will highlight *Venezia* and the Veneto region of Italy.

Lord Byron called Venice "a fairy city of the heart." *La Serenissima*, "The Most Serene Republic," is an improbable cityscape of stone palaces that seem to float on water. Built on a hundred islands with wealth from trade with the East, these exotic-looking palaces are laced together by sun-speckled canals.

Venice is extraordinary, magical, and it is unique. If you travel to Venice, you will immediately see that it has no hills, and that its streets are full of water. Soon you will also notice that there are no castles; the Doge's Palace, the headquarters of the Venetian Empire, is unfortified. As you wander about there are no fountains, no ruins and not many statues in public places. Since it was founded after the fall of Rome, it has no amphitheatres and no triumphal arches. The patricians had palaces, but these are different as well. The external decoration – the harmonious arrangement of windows, pillars, balconies – are concentrated on the façade, while unadorned brick sides usually look at other brick sides across narrow lanes.

To bring the wonder of Venice to our Society, the Planning Committee and volunteers have put together an exciting series of Program Events. The framework for these programs is built upon our core values: HISTORY, CULTURE, and FRIENDSHIP. We will have a guest lecturer speak on the history of Venice – "A City of Four Seasons," and I will talk about life in Venice during Vivaldi's time – "Music, Masks and Mischief." We shall hear about "the Palaces of Palladio" and visit the artistic highlights of this incredible city in "The Glory of Venice."

The new, and soon to be famous, ICS Players will present a reading of Goldoni's comedy "The Mistress of the Inn," and we will again bring you a program of popular Italian arias in an "Opera in the Afternoon" event.

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The year 2013 marks the 200th anniversary of Verdi's birth in *Le Roncole*, in the province of Parma. To celebrate his birth we will also present "Giuseppe Verdi - Farmer and Composer," a program about his life and music. As a special film event we will enjoy a live film presentation of "Rigoletto" at the Silverspot Cinema. In addition, our Italian Film series will present eight wonderful films at the Norris Center.

These programs constitute a Season that you will find both interesting and entertaining, but there's more. We will begin the year with our three traditional social events: Columbus Day Lunch, Welcome Back Brunch and the Christmas Dinner – all three in larger venues with beautiful settings.

The Signature Event for the year will be our *Carnevale* celebration – black tie optional, masks mandatory – a Venetian dinner complete with jugglers, a Baroque music ensemble and an appearance by the Doge himself.

I am very enthusiastic about the ICS Programming for the coming year. You will find the Calendar in this issue so you can plan your participation in these events. Also, please visit our Website for more details. I look forward to seeing you at our programs this season.

Cordiali saluti,
Tom Turicchi
President

The ICS By-Laws require the Treasurer to present a financial statement to the membership each year (Art. V, para.4). The Board of Directors voted to disseminate the final statement by including it in the Fall issue of *amici*.

Below please find the ICS Operating Statement for the Year ending June 30, 2012.
Richard Delfino, Treasurer

ICS Operating Statement
Year Ending June 2012

Membership Income (Net)	15,087
Income from all Programs	71,001
Interest / Other Income	<u>293</u>
TOTAL INCOME	86,381
General Operating Expenses	14,892
Program Expenses	62,062
TOTAL EXPENSES	76,954
Total increase in net assets	9,427
Net assets-beginning of year	39,683
Net assets-end of year	49,110

As evidenced by the financial statement, the Society has had great success in recent years. As a result, the Board of Directors has approved expenditures of surplus and reserves over the next several years not to exceed an approved "rainy day fund." The Board has approved expenditures for New Member and Volunteer Appreciation events, deep discounting of two types of season passes, subsidizing the annual meeting, and the enhancement of the quality of programming. The focus will continue to be on fiscal responsibility while enhancing the overall experiences of the membership.

Richard Delfino, Treasurer

ICS Calendar of Events 2012-2013

Monday, October 8

Columbus Day Luncheon

The Club at Pelican Bay

Social 11 a.m.; Luncheon 12 noon

Tuesday, November 6 *Il Cinema Italiano**

Sunday, November 11

Welcome Back Brunch

The Club at the Strand

"Vivaldi's Venice" by Tom Turicchi, Ph.D.

Gathering 11 a.m.; Brunch 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 2

Festa Natalizia – Christmas Dinner Party

Quail Creek Country Club

Cocktails 6 p.m.; Dinner 7 p.m.

Entertainment by Baron Collier Concert Choir

Thursday, January 3 *Il Cinema Italiano**

Thursday, January 10

Musical Performance – Opera in the

Afternoon

First Congregational Church

"Tutto Verdi – Favorite Arias of Giuseppe Verdi"

Live Performance 4 p.m.;

Wine and Cheese Reception to follow

Tuesday, January 15

Lecture and Luncheon

The Vineyards

"Venetian Villas of Palladio" by Carol Jonson

Social 11 a.m.; Lecture and Luncheon to follow

Tuesday, January 15 *Il Cinema Italiano**

Wednesday, January 23

Lecture, Luncheon and General Meeting

Country Club of Naples

"Most Serene Venice – Its History" by

Mary Watt, Ph. D.

Social 11 a.m.; Lecture, Luncheon and Meeting to follow

Friday, February 1

Lecture and Luncheon

Hilton Naples

"Giuseppe Verdi – Farmer and Composer"

by Dr. Ron Bowman

Social 11 a.m.; Lecture and Luncheon to follow

Tuesday, February 5 *Il Cinema Italiano**

Tuesday, February 12

Carnevale

The Club at the Strand

Cocktails 6 p.m.; Dinner and Entertainment

7-9 p.m.

Tuesday, February 19 *Il Cinema Italiano**

Thursday, February 21

Performance and Reception

Naples United Church of Christ

Goldoni's "The Mistress of the Inn"

by the ICS Players

Performance 4 p.m.; Reception to follow

Tuesday, March 5 *Il Cinema Italiano**

Tuesday, March 5

Opera at the Cinema

Silverspot Theatre at Mercato

"Rigoletto"

Reserved Seat Assignment 11-11:15 a.m.;

Film 11:30; Intermission during presentation;

Snacks to follow

Monday, March 11

Art at the Phil

The Naples Philharmonic, Daniels Pavillion

"The Glory of Venice" by Art Historian

Joan Jacobs

1 p.m.

Monday, March 18

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Hilton Naples

Social 11:00 a.m.

Monday, March 25 *Il Cinema Italiano**

Tuesday, April 2 *Il Cinema Italiano**

*ICS hosts *Il Cinema Italiano* at the Norris Community Center, 755 8th Avenue South, Downtown Naples. Members will receive email notification with film selections. Parking is limited at the Norris Center, but off-site parking is available near the Tennis Center. A \$5 donation is requested.

Introduction 6:45 p.m.; **Film** 7 p.m.

Columbus Day Luncheon

ICS kicks off the new year with the annual Columbus Day Luncheon at The Club at Pelican Bay. Come catch up with friends and get “the scoop” on the exciting year the Programs Committee has in store while enjoying a Grilled Chicken Antipasto Salad featuring marinated chicken and mushrooms, roasted bell peppers, olives, artichokes, prosciutto, with citrus and olive oil dressed arugula. White chocolate mousse and dark chocolate parfait will accompany your selection of coffee or tea to finish off this satisfying season opener.

Date: Monday, October 8

Location: The Club at Pelican Bay, 707 Gulf Park Drive. Gulf Park can be accessed from Rt. 41 just north of Pine Ridge and South of Vanderbilt.

Event Chair: Cathy Stenza

Social: 11 a.m.

Luncheon: 12 Noon

Cost: \$25

Welcome Back Brunch



ICS President, Tom Turicchi, will present a multi-media exploration of Vivaldi’s home city, Venice, by integrating a glimpse of that glorious, inimitable city in the 1700s with the renowned Baroque composer’s music. Treat yourself to traditional brunch favorites, such as pancakes and waffles, eggs, fresh fruit with yogurt garnish, or tossed green salad and sauteed chicken with rice as you renew old acquaintances and form new bonds of friendship at this popular event.

Date: Sunday, November 11

Location: The Club at the Strand, 5840 Strand Blvd. Take 41 to Immokalee Road, east past Livingston to access Strand Blvd. on the left. Or take Rt 75 to Immokalee, west .2 mile, turn right onto Strand Blvd. The Club is 1.5 miles from Immokalee.

Event Chair: Jean DiPierro

Gathering: 11 a.m.

Brunch: 11:30-1:30

Cost: \$26

Antonio Vivaldi

1678-1741

FYI

A movie entitled “Vivaldi: a Prince in Venice” was released in 2005 as joint venture between the Italians and French under the direction of Jean-Louis Guillermou. That same year, Australian Broadcast Corporation Radio National commissioned a radio play about Vivaldi, which was written by Scott Riley. Entitled “The Angel and the Red Priest” (Red Priest was Vivaldi’s nickname due to his red hair), the play was later adapted into a stage version and performed at the Adelaide Festival of the Arts.

Adult Language Classes

ICS will resume adult language classes at The Community School of Naples, 13275 Livingston Road (north of Pine Ridge), in Building N, 2nd floor, on Wednesdays beginning **October 31**. The six-week Fall Session is \$60 for members and \$70 for non-members and includes nine hours of instruction.

To register, contact Donna Lenzi, Adult Language Program Coordinator, at 330-606-8822 or lenzidonna@gmail.com. **Checks made payable to ICS** will be accepted by the instructor at the first class. Checks only, please. Classes cannot be "sold" individually, and there is no refund for missed classes. If you plan to register between October 5 and October 21, please contact Grace Mannino at graziellaenzo@embarqmail.com.

Course offerings for Fall Session may include Italian I, Italian III, Beginner Conversation and Intermediate Conversation. **Italian I, Italian III and Intermediate Conversation will be held from 4:30-6:00. Italian III and Beginner Conversation will be held from 6:15-7:45. Please note the change in class times.** Offerings will be subject to change based on enrollment, and Italian I may be available at the later time if warranted. Italian I fills quickly, plan to register early for this popular class.

For complete class descriptions and teacher bios, please visit our website. If you have any questions about which class is "the right fit" for your skill level, call Donna.

Please note: Pre-registration can be done at any time via email or phone, but you are not registered until you receive confirmation from Donna with your room number and instructor.

Festa Natalizia



Christmas in Venice

Join friends and fellow ICS members for an Italian Christmas celebration at our annual Christmas Dinner Party at exclusive Quail Creek Country Club. Ring in the holiday season with prosecco and assorted passed hors d'oeuvres during the cocktail hour and retire to the main dining room for a plated three-course dinner featuring the cuisine of Venice at Christmas. Enjoy a first course of butternut squash ravioli followed by Chicken Marsala, orzo pasta and Italian salad. The Barron Collier Concert Choir will entertain with sounds of the season. This choir, under the direction of Todd Peterson, performed during a 10 day musical tour of Venice, Florence, Milan and Rome in March. Your festive evening will draw to a close with homemade tiramisu and a choice of coffee or tea.

Date: Sunday, December 2

Location: Quail Creek Country Club, 13300 Valewood Dr. Valewood can be accessed from Immokalee traveling East of Rt. 75.

Event Chairs: Lee and Tom Turicchi

Cocktails: 6 p.m.

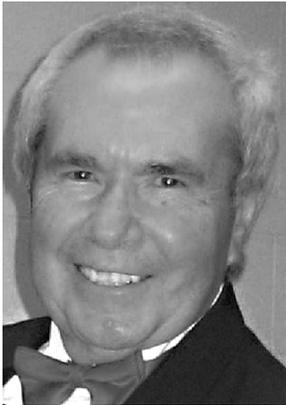
Dinner: 7 p.m.

Cost: \$70

Opera in the Afternoon

Tutto Verdi: A Program of Favorite Arias of Giuseppe Verdi

To mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Giuseppe Verdi, ICS presents a concert featuring his music exclusively to honor his enormous contribution to the world of music. This live performance of Verdi's most popular arias will feature Baritone Dino Valle, Tenor Carlos Seise and Soprano Karin White. Delight to "Rigoletto," "La Traviata," "Il Trovatore," "La Forza del Destino" and "Aida" as performed by this trio of opera notables.



Dino Valle, founder and artistic director of Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan, has "... a remarkable voice and sense of drama" that will "thrill opera devotees," according to The Detroit Free Press. A recording artist, TV star and host of "Classical Radio Program" heard Sundays on Michigan Catholic Radio, Valle has been called "a true exponent of opera and fine arts" by Pope John Paul II. With an impressive resumé at the Dearborn Symphony Orchestra, the Italian-born Valle, has performed throughout the US, Canada and Italy and recently sang in Mozart's hometown of Salzburg, Austria.

Puerto Rican-born Carlos Seise made his debut at Carnegie Hall in December of 2005 and has accumulated accolades ever since. Said to have "...one of the tenderest tones in tenor voice, with fully blended registers from the bottom to the top," by The Tribune, Seise's career has been a succession of triumphs. He has performed as a concert soloist with leading symphonies and in solo recitals in concert halls throughout the world bringing "...exceptional dominion of the stage with his acting and his pure tenor voice," according to La Gaceta. His most recent operatic roles include "Rigoletto" and "Werther."



A Detroit Music Awards nominee in 2011 for "Outstanding Classical Vocalist," The Time-Herald writes of White, "masterful voice...powerful...and of crystal clarity ... poised and confident, a delight!" Well-known to the opera stage and concert audiences throughout the mid-west, White is slated to be the guest artist in residence at the Metropolitan Methodist Church of Detroit this season. This year she sang the title role of "Lucia di Lammermoor" with the Miami Lyric Opera and the Michigan Opera Theatre. White is an adjunct professor at Madonna University and maintains a private voice studio in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Date: Thursday, January 10

Location: First Congregational Church of Naples, 6630 Immokalee Rd. (East of Rt. 75)

Event Chair: Dave Mazzella

Live Performance: 4 p.m.

Reception to follow

Cost: \$34

Capacity: 200

Season Passes on Sale

Italian Cultural Society 2012-2013 Season Pass

Consider purchasing a Gold or Silver Pass to enjoy an entire season of educational and entertaining events. Two ICS Season Pass options are available to members. Find the one that best fits your Naples return date.

The Gold Pass, at a cost of \$365, admits one adult to all scheduled programs from Nov. 1, 2012 through March 18, 2013 as presented in the Calendar of Events on page 3 of this issue of *amici*. You will have automatic registration for eleven scheduled events (the adult language classes, the Columbus Day Luncheon and *Il Cinema Italiano* are not included), and you will receive email and/or phone reminders for all events covered by the Gold Pass.

The Silver Pass, at a cost of \$290, admits one adult to all scheduled programs from January 1, 2013 through March 18, 2013 as presented in the Calendar of Events on page 3 of this issue of *amici*. You will enjoy automatic registration for nine scheduled events after January 1 (the adult language classes and *Il Cinema Italiano* are not included), and you will receive email or phone reminders for all events covered by the Silver Pass.

Pass holders will enjoy the benefits of a deep discount on events and the convenience of one, simple registration form for the entire season. Your reservation will be guaranteed-no need to worry about getting closed out of an event!

Members will receive Gold and Silver Season Pass information in the mail during the second week of September. Select the Pass that best suits your needs and submit your check in the envelope provided before October 15 to enjoy this special offer.

Please Note: Events not listed in this issue of *amici* in the Calendar of Events on page 3 will not be covered by season passes.

FYI Veneto

Veneto's Culinary Contributions



Veneto's food contribution to Italy's pasta culture is a style of fresh pasta called *bigoli*, which gets its name from the traditional kitchen implement that's used to make it, a *bigolaro*, a four-inch-wide bronze tube. *Bigoli*, a long, spaghetti-style pasta with a hole in the middle, is made on a hand operated press by forcing pasta dough through the *bigolaro*, then cutting the strands to the desired length. This preparation was typically entrusted to men given the hardness of the dough according to "*VeneziaSi!*," an online website.

A typical Venetian preparation is *bigoli in salsa*, which tosses the *bigoli* with a delicious sauce of anchovies, olive oil, and cooked onions and *bigoli co l'anara*, the pasta with a sauce of duck liver and innards with vegetables and herbs.

Pair these tasty pastas with the wines of Veneto. The Veneto region produces more white wines under DOC* than any other area, and it is the most modernized in Italy. One of Italy's leading wine schools, *Conegliano*, is based in Veneto; and the nation's most important wine fair, *Vinitaly*, takes place each spring in Verona.

**Denominazione di Origine Controllata* (controlled designation of origin) is a quality assurance label instituted in 1963 and overhauled in 1992. DOC and DOCG wines may only be sold in bottles holding five liters or less.

Reservation Procedure

Information Line: 239-434-3323 for information.

To Pay By Check: For single events, be sure to write the name of the event on the check and mail check to:

**Italian Cultural Society
1100 Fifth Ave. South Suite 201
Naples, FL 34102**

To Pay By Check with a Reservation Form: Download the Reservation Form from the ICS website and mail it with your check to the above address. We encourage you to use the Reservation Form and make multiple reservations using one check. All reservations will receive confirmation of payment received. Please note that we will continue the long-standing policy that a reservation is only valid when the check is received.

ICS can no longer accept credit card reservations on the Reservation Line.

To Pay By Credit Card: Credit card payments will be accepted through our website using Pay Pal. Your reservation will be confirmed.

Cancellation Policy: NO Refunds will be given for cancellations made within four days of the event.

Membership Information: ICS membership year: October 1-September 30. Please submit dues no later than November 1 to be included in and receive an updated directory. Dues are \$60 for couples and \$35 for individuals. Dues may be submitted at any time but must be received by Nov. 1 for inclusion in the directory. Dues received after April 1 will be credited to the following year. Name badges are \$10 and will be mailed to all new members upon receipt of dues and badge fee. Members are requested to wear name badges at all events. Membership forms are available at all events and online. www.italianculturalsociety.com

Italian Cultural Society

of Naples, Florida, Inc.

www.italianculturalsociety.com

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