



amici

Fall 2013 VOLUME 15 ISSUE 1

A PUBLICATION OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

ICS President's Perspective



Emilia-Romagna is the gastronomical region of Italy and consists of several cities famous for the following products to name a few: Parma prosciutto, salami, Reggiana

cheese; Bologna—mortadella; Modena—balsamic vinegar; Emilia—cappellati pasta; Piacenza—grano padana cheese.

Besides food, Bologna is famous for the manufacture of high-end cars like Ferrari, Lamborghini and Maserati as well as for the oldest university in Europe and its medical school. Ravenna has its mosaics and Faenza and Sassuolo are ceramics centers.

Geographically, E-R has the Po River, the Appennines and the beaches along the Adriatic Sea. Three greats of the musical world hail from E-R; namely, Verdi, Toscanini and Pavarotti as well as film Director, Bertolucci.

At one time the Papacy owned lands there. As this year's ICS Area of Interest, Emilia-Romagna offers our members much to digest and appreciate.

Cari amici,

We are at the beginning of another season and I believe it will be all you have come to expect and more in terms of Italian arts and cultural programming. Ken Pedini and his merry band (a.k.a. the Planning Committee) have put together an amazing array of talented performers and speakers for your entertainment.

Our programming goal was to find a balance between fulfilling the ICS Mission and providing programs that were appealing to our members. In order to determine exactly what appeals to the cultural taste of our members we conducted a series of focus groups among ICS members who attended nine or more ICS events this past year. The group discussions focused on what they each considered the “best part” of last season’s events.

Four themes emerged from these discussions:

BEAUTIFUL PRESENTATION

FEELING OF FUN/ CELEBRATION

ITALIAN ORIENTATION

JUST ENOUGH EDUCATION

Understanding the members’ needs and wants is the first major piece in successful programming. The second part is converting good information into results. This is what Peter Drucker describes as “Moving from Mission to Performance” ...and here is where we excel. ICS is an all-volunteer organization and our greatest asset is the fact that our program volunteers know how to get things done!

Ken’s team has integrated the member feedback into an amazing program of events for the 2013-2014 season.

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Visit Our Website at: www.italianculturalsociety.com

BEAUTIFUL PRESENTATION: We have programs at the Naples Beach Hotel, Grey Oaks, the newly renovated (\$10 million) Wyndemere Country club and other exquisite venues in Naples. Dr. Mary Watt, known for her poetic delivery, will be back and our “Red Carpet Gala-Opening Night at the Opera” will provide an evening of Emiliana gourmet food and wine as well as elegant dress and dinner music.

FEELING OF FUN / CELEBRATION: the topic of our Welcome Back Lunch will be “Finding the Fun in Italian Opera” and SILVERSPOT will present Rossini’s zany comic opera *L’Italiana in Algeri*. Also, our Christmas Dinner and Red Carpet Gala will feature a prosecco reception and paired wine with the meal. We have made socialization and *amicizia* part of every event.

ITALIAN ORIENTATION: In January, the Opera in the Afternoon program will recreate Rossini’s Saturday *Musicales* with 5 featured artists performing favorites of Italian opera and we will explore Italian design with the talk “*La Bella Figura*” –finding the beauty in modern Italian design.

JUST ENOUGH EDUCATION: A “Live Interview with Metropolitan Tenor Bruce Ford” will explore life as a leading tenor as well as the story behind the film *L’Italiana in Algeri* in which he plays a leading role. Also our lectures will focus on *Emilia Romagna* and *Le Marche’s* contribution to the arts through Rossini, Raphael, Federico da Montefeltro, and the cultural heritage of Ravenna. I am very excited about this year’s program of events. Mark your calendar and make reservations early.

I look forward to seeing you at our programs and wish you a happy, healthy 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, 2013.
Richard Delfino, Treasurer

ICS Operating Statement Year Ending June 2013	
Membership Income (Net)	14829
Income from all Programs	102733
Interest / Other Income	<u>504</u>
TOTAL INCOME	118066
General Operating Expenses	17641
Program Expenses	90439
TOTAL EXPENSES	108080
Income before Board authorized expenditures	9986
<u>Authorized expenditures:</u>	
Gold & Silver Pass discounts	4817
Annual Meeting Subsidy	1650
New Member & Volunteer	
Receptions	<u>2452</u>
Total	<u>8919</u>
Increase in Net Assets	1067
Net Assets-beginning of year	<u>49110</u>
Net Assets-end of year	<u>50177</u>
Restricted	30000
Unrestricted	20177

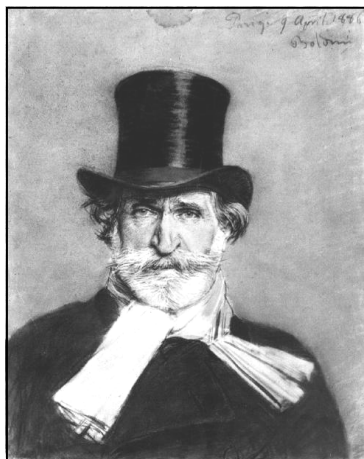
Columbus Day Luncheon

Columbus Day Luncheon, Giuseppe Verdi's 200th Birthday Monday October 14, 2013 11:00 a.m.

The Club at Pelican Bay
Cathy Stenza—Chairperson

Price : \$30

Tom Turicchi, Host
Dr. Ron Bowman, Baritone
Beth Winger, Soprano
Lidia Doroshima, Pianist



To celebrate Verdi's 200th birthday, you will be entertained with the singing of popular arias from Verdi's operas by Dr. Ron Bowman, Baritone, and Beth Winger, Soprano, accompanied by Lidia Doroshima, pianist. Tom Turicchi will introduce the music for this very special performance. To round out your celebration, lunch will follow.

Menu: Antipasto Salad roasted bell peppers/marinated mushrooms/ olives/ artichokes/ prosciutto/ gorgonzola and citrus and olive oil dressed on arugula with grilled marinated chicken breast.
Warm Ciabatta bread and butter, coffee, decaf or tea .
There will be a cash bar.

Welcome Back Luncheon

Welcome Back Rossini: Finding the Fun in Italian Opera Tuesday November 5, 2013 11:00 a.m.

Naples Beach Hotel
Joanne Berenato— Chairperson

Price: \$36

Speaker: Tom Turicchi
Music History Lecturer,
President, ICS Naples

Join us at a new location for our *Welcome Back Luncheon*, and share your summer stories with ICS friends.

A plated lunch will be offered in the beautiful waterfront dining room of the Naples Beach and Golf Hotel. Our president, Tom Turicchi, will offer a multi media presentation exploring the comic operas of Rossini.

At age 30, Rossini was already an international superstar, with nineteen operas under his belt. That year he got a bit of advice when he met the crotchety, near-deaf German composer, Ludwig van Beethoven ...“Stick to comedy. *The Barber of Seville* will be played as long as Italian opera exists. Never try to write anything else but opera buffa, ‘comic opera,’ as any other style would do violence to your nature.”

Beethoven was correct...Rossini's comic operas are still performed regularly, especially *L'Italiana in Algeri* and *The Barber of Seville*. This presentation will explore the elements of Rossini's comic style and help you to find the fun in Italian Opera.

Menu: Florida field greens with sliced roma tomatoes, cucumbers and carrot twine served with key lime vinaigrette and creamy peppercorn dressing and topped with:
CHOICE OF: *Herbed Grilled Chicken Breast* OR *Baked Citrus Glazed Salmon* .
Rolls and Butter Iced Tea, Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Herbal Teas
Platter of Assorted Cookies



Festa Natalizia

Festa Natalizia: ICS Christmas Party

Sunday, December 8, 2013 Cocktails 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:45 p.m.

The Club at the Strand
Amy Rego and Jean DiPierro
Chairpersons

Victorian Carolers and
BLING— a Womens' *a cappella* quartet

Price: \$80

SING, SING, RING, RING, BLING, BLING !

Come join fellow ICS Members for an Italian Christmas Dinner party at the exclusive "Club" at The Strand Country Club.

SING in the evening with the welcoming Victorian Carolers.

RING in the holiday season in the Grand Lobby with a glass of Prosecco

BLING in the evening's end with the Internationally award winning *a cappella* quartet called "BLING". This group of four lovely ladies will create an experience singing *a cappella* harmony that will leave you in awe. Bling is the award-winning South Florida based quartet affiliated with Sweet Adelaines. The BLING foursome is proud to have been named the 2012 International Second Place Medalists.



A three-course plated dinner will be served in the Grand Ballroom. Created by the Strand's superb Chef, Deane Strong, the Christmas Dinner will reflect the cuisine of Emilia-Romagna. It will be followed by a luscious dessert of Chocolate Christmas Spice Cake (*Pampepato*.)

Menu	6:00 p.m.	Grand Lobby/Cocktail Reception: Italian Prosecco
	6:45 p.m.	Dinner with a one glass of wine A cash bar will also be available
	Antipasto:	Winter Verdure Crudit�
	Primo:	Tortelloni en Brodo with Parmigiano-Reggiano
	Secondo:	Pan Roasted Rosemary Chicken- Porcini Mushrooms, Roma Tomato, with White Wine. Soft Polenta, Young Celery and Cippolini Onions. Italian bread basket at each table.
	Dolce:	Pampepato with Fragoline al Balsamico
	Bevande:	Freshly Brewed Colombian Coffee/ Selection of Teas

Do not miss out on this festive seasonal offering

CELEBRATING NATALE IN ITALY

There are several traditions that hold that the season begins on December 6th (Feast of St. Nicholas) or December 8th (Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a national holiday), when across the country people begin to build both public and private Nativity scenes (*Presepi*). The season continues until January 6th, The Epiphany, (also known as Little Christmas, the Feast of the Three Kings--*I tre magi*—and the coming of the Good Witch—*la Befana*—who brings small gifts and sweets or coal. As the State holiday calendar is legally tied to the Roman Catholic Church calendar for most of its legal holidays, everyone is home, around and available to pitch in. Town centers string their lights, and often there is a decorated wooden-framed pyramid known as the Tree of Light with a star atop (or a small doll). In the home, an old tradition includes the Urn of Fate, a large ornamental bowl with wrapped gifts specifically named for each of the family members. Then there is the continuous burning of the Yule Log (*Il Ceppo*) until New Year's Day (to warm the newborn baby Jesus). In the Province of Verona, on December 13th, blind St. Lucy dressed in white, rides into town on a mule going from house to house bringing gifts to children. In Sicily, St. Lucy, the patroness of Siracusa, is celebrated for having saved Sicily from starvation in the famine of 1582. In the mountain town of Val d'Aosta, a traditionally dressed *Babbo Natale* (Santa) travels by sleigh over snowy streets distributing

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Opera in the Afternoon

Opera in the Afternoon: Rossini's Soirée Musicale Thursday January 9, 2013 Concert 4:00 p.m. followed by a Reception

First Congressional Church, Naples
A Concert of Favorite Opera Music
The Cappallis and Campbells--Chairpersons

Karin White, Soprano
Ed Pember, Baritone
David Dash, Trumpet
Alexandra Carlson, Pianist

Price: \$40

*T*his year we are presenting our most ambitious live performance yet. Join us to hear an all star cast of international artists perform some of Opera's most popular arias. Soprano Karen White, Baritone Ed Pember and accompanist Dr. Ron Doiron will be joined by Philharmonic trumpeter David Dash, and piano soloist Alexandra Carlson of St. Petersburg, Russia. Included in this program will be favorites from The Marriage of Figaro, The Barber of Seville, La Traviata and some delightful Art Songs written by Rossini for his famous Saturday Music Soirées. Though he wrote no operas after the age of 37, he retained an interest in the musical scene and composed several hundred small pieces for piano, voice, and various instruments.

In this performance of "Opera in the Afternoon" we will bring you a re-creation of a Rossini Soirée for your musical entertainment.

Our Talented Performers:



Karin White has performed throughout the U.S.A. and recently performed with the Miami Lyric Opera



Ed Pember has performed as a soloist for the U.S. Air Force Band for nine years, and has performed for three Presidents



Ron Doiron serves as the Conductor and Artistic Director of the Bach Ensemble and has served with Opera Naples



David Dash is the assistant principal trumpet of the Naples Philharmonic and is a member of the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra



Gioachino Rossini from Pesaro of Le Marche



Alexandra Carlson performs a wide range of solo, chamber and orchestral works in Russia, Europe and the U.S.A.

Italian Language Classes Slated To Begin October 29

ICS offers Adult Italian Language Classes at **The Community School of Naples in Building N**, 13275 Livingston Road (one traffic light north of Pine Ridge Road), from October through April in an effort to provide opportunities to learn and speak our beautiful language. Our program coordinator or dedicated instructors can assist you with finding a class that is “the perfect fit” for your skill level whether you are new to the language, a seasoned traveler, or someone striving for fluency.

Fall Session is scheduled for October 29 through December 11 with a one-week break for Thanksgiving. The six-week session fee is \$60 for ICS members and \$70 for non-members for 9 hours of instruction. **Checks made payable to Italian Cultural Society will be accepted by the instructor at the first session. Checks only, please.**

Classes cannot be “sold” individually, and there is no refund for missed classes.

Contact Donna Lenzi, Adult Language Program Coordinator, at 330-606-8822 or lenzidonna@gmail.com to register or for more information. You will receive an email with your classroom number and instructor as registration confirmation. PLEASE NOTE: YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED UNTIL YOU RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION E-MAIL

Fall Course Offerings

Italian I is an entry level course for those with no prior Italian language experience. The instructor guides the class through pronunciation, greetings and essential present tense verbs using Berlitz 5 Minute Italian ISBN # 978-981-268-625-1. ICS makes these books available for \$16, or they can be purchased locally at Barnes & Noble. Italian I is a no pressure class where homework assignments increase confidence. Consider registering early for this popular class.

Wednesday 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Italian III expands upon the introductory information and increases the complexity of conversational situations with expressions for shopping, dining, small talk, some elements of grammar. Past and future tenses are introduced/reviewed. The Berlitz book is used as a workbook for class and at-home assignments. Consider this class if you have had Italian I and II or the equivalent, or you need to review before moving on to Italian IV. Please note the **new day and time for Italian III**.

Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Avventure in Italia is a new offering for 2013 that will combine readings and dialog on a variety of topics to introduce vocabulary, reinforce grammar and offer opportunities for conversation. **Italian III or the equivalent is a prerequisite for this class.** A small fee may be assessed by the instructor for materials.

Wednesday 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Beginner Conversation relies on Italian I-IV or the equivalent as a prerequisite for a class where participants read, write and converse in Italian. Exercises that introduce and reinforce vocabulary also incorporate insights into Italian cultural situations. Some English is spoken to address complex syntax, structural or grammatical elements.

Wednesday 6:15 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

Intermediate Conversation is conducted in Italian with discussions of a thematic, literary or cultural nature using topics provided by the instructor. Homework is assigned, and participant input allows for impromptu conversation in a relaxed setting. **Beginner Conversation or the equivalent is a prerequisite for this class.**

Wednesday 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

FYI

Italian I, II and IV, Avventure in Italia, Beginner and Intermediate Conversation will be offered in the **Winter Session commencing January 7**. Italian I and IV will be offered on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. Italian I, II, *Avventure in Italia*, Beginner Conversation and Intermediate Conversation will be offered on Wednesdays. Beginner Conversation will be the only course offered at 6:15 p.m. in the Winter Session.

Instructor bios are available at our website: www.italianculturalsociety.com.

ICS: Fifteen Years Old, but Who's Counting?

Before ICS came to be, there existed a group of Italian-Americans who banded together to socialize and enjoy each other's company. Known as the Italian American Club and located in a building at the corner of Airport and Orange Blossom Roads, their activities were primarily dinners and dances, the viewing of Italian-language films and card-playing. This Club eventually changed its name to the present Naples Italian American Foundation and has continued to this day its own social and cultural activities.

By 1998 some four members desired to form an association open to all italophiles with an interest in a more diverse cultural program of activities that would not be in competition with the older Club. These four members were: Joseph Delfino, Edith Coleman, Corinne Dunne and Nick DiRusso. Under the name, The Italian Cultural Society, they began by holding Italian language classes for their members, and their vision soon expanded over the succeeding years to sponsoring events that today include Italian art, music, opera, history, literature, film, cuisine, the regions of Italy and their special significance—in a word, Italy's rich and bountiful Culture.

At the same time that ICS got underway, a separate non-profit organization, the Italian Cultural Foundation, working through the new ICS group, collaborated for some four or five years with an arm of the Italian Government's *Organizzazione della diffusione della lingua italiana* to underwrite a K-5 program teaching Italian in the Collier County's Laurel Oak Elementary School. To pay for this program, the members held many local fund-raisers. That program is now defunct.

Thus it is that ICS members today attend meetings, lunches and dinners with guest speakers, performers and specialists of things Italian at many venues in and around Naples. From this original group of four, the membership after fifteen years, now totals more than 400 persons and continues to grow. Each succeeding Board of Directors has expanded the scope and activity of the ICS to a level of greater prominence. And everyone is an unpaid volunteer!

Over the decade and a half, there have been five Presidents of the Society: Cavaliere Joseph Delfino, Tony Izzo, Alessandra DiCicco Higgs, Adam Crescenzi and our current President, Dr. Tom Turicchi. Together with their Board of Directors and an ever-increasing cadre of volunteers willing to roll up their sleeves and help—whether it is collecting tickets, directing traffic, greeting visitors, hosting or chairing events or just serving prosecco and *saltini* at events—the ICS Presidents have found a formula of enviable success.

Hats off to all who have played or now play a part in our exciting Italian Cultural Society of Naples, Florida!

CELEBRATING NATALE IN ITALY (continued from Page 4)

gifts; the whole town dresses up. A special Novena of prayers and church services takes place eight days before Christmas ending on Christmas Day, and just before Christmas, children are known to dress as shepherds with sandals, leggings and shepherd hats and go from house to house singing songs like *Tu scendi dalle stelle* (You come down from the stars) and *Astro del Ciel* (Silent Night). Nativity Cribs are displayed in every church; in some towns they even compete for the most elaborate. The figurines are often lifelike and beautiful works of art (Note that baby Jesus does not get placed in the manger until Christmas Day.) Christmas Eve Dinner is meatless, traditionally a fish meal. In Rome there is *Capitone*—eel baked, grilled or fried. Naples and parts of Campania serve a minimum of seven fishes (*la Vagilia*), and spaghetti with anchovies (*il Cenone*) is often the *primo piatto*. In many towns in southern Italy there still are seen gaily dressed bagpipers and flute players, *zampognari* and *pifferai*, who play outside churches and in town squares. In the North, pig's leg (*lo zampone*) and stuffed pig's foot (*il cotichino*) and sausages or lamb stuffed with lentils are served. Emilia-Romagna features stuffed pasta (tortellini) in brodo and boiled meat with an eggplant salsa. Traditional desserts include torrone, panettone, pandoro and panforte with prosecco or Bombardino; also struffoli, cannoli and caggionetti. On January 6th, the twelfth day of Christmas, is celebrated the Epiphany. The night before children put up their stockings in anticipation of receiving the visit from *La Befana*. Also noteworthy is the secular tradition of taking *una settimana bianca* over the holidays—a ski-week in the mountains. The day following *Il Giorno della Befana*, everyone is back to school and work.

Answers to Matching Quiz on the INSERT: A-8; B-10; C-6; D-7; E-9; F-3; G-4; H-2; I-1; J-5

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.

To Pay By Credit Card: Credit card payments will be accepted through our website using Pay Pal. Your reservation will be confirmed and tickets will be sent out via E-mail.

ICS does not accept credit card reservations on the Reservation Line.

Cancellation Policy: *NO Refunds will be given for any event.*

Reservations may be exchanged with other ICS members on the Web Site.

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 \$70 for couples and \$38 for individuals. Dues may be submitted at any time but must be received by November 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 at www.italianculturalsociety.com.

SOMETHING NEW: "Letters to the Editors"

Cari Membri: *F*rom time to time, when space allows, we would like to publish snippets of information about our members. These would include, for example, members' travel and/or experiences in Italy; locations or places worth passing along; great traditional/regional recipes/traditions/bargains; personal backgrounds, publications, artistic endeavors and interesting life activities, and any other material that you feel would help us to get to know a little more about each other. So when you find some time, feel free to send your "Letters to the Editors." We will maintain a file and use them accordingly.

Italian Cultural Society
of Naples, Florida, Inc.
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Suite 201
Naples, FL 34102

Italian Cultural Society Officers 2013-2014

President: Tom Turicchi
First Vice President: Richard Cappalli
Second Vice President: Donna Lenzi
Second Vice President: Charlie Alaimo
Treasurer: Richard Delfino
Secretary: Sue Luconi

Directors:

Jean DiPierro
Millie Iarossi
Grace Mannino
Joe Martin
Ken Pedini
Amy Rego

President Emeritus: Joseph Delfino

Directors Emeriti: Anthony Abbate
and Edith Coleman

Amici Editors: Joanne Berenato
Dr. Joe Crivelli

ICS 2013-2014 Calendar of Events

For your convenience, we have printed this insert separately so that you may post it as an easy reference for ICS events and movies.

October 14, 2013 Columbus Day Lunch

Verdi's 200th Birthday Celebration

Monday, 11:00 a.m.

The Club at Pelican Bay

Performance: Dr. Ron Bowman, and
Beth Winger

November 4, 2013 Italian Film Series

Monday, 6:45 p.m. *Norris Center*

Il bacio di Tosca (Tosca's Kiss) 1985

November 5, 2013 Welcome Back Lunch

Rossini: Finding the Fun in Italian Opera

Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. *Naples Beach Hotel*

Speaker: Dr. Tom Turicchi, President,
ICS Naples

December 3, 2013 Italian Film Series

Tuesday, 6:45 p.m. *Norris Center*

Habemus papam (We Have A Pope) 2011

December 8, 2013 ICS Christmas Dinner

Festa Natalizia

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

The Club at the Strand.

Holiday music by Naples Carolers and
BLING, a women's *a cappella* quartet

January 7, 2014 Italian Film Series

Tuesday, 6:45 p.m. *Norris Center*

La luce dei miei occhi 2001

(Light of My Eyes)

January 9, 2014

Opera in the Afternoon

Rossini *Musicale*:

a Concert of Rossini favorites

Thursday, 4:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church

Performed by 5 prominent guest artists

January 14, 2014 Lecture and Luncheon

Ravishing Ravenna:

A Mosaic of Splendid Treasures

Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. *Hilton Hotel, Naples*

Carol Jonson, Art Consultant
and Freelance Writer

January 21, 2014 Lecture and Luncheon

Duke Federico da Montefeltro:

"The Light of Italy"

Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.

Wyndemere Country Club

Dr. Mary Watt,

Director of Italian Studies –UF

Later events to be announced in the Winter 2014 issue of amici

For a complete list of events and full descriptions, visit the ICS website.

The ICS Board and members would like to take this opportunity to thank the chairpersons for all this year's ICS events. Without them none of these programs would be possible. These folks are:

Joanne Berenato, Marcia Campbell, Paula and Richard Cappalli, Jean DiPierro, Frank and Millie Iarossi, Fred Luconi, Grace Mannino, Ken Pedini, Amy Rego, Cathy Stenza, Tom Turrichi.

We would also like especially to thank our retiring *amici* editor, Donna Lenzi. *amici* under her leadership has been a professional, informative and entertaining publication of which all ICS members can be proud.

Donna will continue this year as the 2nd VP. As retiring *amici* editor, she will be a very hard act to follow !

ITALIAN FILM SERIES

All films are shown at the Norris Center (755 8th Ave. South.) It is located at the corner of 8th Avenue South and 8th Street South. The showings begin at 6:45 p.m.
 Chairpersons: Richard Cappalli and Nancy Menaldi Scanlan.

Il bacio di Tosca (Tosca's Kiss) 1985 ---

MONDAY, November 4

Sara Scuderi, Della Benning and Irma Colasanti are featured director Daniel Schmidin’s touching documentary about a group of legendary divas who are left singing out their days in the Milanese nursing home which Giuseppe Verdi created for retired opera singers. Time and memories have not always been kind to the women, who are left to reflect on their triumphs and failures, their heartaches and disappointments, and their love affair with classical music and performance.

This documentary was the impetus for Dustin Hoffman’s charming recent film “Quartet” and, although it is more a reflection than a story, it is sure to strike a chord for those opera lovers who remember these women who once graced the stages of the finest opera houses in the world.

Habemus papam (We Have a Pope) 2011 ---

Tuesday, December 3

The pope has died, and, with the traditional Latin announcement “Habemus papam”, the College of Cardinals announces the deceased pope's successor; however, the newly-elected pontiff (Michele Piccoli) declares that he doesn’t want the job. Directed by Nanni Moretti, who also plays a psychiatrist called in to help the new pope overcome his panic, this comedy/drama follows the Vatican's travails as it strives to make one cardinal accept his destiny.

La luce dei miei occhi (Light of My Eyes) 2001 ---

Tuesday, January 7

Enraptured by a beautiful single mother struggling to save her shop and retain custody of her little girl, Antonio, a gentle young man possessed of a vivid imagination, begins secretly paying her debts. Although his kindness brings him in contact with the harsh realities of a perplexing world, his never-wavering love for Maria and her daughter Lisa impel him to sacrifice his own security for their welfare.

A multiple award winner at the Venice Film Festival.

EMILIA-ROMAGNA and LE MARCHE MATCHING QUIZ
 Draw a line from one choice in Column I to one choice in Column II

Column I

- a) Ancona
- b) Of Modena fame
- c) Malatesta Family
- d) Parma
- e) A protected woodlands in the Appenines of Romagna along the Tuscan border
- f) Famous Ravenna mosaics
- g) Bologna
- h) Montefeltro Family
- i) Via Emilia
- j) Este Family Duchy & Birthplace of Michelangelo Antonioni

Column II

- 1. 2nd C. Roman road connecting Piacenza with Rimini
- 2. Duchy of Urbino
- 3. Church of San Vitale
- 4. *La Dotta, La Grassa, La Rossa*
- 5. Ferrara
- 6. Zandonai’s *Francesca da Rimini*
- 7. *Castello Torrechiare*
- 8. Fought Papal States for its independence
- 9. *Parco del Casentino*
- 10. Pavarotti and *aceto tradizionale*

See the bottom of page 7 for the answers