



amici

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

A PUBLICATION OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

ICS PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



"Roma locuta est; causa finita est."
"Rome has spoken; the case is closed."
St. Augustine of Hippo, patron saint of brewers because of his conversion from a life of loose living, partying, and worldly pleasures. Augustine lived in Roma Africa province.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Perspective	1
Imperial Rome and Judaism	2
ICS Calendar of Events	3
The Origins of Opera	4
Gilgore Museum Tour	4
I Grandi Rossi Italiani	4
Musicale	5
Vincenza Scarpaci Returns	5
Poetry	5
Italian Language Classes	6
Il Cinema Italiano	7
Save the Date	7
Reservations Procedure	8

Cari amici,

Con l'arrivo di questo numero di "amici", la stagione natalizia sarà alle porte. Auguro a tutti un Santo Natale pieno di serenità e un prospero Anno Nuovo!

(By the time you receive this issue of *amici*, the holiday season will be upon us. I wish you all a peaceful and blessed Christmas and healthy and prosperous New Year!)

We have experienced many of our seasonal members returning early this year and our events this Fall have been well attended. The Welcome Back Brunch attendees had the pleasure of hearing members **Ron Diorio** and **Ken Pedini** deliver excellent presentations on the "**Etruscans**" and "**The Early Roman Kingdom.**" Their presentations launched our lecture series with very informative and humorous deliveries and graphics. Thank you Ken and Ron on behalf of the Society for your efforts and time.

Our ICS winter season will provide the membership with a variety of programs including art, history, cinema, opera, food/wine and music. I would like to highlight five events that you should not miss in the months of January and February.

1. Lecture: January 13, Thursday, "**Imperial Rome and Judaism**" by **Andy Joppa**
2. Opera: January 16, Sunday **Lucia di Lammermoor** by **Opera Naples**
3. Wine Tasting: January 27, Thursday "**I Grandi Rossi Italiani**"
4. Lecture: February 1, Tuesday, "**Origins of Opera**" by **Gordon Greene**
5. Music, Roman Dinner and Wine: February 11, Friday "**Musicale**" at Club Pelican Bay. This event will be our "**Gala Evening**" for members and their invited guests.

In addition to the events listed above we have our cinema series on Tuesday evenings with the benefit of Jed Tullet returning to introduce the movies, the actors and directors. And also, **Vincenza Scarpaci** is returning for a lecture on the unknown **Italian/American heroes and their cultural impact on America.**

continued on page 2

January / February 2011

continued from page 1

I encourage you to book your reservations in advance for these events.

In closing, I want to thank the members who have volunteered to work for the Society this year and those of you who responded to our survey request. (We received over 125 responses.) The summary results revealed the following top five priorities for programs: food/wine, music, history, travel and art. As you can tell from our more than twenty-four programs this year, we are aligned to these priorities with the exception of travel. This category needs more study to determine if the Society wants discussion of travel experiences or organized educational tours of Italy. If you have a special interest in this area please contact me.

One final request, due to the cost (**\$2.50**) of processing credit card transactions, it would be cost saving to our operating cost if members who choose to pay by credit card could make multiple reservations on one credit card charge. (For example, book your January/February events on one call or all lecture series).

I wish to express my gratitude for your support of the Italian Cultural Society's mission. Through your membership and our programs we are able to bring the best of our Italian heritage and culture to our community. I look forward to seeing you at our events.

Cordiali saluti,

Adam D. Crescenzi

President

Imperial Rome and Judaism by Professor Andy Joppa

Professor Andy Joppa of **The Renaissance Academy of FGCU** is the featured speaker for the **January 13** ICS luncheon scheduled for **11 a.m.** at the **Country Club of Naples, 185 Burning Tree Drive.**

Professor Joppa, a resident of Naples and special presenter at the **Holocaust Museum of Naples**, is a retired instructor from **Mercy College** in **New York** who was educated at **Rutgers University** with a concentration in Ethics and Organizational Behavior.

A slide presentation will accompany his lively, dynamic presentation on "Imperial Rome and Judaism" as seen through the eyes of Jewish historian **Flavius Josephus** and events dating from the 1st Century BCE to the 2nd Century CE – a churning together of cultures and a pressure cooker of politics that created the basis of western civilization. Professor Joppa will entertain questions after the presentation.

Luncheon will consist of Chicken Piccata, Saffron Rice, Sugar Snap Peas, Rolls, Coffee/Tea, and Dessert. Drinks available with credit card.

Member Price is **\$25**. Limited Seating. A vegetarian option is available upon request.

Want to brush up on your ancient history prior to the lecture?

The Last Ember by *Daniel Levin* (paperback that reads like a Dan Brown novel)

The Jews of Ancient Rome by Harry Leon

The Jewish Presence in Ancient Rome by the Biblelands Museum of Jerusalem

The Biography of Jewish Historian Flavius Josephus

Italian Cultural Society Calendar of Events

Reservations can be made with the ICS Reservation Line 239-434-3323 using Visa or Mastercard. See Reservations Procedure on page 8 for further details. Reserve early and **consider reserving multiple events to help ICS reduce the cost of credit card processing fees.** If you must cancel a reservation, please call the reservation line.

January 4 Tuesday	<i>Tiger in the Snow</i>*	February 15 Tuesday	<i>Son of the Pink Panther</i>*
January 13 Thursday	Professor Andy Joppa "Imperial Rome and Judaism" Lecture/luncheon Country Club of Naples at 11 a.m.	February 27 Sunday	Author Vincenza Scarpaci Stonebridge at 1 p.m.
January 16 Sunday	Opera Naples "Lucia Di Lammermoor" Miromar Design Outlet at 4:30 p.m.	March 1 Tuesday	<i>Bread and Tulips</i>*
January 18 Tuesday	<i>Johnny Stecchino</i>*	March 14 Monday	Cristiana Pegoraro Moorings Presbyterian Church at 5 p.m. Reception following performance
January 20 Thursday	Gilgore Museum at 1 p.m. Members Only, Limited to 20.	March 29 Tuesday	Author Borden Painter, Ph.D. Country Club of Naples Lecture/luncheon at 11 a.m.
January 27 Thursday	I Grandi Rossi Italiani Total Wine, Limited to 30.	April 3 Sunday	Opera Naples Verdi's "Requiem Mass" at 3 p.m.
February 1 Tuesday	Gordon Greene, Ph.D. "The Origins of Opera" Naples Bay Resort at 11 a.m.	April 5 Tuesday	Annual Meeting and Sicily Sneak Preview Sam Bucca Restaurant at 11 a.m.
February 1	<i>Life is Beautiful</i>*	April 5 Tuesday	<i>Ciao, Professore!*</i>
February 11 Friday	"Musicale" The Club at Pelican Bay 6 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	April 14 Thursday	Sicilian Wine Presentation Total Wine

* All films are shown at the Norris Center in Naples on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. A \$5 donation is requested.

Call early for reservations! 239-434-3323

The Origins of Opera

ICS is pleased to announce that **Gordon Greene, PhD.**, and former **Dean of Music at Wifrid Lauier University, Waterloo, Ontario** will be the featured speaker at a luncheon lecture held at **Naples Bay Resort, 1500 5th Avenue South, Naples, on Tuesday, February 1 at 11 a.m.**

Dr. Greene, using a Power-Point presentation focusing on the sacred music of Rome, the “renegade” instrumentals of Venice, Monteverdi’s secular madrigals, and the stylistic revolution that resulted in the first “real” opera, will be accompanied by his wife, **Jackie**. Attendees will hear operas, early Italian madrigals, and the sacred music of Rome and Venice as presented by **Gordon and Jackie** who have been offering lectures through the **Florida Gulf Coast University’s Renaissance Academy** for the past seven years.

Plated lunch includes: California Field Greens with Pear Vinaigrette, Oven Roasted Chicken with Cotto Ham and Bel Paese Risotto, Seasonal Vegetable, Rolls, Mile High Lemon Meringue Pie, Coffee/Tea. Additional beverages available with credit card.

Gilgore Museum Tour

Irma Gilgore will open the doors of the private **Gilgore Museum** at **589 Eagle Creek Drive** to the Society on **Thursday, January 20 at 1 p.m.** **Edith Coleman**, ICS founding member, will provide a 20-30 minute presentation, placing in historical context the importance of the Gilgore Collection and providing some insights into art history. Mrs. Gilgore will conduct the Museum tour.

This event is limited to **20 ICS Members Only. Fee: \$10**

Please register early!

I Grandi Rossi Italiani

Come sample “**The Great Italian Reds**” at **Total Wine, Carillon Place, Pine Ridge and Airport Pulling** on **Thursday, January 27** from **6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Brunello, Barbaresco, Amarone, Sangiovese, Rosso Montepulciano, Barolo, Chianti Riserva will be presented and discussed. Hors d’oeuvres by Susan will accompany these superb Italian wines.

Seating Limited to **30**

Price: **\$30, Reserve Early!**



The Italian Cultural Society presents:



"Musicale"



A Gala Event for Members and Guests
Friday, February 11 from 6-10:30 p.m.
The Club at Pelican Bay

Join ICS for Prosecco on the Patio with music by **The Troubadours of Naples**.
Chef Joe Gross has paired three fine wines with a five course **Lazio-inspired menu** for dinner.



Dinner Intermezzo offers lyrical opera by **Teresa Winner Blume**, a recent national **Semi-Finalist in the bi-annual NATS Artist Awards** competition. Teresa, a soprano and frequent recitalist and performer of opera, operetta, musical theater and concerts in New England, will sing Italian and American arias.



During coffee and dessert, Alden Gatt, formerly of Naples, will perform pieces by Italian composers. Alden, winner of the **Turiel Prize** in the Naples Music Club and the **Southwest Florida Concerto Competition**, had the honor of performing Prokofiev's First Piano Concerto with the Southwest Florida Symphony. Price: **\$85.00**

Vincenza Scarpaci Returns

Author and **Italian immigration historian, Vincenza Scarpaci**, will present a lecture on Italian-American heroes and their cultural impact on America on **Sunday, February 27** at **Stonebridge** at **1 p.m.** Vincenza is the author of ***The Journey of the Italians in America*** and has documented the Italian immigrant experience in the US and Canada with 500 photos and poignant insights. Fee: **\$7**

L'ANNO NUOVO

L'anno vecchio se ne va
e mai più ritornerà.
Anno nuovo avanti, avanti.
Ti fan festa tutti quanti.
Tu la gioia e la salute
porti ai cari genitori.
D'esser buono ti prometto,
anno nuovo benedetto.

VIENE LA BEFANA Giovanni Pascoli

Viene, viene la Befana
vien dai monti a notte fonda.
Com'è stanca! La circonda
neve, gelo e tramontana.
Viene, viene la Befana.
E s'accosta piano piano
alla villa, al casolare,
a guardare, ad ascoltare

or più presso or più lontano.
Piano, piano, piano.
Guarda e guarda ... tre lettini
con tre bambini a nanna buoni.
Guarda e guarda ... ai capitoni
c'è tre calze lunghe e fini.
Oh! ... tre calze e tre lettini...

Italian Language Classes Resume

ICS will again offer Winter and Spring Adult Language Classes at The Community School of Naples, Livingston Road, south of Orange Blossom, in Building N (Second Floor), on Wednesday evenings. The Winter Session begins on **January 12**, and the Spring Session begins on **February 23**. Classes are **6 weeks** for **\$60**, and each class is 90 minutes in length. Our program coordinator, **Donna Lenzi**, will be happy to assist you in finding the right class for you if you are uncertain as to your skill level. Contact Donna at lenzidonna@gmail.com or **330-606-8822** to register or for more information.

Italian I 4:00-5:30 • Room 14

This entry level course guides students through pronunciation and critical sounds, practice with greetings, expressions and small talk, shopping, dining, and finding one's way around. Perfect for those with no experience with the language! Due to the popular nature of this class, a registration cut-off and class limit may be imposed. Please register early if this class is your choice for a course of study.

Italian II 5:45-7:15 • Room 14

Continuing with Conversational Italian in 7 Days, this course increases the complexity of conversational situations. Grammar and the introduction of the past tense in situational context will be explored.

Beginner Conversation 5:45-7:15 • Room 18

Relying on the elements learned in Italian I, II and III (or the equivalent) as a prerequisite, students will read, converse, and review written exercises prepared by the instructor to reinforce vocabulary, structural and syntactical knowledge as well as culture.

Intermediate Conversation 4:00-5:30 • Room 18

Students will use acquired knowledge from Beginner Conversation (or equivalent) for discussion of a thematic, literary and cultural nature using varied topics provided by the instructor. Homework will be assigned, and students will prepare for more confident class discussions. Student input allows for impromptu conversation in a relaxed setting.

Conosciamoci

Contact **Nancy Menaldi-Scanlan** at **239-434-7219** to participate in "**Let's Get To Know Each Other**" an informal gathering of advanced-beginners in conversational Italian that includes some study aids and correction. Held on alternate Tuesdays starting **January 18** from **7-8:30 p.m.** in Nancy's home, attendees must register in advance even if they have previously participated. Registration Deadline: **January 15**.

Il Cinema Italiano



ICS welcomes the return of **Jed Tullet**, screenwriter and Italian film appassionato, who will provide an engaging introduction to the remaining films in our series. Jed's expertise in the TV and movie industry will enhance our viewing experience while offering special insights into the genius of Roberto Benigni, who has charmed audiences the world over. ICS is pleased to collaborate with Jed in offering four classic Benigni films this Winter and Spring.



Please see the **Calendar of Events** on **page 3** of this issue for the film dates. Films are listed in italics with an asterisk. Film reviews can be found in the Fall issue of *amici* or online at our website. All films are shown at the **Norris Center in Naples** at **7 p.m.** A **\$5** donation is requested. Reservations are not required for films, and they are open to the public.



Save the Date

Cristiana Pegoraro, award winning, world renowned concert pianist, will perform for ICS at **Moorings Presbyterian Church** on **Monday, March 14** at **5 p.m.** Mark your calendar now for this exciting performance that is open to the public. Details to follow in the March/April issue of *amici* newsletter.

Luciano Morello, ICS member and executive producer responsible for bringing Cristiana to perform last year, is involved in a Jazz project with **The Philharmonic** being offered at the **Daniels Pavilion**. Concert dates are **January 6, February 10, March 10** and **April 28**.

Did You Know?

Monte Passeggio at 2064m (6500 ft) in Veroli (Lazio) was the site of a recent Geocaching event. "Geocaching" is a high-tech treasure hunting game played throughout the world by treasure seekers with GPS devices. Hikers go off to find a "cache" of buried treasure and then share their experiences online. Recently *La faticosa salita* (exhausting climb) of Monte Passeggio offered *lo spettacolare panorama che cancella la fatica* (a spectacular view that wipes out the fatigue). Walking the ridgeline affords a view "...on the top of the world!" according to one American climber from Georgia who shared her experience.

A Little Note

ICS now has a system that will provide confirmation for reservations. When calling in your reservations, please consider making multiple reservations with one credit card payment. This will reduce processing fees for the society and help to keep our expenses down. Grazie!

Reservations Procedure

24/7 Reservation Line: 239-434-3323. Clearly state your name, phone number, the name of the event you are reserving, and the number and full names of your guests. Give menu choices, if options are indicated in *amici*, and your seating preferences. Reserve and make payments for all events as early as possible. **Payments may be made by credit card or with checks made payable to ICS. Feel free to book multiple events when using the Reservation Line.** Mail checks to

**Italian Cultural Society
PMB 104, 6017 Pine Ridge Road Naples,
FL 34119-3956**

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

Membership Information

ICS membership year is from **October 1** through **September 30**. Please submit your dues no later than **November 1** to be included in and to receive an updated directory. Dues are **\$60** for couples and **\$35** for individual membership. 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 to all events. Membership forms will be available at all events and online. Visit the website at www.italianculturalsociety.com for more information.

Italian Cultural Society

of Naples, Florida, Inc.

www.italianculturalsociety.com

Phone: 239-434-3323

Italian Cultural Society Officers

President: Adam Crescenzi
First Vice President: Fred Luconi
Second Vice President: Donna Lenzi
Secretary: Grace Mannino
Treasurer: Tom Turicchi

Directors

Anthony Abbate
Richard Cappalli
Vic DiBartlo
Jean DiPierro
Joe Martin
Nick Nappi
Ken Pedini
Peter Scianna

President Emeritus: Joseph Delfino

Director Emeritus: Edith Coleman

Amici Editor: Donna Lenzi
lenzidonna@gmail.com