

## SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2008 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY



On a glorious spring evening the Italian Cultural Society members celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the founding of their organization at the Club at Pelican Bay. The evening's activities were enthusiastically moderated by President (and soon to be grandpa) Adam Crescenzi.

In his opening remarks, President Crescenzi said in part "The society, now over 575 members strong has become an important part of the cultural life of Naples, Florida. Through the tireless work of its many volunteers, the society has sponsored programs that showcase the best of our Italian heritage,

including visual arts, performing arts, language, literature, opera, history and of course food and wine. In order to have a meaningful impact on the community, a Foundation was formed that sponsors Italian language classes in the local school system. The success of this project and others of the Society has been overwhelming.

In the beginning, though, there were only four people who shared a dream to bring their rich cultural heritage to friends and neighbors. They were soon joined by several more people who shared their love of Italian music, art, literature and life style and wanted to invite the community to share in this special joy of life. From the start, being Italian was not a prerequisite. The founders reasoned that everyone, regardless of ancestry, would love what the Society had to offer and they were right.

Membership grew exponentially, fueled mostly by word of mouth.

So that is why, on this beautiful night, the members of **THE ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY** gathered to honor the foresight and vision of this talented quartette."



**EDITH COLEMAN:** Your dedication, vision, pride and passion for the visual arts of Italy have been one of the cornerstones of the society. You have dedicated yourself to the visual art programs and represented the society well to the membership and the community of Naples. You teach us in a way that makes us want to learn more. You are kind, very friendly and very, very knowledgeable. We are lucky to have you among us!



**CAVILIERE JOSEPH DELFINO:** Your commitment, passion, persistence, fortitude, your leadership and energy have built the foundation upon which the society stands today.

As an Engineer, you have solved complex problems and provided leadership to organizations. You retired from business and undertook a new mission: To be the organizer, the inspiration, and the leader of the Italian Cultural Society. You have done an outstanding job! Bravo!

As most people know, Joe has been blessed to have at his side a very special person, his wife Estelle!

Most people know that she is the source of power and strength for Joe. She has led Joe through these past ten years and many years before that. She has been the quiet, helpful strength who has paved the road for Joe and smoothed out the bumps. She generously has given Joe the freedom to do all that he has done for the Society. Tonight the Society salutes *Estelle!*

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**CORRINE DUNNE:** Corrine is a former Music and Dance critic for the Naples Daily News. After she left Italy, Corrine cherished her dream of living a life filled with Italian culture in her new home in America. She was able to realize that dream through participation in the founding of the Italian Cultural Society. President Crescenzi described her as "a proud Viking with an Italian soul." He went on to say, "Your inspiration, love of all things Italian and your outreach to the Naples Community has formed another cornerstone to the building of the **ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY.**"



**NICK DI RUSSO:** Nick, a close friend of Corrine's, who is sadly deceased, was the fourth founder of the **ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY!** We wish to acknowledge his energy, commitment and efforts in the development of the **ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY!**

**These founders** have a great passion and interest in sharing all aspects of Italian Culture. They recognized a gap existed in the culture of our Naples community. They had a vision of creating a society with the purpose of bringing together all persons who share a common interest in Italian culture, and who would be willing to promote, participate in, and enrich everyone's appreciation of Italian culture. Their dream is now our reality!



*A*s we go forward to the next decade in the life of the **ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY** as reflected in *amici*, let us take a moment to salute **Filomena Raia**, editor emeritus and contributing author and all the other contributors who made *amici* what it is today. Through your tireless efforts you have given us a newsletter that makes us proud and brings honour and credibility to the **ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY**. **SALUTE!**

## Reservations Procedure

**24/7 Reservation Line: 513-4123.** Clearly state your full name, phone number, the number and full names of your guests and the name of the event that you are reserving. Give menu choices and seating preferences when requested by AMICI. Please make your payments for all events as early as possible and no later than five days prior to the event. Payments may be made with credit cards over the phone or by checks payable to ICS.

**Separate checks are required for each event you are reserving and are mailed to:**

### Italian Cultural Society

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

Cancellation Policy: Restaurants offer refunds only up to 48 hours before the event.

## Membership Information

**Y**ou are reminded that in order to be included in the ICS Directory, dues must be paid by November 1 of each new season. Dues, **\$60** for couples, and **\$35** for individual membership, may be submitted at any time but must be received no later than **November 1, 2008**. Per our usual policy, dues paid after April 1, 2008 will be valid through October 31, 2009. Name tags will be mailed to all new members and it is requested that members wear the name tag to all events. For your convenience, blue membership registration forms will now be available at all of the events. Visit the website at [www.italianculturalsociety.com](http://www.italianculturalsociety.com) for more information.

## *Italian Cultural Society*

*of Naples, Florida, Inc.*

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[www.italianculturalsociety.com](http://www.italianculturalsociety.com)

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### **Italian Cultural Society Officers**

President: Adam Crescenzi

First Vice President: Eileen Iaizzo

Second Vice President: Fred Luconi

Secretary: Eileen Iaizzo

Treasurer: Rose Parapiglia

### **Directors**

Anthony Abbate

Elsa Cantoni

Edith Cardillo Coleman

Jean De Pierro

Anne Iuliano

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Peter Scianna

**President Emeritus:** Joseph Delfino

**Recording Secretary:** Marilyn Romeo

**Librarian:** Delores Fiano