



amici

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

A PUBLICATION OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

ICS PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Castel Sant'Angelo — Ancient Rome allowed no tombs within its walls, so Emperor Hadrian chose a commanding position across the river for the site of his mausoleum built in 139 A.D. Renamed after the Archangel Michael appeared to Pope Gregory the Great, Castel Sant'Angelo connects to the Vatican by a corridor.



Emperor Hadrian

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Cari amici,

The fall season of the Italian Cultural Society is beginning as the summer season comes to an end. I hope all of you had a pleasurable summer and are looking forward to our 2010/11 season of cultural programs and events. For the members who are in the Naples area in October, there is a Columbus Day luncheon planned for the 11th of October at Molino's Ristorante in Bonita Springs.

This season we continue to focus our programs on the region of Lazio with lectures on ancient times to Middle Ages to contemporary Italy. The "Welcome Back Brunch" will be held on **Sunday, November 14, 2010** at **The Plantation Restaurant at The Dunes** and will feature a presentation by members Ron Diorio and Ken Pedini. Their topic is "The Etruscans and Early Roman Kingdom: History or the Real Story". This venue offers a comfortable setting for our new members to meet our society membership, and for all to get reacquainted after our summer season. Based on the past turnout for this event, Jean DiPierro, ICS Programs Co-Chair, has arranged to have the restaurant use both the inside dining area as well as the outside so that we can accommodate 25% more members than in previous years for the Brunch.

Our film series for the winter/spring season will highlight four Roberto Benigni movies in January and February, and we are pleased to have Jed Tullet back with us to introduce the story lines, the movie directors and stars.

On **December 5, 2010** our **Christmas dinner** will be held at **Collier's Reserve Country Club**. For further details, please refer to the *Calendar of Events* in this issue.

As a volunteer society whose main purpose is to promote the various aspects of Italian culture and share our culture with anyone who has an interest in Italy, its people and way of life; we are open to all who would like to join. We have a full program for next season, and we need help to continue our success. ICS is looking for new volunteers in the areas of program planning, hospitality, venue management and planning, marketing/public relations, and new Directors for the future. It is important to the society that anyone with an interest or experience in those areas contact a member of the Board of Directors.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in November and throughout the 2010/11 Italian Cultural Society of Naples Florida season.

Cordiali saluti,

Adam D Crescenzi

President

October/November/December 2010



COLUMBUS DAY LUNCHEON

Come celebrate with ICS as we honor Christopher Columbus who rose from humble beginnings to become "the greatest mariner in history." Through the tireless efforts of Angelo Noce, a first generation Italian-American living in Denver, Columbus Day was declared an official holiday for the first time in 1905 by Colorado governor Jesse F. MacDonald even though New Yorkers had been observing Columbus Day as a celebration of heritage since 1866. In April 1934, as a result of lobbying by the Knights of Columbus, Congress and President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared October 12 as a federal holiday.

While Columbus Day has been celebrated in Spain and throughout the Americas under many different names since the 18th century, Italians only considered the possibility of a holiday in time for

the 500th anniversary of the explorer's death in 2006. Since Italy has one of the highest numbers of public holidays at 16, with almost all being religious in nature, and since there are so many noteworthy Italians; a holiday for "The Master of the Ocean Seas" could not be justified. Columbus is said to be entombed both in Seville, Spain and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

ICS will bring the celebration to Molino's Ristorante in The Promenade located at 26841 South Bay Drive, Bonita Springs on October 11 at Noon.

Attendees can select from Pollo Capricciosa (Grilled Chicken topped with mixed green salad), Vitello Milanese (Breaded Veal served with salad) or Filette di Mugnaire (Flounder Fillet in white wine sauce with spinach). Coffee, tea and soda will be served. Dessert features Tiramisu.

Cost: **\$25** includes tax and gratuity.

Welcome Back Brunch 2010

The Plantation Club Restaurant at The Dunes (corner of Vanderbilt and Bluebill) will be the site of this year's Welcome Back Brunch featuring the bountiful buffet on the lanai.

Sunday, November 14 — 11:00 a.m. for arrival and 11:30 buffet. Price: \$19.00

Come catch up with your old acquaintances and form new bonds of friendship as we continue our two year excursion through the Lazio region with a bountiful buffet on the lanai at The Dunes. You will be able to enjoy all the buffet favorites that were such a hit at last year's sell out event. Feel free to order individually charged cocktails at this beautiful venue. ICS members Ron DiOrio and Ken Pedini will provide an engaging look at Ancient Rome for your entertainment.

As a courtesy to ICS Members "wait-listed" for sold out events, please allow ample time if you are cancelling your reservation for any event. As a reminder, no fees will be refunded unless cancellation requests are received four days prior to an event.

Italian Cultural Society Calendar of Events

*F*or reservations made through the Italian Cultural Society reservation line **239-434-3323**, ICS will continue to accept Visa and Mastercard. Please make note of the new number for reservations, and plan to attend the wonderful events focusing on Lazio for the 2010-2011 season. If you must cancel a reservation, please call the reservation line.

October 11 Columbus Day Luncheon
Molino's Ristorante at
The Promenade at Noon

November 2 *Respiro*

November 11 Welcome Back Brunch
The Plantation Club at The Dunes
at **11:30 a.m.**

December 5 Christmas Dinner Dance
Collier's Reserve Country Club with
cocktails at **6** and dinner at **7 p.m.**

December 7 *The Orange Thief*

January 4 *The Tiger in the Snow*

January 13 Professor Andy Joppa "The Roots of
Christianity, Imperial Rome and
Judaism"
Country Club of Naples at 11 a.m.

January 16 Opera Naples presentation Lucia Di
Lammermoor at **7:30 p.m.**

January 18 *Johnny Stecchino*

January 20 Gilgore Museum
"Members Only Visit"
Limit 30 ICS Members

February 1 *Life Is Beautiful*

February 1 Luncheon and Lecture "The Origin
of Opera" by Dr. Gordon Greene
Naples Bay Resort

February 11 "Musicale"
Pelican Bay Club

February 15 *Son of the Pink Panther*

TBA Vincenza Scarpaci, author of
THE ITALIANS IN AMERICA

March 1 *Bread and Tulips*

March 14 Cristiana Pegoraro Concert
Moorings Presbyterian Church

March TBA Borden Painter

April 2 Opera Naples presentation
Verdi's Requiem Mass at **3 p.m.**

April 5 *Ciao, Professore!*
Annual Meeting with Sicily
Presentation at Sam Bucca

April 12-18 Pops Series "**4: Viva Italia**"

April 14 Sicilian Wine Presentation
at **Total Wine**

Call early for reservations! **239-434-3323**



Christmas Dinner



Collier's Reserve Country Club

11711 Collier's Reserve Drive, Naples

Sunday, December 5 at 6:00 p.m. for cocktails and 7:00 for dinner.

Price **\$65.00**



Kick off your holiday season of festivities at the ICS Annual Christmas Dinner.

Enjoy passed hors d'oeuvres during the cocktail hour and choose from two delightful presentations as your meal.

Select from the following to go with your Tricolore Salad with grilled polenta, pecorino and crispy pancetta:

Roast Leg of Lamb Roman Style with potato croquettes and grilled artichokes

OR

Bronzino Fillet dusted with chick pea flour topped with green pea, artichoke, sweet onion and caper sauté with potato croquettes

Mascarpone and apricot tart with berries and lemon ice will be served as dessert.

Cash and credit card drink sales will be available during the cocktail hour, but only Visa and Mastercard will be accepted after 7 p.m.

Please remember to include your dinner choice when making your reservation. Reservation Deadline is **November 30**.

Did you know?

30 was considered the age of majority by the ancients in Rome, and men were not to consume wine before reaching that age. Women were not to imbibe at all! This rule was enforced with "**The Right of The Kiss**" whereby a Roman husband could kiss his wife on the lips at a public gathering to determine if she had been drinking. The younger crowd was permitted "**vinum mulsum**," a wine mixed with honey which was very popular because it permitted men and women under the age of majority to circumvent the prohibition against drinking vino puro.

Italian Language Classes Begin November 3

ICS offers Italian Language Classes for adults at The Community School of Naples, Building N, 2nd Floor, Wednesday evenings, November-April in an effort to provide opportunities for learning and using our beautiful language. Our program coordinator or dedicated instructors can help you find the right class for your skill level. If you are uncertain about your placement, you may "sit in" on a class to find a perfect fit. Classes are \$60 for each 6 week session. Contact Donna Lenzi at 330-606-8822 or lenzidonna@gmail.com to register. You will be contacted to confirm your class.

Intermediate Conversation

(Beginner Conversation or equivalent as prerequisite)
4:00-5:30 p.m.

Relies on previously learned elements of grammar, vocabulary, structural and syntactical knowledge for impromptu conversation and topics provided by the instructor. Students may be required to prepare oral assignments at home for more confident class discussions.

Beginner Conversation

(Italian for Travelers I, II, III or equivalent as prerequisite)
5:45-7:15 p.m.

Students will read, and review written materials provided by the instructor and converse with exercises designed to reinforce vocabulary, structural and syntactical knowledge.

Italian for Travelers I

5:45-7:15 p.m.

Using Conversational Italian in 7 Days, this entry level course guides students through pronunciation and critical sounds while practicing greetings and expressions for small talk, shopping, dining, and finding one's way around.

*Note: **Italian For Travelers I and II** will be offered in January. Please refer to the winter edition of **amici** for details.*

Conosciamoci Slated to Resume in January

*T*he first session of "Conosciamoci" (Let's Get To Know Each Other) will be held on **January 18** from **7-8:30 p.m.** in the home of the instructor in the **Park Shore area of Naples**. **Nancy Menaldi-Scanlan** will lead informal gatherings of advanced beginners in conversational Italian that includes some study aids and correction. The group meets every other week. Call **Nancy at 239-434-7219** to participate. **Please call Nancy even if you have previously attended the group and plan to continue to do so. Register by January 15 for "Conosciamoci."**

Parliamo di...

In the past, **ICS** has offered those fluent speakers, both native and non-native Italians, the opportunity to gather and discuss selected topics of interest in Italian in a cordial setting. Anyone interested in continuing the "Parliamo di..." discussions should contact **Luisa Basile at 239-948-3707**.

Watch for "**La Nostra Bella Lingua**" in each issue of *amici* as **Dr. Grace Mannino**, one of the Adult Language instructors, introduces some unique expressions in our beautiful language.

Il Cinema Italiano

All Films shown at the Norris Center in Naples on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m.
A \$5.00 donation is requested.



November 2

Respiro: Valeria Golino and Vincenzo Amato enliven this beautifully photographed film based on the relationship between a free-spirited, beautiful woman and her fisherman spouse living on Lampedusa Island between Sicily and Tunisia. Winner of the 2002 Cannes Film Festival and Critic's Week Award, as well as Official Selection of 2002 Telluride Film Festival and Toronto Film Festival, this film offers the most imaginative photography above and below the surface of surrounding waters of any film you'll ever see.

PG-13. Italian with English subtitles. 95 minutes.

December 7

The Orange Thief: Andrea Calabrese and Alessio Giottoli star in this thoughtful film with great music and a simple tale told masterfully. Shot entirely in Italy by three independent film makers, *The Orange Thief* has received numerous awards and played to a standing ovation at the 2006 Milwaukee Film Festival. The singing is worth the price of admission. Not rated. Italian with English subtitles. 90 minutes



January 4

The Tiger in the Snow was directed by Roberto Benigni who also stars in the film with real-life wife Nicoletta Braschi who plays Vittoria, the love interest in this winning blend of tragedy and comedy. Jean Reno (*The DaVinci Code*) turns in a solid performance as Faud, Vittoria's friend, as the two are caught in Iraq at the outbreak of the Second Gulf War.

Not rated. Italian with English Subtitles. 110 minutes.

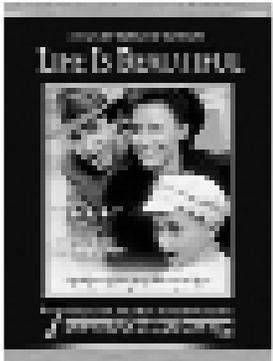


January 18

Johnny Stecchino: Roberto Benigni and Nicoletta team up again in 1991 in this most popular film of all time in Italy. It is classic Benigni comedy: a case of mistaken identity with Benigni playing the roles of gangster, Johnny The Toothpick, and good-hearted, naïve Dante.

Not rated. Italian with English subtitles. 102 minutes.





February 1

Life Is Beautiful: This masterpiece of film making was nominated for seven Academy Awards and won for Benigni, who served as director, co-writer, and star, Oscars for Best Foreign Language Film and Best Actor. Nicoletta Braschi is won over by the charming and irresistible Guido (Benigni) who saves his wife and son (played by Giorgio Cantarini) from an unthinkable fate during WWII. Claudio and Ledia Alfonsi round out the cast of this 1999 Best Film of the Year Award winner. Rated PG-13. Italian with English subtitles. 116 minutes.

February 15

Son of the Pink Panther: Only after you have been run over and blown up on your first day on the job, does one begin to suspect that Inspector Clouseau may have had a son this inept and klutzy. Fueled by Benigni's wacky charm and fractured English, the plot of the kidnapped Arabian princess unfolds. The film also features Claudia Cardinale. Rated PG. In English. 90 minutes



March 1

Bread and Tulips: Italy's magical fantasy of mid-life crisis and rebirth in Venice, the city of lovers, swept the Italian film awards and charmed all of Europe. Directed by Silvio Soldini, this sweetly sexy and beautifully shot film is a story of second chances that may not be original or surprising but is no less lovely or enchanting for it. Winner of the Cannes Film Festival, Winner of Nine David DiDonnatello Award and Official Selection of the Toronto International Film Festival, Bread and Tulips stars Licia Maglietta and Bruno Ganz. Rated PG-13. Italian with English subtitles. 116 minutes.

April 5

Ciao, Professore! is a spirited comedy hailed by critics coast to coast for its vitality and raunchy good humor. Shot in 1992 and starring Paulo Viaggio and Isa Daneli, this film is absolutely brimming with life as an upper-class teacher from conservative Northern Italy finds himself teaching third-grade truants in a ramshackle school in the south. Along the way the earnest "professore" learns some valuable lessons when he begins to see life through the fresh, vibrant eyes of his scrappy, young students. Not Rated. Italian with English Subtitles.



Reservations Procedure

24/7 Reservation Line: 239-434-3323. Clearly state your full name, phone number, the number and full names of your guests as well as the name of the event you are reserving. Give menu choices and seating preferences when requested by amici. Please make payments for all events as early as possible, but no later than five days prior to the event. Payments may be made with credit card by phone or with checks made payable to ICS. **Separate checks are required for each event you are reserving.** 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 within four days of the event.

Membership Information

The ICS membership years runs from **October 1** through **September 30**. You are reminded to 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 **November 1, 2010**. Per our usual policy, dues received after **April 1** will be credited to the following season. Name tags will be mailed to all new members, and it is requested that members wear name tags to all events. Membership registration 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

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