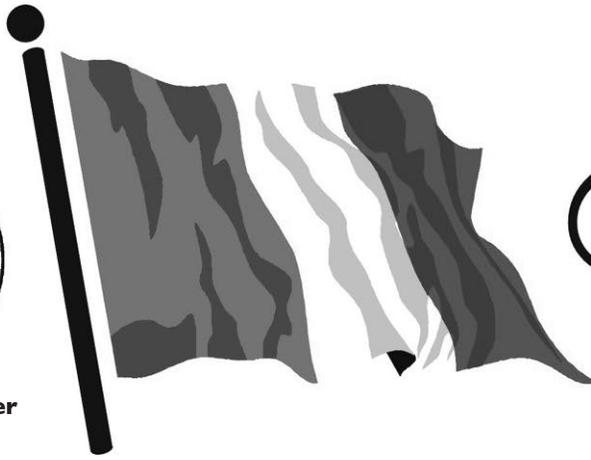




September • October  
2016



# Italia

NEWSLETTER of the ITALIAN WORKMEN'S CLUB

914 Regent Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53715

IWC President David Rizzo, 608-852-3665 • IWC Membership Secretary: John Troia (608) 271-0582  
Italia Editor Phyllis DeGioia • IWC phone: 608-258-1880 • www.iwcmadison.com

## President's Message



As I'm writing this, week two of the Summer Olympics is underway. It's reassuring that despite the

troubling and sometimes tragic events we read about every day, we can still witness the dedication and spirit of genuine athletic competition among the various nations of our world.

There are certainly reasons to despair and be anxious about the future. However, I recommend heeding the advice of St. Matthew, "Enjoy the present. Don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries." Get out and enjoy late summer and early fall in Wisconsin.

### Current Events

#### Roma Lodge Bocce Tournament (August 14)

Jim Trameri, Antonio Re, Raul DeLuna, John Caliva and Keefe Bartz represented our club at the

Roma Lodge Summer Bocce Tournament in Racine. Their presence helps maintain our good relations with our brothers to the southeast and they deserve everyone's appreciation for taking the time to participate.

#### Charity Golf Outing (August 21)

Our annual golf outing was held at Sun Prairie Golf Club. Tony Bruno (assisted by Frank

Alfano and Mike Alioto) did a masterful job of organizing the event, recruiting golfers, signing up sponsors and acquiring an impressive array of raffle prizes and auction items. Eighteen four-somes were signed up to enjoy a continental breakfast, tasty sausage sandwich lunch and delicious steak

*continued* page 4



Tony Bruno and sons Tom, Brian and Joe prepare for full day of golfing at the Italian Classic Charity Tournament.

# Condolences

Anne E. Bruno passed away in July at the age 100 years. Anne was born in 1916 in the Greenbush, the daughter of Joseph G. and Antoinette Stassi. She married the late Joseph A. Bruno on June 6, 1936, in Madison. Anne attended St. Joseph Grade School and graduated from West High School. She worked part time for the Madison Public Library at the Sequoia branch. She donated her time and efforts to the Red Cross, Madison Theater Guild, and Edgewood High School. She was a member of the National Catholic Society of Foresters for 40 years and St. James Catholic Church. She was known far and wide for her excellent Italian cooking and baking, especially for her *arrancini*. "Mama B" is survived by her children, **Tony (Mary) Bruno**, Joanne (Cliff) Dibelius and Michael Bruno (Jim Smith), and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in memory of Anne to the Good Shepherd Catholic Parish at St. James Church or to the Edgewood High School Education Fund or any organization.

Bernadette C. "Bert" (nee Carroll) Smith died in July at the age of 90. She and her husband Charlie Smith settled in the Greenbush on South Spooner St. ■■

# Opening Reception for Photos of Italy

**Teresa Mertens-Pellitteri** took numerous photos on her last trip to Italy. Those photos are being showcased at Yahara Bay Distillery, and the opening night reception there will feature not only her photographs, but also tastings from the distillery (they make *limoncello*, among other delights), a cash bar, and Italian appetizers. Teresa invites everyone to join her at this opening.

Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>  
5 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
Yahara Bay Distillers  
3118 Kingsley Dr., Madison, WI

# Fresh Pasta Demo

At the August meeting, IAWC members thoroughly enjoyed a demonstration of how to make fresh pasta given by Carol and **Ross Scovotti**. The dynamic duo discussed how to make the dough, and when it had sat for an hour, they maneuvered it through a pasta maker to make a variety of shapes. Talk about delicious! ■■



# Birthdays

## IWC

### September

- Greg Puleo (5)
- Richard DiSalvo (6)
- Michael Lumina (6)
- Jack Parrino (8)
- Daniel Guerra Jr (12)
- Joseph Scalissi (16) • Peter Macaluso (17)
- John Aiello (18) • John Benjamin (19)
- Rossario DePaola (21) • Joseph Tripalin (21)
- Matthew Coppla (30)

### October

- John Hunter (4) • Travis Hunter (7)
- Claudio Gratton (8) • Luigi Vitiritti (10)
- Donald Mash (12) • Kevin Miller (12)
- Joseph Daguanno (15)
- Andrew Lager (16) • Pepo Parisi (24)
- Michael Sabroff (25)
- Domenic Scudera (28) • Steve Tortorici (30)
- Mike Cammilleri (31)

Carol and Ross Scovotti gave IAWC a terrific pasta making demo for our August meeting. Bravo!

# Amichevole Novita (friendly news)

By Catherine Tripalin Murray



**Louis Cassini** has every right to refer to himself as an Italian-Sicilian-American because that's exactly what he is besides be-

ing a proud longtime member of the IWC. His father, Silvio Luigi Cassini, left Zoppola, Italy, for a better life in America, entering Manitoba, Canada, in 1927 before making a lawful entry with friends by entering Detroit, Michigan, in a rowboat. After connecting with his brother in Chicago, Silvio headed to Wisconsin and settled in Madison's Greenbush neighborhood where he would become an American citizen, marry the lovely Sicilian Rose Tortorici, and raise their children, Marietta, and twins Joan and Louis. And that's just beginning of a short story featuring Silvio's son, Louis, who inherited his father's entrepreneurial gene.

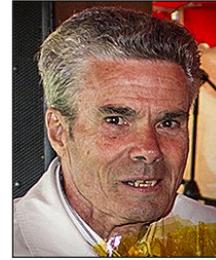
Louie's education began in the Neighborhood House Nursery. During his elementary years at St. Joseph's, he became an altar boy, and in eighth grade was responsible for ringing church bells three times each day. Growing up on Gwinnette Court meant swimming, fishing, and playing football and softball at Brittingham Park where there was always someone to hang out with. In the meantime, at the age of ten, having learned how to shine shoes from a Greenbush friend, Louie became a shoe shine specialist offering "15 cents

a shine" at the Milwaukee Railroad Station on West Washington Avenue and at the Capital Square. When he retired from shoe shining, he washed dishes at Schiro's Grotto on State Street, and bailed hay with Frank, Ernie and John Schuepbach at their farm. If there was any time in between, Louie and his good friends Sam Cefalu, Dominic Scudera, "Sonny" Parisi, Pete Gambino, "Tiny" and Ken Urso, Pete and Joe Cerniglia, Tony Pullara, Vic Schiro, Jim Vitale, and Sam Vultaggio ate *semenses* in front of Caruso's White Front Grocery Store.

A new chapter in life began as student at Central High where he pleased his teachers with his diligence in studying while excelling in football as their star halfback who also served as co-captain on the 1954 All Big Eight Team. Socially, Louie was honored as a member of the Homecoming Court and being voted "Most Handsome" of his senior class.

After graduating from Central in 1955, he began working at his father's business, Cassini and Son Terrazzo and Tile Company and shortly thereafter ran the business together. Their highly acclaimed work included the University of Wisconsin, city and state buildings, schools, hospitals, and churches where beautiful mosaics and marble became the work of an artist. Louie also remained active in sports playing touch football on city teams, and softball on IWC teams, having become an IWC

member in 1956, sponsored by "Herkie" Schiro.



Louie and Shirley Laufenberg were classmates at Central High with Shirley graduating in 1956. In 1958, they were mar-

ried at Holy Redeemer Church. She admits today that from that point on, she willingly became Italianized to the *n*<sup>th</sup> degree due to Louie's pride and passion of who and what he was, which was further engrained during their trips to Italy to visit Silvio's birthplace and gather with relatives. The couple have been

*Cassini* continued on page 6



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## Calendar of Events

### IWC

Election	Oct 18
Columbus Day Awards Banquet	Oct 9
Annual Picnic	Oct 16
Sausage Making & Pasta Making	(Fall)

### IAWC

Columbus Day Awards Banquet	Oct 9
Annual Picnic	Oct 16
Thanksgiving Potluck	Nov 2
Corn (Bingo) Party	Nov 19
Feast of Seven Fishes	Dec 7

# President's Message

dinner with all the trimmings. The scramble format allows everyone to have a good time as we raise money for Badger Childhood Cancer Network.

## **Wine Making (Crush the Grapes – September 20)**

It's time to start making wine again. The first step in the process (breaking the skins of the grapes) is scheduled to take place just prior to our September membership meeting at the club using our classic wooden wine press. The natural fermentation process will eventually lead to the time-consuming pressing and bottling. Please consider joining your fellow members in helping to preserve the tradition of authentic wine – making the way our ancestors did it.

## **Neighborhood House Centennial Celebration (September 24)**

Our good friends at Neighborhood House will be celebrating 100 years (to the day) since they opened their doors to provide educational, social and recreational programs, events and activities for young and old.

## **Columbus Day Banquet (October 9)**

**Steve Loniello** is organizing our annual banquet, which will be held at Porta Bella restaurant. This year, the IAWC will join us as we combine our event with their Woman of the Year celebration. The reservation deadline is Wednesday, September 28. Please contact Steve at 608-772-7966, or

[sloniello@gmail.com](mailto:sloniello@gmail.com) to reserve your spot.

## **Annual Picnic (October 16)**

Our annual picnic is later this year and we're in need of volunteers to help plan and execute the event. **Butch Pullara** has agreed to once again lead the effort. Please contact Butch to offer your assistance.

## **Sausage Making & Pasta Making (Fall)**

**Todd Cambio** and **Dennis DiCarlantonio** will lead the time-honored tradition of making sausage at the club. **Antonio Re** has volunteered to do a pasta making demonstration at the club. **Jim DiUlio** and **Jim Trameri** have agreed to assist. No date has been set for either event, but watch for specifics in flyers and e-mail communications soon.

## **Elections**

In keeping with our by-laws, we need to conduct elections in October for President and Vice President as well as three of the six Councilman At Large positions. These two leadership positions and a fully staffed council are vital to conducting the necessary business



of the club. Please consider submitting your name as a candidate by sending an e-mail to **Ross DePaola** [rdwestlab@aol.com](mailto:rdwestlab@aol.com).

## **Updates**

### **Honor The Past**

**Frank Alfano** continues to spearhead an effort to repair the "Spirit of Greenbush" monument on the corner of Regent and North Murray streets. Commemorative tiles with photo-edged images and memorable quotations from former residents tell the story and capture the essence of the historic Greenbush neighborhood. The structure has fallen into alarming disrepair, and although working

*See President's Message Page 6*

# IAWC Member in Focus

by Marcia Smecko

Sister Toni Ann Palermo, PhD, the daughter of Fred and Elvira, grew up in Forest Park, Illinois, which was known as Little Italy. It was very similar to the Madison Greenbush neighborhood where families lived together in harmony and celebrated with food, dance and music.



At the young age of 11, Toni was invited to travel to Cuba for spring training with the All American Girls Professional Baseball League. A few years later she became a member of the All American Girls Baseball League as a short stop. She also played professional softball with the Parichy Bloomer girls. Toni was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, PA, and Elgin, IL. She was also recognized by the Baseball Association of Chicago for “Excellence as an AAGPBL Player, Educator and Leader.”

Sister Toni was named “Who’s Who” of her high school class and recently nominated for “Business Who’s Who Registry” in Madison. She was a dance performer/choreographer, author and guest speaker in the states of Wisconsin and Illinois.

Sister Toni had another calling into religious life as a School Sister of St. Francis in Milwaukee. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in English, History and Math from Alverno College. Toni taught grade school and high school. She then continued her education and earned three Master Degrees and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Wisconsin. Toni taught in the Physical Education Department and School of Social Work at the University. She was a member of the Pi Lambda Theta Honorary Society and was invited as a “People to People Ambassador,” a women’s delegation to China and Russia.

She has been a vibrant part of IAWC proudly wearing her red, white, and green to our public events such as Festa Italia, Bayview Ethnic Fest, and the International Festival. She exudes Italian pride. Sister Toni’s gracious support to club members and their families during difficult times is a testament of her compassion for others. Her sense of humor and her talent for calling numbers at corn parties has provided many enjoyable memories. ■■



## Italia

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**Ross DePaola**

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## IAWC Birthdays

Paola DiPiazza Sept 10

Phyllis Masino Sept 20

Katie Healy Oct 2

Catherine Murray Oct 4

Sandy Hunter Oct 2

Flo Blazek Oct 31



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# President's Message *continued*

with the city of Madison can be challenging, Frank is not one to give up easy. Look for updates in future newsletters.

## Celebrate The Present – Be An Active Member

**Come to a membership meeting.** We get together on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM to share a glass of wine, conduct a business meeting, enjoy a meal prepared by members and engage in animated conversation and genuine camaraderie.

**Participate in our events and activities.** Learn about making wine, sausage or pasta. If you don't see an event that interests you, make a suggestion.

## Envision The Future

A five-man Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) began meeting in August to develop a strategic plan for the club. The purpose is to: Establish a Vision, Revisit our Mission, Rewrite our By-Laws, and Set Goals to ensure that our club remains strong and vibrant for future generations. The SPC plans

to complete its work by the end of this year and present a report and recommendations to the Council and full membership early in 2017.

## President's Mail Box

Send me an e-mail ([davidrizzo@me.com](mailto:davidrizzo@me.com)) or drop a note in the box I've provided in our club's office. If there's something you like or don't like about our club, I really want to hear from you. I can't promise that we'll address every need, or implement every idea, but I can promise you the courtesy of a response.

Alla prossima volta, statevi bene e Dio vi benedica.

David Rizzo ■



**Cassini** continued from page 3

blessed with three daughters, Sue, Debbie and Lynn, and grandchildren, one being Lauren who "loves Christmastime with her grandpa, and other times when they make pizza, dance and laugh together," while grandson Bob, loves his grandpa because "he loves to share things with others, and when he goes to church, he prays for everyone. He's the best."

Ask his friends and they'll claim he makes the best *rosolio* (Silvio's liqueur recipe), this side of Italy.

What has Louie Cassini contributed as a proud IWC member since 1956? He always enjoys working during Festa Italia wherever he's needed and, with a grin, describes chairing a committee and serving as a "judge" to make sure all members had paid their dues. His favorite food? Spiedini!

To you, Louis Cassini, a 60-year IWC member, *Salute!*Schiro, *Salute!* ■

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*Italia*

Call **Mike Heald** for more information on advertising in *Italia*.

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**IWC COLUMBUS DAY BANQUET  
&  
IAWC WOMAN OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION**

**Sunday, October 9, 2016**

**Porta Bella Restaurant**  
425 N. Frances St., Madison, Wi.

**Cocktails 4:00 PM Dinner 5:00 PM Program 5:45 PM**

**\$35 per person IWC and IAWC / cash bar**

**Master of Ceremonies: Mitch Henck**

**Menu:**

*Assorted Appetizers  
Beverages of iced tea, hot tea, coffee  
Garlic Bread, Caesar Salad, Tiramisu*

**Entrée #1:** Roasted Beef Tenderloin

**Entrée #2:** Chicken Rollatini

**Entrée #3:** Baked Portabella Mushroom Alfredo

**Reservation Deadline is Wednesday, September 28**

**Questions? Please contact Steve Loniello, 608-772-7966; [sloniello@gmail.com](mailto:sloniello@gmail.com)**



**Reservation Form:**

Contact Person & Phone for this reservation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Entrée #: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \_\_\_\_\_

***Please make check payable to IWC. Mail check and form to:  
Steve Loniello, 440 Connie Street, Cottage Grove, WI 53527***

## CALENDAR of Events

IWC Council Meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of  
Each Month 7:00 pm

IWC Membership Meetings – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Tuesday of Each Month 7:00 pm

*Please clip and post this calendar.*

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## Italian Workmen's Club

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914 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53715  
Phone: (608) 258-1880

### Columbian of the Year 2016 Award Nomination Form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Italian Heritage: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Member of the Italian Workmen's Club: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Membership in other Italian Organizations: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Involvement with the Italian Workmen's Club: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Contributions and benefits to the Madison Italian American Community: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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6. Non- Italian American Community Involvement: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete form and return by Friday, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016 to:**  
**Italian Workmen's Club • 914 Regent Street • Madison 53715**







## Italian Workmen's Club

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914 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53715  
Phone: (608) 258-1880

### 2016 Italian Athlete of the Year Award

Person being nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Athletic Achievements:

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Scholastic Achievements:

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Italian Heritage: \_\_\_\_\_

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Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete form and return by Friday, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016 to:**  
**Italian Workmen's Club • 914 Regent Street • Madison 53715**

# IWC Summer/Fall Picnic



Sunday, October 16, 2016  
McKee Farms Park,  
Fitchburg, 12:00-4:00pm



Sausage Sandwiches, Drinks and  
paper products will be provided.

Please bring a dish to pass!

We will eat at 12:30pm

For more info, contact Butch Pullara at 332-6632

Bocci courts will  
be set up!

Packer Game Starts at 3:25pm

WISITALIA –Madison ANNOUNCES

# ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CLASSES AT THE IWC

## Fall 2016

Are you interested in learning to speak the language of the "Bel Canto" and of the Arts, and discover the beauties and artistic traditions of Venice, Florence, Rome and more? Do you appreciate Italian style in fashion, cuisine, and craftsmanship? Are you planning to realize your dreams and to finally travel to Italy? Then enroll in ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CLASSES FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN. Classes emphasize developing Italian speaking and listening skills and students are encouraged to speak and build their skills with every lesson. In addition to regular classes, the program includes a number of enrichment lectures by guest speakers. Adult classes are offered at the Beginning, Low Intermediate and Advanced level during week evenings. Classes for children are held on Saturday mornings.

◆ Adult classes:

Beginning Italian\*: 5:45 – 7:15 PM – Monday, September 19-Dec.5, 2016

Low intermediate Italian\*\* 7:30 –9:00 PM – Monday, Sept.19 –Dec 5, 2016

Advanced level: 6:00 – 7:30 PM – Thursday, Sept.22-Dec.8, 2016

Cost:\$145.00; senior citizen, over 65, \$120.00; IWC members \$90.00

\*Textbook for Beginning & Continuing levels: *Arrivederci 1 for English speakers* : [www.Deltapublishing.com](http://www.Deltapublishing.com)

\*\* Textbook for Low intermediate: *Arrivederci 2 for English*: [www.Deltapublishing.com](http://www.Deltapublishing.com)

◆ Children classes (ages 4 to 9) – Saturdays, September 17 – Dec. 17, 2016

Saturdays – sept 19- 9:30-11:00 AM Cost: \$130.00 (two siblings=\$ 240.00)

Location: All classes are held at the Italian Workmen's Club (IWC), 914 Regent (corner of Park St.)  
For information and registration call Giovanna @ 238-1991; e-mail: [Italink1@charter.net](mailto:Italink1@charter.net)

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### REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Children Only: Age: \_\_\_\_\_ School currently attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous exposure to Italian \_\_\_\_\_

Please check course you in which you wish to enroll:

\_\_\_\_\_ Mondays: 5:45- 7:15 p.m. Beginning Italian: basic communication 1

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday: 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. Low Intermediate: communication 3

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursdays: 6:00- 7:30 p.m. Advanced Conversation and Reading

Make check payable to WISITALIA-Madison and mail to:

Att,Giovanna Miceli Jeffries, 5517 Greening Lane/ Madison, WI 53705