

#



Italia

NEWSLETTER of the ITALIAN WORKMEN'S CLUB

914 Regent Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53715

www.iwcmadison.com



Italia January • February 2017

President's Message



As I'm writing this, the first snowfall is blanketing the ground. The wonderful Thanksgiving holiday is a fond memory as is the joyous Christmas season. I hope you all had the chance to embrace family traditions like cutting down a fresh tree, Christmasizing your home, baking favorite desserts and sharing food and good cheer with neighbors, co-workers, family and friends. As we begin 2017, let's keep in mind those less fortunate with a fervent hope that all will prosper in the New Year.

Membership - Growth

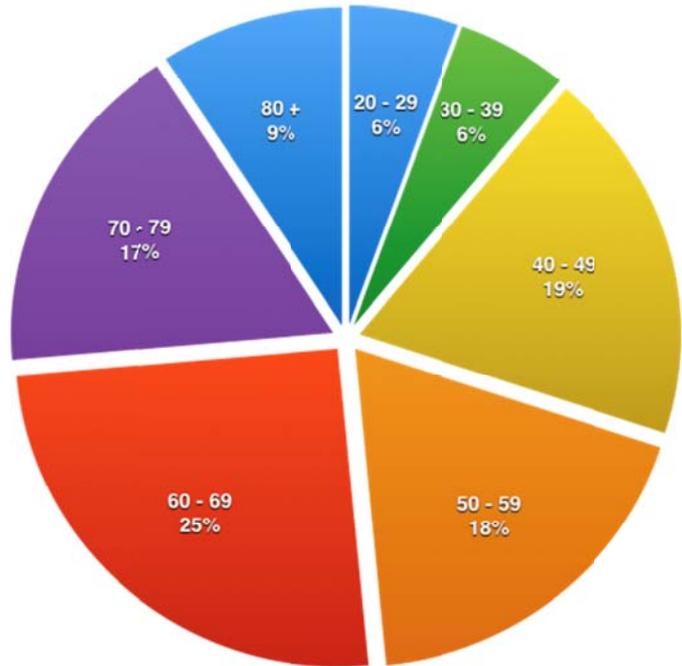
Thanks to the efforts of several members and our presence at Festa, we welcomed two dozen new applicants in 2016. Sadly, a few friends pass each year and others drift away, but our club is growing. We currently have 163 members in good standing.

In addition to overall growth, our club is getting younger with an infusion of millennials, who've embraced their Italian heritage and see our club as a means of learning more about the contributions and achievements of their ancestors.

Our average age is 59 with close to one-third under the age of 50, and almost half under 60. A breakdown of our membership by age group is shown to the side.

In addition, an analysis of the tenure of our membership reveals that 40% have been in the club for five years or less, and nearly two-thirds for ten years or less. A breakdown of our membership by tenure is shown on the next page.

IWC Membership % By Age



#

Membership – Involvement

The number of members attending our monthly meetings has increased from around 35 to a consistent 50-plus. It's been great to see the clubhouse alive with music, conversation, laughter and of course great food and drink. The number of volunteers for wine making and those showing an interest in helping with future events has also increased nicely. Look for ways to lend your time and talent to the club.

Membership – Dues Increase

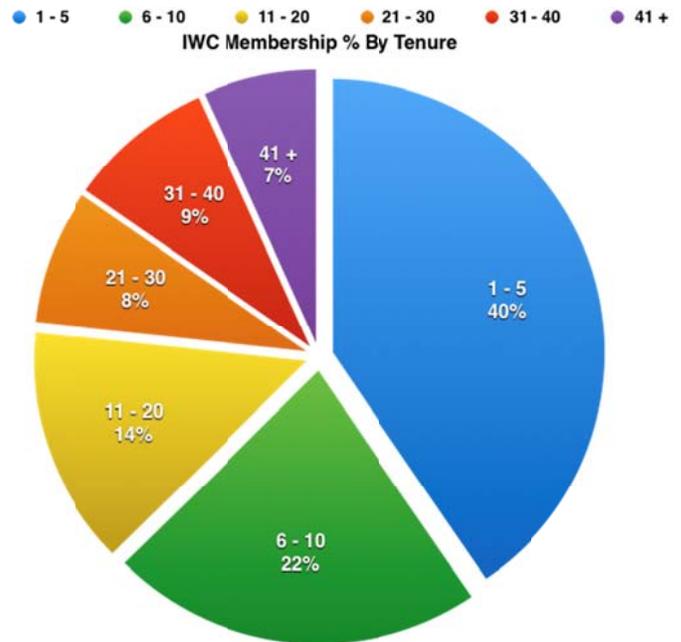
Effective January 1, 2017, the membership dues will be increased from \$48 to \$60 per year (\$5 per month). This increase was unanimously approved by the Council, and by majority vote (84%) of members present at the November membership meeting. The last increase was some years ago, and the incremental revenue will help offset necessary building maintenance costs.

Membership – Dues Waiver

A member who was born before January 1, 1931 will not be required to pay dues.

Updates

- **Honor The Past**
 - The city of Madison Arts Commission approved a plan to restore the “Spirit of Greenbush” monument on the corner of Regent and North Murray streets. Work has begun and will continue throughout the winter on restoring the photo edged images and priceless quotes for the commemorative tiles. Engineers and other experts will use state-of-the-art materials to rebuild the structure in the spring. When the work is complete, our club will organize a ceremony to recognize all who participated in the restoration.
- **Celebrate The Present**
 - Our December membership meeting was replaced this year by a pot luck Christmas party. Our ancestors made time to enjoy each other’s company. They “made merry” even during hard times. We have much to be thankful for, and many reasons to celebrate. Salute!
- **Envision The Future**
 - The Strategic Plan Committee has completed work on a new mission statement, oath and membership application form. Progress has also been made on community outreach and social activities, with work remaining on historical preservation, building maintenance, charitable contributions and long term financial strategy. The committee will give a progress report to the Council in January and present its recommendations to membership in the spring.



#

President's Mail Box

Send me an e-mail (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 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, statemi bene e Dio vi benedica.

David Rizzo

Greenbush Memorial Monument Repairs Begun

Repairs on the monument have begun after an almost five-year delay thanks to the efforts of Karin Wolf, CitiArts Director, Chad Escher of Findorff, Jim Meyers of Findorff and Gary Pechmann of Pechmann Memorials. If you go by the monument you can see where Findorff has removed all the stones, including the photographs. They will be delivered to Pechmann for either repair or replacement. The new photographs will be made from a material more conducive to Wisconsin winters. The repairs should be completed in the spring, after winter ends.

When repairs are completed, we will have a re-dedication at the site.

Thanks to Sammy Moss for pointing out the poor condition of the monument earlier to the IWC.

Amichevole Novita (Friendly News)

By Catherine Murray



The name Trameri rings many bells in Madison and beginning a brand new year for the IWC, it's time to shed some light on **Jim Trameri**, who joined the *societa* five years ago, has been active by attending all membership meetings, volunteers for most events, currently serves on the Council...and the list goes on.

Jim Trameri is a Madison native, born at St. Mary's in 1957 who grew up in the Bay-Creek area on Olin Avenue, just a short distance from the Greenbush neighborhood. Although his maternal grandparents, Federico and Mary Giammona, and his mother, Frances, passed away when he was young, he was well aware of them migrating from Sicily in the early 1930s, settling at the corner of Murray and Mound Streets before moving to West Lakeside Street; and that his grandfather worked as an ashman for the Milwaukee Road at the West Washington Avenue depot. As a youngster, the distance between Olin Avenue and West Lakeside allowed daily visits for Jim and his mother that became introductions to the authentic preparation and simplicity of heart-warming Sicilian food as sauces simmered while pizza and bread baked to perfection. When holidays arrived, spiedini, brociolone, pheasant, and duck were celebrated with innocent assumptions that everyone was treated to the same spectacular meals in their own homes. His nonna's meals left such an impression on young Jim that he began making bread with his mother in their own kitchen



#

which, in turn, led him to becoming a great cook in the many years that followed.

Jim's paternal grandparents, Carlo and Pierina Trameri, migrated from Lombardy in 1913. Blessed with three sons, Aldo (Jim's father), Robert and Richard, the family lived on the corner of Brooks and Mound streets. Carlo installed terrazzo floors and later became the custodian at St. Joseph's Church on South Park Street. It was there, on occasion, where Jim would help his grandfather ring the church bells and often be lifted high by the bells rope. His Nonna Trameri's succulent meals included a northern Italian favorite of polenta and bean soup.

Growing up in Madison with his only sibling, Patricia, provided a "simple" life for a kid who enjoyed fishing from the railroad bridges spanning Monona Bay, skating with his father at the Southside ice rink, playing soccer at Franklin Field, and sledding on Richmond Hill with friends from all walks of life. He graduated from West High in 1975 after spending his senior year in Argentina as a foreign exchange student. The experience further enriched his ethnic pride as most everyone living in San Francisco, Cordoba, Argentina was of Italian descent. Upon returning to Madison, he enrolled at the UW, majored in public relations, journalism and Spanish, and graduated in 1980. Since then he has worked with the Mariel Cuban refugee population, and became a bi-lingual probation-parole agent with the Wisconsin State Department of Corrections until transferring into the prison system where he worked as a bi-lingual social worker at both Waupun State Prison and at Dodge Correctional. After 30 years of service, he retired in 2011.

In retirement he enjoys being an IWC member, a photographer, great cook, and traveler. He participates regularly as an interpreter in medical missions to Spanish-speaking countries, particularly Peru, Ecuador and the Dominican Republic.

Jim's most recent trip was enjoyed with his wife, Sue, while visiting his grandparents' Italian hometowns of Isolaccia and Bormio, which included standing in the backyard of the mountain shack where his grandmother was born in 1890. A reception there also became another highlight to remember with over 40 relatives attending. A final note of enhancement was the nourishment of returning with a few new recipes to prepare back home in Madison.

To Jim Trameri, *Salute!*

Italian Language and Culture Classes

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 the Italian language and culture classes for adults and children held at IWC. 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. See the insert for additional information.

#

It's never too early to start thinking about Miss Festa 2017!

IAWC Report

Our Thanksgiving pot luck was a wonderful success thanks to the efforts of so many people who brought food to share. The Italian Folk Dancers performed, as usual (IAWC helped buy the traditional outfits) and the audience participation dance was truly a good time, particularly for those who don't normally folk dance and who had had a bit of vino. Many thanks to **Sandy Hunter** for handling the club's portion of the meal, the turkey and mashed potatoes.



Bingo Night was a great success, earning some money for scholarships. Attendance was strong. As usual, 20 turkeys were given away (again, thanks to the efforts of Sandy Hunter, who got them all donated except for the three we had to buy during the event because they were stolen right out of the freezer). Sandy also managed to get so many gift cards donated that the club only had to pay for a small part of the event. Thanks to all who volunteered, particularly Sandy and **Mary Troia**, who pulled it together, and to **Frank Alfano** for calling.

The Feast of the Seven Fishes, our now traditional meal for our December meeting, was highlighted by Christmas lights that had been placed in our room for some other purpose, but which we enjoyed tremendously. We ate in the glow of Christmas tree lights, so it was a bit like eating in a restaurant. Holiday cookies were also exchanged. I don't know about anyone else, but I froze them and served them at Christmas.

Wishing all of you, and all of yours, a happy and healthy 2017 – Buon Anno!

Phyllis DeGioia
President, IWAC

Earthquakes in Italy

A series of major earthquakes struck Central Italy between the Marche and Umbria regions in October of 2016. The first quake was a magnitude 5.5 one that hit near Sellano on Oct. 26; it was even felt in Rome. The second one, rated 6.1, also hit on Oct. 26, near Visso; it occurred about two months after the late August earthquake, and very near it. The third quake, a 6.6., struck on October 30, and was the largest one in Italy in 36 years. The village of Arquata del Tronto and the Basilica of Saint Benedict were destroyed.

Thankfully, only three people died and those were from heart attacks during the quakes.

#

Italy has a New Prime Minister

In December, a new Italian prime minister named Paolo Gentiloni was elected; he was previously Italy's foreign minister. Gentiloni told journalists that he had accepted Italian President Sergio Mattarella's request to form a new government after meeting with the president at the Palace of Quirinale. Gentiloni still needs Parliament's approval to assume the office.

Gentiloni would replace Prime Minister Matteo Renzi, who officially resigned in December after a significant defeat (59 percent opposed) in a referendum on constitutional changes that he proposed. Renzi's proposals for constitutional change were seen as a referendum on Renzi's leadership as well as a litmus test for the rise of populism (support for the concerns of ordinary people). Gentiloni was always an ally of Renzi's. Renzi wanted to change the 1948 constitution by reducing the 315 seats in the Senato to 100, making it more of a consultative assembly. His referendum gave way to accusations of populism in both the "Yes" and "No" camps.

According to Wikipedia, "Populism is a political style of action that mobilizes a large alienated element of population against a government seen as controlled by an out-of-touch closed elite that acts on behalf of its own interests. The underlying ideology of the Populists can be left, right, or middle. Its goal is to unite the uncorrupt and the unsophisticated (the 'little man') against the corrupt dominant elites (usually the orthodox politicians) and their camp followers (usually the rich and the intellectuals). It is guided by the belief that political and social goals are best achieved by the direct actions of the masses. Although it comes into being where mainstream political institutions fail to deliver, there is no identifiable economic or social set of conditions that give rise to it, and it is not confined to any particular social class."

Under Gentiloni, Italy has already decided to ramp up checks on migrants and increase deportations in 2017. The tough position on migration is the first major policy departure for his administration.

Birthdays

IWC - January

Jim Trameri (5)
William Fannucchi (6)
Steve Urso (8)
Daniel Capacio (9)
Matthew Jarosz (9)
Arthur Bormett (14)
Carol Bonura (17)
Nick Baldarotta (23)
Peter Cerniglia (24)
Carmine Ciarletta (24)
Tony Antoniewicz (26)
Daniel Blasiolo (31)
Jason Mascitti (31)

IWC - February

Joe LaBarbera (3)
Thomas Speranza (3)
Louis Cassini (4)
Nate Troia (6)
Thomas Germanotta (10)
Joe Alfano (12)
Vito Cerniglia (13)
Joseph Schiro (19)
Vincent Ritacca (21)
Joseph Scarpelli Jr (22)
Robert Chiesa (24)
Stephen Sasso (26)
Frank Alfano (27)
Rossario Parisi (28)

IADC

Marcia Smecko Jan 1
Katie West Jan 20
Cheryl Parrino Jan 21
Roselyn Mircio Jan 22
Phyllis DeGioia Feb 3
Angela Masino Feb 3
Kristi Dohm Feb 6
Sister Toni Palermo, Feb 15
Toni Gunnison Feb 16
Kathy Williams Feb 17

Please Support our Advertisers!

SANFILLIPPO + FITCH LAWRENCE + CRESS
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY
 ESTABLISHED 1849 - ASSOCIATED WITH CRESS FUNERAL HOMES
 6021 UNIVERSITY AVE • Serving Madison and Middleton
45 year IWC and Bersagliere Member Sam Sanfillippo and Patricia Sanfillippo
(608) 238-8406 (IF NO ANSWER - 233-9654)
We treat every family as our own . . .

CALENDAR of Events

- IWC Council Meetings – 2nd Tuesday of Each Month 7:00 pm
- IWC Membership Meetings – 3rd Tuesday of Each Month 7:00 pm

Please clip and post this calendar.

HO-CHUNK GAMING

MADISON

SPONSOR

Collingwood Design logos • newsletters
 photo restoration
 pet portraits books
 • web sites house
 woodDesign.com
 portraits



 **FRABONI'S**
Italian Specialties and Delicatessen Inc.
 108 Owen Road • Monona, Wisconsin 53716
 www.frabonisdeli.com • frabonisowen@tts.net
 (608) 222-6632 • fax (608) 222-5540

BENNETT Q. FRABONI, MMC

*Homemade Sausages, Meatballs, Marinara, Hot Food,
 Take Home Entrees and other specialty food items.
 Makers of Porkettas for over 50 years.*

Fraboni's, 822 Regent St., Madison 53715
 608-256-0546

WISCO
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Greg Schroeder

*Portfolio Manager
 and IWC member*

As a Madison-based registered investment adviser, we help individuals and businesses make smart decisions with their financial assets.

608.442.5507
www.wiscoinvest.com


PURE INTEGRITY
 HOMES INC.
www.PureIntegrityHomes.com

Madison's Rose Specialist
GEORGE'S
 FLOWERS INC.
The Bloomin' Best!
 255-5500

Let George's three generations of experience and floral artistry fulfill your floral needs, with Style!

421 S. Park Street georgesflowers.net



RYAN & JOYCE-RYAN
 FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES
 SINCE 1938

2418 North Sherman Ave., Madison
(608) 249-8257

119

 ITALIAN RESTAURANT & PUB

Avanti Italian Restaurant & Pub
 119 S. Main Street
 Verona, WI 53593
AvantiVerona.com

Vito Cerniglia
 Owner / Manager
 Phone: (608) 848-3315
 Cell: (608) 516-8350

WISITALIA –Madison ANNOUNCES

ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CLASSES AT THE IWC Winter- Spring 2017

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:

Continuing Beginning *: 7:30 -9:00 - Monday, January 16-April 3, 2017
Low intermediate: 5:45 -7:15 PM - Monday, Jan 16 -April 3, 2017
Advanced level: 6:00 - 7:30 PM -Thurs, January 19- April.5, 2017

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

◆ Children classes (ages 4 to 9) – Saturdays,

Saturdays – Jan. 14 – April 29 - 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

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:

_____ Monday: 5:45- 7:15 p.m. Low Intermediate Italian

_____ Monday: 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Continuing beginning

_____ Thursday: 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



Italian Workmen's Club

914 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53715
Phone: (608) 258-1880, www.iwcmadison.com

ITALIAN COMMUNITY CENTER IN MILWAUKEE TASTE OF ITALY BUS TRIP SUNDAY APRIL 2, 2017

**LEAVE MADISON DUTCH MILL PARK N RIDE AT 9:00 AM
ARRIVE BRADY STREET (Italian District) FOR SHOPPING.
ARRIVE I.C.C. AT 11:30 AM FOR TASTE OF ITALY
LEAVE MILWAUKEE AT 3:30 FOR RETURN TO MADISON
ARRIVE BACK IN MADISON AT 4:30**

**COST PER PERSON: \$25 FOR BUS ONLY. We need 34 people
to cover the cost of the Bus.**

**Taste of Italy will have approximately 24 food vendors at which
you can purchase food items, etc. Admission is free**

For information contact Frank Alfano at falfano@charter.net

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Number attending: _____ **Total cost:** _____

**Checks to be made out to and sent to:
Italian Workmen's Club 914 Regent Street Madison, WI 53715
Reservations due March 17, 2017 at the latest**