

LA VOCE DI GCICS

GULF COAST ITALIAN CULTURE SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. BOX 2591, SARASOTA, FL. 34230

WWW.GCICS.ORG

November 2017



Letter from the President

Let me start by saying how sad I was to have to cancel the Opening Luncheon at Mattison's 41. In our calculations we would not have been able to come close to the 50 person minimum needed for the lunch. Also in our calculation to cancel was the fact that Mattison's is normally closed on Sundays and they were opening only for us. Food had to be specially ordered as well. We didn't realize many of our members were traveling and others were just staying up North a while longer.

Our next event is a popular one. The Fall BOCCE Picnic, on November 5th, at The Bay Preserve is a share-a-dish event. Come one, come all and enjoy the beautiful fall weather and the lovely grounds of the Preserve and BOCCE.

The Youth Opera matinee performance is on November 12th at 12:30 pm. Prior to the performance, arrangements have been made for a cash brunch beginning at 10:30 am for those who are interested, to attend a 10:30 AM "cash brunch" at First Watch right

around the corner from the Sarasota Opera. Let me know if you are planning to go to the "brunch" so that all in attendance can be seated together. We have asked Sarasota Opera to set aside 30 tickets for the matinee performance for GCICS. Half of the tickets are spoken for at this time, but we would love to show our support for the young performers by selling the remaining tickets. Help us out! Help the young singers! Most of all see a Sarasota Youth Opera world premiere of the opera Rootabaga Country commissioned just for them. Tickets are \$30. If you plan to attend, please email me at slazzarotti@gmail.com to let me know and either bring checks or cash to the Bocce Picnic or send your checks made out to GCICS for \$30 per ticket to Sheryl Lazzarotti, 7486 Edenmore Street, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202.

Let me close by wishing everybody a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

CIAO,
Sheryl

BRUNCH & SARASOTA YOUTH OPERA PERFORMANCE



As a member of GCICS, you have faithfully supported the Sarasota Youth Opera over the years through your scholarship donations. The Board felt it would be delightful to support the Youth Opera by attending its Fall 2017 performance. *Rootabaga Country* is based on Carl Sandburg's 1922 *Rootabaga Stories*. The opera has a message of tolerance and inclusiveness in a cultural climate where the simple act of growing up is more confusing than ever before.

- Event:** Brunch & Sarasota Youth Opera Performance
- Performance:** *Rootabaga Country* (World Premiere)
- Date:** Sunday Nov 12, 2017
- Time:** Brunch: 10:30-12:00 noon; Performance: 12:30 pm
- Location:** Brunch: First Watch; Performance: Sarasota Opera House, 61 N. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota, FL.
- Cost:** Brunch: dependent on what you order; Performance: \$30
- Seats:** We have reserved 2 blocks of seats for a total of 30 seats; to secure the order, a non- refundable deposit was required.
- Deadline:** **We need your reservation by Nov 7, 2017** at the latest.
- POC:** Send check made payable to GCICS to Sheryl Lazzarotti, [7486 Edenmore St., Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202](https://www.google.com/maps/place/7486+Edenmore+St,+Lakewood+Ranch,+FL+34202)
- Brunch:** Please include a note with check if you plan to attend the brunch. We must reserve space at the restaurant so that we all sit together.
- Questions:** Contact Sheryl Lazzarotti, GCICS President, 908-803-4400

Bocce Corner



Fall is here and members are returning from their time away in cooler climates. It is now time to get back with your friends at GCICS. Our Fall bocce picnic is planned. Come join us Sunday Nov. 5 at the bocce court and pavilion at the Bay Preserve grounds in Osprey. The Foundation is having a function the day before and will leave tables there for our use on Sunday. The picnic held in spring was enjoyed by all and it was suggested that we keep the same format. The Club will provide paper goods and coffee. You are asked to bring a chair, your beverage (remember that alcohol is permitted), your main course and a food item to share [appetizer, dessert, pasta dish, or salad]. It seems to work out fine without trying to assign items. Obviously after talking with friends you will not want to bring similar items! Last spring, there was a group who worked together to provide their main course item for their whole table, as well as their dishes to share. It was really successful! Perhaps you can try to work something out with your friends.

A big thanks to Jerry Hall who maintained the court over the summer, allowing members to play when the weather permitted. Members continue to gather to play bocce [weather permitting] each Sunday from approximately 2-4. Previous experience is not necessary. Just come with a friendly smile and be ready for fun and conversation. PLEASE JOIN US!

Tom Hurban

Holiday Party Fundraiser



Once again, the Holiday Party will be a “bring a dish event” where members will bring a bottle of wine and a dish. It will be a fundraiser for the scholarship fund. It will be at the Lakewood Ranch residence of Mary Rinaldi and her husband Jack Norman. The type of dish that you will bring will be according to the first letter of your last name. Here are the categories that we will follow:

A – D: Appetizer

E – K: Vegetable dish (hot or cold; including salad)

L – P: Main Course

R – Z: Dessert

The host and hostess of this event will provide ham as a main dish. Also, Mary and Jack will fund the cost of the live band for the entertainment of all party-goers.

DATE: Sunday, December 10, 2017

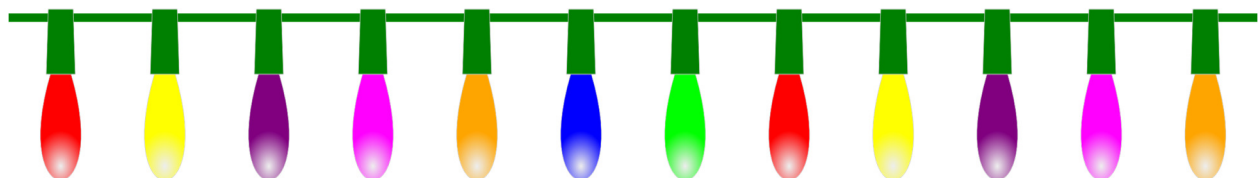
TIME: 5:30 – 9:30 PM

PLACE: 13982 Siena Loop, Lakewood Ranch, FL., 34202 (Phone: 907-9056)

COST: \$25 per person

RESERVE: Make checks payable to GCICS Scholarship Fund and mail to:

Mary Rinaldi, 13982 Siena Loop, Lakewood Ranch, FL., 34202





Due to scheduling problems the following two events have date changes. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

- 1) Annual Meeting/Lunch/Town Hall/Film event has been changed from 1/12/18 to 1/8/18.
- 2) Annual Bocce Tournament

Our annual Bocce tournament between GCICS and the CIAO Cascades Italian Club will be played this year on February 3, 2018; mark your calendars! (This is an unforeseen change of previously scheduled date). We will be trying to reclaim the traveling trophy back from CIAO who won it last year! So start practicing now!!

As always, the games will be followed with food, drink, dancing and merriment! More information and sign up procedure will be in future newsletters!



Currently GCICS has three vacancies on the Board of Directors. We need volunteers to fill these positions. If you would like to nominate somebody or run yourself, please contact Sheryl Lazzarotti at 908-803-4400.

ITALIAN CONVERSATION CLASSES & HAPPY HOURS



The GCICS Board of Directors is pleased to announce the continuation of Italian Classes on Monday afternoons at the home of the instructor and his wife, Silvio & Pamela Parodi. There is no cost for the classes. It is followed by an **optional** Happy Hour. Details on both activities follow.

Basic Italian Classes

Date/Time: Every Monday at 1:00 pm for 1 hr.
Class Content: Basic grammar, speaking and comprehension.
Instructor: Pamela (Pam) Parodi
Location : The Parodi home: 4081 Prairie View Dr., N, Sarasota, FL 34232 (located off McIntosh south of Fruitville Rd)
Cost: Free with membership in GCICS
Questions: E-mail Pamela Parodi: chez.parodi@verizon.net

Italian Conversation Classes

Date/Time: Every Monday at 2:00 pm for 1.5 hours
Instructor: Silvio Parodi
Location: The Parodi home: 4081 Prairie View Dr., N, Sarasota, FL 34232 (located off McIntosh south of Fruitville Rd)
Cost: Free with membership in GCICS
Questions: E-mail Carol Hall: CZHALLS@verizon.net



Happy Hours

Date/Time: Every Monday at 4:30 pm (up to 2 hours)
Location: Varies from north of Sarasota to downtown to south of Sarasota and east.
Note: Linda Mercurio "scouts" restaurants to identify good Happy Hour locations and then reserves for the group.

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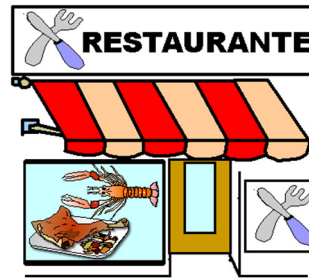
Past Presidents

Joseph Raffaele, PhD	1988-1992
Gabriella Thurston	1993-2001
Patrick Corsentino	2001-2004
Arthur Castraberti	2004-2006
Marie Corsentino	2007
Mary Amabile Palmer	2008-2010
William Korp	2010-2014
Anthony Esposito	2015-2016

RESTAURANTS OFFERING 10% DISCOUNT TO MEMBERS

PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE RESTAURANTS

2017 – 2018



Beulah Restaurant @ 1766 Main St.	960-2305
Café Amici @1371 Main St.	951-6896
Café Baci @ 4001 S. Tamiami Trail	921- 4848
Café Barbosso @ 5501 Palmer Circle	922-7999
Chianti Ristorante @ 3900 Clark Road	952-3186
Flavio's 5239 Ocean Blvd., Siesta Key	349-0995
Good Fellas @ 4571 Clark Road	922-9470
Mona Lisa @ 4989 Ringwood Meadows	377-6562
Salute @ 1 st Street and N. Lemon	365-1020
San Marco @ 505 W. Venice Ave.	254-6565
Opa Opa @ 6525 Superior Ave.	927-1672
Valentino's @ 8203 Cooper Creek Blvd. 4045 Clark Road	359-6400 921-9600