

LA VOCE DI GCICS

GULF COAST ITALIAN CULTURE SOCIETY, INC.

PO BOX 2591, SARASOTA, FL 34230

WWW.GCICS.ORG

January 2015

Ladies and Gentlemen of the GCICS,

Here we are in January, 2015, with the holidays behind us and hopefully some time to reflect about "where we are and hopefully where we want to be." I believe it is always important to 'know thyself' and thus look to improve for, as you know, the biggest people in the world are those who reach down to help someone.

My previous letter to you outlined the mission of GCICS, so I think it appropriate now to mention how each of us can gain fulfillment in our lives by trying to do what we can to help others. Time and time again we see examples of the happiness derived by those who help others in any number of small and large ways. You may recall India's great freedom fighter, Mahatma Gandhi, saying, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." GCICS gives each of us a chance to do just that, not only with our money but with the devotion of our time, intellect, and experiences. Each of us can make a difference if we put our mind to it. Accordingly, I am asking you, as I did last month, to challenge your mind and email your suggestions to us so that we all can make a difference in this wonderful community.

Please realize that 'time' is our most precious resource. You cannot save it or store it. Once it is gone, it is gone forever. We must be mindful of the need to use our time wisely and well in the service of others, the fulfillment of self, and the enjoyment of life's simple pleasures. In

doing so, we will be re-energized and renewed.

I want to take a moment to thank Joe and Micki Moccia for their efforts in hosting a very festive Christmas Party and also to personally thank Joe for his steady and most deliberate efforts on behalf of GCICS from the time he recruited me in 2012 right up until the present. He is a great role model for each of us. At our annual meeting in January, I am urging you to attend and use the discussion section of the meeting to offer any thoughts you have regarding improving GCICS and making the most of your association with us. I hope to see you there! Usually Ellen Roderick, our organization's secretary does a great job in facilitating the open discussion section of the meeting but, for personal reasons, she may not be able to attend so yours truly will attempt to fill her shoes and kick things off. I can promise a joke or two and a very tasty lunch. Mary Rinaldi and I will make sure you enjoy the afternoon.

Of course, we still have 5 to 7 young people depending on us to provide financial assistance toward their higher education. We are committed to this and Sheryl Lazzarotti will update us on progress toward our fulfilling this goal.

See you at the Annual Meeting
Tony Esposito

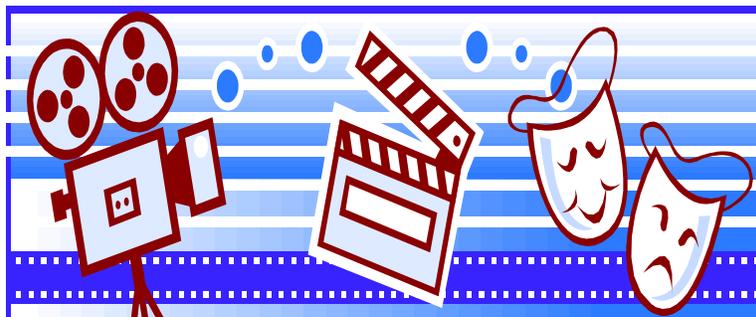


ANNUAL MEETING AND FILM

The annual meeting will be in a Town Hall format. First a lite lunch will be served. Then the meeting will begin. At this time, GCICS's visions and new initiatives will be presented by our President Anthony Esposito. Then the floor will be open to members so that they can discuss their future vision and program preferences. Finally an Italian movie will be shown.



- WHAT: Annual Meeting
WHEN: Friday, January 9, 2015
TIME: 12:00 PM
FOOD: Lite Lunch
COST: \$5 per person
WHERE: Community Foundation of Sarasota County
2635 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL. 34237 (near Tuttle)
RESERVE: Call Connie Campisi by January 2, 2015 for a count to enable us to order the correct amount of food. Pay at the door. If using a check, make payable to GCICS.



Valentine's Day Dance



This year, Valentine's Day will be celebrated at the Lakewood Ranch home of Mary Rinaldi and her husband Jack Norman. It will be a "bring a dish event" where members will bring a bottle of wine and a dish. Mary and Jack will provide the ham, servers, and a four piece band for your dancing pleasure. Since this is not a fundraiser, there will be a nominal charge for tableware items. 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 is assigned a side dish
- E – K is assigned a main dish
- L – P is assigned a dessert
- R – Z is assigned an appetizer



- WHAT:** Valentine Day Party
- DATE:** February 14, 2015
- TIME:** 5:30 PM – 9:30 PM
- PLACE:** The home of Mary Rinaldi & Jack Norman
- COST:** \$8 per person
- RESERVE:** Make check payable to GCICS and mail to:
Mary Rinaldi, 13982 Siena Loop, Lakewood Ranch, FL. 34202
Phone: 941-907-9056
- DIRECTIONS:** Take I-75 to exit 213 University Parkway head east on University Parkway to Legacy Blvd. Turn left, pass the gate house until the dead end. Make a left and a quick right onto Siena. Make the first left and the house is the 4th on the left hand side of the street.

CHRISTMAS PARTY REVIEW

Thirty six members came on December 13, 2014 to enjoy the festivities at the home of Micki & Joe Moccia. The D.J. played background music while the guests first dined on a delicious array of appetizers. Everyone left room for the main course of turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, green beans, and numerous casseroles too good to imagine. After coffee and desert, guests were treated to a singing performance of "White Christmas" performed by a neighbor, and past Country Western Singer, Ralph Shannon. Guests danced out on the patio. The money raised went to the GCICS scholarship fund.



GCICS
Christmas Party
@
Joe & Micki Moccia's
Home
Dec. 13, 2014



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Anthony Esposito
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Coordinator

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Restaurant
 Linda Ahern
lindalahern@aol.com

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

ITALIAN CLASSES 2014-2015 SCHEDULE

Both the language classes and the conversation classes will be held at The Landings in the Sarasota County Schools Administrative Building located at 1950 Landing Boulevard off US 41. Turn left and park in the lot in front of the blue awning building, #1950. Sweet Tomato Restaurant will be across the parking lot. Take the elevator to the 2nd floor. Classes are generally held in room 218, but check the easel each time for GCICS class location.

Basic Italian: Mondays 2:00-4:00 pm

Instructor: Patricia Novak – (Home) 941-753-8357

Text and Publisher: Italian: A Self-Guided Study by
 Eduardo A. Lèbano

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

ISBN# 978-0-471-35961-6

January: 5, 12, 26

February: 9, 23

March: 2, 16, 23, 30

April: 6, 13, 20, 27

Italian Conversation: Wednesdays 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Frank & Pina Pergolizzi –

Text: None

Cell: 203-583-2323

Home: 941-497-5678

January: 7, 14, 21, 28

February: 4, 11, 18, 25

March: 4, 18, 25

April: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Restaurants Offering 10% Discount To Members

Please Patronize These Restaurants

Cafe Americano 365-1026

Cafe Amici 951-6897

Cafe Baci 921-4848

D'Corato 330-1300

Mona Lisa 377-6562

Phila. Cheesesteaks & Hoagies 926-0441

Piatti Italian Bistro 923-5570

Primo Restaurant 359-3690

Valentino's

Cooper Creek Blvd. 359- 6400

Clark Rd. 921-9600

Note: Café Amalfi is now out of business.

Get Well Wishes

Get well wishes were sent to Gene McLoone (the significant other of our Secretary Ellen Roderick) who is in a rehabilitation hospital suffering from fluid build-up in the legs.

GCICS
PO Box 2591
Sarasota, FL. 34230

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>
<<Address>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>