

# *LA VOCE DI GCICS*

GULF COAST ITALIAN CULTURE SOCIETY, INC.  
October 2017



Letter from the President October, 2017

Hello to all GCICS Members,

For those of you who were here in Florida during the hurricane, we are hopeful that all of you came through safe, with minimal property damage.

It is hard to believe that October is here once again and, with it, a new 2017-2018 season for the Gulf Coast Italian Culture Society. Our opening luncheon, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, will once again be at Mattison's 41, a lovely venue which feature wonderful food. Be on the lookout for an email from Ellen Roderick with all the details...cost etc.

Our speaker that day is Ben Jewell-Plocher, Director of Education for the Sarasota Opera. Under that title, Ben works tirelessly promoting Sarasota's Youth Opera. As most of you know, in my past life, I was an opera singer and in the late 60's/early 70's performed here in the short winter season at the little Jewel Box Asolo Theatre.

That is a nice segue to announce that we have set aside 30 tickets for the November 12<sup>th</sup> matinee of the Sarasota Youth Opera's new production Rootabaga Country. This work was commissioned by Sarasota Opera after a nationwide search. The composer chosen, Rachel J. Peters, based her work on an adaptation of Carl Sandburg's 1922 Rootabaga Stories. This performance is a world premiere of this commissioned production. For those of you wishing to attend, the cost is \$30.00. Checks should be sent to Sheryl Lazzarotti, 7486 Edenmore Street, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202. Prior to attending the performance, we will be going to breakfast/brunch at First Watch down the street from the Opera. When you send your check, please let me know if you are attending the brunch. Don't be left out of this special event! I look forward to seeing all of you this season.

Ciao for now,  
Sheryl

## ITALIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE MONTH

### MESSA DELLA CULTURA ITALIANO



We are pleased to announce the first function of the '17-'18 program year. Traditionally, GCICS celebrates its Italian cultural heritage during October with a festive luncheon. The luncheon is an opportunity to "welcome back" our snowbirds. We encourage you to bring guests who may then want to become a vital part of our Society. GCICS has supported the Sarasota Youth Opera (SYO) through the years and our speaker, Mr. Ben Jewell-Plocher, will talk about the many SYO programs including after-school choruses, Sarasota Opera's mainstage productions, summer camps, and fully staged Youth Opera productions. Feel free to sign up now!

**Event:** "GCICS Italian Cultural Heritage Month Welcome Back Luncheon"

**Date/Time:** Sunday, Oct 22, 2017, 11:30 - 2:00 pm

**Location:** Mattison's 41 Restaurant: 7275 So. Tamiami Trl, Sarasota, FL 34231

**Cost:** \$35.00 all inclusive; make check payable to GCICS; **and write your entree selection(s) on the check**

**Mail Check to:** Sheryl Lazzarotti, 7486 Edenmore Street, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

**Reserve By:** Thursday, Oct 19, 2017

**Point of Contact:** Sheryl Lazzarotti, (908) 803-4400 [slazzarotti@gmail.com](mailto:slazzarotti@gmail.com)

**Speaker:** Ben Jewell-Plocher, Director of Education, Sarasota Opera

**"Life Lessons Through Opera"** is the title of Mr. Jewell-Plocher's presentation. He will focus on a key goal of the Sarasota Youth Opera program -- instilling a love of the performing arts in the hearts and minds of Sarasota youth.

## Menu



- \*Hors d'Oeuvres: Bite-size potatoes stuffed with short rib beef
- \*Salad: House salad, balsamic vinaigrette, gorgonzola on the side
- \*Pasta: Penne with tomato basil sauce

\*Entrée (Choose one of three):

*Salmon*: with Rosemary honey glaze

*Chicken in Chianti*: Roasted with onions, tomatoes, celery, carrots, pine nuts, sultanas, demi-glaze and sage

*Vegetarian Torte*: Layers of white potato, sweet potato, zucchini, yellow squash, tomato and parmesan cheese, baked

\*Dessert: Panna Cotta

\*Beverages: Coffee and soft drinks

CASH BAR

**Again, a reminder to write entree selection(s) on your check.**

## ***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 3, 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



\* Have given gift certificates before

Blu Kouzina\* 388-2619  
Boatyard\* 921-6200  
Boca Kitchen 256-3565  
Brasa Pisco 360-0300  
Café L'Europe 388-4415  
Captain Curt's\* 349-3885  
Caragiulas\* 951-0866  
C'est La Vie 355-2323  
Chianti\* 952-3186  
Duvals 312-4001  
Eggs-Traoridany-Sarasota\* 346-6931  
Ginza 342-9282  
Gold Rush BBQ\* 483-3137  
Half Shell Seafood House\* 952-9400  
Hyde Park\* 366-7788  
La Scarpetta\* 927-8716  
Lido Beach Grill\* 388-2161  
McCurdy's Comedy Club\* 358-1455  
Mandeville Beer Garden\* 954-8688  
Melting Pot\* 365-2628  
Metro Diner 315-7886  
Miguels\* 349-4024  
Millies\* 923-4054  
Mozaic 951-6272  
Newks 351-1210  
Norma Jeans\* 444-7823  
Ophelia On The Bay\* 203-4241  
Owen's Fish Camp 951-6936  
Paradise Grill 786-1524  
Paris Bistro 3880564  
Red Lobster\* 924-1297  
Riverhouse Reef & Grill 729-0616  
Seasons 52\* 702-9652  
Sardinia\* 702-8582  
Sharky's 488-1456  
Sonny's BBQ\* 364-5833  
Sugar Cubed\* 251-4092  
Tableside-Muse @ Ringling Museum\* 357-5700  
T.J. Carneys 480-9244  
Trumans\* 765-1800  
Veronica Fish & Oyster 366-1342  
Walt's Fish Market\* 921-4605  
Word of Mouth/Sabrosa\* 365-1800  
Yuniku 993-112

Thank you, Linda Mercurio, for all your hard work in obtaining all these gift certificates this summer!

## OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

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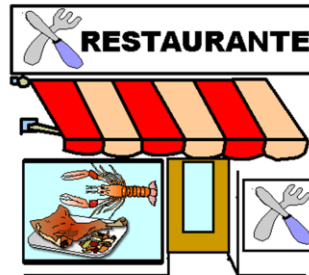
### Past Presidents

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 <sup>st</sup> 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