

LA VOCE DI GCICS

GULF COAST ITALIAN CULTURE SOCIETY, INC.

PO BOX 2591, SARASOTA, FL 34230

WWW.GCICS.ORG

May 2014



Though our Society's events have concluded for the 2013-2014 season, we know Italian cultural events enliven the Sarasota scene throughout the entire year. One such upcoming event is a one woman show at the Asolo Theater. It is the presentation of the comedy *I loved, I lost, I made spaghetti*. The play, based on a personal history, entitled *Memoirs of Giulia Melucci*, is an account by Ms. Melucci, a 1988 Sarah Lawrence grad from Brooklyn, about a period in her young life. The *Memoirs*, complete with recipes, retell the stories of the failed relationships with the men in her life and how and what she cooks in coping. The play is directed by Rob Ruggiero. Giulia is played by attractive Antoinette La Vecchia who cooks a three course Italian dinner on stage while putting life to Melucci's experiences. Mario Batali likens the play to 'an irresistible foodie's dream version of "*Sex and the City!*" Tickets are \$25-\$35 and the play takes place in the Cook Theater at the Asolo Rep Playhouse. Phone 941-351-800 for tickets and more information. The show runs from May 18 to June 15.

Near the Asolo stands the Renaissance Palace of the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art. Many of our members may be unaware of the expansion of the museum in recent years and of the additions to the permanent art collection. Since early this century, the State, in conjunction with our local donors, have raised over \$100 million for restoration and expansion of the Florida State Museum and Ca'd'Zan, the

Ringling's Home. A highlight of the Visitors Center is the 17th century Asolo Theater which was imported by John Ringling from Italy. A new art wing and library are also wonderful additions.

A newer addition to the Circus Museum is the Tibbals Center which houses a scale model circus with midway, three-ring tent and all the animals, wagons, and people, (including a barber, dressmaker, dishwasher, latrine digger and many others), that it took to stage a circus on the road in the early 20th century. If you ever enjoyed seeing a circus under a tent, this, the world's largest miniature circus, is not to be missed. In all, over 150,000 square feet of structures have been added to the Ringling experience. One can spend hours in the Tibbals Center and days at the whole museum complex.

By the way, if you missed out on buying one of the ten \$35 tickets to be served the dinner Ms. Melucci cooks on stage, try the Treviso Restaurant in the Visitors Center. It serves a full menu for lunch and dinner every day of the week.









An added bonus, at The Ringling Museum, (but not at Ca'd'Zan nor The Tibbals Center), is free admission every Monday.

See you all again in October when our Heritage brunch will feature Roman cuisine.

Caio,

Bill Korp

SAVE THE DATE

EVENT	DATE	HOSTED BY	PLACE
Italian Culture Heritage Brunch 	10-26-14	Bill Korp	Mattison's
Picnic 	11-15-14	Tony & Mabel Esposito	Public Park
Christmas Party 	12-13-14	Joe & Micki Moccia	Their Home
Town Hall Meeting & Movie 	1-9-15	Ellen Roderick	Community Foundation
Valentine's Day Party 	2-14-15	Mary Rinaldi & Jack Norman	Their Home
Art Lecture 	3-6-15	TBA	TBA
St. Joseph's Day 	3-19-15	Connie Campisi & Bob Spencer	TBA
Scholarship Awards Ceremony 	4-12-15	TBA	TBA

REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

SAINT JOSEPH'S DAY

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY ELLEN RODERICK

If you were not at Roskamp, on the evening of March 19, 2014, for GCICS' St. Joseph's Feast Day Celebration – *you* were missed and *you* missed a terrific celebration and dinner. The spirit in the room was upbeat and the food was delicious. As one looked out on the group, there was a "sea of red". We had some of our newest members attending, including Bruce and Barbara Miller, (recruited by Bob and Natalie Amedeo), Sheryl Lazzarotti, (recruited by Mary Lou Ferrari), and Susanna Wriston accompanied by her mother. Sarasota Catering Company did an excellent job with both the food preparation and serving. Kudos to Connie Campisi under whose leadership this function flourished. Even the tables were decorated with red tablecloths and vases resplendent with red carnations. Of course, our St. Joseph Statue was prominently displayed so that members passed it before obtaining their food on the buffet. Members brought lots of guests and some guests are now in the "pipeline" for membership in the coming season. Put March 19, 2015 on your calendars NOW! We will be having a repeat celebration, for sure, with the exact location and menu to be announced in future newsletters.



SCHOLARSHIP DINNER-DANCE GALA

Text by Jack Norman and Pictures by Pat Astore

On Sunday evening, April 6, members and officers of the Gulf Coast Italian Cultural Society hosted a gala dinner dance at the Laurel Oak Country Club to honor this year's recipients of our annual college scholarships. Five outstanding students from area high schools were recognized for their outstanding record of scholarship, character and service. The recipients were Dylan A. Chiodo (Venice HS); Vincent A. Franco (Lakewood Ranch HS); Kallyn M. O' Brien (Venice HS); Andre Sanchez (Manatee HS); and Anna J. Trinci (Manatee HS). Honorees were accompanied by family and invited guests. As part of the selection process, each candidate had to write an essay about the life and contributions of Constantino Brumidi, the artist responsible for the oils and frescos of the U.S. Capitol. The scholarship recipient who was chosen to read her essay was Anna Trinci. Kudos to Anna for her fine writing and felicity of expression. The Sarasota Ballet of Florida, Inc., was endowed with \$1,000 for its youth program: Dance – The Next Generation which performed a modern interpretive dance for the pleasure of all in attendance. The gala evening was a great success with everyone enjoying great food, great libations and great fellowship. Bravo to all involved in making this annual event so enjoyable and congratulations to all recipients and their families.



Pictured from left to right are: Vincent A. Franco, Anna J. Trinci, Dylan A. Chiodo, Kallyn M. O'Brien, and Andre Sanchez

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Gabriella Thurston	1993-2001
Patrick Corsentino	2001-2004
Arthur Castraberti	2004-2006
Marie Corsentino	2007
Mary Amabile Palmer	2008-2010



Pat Astore



Pat Astore



LADY – ISABEL ISTORICO

Notes of condolences was sent to Linda Ahern, Scholarship Committee Member, whose newborn twin grandsons passed away weeks apart.

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