

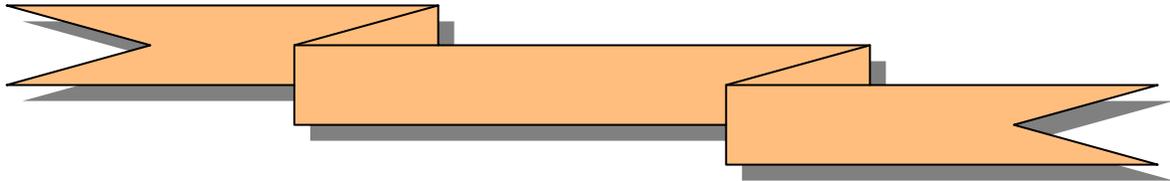
# LA VOCE DI GCICS

GULF COAST ITALIAN CULTURE SOCIETY, INC.

PO BOX 2591, SARASOTA, FL 34230

WWW.GCICS.ORG

April 2013



Dear GCICS Member

Welcome to La Voce di GCICS!

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

John Scalzi, the TV Weatherman, who usually conducts the auctions at non-profit events, was successful bidder for the t-shirt commemorating Sicily at the March 8<sup>th</sup> "Trip to Sicily" talk by Mary Rinaldi's long time friend, Gino Calderone. There was a funny twist to the story when the only other bidder was Linda Larsen, John's wife. Linda's parent's families came here from Sicily, and she really wasn't going to let the shirt get away. After his talk (see page 4), Gino opened the floor to questions which quickly turned to what it was like growing up in Sicily before WWII. In particular, he focused on courtship in Sicily as his own parents' experienced it. His answers were given in delightful and humorous anecdotes. Our secretary, Ellen Roderick, named the event "Lunch

and Learn," which no doubt, will describe such events in the future.

At the March board meeting, Angela DelVecchio Lerner was appointed to serve on the Board for a full term. Angela lives in Philadelphia where she gained broad experience serving on not-for-profit boards, and winters here on Longboat Key. She has agreed to help with publicity for the Society and our events. With the addition of Angela and Patricia Novak earlier this year, we now have a Board of thirteen. That leaves two openings. Our board meetings are well attended and members are invited. Plan to come and maybe you, too, can be asked to fill a vacancy. The time and place is posted on [gcics.org](http://gcics.org),

Ciao,  
Bill Korp



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SCHOLARSHIP GALA DINNER DANCE

Our most elegant, satisfying, well loved event of the year is our Scholarship Gala which is being held at Mattison's 41 Restaurant. It has all the ingredients for an exceptional evening. You will have the pleasure of witnessing presentation of scholarships to worthy college-bound local high school graduates. The music by Bruce Shelley and vocalist Sharon will be there for our listening and dancing pleasure. It promises to be an exciting evening.

#### First Course:

Mattison's House Salad; mixed field greens with toasted pine nuts, tomatoes and Gorgonzola tossed with balsamic vinaigrette

#### Second Course:

Penne Pasta with pesto Alfred sauce

#### Entree Choice of:

1. Chicken in Chianti - roasted with onions, tomatoes, celery, carrots, pine nuts, sultanas, demi-glace and sage; served over roasted vegetable risotto
2. Osso Bucco - served over roasted vegetable risotto
3. Italian Sea bass Branzino – roasted grape tomatoes and fresh parsley; served over roasted vegetable risotto

#### Dessert Choice of:

Tiramisu or Zabaione with fresh berries

Non-Alcoholic Beverages included: Assorted soda, water, iced tea, coffee

- WHAT:** Scholarship Gala  
**WHEN:** Sunday, April 7, 2013  
**TIME:** 5:30 pm  
**WHERE:** Mattison's 41, 7175 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota  
**COST:** \$40 per person  
**RESERVE:** Make check payable to GCICS and mail to:  
 Joe Moccia, 536 Ketch Lane, Longboat Key, FL. 34228

## **DINNER CLUB**

On April 16, 2013 our dinner club, a GCICS favorite, Meets at Filippo's Pizzeria. They give our paid members a 10% discount. Those who have attended these events have made it a point to report that they enjoy meeting new people in a friendly, informal setting. Come join the fun!

**WHAT:** Dinner Club  
**WHEN:** April 16, 2013  
**WHERE:** Filippo's Pizzeria, 6392 N. Lockwood Ridge Rd., Sarasota  
 In the same shopping center as the Parkway Cinemas.  
**COST:** Individual Checks  
**RESERVE:** Joe Moccia, 837-2039, at least a day in advance

## **ITALIAN CLASSES 2013 Schedule**

Please be advised that both beginner and conversation classes will be held in the **Sarasota County Schools Administrative Building** located at 1950 Landings Boulevard, Sarasota beginning January 2013. Landings Boulevard is off RT.41 and behind "Sweet Tomato Restaurant". Take the first left off Landings Boulevard and look for building #1950 straight ahead with a blue awning. Ample parking is provided in front of the building. Enter building and take the elevator to the second floor. Classes will be held in room 218 or 219. Check the daily easel board near the elevator for the exact room # for that day.

**Location:** Sarasota County Schools Administrative Building  
1950 Landings Boulevard, Sarasota

<b><u>Class Section:</u></b>	<b><i>Italian Converation</i></b>	<b><i>Beginner's Italian</i></b>
<b><u>Instructor:</u></b>	Frank & Pina Pergolizzi Cell: 203-583-2323	Patricia Novak Cell: 941-753-8357
<b><u>Day:</u></b>	Wednesday	Mondays
<b><u>Time:</u></b>	2:00 – 4:00 PM	2:00 -4:00PM
<b><u>Dates:</u></b>	<b>April</b> 3, 10, 17, 24	<b>April</b> 1, 8, 15, 22,

## REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

### A TRIP TO SICILY

TEXT: Paula Rizzo Hollaran

PHOTOS: Ellen Roderick

On Friday afternoon, March 8, forty-four members and eight guests attended the latest installment in the GCICS Lecture Series. After a delicious lunch of salad, cheese ravioli, meatballs and garlic bread, the program began.

Ambrogio (Gino) Calderone took the group on a beautiful slide and lecture tour of Sicily. We visited the historical and magnificent sights of Palermo, Segesta, Agrigento, Taormina, Siracusa and Villa Casale, to name a few!

Gino, who is a native-born Sicilian, also told interesting stories about Sicilian history and customs of the past. He generously shared and showed some personal souvenirs such as a wooden trinacria, the traditional and popular knight puppet, and a colorfully painted carretta, all of which are still seen in Sicily today.

Our thanks go to Mary Rinaldi, Isabel Istorico and Kate Korp for organizing and hosting this event, and to Gino for sharing his knowledge and love of Sicily with us. A good time was had by all.



### SAINT JOSEPH'S DINNER

Text: Ellen Roderick

Photos: Pat Astore

The sea of RED was brilliant that evening. We truly honored St. Joseph with the special mini-altar with candles, statue and breads; with our outfits; with our Italian foods; and with our fellowship. Bill thanked Mary Palmer for organizing the affair. It never hurts to say "thank you" again, so a great big "MILLE GRAZIE" to you, Mary. And the Board wants to thank all of you for participating in our feast AND for bringing such a large number of family members and guests. Those folks can only enrich the evening with their stories, their company, and their thoughts.



**GCICS**  
**La Festa Di San Giuseppe**

**Cafe Baci**

**March 18, 2013**

*Photos by Pat Astore*

## **SCHOLARSHIP REPORT**

By Tony Cagliostro

The lengthy process to select scholarship recipients for 2013 is fast coming to a close. It started early last summer, when the Sarasota School District asked us to review their description of our program as well as our application form and to submit our revisions, if any, for posting on their website.

Significant revisions to their description of our program were submitted and accepted (see, [www.sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/pupilsupportservices/webpageLINKS031413](http://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/pupilsupportservices/webpageLINKS031413) at p.20), as well as updates to the Application form and its preparation Guide. For those unfamiliar with our merit scholarship selection process, who nevertheless care to know how the choice of recipients is made, we provide here the briefest possible outline.

A cursory examination of our Application would lead to the conclusion that it demands both objective and subjective responses. Thus, GPA, SAT or ACT scores, Italian ancestry, extracurricular school and community activities are characterized as “objective criteria responses” while the Essay and the reference letters – one from a school based source and the other from a community based source, as well as the applicant’s personal interview performance are deemed subjective criteria responses” both as regards their content and the reviewer’s rating. The reader who wishes to examine the Application and the Guide may download them from the “SCHOLARSHIP” link on our website: [www.gcics.org](http://www.gcics.org), to obtain a fuller picture or get copies from the writer.

In December packets, consisting of two sets of Application and Guide as well as two posters, to advertise the availability of the scholarship and the forms, were sent

to the Guidance Offices of each of the 16 public and private high schools in our catchment area. It includes all of Sarasota County as well as portions of Manatee and Charlotte counties, defined as South of the Manatee River, West of the Myakka River and North of Charlotte Harbor.

By the postmark deadline of February 20, we received 12 applications, including one via Email. After examining and scoring the objective criteria responses the Chair of the Scholarship Committee determined that seven of the 12 applicants met or exceeded all academic and other eligibility requirements, and hence qualified to be in the “Finalist” pool from which the Scholarship Recipients are selected.

The seven attend six of the 16 schools in our area of interest: North Port, Riverview, and Venice in Sarasota County; Bayshore and Lakewood Ranch in Manatee County and Lemon Bay in Charlotte County.

To insure as much objectivity as possible, free from any undue influence, committee members are asked to rate the subjective criteria responses, independently of each other, except for the individual interview performance which occurs in a group setting.

The average of the members’ ratings of the subjective criteria responses, along with interview performance ratings are added to the total of the objective criteria response ratings to determine the identity of the \$1,000 merit scholarship recipients.

While the committee has not, since the adoption of the current rating system, had the unpleasant task of having to resolve a tie among two or more Finalists, the system does provide a procedure for resolving the issue

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Aida LaBrutte

[steveaida@aol.com](mailto:steveaida@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

March 8, 2013

Dear Editor Mary Rinaldi of the GCICS Newsletter:

I am writing to let you know how very much I enjoyed today's meeting at the Community Foundation. It was a great lecture by Gino Calderone, excellent slides, and a wonderful lunch. Your friend Gino did a fine job speaking on Sicily. A goodly number of people in attendance have Sicilian ancestors and were thoroughly delighted, it was plain to see. Non-Sicilians were happy to learn more about Sicily as well. It was interesting to learn, from various comments, that a large majority of the group had visited Sicily, me included. You and Isabel treating everyone to that excellent lunch were also most generous. Best ravioli I've had in quite some time and tasty meatballs!

What I loved along with the talk and the lunch was the way people greeted each other. Hugs and kissed cheeks were more common than not. Did we worry about catching germs? What is more important, greeting friends warmly or worrying about such little critters?

Mary, you and your husband are more than an asset to our Society. You are the very essence of what makes it fun and what makes one proud to be a member of the GCICS. Not long ago there was a TV show with a theme song. It included this line (I'm paraphrasing) which I love. "It's fun to go where everyone knows your name." And it's as close to a loving family as it can get.

Warm regards,  
Mary Amabile Palmer

GCICS  
PO Box 2591  
Sarasota, FL. 34230

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