

PUT MORE ITALIAN IN YOUR LIFE

2011 Festa Italiana Report

Our 2011 Festa was a Huge Success

A large and happy crowd has declared our 2011 Festa to be a huge success. Numerous reports we have received from attendees indicate that there were plenty of good Italian food choices, the entertainment was the “best ever,” and the silent auction and mercato tempted lots of shoppers. The vendors offered many interesting and useful items for sale which helped some with their early Christmas shopping. Of special interest were the history exhibits, cooking demonstration, and the Roman display of ancient weaponry. The many restored vehicles being displayed along with Italian sports cars attracted a large and enthusiastic group of car lovers.

There was a wide variety of entertainment including costumed folk dancers, our own Coro Allegro singing group, a mandolin ensemble, Frank Sinatra impersonator, and 3 groups of instrumentalists. If you enjoy Italian songs, from folk music to Neapolitan classics to contemporary pieces, then *you should have been there!*

To top it off, we had 3 big winners in our super raffle: Guy Molinari, \$1,000; Ivan A. Barta, \$600; and Lola Fabiani, \$400.

Mille grazie to our dynamic Festa chairperson, Virginia Mennucci Wilburn and her talented, hard-working committee.



Autumn Dinner

Gather at the Santa Rosa Vet's building dining room Monday, November 21 at 6 PM when our Autumn dinner of pollo (chicken) and risotto with contorni (accompaniments) will be served. Come to cast your vote to ratify the proposed board of directors for next year, socialize with old and new friends, try your luck on our six raffle prizes, and enjoy a glimpse of an upcoming musical presentation. **Reservations** are required, so send in the form you will find on the bottom of page 3. \$14 for members, and \$16 for guests.



Buon Natale Christmas Party

Begin your holiday celebration of Natale and Epifania (Epiphany, January 6) on Sunday, December 18 in the Santa Rosa Vet's dining room when our festive evening will begin at 4:30 PM. A three-course roast beef and trimmings dinner will be served at 5:30 PM followed by a special holiday raffle and entertainment. **Prepaid reservations** are required, so send in money with the form you will find on the bottom of page 3. \$18 for members and \$20 for guests.

4:30 PM Doors open; no-host bar; children's activities
5:30 PM Buffet dinner with roast beef with trimmings
6:30 PM: Raffle drawing and dessert
7:00 PM: **Steve Albini** accordion entertainment and a special visitor (La Befana) directly from Italy.

NBICF MEMBERSHIP

We welcome new members

Antonette Arroyo, John Capitani, Shera Carlton,
Lynn Davis, Laura Montani, James O'Rourke, Nadine Smed-
shammer, Deborah Waddell, Barbara Jo Wingett-Lindberg.

Family Memberships

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Edgell, Kenneth & Susan Clark, Abe &
Gail Farkas, Stephen and Barbara Laruccia, Richard & Linda
Miller.

IN MEMORIAM

The Board of Directors extends condolences to the family of
Lewis Gilbert. A donation was made in his memory by Charles
and Melanie May of Richmond, Virginia, relatives of Linda
Apel.

MEMO from the FESTA CHAIRMAN

I wish to thank all the wonderful volunteers who gave
their time and energy to make 2011 a successful Festa.
I am grateful to the basketball players and their coach
who helped us with the decorations and balloons, JoAnn
Ferrera and Norma Rivas who organized the vendors and
their tables, and I can never forget Ray and Kathy Lazzi-
ni, Randy Apel, Allen Barbieri, and all who worked in
the kitchen. Kudos to the silent auction committee, Ann
Abbruzzesse, Maggie Brothers, Vicki Henry, and Denise
Scaglione. Tre Urrà (three cheers) for anyone who helped
us in any way. Join me next year for another adventure.

Virginia Mennucci Wilburn

Patti Adams is Retiring from our Board

After 20 years as a director, Patti Adams is retiring from
the NBICF board at the end of 2011. Part of the Mangiamo
Committee, Patti has served at most of our dinners and
numerous other events. The energy behind The Mercato at
Festa Italiana, Patti has faithfully ordered, displayed and
sold the Italian-themed merchandise that is so popular with
shoppers. Patti promises to continue as a very active member.
Mille grazie, Patti, for everything you have done.

North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation

Policies

No refunds/exchanges; tickets transferable;
no reservations accepted on event date. Space limited: first
come, first served. Any offering in the Mosaico Culturale should
not be read as an endorsement or warranty by NBICF

Italian Cultural Center ~ Library ~ Office
Tuesdays 1-4 PM or by appointment, 591-9696

Board Meetings held the first Wednesday evening of each month.

QUEL CHE BOLLE IN PENTOLA

“What’s Cooking”

Be sure to mark your calendar for our continuing series of
SUNDAYS at the CENTER (64 Brookwood Avenue). The
doors open at 2 PM and the entertainment starts at 2:30
PM. Refreshments will be served. Due to limited seating,
we suggest that you call the center for reservations. There
is no charge for these events, but a small donation will be
graciously accepted.

November 27th - - Tosca’s Kiss

This is a moving and often very funny documentary movie.
While it focuses on people who have “survived” and outlived
an opera career, it has tremendous relevance for those in the
performance/performing arts. There is much relevance here to
the short span of a “good career,” and how older stars, while
still in their prime, are pushed out by younger ones.

December 4th - - La Fanciulla del West Opera

Don Tarpley will play a tape of the Metropolitan Opera’s 2010
production of Puccini’s La Fanciulla del West Opera. This
opera had its world premier at the Metropolitan in December,
1910, and this production celebrates its 100th year. It is most
interesting to local fans because of the nearness of the gold
country and development of the City of San Francisco that are
part of our California history. For additional information about
this presentation, contact Don Tarpley at 539-1734.

December 11 - - Pranzo di Ferragosto (Mid-august Lunch)

Gianni is a middle-aged man living in Rome with his impos-
ing and demanding elderly mother. His only outlet from her
and the increasing debt into which they were sinking, are the
increasingly frequent quiet sessions at the local tavern. As
an Oriental saying goes “Moments of crisis are moments of
opportunities.” These appear during the celebration of the
holiday of Ferragosto on August 15th. That’s when everybody
leaves town to have fun. Opportunity knocks on Gianni’s door
in the most unexpected way.

FOR INFORMATION

Coro Allegro	483-8075	Sal Peritore
Library/Office/Festa	573-7185	Virginia Wilburn
Language	542-1799	Ada Nourse
Mailing Volunteers	538-4031	Muffy Bertuccio
Membership	433-6033	Dolores Giorgi
Reservations	544-5236	Geni Maggi
Scholarships	523-0296	Gino Muzzatti
Sunshine Cards	542-6605	Cleo Konhoff
Volunteers	542-5245	Jeanette Mitchell
Festa Volunteers	538-7352	Gerri Asti

Some Winter Traditions In Italy

From November through January, numerous traditions appear as the days cycle into the darkness of winter. In most regions, All Saints' and All Souls' days, November 1 and 2, begin the first of many rituals by commemorating deceased family members and friends. Chrysanthemums, the Italian flower for the dead, are brought to cemeteries in great quantities along with other flowers to adorn the graves.

Vendors selling roasted chestnuts begin to appear in the streets and sweet shops have cookies called Ossi da Morto (Ossa dei Morti), bones of the dead. San Nicola and Santa Lucia arrive on December 6 and 13 followed by the twelve days that separate Christmas from Epiphany. Christmas is just the beginning of the celebration, since December 26, dedicated to Santo Stefano (Saint Stephen), is also a full holiday on the Italian calendar. Along with New Years Eve and January 1, these holidays are a continuum of great feasts of food, blazing bonfires, and rituals to drive out the old year. The Presepio (Nativity Scene) is prominently and often elaborately displayed in homes and stores as well as in churches. The most dramatic Presepio was created in Baroque Naples during the reign of the Bourbon King, Charles III and included one thousand shepherds.

Zampognari, Italy's bagpipers, portraying shepherds, come down from the mountains of Abruzzi to play their haunting tunes in the piazze of the cities, while the fragrant aromas of panettone, panforte, pangiallo, and buccelato fill the air. All over Italy, eel is an important part of the Christmas Eve meal, and New Years desserts have been made with honey since Roman times. Most menus include lentils, raisins, and oranges, symbols of riches, good luck, and the promise of love.



January brings toys and treats from the revered old hag known as La Befana who flies across the sky, sweeping the previous holidays away ("È l'Epifania - tutte le feste porta via"). Every year, on the Feast of the Three Kings, January 6, Old Befana visits all the children of Ita-

ly and leaves them candies, cookies, and gifts. It is said that she is searching for the Christ Child.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We currently have openings on our Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee has extended the deadline for Board nominations until November 18. Any current member of NBICF who is interested in being on the Board should contact the NBICF Center at 591-9696. Following are bios of our two current nominees.

George Golfieri was born in New York and spent his early years there. His father was born in Italy and emigrated to the United States. George recalls the only language spoken

Board of Directors, continued

at home was Italian while he was growing up. He received his degree from the University of New Hampshire and started the Cadillac division of General Motors. He worked 40 years in the auto industry, retiring in 2008. He and his wife, Anna, moved to Santa Rosa in 2009 and have volunteered at many of our events.

Susan Terracina Adler was born in Chicago to first generation Sicilian American parents. She worked for Santa Rosa City Schools for 23 years teaching art and landscaping to at-risk youths. She and her husband, Howard, have been married for 41 years, and they have two sons and a daughter-in-law. Susan joined NBICF in 1997, after a trip to Sicily. Since then the Adlers have travelled in Italia many times. They have participated as vendors and contributors to Festa Italiana. Susan displays and sells her colorful paintings of food and Italian landscapes. The Adlers always seem to reserve enough energy to serve on the cleanup crew.

Reservation Form For Santa Rosa Vets Building Doors open at 6:00pm Supper served at 6:30pm

Prepaid reservations in advance are greatly appreciated. Please note - due to a large increase in rent we have regretfully raised our prices accordingly as shown below:

November 21, 2011 Dinner Meeting

- ___places @ \$14 for members
- ___places @ \$16 for guest
- ___places @ \$ 8 for teens 13 to 18 years
- ___places @ \$ 5 for child 5 to 12 years
- ___places for under 5 years - free

Name _____

Mail in by Nov 16, 2011

December 18, 2011 Christmas Party

- ___places @ \$18 for members
- ___places @ \$20 for guest
- ___places @ \$ 8 for teens 13 to 18 years
- ___places @ \$ 5 for child 5 to 12 years
- ___places for under 5 years - free

Name _____

Mail in by Dec 14, 2011

For information call the Center ~ 591-9696

North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation



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Website: www.nbicf.org
Mosaico Culturale, the newsletter of the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation, a CA nonprofit open membership corporation, is published 6 times a year.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Permit #868
Santa Rosa, CA

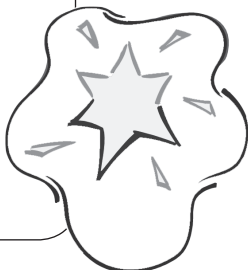
COMING EVENTS:

AUTUMN DINNER
November 21, 2011
POLLO & RISOTTO

MOVIE at the CENTER
November 27, 2011
"TOSCA's KISS"

OPERA VIDEO
December 4, 2011
LA FANCIULLA DEL WEST

FESTA DI NATALE
December 18, 2011
PRIME RIB DINNER



DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT



APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Annual Dues: ___\$25 Individual ___\$35 Family ___\$50 Patron ___\$100 Donor ___\$500 Life ___\$1,000

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ Date _____

My Italian Ancestry (regions): _____

Applicants please indicate your interest in activities (circle):

Bocce Festa Italiana Fund-raisers History Language Library Mailings Music Office Scholarships Travel

Please mail with check payable to NBICF, 64 Brookwood Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404 - phone 707-591-9696

NORTH BAY ITALIAN CULTURAL FOUNDATION STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

A nonprofit open membership organization dedicated to the study, preservation and enjoyment of Italian Culture. Founded in 1984, NBICF brings people of all ancestries together to share things Italian. NBICF activities foster cultural awareness, celebrate traditions and support education via scholarships, classes and programs.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patti Adams, Jim Alfieri, Linda Apel (Treasurer 837-9151), Gerri Asti, Allen Barbieri, Maggie Brothers, JoAnn Ferrera, Stan Laughlin, Geni Maggi (Corresponding Secretary 544-5236) Ron Misasi, Jeanette Mancini Mitchell (President 542-5245), Don Raimondi, Eva Marie Sbraggia, Donald Tarpley (VP 539-1734) and Virginia Mennucci Wilburn (Recording Secretary 573-7185). Directors Emeritus are Angelo Catelani, Arturo Ibleto and Chic Rey.

Mosaico Culturale Editorial Staff: Jeanette Mancini Mitchell, Virginia Mennucci Wilburn and Donald Tarpley. Members are encouraged to submit articles or news items for publication. We reserve the right to select and edit as space allows.