



Mosaico Culturale settembre e ottobre 2022

Volume XXXVIII– Numero 5



Founded in 1984, NBICF brings people of all ancestries together to share all things Italian.

Messaggio del Presidente - George Golfieri

Cari Amici,

I hope all of you, your family and friends are in good health.

The Foundation owes much gratitude to **Board member Ron Grassi** for his efforts to obtain property tax welfare exemption. Through Ron's efforts, the Foundation will receive property tax exemptions from the State of California and from the Sonoma County Tax Assessor. The Foundation received this exemption because the organization qualifies as a non-profit charitable entity. As a result, the Foundation received a **property tax refund in the amount of \$16,149, for the tax years 2019 to 2022**. This refund and future qualifying property tax exemptions will be a boost to the financial health of the foundation.

MILLE GRAZIE, RON.

After a two-year absence, the Foundation offered its "Italian Language Camp for Youth", during June. The historical themes were *Amerigo Vespucci* the first week and *Napoleon Bonaparte* the second week. This summer, 16 children enrolled in the camp. I enjoyed assisting instructor **Dr. Joli Love** with the many language activities and skits that were put on by the campers.

Each week ended with the children performing skits in Italian for their parents to show what they learned and to demonstrate their new language skills. I would like to thank following members who assisted: **Virginia Smith, Maria Ayala, Barbara Fabrizio, Mary Kay Pederson, and Diane Tosso**.



I would like to thank members who attended NBICF's 8th annual "Pizza, Birra, & Vino". It was nice to get together and catch up with friends. There is nothing more Italian than enjoying pizza as one big family. I would like to thank the following people who made this party a success: **Don Raimondi** chair, **Linda Apel, Virginia Wilburn, Carole Stewart, Ginny Smith, Reid Sheridan, Al Pucci, Les Villanyi, Maria Ayala, and Roxanne Olivia** for her wonderful accordion music.

A new name will grace **Cotati's Post Office**. The post office will honor **Arturo Ibleto** (Pasta King) for his years of philanthropic work in Sonoma County. Arturo was a founding member of the Foundation.

By proclamation in 1989 by the President and Congress, October was designated Italian-American Heritage month. This proclamation was established to honor the achievements of Italian immigrants and their descendants and their contributions in arts, science, and culture.

Did you know that Columbus Day is one of America's oldest holidays first celebrated in the 18th Century? It was celebrated in 1792 when the New York Society of Tammany honored Columbus on the 300th anniversary of his first voyage. According to the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America, America has more monuments to Columbus than any other nation in the world. Hopefully, they will stop removing them!

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Ongoing Incontro group - For informal Italian conversation. Please contact George Golfieri at 707-843-3176.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, October 17, 2022: Welcome Back Party at St. Rose/Father Denis O'Sullivan Parish center. More details to follow through US mail and e-mail.

Saturday, November 19, 2022: Mercatino di Natale at the NBICF Cultural Center. One-of-a-kind gifts: artisan jewelry, paintings, biscotti, fused-glass art, photography and greeting cards, charcuterie and cutting boards and an NBICF used book sale. Visit the NBICF membership and Redwood Food Bank tent too.

To donate gently used books for the book sale or food for the food drive look for more information in the next Mosaico.

Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy

NBICF Cultural Center

Doors open **1:30pm**, screening at **2:00pm**.

Free - Snacks - No reservations required.

For information: 707-546-9654.



Showing Sunday, September 25, 2022

Tea with Mussolini (1999) 1h 57m. War/Drama (PG)

Anglo-Italian semi-autobiographical film telling the story of a young Italian boy's upbringing by a circle of British and American women before and during the Second World War. The movie features many well known actors including Maggie Smith, Judi Dench, and Cher.



Showing Sunday, October 30, 2022

The Sicilian Girl (2008) 2h 9m Drama/Crime (not rated)

After her father and brother are murdered, a 17 year old Sicilian (Veronica D'Agostino) breaks her village's code of silence and turns state's witness against La Cosa Nostra. The film captures her innocence, anger, confusion and increasingly tough resolve. In Italian/Sicilian with subtitles.

(Movies may vary due to availability)

Thank you - Grazie

The following member made a donation to NBICF:

Maria Gloria

NBICF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

George Golfieri (President 707-843-3176)

Linda Apel (Treasurer), **Allen Barbieri**, **Lynne Burton**, **Lisa Goe**, **Ron Grassi**, **Cindy Hume** (Secretary), **Arleen Place**, **Alfred (Al) Pucci**, **Don Raimondi**, **Virginia Smith**, **Carole Stewart** and **Les Villanyi** (VP)

Director Emeritus: Angelo Catelani

Please visit NBICF.org About Us / Directors, for a short biography of each board member.



Membership News *benvenuto*

Individual:

Nancy Moran (welcome back)

Family:

Gina Fortino Dickson

Patron:

Susan Macaluso

New Business Members:

Ecostruction - Mitchel Slade

Joe and Amy Ann Grayson

Thank you to our Continuing Business Members:

Buttitta Design

Faloni Ranch

Forchini Vineyards

Italian Citizenship Assistance (ICA)

Servico Building Maintenance Inc.

Condolences to the family of:

Rudolf Constantini

May he rest in peace.

CARE HOPE GOOD SPIRITS RECOVER

to members and their families who are not feeling well

For Information:

Coro Allegro: 707-484-4992 Les Villanyi

Library/Office: 707-573-7185 Virginia Wilburn

Italian Classes: 707-874-2512 Emily Evans

Membership: 707-591-9696 George Golfieri

Reservations: 707-573-7185 Virginia Wilburn

Scholarships: 707-981-8252 Gino Muzzatti

Sunshine Cards: 707-586-1167 JoAnn Piantanida

Part 2 of **Become an Instant Italian-American Olive Oil Expert**, a fun quiz by member and author/publisher **Leon Radomile**, will be in the next Mosaico.

I apologize, for the inconvenience.

Christopher Columbus

Born: 1451, Genoa, Italy

Died: May 20, 1506, Valladolid, Spain

Three countries refused to back Columbus's voyage.

For nearly a decade, Columbus lobbied European monarchies to bankroll his quest to discover a western sea route to Asia. In Portugal, England, and France, the response was the same: no. The experts told Columbus his calculations were wrong and that the voyage would take much longer than he thought. Royal advisors in Spain raised similar concerns to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. Turns out the naysayers were right. Columbus dramatically underestimated the earth's circumference and the size of the oceans. Luckily for him, he ran into the uncharted Americas.

A lunar eclipse may have saved Columbus.

In February 1504, a desperate Columbus was stranded in Jamaica, abandoned by half his crew and denied food by the islanders. The heavens that he relied on for navigation, however, would guide him safely once again. Knowing from his almanac that a lunar eclipse was coming on February 29, 1504, Columbus warned the islanders that his god was upset with their refusal of food and that the moon would "rise inflamed with wrath" as an expression of divine displeasure. On the appointed night, the eclipse darkened the moon and turned it red, and the terrified islanders offered provisions and beseeched Columbus to ask his god for mercy.

Thank You History.com

Le parole del giorno (the words of the day)

celebrare l'autunno (celebrate fall)

Messaggio del Presidente - George Golfieri , continued from page 1

As stated in my letter, that was sent out in July, the Foundation could be in jeopardy if members do not get involved. The Board appreciates the support that we have received, but we are in need of members to serve on the Board and/or serve on committees, and to volunteer at events.

Board members are crucial for running the affairs of the Foundation. There are currently 13 board members, but there is the potential that four board members will not run for another term. **Nominations for new board members begins in September.** If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors or would like to nominate a member, please contact me or any board member. A Director must be a member in good standing for a minimum of one (1) year to be qualified to serve on the Board.

Due to lack of members not participating on the dinner planning committee (**Mangiamo Committee**), the October dinner has been canceled. Until committee positions are filled, the Board cannot proceed with dinners.

The Mangiamo Committee is in need of members' help. Volunteers are needed to help support the events that we all want and enjoy attending. Most cases, a few hours of your time are all that is needed.

Volunteering for the dinners doesn't mean you have to cook, unless you'd like to! Helping at the dinner events includes, setting the tables, serving, and checking people in. Helping with clean-up is also greatly appreciated.

Please call the NBICF office at (707) 591-9696 and leave a message letting us know that YOU want to serve on a committee or volunteer at an event.



There are about 400 licensed gondoliers in Venice. In 2010, Giorgia Boscolo became the first fully licensed female gondolier, after a strict tradition of 900 years! Two other women enrolled in the course, but they did not pass the exam.



Upcoming Events

September 25, 2022 - Sunday, 1:30pm: Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy, film: *Tea with Mussolini*

October 17, 2022 - Monday, **Save the Date**, time TBA: **Welcome Back Party**, Father Denis O'Sullivan Parish Center, 320 Tenth St. Santa Rosa, CA

October 30, 2022 - Sunday, 1:30pm: Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy, film: *The Sicilian Girl*

November 19, 2022 - Saturday, **Save the Date**, time TBA: **Mercatino di Natale** at the NBICF Center.

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT

THANK YOU to those who have made donations to NBICF!

Because of **YOU**, we are able to maintain our goals of the study, preservation, and enjoyment of Italian Culture. Each donation, no matter the size, has an impact for NBICF. You can specify where your donation goes, such as the building fund, scholarships, or in memoriam, by indicating it on your check. Make your checks payable to **NBICF**, 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. Donations can also be made via our website, www.NBICF.org.



Columbus Day
October 10

Mosaico Culturale is published six times a year. It is the newsletter of the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation, a California nonprofit membership corporation. NBICF 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 all things Italian. NBICF activities foster cultural awareness, celebrate traditions, and support education via scholarships, classes, and programs.

Mosaico Culturale Editorial Staff: Les Villanyi (editing and proofreading), George Golfieri, Marie Maggi-Wilson (editor)

Articles and comments are welcome. Please submit articles as Word documents to nbicf2member@gmail.com, attn: Marie. You can also send a hardcopy or email to George Golfieri. Editorial staff reserve the right to select and edit as space allows.

APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP

INDIVIDUAL: \$35 HOUSEHOLD: \$50 PATRON: \$100 BUSINESS: \$150

STUDENT: \$10 (Please provide a copy of your valid student I.D.)

Please indicate your areas of interest below; mark all that apply.

Fundraisers History Italian Classes Music Scholarships Volunteer Other

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

Please make your checks payable to NBICF. Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. Apply for membership via our website, www.NBICF.org. For more information, call: 707-591-9696.