



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

Messaggio del Presidente - George Golfieri

Cari Amici,

With the holiday season just around the corner, the Foundation is still navigating through the restrictions put in place due to the pandemic. The Board and I are optimistic that 2022 will be a better year for everyone and we can once again come together and celebrate our Italian heritage.

The Foundation has been trying to find a venue for our monthly dinners. This has proven to be a challenging and exhausting task. Several venues in and around Santa Rosa were contacted in order to find an appropriate venue to meet the needs and budget of the Foundation. The majority of the venues, including St. Rose Church, have substantially increased their rental fees which are well above the Foundation’s budget for dinners. However, the Foundation was able to negotiate a better rental fee with St. Rose Church, though still higher than our budget. Reluctantly, this means that the Foundation will have to reduce the number of member dinners to one a quarter and possibly raise the price of dinners. The Board will review all dinner costs and try to keep the price of dinners affordable for all members.

The good news is that the Board is planning a member reunion dinner for Saturday March 19, 2022. This dinner will celebrate the Festa di San Giuseppe and Italy’s Father’s Day. The Board will need the help of its members to volunteer for this event. Watch for further details about the dinner in the upcoming Mosaico.

I am pleased to announce that Virginia Smith has agreed to serve as a Board member for NBICF. Virginia was nominated by Carole Stewart. The Board appreciates Virginia’s support and commitment to the Foundation. Virginia’s name will be listed on the upcoming ballot. For more information on upcoming Board elections please refer to Alfred Pucci’s article in this Mosaico.

On October 2, I attended the celebration of life for Arturo Ibleto (Pasta King) at the Spring Hill Estate in Tomales. Arturo passed away last November and he was a founding member of the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation.

I migliori auguri e saluti per le feste.

As another year wraps up for the Mosaico, I would like to thank all of the members who have contributed their wonderful articles and input. I try to find interesting facts, articles, and places to share in the Mosaico, but it is nice to hear from others. A big **THANK YOU** goes to **Les Villanyi**, for his expertise with proofreading. Marie Maggi-Wilson

Le parole del giorno (the words of the day)

Vorrei un bicchiere di vino.

(I would like a glass of wine.)



Thank you - Grazie

The following member(s) have made donations to NBICF:

Jim and Janet Alfieri

Acquesta family (non-Member)

Clodagh and Anita Benedetto

Happy Thanksgiving

Board of Directors Elections

Due to COVID-19 and venue issues, we will not be having a November dinner this year. Last year, the elections would have been held to elect new board members or re-elect incumbent board members whose terms were to expire December 31, 2020. Instead, the board, consistent with the By-Laws, appointed the seven incumbent board members (Linda Apel, Lynne Burton, Lisa Goe, Ron Grassi, Cindy Hume, Arleen Place, and Carole Stewart) whose two-year terms were to expire, to the first year of their two-year term which ends December 31, 2022. Thus, the above seven will be running for the second year of their two-year term this November. The final board members (Allen Barbieri, George Golfieri, Alfred Pucci, Don Raimondi, and Les Villanyi) will be running for a full two-year term which ends December 31, 2023.

Elections this year will instead be conducted online with few exceptions where a member doesn't have access to a computer. In those cases, a mail-in ballot will be provided.

Per favore rimanete sicuri

Alfred (Al) Pucci

Volunteer needed to administer our Facebook page. Interested? Please leave a message at the NBICF office. 707-591-9696. Thank you.



Ongoing Incontro group meets at 10:30 every Saturday, for informal Italian conversation. Please contact George Golfieri at 707-843-3176.

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

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, Carole Stewart and Les Villanyi (VP)

Directors Emeritus:

Angelo Catelani

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

Membership News

Welcome to our newest NBICF members!

Individual

Steve Tagnolli

Family

Cassandra Lee

Juan Maillo

New & Continuing Business Members:

Buttitta Design

Faloni Ranch

Forchini Vineyards & Winery

Italian Citizenship Assistance (ICA)

Ramazzotti Winery

Condolences to the family of:

Thomas Place

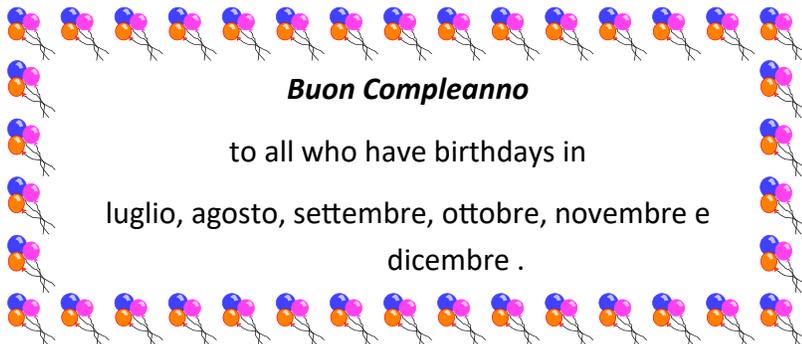
Husband of **Arleen Place**, NBICF Board member

May he rest in peace

All Saints' Day is November 1, and is a national holiday in Italy.

CARE HOPE GOOD SPIRITS HEAL RECOVER

to any member and their families that are not feeling well



Buon Compleanno

to all who have birthdays in
luglio, agosto, settembre, ottobre, novembre e
dicembre .

Move over, Michelangelo - is Technology Replacing Artistic Genius?

Technology is moving at lightning speed, just look at the progress that was made with computers, smart phones, smart tv's and robotics. I worked in the automotive business for most of my career and I witnessed the advancements made on the assembly line with robotics. Robots on the assembly line were not only more efficient and faster, they significantly improved the quality of the vehicles produced.



Now robotics is changing the world of sculpture. I would like to introduce you to some of the newest sculptures in Italy, and the whirring, spinning robotics of Italy's innovative technological company known as **ROBOTOR**. Robotor has developed a robot that can sculpt marble. Simplified, these robots are like 3D printers in reverse. Their precision diamond tipped appendage can sculpt masterpieces from existing material such as Carrara marble. These robots look like free-standing dentist drills. Touting a fusion of tradition and technology, the main idea put forth seems to be that infrared scanning and point clouds can now scratch out an identical copy of Michelangelo's *Pietà*.

Michele Monfroni, a sculptor since age 7 and Carrara native, does not approve of this new technology. He fears Robotor's robots will lead to the demise of Italy's artistic reputation. Monfroni maintains that a work of art crafted by hand and heart is the only acceptable approach. Robots are business, sculptor is passion.

I wonder what Mr. Buonarroti would think of this new technology. I bet he would be amused.

The above excerpts were printed with permission from an article in the L'Italo-American newspaper, along with George Golfieri's personal comments.

Lido Cantarutti presents the 2021 Italian Film Festival

November 6, 2021, Saturday, 5:30 pm and 8:00 pm, last day of the 2021 Italian Film Festival

Angelico Hall - Dominican University of California
50 Acacia Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94901

Showing: *MA COSA CI DICE IL CERVELLO*
Comedy • 2019 • Color • 100 minutes • *Italian*

Proof of COVID-19 Vax and mask required at time of admission

Piccolo Mercatino di Natale

North Bay Italian Cultural Center - 64 Brookwood Avenue in Santa Rosa

Saturday, November 20th, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Celebrate the holidays and support **local Italian artisans** and **NBICF** by shopping
Piccolo Mercatino di Natale.

Affordable original paintings ♦ Italian cookies ♦ Handmade greeting cards and bookmarks

Cutting boards and hand carved wooden spoons ♦ Kiln formed/fused glass art ♦ Matted photos

Handmade quilts ♦ Fabrics of all kinds - from yardage to bolts ♦ Gently used Italian-related books

Why not give the gift of membership in NBICF for Christmas?

Masks are required. Proceeds from the book sale and fabrics go to NBICF.

THANK YOU to those who have made donations to NBICF.

Because of **YOU**, we are able to maintain our goals of 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 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 on our website, www.NBICF.org.



DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT

November 11 - The holiday is commonly printed as *Veteran's Day* or *Veterans' Day*, however, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs states: Veterans Day does not include an apostrophe but does include an "s" at the end of "veterans" because it is not a day that "belongs" to veterans, it is a day for honoring all veterans.



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



Christmas in Italy

Starting December 8, many Italians begin putting their Christmas trees up and they remove them at the end of the Christmas season, January 6. During this time, Nativity scenes, **Presepe**, start to appear in churches, town squares, and homes. The nativity scene with a crib filled with straw, originally stems from Italy and is now common in many countries around the world. It is said that the crib scene was first used by Francis of Assisi in 1223. Naples has the largest nativity scene in the world with over 600 objects on it. In Naples, on a street called Via San Gregorio Armeno, you can buy wonderful handmade nativity scene decorations and figures.

On Christmas Eve, it's common that no meat is eaten. The Feast of the Seven Fishes (**Festa dei Sette Pesci**), is a popular meal. Italian immigrants in the 1800s, possibly from southern Italy, brought this tradition over and now many Italian-American families continue this custom.

On Christmas Day, **Babbo Natale** (Santa Claus) might bring children some small gifts, but the main day for present giving is on the Epiphany (January 6). However, depending on the area you are from, gift giving varies. Some families open gifts on Christmas Day, while smaller northern towns open gifts on December 13, rumored to have been brought by St. Lucia.

On Epiphany night, children believe that an old witch called **Befana** brings presents for them.

No matter when you open your gifts, a common factor for all is food and lots of it. The main meal might vary, but the panettone, torrone, and sparkling wine will always be on the menu.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

