



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



Messaggio del Presidente - George Golfieri

Cari Amici,

The last two years seem like a blur. Who would have thought we would live through such trying times? My message is one of hope. In reviewing the last two years, the Foundation has endured because of you, our members. Along with your support and the hard work of the Board of Directors, the Foundation has continued to fulfill its mission. As the Foundation embarks on its 38<sup>th</sup> year, I am optimistic that the Foundation will come through these turbulent times stronger than ever.

The Board and I were looking forward to hosting a members' dinner in March, however, at the last Board meeting, it was decided not to host an indoor dinner event under current COVID circumstances. The Board does not want to compromise the safety of our members. I know that this is disappointing news to members, but please be patient as we switch our plans to outdoor events for the foreseeable future. The Board is putting its full effort into creating a robust outdoor event schedule together which is inclusive of all members. We are planning two "TO-GO" dinners on Saturday March 19 and April 30, 2022. Please refer to the enclosed flyer for full dinner details. The Board is also planning several outdoor events such as Pizza and Birra in July and Scampagnata in August or early September.

The North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation lost a dear friend, **Sharie Sbrazza**, this past December. She was passionate about her Italian heritage and her unwavering support and dedication to the foundation was greatly appreciated. Sharie's contributions and her efforts to improve Italian culture in Santa Rosa contributed to the success of the Foundation. Sharie was always willing to volunteer for NBICF when and where she was needed.

Sharie's interest in travel, history, and genealogy led her to become a travel agent, establishing Andiamo Travel which offered tours throughout Europe. She also gave back to the greater community volunteering on various boards and helping to maintain the history of Santa Rosa including saving the old post office from destruction. What I will miss most about Sharie is her positive attitude and her willingness to help others. I will particularly miss her travel tours to Italy. Anna and I traveled with Sharie on several trips which were well planned, organized, and fun. We met many people on the tours, who became friends and we will always cherish those experiences.

In order to honor the many contributions Sharie made to NBICF, the Foundation will rename the Italy Study Abroad Scholarships, to **The Sharie Sbrazza Florence Study Abroad Scholarship**. Each spring the Foundation awards three \$1,000 scholarships to students for Italian studies.

I am sad to report that another long time business member and supporter of NBICF has passed away, **Jim Forchini**, a grape grower since 1971. Jim and his wife, Anita, started Forchini Vineyards and Winery in 1996. Forchini wines were featured at an NBICF wine maker dinner a few years ago. The Foundation offers its condolences to the Forchini family. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at Forchini Vineyards and Winery - 5141 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg, CA.

(please see page 3 for our financial report)

## *Thank you - Grazie*

The following members have made donations to  
NBICF in **memory of Sharie Sbrazza:**

**Howard and Susan Adler, Joseph and Susan Alesi,  
Jim & Janet Alfieri, Allen and Jean Barbieri ,  
Margret Brothers, Wanda Burzycki & Mark L. Mager,  
Larry Dinelli, James & Meredith Dreisback,  
John and Dianne Edwards, JoAnn Ferrera,  
Maria Gloria, George Golfieri, Cristine Gondak,  
MaryLou Herrera, Steve & Leslie Lazzini,  
David Lightfoot, Sharon Mitchell, Ada Nourse,  
Virginia Pitts, Denise Scaglione, Don and Liz Shatto,  
Beverly Stumbaugh, Marlene & Edward Tanferani,  
and Robert & Dolores Zeni**

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Membership renewal notices were sent out in mid-  
January. Members can pay their membership dues  
online by credit card on our website at  
[www.nbicf.org](http://www.nbicf.org).

**Please pay your dues by March 31, 2022.**

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**CARE HOPE GOOD SPIRITS RECOVER**

*to members and their families who are not feeling  
well*

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Le parole del giorno (the words of the day)

I pomodori, li vuole fare in insalata o per fare un  
sugo?

Would you like the tomatoes for salad or to make a  
tomato sauce?

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**Ongoing Incontro group** for informal Italian conversa-  
tion. Please contact George Golfieri at 707-843-3176.

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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, Virginia Smith, Carole Stewart and Les Villanyi (VP)**

**Directors Emeritus: Angelo Catelani**

Please visit [NBICF.org](http://NBICF.org) About Us / Directors, for a short biography of each  
Board member.

### **Membership News**

Welcome to our newest members of NBICF!

Individual:

**Stephanie MacConaghy**

**Ida Paladini**

Patron new and renewing:

**Richard Abazia**

**Robert Agrella**

**Maggie Brothers**

**Paul and Kathleen Gillis**

**George & Anna Golfieri**

**Al and Phyllis Pucci**

**Rae and John Rehn**

**Donald & Kathryn Raimondi**

**Ed and Anna Rybat**

**Diane Toso**

**Susan Wintermeyer**

**Brad Zanetti**

Business

**Servico Building Maintenance Inc.**

Thank you to our Continuing Business Members:

**Buttitta Design**

**Faloni Ranch**

**Forchini Vineyards**

**Italian Citizenship Assistance (ICA)**

Condolences to the family of:

**Jim Forchini**

May he rest in peace





**Location:** Online, via Zoom. You can take the course wherever you are!

**Italiano Due: Conversing with *gli Italiani***

Italian Due (2) reviews the present tense and introduces more frequently-used verbs. It will also introduce the past tense and direct and indirect object pronouns, and concentrates on adjectives and description patterns. Classwork focuses on conversational patterns and in-class practice.

**Enrollment limit: 26 students. Number of sessions:** 6 two-hour sessions

**Schedule:** Wednesdays, 5:30pm -7:30pm, beginning March 30, 2022 and ending May 4, 2022.

**Class fee:** \$137.00 - includes self-teaching **Course Reader**, designed for after-course learning as well. Repeating students welcome! **Please enroll by March 25, in order to receive the printed Course Reader.**

**Italian Uno (One)** is not a prerequisite for Italian Due (Two), nor Due for Tre (Three), but students in Due and Tre should be familiar with the grammar in the previous level(s).

The follow-up course, **Italiano Tre**, will be offered in summer 2022.

**Instructor:** Dave Henderson, PhD Italian, has taught at SRJC for 40 years. For more information, please contact Dave at [davehen@sonic.net](mailto:davehen@sonic.net).

Festa della Donna, or **International Women's Day**, is celebrated March 8 all over Italy. On this day, men bring flowers, usually yellow mimosa, to the women in their lives. Restaurants have special Festa della Donna meals and there are often small local festivals or concerts. Groups of women frequently have dinner together that evening, and some museums and sites offer free or reduced admission for women.



The tiny town of Seulo, in the South of Sardinia, has a unique record, as of 2021. It's one of the five blue zones worldwide, with a record number of centenarians.

SLOW is the keyword. Slow food to slow lifestyle, locals are not in a hurry.

Their diet focuses on vegetables, with a tiny portion of animal protein, along with olive oil, local goat cheese (*caprino*) and flat bread, called *carasau*. Meals will usually include Sardinia's wine, the Cannonau.

Their lifestyle is simple, chatting in the main square with others in the community for hours, naps during the hot summer afternoons and cool winters, walking through the quiet alleys, working in their gardens, and perhaps taking a stroll around the woods. The values of Seulo in Sardinia: family above all, moderate but constant exercise, and a careful diet.

Full article can be found in [lifeinitaly.com](http://lifeinitaly.com)



Messaggio del Presidente - George Golfieri , continued from page 1

Financially, it has been a challenging year as the Foundation ended 2021 with \$35,829 in the bank and suffered a loss for 2021 of \$1,663. However, this loss was a significant improvement over 2020's loss of over \$5,000. The pandemic had an impact on the Foundation's ability to generate income to support its scholarship programs, cultural events and to cover operating expenses. Normally, the majority of the income is from membership dues, donations, dinners, and fund raisers. The Foundation depends on its members to support its fund raisers and events. Donations also go a long way to supporting the Foundation's mission, and our home, the Italian Cultural Center, as this is our heritage and binds us together as Italian Americans and to further the Foundation's commitment to the North Bay Italian community. If you have any questions regarding the Foundation's financials, please feel free to contact me at 707-843-3176.

## 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**.

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT

**Save the date: May 28, 2022** - To - Go Dinner

**June 22, 2022** - Movie night at NBICF Cultural Center.

Look forward to: Summertime: Pizza & Birra, Scampagnata and hopefully more! More information to follow.

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**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.

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### **Festa di San Giuseppe (actual feast date is March 19), the Feast of Saint Joseph**

This feast day is commonly celebrated in Italian communities throughout the world. Thanks are given to St. Joseph for preventing a famine in Sicily during the Middle Ages. According to legend, there was a severe drought at the time, so the faithful prayed to their patron saint for rain. They promised that if San Giuseppe answered their prayers, they would prepare a large feast in his honor. The rain did come, and the people of Sicily gathered to prepare a large banquet for their patron saint. A three-tiered altar is usually built using seasonal vegetables, fava beans, bread and whatever you have to offer. The "three" of the three tiers represents the Divine Trinity. Giving food to the needy is customary on St. Joseph's Day. NBICF has always followed this tradition by collected canned goods at the dinner. Since we are not gathering together, if it is possible, please donate canned goods to the local Food Bank.



If you're lucky enough to be in Italy for Easter, you won't see the famous bunny or go for an Easter egg hunt. However, Easter in Italy is a huge holiday, second only to Christmas in its importance for Italians. While the days leading up to Easter include solemn processions and masses, *Pasqua* is a joyous celebration marked with rituals and traditions.

*La Pasquetta*, the Monday after Easter Sunday, known as Little Easter, is also a public holiday throughout the country. This light-hearted celebration is a favorite springtime tradition of Italians, bringing families together for food that features eggs predominantly in the menu and festivities.

Families will pack their baskets and grills, and go on day trips to different parks and natural areas to relax and welcome spring. Depending on the region, there are different games involving eggs or food, that take place. In Panicale, located in Umbria, people play the game *ruzzolone*: big wheels of cheese are rolled around a course. Other towns play games with eggs where contestants must break their opponent's egg with their own, which needs to remain intact. Full article can be found at [tripsavvy.com](http://tripsavvy.com).



**NBICF To-Go Dinner**

Saturday, March 19, 2022

NBICF Cultural Center (Chinn Street parking lot)

**Curbside Pickup 5 pm to 6 pm only.**

**Prepaid Reservations ONLY**

Reservations must be made by March 12, 2022

Limited to 120 dinners. Reserve early.

*To-Go Menu includes:*

Lasagna with meat sauce

Focaccia

Caesar salad with shaved Parmesan and croutons

Cream puffs



Prepared by Randy Apel and the Mangiamo Team

**Prepaid Reservations Only**

NBICF To-Go Dinner - **Saturday, March 19, 2022**

**Curbside Pick Up at 5:00pm to 6:00pm only**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dinner(s) at \$20.00 \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations must be made by March 12, 2022.

Make checks payable to **NBICF**. Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. **Or, make reservations online at: [www.nbicf.org](http://www.nbicf.org)**



**NBICF To-Go Dinner**

Saturday, April 30, 2022

NBICF Cultural Center (Chinn Street parking lot)

**Curbside Pickup 5 pm to 6 pm only.**

**Prepaid Reservations ONLY**

Reservations must be made by April 23, 2022

Limited to 120 dinners. Reserve early.

*To-Go Menu includes:*

Ravioli with meat sauce

Garlic Bread

Mixed green salad with cherry tomatoes, gorgonzola cheese, croutons, and vinaigrette

Lemon cake



Prepared by Randy Apel and the Mangiamo Team

**Prepaid Reservations Only**

NBICF To-Go Dinner - **Saturday, April 30, 2022**

**Curbside Pick Up at 5:00pm to 6:00pm only**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dinner(s) at \$20.00 \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations must be made by April 23, 2022.

Make checks payable to **NBICF**. Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. **Or, make reservations online at: [www.nbicf.org](http://www.nbicf.org)**