



## ❁ La Primavera Arriva di Nuovo ❁

### TAVOLO DI SAN GIUSEPPE

Monday, March 20, 2017

THE NBICF ANNUAL Tavolo di San Giuseppe dinner will be held Monday, March 20, 2017 at St. Rose Parish Hall. St. Joseph's Day, also known as Father's Day in Italy, is a popular Italian and Sicilian tradition that goes back to the Middle Ages. At that time there was an exceptionally severe drought in Sicily. No crops would grow, and countless people died in the famine. The peasants prayed to God for rain, and they also prayed to St. Joseph to intercede with God on their behalf. They promised that if God caused it to rain, they would have a special feast honoring God and St. Joseph. By miracle, the rains came and the crops were planted. With the harvest, the people prepared a feast of foods from their crops. This became known as La Tavola di San Giuseppe. Families prepared huge buffets and invited the less fortunate people of the village, especially the homeless and sick. Today, the tradition is still practiced in Sicily and worldwide, especially in Italian-American communities of Sicilian descent.

It is NBICF's tradition to give food to the less fortunate. We ask that you bring canned goods to be donated to the local Food Bank. We'll also be giving half of all the proceeds from the raffle to a local charity. The charity will be determined at the March board meeting.

This very special *San Giuseppe Dinner* will be prepared by Harry Licursi. The menu will include caponata and focaccia, spiral zucchini caprese, baked salmon with asparagus, and a very special dessert. There will be a no-host bar and raffle. Reservations and payment must be received by Monday, March 13, 2017. Please see enclosed flyer to make reservations and further details. *Doors open at 5:00pm, dinner served at 6:00pm.*

### DR. KENNING IS COMING AGAIN— Saturday, April 1, 2017 2–4pm

- Come learn about Arabo-Norman influences in Sicily's Second Golden Age.
- Location for this event: Francis G Murphy Room, Sonoma County Central Library, 211 E. Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404
- Please see enclosed flyer for details and reservations.



### EASTER MONDAY~LA PASQUETTA

Monday, April 17, 2017

THE APRIL DINNER will be held Monday, April 17, 2017 at St. Rose Parish Hall. On Easter Monday, some cities hold dances, free concerts, or unusual games often involving eggs. In the Umbrian hill town of Panicale, cheese is the star. *Ruzzolone* is played by rolling huge wheels of cheese, weighing about 4 kilos, around the village walls. The object is to get your cheese around the course using the fewest number of strokes. Easter Monday is a time to gather with friends and have fun. Join us for an Easter Monday dinner prepared by Canavari's. The menu will include antipasti, meat and vegetarian lasagne, salad, garlic and regular bread, and dessert (*with spumoni!*). There will be a no-host bar. Reservations and payment must be received by Monday, April 10, 2017. Please see enclosed flyer to make reservations and for further details. No raffle for this month. *Doors open at 5:00pm, dinner served at 6:00pm.*

*SPUMONE* (from *spuma* or "foam"), plural *spumoni*, is a molded Italian ice cream made with layers of different colors and flavors, usually containing candied fruits and nuts, giving rise to the traditional red/pink, green, and brown color combination. It is popular in places with large Italian immigrant populations such as the United States and Argentina. August 21st is National Spumoni Day in the United States.

### Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Events—

- **2017 Bocce Ball Season** starts April 3rd and ends September 8, with a two week break at the end of June. For more information visit Sonoma County Bocce's website: <http://www.sonomacountybocce.org/Registration/>
- **Italian Summer Camp for Youth**, the theme this year will be "*The Italian Renaissance*" and Joli Love will return as the instructor. Camp dates are the weeks of June 12 and June 19, 2017. More details will follow in the next issue of the Mosaico.

## Membership News

*Welcome to our newest members of NBICF!*

**Individuals:** Debbie Martini, Frank Cauceglia

**Patron New Members:**

Lawrence & Mary Antolini, Margaret Brothers,  
Charles & Joan Demitz, Ralph Dilisio, Larry Dinelli,  
George & Anna Golfieri, Virginia Pitts, Daniel & Patsy Wright

**Business Members:**

Rebecca Abruzzese, Realtor  
Maurizio Castagna, Realtor,  
Harry Licursi—Tax & Retirement Planning,  
Balletto Vineyards, Market Place on Fourth,  
FaiSano Wines of Italy, Pedersen's Furniture,  
Zappelli Body Shop, and Faloni Ranch

**In Memoriam: Elizabeth Basile**

We have received a donation from Sharie Sbrazza in memory of Liz Basile and Fern Harger.

We have also received a donation from Marie Aggio in memory of Charlie Baranzini.

## Book Group

The NBICF Book Group meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm, upstairs at the Center. For more information email Diane McCurdy at [dmccurdy@sonic.net](mailto:dmccurdy@sonic.net) or call NBICF at 707-591-9696.

## Paint Italy Workshop

The next Paint Italy Workshop will be on March 11, 2017 at the NBICF Center. Open to all levels, it's four hours of creative fun, guided by instructor, Susan Terracina Adler. For more information contact Susan at [adler@sonic.net](mailto:adler@sonic.net).

**Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy**—  
**Doors open 2:00pm.** For information: 707-591-9696  
*Free. No reservations required.*

**Showing March 26, 2017**

***L'Innocente* (1976)** 2hrs.

The story is set in the late nineteenth century and is beautifully photographed. Tullio Hermil (Giancarlo Giannini), a wealthy Roman aristocrat married to Giuliana lives his sexual life with a possessive aristocratic mistress (Jennifer O'Neill), Teresa. However, his interest in his wife Guliana is rekindled when he sees Guliana's happiness after she has begun a love affair with a novelist. She becomes pregnant by him. Tullio urges an abortion. She refuses. This is the last film directed by Luchino Visconti.  
*In Italian, with English subtitles.*



**Showing April 30, 2017**

***A Room with a View* (1985)** 1hr. 57mins.

When Lucy Honeychurch and chaperone Charlotte Bartlett find themselves in Florence with rooms without views, fellow guests Mr. Emerson and son George step in to remedy the situation. Meeting the Emersons could change Lucy's life forever but, once back in England, how will her experiences in Tuscany affect her marriage plans? *In English.*



## Welcome to Our New Board Members!

**Evelyn Izzarelli** was born in Joliet, Illinois, as a second generation Italian-American. In a neighborhood populated by her mother's family, she celebrated the holidays with her family—the cousins all playing together in a large common yard. Both her grandparents are from the Abruzzo region of Italy. As a young adult, she lived in North Beach and graduated from SFSU with a degree in English/Creative Writing. Later she and her husband, Richard, moved to Sebastopol. She has travelled to Italy often. On her last visit, she discovered that a second cousin, Carlo Di Cristoforo, is an opera singer. How Italian is that!

**Arlen Place** was born in San Francisco in 1938. Her mother was Irish and her father was Italian. Her Italian family's name is Siri. They came from a tiny mountain village, Piampaludo, above Genova. Her great grandmother (*née Bassi*) came from the same area in Liguria. After moving to Santa Rosa in the 1940s, she worked as a teacher at Ursuline High School and Santa Rosa Junior College. After retiring, she owned a graphic design business. Arlene and her husband, Tom Place, have been married for 44 years and enjoy being members of NBICF.

**Stephen Ruffino** was born and raised in San Jose. Both of his parents came from Sicily. His father was from Palermo and his mother from Piana degli Albanesi. His parents emigrated in 1912, settling in New York, then moved to California in 1942. After college and a stint in the U.S. Air Force, Steve worked full time for the California Department of Forestry. In 1988, he moved to Santa Rosa with his family. Since retiring in 2000, he has worked a number of part-time jobs, including catering, in kitchen stores and in a winery tasting room. He and his wife Kathy, enjoys traveling, road trips and cruising.

**Sharie Sbrazza's** Lucca-born grandfather Lelio, immigrated to the Asti Italian Swiss Colony Winery in 1904. Sharie has made her home in Santa Rosa since 1978. A graduate of UC Berkeley, she lived in Italy for over a year while attending University of Padova in the Veneto. This experience fostered lifelong friendships, a passion for educational travel, international understanding and a deep love for Italy. She joined NBICF in 1985 and has been volunteering now for 32 years!

**Marie Maggi-Wilson's** grandparents were both born in the Genova area. She is among the second generation of her family to be born in California. At an early age she moved with her family to the town of Fulton in Sonoma County. She was involved in 4-H for many years. She joined NBICF with her family in the late 1980s. Her son first attended an NBICF dinner (*Tavolo di San Giuseppe*) when he was only a month old. Many events have happened to shape her on-going pride in her family, her heritage and her involvement with NBICF.

## TRAVEL NEWS: ANDIAMO / LET'S GO! —

### REGIONAL TRAVEL PROGRAMS:

*Experience La Bella Italia with NBICF friends and escorts!*

*Saturday, March 4 at 10am at Italian Cultural Center or  
Tuesday, March 14 at 6pm at SRJC Emeritus Hall*

Join Sharie Sbranza and Gino Muzzatti over homemade pastry and coffee. Learn about the 9th Annual Urbania Study Tour in a small LeMarche town (6/16/17—7/2/17).

*Sunday, March 5 at 2pm at Italian Cultural Center*

Join Sharie and Gino Muzzatti over vino and treats with a video about one of Italy's 20 regions. Learn about the 21st Annual Affordable Autumn Tour to Italy's heel and toe (the regions of Puglia & Calabria) (11/1/17—11/13/17).

### URBANIA STUDY TOUR: JUNE 16 – JULY 2, 2017

Improve your Italian language, ceramics and cooking skills! Savor the small LeMarche town of Urbania. Learn Italian at one of seven levels. Take cooking, opera and art classes. Stay in an Urbania apartment or with a local family! For more information, call 707-527-4372 or email SRJC Professor Gino Muzzatti: [gmuzzatti@santarosa.edu](mailto:gmuzzatti@santarosa.edu).

### ITALY'S HEEL & TOE: NOVEMBER 1– 13, 2017

Stay four nights near Bari, with trips to Alberobello, Martina Franca, Matera and Gallipoli. Linger four nights near Vibo, with trips to Sybaris, Locri, Gerace, Tropea, Crotona and Reggio Calabria. Stay three nights near Maratea, with trips to Cosenza, Palinuro, Cilento and Paestum. Via Eboli and Vietri, arrive in Vesuvio-Napoli. For more information, write Sharie at Andiamo, Box 406, Santa Rosa 95402 or email: [andiamotravel@hotmail.com](mailto:andiamotravel@hotmail.com)

Gino Muzzatti and Sharie Sbranza,

NBICF MEMBERS SINCE 1980s



## Pronti, Partenza, Via! (Ready, Set, Go!) —

Join us for beginning level Italian classes with a focus on vocabulary and phrases useful for travelers. You will gain confidence and feel more comfortable while traveling in Italy. You may choose to take one or both sessions. Both sessions meet on Wednesday evenings 7–8:30pm at the NBICF Center. Minimum class enrollment is 10.

### SESSION 1:

*Six classes at the NBICF Center: March 22–April 26*

Fee: \$140 for members (\$150 for non-members), includes materials.

### SESSION 2:

*Four classes at the NBICF Center: May 10–May 31*

Fee: \$120 for members (\$130 for non-members), includes materials.

If interested, please email Stefanie Nourse: [stefanienourse@gmail.com](mailto:stefanienourse@gmail.com) or call: 707-799-8520

## The President's Corner

I would like to start with a quote by John F. Kennedy. "Change is the law of life. And those who look to the past or present are certain to miss the future." Why this quote? Well, as you probably read in the last Mosaico, Randy Apel has decided to retire from cooking for the NBICF's monthly member dinners. I know the board and members appreciated Randy's cooking and all he has done. We wish Randy the best of luck in the future. This change gives NBICF an opportunity to offer members a new dining experience. NBICF's new Mangiamo committee, chaired by Nancy DeVincenzi, is developing new menus and are interviewing chefs and caterers to prepare our monthly dinners. Harry Licursi has agreed to cook dinners for March, June and November. As a result of these changes, NBICF may need to increase the prices of our member dinners for certain months.

Financially the Foundation ended 2016 in good shape. As of December 31, 2016 the Foundation had \$50,681 in cash and bank accounts. The Foundation's income for 2016 was \$75,092; expenses were \$68,168, leaving the Foundation with a net income of \$6,924. If you have any questions regarding the Foundation's financials, please feel free to contact me.

The NBICF board of directors has voted to approve and fill the first vice-president and secretary vacancies left open when two board members decided not to run for reelection. Mark DeVincenzi has accepted the duties of first vice-president and Ann Abbruzzese has accepted the duties of Secretary.

A complete directory of officers and board members can be found on the NBICF web page.

On January 21, 2017, NBICF held its third annual Crab Feed event. It was well attended and I believe everyone enjoyed a bountiful feast of crab. Total income for the crab feed was \$6,653; the net income was \$2,880. This income goes to support scholarship programs and NBICF's operating expenses. I would like to thank Maggie Brothers and Linda Apel for planning the crab feed. I would also like to thank Randy Apel for the donation of the ceviche, as well as all the volunteers who helped make this event a success.

Membership renewals forms were mailed in mid-January. Please return your membership dues by March 31, 2017.



**Congratulations** to Shelby Moore, Onarcy Rafael Pat Pons and Monet Sheikhal, on receiving \$500 NBICF fall scholarships for Italian 1 study at SRJC. Also, to Angelina Marie Alberigi-Donaldson, the recipient of \$750 Florence semester abroad scholarship, spring 2017.





*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.*

**U P - C O M M I N G E V E N T S**

- March 11, 2017** Saturday, 1–5pm  
Paint Italy Workshop at the NBICF Center
- March 16, 2017** Thursday, 7pm  
Book Group at the NBICF Center
- March 20, 2017** Monday, 6pm (*doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm*)  
Tavolo di San Giuseppe Dinner, 320 Tenth St., Santa Rosa, CA
- March 26, 2017** Sunday, 2pm  
Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy, film: *L'Innocente*
- April 1, 2017** Saturday, 2–4pm (*presentation*)  
Dr. Douglas Kenning, Sonoma County Library, 320 E Street, Santa Rosa, CA
- April 17, 2017** Monday, 6pm (*doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm*)  
Easter Monday Member Dinner, 320 Tenth St. Santa Rosa, CA
- April 20, 2017** Thursday, 7pm  
Book Group at the NBICF Center
- April 30, 2017** Sunday, 2pm  
Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy, film: *A Room with a View*

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT

**NBICF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Ann Abbruzzese, Linda Apel, Allen Barbieri, Patti Buttitta, Mark DeVincenzi, George Golfieri (President 707-843-3176), Evelyn Izzarelli, Marie Maggi-Wilson, Arleen Place, Don Raimondi, Stephan Ruffino, Sharie Sbrazza, Carole Stewart, Les Villanyi

Directors Emeritus: Angelo Catelani, Arturo Ibleto, Jeanette Mancini Mitchell

*Mosaico Culturale Editorial Staff: Marie Maggi-Wilson, George Golfieri, Patti Buttitta (graphic designer)*

*NOTE: Members are encouraged to submit articles or items for publication. Submit your articles four weeks prior to the bi-monthly Mosaico publication date. Please submit articles as Word documents or PDFs. Editors reserve the right to select and edit as space allows.*

**North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation Policies:**

No refunds/exchanges; tickets are transferable; No reservations accepted on event dates. Space is limited: first come, first served.

Any offering in the Mosaico Culturale should not be read as an endorsement or warranty by NBICF

**Italian Cultural Library & Office**

Tuesdays & Thursdays 2-4 PM or by appointment, 707-591-9696  
 Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday evening of each month.

**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 Nancy DeVincenzi  
 Reservations: 707-573-7185 Virginia Wilburn  
 Scholarships: 707-523-0296 Gino Muzzatti  
 Sunshine Cards: 707-586-1167 JoAnn Piantanida  
 Volunteer Coordinator: 707-591-9696 Nancy DeVincenzi

**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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your checks payable to NBICF, 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. For more information, call: 707-591-9696*

# NORTH BAY ITALIAN CULTURAL FOUNDATION

Dedicated to the Study, Preservation and Enjoyment of Italian Culture

PRESENTS

## *Arabo-Norman Sicily*

*with emphasis on society and art, and Frederick II, the Wonder of the World*



by **Dr. Douglas Kenning**

**Saturday, April 1, 2017 2–4pm**

Francis G. Murphy Room, Sonoma County Central Library  
221 E Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

**\$5/person for NBICF members, \$7/person for non-members**  
*(Please reverse by March 27, 2017, using the reservation form below.)*

The Arabs and Normans ruled Sicily in medieval times, leaving a legacy that is still visible today. Dr Kenning's presentation will be a summary of the Second Golden Age of Sicily. He will discuss the society and art of the times, and the rule of Frederick II, the Wonder of the World.

Dr. Kenning received his Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh and has taught in Scotland, Tunisia, and Japan. For six months of the year, he gives lectures around the Bay Area on the histories and cultures of Sicily and Italy, Greek myth and drama, and other Mediterranean people and their histories.

For more information:  
call George Golfieri: 707-843-3176.



### RESERVATIONS

**Arabo-Norman Sicily**  
**Presentation by Dr. Douglas Kenning**

**Saturday, April 1, 2016, 2–4pm**

**\$5/ members, \$7 non-members and guests**

\_\_\_\_\_ places at \$5/each for Members

\_\_\_\_\_ places at \$7/each for Guests/Non-Member

Send reservation form and payment by  
Monday, March 27, 2017 to  
North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation,  
64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404



North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation  
— MEMBER DINNER —

## Tavolo di San Giuseppe

Monday, March 20, 2017

St. Rose Parish Hall, 320 10th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
(Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm)

**Dinner Menu:**

Caponata and Focaccia,  
Spiral Zucchini Caprese,  
Baked Salmon with Asparagus,  
and a Very Special Dessert

**No-host Bar & Raffle**

For more information visit:  
[www.nbicf.org](http://www.nbicf.org) or call 707-591-9696

DINNER RESERVATIONS

**Tavolo di San Giuseppe Dinner**  
Monday, March 20, 2017

St. Rose Parish Hall, 320 10th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
(Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm)

**Prepaid Reservations Only**

- \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$18/each for Members
- \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$20/each for Guests
- \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$12/each for Teens, 13–18 yrs
- \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$ 8/each for Child, 5–12 yrs
- \_\_\_\_\_ places at free/each for Child under 5 yrs

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve by March 13, 2017. Make checks payable to NBICF.  
Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404



North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation  
— MEMBER DINNER —

## La Pasquetta

Monday, April 17, 2017

St. Rose Parish Hall, 320 10th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
(Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm)

**Dinner Menu:**

Antipasti, Salad, Garlic & Regular Bread,  
Meat and Vegetarian Lasagne  
Dessert (with Spumoni)

**No-host Bar**

(no raffle this month)

For more information visit:  
[www.nbicf.org](http://www.nbicf.org) or call 707-591-9696

DINNER RESERVATIONS

**Easter Monday–La Pasquetta Dinner**  
Monday, April 17, 2017

St. Rose Parish Hall, 320 10th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
(Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm)

**Prepaid Reservations Only**

- \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$18/each for Members
- \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$20/each for Guests
- \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$12/each for Teens, 13–18 yrs
- \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$ 8/each for Child, 5–12 yrs
- \_\_\_\_\_ places at free/each for Child under 5 yrs

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve by April 10, 2017. Make checks payable to NBICF.  
Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404