

November 2022
Volume 27
Issue 265

ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB of JACKSONVILLE



Our Mission Statement – *The Italian American Club is dedicated to supporting American traditions in our community while maintaining our Italian heritage.*

Message From The President...

Ciao Amici Miei (Hello My Friends),

As November approaches, we prepare ourselves for the busy days of the holiday season.

We will be having our “Christmas Party” General Meeting in December and would really like to make it a special event with the help of our membership. What traditions/games do your family and friends enjoy at your holiday gatherings? Is it something you think could work at our club event? There is a suggestion box by the bar with index cards and a pencil. If you have an idea, please let us know!

The Board has been focusing on improving our members’ experiences at our events and setting up committees to have more participation from the membership.

Our Italian Heritage General Meeting was a big hit! Thank you to Sal & De Santapola and Chuck & Nancy Perrone for organizing this event. See the articles and photos in this newsletter.

We just had our Bingo Night with the new process. It was a great success with better prizes for the winners and also, with collecting the money up front, everyone was able to play Bingo and not run around collecting quarters before each game. Be sure to join us at our next Bingo so you don’t miss out on the fun.

The club recently had a break in and theft to our storage sheds. We have installed lights in front of the building as well as lights and cameras in the back. Joe Farina, Mark Rose and Mike Matrascia have worked hard installing the lights to make the building more secure. We also had to replace the ice machine, as the old one failed. Additionally, we replaced the sink in the men’s room as it had been accidentally damaged.

I hope everyone made it safely though Hurricane Ian’s wrath. Unfortunately we had to cancel our September Spaghetti to Go event due to the storm. More importantly, we hope everyone and their loved ones are safe. Our customers will be happy to see us return.

We will have our annual food drive at the November general membership meeting. See the item in this newsletter for a list of appropriate non perishable food.

We will start collecting advance payment for our New Year’s Eve Party in November. It is \$35 per person. Details are in this newsletter. Plan on joining us and your friends to ring in the New Year!

Thank you to our donors, who wish to remain anonymous, for their very generous gifts towards a flag pole and the new ice machine. Also, multiple members donated to Wreaths Across America. There is more information on donating to WAA on page 2. Your donations greatly help keep our club doors open and we appreciate everyone’s generosity.

Hope to see you at the club enjoying all the fun activities,

Melanie

OFFICERS

Melanie Matrascia

President

Mark Rose

Vice President

Mike Matrascia

Treasurer

Sal Santapola

Asst. Treasurer

Membership

Dir.

De Santapola

Secretary

John Corsi

Club Chef

Fr. Tom Cody

Club Chaplain

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jack Cosentino

Joe Farina

Eunice Manzo

Gina Mielech

Anne Stepp

Al Zammataro





**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
2022 FUNDRAISER**



It is that time of year when the Italian American Club begins their Wreaths Across America campaign.

On December 17, 2022, wreaths will be placed at the headstones of Veterans buried at National Cemeteries across America. The live balsam wreaths are placed to honor all veterans and active military.


The Club sponsors wreaths at the **St. Augustine National Cemetery**. The Club has been very generous in supporting this worthy holiday cause. This year the mission of Wreaths Across America is to Find a Way to Serve and encourages other organizations to develop plans to inspire young people to find a way to serve. The cost is \$15.00 for each wreath. For each 2 wreaths sold (\$30.00) an additional wreath will be added in the Club's total donation. Wreaths can be donated in honor of loved ones.

Donations must be collected by **November 1st, 2022**. Last year, the Club and members donated **\$700.00**. We would like to surpass that total this year. We encourage members to attend the wreath laying ceremony on December 17, 2022. In keeping with this years campaign we would also encourage your children/grandchildren attending. This is a very moving ceremony and a very special way to get in the spirit of Christmas.

"We are not here to decorate graves. We are here to remember not their deaths, but their lives." Karen Worcester, Executive Director of Wreaths Across America.

Mary Ann Wetzel will be chairing this program. She will be soliciting wreath sponsorship at club activities. You can also send inquiries to rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com . Your email will be forwarded to Mary Ann and she will assist you.

REMEMBER * HONOR * TEACH

Compassionate Corner		Welcome New Members!
<p>Much Sympathy to Georgette Cornello on the loss of her beloved husband, our friend and member, Joe Cornello. He will be missed by all.</p>	<p>Our Sympathy to Vinny Russo on the passing of his brother, Louie. ***** Our Condolences to Penny Mefford on the passing of her mother, Marge Voedisch.</p>	 <p>Robert Sussan Edward Maley Lori Halpenny</p>

Alhambra
theatre & dining

12000 Beach Blvd
Jacksonville, FL 32246
904-641-1212



Date - Saturday Matinee May 27th, 2023
Theatre opens 12pm - Lunch served until 1:20pm
- Show begins 1:50pm
Cost \$70.00 per person
Includes: Show, Dinner & Gratuity

Alhambra has reserved 56 seats for us - Sold 27 to date - only 29 left

Contact Sal Santapola rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com

Make check payable to Italian American Club Attn: Jersey Boys

P.O. Box 600725 Jacksonville, FL 32260

FOOD DRIVE!!

Please bring non-perishables to the November 13th General Meeting as we will be donating to the Mandarin Food Bank for the Thanksgiving Holiday. In addition to “traditional” Thanksgiving items, here is a list of items always needed: canned meat (Spam, chili, canned ham, chicken, hash, tuna); spaghetti sauce & pasta; mac & cheese; soups of all kinds; peanut butter & jelly; rice; hot/cold cereal; canned vegetables, fruit; dry vegetables (mashed potatoes, pasta salad, prepared rice, and noodle packets); crackers and cookies. Please do not donate expired items



SPAGHETTI TO GO!

Friday, November 18th, 2022

5PM to 7 PM

Stop by the Italian American Club on your way home from work, or wherever you're coming from and grab some dinner for the family! Pasta, 2 meatballs and bread!

Support YOUR Club!

CLUB SOCIAL

Monday, November 7th, 2022 @1:00PM

Come join your fellow IAC members for an afternoon of fun and friendship. Play games, snack a little and laugh a lot. An Evite will be sent as a reminder. Bring a friend!



New Year's Eve Party at the IAC!

Saturday, December 31st, 2022

Come join your friends ring in the New Year!
DJ, Dancing, Hors D'oeuvres, Champagne and best of all
Sharing fun times with friends and family!



\$35.00 per person, pay in advance beginning November 1st. You can pay cash or credit card at the Club or mail your check to:

Italian American Club of Jacksonville
PO Box 600725
Jacksonville, FL 32260

(The Evite will have more details when it is sent)



Do you sometimes get chilly walking into the club from the AC? We determine the temperature the thermostat is set at the club based on a few things. It is very warm in the kitchen and we need to keep the kitchen staff comfortable while they are cooking for you. Also, the dining room is cool at the beginning of our events because it is empty. Once the room fills up, the room will get warmer. Just a reminder for our members to bring a sweater or light jacket if you tend to get cold. We are doing our best to keep everyone comfortable.



We are still looking for members to be part of a committee to help plan, organize and execute club events. For example, if you like throwing fun parties, we would love to have your ideas for our Christmas party, New Year's party or a dance party. Along with serving a great meal at our General Meetings, maybe you have some ideas on ice breakers for members to get to know each other better, or play a little game to add some fun to the afternoon. If you see an upcoming event in the newsletter that you would like to be a part of, don't be shy! Contact the club at rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com or 904-586-2700 and let us know your available!

Get Ready to Bake Your Famous Christmas Cookies!

We thought it would be fun this year for our members to bake their favorite (or famous) Christmas cookies as our dessert for our Christmas Party.

It will be so much fun to share cookies, recipes, traditions and baking stories with each other during the holiday season.

So, get out your rolling pins, aprons and cookie sheets! We can hardly wait to see the dessert table filled with our members favorite cookies!



On Sunday October 9th, 2022, we celebrated our Italian Heritage. There were sixty-one members and guests in attendance. We thank everyone for their contributions bringing Italian food and desserts. Many of the members shared their life experiences from their families in Italy. We presented an excellent video of a Farm in Italy where the Italians demonstrated how pasta and other products were made and we pinned the map where members families came from. Many thanks to all that helped.

Sal & De Santapola and Chuck & Nancy Perrone Co-Chairs.



In photos above and below members and guests watching the video Farm to Table, Tuscany, Italy



Lir Carm Gordon and Anne Steep



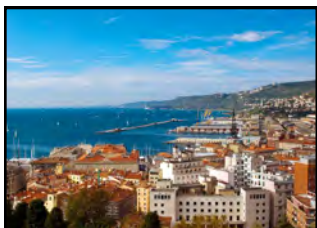
Chuck Perrone making a presentation on his family history from Italy and giving an overview on the agenda.



Italian Heritage

Best Hidden Gems in Italy

By Sal Santapola

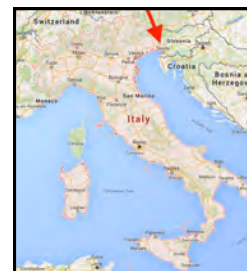


Trieste (*tree-EST*) is a city and seaport in northeastern Italy. It is the capital city, and largest city, of the autonomous region of Friuli Venezia Giulia, one of two autonomous regions which are not subdivided into provinces and covers an area of 4,883 miles and is the fifth smallest region of the country.

Trieste is located at the head of the Gulf of Trieste, on a narrow strip of Italian territory lying between the Adriatic Sea and Slovenia; Settlement in the area can be traced back to the 3rd millennium BCE. By the second century it was part of the Roman Republic. The name Tergeste, was recorded by Julius Caesar.

orded by Julius Caesar.

Due to its position and its port, it benefited from an influx of wealthy, international merchants and entrepreneurs. In the early 19th century, Trieste was a popular place for artists and writers. The collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and Trieste's annexation to Italy after World War I, led to a decline in its economic and cultural importance. The city lost its strategic and commercial influence.



The cosmopolitan city, which in the Habsburg period remained Italian-speaking and rose to become a leading Italian and European cultural center, was incorporated into the Kingdom of Italy in 1922 following the First World War. After the Second World War it was the capital of the Free Territory of Trieste, staying for nine years under Allied Military administration. Following the 1954 London Memorandum, Trieste was annexed by Italy. Since 1963 it has been the capital of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia.

A combination of geographic and historical factors has made Trieste a city unique in its time and a fascinating place to visit. It is not the typical Italian city you may expect to visit. It has maintained its cultural diversity because of its heterogeneous history and the different ethnic groups that live here side by side. A unique atmosphere can be felt in Trieste, as a border town, a melting pot of diverse cultures: Italian, Austrian-German, Croatian and Greek. Trieste is about a 2-hour ride by train from Venice.



Piazza Unità d'Italia (Unity of Italy Square) is the main square of Trieste. The rectangular piazza, located at the foot of the San Giusto Hill, opens on one side onto the Gulf of Trieste. It is considered the largest seafront square in Europe. Several prestigious and important buildings line the square including the Town Hall, the Palazzo del Lloyd Triestino, the Palazzo del Governo and the Palazzo Pitteri - Each of which features a stunning design and beautiful architecture. It is an absolute must to stop and sit in one of the old cafés lining the square.

The port and harbor of Trieste is hugely impressive as it serves as the city's principal form of economy. The entire coastline next to Trieste is occupied by either the public harbor or the commercial shipping operations. These two parts of the city offer some fantastic and interesting sights.

Located in the heart of the historic old town, near to the Piazza Unita, the **Grand Canal** is a small waterway that has stood since the 1700's to allow boats direct access into the city to unload their cargo. This pleasant waterway is crossed by three bridges and has numerous boats moored at each side. Stop by one of the fine restaurants and cafes with outdoor seating.



Cathedral of Saint Giustois dedicated to Saint Justus and serves as the main church of the city. Originally constructed in 1320, the church features a Romanesque and Gothic design, and the front façade has a huge circular window with a beautiful lattice design. Inside the church features a plethora of decoration and the archways in the main aisle are covered with colored patterns and ornate sculptures. The dome of the main altar is covered with a stunning fresco that is bursting with a myriad of bright colors. There are several mosaics and works of art depicting the Our Lady of the Assumption.

There are so many other wonderful things to do and see in Trieste and walking the streets one can easily have the feeling of being in a different country.

Trieste's most famous dishes is called **Ljubljanska**. Which is a huge meat dish with breaded pork cutlet filled with ham and cheese. The term *buffet* in Trieste describes restaurants that offer traditional food that mostly consist of meat. Boiled meat in various cuts, sausages, goulash and the famous cooked ham from Trieste. Do expect to find flavors such as horseradish and sauerkraut, because once again this culinary tradition has a lot to share with that of Austria and Hungary.

For more information got to: [What to do in Trieste, our favorite city in Italy | Travel Breathe Repeat](#)
Next up Little Known Villages in Italy - Gubbio & Atrani

November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Club Rented
6 Club Rented	7 Club Social 1:00PM	8	9	10	11	12
13 Gen Mtg 1:00PM	14	15	16	17 STG Prep 10:00AM	18 Spaghetti to Go 5-7 PM	19 Club Rented
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



General Meeting/Thanksgiving
Members & their Guests Only
 Sunday, November 13th, 2022 @ 1:00 PM.

MENU:

Ham, Green Bean Casserole, Red Skin Potatoes, Rolls, Pumpkin Pie

HOST:

John Corsi



DONATIONS:

Members: \$15, Guests: \$17, 8-17: \$8, 7& Under: Free



RSVP's are for maximum headcount of 90 people OR
Wednesday, November 9th, 2022 WHICHEVER COMES FIRST
 using Evite (preference) OR rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com



Volume 27
Issue 265

Italian American Club of Jacksonville
PO Box 600725
Jacksonville, FL 32260
904-586-2700



www.iacofjacksonville.com

Club Social

Monday, November 7th, 2022 @ 1:00 PM

General Meeting

Sunday, November 13th, 2022 @ 1:00 PM

Spaghetti to Go

Friday, November 18th, 2022 @ 5:00 PM



DECEMBER

- Club Social - 5
- BOD Meeting - 7
- Christmas Party 11
- Spaghetti to Go - 16
- New Year's Eve - 31

