

Volume 26  
Issue 250  
August  
2021

# ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB of JACKSONVILLE



## President's Message

Greetings Members!

I hope this newsletter finds each of you happy and healthy!

As we have slipped into the second half of 2021, it will start to get a little busier at the club. In August we will have our Club Social meeting on August 2nd at 1:00. There is nothing to interfere with it this time! Come and hang out with us! We will have things to do to entertain you but the best part is you will get to know more of the members of the club. Also on August 19th, we will be doing Bunco again! That will start at 7:00 and it's \$10.00 to play. There are five payouts at the end of the night. We will be sending out an Evite to let us know who will be attending. This will let us know how many tables to set up. Twelve is a good number but it's fun with even more!

In **September**, we will have a night of cocktails and dancing! **Carlo Clemente, along with some of his special friends, offer their talents with music for us to dance to.** Entrance donation is \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 a couple. You will receive a ticket for one free drink of your choice and we will be providing finger foods. Also don't forget about the Club Social on Sept. 6th. We will begin Spaghetti To Go again at the end of the month in September, always the last Friday.

October will bring us into the beginning of fall. This year we will be doing **Festa Italiana but for one day only and that will be October 9th.** We haven't done it for a couple of years due to the pandemic and we are looking forward to a wonderful time. We will also have STG on the 29th and we will be having a Halloween Party with a DJ! Start looking for a costume now!

As you can see, the club is trying to get back into the groove of things with activities for everyone.

Please note in this month's newsletter, **a proposed change to the bylaws.** We will be voting on this at the September General Meeting. The proposed change is on **page 4.** Please read it.

Look forward to seeing you all at the General Meeting/Dinner on August 22nd.

Ciao for now,  
Melanie

## OFFICERS

Melanie Matrascia  
**President**  
Vinny Zammataro  
**Vice President**  
Mike Matrascia  
**Treasurer**  
Sal Santapola  
**Asst. Treasurer & Membership Dir.**  
MaryAnn Wetzel  
**Secretary**  
Elizabeth Dore  
**Club Chef**  
Tom Cody  
**Club Chaplain**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ann Clemente  
Carlo Clemente  
Joe Farina  
Eunice Manzo  
Anne Stepp  
Al Zammataro





**BIRTHDAYS**

**BUON COMPLEANNO!**

**August**

Matrascia, Michael	1
Zumpano, Andrew	2
Cortese, Mario	6
Rogero, Marcia	6
Cortese, Lucy	10
Giardino, Angelo	14
Bilello, Lou	15
Francis, Ramona	15
Ametrano, David	18
Francis, David	18
Vesce, Mena	18
Abbateiello, Al	22
Santapola, Sal	23
Sheen, Ann	24
Farina, Catherine	29

*Welcome New Members !*

Dionna Bellizzi  
 Joe & Diane Frisco  
 Howard & Mary Glavin  
 Greg & Janice Holycross  
 Tom & Janet Sohacki  
 Woody & Delores Stephens  
 Andrew Zumpano



**CLUB SOCIAL**

**Monday, August 2nd @ 1:00 PM**



**ANNIVERSARIES**

**FELICE ANNIVERSARIO!**

**August**

Cosentino, Jack & Karen Lee	1
Fiorentino, Matt & Susan	4
Farina, Joe & Catherine	6
Clemente, Carlo & Ann	25
DeMarino, George & Karon	25
Monfiletto, Pete & Tina	28
Holycross, Greg & Janice	30
Corsi, John & Rebecca	31

**Volunteer!**



**Have YOU Volunteered?**

**Get Involved!**

**Cooking, Serving, Cleaning,**

**Check in, Yard Work, Spaghetti to Go, Newsletter Con-  
tribution, Set Up, Club Sitting and much more.**

**This is YOUR Club!!**

# August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <b>Club Social</b> 1:00 PM	3	4 <b>Board Meeting</b> 6:30 PM	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 <b>Bunco</b> 7:00 PM	20	21
22 <b>Gen Meeting</b> 1:00 PM	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## General Meeting/Dinner

Sunday, August 22, 2021 @ 1:00 PM.



### MENU:

Italian Style Meatloaf, Mashed potatoes,  
Peas, Salad, Bread, Chocolate Cake



### HOST:

Elizabeth Dore

### DONATIONS:

**Members: \$15.00 Guests: \$17.00 Under 8: Free**

Please RSVP *no later than Noon, Wednesday, August 18th, 2021*

using **Evite (preference)** OR [rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com](mailto:rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com)

OR call the Club at **904-586-2700**



PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE

We are proposing an amendment to the by-laws, changing the term the elected Board serves from one year to two years.

Currently, ARTICLE IX, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 3 reads:

Section 3. Directors, shall be elected by the membership. Terms of office are for one (1) year, from January 1 to December 31.

Proposed amendment will read:

Section 3. Directors, shall be elected by the membership. Terms of office are for two (2) years, from January 1 to December 31.

The vote to pass the amendment will be held at the September General Meeting in accordance with the By-Laws regarding amendments, below:

ARTICLE XIV, AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to the by-laws shall appear in newsletter 1 (one) month prior to the meeting that they are to be voted on.

Section 2. Provided a quorum is met at the general membership meeting, any submitted amendments to this document will require a two-thirds (2/3) approval vote of the membership present at the meeting.

Learn



Italian

Are you Interested in Italian Lessons?

The Club is *possibly* offering lessons, dependent upon the response, with instructor Maria Petrotta. Lessons are \$15 per lesson per person, beginning September. If you are interested, please send an email to [rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com](mailto:rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com) indicating you would like to participate and also any other questions you might have.



## MY SECRET GUIDE

### TO FABULOUS FOOD...WHERE I STEAL MY RECIPES

Lucia Cortese

*I love to cook and live to eat. When I'm happy I cook. Angry or sad, I slam pots and pans and create new dishes that lift the spirits and delight the palate. I do get advice from the masters of cooking. I bow to the experts of the culinary arts. After my 1st teacher Mama Giardino, these are my top five saints of cuisine.*

1. ITALIAN REGIONAL COOKING by Ada Boni. Americans used to Southern Italian cooking are amazed at the variety of recipes born in the 15 regions of Bella Italia. This international cookbook celebrates authentic dishes from seafood to veggies and of course, pastas. This is for cooks ready to take Italian to the next level of excellence...my fav!
2. JOY OF COOKING by Irma Rombaur and Marion Rombaur Becker. As a new bride, I turned to this book several times a day for recipes and easy cooking tips: breaking eggs, cutting meat, how to set up a basic kitchen and wonderful recipes. It is the best gift for newly weds...I always give it at bridal showers.
3. MASTERING THE ART OF FRENCH COOKING by Julia Child. This was popularized by the movie Julie and Julia and remains a classic after 50 years. It takes the complexity of French recipes and simplifies. From the rich sauces to the lighter fare, directions are step-by-step and produce scrumptious results...bon appétit!
4. RECIPES FOR A SMALL PLANET by Ellen Buchman Ewald. The author of Diet for a Small Planet provides ways to stay healthy by cooking and eating properly. Vegetarian recipes are exciting and tasty, not dull and bland. When I cook these I am helping Mother Earth and hubby Mario's good nutrition too.
5. SOUTHERN COOKING BIBLE by Paula Deen. These recipes capture the smells, tastes and love emanating from the kitchen of my Georgia neighbor. They don't call it comfort food for nothin'! I adore these butter laden, savory dishes which bring out the GRITS in me (Girl Raised in the South).

Remember the advice of all great cooks...slow food beats fast food any day. And as the Italian proverb says: Pan di sudore, miglior sapore. Translation: (Literally) Bread that comes out of sweat, tastes better!

**COME JOIN US FOR BUNCO!**

**Thursday, August 19, 2021 @ 7:00 PM**

**\$10 to Play!**

**\$\$\$ 5 PAYOUTS! \$\$\$**



## Italian Heritage: Best Hidden Gems in Italy

By Sal Santapola

The recent Hidden Gem reviews were focused on the northern region of Italy. We move to one of the most popular tourist destinations in Southern Italy, the Amalfi Coast. Located in the Campania region, in a small corner of Southern Italy between the Gulf of Naples and the gulf of Salerno in the Province of Salerno. The actual coast is about 30 miles long and follows a winding two lane road with the sea on one side and



mountains on the other. Thousands of tourists annually visit the area to see the most magnificent views on the surrounding landscapes, drive winding coastal roads and explore romantic historic attractions. In 1997 The Amalfi Coast earned their place on UNESCO World Heritage list.



There are 13 towns in the Amalfi Coast and most visitors go to the popular sea-side towns of Amalfi, Capri and Positano overlooking Ravello. Ravello (ruh veh low) is set on a hilltop above the dizzying landscape of the coast, it features some of the best views in the region. Geographically, Ravello is different from most of the other towns because it sits above the coastline with an elevation of 365 m (1,198 ft). Largely traffic-free, this peaceful town is full of amazing gardens and some are covered in lemon growing terraces.

Have you every tasted Limoncello? It is the second most popular liqueur in Italy after Campari and you can purchase it or enjoy it at the many restaurants. What is Limoncello? Take lemons peels soak them in pure alcohol, water and sugar. Italians drink it in a shot glass after a meal and Italians believe it's good for digestion, but you can drink it anytime.

The origins of Ravello date back to the roman era. It was the Middle Ages that gave it wealth and status, when the inhabitants were involved in maritime trade with the Orient. The newly enriched families of that age built castles, villas, churches and civic buildings to show tier wealth and to rival their richer, influential neighbor town. Ravello was known as "Rebellum" (rebel).



Ravello has severed historically as a destination for artists, musicians and writers, known for its musical events. Names such as: Giovanni, Boccaccio, Richard Wagner, Leonard Bernstein, Tennessee Williams, Greta Garbo, Jacqueline Kennedy, Truman Capote and many more celebrities have been to Ravello and many more come every year.

The nickname "City of Music" is mainly related to the Ravello Festival, one of the most important cultural and social events on the Amalfi Coast which began in 1953. Every year music lovers and musicians come to celebrate the outdoor concerts in the beautiful settings. The Belvedere of Villa Rufolo, with its 800 seats, is the heart of the Festival, but also other villas and gardens, in small evocative locations, become stages for classical music. Many musical moments are dedicated to Richard Wagner a great German composer of dramatic operas and musical works. Richard

Wagner stayed in Ravello and the gardens of Villa Rufolo inspired his work, Parsifal.



Villa Rufolo is a famous attraction for thousands of visitors. It hsd a historic building dating back to the 12th century and famous for its cloisters and terraces overlooking the Amalfi Coast. Inside the villa, there are works of art, and furnishings of inestimable value.

Villa Cimbrone is a beautiful garden open to the public. With Gothic and neoclassical architectural elements on the alleys that surround it, immersed in gardens of valuable and colorful plant species.

Holy places to visit are the Church of San Giovanni del Toro (named for John the Apostle) dating back to 1000. It has beautiful treasures arcades and especially know for the pulpit which is notable for it's mosaics and built in the eleventh– century. One mosaic is of Jonah emerging from the whale. Visit the smaller church of Santa Maria a Gradillo (11th Century) and the Church of the Annunciation, now used for the European University for Cultural heritage meetings.



Walking around the town you will enjoy the natural light reflected by the houses, the narrow streets, charming squares, great atmosphere and the spectacular views which are unique in Ravello. Spend some time in the main square, Piazza Centrale, looks a bit more well-kept and not quite as rustic as some other squares in towns on Amalfi Coast. This lovely square is the perfect place to relax with a delicious cake or a creamy espresso. In many of the squares there are clubs, pubs, pizzerias, restaurants, antiques shops, boutiques, and deli-cateassens. In the summer evenings these same streets turn into stages for music bands playing jazz, folk, rock and classical music.

For more information about Ravello click on the link [visitbeautifulitaly.com](http://visitbeautifulitaly.com). Next up Verona, Veneto



Volume 26  
Issue 250

Italian American Club  
PO Box 600725  
Jacksonville, FL 32260  
904.586.2700



[www.iacofjacksonville.com](http://www.iacofjacksonville.com)

# August



**Club Social**

**Monday, August 2nd @ 1:00 PM**



**Board Meeting Wednesday, August 4th @ 6:30 PM**

**Bunco Night! Thursday, August 19th, 2021 @ 7:00 PM**

**General Meeting, Sunday August 22, 2021 @ 1:00 PM**

We are sending our prayers to all those members who may be "under the weather" at this time. Don't forget to let Ann Clemente, our Sickness & Distress chairperson, know of any of our members needing a caring card from our membership. You can reach her at 904/502-8311

