

May 2023
Volume 28
Issue 271

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.*

IAC Update

Hallo an alle,

We hope you are all enjoying the beautiful spring weather!

We had a wonderful General Meeting in April with a delicious meal prepared by John Corsi. It was wonderful to see all who attended. We hope you enjoyed the meal and sharing our Italian Heritage. There was a nice video tour through Polignano a Mare and a short comical video of “The Bensonhurst Spelling Bee”, which I’m sure your Uncle Tony from New York would have spelled each “Italian” word.

Our membership is the most important part of our club and we are happy to see it growing. Thank you to all for making our prospective members feel so welcome. Speaking of membership, now is a good time to remind you that a renewal email will be sent to everyone in May with the information for the 2023 –2024 membership dues. Remember to check your spam folders for anything that is sent from rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com so you don’t miss anything. We are grateful for our membership and hope you spend another year with us!

Be sure to read the change proposed for the bylaws in the newsletter as we will be voting to accept the proposal at the May General Meeting.

This is an election year for the club. For our new members that have not yet participated in an election, we will be sending information and updates via email and newsletter, as well as speaking about it at our General Meetings. Our Elected Officers and Board members serve a 2 year term. If you are interested in running for an Officer or Board position, feel free to ask our current Board about the positions and responsibilities. There is also information in our bylaws. If you do not have a copy of the bylaws and would like one, please email rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com and request a copy. It is a printable PDF file.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the May General Meeting. Check the calendar in this newsletter for the May events.

Saluti!

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





We are sad to share the news that our friend and member Nick Cirillo has passed away. Much Sympathy to his family and friends.

Our condolences to Larry Daley on the loss of his mother, Joan. Much sympathy to Larry and his family.

News!



We will now be selling 50/50 raffle at the door and throughout the general meeting rather than going around to each table.

We're looking for a few volunteers to help sell tickets each month.

Send an email to rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com if you are interested in helping. You will need to be at the club and ready to sell by 12:30 PM on General Meeting days. Thanks in advance for volunteering!



Carlo Clemente

Paul Soriano

Melanie Matrascia

SPAGHETTI TO GO!

Friday, May 26th, 2023

Starts at 5PM and serving until the food runs out.

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, May 1st, 2023 @ 1:00 PM

Come join your fellow IAC members to play some games, chat, snack just a little and spend times with friends!



BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

To be voted on at the May 21st General Meeting

Article VIII Officers & Their Duties

Current – May 2022 IAC Bylaws

Section 6. The Secretary is responsible for all club correspondence as directed by the President.
a. He/she shall record and report the Minutes of the general monthly meeting and the monthly Board of Directors meeting and shall maintain file copies of the proceeding.

Proposed

Section 6: The Secretary shall record and report the minutes of the monthly Board of Directors meeting and any special Board of Directors meeting and shall maintain file copies of the proceedings.

1. He/She shall notify the Board of Directors of all board meetings including time and location.
 2. He/She shall create the Board of Directors agenda, attach a copy along with the minutes with the meeting notice and send to the Board of Directors.
- He/She shall submit an event announcement to the local community newspapers of any events open to the public.

Meatball Stew From the Kitchen of Mary Ann Wetzel

2 lbs 80/20 Beef
1 lb ground pork
1 lb ground Veal
2 cups seasoned bread crumbs
2 cups freshly grated Locatella Cheese
Minced garlic to taste
2-3 eggs beaten
Fresh chopped parsley
Salt and pepper to taste

Mix ingredients together. If too dry add milk or warm water a little at a time to proper meatball consistency. Firm meatballs into golf ball size. Approx 48 small meatballs. Bake on a sheet pan for 20 minutes at 350 degrees.

1 small onion finely diced
4 cloves of minced garlic
4 tablespoons EVOO
4 Boiled Potatoes peeled and cut into large pieces
4 pounds flat green beans or pole beans trimmed and blanched.
4 large cans of San Marzano crushed plum tomatoes - good quality needed.
Salt and pepper to taste.

Sauté the onion in the oil then add the garlic, and add the crushed tomatoes. Add the semi cooked meatballs. Bring sauce to a boil and then simmer one hour.

Add the blanched green beans and potatoes. Season with salt and pepper and cook for an additional 15 minutes or until the potatoes are tender. Serve and enjoy with a salad and crusty bread.

This recipe is even better the next day.





Basic Italian Phrases

Reference [101 Basic Italian Phrases for Travel to Practise Before Your Trip \(untolditaly.com\)](http://untolditaly.com)

So let's get started with the common Italian phrases and words that will be most useful to you and on your travels.

- ◆ Yes – **Si** – See
- ◆ No – **No** – Noh
- ◆ Please – **Per favore** – Pehr fah-**voh**-reh
- ◆ Thank you – **Grazie** – **Grah**-tsee-eh
- ◆ You're welcome – **Prego** – **Preh**-goh
- ◆ Cheers! (To your health) – **Salute!** – **Sah**-loo-tay
- ◆ Excuse me (for attention) – **Scusi** – **Skoo**h-zee
- ◆ Excuse me (to pass by) – **Permesso** – Pehr-**mehs**-soh
- ◆ Do you speak English? – **Parla Inglese?** – Parh-la een-**glay**-zeh
- ◆ I don't understand – **Non capisco** – Non **kah**-pee-skoh
- ◆ I'm sorry – **Mi dispiace** – Mee dees-**pyah**-ch eh

Common greetings in Italian

One thing we really love about visiting Italy is the cultural differences and norms. In Italy, saying “good morning” is not simply a throwaway line. You should always greet people wherever you go – when entering a shop or restaurant, to hotel staff, on the bus or at a cultural sight. It's the expected thing to do.

A friendly “buon giorno!” with a smile will go a long way. So here are the most common Italian greetings and their context so you get it right! Generally you use the formal with people you don't know, especially older people. The informal is used between friends.

- ◆ Good morning (formal) – **Buon giorno** – Bwohn-**johr**-noh
- ◆ Good afternoon (formal) – **Buona sera** – **Bwoh**-nah-**seh**-rah
- ◆ Good night (formal) – **Buona notte** – **Bwoh**-nah-**noh**-teh
- ◆ Hi / Bye (informal) – **Ciao!** – Chow
- ◆ Good bye (formal) – **Arrivederci** – **Ahr**-ree-veh-**dehr**-chee
- ◆ My name is ... – **Mi chiamo** – Mee **kyah**-moh
- ◆ What is your name? – **Come si chiama?** – **Koh**-meh see **kyah**-mah?
- ◆ Pleased to meet you – **Piacere** – **Pyah**-**ch eh**-reh
- ◆ How are you? (formal) – **Come sta?** – **Koh**-meh stah?
- ◆ Good thank you – **Bene grazie** – **Beh**-neh **grah**-tsee-eh

Next month's issue of the Newsletter we will discuss how to say numbers in Italian and telling the time and days of the week.

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Club Social 1:00PM	2	3 Board Mtg 6:30PM	4	5	6 *Club Rented*
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 *Club Rented*
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Gen Mtg Pot Luck	22	23	24	25 STG Prep 10AM	26 Spaghetti to Go 5PM to 7PM	27 Alhambra (offsite)
28	29	30	31			

May General Meeting

Sunday, May 21st, 2023 @ 1:00 PM.

MENU:

Pot Luck!

The Club will be providing Roasted Chicken

HOST:

IAC Board and Members!

DONATIONS:

Donation Basket & a Dish

Your Donation Greatly Appreciated

RSVP's are for maximum headcount of 80 people OR
Wednesday, May 17th, 2023 WHICHEVER COMES FIRST
 using Evite (Preferred) OR rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com

OR call the Club at 904-586-2700

We cannot reserve tables for this event.

PLEASE DO NOT ANSWER WITH MAYBE. ANY MAYBE RSVPS WILL BE CHANGED TO NO.

IT'S YOUR CHANCE TO WIN



\$1,500



In Cash Prizes

ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB MEMBERS & GUESTS REVERSE RAFFLE

ONLY 100 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD - DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN!

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 5PM TO 9PM

2838 Westberry Road, Jacksonville, FL 32223

Lasagna Dinner begins at 5:30pm

\$50 Donation per Ticket

**Our Goal is to generate over \$3,500 earmarked for
the club's new Air Conditioner**

GRAND PRIZE \$1,000

10 CASH PRIZES - \$25 - \$100 PLUS 10 GIFT CARDS

You have 1 out of 4 chances to win!!!

Cash Bar –Door Prizes—Heads & Tails - 50/50

Sponsor a Table

Receive -

- 8 Reverse Draw tickets
- 8 Heads & Tails
- Table Sign
- Recognition at the event
- Name in the Newsletter

Donation \$550

Reservations can be made at our
General Meeting. or Contact the Club
rsvp@iacofjacksonville.com

You can mail in reservations with your
check to IAC P.O. Box 600725

St Johns, FL 22260

To date we have booked
48 Reservations

Note - If we don't sell 100 tickets we will adjust the Cash Payouts.

REVERSE DRAW OR REVERSE RAFFLE

What is Reverse Draw or Reverse Raffle?

A limited number of tickets (suggest one hundred) sold for a predetermined price (suggest \$50). A member of the club can invite guests who can also purchase tickets. **We can sell tickets, but you do not have to be present to win!**

How does it work?

One hundred tickets at \$50 will generate \$5,000. Goal is to give the club \$3,500 minus expenses and give the balance of the money away.

Prizes are: six tickets drawn at \$50 each (\$300), one ticket drawn at \$100 each (\$100) and four tickets at \$25 (\$100). Final prize is \$1000. Total prizes in cash are twelve. If the final four split the \$1000 than the total cash prizes given away is fifteen.

Upon entering the event, people will draw their number. All one hundred numbers are drawn at random when the game begins.

Numbers are drawn at random. The people with the last four numbers drawn may split the \$1,000 GRAND PRIZE or continue to draw numbers until there is one winner. Each round they will have a maximum of 2 minutes for discussion and if any ONE person wants to continue, the raffle will go on. If there is an agreement to stop, the GRAND PRIZE will be split. If one of the final numbers is a person not present but purchased a number, that number will have no input as to what the next step is.

In addition if you did not win a cash prize, you will have a chance to win a gift certificate.

HEADS & TAILS GAME/PAY OUT IS 50% OF TOTAL MONEY

- Purchase Beaded Necklace—Maximum 3 for \$5.00 each.
- Place Necklace over your head
- Place your hands on your head or butt
- Coin is flip showing heads or tails
- If your hands are on your head and the coin is heads, you stay in the game
- If Your hands are on your butt and the coin is tails, you stay in the game
- If your hands are on your head and the coin says tails, you are out of the game
- If your hands are on your tail and the coin says heads, you are out of the game
- If you purchased more than one Necklace and lost the round, you give up that Necklace
- The game moves on until there is one person left and that would be the winner!

Italian Heritage

Best Hidden Gems in Italy

By Sal Santapola



Saluzzo [[sa'luttso](#)] is a small town in the province of Cuneo, in the Piedmont region of north west Italy. The city of Saluzzo is built on a hill overlooking a vast, well-cultivated plain. Iron, lead, silver, marble, slate etc. are found in the surrounding mountains. The population is approximately 17,000. The town has kept much of its 15th century old town intact, located on a hill and originally enclosed by a double ring of walls. The historic center of Saluzzo includes a whole series of cobbled streets, steep staircases, churches and elegant palaces to explore and admire. The Piedmont region of Italy was kept under pressure for about five centuries by Saluzzo and its marquises who maintained close ties with neighboring France.



There are many things to do in Saluzzo, including museums and walking around a town that looks like the set of a fairytale movie.

The upper part of the medieval town is dominated by the fortress, called **La Castiglia**, dating back to the XI century. It held, once, the power of the marquis and over time its towers and thick walls were used for different purposes. In fact, it became a prison. Today is a cultural center for the Museums of Chivalric Civilization and Prison Memory as well as an amazing collection of contemporary art. A must visit and ask the staff to admire the view from the guard walkways!



Visit the nineteenth-century district, the great open air living room of the city: Corso Italia, Via Silvio Pellico and Piazza Risorgimento, Piazza Cavour and Piazza Garibaldi await you with their cozy cafes and restaurants.

The Ancient Town Hall where the city's rulers met from the 15th century onwards. Climb the steps to the Civic Tower to enjoy the incredible view of Monviso, all the Alps and the fertile plains surrounding Saluzzo. A gem not to be missed, in the same building: the Matteo Olivero art gallery.

By visiting the Casa Cavassa Civic Museum and the nearby church of San Giovanni with the marquises' funeral chapel. Do not forget the cloister where you can admire the Chapel of Galeazzo Cavassa and enjoy a good coffee in the quiet cafeteria.



The Cathedral of Saluzzo also known as the Cathedral, dedicated to the Virgin Mary of the Assumption, stands out for its Late-Gothic forms; built outside the walls just beyond Porta Santa Maria between 1491 and 1501, it was a bishop's seat starting from 1511.



From May to October do not miss the "world tour" to discover biodiversity: thousands of plants, flowers and unique species have found their perfect habitat in the botanical garden of Villa Bricherasio, which you can discover accompanied by the curious and enthusiastic stories of Domenico Montevocchi.

Go and meet the peasants of the hill that animate the "Mercà d'le fumne" - the market of the women - in the ancient Maestra district, on Wednesdays and Saturdays do not miss the great weekly market in the streets of the city and the fragrant stalls of the farmers, full of color and typical products.

One highlight of note to visit near Saluzzo is the medieval **Staffarda Abbey**, and you can also visit the Castello della Manto just south of the town to admire the frescoes in this austere medieval fortress.



Finally you should complete your visit with the cuisine of Saluzzo which offers a number of interesting local products, including some cheeses such as the so-called "paglierine" and other cheeses from the Alps. Among the most popular meat dishes try those of Cavour or the 'white hen' of Saluzzo.

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



www.iacofjacksonville.com

Club Social

Monday, May 1st, 2023 @ 1:00 PM

Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023 @ 6:30PM

General Meeting

Sunday, May 21st, 2023 @ 1:00 PM

Spaghetti to Go

Friday, May 26th, 2023 @ 5:00 PM

