

The Grandsons of Italy Newsletter-April 2009

The Next Meeting of the Grandsons of Italy will take place on April 11, 2009 at the BLUE OX TAVERN, 5825 W. Sahara Avenue, southeast corner of Sahara & Jones in the shopping mall adjacent to the Burlington Coat Factory; Arrive at 11:30 AM; Lunch and Meeting from 12:00 to 2:00 PM.

Agenda for the April 11, 2009 Meeting:

- 1) Acceptance of the Minutes of March 14, 2009
- 2) Treasury Report & Committee Reports & Assignments
- 3) Spring Picnic-May 16, 2009 (See Page 3)
- 4) GOI Website & Upcoming Events
- 5) Adjournment

MINUTES OF THE GOI MEETING HELD ON March 14, 2009

PRESENT: J. Amato, L. Amoia, A. Bruges, C.B. Gallo, R. Camillo, R. Candeloro, F. Cassarino, M. Castronova, G. Colella, L. Cordone, R. DiThomas, R. Failla, J. Faulis, D. Gaglione, T. Giampa, N. LaMonte, V. Lentini, D. Mencarelli, F. Pormigiano, A. Prescia, E. Sagui, S. Sciolino, D. Scuderi, J. Zingale. **GUESTS:** U. Pelliccia, G. Parente, C. Zoppi, E. Baglioni

- 1) Meeting called to order and opened at 12:19 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The minutes of the February 14th meeting were accepted and approved.
- 2) E. Sagui remarked that dues are in order if unpaid.
- 3) M. Castranova reported that the treasury balance is \$995.94 after payment of \$75.00 for use of the May picnic facility. A partial refund will be returned.
- 4) J. Faulis reported that the first picnic will be held on Saturday, May 16th at Rainbow Park located on Oakey just west of Rainbow. This is a change from the previously reported Summerlin location. Sausage, rolls, condiments, ice and water will be provided by the Club. The question of hot dog and hamburger availability remains unresolved. Members who will be bringing side dishes for sharing are asked to inform John at the April meeting. Extra tables and chairs will be available but it is suggested that lawn chairs be brought. A head count will be needed at the April meeting to assure proper food amounts. A buffet table will be set up. In addition, there will be a nominal \$2.00 charge per person this year. The park pavilion is reserved for the Club from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Plan on eating between 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m. Alcoholic beverages are allowed but must remain inside the pavilion area.
- 5) E. Sagui comments that the Christmas Party date and location needs to be resolved early this year. D. Gaglione reminds everyone about the Italian Fair on March 28th at the Sahara West Library. Volunteer singers and entertainers are still being sought. There will be food, activities, gelato and raffles at the Fair. A committee meeting will be held Monday, March 16th to work out remaining details. Relief workers offers of assistance will be gratefully accepted.
- 6) D. Scuderi notes that 8-9 members/wives attended the hockey game at the Orleans on Friday, March 13th. The next game date for group attendance will be determined. D. Gaglione working on arrangements for an April date 51's baseball game for group attendance on a promo night. Season starts April 17th; Dick will advise further with particulars. M. Castranova reports that 20 teams participated in Bocce league play on March 11th at the courts behind the Italian American Club (IAC) on E. Sahara. Club members' teams turned in winning performances. Congrats to Sal Sciolino, Mike Castranova, Lou Cordone and other players of their teams. Games are played every Wednesday and Thursday evenings.
- 7) The Clubs best wishes are extended to Sal Rainone and Donna DiThomas (Richie) who have experienced recent illness. D. Gaglione asks that if any member becomes aware of another member/family health problem or infirmity please let him know.
- 8) V. Lentini, Chair of the Speakers Committee notes that at the April or May meeting, presentations to the membership will be made by Lucia Collazio (sic) and/or Mr. Leone. Ms. Collazio is an instructor of the Italian language at CSN. Mr. Leone is president of the Musicians Association here in Las Vegas.
- 9) The Club welcomed several guests to the meeting. Giovanni Parente, Ugo Pelliccia, Carlo Zoppi and Emilio Baglioni. Each introduced himself and provided brief bios on their interesting histories. Giovanni and Carlo became new members at the conclusion of the meeting. Welcome.

- 10) F. Cassarino reminded the Club of his intent to donate important Disney illustrations created by his brother Gian Richard Cassarino for auction purposes. Frank notes that we give so that we may receive and that is the spirit in which the donation is made. The donation is likewise made in his brother's memory. Bravo, Frank.
- 11) E. Sagui made available to members a leaflet describing how to recognize and avoid a stroke. D. Gaglione thanked T. Prescia for the pizzelles made by his wife and offered to meeting attendees. Dick reminds everyone that Tony and his singing group, The Nite Kings, appear at various locations in Las Vegas. More info can be obtained on the group and the delicious pizzelles by accessing Tony's web site www.NiteKings.com.
- 12) E. Sagui notes that photos of new members or replacement photos of existing members will be taken at the conclusion of today's meeting.
- 13) Poker night will be Friday, March 20th at the IAC.
- 14) E. Baglioni and Tina Scala - sister of the actress Gia Scala - provided concertina music and Italian songs to briefly entertain the membership. Their presentation was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all. Thank you.
- 15) The 50/50 drawing was won by the holder of ticket #5911111, Carlo Zoppi. The Club and Carlo each received \$40.00. Congratulations Carlo.
- 16) The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Failla

GOI March News Items:

The President's Message

The month of April with spring weather setting in brings back memories of past Easters. It's a holiday for all to celebrate. I remember when everyone got a new outfit for Easter Sunday. The ladies and daughters would show their hats. New suits for Dads and sons while Mothers and daughters strutted to church with impressive outfits. I don't think it is entirely practiced today. But all of the traditional food and baked goods will always be the highlight of the Italian dinners. I remember it started with Minestrone and salad. Naturally we had pasta, meatballs, sausage, and lamb, a tradition. Let us not forget breads baked with butter, sugar, eggs on top encircled with a braid of dough to represent a crown, colored eggs and an egg hunt for the children. Of course poppy seed cake, nut rolls, cheesecake, biscotti, pizzelles, struffili and so much more. Top it off with Vino, Vino, and more Vino. The men sat down to play cards and before you know it, everyone was hungry again. Come to the April 11th GOI Meeting and at the conclusion of our business we will celebrate Easter with traditional Italian cookies, coffee, limoncello and paschal cheer.

Ahhhhhh, Easter and its Traditions!

Buona Pasqua a tutti.

Ciao,

Edward Sagui, President

GOI Web Site

Please visit our Web Site, <http://www.goily.com/> for the latest Newsletter and Meeting Notice, a calendar of upcoming events and a photo gallery of members, officers and past events.

Annual Spring 2009 Picnic

The annual GOI Spring 2009 Picnic will take place on Saturday, May 16, at Rainbow Family Park in Las Vegas which is situated on Oakey Blvd., 0.2 mile west of Rainbow. More details will be forthcoming at the April Meeting and in the May Newsletter. Sausage, hamburgers, rolls, condiments, ice and water will be provided by the Club. A head count will be needed at the April meeting to assure proper food amounts. There will be a nominal \$2.00 charge per person this year. The park pavilion is reserved for the Club from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Plan on eating between 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m. Members bringing side dishes for family style sharing should inform John Faulis at the April meeting. Family and friends of GOI are welcome. A silent auction will take place during the picnic. Anyone wishing to donate items for this auction should notify John Faulis or Mike Castranova at the April or May GOI Meetings.

Sal Rainone at the Italian-American Club (IAC)

GOI member Sal Rainone will be appearing with Mike Bari at the IAC, 2333 East Sahara Avenue in Las Vegas, on Wednesday nights. For more information call the IAC at 457-3866.

Singing at St. Francis

Those attending mass at St. Francis De Sales church are often treated to the voices of GOI member Richie Di Thomas and his wife Donna in choir. Richie and Donna sing there every other Sunday at the 9:30 AM mass.

Mortgages

Louis Cordone, Sr. Loan Officer and Owner of Peachtree Home Loans, has indicated that the current mortgage crisis is partly responsible for the downturn in the US economy. Lou, a GOI member, offers his advice to fellow GOI members regarding this matter. If you need more information and possible strategies for dealing with your present and future mortgage finances, contact Lou at 702-777-4400 or via email at lcordone@peachtreehomeloans.com.

Italian Cards Group

GOI Member Frank Scarlata has started an Italian Cards (Briscola) Group on Wednesdays from 12:00 Noon to 1:30 P.M. at his home in Summerlin. Anyone interested should contact Frank at 702-243-0305.

Social Services

GOI Social Services Information Director George Colella passes along the following two web sites to help you with questions about social security, Medicare and prescription drugs: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp/> and <http://www.ssa.gov/pgm/flash/patty.htm> .

GOI members who need further clarifications and explanations of the above services and also Senior Citizen Protective services as well as Veteran's Administration benefits and services including the Veterans Healthcare System, may call George at 702-456-8823 or 702-328-9781 (Cell).

Nancy's Italian Specialties

Those who have sampled Nancy Prescia's biscotti, pizzelles and struffoli at last year's Picnics, the March 2009 GOI Meeting and last week's Italian Fair at the Sahara West Library, may be interested in obtaining them for the upcoming Easter Holiday. Nancy, wife of GOI member Tony, is offering these items for purchase. **CALL - 702-873-7001 for details.**