

## **The Grandsons of Italy Newsletter**

*The Next Meeting of the Grandsons of Italy will take place on June 13, 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 June 13, 2009 Meeting:**

- 1) Acceptance of the Minutes of May 9, 2009
- 2) Treasury & Committee Reports and Announcements
- 3) Fall Picnic, UNLV Football game, Christmas Party
- 4) Adjournment

### **Minutes of the GOI Meeting held on May 9, 2009**

**Present:** J. Amato Jr., L. Amoia, C.B. Gallo, M. Castranova, G. Colella, R. Failla, J. Faulis, D. Gaglione, J. Gianni, T. Giampa, F. LaDuca, N. LaMonte, V. Lentini, D. Mencarelli, F. Pormigiano, A. Pupa, E. Sagui, F. Scarlata, S. Sciolino, D. Scuderi, Guest: Carl Anderson

- 1) The meeting was called to order and began at 12:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. R. Failla conducted a roll call of those in attendance to coordinate and consolidate the membership list.
- 2) M. Castranova reported that the Treasury balance was \$1,027.25 not including today's collections.
- 3) E. Sagui introduced committee reports. D. Scuderi has collected \$127.00 toward picnic expenses from those planning attendance. J. Faulis notes members will be bringing various prepared dishes for sharing. These will be placed on a common table. Included will be pasta, pizza, eggplant, salads and desserts to mention a few. As usual the club will provide the meats, bottled water, ice, condiments, rolls and tableware. Table cloths will be provided by J. Faulis. E. Sagui reminds everyone of the Silent Auction that will take place. Included so far, will be Disney prints (2), shirts, hats, plaques and some beverages.
- 4) N. LaMonte notes a pending city ordinance prohibiting alcoholic beverages at city parks - status remains unresolved.
- 5) E. Sagui will be providing a list of future UNLV football games for group attendance. Date selections will be from night games due to cooler temperatures.
- 6) E. Sagui notes poker night is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 29th.
- 7) J. Amato comments about a benefit drive for victims of the Italy earthquake. The benefit is to be held Sunday, May 17 at 1pm in the main showroom of the Orleans. The admittance contribution is \$35.00 per person.
- 9) E. Sagui notes that LaVoce is writing an article on the GOI highlighting its social purpose and general mission along with its activities such as Bocce, guest speakers, etc. The GOI logo will be prominently displayed.
- 10) G. Colella advises about local closings of various Vons locations, Desert Chrysler, Luckies and others. In all 2300 units have closed over the last few months.
- 11) E. Sagui notes a camera is not available for member photos at today's meeting. Anyone needing a photo or wanting a remake should let Ed know.
- 12) Guest, Carl Anderson, introduced himself. Carl's mother was from Ricca, Italy and Carl was born in Staten Island, NY. Carl later moved to Putnam, NY and worked 33 years for the NYC Transit Authority. At retirement he came to LV and worked for a while with the LV School District. Welcome Carl.
- 13) V. Lentini notes that the "Love" show currently playing at the Mirage - a takeoff on the Beatles - is very, very good. He also notes the Music Man is playing at the Summerlin Theater.
- 14) D. Gaglione reports 15 folks attended a baseball outing last week; everyone enjoyed the evening.
- 15) The 50/50 drawing produced \$39.00. The winning ticket #591273 was held by Ed Sagui.
- 16) E. Sagui made a motion to adjourn. T. Giampa seconded it and the meeting closed at 1:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ron Failla*

# *GOI June News Items:*

## The President's Message

On Saturday, May 16 the Grandsons of Italy hosted its annual Spring Picnic at Rainbow Family Park. Home-cooked Italian dishes, salads, and luscious deserts supplemented barbecued Italian sausages prepared at home and cooked at the Park by John Faulis who organized and coordinated what has become one of GOI's signature events. Live Italian accordion music took us all on trip down Memory Lane to the times when our families met and celebrated various occasions in a similar manner. A silent auction and a raffle of donated items from Disney lithographs, photographs, beverages to t-shirts and baseball caps highlighted and concluded the festivities. The following day my wife and daughter and I boarded a plane for a Spring Vacation that we had planned to the land of our Grandparents. The beauty of Italy never ceases to amaze - the hills of Tuscany, the canals of Venice, the peacefulness of the lakes. And the food cannot be topped - the prosciutto, the parmesano reggiano, the wines.

*Ciao,*

*Edward Sagui, President*

## GOI Web Site

Please visit our Web Site, <http://www.goilv.com/> for the latest Newsletter and Meeting Notice, a calendar of upcoming events and a photo gallery of members, officers and past events. Any member who has not had his photo installed in the members link on the web site or would like their current photo retaken should speak to GOI President Ed Sagui regarding this matter.

## Italian Music Web Sites

George Colella reports that if you are an Italian music enthusiast, there is web site for you. You can hear Italian music all day by accessing [www.ildiscobolo.net](http://www.ildiscobolo.net) . Rating by George is excellent.

Dick Gaglione has also uncovered a “You tube” site that features three Italian teenagers (14-15 years old) who sing “O Sole Mio” beautifully and remind him of a modern version of the famous “Three Tenors.” These boys have amazing voices! You can see, hear and enjoy them by accessing <http://www.youtube.com:80/watch?v=FqUkUjeF4-c> .

## La Voce Article

In the June 2009 (Volume 8 No. 10) issue of La Voce, a News Magazine that is the Voice of the Italian-American Community in Las Vegas, there is an article with a photo of the Grandsons of Italy on page 14. Pick up a copy at your local restaurant, bakery, library or other establishments that support La Voce. The News Magazine is free of charge at these venues. Copies of the article will also be available at the June 13<sup>th</sup> GOI Meeting.

## Sam Butera

Sam Butera, a Las Vegas legend, since his days as a leading saxophonist for the Louis Prima band, The Witnesses, passed away on June 3, 2009. After Prima died in 1978, Butera continued to perform until his retirement in 2004. Sam was born in New Orleans in 1927 and was a resident of Las Vegas since 1961. He attended meetings of the Grandsons of Italy and told wonderful stories of his career as a stellar lounge show performer in Las Vegas. He will be missed but still lives in the memories of music lovers. GOI extends its heartfelt condolences to his wife, Vera, and their family.