



ECCO, LA PRIMAVERA!

CELEBRATING SICILY

WHEN YOU THINK of Sicily what comes to mind? Cannoli and arancine? The Greek temples of Agrigento, Segesta and Selinute? The magnificent cathedrals in Palermo, Monreale or Cefalu? Taormina and its amphitheater? Or maybe Mt. Etna erupting?

In the month of March, there will be four events celebrating Sicily. We start off on March 5th with the ninth “Paint Italy” workshop focusing on the city of Cefalu with la Rocca and Duomo di Cefalu dominating the landscape. On March 12th, we present our annual Festa di San Giuseppe dinner featuring Sicilian cuisine. On March 13th, Sharie Sbrazza will start the Sundays at the Center “Regions of Italy” series with a presentation on traveling in Sicily. Lastly, on March 20th, Dr. Douglas Kenning returns to the Center for a lecture entitled “2,600 Years of Sicilian Art and Architecture”.

MEMBER DINNER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ONE DOLLAR PRICE INCREASE: The NBICF board of directors has voted to increase the price of adult dinners to \$15 for members and \$17 for non-members. The increase begins with the April dinner. Price increase reflects costs for food, wine, and paid staff. Room decorating, table set-up, serving and clean-up are all done by NBICF volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering at dinners, please call our office at 707-591-9696.

SEATING ARRANGEMENTS: Table reservations can only be made when reserving for a group of 8 by calling 707-591-9696 and leaving the names of all in the party. All reservations must be prepaid by deadline for each dinner.

CRAB FEED REPORT: The 2016 Crab Feed Fundraiser was a great success! We raised over \$2,200 for the Foundation’s charitable activities. Thanks to those who contributed to our raffle; Susan Adler, Randy Apel, Bella Rosa Coffee, Char Bonfantini, Maggie Brothers, Sharie Sbrazza of Andiamo Travel, The Schulz Museum and Marie Wilson. Also, thanks to all the volunteers and staff who helped make this event successful; including Maggie Brothers (*chair*), Patti Adams, Howard and Susan Adler, Linda Apel, Randy Apel, Al and Jean Barbieri, Patti Buttitta, Kathy Gillis, Marina Mariani, Don Raimondi, Denise Traverso, Sean Sullivan, Terry Thurman, Virginia Wilburn, and of course, our President, George Golfieri.

MEMBERS DINNERS IN MARCH & APRIL

EACH YEAR IN MARCH, the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation celebrates with a Festa di San Giuseppe. This tradition started in Sicily where thanks were given to San Giuseppe for preventing a famine during the Middle Ages. Having prayed to San Giuseppe for help, they promised that if he answered their prayers, they would prepare a large feast to honor him. The rain did come, and the people prepared a large banquet for all, rich or poor. Giving food to the needy is a tradition, therefore we are asking you to bring canned goods to be donated to the local Food Bank. We’ll also be giving half of all the proceeds from the silent auction and raffle to *The Living Room*, a service for needy women and children.

This very special *San Giuseppe Dinner* will be prepared by NBICF and the non-profit Slow Food Sonoma County North. It will feature a Sicilian-inspired menu of fava bean crostini, blood orange salad with fennel, fried fish with lemon and capers, Meyer lemon risotto, roasted vegetables, and homemade cookies for dessert. The dinner includes the West Coast premiere of the spirited, 35-minute documentary, *Amuri—Sacred Flavors of Sicily* to be shown after dinner that night. There is special pricing for this evening; please see enclosed flyer. Because this dinner is open to both non-profit groups, it is recommended you reserve early. *Deadline is March 4.*

THE APRIL 18TH DINNER will honor the region of *Basilicata* in southern Italy, an area of dark forests, mountains, valleys and beaches. Matera is Basilicata’s star attraction where the Sassi (former cave dwellings) exist in the rugged landscape. The ancient cave dwellings tell a tale of poverty, hardship and struggle. Basilicata’s history is probably best immortalized in Carlo Levi’s book *Christ Stopped at Eboli*. The menu reflects the food of the region with a salami, cheese, bread and vegetable platter, pasta with pork ragu, mixed vegetables, salad and dessert.

Note: NEWLY ESTABLISHED BUILDING FUND
Please see the “President’s Corner” on page 3 for information regarding the Building Fund for NBICF

Membership News

Welcome to our newest members of NBICF!

Individuals: Ileen Ghilarducci Arnoff, Julie Hemming

Families: Kathleen & Stephen Ruffino,
Scott & Louise Orsetti Leck

New Family "Patrons": Paul & Margaret Caracciolo

New & Continuing Businesses:

Harry Licursi Tax & Retirement Planning,
Balletto Vineyards, Market Place on Fourth,
FaiSano Wines of Italy, Pedersen's Furniture,
Zappelli Body Shop, and Faloni Ranch.

In Memoriam

Elizabeth Mazzotti: We have received donations from Nancy Wheeler and Beverly Gonnella Stumbaugh in memory of Elizabeth Mazzotti. Elizabeth requested donations be made to NBICF.

Wilson Craig— Passing of a NBICF Friend: Wilson was the man in the bicycle pants and mask at Carnevale or at least that's how some folks remember him. Some members traveled with him on Andiamo tours or went to language school with Wilson in Urbana. He was smart, charming, and a good conversationalist.

Wilson Craig was an accomplished teacher, having received the SRJC President's Medallion for his five decades of teaching English, foreign languages and history, and for his financial gifts and scholarships to students. He traveled extensively, loved books, music, photography and fine wine. Wil was a true Renaissance man, a long-time member and good friend to NBICF. He will be missed.

NBICF Wine School

NBICF Board Director Mark DeVincenzi, Sommelier and Certified Wine Educator, will uncork the secrets of Italian wine in a **6-class Series** starting April 22, 2016.

Wine 101 (a pre-requisite) will be first in the series. In this class you will learn the basics of how to taste wine. The following 5 classes will explore **Wine Regions of Italy: Northern, Central, Southern, Sicily, and Sardinia**. The series will also cover the eight major white wines and eight major red wines of Italy. *Please bring 4 of your own wine glasses to class sessions.* All classes will be held on **Friday evenings from 7pm–9pm at the NBICF Center**, 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Wine 101: 4/22/16 (Pre-requisite)

Italian Wines Regions: 5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 6/3, 6/10/16

Price: \$150.00/ series, includes instruction, educational materials and wine. **To register:** mail check to Mark DeVincenzi, 3 Valley Oaks Lane, Santa Rosa, CA 95409. Include your name, phone number and email address. Deadline to register: April 2, 2016. *Space limited to 20.*

Our Scholarship Recipients

We are pleased to announce four recipients of NBICF's Fall 2015 SRJC Italian Language Scholarship. Each of the following students received \$300 to be used towards books and materials in their respective Italian language course that semester. They each have also been invited to volunteer in some capacity at an NBICF event. Join us in congratulating these scholars:

Teresa Carrion: *Italian III*

Ann Carter: *Italian I*

Anne Sekara: *Italian I*

Jingmei Su: *Italian I*

Now onward to the Spring 2016 program that includes Italian language scholarships, Study Abroad scholarships, Marianne Pedroncelli and Jeanette Mancini-Mitchell Endowed Scholarships. If you would like to donate to a specific scholarship, please call 707-591-9696 or email nbicf@sonic.net for more information on how to participate.

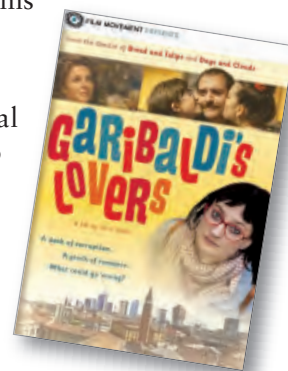
Sundays at the Center with Diane McCurdy

Doors open 2:00pm. For information: 707-591-9696
Free. No reservations required.

Showing April 24, 2016: *Garibaldi's Lovers*

Silvio Soldini (*Bread and Tulips*) has done it again—made a film that restores faith in the little man and the little woman in their plights to race for dreams. He has given us a story that bubbles like Asti Spumante and while being hilariously funny it brims over with genuine sentiment.

The title comes from Soldini's focus on the statue of Garibaldi in the central square of Genoa, Italy—a statue who speaks and commiserates with the statue of Cazzaniga about the sad state of affairs and corruption in Italy and the discussion is played out by the antics of the people of the streets below them. Leo is a widowed plumber (his deceased wife Teresa—appears to him as a 3-dimensional ghost who misses her family and urges Leo to find a new woman) who struggles to support his two children—Maddalena, who is horrified when she discovers that her boyfriend has videotaped her en flagrante and placed it on the internet, and her younger brother, nerdy Elia, who spends his time feeding and talking to a stork named Agostina. And this is only the beginning. Soldini's little stories make significant comments on the problems of life at the present time. He peppers his script with many quotations from famous people of history, a factor that adds a dimension of dignity to this wonderful bit of charming lighthearted comedy. *In Italian with English subtitles.*
Highly recommended.



Travel News

Sunday, March 13, 3:00pm

A NEW REGIONAL TRAVEL PROGRAM about Italy is starting at the Center. Whether you are an armchair traveler or someone who wants to be walking the streets of Italy in person, you will enjoy these Sunday at the Center presentations. First stop—Sicily. Sharie Sbrazza from Andiamo Travel will share her expertise on what to see, hear, and taste in Sicily. Next stop—the region of Tuscany. Learn about the large cities as well as the small villages, the unexpected stops, wineries, coastal areas. Andiamo...Let's go to Italy!

Upcoming Tours for Members, Family and Friends:

CUSTOM FLORENCE TO FRANCE—

Departs May 30, 2016

Linger on both the sparkling Italian & French Rivas from Tuscany to Provence! Travel in style at a slow pace enjoying fine lodging, historic sights & foods paired with local wines. Bilingual SRJC professors Gino & Julie Muzzatti, experienced congenial hosts, escort you to all the iconic jewels!

CUSTOM MAREMMA COAST—

Departs November 1, 2016

Sharie Sbrazza escorts her 20th Annual Autumn Affordable Adventure...for 2 custom weeks in west Tuscany! Savor breakfasts & dinners every day with curious, fun-loving friends. Enjoy small authentic places with local guides. The cities of Florence, Siena, Arezzo, Orvieto, and Naples beckon during an optional 6-night extension.

NBICF member since 1986, Sharie Sbrazza has designed and escorted individual/group vacations since 1979. For more information: andiamotravel@hotmail.com or email gmuzzatti@santarosa.edu

Sundays at the Center presents

Douglas Kenning, PhD

Sicily—2,600 Years of Art and Architecture.

March 20, 2016 2:00pm

Professor Kenning, a popular Osher Institute instructor, makes his third appearance at "Sunday at the Center" to continue his popular lecture series for NBICF.

"Sicily sits at the geographic center of the Mediterranean, and has been a crossroads of cultures for 3,000 years. In this lecture we will look at the art and architecture that the march of Western Civilization left in Sicily as it passed through, beginning with the ancient Greeks, through the Romans, the Arabs, the Normans, the Spanish, and the modern world."

Join us for this enlightening afternoon. *Reservations are required. Please use form at right to reserve your space. Seating is limited to 40. No phone reservations accepted.*

From the President's Corner

Buona Pasque a Tutti!

On January 23, 2016 the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation held its 2nd Annual Crab Feed Fundraiser. Although there were questions regarding the availability of crab this season, our supplier was able to provide crab at a reasonable price. I hope everyone who attended the Crab Feed had a good time and ate a lot of crab. I would like to acknowledge Maggie Brothers, who did a superb job in planning the Crab Feed and coordinating all the volunteers who helped to set up the hall and serve guests. Also, a special thanks to Randy Apel for his donation of halibut for the delicious ceviche.

Membership renewals were mailed out in mid-January and are due by the end of March 2016. Your annual dues and donations help to fund the Foundation's scholarship programs, cultural events, the Mosaico newsletter and helps to cover routine building maintenance and operating expenses.

In 2000 the Foundation purchased a building in downtown Santa Rosa to have a permanent place to call home. The Italian Cultural Center includes a library, classrooms, a place to get together for Sundays at the Center and other events, and serves as a showcase in the community for our culture and heritage. Now the building exterior requires attention and since the exterior of the building has not been painted since its purchase, it now needs it badly. The Board of Directors recently approved to allocate \$7,500 to paint and fix the exterior of the building.

The Foundation has established a *Building Fund* to help defray the cost of the painting. The Foundation is seeking donations for this fund, and any donation, big or small is appreciated. Donations made to NBICF, earmarked for the Building Fund, are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

RESERVATION FORM

Douglas Kenning, PhD

Sicily—2,600 Years of Art and Architecture.

Doors open at 2:00pm Program begins at 2:30pm

Number of Guests _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Suggested Donation \$5

Make checks payable to NBICF. Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. No phone reservations accepted.

Reservation Deadline: March 10, 2016



North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation

69 Brookwood Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-4326
tel: 707-591-9696 email: nbicf@sonic.net www.nbicf.org

STAMP

Mosaico Culturale is published six times a year. It is the newsletter of the North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation, a CA nonprofit membership corporation.

North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation Statement of Purpose: A nonprofit open membership organization dedicated to the study, preservation and enjoyment of Italian Culture. Founded in 1984, NBICF brings people of all ancestries together to share things Italian. NBICF activities foster cultural awareness, celebrate traditions and support education via scholarships, classes and programs.

U P - C O M I N G E V E N T S

- March 5, 2016** 1–5pm
Paint Italy Workshop, focus on Cefalu, Sicily
- March 12, 2016** 6pm (doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm)
San Giuseppe Dinner & Documentary Premiere at St. Rose Parish Hall, 320 Tenth St. Santa Rosa
- March 13, 2016** 3pm
Sundays at the Center, *Regional Travel Program—Sicily*
- March 20, 2016** 2pm
Sundays at the Center,
Dr. Kenning Lecture, “Sicily—2600 years of Art and Architecture”
- April 3, 2016** 3pm
Sundays at the Center, *Regional Travel Program—Tuscany*
- April 18, 2016** 6pm (doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm)
Basilicata Dinner at St. Rose Parish Hall, 320 Tenth St. Santa Rosa
- April 22, 2016** 7pm–9pm
Wine School begins with “Wine 101”
- April 24, 2016** 2pm
Sundays at the Center, *Garibaldi’s Lovers*, (in Italian with English subtitles)

DELIVER TO ADDRESSEE OR OCCUPANT

NBICF Board of Directors:

Susan Terracina Adler (Secretary), Ann Abbruzzese, Linda Apel (Treasurer), Allen Barbieri, Maggie Brothers (1st VP 707-544-9244), Patti Buttitta, Mark DeVincenzi, Kathy Dowdall, George Golfieri (President 707-843-3176), Don Raimondi (2nd VP 707-529-1939), Reid Sheridan, Carole Stewart, Denise Traverso, Les Villanyi

Directors Emeritus: Angelo Catelani, Arturo Ibleto and Jeanette Mancini Mitchell

Mosaico Culturale Editorial Staff: Susan Adler, George Golfieri, Patti Buttitta

Members are encouraged to submit articles or items for publication. Please submit articles three weeks prior to bi-monthly Mosaico publication date. We reserve the right to select and edit as space allows.

North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation Policies:

No refunds/exchanges; tickets transferable; No reservations accepted on event date. Space limited: first come, first served. Any offering in the Mosaico Culturale should not be read as an endorsement or warranty by NBICF

Italian Cultural Library & Office

Tuesdays 1-4 PM or by appointment, 707-591-9696
Board Meetings held the first Wednesday evening of each month.

For Information:

Coro Allegro 707-484-4992 Les Villanyi
Library/Office 707-573-7185 Virginia Wilburn
Italian Classes at the Center 707-874-2512 Emily Evans
Membership 707-544-3499 Denise Scaglione
Reservations 707-573-7185 Virginia Wilburn
Scholarships 707-523-0296 Gino Muzzatti
Sunshine Cards 707-586-1167 JoAnn Piantanida
Volunteers 707-591-9696 NBICF Office

APPLICATION FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP

- ___ INDIVIDUAL: \$35
- ___ HOUSEHOLD: \$50
- ___ PATRON: \$100*
- ___ BUSINESS: \$150
- ___ STUDENT: \$10 (Please provide a copy of a valid student I.D.)

Italian ancestry (regions) _____

Please indicate your areas of interest (circle all that apply):

Bocce Festa Italiana Fundraisers History Language
Mailings Music Office Scholarships Travel

Please make checks payable to NBICF,
64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Tel: 707-591-9696



North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation
& Slow Food Sonoma County North

— JOINTLY PRESENT A SPECIAL EVENT —

Festa di San Giuseppe Dinner

AND THE WEST COAST PREMIERE OF DOCUMENTARY FILM

Amuri—The Sacred Flavors of Sicily

MARCH 12, 2016

St. Rose Parish Hall, 398 10th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

DINNER RESERVATIONS

Festa di San Giuseppe Dinner & West Coast Premiere of Amuri—the Sacred Flavors of Sicily

St. Rose Parish Hall, 398 10th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Limited Seating: Prepaid Reservations Only

*Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm
35-min documentary film to be shown following dinner*

- _____ places at \$30/each for Members (NBICF & SFSCN)
- _____ places at \$35/each for Guests
- _____ places at \$12/each for Teens, 13–18 yrs
- _____ places at \$ 8/each for Child, 5–13 yrs
- _____ places at free/each for Child under 5 yrs

Name _____

Reserve by March 4, 2016. Make checks payable to NBICF.
Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

You can also reserve tickets online at:
<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2494551>

Dinner includes Appetizer, Salad, Fried Fish, Lemon Risotto, Vegetables, & Assortment of Biscotti for Dessert
Wine included. No-host Bar.

Raffle: To benefit “The Living Room”

*This Special Event Commemorates
La Festa di San Giuseppe, a traditional day of giving.*

Donations of canned goods for the Redwood Food Bank are welcome.

For more information visit these online sources:

www.nbicf.org
www.slowfoodsonomacountynorth.org
www.facebook.com/slowfoodsonomacounty



North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation

— MEMBER DINNER —

*Celebrating the
Region of Basilicata*

Monday, April 18, 2016

St. Rose Parish Hall, 398 10th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

(Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm)

DINNER RESERVATIONS

NBICF Member Dinner
Celebrating the Region of Basilicata

April 18, 2016

St. Rose Parish Hall, 398 10th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

(Doors open at 5:00pm, Dinner at 6:00pm)

Prepaid Reservations Only

- _____ places at \$15/each for Members
- _____ places at \$17/each for Guests
- _____ places at \$12/each for Teens, 13–18 yrs
- _____ places at \$ 8/each for Child, 5–13 yrs
- _____ places at free/each for Child under 5 yrs

Name _____

Reserve by April 13, 2016. Make checks payable to NBICF.
Mail to 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Dinner Menu:

Salami, Cheese, Bread and
Vegetable Platter,
Pasta with Pork Ragu,
Mixed Vegetables,
Salad and Dessert

Wine included

No-host Bar & Raffle

For more information visit:

www.nbicf.org