



# Jacksonville ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB

Monthly Newsletter  
Established 1951



Volume 22 Issue 198

Marzo/March 2017

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Buon Giorno Signore e' Signori (Good Day Ladies and Gentlemen),

As Caesar would say, "Tempus Fugit". We near the end of the first quarter. Much has been done at the Club, much more to come.

Each Committee Chair is seeking Membership volunteers. Provided that you, as a Club Member, have interest in any Committee, please feel free to contact the Chairperson of that committee, or come see me.

I wish to once again recognize those who volunteered their time and talents to assist in the preparations, execution, and cleanup of the events that have occurred from mid-February to mid-March 2017. Below is the list of these fine folks, being mindful that, although mentioned once, many performed the volunteer effort for more than 1 event:

Carolyn Beach, Gabe and Giuliana Bremer Nero, Peter Calabrese, Mella Carroll, Peter Carroll, Lucy Cortese, Mario DiVasta, Angelo Giardino, Melanie Matrascia, Gina Mielech, Mary Anne Newman, Sandy Smith, Linda Springsteen, Anne Stepp, Mary Ann Wetzels, Kay Winters, Vinny Zammataro

I, along with the Membership, thank you all for your continued support to the IAC.

Saluti, ci vediamo al Club (Farewell, See you at the Club),

Mario

E-mail: [mfcortese@att.net](mailto:mfcortese@att.net)

Phone (904) 210-6033

**Congratulations to our February Volunteer Winner, Joy Fashauer !  
Mike Matrascia was the winner of the 50/50 at the General Meeting and donated a  
portion of his winnings back to the Club!  
Dave Burroughs won the Super Bowl Pool with his exact guess of 62 total points!**

**Come and Enjoy Italian Hospitality • Food • Games • Music • Fun**

## BOOSTER CLUB

### PLATINUM TIER - \$100

Mario Cortese 1/18  
Lucy Cortese 1/18

### DIAMOND TIER - \$50

Vincent Zammataro 6/17  
Cydelle Mendius 6/17  
Jamie DeMasi 8/17  
Vincenzo & Rose Sicari 12/17

### GOLD TIER - \$25

Ann Barni 6/17  
Sandy Smith 6/17  
Mena & Lou Vesce 2/18

**Thank you to all the members who continue to support the Booster Club. Your donation helps with the cost of printing and mailing the Newsletter. Grazie.**

### OFFICERS

Mario Cortese  
*President*  
210-6033

Angelo Giardino  
*Vice President*

Lucy Cortese  
*Treasurer*

Gina Mielech  
*Asst. Treasurer*

Vacant  
*Recording Secretary*

Father Tom Cody  
*Club Chaplain*  
704-8200

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peter Calabrese

Tony Di  
Benedetto

Peggy Rose

Anne Stepp

Mena Vesce

Vinny  
Zammataro



### Sympathy

Much sympathy to Kathy Easterling and family on the passing of her sister Margaret.

### Thinking of You

Kathy Easterling \* Pat Flaherty \* Rosa Smith \* Sal and Felicia Yaccuzzo

### Welcome New Members!

Thomas & Roseanne Hill \* Edward & Mary Ann Matassa-Wetzel \*

**FOR CLUB RENTALS,  
PLEASE CALL ANNE STEPP @ (904) 535-6339**

**Jacksonville Italian American Club**

**THE ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB PHONE NUMBER IS (904) 586-2616**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARZO/MARCH 2017**

DOMENICA	LUNEDI	MARTEDI	MERCOLEDI	GIOVEDI	VENERDI	SABATO
			1 Board Meeting	2	3	4 Camp I am Special Fashion Show (offsite)
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 General Meeting/ St. Patty's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Pasta & Bingo	25 Club Rented
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**For those interested in Bocce please contact Peter Calabrese at [IACbocce@aol.com](mailto:IACbocce@aol.com)**



**GENERAL MEETING/ST PATTY'S DAY**  
Sunday, March 12th, 2017 @ 1:00 PM



**MENU:**

Irish Potato Soup, Irish Stew, Salad, Bread,  
Dessert, Decaf Coffee

**HOST:**

Mario & Lucy Cortese



**DONATIONS:**

Members: \$13.00 \* Non Members: \$17.00 \* Ages 8 – 17: \$5.00\* Under 8 – Free\*

**BRING YOUR OWN MUG & GET \$1.00 OFF ANY BEER, IRISH OR DOMESTIC**

**Join in on the Irish Sing-a-Long!**

**RESERVATIONS:**

Use sign up sheets at club or email Mario at [mfcortese@att.net](mailto:mfcortese@att.net) or call (904) 586-2616  
**no later than 6:00 PM, March 9th, 2017**



**MARZO/MARCH BIRTHDAYS  
BUON COMPLEANNO!**

- 1 Gail Dasta
- 6 Marilena Blajian
- 10 George Nicholson
- 10 Olindo Preli
- 13 Angelina Veniero
- 13 Doreena Ranieri
- 14 Vinny Russo
- 14 Ann Clemente
- 15 Mary Anne Newman
- 16 Pat Flaherty
- 19 Don Hayes
- 22 JoAnn Leigh Gramm
- 22 Giuliana Bremer-Nero
- 23 Patrick O'Neill
- 29 Felicia Yacuzzo
- 30 Andre Varunok
- 30 Roseanne Hill

**MARZO/MARCH ANNIVERSARIES  
FELICE ANNIVERSARIO!**

- 23 David & Nancy Pitruzzello

Advertise your company or service in the  
IAC newsletter

Rates: \$25/month or \$300/annual  
for business card size ad

\$100/month or \$1200/annual for ½ page ad  
\$200/month or \$2400/annual for full page ad  
Contact: Lucy Cortese [Igcortese@att.net](mailto:Igcortese@att.net)

**JoAnn Leigh Gramm, P. A.**  
Attorney at Law

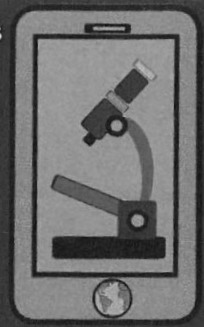
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## UPSCALE RESALE ITALIAN STYLE

IAC will host a GIANT YARD SALE in place of Spring Festa. Bring us your tired, unwanted goods looking for a new loving home. Clean out your jewelry boxes, closets, garages, cabinets and storage sheds. A large number of donations is needed for success of this event--ask your friends and neighbors for treasures too! We will sell quality, clean gently used items. **Please NO clothes, large items, electronics or audio/video tapes** (DVDs are welcome). Bring donations to all club events **by April 20, 2017**.

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### Pasta & Bingo

Friday, March 24th, 2017 @ 6:30 PM

#### MENU:

Aglio Olio, Salad, Bread, Dessert, Decaf Coffee

#### HOST:

Mario & Lucy Cortese

#### DONATIONS:

Members: \$7.00\* Non Members: \$11.00 \* Ages 8 - 17: \$3.00\* Under 8 - Free\*

#### RESERVATIONS:

Use sign up sheets at club or email Mario at [mfcortese@att.net](mailto:mfcortese@att.net) or call (904) 586-2616  
**no later than 6:00 PM, March 22th, 2017**



## The Luck of the Irish, Italian Style!

Our members (Italian and Non) share their St Patty's Day traditions and memories with us

I have a dear to my heart tradition I've started on St. Patty after moving to USA, I celebrate my beloved father-in-law (he is born right on 17th and even if he is mostly Armenian as origins, he adores everything Irish) by hosting an Irish theme party every year especially for him, from green hats, Shamrocks and fun Limericks to homemade Irish food and music. ~ **Marilena Blajian**

St Paddy's Day traditions: -Traditional Irish breakfast & lunch with green Irish beverages, green Jello at an Irish pub listening to traditional Irish folk songs. I cook corned beef & cabbage for the family and top off the Day with Irish cream and Tullamore Dew in my coffee. "Tis boring"  
~ **The Original Leprechaun, Pete Carroll**

With a name like 'Mullaney', Irishmen in our family, including the ladies, celebrated St. Patty's day in a big fashion. We all wore green that day. In Newark, New Jersey, an Irishman living amongst 90 percent Italians really stood out. Dad had a typical Irish, catholic family, ten children, five boys and five girls. In my 22 year naval career I spent a lot of time in Ireland, but was always lost when it came to speaking Gaelic. Around my 16th birthday I noticed dad had a huge, green St. Patty's day button over his heart. It had 'Erin go Bragh' written all over it. Being inquisitive I asked dad, 'what does that mean?' It made a lot of sense: Ireland over all.

I spent my second year in Europe stationed in Naples, Italy but wanted very much to visit Ireland. Along with Another sailor, we used military hopes to get from Italy to France, to England, and then to cross the English Channel (in those days all in 'our cracker jack uniform'. I arrived the day before St. Patty's day, rested, etc. And the next day celebrated 'a most memorable St. Patty's day actually in Ireland. ~ **Frank Mullaney**

My mother in law, Rita Cooney Magno, family came from county cork Ireland. her mother's recipe for roasted lamb has been enjoyed every St. Patrick's Day. She met and married my Italian father in law Antonio Magno. I am married to their one and only son Robert, past President of the IAC. He carries on his mom's tradition preparing her roasted lamb and wearing her Celtic Cross since her passing in 2005 in honor of her memory. ~ **Lois Magno**

My best and oldest friend (we go back to about 1938) is the son of an Irish mother and a German father, but he is mostly Irish in nature. My late wife, although born to Italian parents, was raised in a predominantly Irish neighborhood, so we were both exposed to Irish culture early on. When we lived in Huntsville, we threw the annual Saint Patrick's Day party at our house, and a spirited time was had by all. I probably know more Irish songs than I do Italian ones, more's the pity. More recently, during my last couple of years of residence in Athens, Alabama, I was in the Huntsville Saint Patrick's Day parade with my fellow parishioner, Jay McCook.

Sure, and it was a fine time we had at the pub, after the parade. Except for language, I'm not sure there's much difference between the Italians and the Irish, may the saints preserve us all.

~ **Francesco Pitruzzello**

(Note: On Saint Patrick's Day, my name is changed to O'Pitruzzello, may the saints preserve us.)

Italian American Club of Jacksonville  
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(904) 586-2616/www.iacofjacksonville.com



**March 12th - St. Patty's Day & General Meeting**

**Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day!**



**March 24th – Pasta & Bingo**



**BINGO**