



THE ITALIAN TIMES JR.

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The College Endowment Association
Community Enrichment Since 1890

We start off 2024 with a new sponsor! CEA - The College Endowment Association. Our thanks to Amy Domagalski for selecting the Italian Times, Jr. to highlight the Association.

CEA was founded in 1890 and traces its roots to a Ladies' Art and Science class organized in 1874. Mrs. William Grant Fitch proposed a permanent organization to provide an endowment to Milwaukee College of Women (later Downer College) to secure funds to perpetuate classes providing continuing education for women. (More on the Association in the next issue.)

2024 Sponsors Needed

CEA is graciously sponsoring the IT, Jr. through March, so we are looking for additional sponsors for the rest of 2024. The cost is \$150 per month, \$125 if your organization is a 501(c)(3). This informative newsletter is emailed to all our members and newsletter subscribers. It is also on the Italian Community Center website for thousands to read. Great exposure for you and/or your organization or business. Email the editor if you have questions or wish to become a sponsor.

Message from the ICC President

Happy New Year everyone! Hope you had a safe and joyful holiday season. We accomplished much in 2023, and 2024 promises to be an exciting year for the ICC. It brings both challenges, and opportunities. We need all of us, along with our time, talent, and treasure to thrive. Whether it's Festa Italiana, Taste of Italy, and every other event, there's a place for all to contribute to our success. In addition to ongoing meetings of the Festa Advisory Committee (FAC), I'll soon be starting meetings of the Festa Italiana Operations Committee, inviting area managers to start attending. If you haven't as yet indicated an interest in managing a particular area, please contact me directly. Be well.



Your ICC President: Sandy Winard

Festa 2024

President Sandy Winard has listed the number one priority for Festa 2024 as *sponsorship*. If you, or if you know of a person/organization, would love to become a sponsor, please contact Sandy at president@iccmke.com.

Christmas Decorations

Last month, a number of volunteers were recognized for helping make the Italian Community Center look festive. However, two important persons were inadvertently omitted – Nick Harebo and Shawnee White. Nick made the Sunday decorating a classy affair by coming in a suit and tie! Sorry for the oversight! We appreciate you!

December Membership Committee Christmas Caroling Potluck

Although the crowd was small, the fun was enormous. Members took over La Scala for an evening of fun, eating, drinking and a little singing. The night also found two teams vying for best gingerbread house. According to the unbiased judges, it was a draw.



Vice President Marie Lieber looks on at the gingerbread house made by Team Sandy (Sandy Winard, Marie Lieber, Joanne Czubek, Sophia Michalovitz and Craig Lieber.



Team Bill (consisting of Wife Jessica, Mom Brenda and Friend Joyce) shows their creativity in gingerbread house making!



The beautifully decorated gingerbread houses!

Benvenuti Bambini - Children's Workshops

The ICC is thrilled to announce monthly funshops for children - Italian cooking, arts & crafts, baking, sports!

All funshops to be held at the ICC on the THIRD Sunday of every month from 3:00 - 5:00 pm.

All children receive free ICC Membership - registration completed at Funshop.

Benvenuti Bambini!

January 21, 2024
Carnevale Mask Making and Cioccolata Calda from Scratch

February 18, 2024
Make Fresh Pizza from Scratch (including dough) and Italian Arts & Crafts

March 17, 2024
Pupa con l'uova (Bubagalova) – Easter Egg Dying & Italian Cookie Making

April 21, 2024
Make from Scratch: Fresh Pasta & Ravioli

Funshops followed by playtime in Bocce Courts

Italian Community Center

631 East Chicago
414-223-2180
www.iccmke.com

\$12 Per Child Per Class
\$ 8 Per Child Per Class
(if Parent is Member of ICC)

Pre-Registration Required
Reg. Deadline: Prior Sunday

Susie Christiansen reports that a great response is being received for the four monthly children's workshops:

January 21: Carnevale Mask Making and Cioccolata Calda from Scratch

February 18: Make Fresh Pizza from Scratch (including dough) and Italian Arts & Crafts

March 17: Pupa con l'uova (Bubagalova) – Easter Egg Dying & Italian Cookie Making

April 21: Make from Scratch: Fresh Pasta & Ravioli

The cost is \$12 per child per class; \$8 per child per class if a parent is an ICC Member. Pre-registration is required. Deadline is the Sunday prior to the date of the workshop.

Each of the workshops will be followed by free time in the Bocce Courts!

What a great way for our next generation to learn about their heritage.

Bocce Resumes

Bocce will resume the week of January 8, 2024. If you wish to join a league, contact League Chair, John Alioto, at 414-745-7523. Fees are Members \$30 and non-members \$40.

Bucks Game

Ninety-three Bucks fans attended the December 17th Bucks game and watched the Bucks send the Houston Rockets off to space with a 128-119 win.

The one-of-a-kind apron is being printed and will be delivered to the ICC for the attendees to pick up. An email will be sent when the aprons arrive.



93+ Bucks fans take the floor for the group picture. Special thanks to Tracy Balistreri and Marie Lieber, along with Bucks representative, Allison Snook, for organizing the fun-filled event.



Tradizione Vivente entertained the crowd prior to the start of the game with two of their fabulous dances.

ICC Christmas Party

As if a December 8th Caroling Party and December 17th Bucks Game weren't enough, ICC Members and non-members attended the 2023 Holiday Party. Guests enjoyed complimentary champagne and hot hors d'oeuvres provided by The Bartolotta Group, followed by a choice of a delicious pork chop or mushroom risotto dinner. A sinful chocolate flourless cake was served, along

with cookies, for dessert. Susie Christiansen hosted a game of Trivia with guests, and Lisa DeSanctis led the crowd in a few games of Tombola (Italian Bingo). Winners had a choice of some nice holiday prizes.

Toward the end of the event, Santa brought in from the North Pole a supply of Screamin' Sicilian Pizzas. With the aid of her elf, each attendee was sent home with a frozen pizza.



Santa Sandy Winard and Elf Marie Lieber pose with Carnevale Chair Sarah Kissinger-Carini.

Carnevale

Mark your calendars for the annual Carnevale Ball, set for February 10, 2024. Sarah Kissinger-Carini and her committee are working hard to make this a fun-filled event. This year's theme is "A Night at the Venetian". "Many surprises are in store for attendees", comments Sarah. Check for details soon at iccmke.com. Members will receive email blasts about Carnevale, as well as other events scheduled at the ICC. (Another member perk.)

If you or any of your family is interested in becoming part of the 2024 Royal Court, please contact President Sandy Winard.

Those Beautiful Christmas Decorations

It's time to lay those Christmas decorations to rest for another year. We are looking for volunteers to help disassemble the trees, courtyard, etc. and put them away for next year. The "Decorating Committee" is planning to meet on Saturday, January 14th or 21st from Noon - 3pm depending on how many people sign up. We appreciate any time you can give to assist us. On the plus side, it takes less time to take down the decorations than to put them up!

Movie Night

Movie Night resumes on January 12, 2024! The January movie, *A Room with a View*, is sponsored by Christine Conley

In this British drama based on the novel by E.M. Forster, Lucy Honeychurch (Helena Bonham-Carter), a young Englishwoman, is touring Italy with her older cousin (Maggie Smith). At a hotel in Florence, Lucy meets the charming and free-spirited George Emerson (Julian Sands). Although intrigued by George, once she's back in England Lucy ponders settling down with the wealthy, staid Cecil Vyse (Daniel Day-Lewis). When George reappears in her life, Lucy must decide between him and Cecil.

There are also sponsors for February and March. Please consider sponsoring a month for a great value of only \$150. The fee goes toward the annual licensing fee.

Bringing A Smile to Your Face

Italian Problems #86

When you invite your friends over for dinner, and they think the appetizer is the main course....

Italian Language Classes

Sabrina Lupoli is the new Italian language instructor, reports Co-Chairs Vivian Balistreri and Gina Jorgensen. The 8-week course begins on Wednesday, January 10th, the weekly classes held from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. The cost is \$200 for ICC Members / \$250 for non-members. Textbooks are included in the registration fee. Class size is limited to 15 students.

As of the writing of this newsletter, there may no longer be openings for this first set of classes. Contact the ICC to put your name on the waiting list for the next classes. There is "talk" about having an Italian Class Two and a children's class. Information will be provided as details are developed.

Why Should I Join the ICC? What do I get?

We've heard many people ask these questions, and we are now going to answer with a few comments. First, one should ask "What can I bring to the ICC by joining as a Member?" We are always looking for new Members with fresh ideas. There are many individuals out there who have special talents that we would love to tap. We know there are people out there whose time and talent can greatly benefit the ICC.

Members also get discounts on numerous things. For example, the ICC subsidized the cost of the December 16th Christmas dinner so that Members only had to pay \$30. The fee barely covered the cost of the dinner. In addition, each Member is entitled to two Festa tickets and, when available, can receive tickets for the other ethnic festivals held on the Summerfest grounds. On the second Friday of the month, the Membership Committee shows a first rate movie free of charge. Events such as dinners, galas, classes, etc. are discounted for Members. Most importantly, Active Members have the ability to vote in our elections. Come on and join!

In Memoriam:

Mary Caminiti



Mary, born on August 20, 1929 to John & Catherine Alioto, found Eternal Peace on December 6, 2023 at the age of 94. She is survived by daughters, Madelynn and Catherine as well as many, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and good friends.

Mary was well-known in the Italian-American community in Milwaukee and was someone who everyone wanted to be around.

Rest in peace Mary.

Sr. Ann Catherine Veierstahler



Born to Frank & Katherine Veierstahler on February 7, 1944. Eileen took her perpetual vows on August 15, 1973 and became Sr. Ann Catherine and a member of the Sisters of Charity of St. Joan Antida. Sr. Ann was a member of the ICC and a photographer for Festa Italiana. She was also a member of the Pompeii Women's Society. Her other

accomplishments included her being a founder of St. Anthony Health Clinic at St. Ben's Meal Site, American Red Cross volunteer, volunteer for SET Ministry, Nami and the VA Hospital. A life well lived. Rest in peace Sr. Catherine.

Memorials:

Jimmy and Linda Spataro in memory of Mary Caminiti.



From the staff of the *Italian Times, Jr.*, the ICC Executive Officers and the ICC Board of Directors, we wish each of you a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Editor: Marie Andoloro-Lieber
marie@tshglaw.com
414-708-1607

Assistants and Committee Members:
Susie Christiansen
Tracy Balistreri

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