The Good Fortune of Ferrari: Beginnings to Now

By Ilaria Verunelli

"Enzo, with almost a hundred years of advantage, was the Italian Steve Jobs. As the father of Apple anticipated the dreams and desires of the masses, with the Mac and the iPhone passing through the iPod and the iPad, in the same way the son of an Emilian workshop boss gave meaning to the emotional drives of entire generations. He was a boy and he already realized, perhaps driven by the suggestions of the futurists, how the car could revolutionize the habits of the common mortal".

Nothing of this is understandable without following the footsteps of its founder, Enzo Ferrari, a man who dedicated his entire life to motor racing. His story is recounted on the official corporate website. Here are the beginnings:

Born in Modena on February 18, 1898 (deceased August 14, 1988), Enzo Ferrari became an Alfa Romeo works driver in 1924, at 26 years old. Five years later, in 1929, he set up Scuderia Ferrari, acting as a racing division for Alfa Romeo. Then World War II arrived and motor racing came to a stop.

At the end of the conflict, Enzo Ferrari was determined to design and build what was to become the first Ferrari, the 125 S, a 1500cc 12-cylinder. It was 1947 when the first car built under the Ferrari brand was driven through the factory gates on Via Abetone Inferiore in Maranello.

The history of Cavallino Rampante (the Prancing Horse), its unmistakable symbol, is recounted by Enzo Ferrari in a letter. The horse was painted on the cockpit of the fighter of Francesco Baracca, a legendary ace of the Italian air force during World War I. When meeting with Baracca's mother, Countess Paolina, she told Enzo Ferrari: "Put on your cars the Prancing Horse of my son. It will bring fortune to you". She was right.

Over the years, Scuderia Ferrari has won 16 World Championships. This year, after the seventh race of the overall 21, Sebastian Vettel, Ferrari’s driver, leads the championship with 121 points, only one point ahead of Lewis Hamilton, Mercedes Benz’ driver.

In 2012, Formula 1 returned to the United States at the Circuit of the Americas, near Austin, Texas, a brand-new facility with a 5.513 km track. This year the Grand Prix will be on October 21st and Ferrari, after having won in Canada, will have the motivation to win this race for the first time.
Uncovering the secrets of the Pantheon and Campus Martius

By Kat Brough

The Campo Marzio, known as the Campus Martius or “Field of Mars”, is the home of the Pantheon, the Ara Pacis, and multiple magnificent temples and structures from ancient Rome. This July, guests will have the opportunity to learn all about the secrets of the Campus Martius in a special presentation at the ICCC by Linda Gorski, an advocational archaeologist and president of the Houston Archaeological Society, and Louis F. Aulbach, a native Houstonian and author of Texas River Guides and self-guided tours of Rome.

“There are maybe 20 buildings in the Campus Martius that really tell a story of what’s going on in Rome from the 3rd century BC all the way up until the 3rd century AD,” shared Aulbach. “What we would like people to do is realize that the Campus Martius a big center for temples, civic buildings, and similar, most of which are in ruins. We’ll talk about where they are and what they are.”

The presentation will be based upon research Aulbach and Gorski conducted over the years in visits to Rome. It culminated into a publication by Aulbach and Gorski titled “Campus Martius and its Ancient Monuments: Self-Guided Walks to the Archeological Ruins of Rome”. In their research, they discovered that what they had previously known about the area was all wrong.

“What surprised me most about the Campus Martius was how many ruins there were. [When visiting Rome], first thing you do is you go to the Pantheon, but it’s only one of several buildings,” said Aulbach. “I also found out I got everything about the Pantheon all wrong. One of the things I learned was who was the original designer, who was the designer of the renovated Pantheon, which is the one that exists there today, and why Hadrian, the emperor at the time, didn’t put his name on it. You won’t know about these things unless someone points them out to you, and that’s what we’re going to do in this lecture.”

“The Pantheon and Other Secrets of Rome’s Campus Martius” will be held on Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Doors open to the public at 6:45 pm. Tickets are available on iccchouston.eventbrite.com, by phone at (713) 524-4222 ext. 7, or at the door the day of (depending on availability).

The Houston Archaeological Society is the largest regional branch in the state of Texas. Almost every week, they engage in field work on the weekends, ranging from dig sites that are pre-historic to historic. They analyze the artifacts in their own laboratories and write reports on findings, providing a full range service for professional and advocational archaeologists. They meet once a month alongside regular guest speaker events.

“We dig up Texas history, one trowel full at a time,” said Gorski.

ICCC Receives Funds from Herzstein Foundation

By Kat Brough

The ICCC is excited to announce that on Thursday, June 7, 2018, we received a grant from the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation for the Milford House 21st Century Fund, a fund supporting the revitalization of the historic home. The grant will go towards necessary improvements and upgrades to the auditorium and classroom spaces, improvements to the interior and exterior of the house, and other up keep as it comes up.

Since its founding in 1965, the Herzstein Charitable Foundation, based here in Houston, has supported more than 1,000 various organizations, granting a total of over $4 million annually and a grand total of more than $75 million to over 4,200 requests from organizations in need. The foundation contributes to non-profit organizations who bring about substantive, positive change to communities and we are humbled and honored to be recognized by them.

We’re extremely grateful for the Herzstein Foundation’s $5,000 contribution and the positive impact it will make for the Milford House.
Dear Friends,

I hope you are enjoying the beauty of summer in spite of the Houston heat. For those of us who are staying in the city, Milford House is waiting with many exciting and cool events. As is traditional, we are bringing you the Summer Film Festival, which will showcase popular films you will not see anywhere else in Houston. If you are like me and want to improve your skills in the kitchen, our wonderful Flavia Scalzitti will be with us again, in a series of Cucina Conversations and will teach us some delicious Italian recipes. History buffs will not be disappointed with the fascinating lecture on the Secrets of the Roman Pantheon and the kids will get busy with summer delicacies in La Piccola Cucina, just to name a few.

As you can see, we don’t slow down at Milford House. Looking back over the first six months of 2018, I could not be prouder of our accomplishments and of our community, staff, board members and volunteers. It is this synergistic collaboration and our labor of love that has brought us this far and made us so successful. As the authority for Italian culture in Houston, we have continued to shine and grow, fulfilling the objectives of our strategic and marketing plans. There is much to be done, still, and more ideas, grants and projects to explore, but our foundation is strong and the quality of our events is exquisite and established. The next three months will see us gear up for Festa Italiana, now in its 40th year! We could not be prouder to have become a Houston staple, and we have some surprises in store for this special anniversary, so stay tuned for more. Along with Festa, we will continue to create more lectures, wine tastings, cultural and language classes, and more. On the administrative side, we will also be steady and consistent in applying for grants to secure our growth and success. I am proud to report that, last month alone, we received yet another grant from the Herzstein Foundation and we have submitted others to the Brown Foundation and to the Houston Arts Alliance. Thanks to the dedicated work of our board members and staff, we have truly fine-tuned our grant writing knowledge and I could not be prouder of our work.

It takes an entire community with a common purpose and passion to achieve so much. A famous author once said, “Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” Thank you for everything that you do to help the ICCC grow. For our part, we promise to continue to work with you and for you to achieve even more in the years to come.

See you soon,

Livia Bornigia
ICCC 2018 President

All’ICCC (At the ICCC)

Dear Friends,

I hope you are enjoying the beauty of summer in spite of the Houston heat. For those of us who are staying in the city, Milford House is waiting with many exciting and cool events. As is traditional, we are bringing you the Summer Film Festival, which will showcase popular films you will not see anywhere else in Houston. If you are like me and want to improve your skills in the kitchen, our wonderful Flavia Scalzitti will be with us again, in a series of Cucina Conversations and will teach us some delicious Italian recipes. History buffs will not be disappointed with the fascinating lecture on the Secrets of the Roman Pantheon and the kids will get busy with summer delicacies in La Piccola Cucina, just to name a few.

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See you soon,

Livia Bornigia
ICCC 2018 President

new iccc members

Benvenuti! The ICCC wishes to welcome the following new members and invites them to stay fully engaged with all of the wonderful programs and events that the ICCC has to offer. For more information about becoming a member and joining the ICCC family, please contact Alessandra Pistone, Business Director, at 713-524-4222 ext. 6 or at accounting@iccchouston.com.

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Cacchione
Mr. Richard DelSignore
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Donnelly
Mr. Sergio Handal and Family
Ms. Kat Hulbert
Ms. Coco Luo
Mrs. Susana Mele
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Price
Ms. Laura Aristizabal Sanchez
Mr. Lloyd Calvin Schwing
Mr. Lawrence Stelly
Mrs. Michèle Totah and Mr. Gabriele Marcelli
Ms. Arlene Veach
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Werner

La Voce Italiana

Published six times a year (January, March, May, July, September and November) by the Italian Cultural & Community Center (ICCC) of Houston.

1101 Milford Street,
Houston, Texas 77006

La Voce Italiana is a benefit to ICCC members and is also available by subscription for $15 per year. For more subscription information, please call 713-524-4222 ext. 6 or email accounting@iccchouston.com

2018 ICCC Board of Directors

Officers
Livia Bornigia President
John Marion Carrabba 1st Vice President
Tracy Lalasz 2nd Vice President
Julie Mastroianni Treasurer
Dolores (Dee) Avioli Assistant Treasurer
Bernard Marino Secretary
Peter Scalzitti Assistant Secretary
Jo Ann Pinkerton Past President

Board of Directors
Gerry Barone
Raluca Dalea
Tommaso De Poi
Gary W. DeSerio
Frank S. Panebianco
Mark G. Parenti
Jo Ann Pinkerton
Claudia Sims
The Houston Italian Festival’s 40 for 40 Fundraising Campaign was kicked off in March with a letter to all members and friends of the ICCC. As of June 1, 2018, we have received $6,880 from 102 members and friends, totaling 172 units of $40, for an average of almost $68 per donation. Please join with the current supporters and help us reach our goal of $10,000. We thank all of our donors listed below and look forward to receiving your donation soon. List of donors current as of date of printing.

I SAY YES TO “40 FOR 40”

"40 for 40" DONATION FORM

Name as it is to appear in La Voce:

Address: _____________________________________________________________

City: __________________________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Enclosed is my check for (Circle One):

$40  $80  $120  $160  $200  $240  $280  $________

Make checks payable to: Italian Cultural & Community Center

Mail to: 40th Houston Italian Festival - 1101 Milford Street, Houston, TX 7006
Exactly 500 years ago, an amazing artist was born in Venice: Jacopo Robusti, better known as Tintoretto. He took the name Tintoretto (little dyer), from his father’s profession of dyer (tintore in Italian).

Tintoretto was called by the contemporaries “Il furioso”, the furious, because of his temperament and style in painting. Along with Titian and Paolo Veronese, he is considered among the best Venetian painters of the 16th century.

Tintoretto was one of the greatest proponents of Mannerism, an artistic style from late Renaissance that features the use of bold colors, twisting figures and exaggerated proportion. Tintoretto’s style was dramatic and innovative. His works feature many religious scenes commissioned by churches, as well as mythological scenes and portraits of Venice commissioned by the venetian elite. Some of Tintoretto’s best-known works are: The Miracle of Saint Mark, 1548 (Gallerie dell’Accademia, Venice), Susanna and the Elders, 1555-1556 (Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna) and The Last Supper, 1594 (Church of San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice).

Tintoretto tried to combine two big traditions: Michelangelo’s drawing style (Tuscan tradition) with Titian’s use of color (Venetian tradition). For almost his entire life, Tintoretto remained in his hometown, becoming one of the most important painters of the 16th century.

Tintoretto is famous for his theatrical scenes, figures in motion, and use of opposing forces within a deep pictorial space. In order to study the effect of light and shadow and the relations among figures and space, he would prepare small model stages that he set up with small figures made of clay or wax. Tintoretto died in Venice in 1594 after a long and fulfilling career.

In occasion of the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Jacopo Tintoretto, the National Gallery of Art of Washington and the Fondazione Musei Civici di Venezia with the special cooperation of the Gallerie dell’Accademia, will organize a not to be missed exhibition on the Venetian master. Tintoretto: Artist of Renaissance Venice will be at the National Gallery of Art of Washington from March 10 through July 7, 2019. This will be an incredible event, the first retrospective of the artist in North America. The exhibition will feature almost 50 paintings and more than a dozen works on paper spanning the artist’s entire career.
## JULY 2018

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### July 8 - Italian Mass and Pasta Lunch
Join us every second Sunday of the month at 10:30 am for a Roman Catholic Mass which is said in both Italian and English. If you decide to stay after Mass, a delicious home-cooked pasta lunch is served for only $5 a plate (children 10 and under are free). Experience Mass, or just come for lunch, in a personal setting with family and friends.

- **Time:** Mass starts at 10:30 am, Lunch starts at 11:30 am ($5 pasta lunch) | **Place:** ICCC Houston

### July 14 - La Piccola Cucina - Italian Cooking Class for Kids
La Piccola Cucina is a hands-on cultural culinary experience for children aged 3-10 years old. Children will wear chef aprons and toques and learn basic Italian language, metric system and culture while preparing authentic Italian cuisine. Children will be making zaletti.

- **Time:** 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | **Price:** $30 for Members and $45 for Non-Members | **Place:** ICCC Houston

### July 18 - The Pantheon and Other Secrets of Rome’s Campus Martius
Join us as we reveal the ruins of the Campus Martius, and address some of the mysteries of the Pantheon itself, not the least of which is the answer to the question: Who built the Pantheon? Lecture presented by Louis F. Aulbach and Linda C. Gorski of the Houston Archeological Society.

- **Time:** 7:00 pm | **Price:** $10 for Members and $15 for Non-Members | **Place:** ICCC Houston

### July 20 - Come Wine With Us: Una Fresca Sera d’Estate
Join us for a summer evening of fresh wine and Italian summer-inspired food! This guided wine tasting will offer wines from multiple regions of Italy paired with bites from chef Roberto Crescini of Fresco Cafe Italiano.

- **Time:** 7:00 pm | **Price:** $55 for Members and $65 for Non-Members | **Place:** ICCC Houston

### July 25 - Ciao Houston Summer Film Festival: Them Who
Say hello to summer! Join us for the final screening of the Ciao Houston Summer Film Festival, contemporary comedies from Italy premiering in Texas!

- **Time:** 7:00 pm | **Price:** $10 for Members and $15 for Non-Members | **Place:** ICCC Houston

### July 26 - Cucina Conversations with Flavia’s Flavors
Our popular summer cooking series is back for round two! Come learn how to cook authentic Italian dishes and learn more about Italy through stories and facts with Flavia Scalizitti, a food blogger and member of the ICC. The theme for this class will be “Italian Street Food”.

- **Time:** 7:00 pm | **Price:** $60 for Members and $65 for Non-Members | **Place:** ICCC Houston

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### August 2018

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**August 12 - Italian Mass and Pasta Lunch**

Join us every second Sunday of the month at 10:30 am for a Roman Catholic Mass which is said in both Italian and English. If you decide to stay after Mass, a delicious home-cooked pasta lunch is served for only $5 a plate (children 10 and under are free). Experience Mass, or just come for lunch, in a personal setting with family and friends.

- **Time:** Mass starts at 10:30 am, Lunch starts at 11:30 am ($5 pasta lunch) | **Place:** ICCC Houston

**August 23 - Cucina Conversations with Flavia's Flavors**

Our popular summer cooking series is back for round two! Come learn how to cook authentic Italian dishes and learn more about Italy through stories and facts with Flavia Scalizitti, a food blogger and member of the ICCC. The theme for this class will be "Dinner in Puglia".

- **Time:** 7:00 pm | **Price:** $60 for Members and $65 for Non-Members | **Place:** ICCC Houston

**August 23 - 8th Annual Festa di Ferragosto**

Join us for our annual Ferragosto celebration with a screening of the film "L'ora Legale"! Bring your friends and a favorite bottle of wine. Pizza and soft drinks will be served. Previous registration required.

- **Time:** Film starts at 5:30 pm, doors open at 5:00 pm | **Price:** $15 for Members and $20 for Non-Members | **Place:** ICCC Houston
2019 ICCC Scholarship Recipients

By Ray Miller and Kathryn Brough

Catherine Sinacori: ICCC Merit Based Scholarship

Catherine Sinacori has graduated Glenda Dawson High School in Pearland, TX, and will be attending Texas A&M University’s Mays Business School as part of the freshman entrepreneur program beginning in the Fall of 2018. At Dawson High School she matriculated with a STEM endorsement. Catherine’s interests include art and wildlife conservation. For four years, she volunteered at the Houston Museum of Natural Science as part of the Moran Ecoteen program, consequently earning the Museum’s Young Philanthropist Award, and the United States President’s Gold Volunteer Service Award for three consecutive years. She has won awards for her art, primarily sketches of endangered and threatened species. These awards include a Perfect Score at the Texas Winter Regional Visual Arts Scholastic Event, 1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place, Honorable mention, and First Honorable Mention at the 2016 Houston Art Society Fall Contest, and Honorable mention at the 2016 Houston Art Society Fall Contest. At Dawson High School, Catherine excelled academically, taking an all pre-AP and AP curriculum. She served as Treasurer for one year and President for two years of the Dawson High School Science Club. Additionally, she served as Secretary/Treasurer and then President of the Dawson High School National English Honor Society. Catherine was also a Leadership Team Member of the Dawson High School Council on Harvey Disaster Relief. Catherine has been privileged to experience global travel including trips to China, Costa Rica, England, France, Lebanon, and, of course, Italy. Catherine is grateful and honored to have received this award, a personally meaningful tribute to her Italian heritage, love of Italy, and fond childhood memories of the ICCC. Catherine plans to visit Italy again for a summer study abroad as an Aggie upperclassman, further exploring the unique and magnificent regions of Italy, and visiting every gelateria along the way.

Azzurra Corinna Demarie: ICCC Merit and Financial Scholarship

Azzurra Demarie is 17 years old and moved to the United States from Italy 7 years ago. She is a graduate form Cypress Ranch High School, ranking in the top 8% of her class, where she received Distinguished and Honor Roll achievement awards for her success in the classroom. She will be studying at the University of Texas at San Antonio and subsequently at Austin for the next four years to become an aerospace engineer. Azzurra was involved with multiple organizations in high school such as serving as First Vice President for the Pan American Student Forum of Texas and Head Woodwind Leader in band and participating in the National Honor Society, Sign Language Club and Spanish National Honor Society. Upon moving from Italy, she was faced with the challenge of a new language, English, and successfully overcame every obstacle associated with learning a new language while also using it on a daily basis in her education. She is now fully fluent in English and is able to write over ten-page research papers with no issues. Azzurra aspires to one day work at SpaceX or NASA. Ever since she was young, her favorite classes were math and science, and she has always been intrigued by solving algorithms and astronomy. She particularly enjoys watching documentaries and reading books about space travel and discoveries. She is grateful for having been selected to receive this award and excited for her future as an engineer.

Elizabeth Kate Gex: Wayne D. Duddleston, Sr. and Margie DiPuma Scholarship

Elizabeth graduated from Stratford High School as the Valedictorian of her class. She will be attending Vanderbilt University starting in the fall studying Medicine, Health, and Society, with plans to work as a pediatrician in a third world country. While maintaining a perfect GPA, Elizabeth was able to handle the load of 8 AP classes and participated in 19 different extracurricular activities, including leadership positions in Student Council, JV Soccer Team Captain, Student-Led Community Service Project Team leader, and various mission trips. She has been awarded numerous academic and other awards including Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art Competition Blue Ribbons and Stratford’s Prudential Spirit of Community Award. Elizabeth has family ties to Italy through her grandmother, who emigrated from Turin, Italy at age 25. ■
Italian Rice Salad

Recipe by Manuela Zangara of Manu's Menu (https://www.manusmenu.com/italian-rice-salad-sundaysupper)

Italians eat rice salads quite often during spring and summer and there are countless recipes. In fact, you can make rice salad in so many different ways and eat a new dish every single time. The most classic version ever: a mix of vegetables, pickles, tuna, ham and cheese. This is the perfect summer meal with all the flavours of the Mediterranean!

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Total time: 25 minutes
Makes 4 servings

Ingredients:
- 450 gms – 1 lb. arborio rice or parboiled
- 115 gms – 4 oz. ham cubed
- 150 gms – 5 oz. Swiss cheese cubed (emmenthal would be best)
- 85 gms – 3 oz. peas boiled and drained
- 85 gms – 3 oz. mixed Italian vegetable pickles giardiniera, chopped
- 85 gms – 3 oz. green olives pitted and quartered
- 150 gms – 5 oz. tuna
- 5 tbsp corn
- 10 cherry tomatoes quartered
- Basil leaves
- 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions
1. Cook the rice in salted boiling water following the package instructions. I suggest you keep it al dente as there is nothing worse that a rice salad made with overcooked rice! Drain it well and rinse it under cold water to get rid of the starch. Keep aside to cool down completely.
2. Put the ham, cheese, peas, pickles, olives, tuna, corn, tomatoes, and basil in a big bowl and mix.
3. When the rice is cold, add it to the bowl. Season with 2 tablespoons of extra virgin olive oil, and salt and pepper to taste. Mix well.
4. Keep aside for 10 minutes and then serve.

Pair it with: Prosecco


Prosecco has fast become the aperitivo of choice for wine drinkers around the world, but it also makes a fun holiday pour. The best are Prosecco Superiore bottlings from Conegliano and Valdobbiadene, as well as offerings from the small Asolo growing zone, all of which are charming, affordable and loaded with personality.

The most celebrated wines come from the Conegliano Valdobiadene areas. The bulk of Prosecco DOC is cultivated on low-lying plains in nine provinces that span the Veneto and Friuli Venezia Giulia regions. Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore DOCG hails from hillside vineyards in a much smaller growing zone in the Treviso province of Veneto. Situated between the Dolomites and the Adriatic Sea, the sunny slopes ripen the grapes, while high altitudes guarantee freshness even in hot vintages. Prosecco and Prosecco Superiore are both made from a minimum of 85% of the native grape Glera, and they get their bubbles through the Charmat method of second fermentation in steel tanks. Champagne and Metodo Classico sparkling wines, on the other hand, are made via classic bottle fermentation.
Charity Guild of St. Joseph
By Gerry Barone, president

We had a very nice luncheon at Christie's Seafood on May 17th and even though we did not have an Altar this year, we presented a check to the St. Vincent DePaul Society at the luncheon. We are getting ready for our Altar for 2019 and in the next issue we hope we can announce a place to have the Altar. Please have a wonderful summer and stay cool.

Italy in America Association (IIAA)
By Betty Donellan, president

May 5, 2018 marked the closing for this year of our IIAA meetings. Jeannie and Larry Ryan opened their lovely home in Katy with more than 40 guests in attendance

With the Garfield “stuff it” theme, Susan Merlino took first in the antipasti category with stuffed artichokes, while Diane Goyett’s stuffed mushrooms won a close second. In the pasta category, Diane Nizza's manicotti was first and Diana Holden's tortellini al pesto won second. Joe Nelson and Jerry Reimondo’s stuffed meatballs took first and David Fontaine’s stuffed steak was second. Mitty Meyers, who was also celebrating her birthday, took top honors in the dessert category for her cake, and Gene Brenner won second place for his tiramisù.

Horse racing fans or not, we all had fun watching the Kentucky Derby, which was better than having front-row seats. The day was topped off, quite literally, by one final contest.

Daughters of Italian Heritage
By Jennie Trapolino | Jamie Russo, president

If you are looking for something fun to do, come join us for one of our meetings. The Daughters meet once a month, on the second Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. at the Italian Cultural and Community Center, 1101 Milford. If you would like to attend a meeting, contact Anna Messer at anna4ever29@att.net, or visit our website at www.ciaodiva.org.

One of the advantages of our organization (besides our charitable work, our participation in the Festa Italiana, and, of course, the wonderful friends we make) are the dinners. We go out to dinner in July and have a Christmas Party in December. Each of the other months, there is a committee in charge of dinner. We always start the meetings with wonderful homemade dinners, and, believe me, we have some wonderful cooks in the Daughters, but can always use some more. But, not to worry, even if you can’t boil water, and even if you are not Italian, we would love to have you.

Amiketos
By Minnette Passante Carraba | Rosalie Montalbano Aquilina, president

Marylyn Colonetta and Minnette Carrabba hosted the annual Mother’s Day Banquet at the Post Oak Grill. A large group made up of members, daughters, and friends attended. Luchia Marks, daughter of Cynthia Marks, the youngest attendee crowned the Blessed Mother.

Ada Francescon was awarded an orchid plant in honor of being the oldest mother in attendance. Camella Turano was honored with a gift from the Club for her being an outstanding member for 60 years.

The luncheon was excellent. Polo Becerra, the owner of the Post Oak Grill, did an outstanding job of making everyone feel special.

Ginger Musachia and Josephine Valenti hosted the Spring Social. A road trip to Galveston with the destination of the Gálvez Hotel was enjoyed by members and their guests. A spectacular brunch at the hotel was enjoyed by the group. Afterward everyone was on their own for touring, shopping or visiting. They hosted a very fun outing.

Unite
By Gerry Barone, president

We are on a hiatus for the summer. Anyone who wants to sign up for the sausage booth at the 40th Annual Festa, please let me know. Either email me at gtbarone@swbell.net or call me at (713) 526-4239.
Sponsorship Packages Still Available for Festa Italiana

By Ray Miller

The planning for the 40th Annual Houston Italian Festival started early in January 2018. Thanks to the arduous work of the Executive Committee of the Festival all aspects and details will be done and in place for the first customer to enter the grounds on October 11, 2018. We find it hard to believe that the Festival is celebrating 40 years but please rest assured: special things are in works so that the 40th Houston Italian Festival will go down as the best ever. The Chairman for the 40th Houston Italian Festival is a long-time volunteer, Frankie Pizzitola. Chairman Pizzitola stated, “Our hard-working committee is dedicated to presenting an exciting and enjoyable time for everyone that joins us October 11-14, 2018 and we look forward to seeing all of you this year.”

Sponsorships are going strong, as almost all last year’s sponsors have returned and so far, we have added a few new ones. There are several Italian flags left to sponsor at $500 per flag. Please help us to sell all the flags. The available flags at time of printing are Liguria and Umbria. Also, all the food booths have been sponsored and the exciting entertainment has been booked. We will be publishing all the names of our sponsors to date in the next edition of La Voce Italiana. There are some $500 sponsorships and major sponsorships still available.

If you are interested in sponsoring, please email or call Alessandra Pistone, Business Director, at accounting@iccchouston.com or 713-524-4222 ext. 6. You can also find the complete sponsorship package on our website at www.HoustonItalianFestival.com.

We will have our usual, wonderful events: I Madonnari High School Art Contest, Marionette Puppet Shows, Adult Bocce Ball Tournament, La Piccola Cucina, Adult Grape Stomps, Class Car Show, Adult and Student Photography Contest, Pasta Eating Contests, wine tastings, cooking demos, learning to dance the Tarantella, live on stage entertainment, and much, much more, including some new introduction to the activities to be announced later.

October is right around the corner, and we hope to see you there! ■

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