



La Voce

The Newsletter of the
Italian American Club of Boise
www.iacboise.org

The Italian American Club of Boise

JULY 2017

(BY RMS)

UPCOMING EVENTS *****

JULY Bocce

18—Board Meeting
22—RiverBurch Golf
30—General Meeting
& Pot Luck

AUG Bocce

Impromptu Dinner ?
15- Board Meeting

SEP

16—Cooking Class
19—Board Meeting
TBA—Wine Tasting

Italian American
Club of Boise
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83707

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT!

Buon Giorno,

Best wishes for a fun & safe 4th of July! This is the day all Americans, especially Italian-Americans, celebrate Independence. We have a long & glorious history in American & many positive contributions to our way of life. Besides bringing in the most popular ethnic food like ravioli & wine like Chianti, major contributions to banking – the Bank of America was started by Italians as the Bank of Italy, such companies as Jacuzzi, Progresso, & Ghirardelli contributed by Italians to the American way of life. Among other remarkable contributions, Italians made their mark on aircraft design, elected to offices such as Mayors, Governors and other political leaders. Italian Sister Francesca Cabrini founded many hospitals, schools & hospitals. She was the first American saint. Be proud!

The IAC Annual Picnic was a huge success for the 93+ people who attended. There was so much fabulous Italian food that no one went home hungry. We all enjoyed the feast with Italian music playing & good friends to share memories with. And all remarked on the families there – there were children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren! The kids really enjoyed the Jenga & bean bag toss & each other. The cutest sight was a barely one year old “walking around” with her father not far behind to watch out for her. We have our very own “party planner extraordinaire” to thank for the wonderful day – Donna Naggi! She did a wonderful job of planning & carrying out the day. Thanks from all of us to Donna!

Coming up this month will be the Club’s Day of Golf. July 22 at River Burch Golf Course at 9 AM, members & friends will enjoy the game together. Lunch will follow. It’s \$60 to play. You can pay on PayPal or send a check to IAC at the PO Box. Call George Gutierrez or Bob Akeson for details.

Our July General Membership Meeting will be held on July 30, 3 PM, at the Odd Fellows Hall. We will review timely business & then have an Ice Cream Social provided by the Club. You won’t need to bring anything except your taste for an ice cream sundae & maybe affogato. See you there!

Last year we collected over \$2000 for victims of the earthquake in Italy. This year we saw the delivery of the funds to help support abandoned children in the hardest hit town of Montereale. During his personal trip to Italy, member Paul Zelus delivered the check to their priest who will see that they receive the things they need. Thank you Paul for seeing this through.

Ciao, Catherine 761-2872

IAC GOLF OUTING

A Day of Golf for members & guests will be held on

**Saturday July 22 , 9:00 am at the
River Birch Golf Course in Star.**

**There is a possibility that the time will change again to 8 am.
If this happens, they will send out an announcement!**

The cost will be \$60.00 per person which includes a shared cart and a BBQ lunch.

We will play a foursome best ball format.

So far we have over 30 golfers -- both guys and gals.

And there will be prizes !

If you would like to join us and/or could donate prizes please contact:

Bob Akeson 209 541-8333 or George Gutierrez 208 229-0095

SAUSAGE & PEPPERS SALES EVENT UPDATE

On May 28 I received word that our application to be a Sausage & Peppers vendor at September's Art in the Park had not been approved. June 1 was the deadline to apply for a similar event in September in the North End, but we did not apply. At this point, I am focusing on securing the Vendor's License from the County Health Dept, so that we will be in legal conformity if we want to move ahead & sell our food at some future events. I am committed to developing the Sausage & Peppers event as an ongoing, reliable fundraiser for the club.

Meanwhile, there are things that we can do to prepare for an actual sales event:

1. Explore rental of the Bonaminio trailer from the person who bought it.
2. Fully assemble the hot water heater and sink equipment given to us by Dan Bonamio.
3. Put together a subcommittee of three people who may want to work on this project.

Thank you ! Paul Zelus

IAC BOARD

Tuesday - July 18, 6:00pm

Open Forum
Recording Secretary's Report
Corresponding Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Vice President's Report
President's Report
Standing Committee Reports
Unfinished Business
New Business

Next Board Meeting: **August 15, 2017 ?**

Same location:
St Michael's Cathedral
Funsten Bldg Library
518 N 8th St Downtown Boise 83702

All members of the Italian American Club are
welcome to attend Board Meetings.

Special Announcement!

**IAC Member, Victor Frangiosa is the new USBF
Idaho State Singles Champion for 2017!
Victor competed on Sunday, June 18th at
Ann Morrison Park in the Idaho
Bocce Ball Club State Championship.**

**If you have any questions, please feel free to
contact IAC Member, Rita Harding at**

208-794 0282

Thank you!

Italy Earthquake Donation Report: Paul Zelus

On May 2, 2017 I met with IAC President Catherine Carter and she presented me with a check for \$2,000 which I was to deliver to the Pastor of a local church caring for three orphans, as recommended at the IAC Board Meeting of April 18th. I deposited the check to my personal checking account, and upon my arrival in Italy on May 8th, began making a series of ATM withdrawals to obtain the amount of 2,010 Euros.

On May 11th I telephoned Don Serafino Lo Iacono, pastor of St. Mary Assumption parish of Montereale, a village in the Abruzzo region of Italy that was hit several times by severe earthquakes in 2016. We arranged to meet the next day at a mutually acceptable location so I would not have to drive three hours over rough terrain to the devastated village. Father Serafino further said that it would be ill-advised to visit Montereale by car. So on May 12th we met at the busy intercity bus station located at the Hotel Amiternum in the city of L'Aquila. We sat in the large and busy cafeteria of the Hotel, which was filled with students and other international travelers. I had prepared a "Story" of the Club's involvement in the earthquake relief effort, explaining how Toni Smith was born in a small village in southern Abruzzo and that after her emigration to America helped to found the Italian American Club of Boise nearly 45 years ago. I explained that her sister and her son Lorenzo both live in the same village of Toni's birth, and that the nephew had attained some notoriety after rescuing two survivors of the Hotel Rigopiano avalanche disaster which cost 32 lives in January of 2017. Don Serafino called Lorenzo the following day to thank him for his rescue work, and for stimulating the faraway donations to his orphaned children.

The priest then wrote a detailed letter attempting to explain the situation of the children, while also insisting on protecting their privacy by not presenting photos or names which could inadvertently end up on the internet, etc. In brief, the children, now ages 1, 3, and 5, had lost their father to cancer merely a month before the first earthquake of August 24, 2016 destroyed the parents' house, and that a second quake in October destroyed the school and rescue center where orphaned children were forced to live. Meanwhile, the mother delivered her third child, and on January 18, 2017 another major quake struck Montereale, leading the hysterical mother to suffer psychological collapse and to abandon her children. A fourth quake struck a few days later, after a snowfall of seven feet isolated the village and cut off all power for several days. Sadly, as I was preparing this article, two earthquakes of 3.5 and 3.1 magnitude struck the village again, on June 30th, 2017. In 1703 the entire village was destroyed by the catastrophic earthquake that struck the region that year.

Father Serafino indicated he would write an accounting of the status of the children and how the donated funds were distributed at some time during the Fall of 2017. He told me that the children are now under the guardianship of the deceased father's sister, an unmarried woman of meager economic means. We had a very positive meeting and he was visibly moved by the gesture of our donation. He spoke no English and I spoke only limited Italian, but we got along fine. Thank you to all club members who contributed to the earthquake relief fund, and for entrusting me with the mission of delivering it. Seeing how much the priest was moved by our efforts, I took away far more from that meeting than any donation could match.

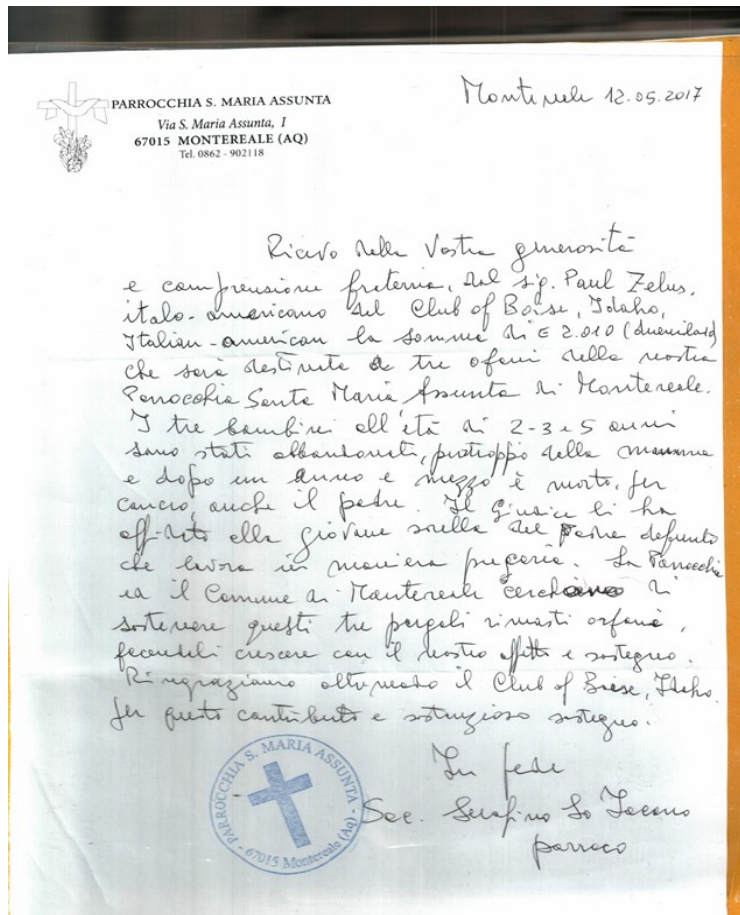
Paul Zelus

And letter of gratitude on the following page!

All the way from Montereale !



Paster Don Serafino Lo Iacono



ANNUAL IAC PICNIC A HUGE SUCCESS

Thanks to all who helped with the annual picnic. Everyone had a great time and it could not have been possible without the help of "Team Naggi".

Catherine Carter-Goldston – The best mentor anyone could have.

Rich Goldston – Set-Up, Take Down and whatever else needed doing.

Dave Palumbo – Thank you for coming through with the truck at the last minute.

Dennis and Cori Niehoff – Presenters of The Pledge of Allegiance and the Blessing.

Connie Capobianco – The map of Italy was a hit.

Jim Naggi – Emcee and Italian music play list.

Pietro and Drinda Petroni – Sold enough drawing tickets to make over \$200 for the club.

Megan Levi – The kids loved the giant Jenga blocks and the bag toss.

Jen Petino – Thanks for helping Loretta make new members feel welcome.

Diana Parker – Set-Up help.

SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!!!!!!