

ALTRE VOCI

O T H E R V O I C E S

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NEWSLETTER OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

Getting Married in Italy

Nothing is more touching or romantic than an Italian American couple getting married in Italy. Having the wedding in Italy immediately connects the couple to where the family began. It is a highly symbolic event, a completion of the family circle..

For the couple, deciding what region, village or city in Italy to have the wedding could be based on the importance of family heritage or romance. An Italian American couple may want to consider the ceremony and reception in the Italian region or even village where the family came from. Perhaps, the couple may find the same church to get married in Italy where the bride's grandparents were married.

The reception could be held in a restored villa or farmhouse in the Italian countryside with spectacular views near where the family once worked or lived or in the families ancestral home or garden. If the ancestral village is not up to the task to handle the occasion, the couple could have the wedding in Venice, Florence or Rome, or another famously romantic location.

Italy is accustomed to having Americans marry there and there is a growing trend of Americans getting married in Italy. The American embassies in Italy report a major increase in Americans traveling to Italy to get married. There are a number of established wedding planning companies located in Italy and the United States which specialize in arranging and organizing weddings in Italy for American couples.

Italian American couples may at first be reluctant to have their weddings in Italy because of cost and logistical considerations. The good news is that Italy is both an affordable and accessible location for weddings. When it comes to cost, getting married in Italy would be no more expensive than if the couple got married in the United States. Wedding planners say the average cost of a wedding in Italy with about 50 guests is between \$10,000 to \$17,000. Of course, this does not include accommodations for guests. Italian weddings are in some ways more affordable than their U.S. counterparts because of easy access to Italian gourmet food and Italian favors, two costly elements of Italian American weddings.

As for travel, Italy is one of the top tourist destinations for Americans. In fact, Italy ranks as the most requested foreign destination by all Americans. Travel by air to Italy is accessible in almost every city and region in the United States. Still, traveling to Italy may be intimidating to some family members and guests who do not usually travel overseas. Invited guests should know that it is often less expensive to fly to Italy than it is within the United States. The couple could inform guests about the affordability of traveling to Italy with a brief written statement included in the wedding invitations with airline suggestions. With the help of a tourist agent or wedding planner, the couple could establish a group rate with a particular airline to ease guests' apprehensions about traveling to Italy. When it comes to hotel accommodations, wedding planners specializing in Italian weddings are often able to find reduced group rates at hotels there.

In regard to legal concerns, the couple should check out their state law as it pertains to their marriage in Italy. In most states, there are no legal ramifications in getting married overseas. State laws govern the marriage according to where the couple resides in the United States at the time they got married. It does not matter if the wedding takes place overseas. Once the ceremony is completed in Italy the couple is considered married by the state where they currently reside. Italian law has no bearing.

Although the marriage in Italy is governed by an American state, couples still have to fulfill certain steps dictated by Italian law, mostly in the area of required paperwork. A number of documents required by Italy for a marriage to take place must be written in Italian and submitted months in advance. Therefore, the couple should be prepared to hire a translator or a bilingual wedding planner to assist them in preparing documentation. To learn more about the legal steps of marrying in Italy, contact the Italian Consulate Office in your region or the U.S. State Department. *Reprinted from an article by Reem Nourallah in the August 2005 issue of PRIMO Magazine. To learn more about PRIMO log on to (www.Primomagazine.com).*



Meet The Author “The Stonecutter’s Aria”

Friday, May 12 - 8:00 pm at the Italian Cultural Center
2791 - 24th St. (24th St & 4th Ave.) Free.



Writer Carol Faenzi’s passion for all that is Italian takes her frequently to her ancestors homeland. Her new book, *The Stonecutter’s Aria*, is a dramatic tale based on the true stories of an Italian immigrant family. The authors ancestral voices lead her into the marble quarries of Carrara, the green hills of Tuscany, the journey to America, the streets of Little Italy and back to the place where the stars melted. It’s a love story. It’s an adventure story. It’s a history lesson. But it’s mostly a lesson in how valuable it is to be connected to our past and to reclaim our families stories.

21st Festa Italiana Festa Italiana! - August 5 & 6

Every year Northern California’s Italian community gathers together for two days of Italian style food, music, dancing, fun and friendship. This year celebrates the 21st annual Festa Italiana - and promises to be one of the best festivals ever. The line up of performers booked is stellar including Sacramento’s three Italian folk dance troupes. And who could resist the Italian food specialties and drinks served up at Festa Italiana. Shop the Marketplace, meet the Queen and her Court, see the Italian cars and motor scooters, play bocce and dance the night away. The festa will be held at the festival park on Auburn blvd. Mark your calendar and celebrate everything Italian at Festa 2006.

Festa Queen Pageant - Applications are now being accepted for young ladies (age 16 - 22) of Italian descent interested in competing in the Festa Queen Pageant. The Queen receives a \$1,000 scholarship. Queen contestants should contact Jennifer Caruso at 916-690-5634 or giselle8201@msn.com for an application.

Vendors & Volunteers - Vendors who wish to market their products or services in the Festa Marketplace should contact Carol at (916)722-6476. Restaurants interested in selling food should contact Dominick at (916)919-2229. We need volunteers to work in the Beverage, Raffle and Society booths - call Patty at (916)399-9592 to sign up.

Sponsors - Families, businesses and individuals are invited to support Festa with sponsorship donations. All sponsors will be listed in the Souvenir Festival Program. Donations (\$50 to \$500) can be sent to the Italian Cultural Society at PO Box 189427, Sacramento, CA, 95818. **Tel: (916) 452-5900.**

Gioventù Italiana

What is Gioventù? It is young people (age 18 - 38) interested in exploring Italian and Italian American culture. The Gioventù will host two events over the next several months.

Italian Game Night - Saturday, May 27 - 6 pm. An evening of playing old favorites and learning new Italian games. If you would like to share an Italian game call Jennifer Caruso at (916) 690-5634.

Italian Photo Night - Saturday, June 10 - 6 pm. Come for an exciting evening of sharing our heritage. All are invited to bring photos of your Italian ancestors and relatives and their stories. Call Julie Radtke at (916) 601-6051 For additional information about Gioventù, contact - gioventu_sacto@hotmail.com.

THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER FUND

Our new Italian Center will serve as the cultural headquarters for our community in this region. Our plans include a museum and exhibit hall that will serve the needs of our entire statewide community. The Center, located in Sacramento, the Capital City of California, will also serve as a major cultural institution for the Italians in the West. We would like to thank the following people for their donations. Donations can be sent payable to The ICS Building Fund, at P.O. Box 189427, Sacramento, CA 95818.

\$1,000

Justin Micheli - *in memory of Angelina Micheli & in honor of the Justin Micheli Family*

Dennis Ramondini - *in honro of the Ramondini Family*

\$500

Gerallynn Patellaro - *in honor of Pietro Patellaro*

\$250

Richard J Vanucci - *in honor of AKCM Richard J. Vanucci, USNR, ret*

\$100

Richard J Vanucci - *in honor of GYSGT John Basilone, USMC, MOH*

Rena Barsanti - *in memory of Renato, Eda & Henry Barsanti*

Darryl & Diane Martin - *in memory of Theresa Ginotti (mother)*

\$25

Linda Smith - *in memory of Onorata Biundo*

Nello & Susie Giusti - *in memory of Rosina, Giusti & Mr & Mrs G. Girolami*

Pauline Amaro - *Antonia & Pauline Rogato*

SUMMER ITALIAN CLASSES

at THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER 2791 24th Street, Sacramento.

Our 5-week summer program is the perfect balance for relaxed summer learning. Three levels of **Italian Conversation** are the relaxed, teacher led conversation groups guaranteed to improve your speaking and comprehension. **Italiano "Ponte"** offers students the perfect opportunity to increase vocabulary, practice grammar and participate in conversations. All Summer Classes are offered at \$95.00. It's fun and it's easy to learn Italian! **Register on line or at the first class meeting.** Phone: (916) 482-5900 or reserve your class in class at www.italiancenter.net



SUMMER 2006 CLASS SCHEDULE:

Beginning Conversation:

Day Section : July 12 to Aug 9

Wednesday, 10:15 am to 12:15 pm

Evening Section : July 12 to Aug 9

Wednesday, 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Requires completing Italian 2 or teacher ok

Advanced Conversation:

Day Section : July 13 to Aug 10

Thursday, 10:15 am to 12:15 pm

Evening Section : July 13 to Aug 10

Thursday, 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Requires completing Italian 6 or teacher ok



Intermediate Conversation:

Day Section: July 11 to August 8

Tuesday, 10:15 to 12:15 pm

Evening Section: July 11 to August 8

Tuesday, 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Requires completing Italian 4 or teacher ok

Beginning Uno Ponte:

Evening Section: July 13 to August 10

Thursday, 7:00 to 9:00 pm

"Ponte" means bridge, and this class is the perfect bridge for students who have taken Italiano Uno and wish to continue to Due. Review key grammar.



☆ ITALIAN FOR TRAVELERS ☆

Day Section : July 11 to August 8 *Tuesdays, 10:15 to 12:15 pm

Evening Section : July 11 to August 8 *Tuesdays, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Anyone traveling to Italy- can prepare and greater enjoy their trip by taking our **Italian for Travelers class** and learning basic conversation through in class role play. Communicate almost instantly in most basic travel situations. This informative course goes beyond "travel talk" to give travelers the insider's edge on things to do, places to visit and how to travel confidently throughout Italy. Instructor, Patrizia Cinquini Cerruti, is a native of Tuscany, an expert travel planner and the author of the course textbook: Buon Viaggio! A Traveler's Guide to Italian Language and Culture.

THANKSGIVING IN TUSCANY

◆◆◆ 9 days◆ Two departures◆◆◆

November 10 to 18, 2006 or November 17 to 25, 2006

This nine day excursion is such a favorite itinerary that we are offering two departures again this year. This Italian Cultural Society exclusive 9 day tour of the *Treasures of Tuscany* is always a sell out, so reserve early to make sure you visit the fabled cities of Florence, Lucca, Siena, Volterra, Pisa, San Gimignano, Montecatini, Viareggio, and the Chianti Wine Road.

The tour price of \$2,199 and includes round trip air from San Francisco to Florence and first class hotel accommodations, **breakfasts and dinners**. Also included: **sightseeing tours and museum tours, plus fully escorted Private Guide for the entire tour, pre-trip orientation lunch -slide show and much more.** Staying in one hotel for the entire tour makes this the ideal way to visit Italy's most famous region- **TUSCANY!** An optional, all inclusive, tour to Rome is also offered on this itinerary. The tour's Italian Cultural Society host is Tuscan native, Patrizia Cinquini Cerruti. Patrizia will arrange a group bus transfer to San Francisco airport for anyone interested. For information and a complete brochure or to make reservations call (916) 482-5900 or visit www.italiancenter.net.



ALTRE VOCI

OTHER VOICES

The newsletter of Sacramento's
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ALTRE VOCE (Other Voices) is published by Sacramento's Italian Cultural Society, a non-profit membership organization devoted to Italian Americans, their interests and concerns. Membership is open to anyone of good character. Please contact the Italian Cultural Society for information.

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ITALIAN FILM SERIES



Friday, May 19

8:00 pm

*“Wait Until Spring
Bandini”*

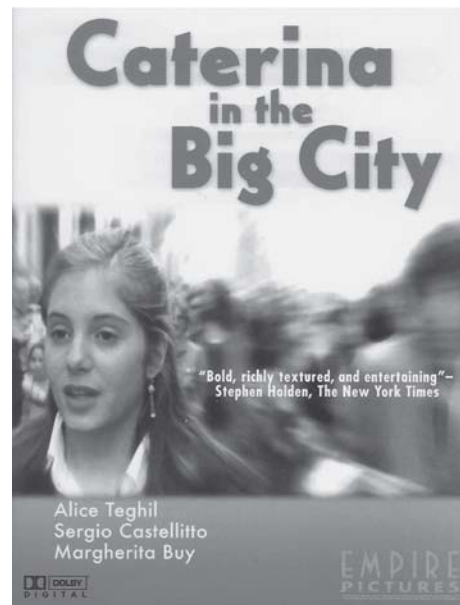
*Immigrant family in the 1920's West.
Stars Faye Dunaway and Joe Mantegna.
(1998) in English*

Friday, June 9

8:00 pm

*“Caterina
in the
Big City”*

*Timeless coming of age film set in
modern day Roma (2005)
Italian with English subtitles.*



Both films are free to the public and shown at the Italian Center, 2791 24th St. - rm 13