

SEATTLE TRENTINO CLUB

Spring 2011

Dates to Save

August 28

September 24-25

Ferragosto Polenta Picnic

Festa Italiana Seattle

2011 Dues are Due

The dues for the 2011 club year became due in January. We have some new members, and many of our charter members have given the club a vote of confidence by renewing their membership as well.

Perhaps you are wondering what your dues money pays for. Here is a small sampling of expenses that were covered this past year: rental of venues for club events (i.e. rental fee for the picnic grounds for the polenta picnic is \$250 plus \$250 refundable damage deposit); paper, ink, envelopes and stamps for mailing newsletters to those not receiving them by e-mail; Tyrolean Christmas Party stockings, ornaments and stocking stuffers for children.

In this first year of our existence, about half of our expenses were covered by individuals who generously contributed not just their money, but their time. It is our goal in this second year to involve more of our members, and to become self-sustaining financially. We know that club activities will continue to be enriched by the contributions of our members.

If you have not yet paid, please send dues of \$25 per household to: Seattle Trentino Club, 700 South 282nd Street #742, Des Moines, WA 98198.

2011 Paid Members

Welcome new members, the households of Paul Paoli, Gary Asson, Julia Ann Benson, Gene Cherin, Nancy Darigo, Judy Asson Henderson, Lisa Branz, Paul Inama Puhek, Tom Agosti, Michelle Lister-Becker, and Grant Rauzi.

2011 dues have also been paid by Jan Agosti, Dorothy Whitney, Shawna Gibson, Denny Johnson, Dan Zadra, Tom Fellin, Dave and Pina Fellin, Bryan Barker, Colleen Barker-Henry, Laureen Rogers, Sean Barker and Joan Barker.

This will help us get going on plans for this year's activities (see calendar above). We also plan to have a *Castagnata* in October or November -- and, of course, our Tyrolean Christmas Party on January 8, 2012.

An updated membership list will be included with the next issue of our newsletter. All those who are current on dues will be included in the list.



Editor's Note: My apologies for the long lapse in communication. I had a total knee joint replacement on March 15 and am up and running now (well, not actually running, but walking fast -- and without pain).

Tyrolean Christmas Warms Hearts

In the midst of our snowy winter, the weather permitted us to gather for our annual Tyrolean Christmas Party at Tyee Yacht Club on Seattle's Lake Union. In a room decked out in red, we celebrated with a decorated tree, a *presepio* (Nativity scene), holiday pictures for the children to color, traditional Trentino foods, and desserts of every kind.

We took a little time as we enjoyed our dinner to introduce ourselves and to share our family histories as they relate to Trentino. We held a brief annual meeting, electing Shawna Gibson as our new secretary and retaining our other officers for another year.

The meeting was followed by the arrival of Babbo Natale who distributed stockings, ornaments and gifts to the children, and conducted a gift exchange for the adults. The story of La Befana was read aloud with lots of group participation, followed by the appearance of the old crone herself, who distributed candies representing *soldi*, *carbone* and *dolci*.

The party was attended by 37 adults and 12 children. Photos are posted online -- see below.



Simon Zapf watching for La Befana.

New Ways to Stay in Touch

In response to a number of requests, we are working on a website for Seattle Trentino Club. In the meantime, we have set up a group page on Facebook. Just type in Seattle Trentino Club and you will find us. I have placed some of you who were "friends" on Facebook on the list of members already. I hope you are enjoying it! I placed a friend request on some of your Facebook pages, so that I could do that for you as well.

Photos from both the Tyrolean Christmas Party and the Ferragosto Polenta Picnic have been posted there for your perusal. Somehow, although I selected them in order from beginning to end of both of these events, they were posted in reverse order. Maybe one of these days I'll get time to go back and try selecting them in reverse order to see if they will then be posted properly. In the meantime, you can view them in reverse and get the same effect. Enjoy!

Polenta Picnic Planning Begins

The board met earlier this month to set a calendar for the year and to begin planning the



events. It was decided to hold the Ferragosto Polenta Picnic where we had it last year -- at the Landmark on the Sound in Des Moines, WA. It has been reserved and we are beginning to flesh out the details.

We would love to have your input! We welcome any comments or suggestions you have for improvement on last year's format. We need to have a greater involvement of members this year. Unfortunately, last year for the most part, the same people who were setting up early in the morning were tidying up and removing equipment that evening. Many hands make light work and being part of the effort is one of the best ways to get acquainted.



Happenings in Trentino

From May 20 to 23 is the 75th Trentino Wine Fair at Trento's Buonconsiglio Castle and Palazzo Roccabruna featuring food, wine and exhibitions.

If you missed it, as I did, just buy a bottle of one of Trentino's great wines and enjoy it at home. Some brands that are fairly easy to find locally are Cavit and Mezzacorona. Trentino is known especially for its white wines -- my personal favorite is *pinot grigio*.

Festa Italiana Seattle

This year, we plan to be a part of Festa Italiana at the Seattle Center, the weekend of September 24 and 25. This should be a great opportunity to showcase our group. Our hope is that we will be able to have a booth with tourism handouts from Trentino and some videos as well. We are also considering a raffle, and selling printed items such as traditional recipes and/or proverbs.

We feel we are looking at two persons at a time to man the booth. We will have more info later. In the meantime, we would be happy to hear your suggestions!

Host Family Needed for Exchange Student

International Student Exchange needs a host family for a high school foreign exchange student from Italy, for the 2011 fall semester. A potential host family is needed for a boy who is mature, and a great student. He enjoys skiing, bowling, sailing and boating, and loves to play basketball. He can't wait to meet his new American family.

Students come with good English skills, full health insurance and their own personal spending money, and mainly the desire to be a member of an American family. We ask our families to provide a bed (shared room is okay with similar age range) and meals eaten with the family. Host families do not need to have teenagers of their own; young families as well as empty nesters are excellent high school student hosts this year.

For more information about the student and the program, contact Jamin Henderson, Regional Advisor at 360-661-0552 or j.henderson33@hotmail.com.

Doctoral Scholarships in Trentino Available

We have been informed by the Province that the Office of Emigration is offering three three-year scholarships at doctoral schools at the University of Trento. These scholarships are **reserved for the descendants of Trentino emigrants residing abroad** who have a degree in the area of the doctorate school selected.

- The first is in Economics and Management, <http://www.unitn.it/en/drem/10169/presentation>, apply by June 6, 2011;
- The second is in Environmental Engineering, <http://www.unitn.it/en/dree>, application date has not yet been published;
- The third doctoral school has not yet been chosen.

Anyone interested in applying should contact the Office of Emigration immediately:

Lorenza Fracalossi,
Ufficio Emigrazione e Solidarietà Internazionale,
Provincia Autonoma di Trento,
Via Jacopo Aconcio, 5,
38122 Trento - Italia
Tel. ++39 0461 493176
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email: lorenza.fracalossi@provincia.tn.it
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Your participation in Seattle Trentino Club is what makes it successful.

It's time to pay your 2011 dues of only \$25 for you entire household!

\$25 enclosed -- 2011 dues. Thank you for your support!

Name _____

Would you like to volunteer to work on an activity?

Do you have any suggestions for future activities or any comments on past ones?

Please take the time to share your ideas with us below and return to:

Joan Barker, Seattle Trentino Club, 700 S 282nd Street #742, Des Moines, WA 98198
