

SEATTLE TRENTINO CLUB

Celebrating the customs, languages, music, food and traditions of Trentino!



June 2015

Nature's Beauty

At this time of year, with so many flowers in bloom, I understand why this is called the beautiful season, *la bella stagione*. Our recent warm weather makes me think of summer and our upcoming celebration together on August 8 for the Polenta Picnic.

In the past few months, I have had the opportunity to give presentations about Trentino cultural history to the Dante Alighieri Society, to the American Academy of Religion, and to the Association for the Study of Women and Mythology. Sharing my insights about Trentino folk

culture and ancestral wisdom with others, a subject that I am passionate about, helps me appreciate even more what a special heritage we have, and how important everyone's stories are. Like our ancestors, the characters in the folk stories ask us to remember them.

Since the last newsletter, I have received wonderful letters from OR, CA, WA and NY. Please do stay in touch with *your* news. For those of you who are traveling to Trentino this year, we send our good wishes with you. Enjoy your summer and we will see you in August!

With connection, *Mary Beth Moser*

***** Save the Date *****

Annual Polenta Picnic – Saturday, August 8, 2015, 1:00 – 6:00 pm at Des Moines Marina

Plan to attend this annual event with fresh-cooked polenta at the beautiful Des Moines Marina on Saturday, August 8. We would love to have you share in the polenta-making experience! Evite and more information to follow.

Member News and Recent Events

2015 Trentino Youth Exchange Program Participation Awarded to Local Member!



We received the great news that local member **Emily Kalstad**, daughter of **Dan and Lynne Kalstad**, was chosen to participate in the [Trentini Youth Exchange Program](#) organized by the Autonomous Province of Trento / Emigration. Emily will be hosted from July 1 to July 21, 2015 and writes that she is excited to be participating. Emily was born and raised in the Seattle area and is an alum of Washington State University. She has been working at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, California the past three years, and will move back to the Seattle area in June. The Exchange Program selected 22 people from Central America, South America and North America. "I feel very fortunate to be accepted and I am looking forward to making new friends with others who have roots in the Trentino region," Emily shared. She will be staying with a host partner in the town of **Coredo**, and the Exchange Program has organized trips to Venice, Lake Garda and the Dolomites. She is looking forward to learning about where her "**Graiff**" ancestors came from, and experiencing the Italian culture. Congratulations, Emily! We are excited, too, and look forward to hearing about your stay.

New Members – and New Babies – Welcome to the Seattle Trentino Club!

- Welcome **Nora and Ken Shreve** and their children **Kellie and Kevin**. Nora is the granddaughter of **Ricardo and Linda Gabardi**, from **Malgolo**. See more about this family in the “Letters Received” section.



Shreve Family visiting Malgolo in 2009

- Welcome **Jennifer Mattson of Seattle, WA**.
- Welcome **Oliver**, 2 month old son of new member **Kim Boldrini-Senn** of Portland, OR.



- Welcome **Sebastian**, born May 12, 2015, to **Alexia and Juan Cortez-Johnson**. He joins his brother **Elijah**, age 2-1/2. Sebastian is the grandson of **Bruce Johnson**.

We hope to meet you all at the Polenta Picnic in August!

Fifth Year Anniversary Party for Seattle Trentino Club



Anne Zadra, Tina Codiano Fellin, Joan Barker, Bruce Johnson, and Jan Agosti, met at Tutta Bella Pizzeria on Saturday, March 21, for a celebration of our club's founding, five years ago. Although it was short notice, we are grateful to those who could come to help celebrate our beloved *circolo*.

Happy Anniversary to us!

Presentation to Dante Alighieri Society about Trentino Folk Stories

On May 13, **Mary Beth Moser** shared some of her research on the cultural history of Trentino in a presentation to the Dante Alighieri Society entitled: “Magic and Wonder in the Land of the Pale Mountains: Folk Stories of Trentino and the Italian Alps.”



About forty-five people attended the event, which marked the end of the twice-monthly lecture series before they begin again in the fall. The office of the **Association of Trentini nel Mondo** sent packages of tourist information, which was available for those attending. **Lou Brunelli** mailed extra copies of the *Filò* magazine to distribute.



Thanks to all the Seattle Trentino Club members who came and offered their stories and support, to the folks who mailed information, and to the Dante Alighieri Society who extended this invitation!

Visitor from Trentino

Marco Flaim of **Cavareno** in **Val di Non** visited Seattle and met with several Seattle Trentino Club members on January 22. Marco had been in **Yakima**, Washington, selling apple-harvesting machinery they developed in Val di Non to apple growers in Eastern Washington. The machinery was designed to harvest apples in hilly terrain like that in Val di Non and many of the Yakima orchards. He will be returning during the harvest season to provide expertise as the orchardists learn to utilize this tool. Perhaps we can arrange another visit together when he is back in town.

Il Punto! Italian Cultural Center Fundraiser and Celebration Dinner



Dan, Lynne, and Emily Kalstad

Over 100 people, including members of the Seattle Trentino Club, attended this first annual fundraising and celebration dinner event on April 24, 2015 for Seattle's newest Italian organization, Il Punto! Il Punto! is an Italian cultural center, which serves as an umbrella for all the Italian organizations in the area. It was a great success, and sold-out well before the event. The food was delicious, the conversations were fun and fascinating, and the auction items offered the best of Italian food, art, craftsmanship, and technological creativity. If you were not able to attend, you can still join this organization on their web site. <http://ilpuntoseattle.org/> Il Punto also has a Facebook page where they post events of interest to the Italian community. Do check out this great resource!



Live music!



Delightful attendees in panorama vision

First Espresso in Space Sipped by Samantha Cristoforetti – from Val di Sole



“Ms. Cristoforetti is an astronaut, the seventh Italian and the first Italian woman to venture into orbit. She has been at the International Space Station since November, and over the weekend she got to do something quintessentially Italian: She became the first person to drink an authentic serving of what she called “the finest organic suspension ever devised” in space. A special espresso maker, named [ISSpresso](#), was designed for the task by Argotec, an engineering and software firm based in Turin, and the Italian coffee producer Lavazza, with help from the space agency. It was included among the experiments and technical demonstrations that Ms. Cristoforetti, a captain in the Italian Air Force, was scheduled to carry out on her mission

to the station, which ends in mid-May. ‘Coffee represents one of the distinctive elements of Italian culture,’ said a spokeswoman for the agency, who requested anonymity under her agency’s rules for employees.” Excerpted from [New York Times](#)

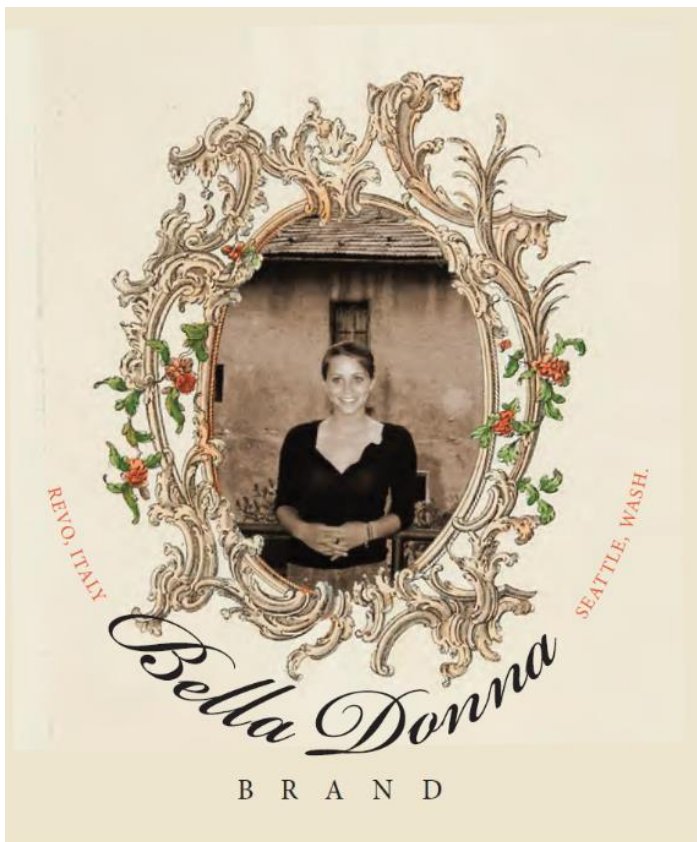
Members – Now Friends – Keeping Traditions Alive

Dan Kalstad, Grant Rauzi, and Dan Zadra met last fall to celebrate time-honored Trentino recipes and traditions, which of course involved excellent food and beverages.



Dan Zadra is the maker of an award-winning wine, which he generously shares at our gatherings.

We are delighted when connections made in our club result in new friendships!



WINE MADE THE TRADITIONAL WAY

In 1907 my grandfather, Fiore, emigrated to America from Revo, Italy. He eventually settled on Seattle's Queen Anne hill. Like most Italians, Nono had a cellar where he made wine for our family. As the years passed, my father Augie continued the tradition to the delight of his five children. This wine is made pretty much in the old way, and it captures the same honest flavor that I remember from long ago.

I purchased the grapes from the same family that sold grapes to my grandfather and father for 60 years. From my family to yours, we hope you enjoy this rare taste from the old days. Remember always that a glass of wine shared with family and friends is not something to be hurried—it is something to be sipped and savored—like life itself.

14% VOL.

"ZUST EN CICHET!"

DAN ZADRA

~~~~ Trentino Songs ~~~~

Joan Barker is posting songs on our Seattle Trentino Club Facebook page for us to learn. Here are the latest entries:

The February Trentino song -- suggested by **Dan Kalstad** who, with his traveling companions, performed this on their last visit to Trentino-- is "Mamma mia dammi cento lire." Here are the words:

Mamma mia, dammi cento lire

Mamma mia dammi cento lire
che in America voglio andar
Mamma mia dammi cento lire
che in America... voglio andare

Cento lire io te le do,
ma in America no - e poi no
Cento lire io te le do,
ma in America... no - e poi no

Ho paura se partirai,
figlio mio, non ti rivedrò
Ho paura se partirai,
figlio mio... non ti rivedrò

Quando fu in alto mare
il bastimento s'inabissò
Quando fu in alto mare
il bastimento... s'inabissò

Le parole della mamma
eran piene di verità
Le parole della mamma
eran piene... di verità

È rimasto solo il ricordo
di suo figlio che se n'andò
È rimasto solo il ricordo
di suo figlio... che se n'andò..

Mom, (please) give me a hundred lire

Mom O mom, give me a hundred lire
because I want to go to America
Mom O mom, give me a hundred lire
because to America... I want to go

I'll give you a hundred lire,
but not to America, absolutely not.
I'll give you a hundred lire,
but to America... no - no way.

I'm afraid if you'll leave,
my dear child, I won't see you again.
I'm afraid if you'll leave,
my dear child... I won't see you again.

When he was in high seas
the ship sank
When he was in high seas
the ship... sank.

The words of the mother
were full of truth
The words of the mother
were full... of truth

Only the memory remains
of her child who went away
Only the memory remains
of her child ... who went away

Here is a [link](#) to a recording.

March: "Quel Mazzolin di Fiore." This is one of the most popular Alpini songs. When Trentini gather to sing, this will almost certainly be one of the songs they will choose!

April: "La Domenica Andando alla Messa." It is a story of a young girl whose parents caught her with some boys and sent her to a nunnery.

THANK YOU to all of you who have sent in your 2015 dues! The support of members makes all the difference to our ongoing success. See the last page of the newsletter for information on how to pay.

Upcoming Events

Annual Polenta Picnic - Saturday, August 8, 2015 1:00 – 6:00 pm at Des Moines Marina, Des Moines, Washington. Evite and email to follow.

- Wine-tasting with **Chris Zimmerman**, local importer of VIAS wines from Trentino/Alto Adige – we will probably do this in the Fall. Chris's presentation is informative and entertaining, and the wines are delicious!
- Castagnata – Autumn trip to **Bernardo Nella's** chestnut farm in Oregon to celebrate the chestnut harvest: date to be determined.

Do you have access to a clubhouse with a kitchen or know of a venue for some of our events? Do you have an idea for an event? Let us know! We would like to offer demonstrations of traditional foods and other events by our members. Please contact me at: mbmoser@comcast.net

Letters Received from Members and Others

- **Nora Shreve**, new member with heritage from **Malgolo**, and ties to **Issaquah, Idaho, and Wyoming**

My son Kevin told me about the club, and actually signed us up! He graduated from the University of Washington with a double major in International Studies – Europe, Comparative History of Ideas and a Minor in Italian. He loves everything Italian! He would love to be able to work there! He has been to Italy three times, studied in Rome while at UW. He is now 26, and Kellie is 23. Kellie has 2 years left of grad school for her Physical Therapy Doctorate.

Malgolo is fairly far north of Trento and is in the Trentino Alto-Adige Region, southwest of Bolzano. Also, just south of Romeno - Val di Non. It is in the hills above Lago di Santa Giustina, a very large lake. The area is just beautiful. We were there in the winter, so would love to go again in the Fall. I think Kevin has been there all three times during the winter!

I've attached a picture of our family [see earlier entry] while visiting Malgolo in December 2009. Hotel Nerina is a very small hotel with a restaurant that has some of the best food I've ever had! What a surprise to have a wonderful chef in a small town. All of their foods are local – fresh eggs, meats, fruits, pressed apple juice. It was wonderful. It is family run, and they are very gracious and accommodating. They are of German decent, but knew much of the town's history and mentioned that the old Gabardi house sold just a few years prior to us visiting. There are still Gabardi descendants living nearby. I have found a cousin who has been there a few times, and they take him in like family.

Linda Gabardi was my great grandmother - Nona. (We only spelled Nona & Noni with one n, although I see it officially spelled with two). Her mother **Rosa** was also a Gabardi, her married name was **Carotta**. Her husband died when Linda was very young, and she sent her and her older sister back to Malgolo to live with family. Rosa remarried, migrated west, and actually lived in **Issaquah** at one time, then relocated in **Rupert, ID**. Linda married **Ricardo** when she was 19 in Malgolo, and shortly after that, they moved to Wyoming. My grandmother Ruby and her three sisters were born in Wyoming. **Wyoming** had a small Italian community in the mining town – I think it was **Kemerer**. They relocated to Rupert, ID too.

- **Sal Romeno** in New York, with heritage from **Val di Non** [See his blog [Trentino Heritage](#)]

I am in New York – born and raised in NYC, but living on Long Island for many years. My grandparents emigrated to Colorado in the very early 1900s – my grandfather and his brother worked in the mines at **Hastings**. His brother was killed in an accident in 1906 (there is a post on the blog devoted to the accident. Three of my grandmother's brothers were also killed in accidents. My mother was born in Hastings, but when she was about two years old, the family returned to Trentino (village of **Cunevo**). She came back to the US in her early 20s and settled in NY.

- **Ester Bugna in Menlo Park, CA** with heritage from **Bersone** near **Val di Daone**

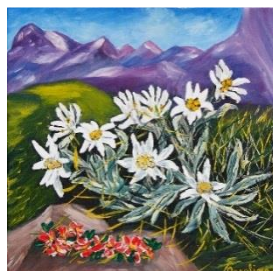
I was conceived in the village of **Bersone** in the Trentino-Dolomite Alps of Italy in the spring of 1934 and was born at the Palo Alto Hospital (now the Hoover Pavilion) in December 1934. My father arrived in Menlo Park c.1927 and worked as a gardener on the Hahn Estate (Fennwood). My father (Jacob/Giacobbe), mother (Rosalia) and I lived until 1940 in the caretaker's cottage of the "SF Children's Aid Auxiliary" at the corner of Arbor and Middle Road. I have lived in or near Menlo Park all my life, and know the local Trentini, many of whom are gone. My father was part of the Mexican colonization. (See 'Tragedy' in Father Bolognani, "A Courageous People from the Dolomites," p. 120.) My father's memoirs are archived in **Tione** and have been referenced in two theses from the U. of Trento.

My village is about a 15-minute drive from **Tione** near the **Val de Daone** – Bissina. **Gene Pellegrini**, ITTONA former President, is a longtime friend and we are in frequent contact. Gene's grandparents were from the same village as my parents. There is a large Bugna clan in the San Jose area – my father's first cousin's family. . . . I am now active in the Menlo Park Historical Association. I do not recall any folk storytelling; however, numerous proverbs. My favorite is: "Bisogna prendere tutti nel suo essere" – "One must accept everyone in their being [essence]"

I grew up with "Black Polenta" – Polenta Taragna. Buckwheat was grown in my village and used as a stretcher because corn meal was not indigenous and costly. "Strangolapreti" were a fave. **Dan Aspromante** shared a source for pizzoccheri, a buckwheat Valtellina pasta. http://www.povalleyfoods.com/buckwheat_pasta.php

My dear cousin, **Orsolina Bugna**, is a noted Naive Trentino artist living in Bersone – Pieve di Bono. Here's her website - enjoy: <http://www.orsolina.it/> **Fr. Bolognani** was a special friend of hers. ~ Ester Bugna, ester_bugna13@comcast.net

"Annuncio la primavera," "Stelle Alpine," "Genzianelle"
<http://www.orsolina.it/> by Ester Bugna's cousin, Orsolina Bugna



- **Melinda Jankord-Steedman** – local resident with **Campodolcino** heritage (in neighboring Lombardy)
 [regarding web site for pasta from Ester Bugna above: http://www.povalleyfoods.com/buckwheat_pasta.php]



"That's Chiavenna for sure!! We've walked across and along the Mera many times. And we've toured the Mulino di Buttonera. After the war, they used Douglas fir from the Northwest to rebuild their machinery. There are flour sacks that say they are from the Marshall Plan, a gift from the people of the USA. It brought tears to my eyes! I am attaching two photos. I didn't grow up with pizzoccheri, but I sure do love it on a cold winter's day. Thanks for the link. I have found pizzoccheri at Borracchini's in the past."
 ~ Melinda



- **From the Association of Trentini Nel Mondo** in Trento – communications from President **Alberto Tafner**

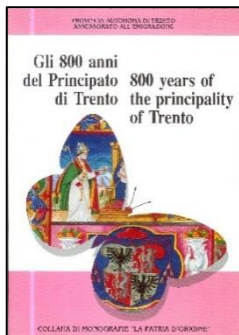
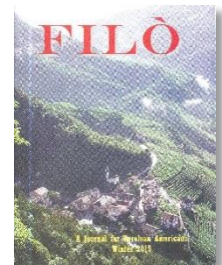
We have received two letters recently, one regarding the final budget and the new board of directors of the Association of Trentini nel Mondo in Italy, translated to English by Canadian coordinator **Ivo Finotti**. The second letter announced that **Luca Dorigatti** of Circolo Trentino di San Francisco has been appointed as a coordinator for the Circoli in the USA. For more information, or to receive a copy of the letters, please email:

mbmoser@comcast.net

Publications of Interest

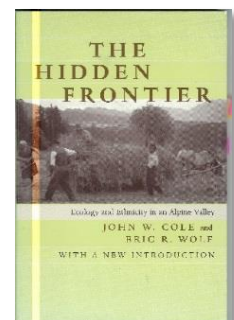
Some periodicals, web sites, and books of possible interest to members are listed here. They provide valuable insights into our cultural heritage and how we choose to name ourselves.

- **Trentino Heritage** is a web site by **Sal Romeno** in New York, whose heritage is from **Val di Non**: It features posts with a wealth of information on culture, genealogy, and history. See more about Sal in the “Letters Received” section. <https://trentinoheritage.wordpress.com/>
- The Winter 2015 issue of **Filò: A Journal for Tyrolean Americans** featuring **Val di Cembra** is available. Email **Lou Brunelli** at filo.tiroles@att.net to receive a copy. Archived copies are available on the web site <http://filo.tiroles.com/> along with an electronic version of *A Courageous People from the Dolomites: The Immigrants from Trentino on U.S.A. Trails (1981)* by **Father Bonifacio Bolognani**.



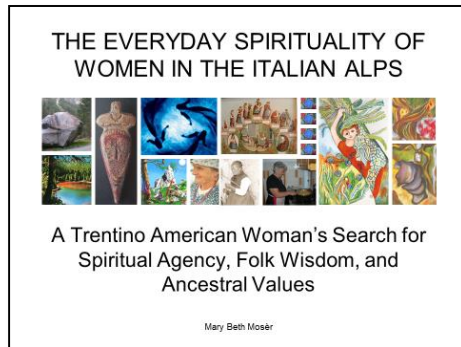
800 Years of the Principality of Trento (1990), book five of “The Homeland” Monograph Series published by the Autonomous Province of Trento, covers a concise chronological overview from prehistory to the present, with a focus on the years 1004 to 1803 during which time Trento was one of the most important principalities of the Germanic Holy Roman Empire. The essays and maps offer insights into the complexities of cultural identity.

The Hidden Frontier: Ecology and Ethnicity in an Alpine Valley by **John W. Cole** and **Eric R. Wolf (1999)**, is an important study of ethnicity, which highlights the differences between the two cultures of Trentino and Alto Adige/Südtirol by looking at two towns in the same valley: **Tret** and **St. Felix** in **Val di Non**. Their study of these two villages helps explain cultural identity as part of larger, more powerful forces. Published in 1974, and republished in 1999 with a new introduction by the authors, who are not from the area but lived there during their research project, it offers some insightful information for that time-period. (You may find some of your relatives in their photos!)





The Hidden Life of Tirol, by Martha C. Ward (1993) is a very readable participatory ethnography focused on the culture of present-day Tyrol, a larger geographic and cultural area than present-day Trentino. A contemporary cultural anthropologist, Martha Ward, describes Tyrol as a hidden culture. In this valuable addition to English-language literature on Tyrolean cultural history, Ward – who is not of Tyrolean heritage – reviews the few studies that have been done on Tyrol, includes her experiences and those of her students, and clearly calls out her point of view. Ward’s chapter “Traveling Behind Tourist Lines” is an informative discussion on cultural biases of travelers, which includes accounts from the journals of her students.



The Everyday Spirituality of Women in the Italian Alps: A Trentino American Woman’s Search for Spiritual Agency, Folk Wisdom, and Ancestral Values, by Mary Beth Moser (2013), utilizes archaeology, folk stories, onsite research, and oral interviews of contemporary women to present an integral look at women’s lives across time through their everyday practices. At its heart, it is quest for cultural identity and ancestral values. Published copies of this PhD dissertation, summarized [here](#), are available for [purchase](#) through Pro Quest/ UMI. A recent review by writer and author Mary Saracino is published in the online journal [Return to Mago](#).

Local Italian Organizations

Several organizations in the Seattle area celebrate Italian heritage, language and culture. While our group focuses on the culture of the province of Trentino, participating in these other groups provides an opportunity for us to support each other, as well as to share in activities of common interest. Here are some of the clubs who have regular activities:

Club Alpino Italiano (CAI) Pacific Northwest subsection of Pisa: Hiking group with regular local activities and annual international trips and exchange programs. <http://www.cai-pnw.com/>

Il Punto! A new Italian Cultural Center in Seattle, whose mission is to promote Italian culture through our common passion for food, literature, art, design, film, theater, dance, language, and music. <http://ilpuntoseattle.org/>

Dante Alighieri Society. Bi-monthly programs on Italian culture, one in English, one in Italian. Italian language school. <http://das.danteseattle.org/>

Seattle Perugia Sister City Society: regular and special events focused on Italy; monthly gatherings, *La Tavola Italiana*, at Caffè Umbria in Pioneer Square for Italian conversation; film festival; Italian language scholarships; annual picnic; <http://www.seattle-perugia.org/>

Sons of Italy; Italian organization with social events <http://www.glnw.org/information.htm>

San Gennaro Festival: Italian Street Festival, **September 11 - 13, 2015.** <http://www.sangennarofestivalseattle.org/>

Festa Italiana Seattle: Annual Italian Festival, **September 26-27, 2015.** <http://www.festaseattle.com/index.htm>

Volunteer Opportunities and Initiatives

We have already had some members step up with ideas, which they are going to implement. Do you have skills or interest in the following areas? If so, please contact us at mbmoser@comcast.net

- web design and creation
 - member directory
 - photography
 - youth activities
 - hosting and organizing an event
 - compiling history of our members
 - Map display at major events. We received some beautiful PDF files of illustrated maps of each valley from the Association Trentini Nel Mondo that we are printing and having mounted for use at our meetings.
 - teaching a craft or skill related to Trentino culture
 - taking responsibility for recycling at our major events
 - soliciting sponsorship from business community
- Thank you to **Giada Degasperi** in Trento!



THANK YOU for your membership from your 2015 Board!

- Mary Beth Moser, President – mbmoser@comcast.net
- Jan Agosti, Vice President
- Gary Piazzon, Secretary
- Joan Barker, Treasurer and past President

2015 Seattle Trentino Club Dues are Due

Our club year runs from January through December and dues are due in January. Our dues enable us to rent venues (which often require a large damage deposit) for our events, to buy supplies, and to cover other club expenses. Dues are \$25 per household. We very much appreciate your support for the Seattle Trentino Club. If you have not already done so, please send \$25 to our treasurer. If you have not been a member before, or if your information has changed, please complete the Application for Membership; otherwise, the form is not necessary. If your email address changes, please let us know. *THANK YOU!*

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

SEATTLE TRENTINO CLUB

Application for Membership

Name of Trentino/a _____

Name of partner _____

Names and ages of children in household:

Street address _____

Telephone(s) _____

E-mail address(es) _____

Relationship to emigrant(s), their names and the town(s) and/or valleys from which they emigrated, if known:

Date of application _____

We are collecting stories of the emigration and subsequent histories of our members' families. We hope you will share this information with the group.

Please send completed Application for Membership with \$25/household 2015 membership fee to:

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

For information call: **206-878-4502** or write: **Joan C. Barker, faretuttabarker@icloud.com**

NOTE: THIS IS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR JOAN BARKER