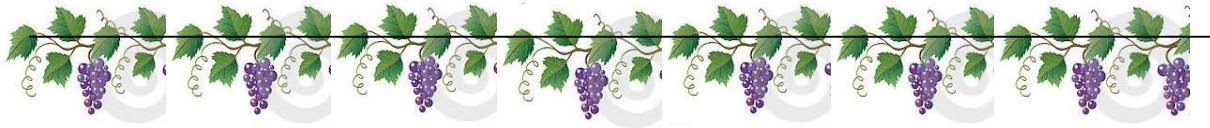


SEATTLE TRENTINO CLUB

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



September 2015

The Stir of Autumn's Promise

Mary Beth Moser

Here on the western side of the Cascade Mountains, the first signs of autumn have arrived. Is it the shorter days, the cooler temperatures, or something more subtle that so clearly marks the change? Soon enough we'll be inside sheltered against the rains and gray, but for now there is the promise of the harvest. Our recent feast at the polenta picnic was a visible reminder of shared abundance. Gleaming copper pots, stirred with long

wooden spatulas, poured forth their golden goodness. There is a promise in our gatherings as well: new babies in loving arms, young adults shining with possibilities before them, elders savoring the joy of family and clan gathered nearby. These are special times. As connections continue to circle out from our club, I am truly grateful for its presence.

Recent Events

Sixth Annual Polenta Picnic



Sixty folks from near and far gathered at the Des Moines Marina on Saturday, August 8 for our annual Polenta Picnic. It was, in the words of one participant, a "feast to remember." **Joan Barker** cooked up a fabulous *tonco*, a special traditional meat stew with gravy, the night before, as well as *crauti*. Joan has generously written down her *tonco* recipe, and next year we would like to make this a communal preparation as well, the day before, so that the traditional recipe and knowledge can continue. The polenta was communally prepared outside in two copper pots, which made it especially delicious. **Dan Zadra** generously brought bottles of his award-winning wine to share with everyone. Among the beautiful dishes and desserts that people brought, too many to name them all, were homemade salami by **Grant Rauzi** from a family recipe and a homemade apple strudel by **Andrea Callegari** using his nonna's recipe. **Celeste Henry-Barker** and **Rosie Zadra** celebrated birthdays with a decorated cake.

There was an abundance of lovely "truffle prizes" this year, including an Italian picnic basket with specialty items gathered by **Jan Agosti**; two CD's of the San Romedio Coro from Val di Non, donated by **Dan Kalstad**, two filled gift bags donated by **Dorothy Whitney**; and "Andiamo al Cinema" movie tickets.



One very lucky young winner, **Fino Fliss-Zadra**, won two jars of pennies, “*soldi per i popi*,” a tribute to the tradition of the nonna of Joan Barker and other family members. *Congratulations to the winners* and thanks to all who purchased tickets, as it helps pay for the cost of the event.

Emily Kalstad set up a special display with photos of her youth exchange to Trentino (see more about this later in the newsletter) and **Dan Kalstad** had an informational display on the Coro San Romedio, the men’s choir from Val di Non who plan to come to Seattle in 2016. (See later article.)

Special thanks to **Anne Zadra**, aided by **Celeste Henry-Barker** and **Sissie Barker**, for the excellent job of overseeing the kitchen and food setup, a major responsibility! Also special thanks also to **Rebecca Moser**, niece of **Mary Beth Moser**, who came from Denver to sew the festive cloth tablecloths and volunteer the day of the event. We appreciate everyone who came early to set up, those who helped afterwards, and all those who stirred the polenta pot. The success of this event depends upon the efforts of all of us, and our club has outstanding volunteers!

THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING! Some of you journeyed quite far, from nearby states, and we are delighted that you came!

Some notes from our members:



“The polenta was excellent!” Rhonda Peterson

“Thank you all for being so wonderful and welcoming!! We felt so great hanging out with you all! Delicious polenta and food, wine, and great people and conversation. See you all in January! If anyone wants to stop by Portland -just write us!” Hugs, Kim, Jake, and Oliver

“It was such fun this afternoon at the polenta picnic! The food was absolutely outstanding, and I enjoyed meeting you and so many other ‘valley people.’ Thank you, again.” Best wishes, Pam Myers

“Great people, facilities, food, wine and leadership. Our family really enjoyed everyone. What a nice mix of ages. Dan Kalstad

“...a great day on Saturday. How fun that the kids all seemed to enjoy meeting each other, talking about living in Seattle and playing bocce. All three of my brood unanimously were glad they attended! And Kathy loved seeing the pictures of everyone.” Grant Rauzi

“I was just talking with my sister about the polenta fest and we agree that the Trentino Club feels like a family reunion filled with wonderful people!” Emily Kalstad

From our Facebook Page: *“We had an absolutely wonderful polenta picnic today. If you weren't there, you missed out on something very special. Thanks to all the fabulous cooks and vintners who made it to a feast to remember, and to all the good folks who share our wonderful heritage. I hope if you took pictures you will share them on here!” Joan Barker*

Although there are too many photos to include all of them, these capture some of the fun. Thanks to **Judy Henderson**, **Rhonda Peterson**, **Shawna Gibson**, **Dan Kalstad**, **Rebecca Moser**, and **Elise Kalstad** for sharing their photos of the event!





Upcoming STC Events

- **Chestnut Harvest** – Early November time-frame (likely). We will keep you posted as the time varies from year to year. This could include an overnight excursion to a chestnut farm in Oregon.
- **Christmas/La Befana Party** - tentatively **January 10, 2016** at Tyee Yacht Club, Seattle

Please contact us if you have ideas for activities and thank you to those of you who have shared ideas and are implementing them. Our goal is to offer opportunities to gather more often as well as to learn about and celebrate our culture. Some ideas for local events this fall and winter include:

- Bocce playing at Von Trapps on Capitol Hill in Seattle
- Tasting wines from Trentino/Alto Adige
- Cooking demonstrations
- Member slide shows of past travels to Trentino
- Trentino BINGO! – **Dianna and Gary Piazzon** have developed this based on the Filò magazine and we are looking forward to trying it!

Let us know your skill and if you have a place to host such an event. mbmoser@comcast.net

Report on Youth Exchange



In July, we received a report from **Emily Kalstad**, daughter of **Dan and Lynne Kalstad**, who was chosen to participate in the [Trentini Youth Exchange Program](#) organized by the Autonomous Province of Trento / Emigration, who was in Trentino from July 1 to July 21, 2015. *"I am having such a wonderful time in Trentino exploring the culture and roots of my family! Here are a few photos of the trip so far. Lago di Tovel, meeting with mayor of Lago, homemade pizza with my host **Giulia Schwarz**, and the whole interscambi group at the trentigrana factory!"*

Thank you for being the connection that has allowed me to partake in this program!





Emily set up a great display at the Polenta Picnic with photos and an informational handout she created about the program, included below.



“Feel free to send my contact info to anyone you know of who might be interested in applying!”

We hope Emily’s success and enthusiasm will encourage other members to apply in 2017.

TRENTINO YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

WHY DO THE EXCHANGE?

Discover or rediscover your roots and the traditions and values handed down from your emigrant ancestors. Get to know Trentino as it is today, meet its people, and experience its communities. Experience authentic Italy by living with a host partner, and meet new friends from all over the world who also share Trentino family origins!

WHAT IS THE EXCHANGE?

The exchange is for 3 weeks in July and is sponsored by the Province of Trentino (reimburse up to 60% of travel expenses and 100% insurance medical/accident costs for duration of visit). Participants are paired with an Italian host partner of Trentino origin. Twice a week all participants meet up to participate in visits and tours throughout the territory, including cities of Trento and Lago Garda and Dolomite areas.

The exchange is reciprocated in the year following the visit to Trentino when a visit abroad will be organized for the young Trentino residents. This second stage in the program will also entail spending a period of 3 weeks as guests with host families.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Those age 18-36 years old on January 1st of the year who are of Trentino origin and resides outside of Italy, or anyone 18-36 years old of Trentino origin currently residing in Trentino.

HOW DO I APPLY?

The application goes live on January 1st: http://www.mondotrentino.net/giovani/interscambi_giovanili/

Applications must be sent between January 1st and February 28th by mail, fax or email to:

Provincia Autonoma di Trento
Servizio Emigrazione e Solidarietà Internazionale
Via Gazzoletti, 2
38122 Trento (ITALY)
fax + 39 0461 493155
ufficio.emigrazione@pec.provincia.tn.it

STC Member News

New Members: Welcome new members! We are glad you are here. We hope to learn more about everyone's heritage and family stories in months to come. For now, here is a brief introduction.

Pamela Myers from Marysville, WA, is cousin to Seattle Trentino Club member **Dorothy Whitney**. Pam's great grandparents are **Giovanni Menghini** and **Jacobina Ruffini** from Brez, Val di Non.

Judy (Asson) Henderson lives in Portland, Oregon. She has two children, Gina (40) and Heather (35). Her maternal grandparents are Corina **Moser** from Madrano, Valsugana and John (Giovanni Valentino) **Gabardi** from Malgolo, Val di Non and paternal grandparents Joe (Fidele Vigilio Luigi) **Asson** from Amblar, Val di Non and Rosa **Gabardi** from Malgolo.

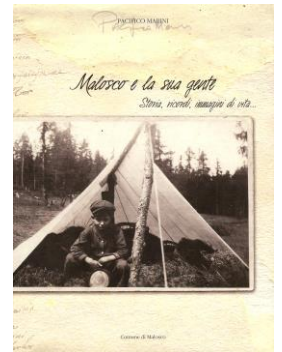
Joan Segna joins us from Richland, WA. Her grandmother is **Emilia Pitscheider Graiff** from Dambel, Val di Non. Her grandfather is **Virginio Anselmo Graiff** from Romeno, Val di Non. Her husband's father emigrated from Brez Salobbi in Val di Non and his mother's parents from Valsugana. Joan is shown here in front of her grandmother's home in Dambel.



Dan Kalstad traveled to Trentino to see relatives in Dambel, Romeno and Caverano in Val di Non. While there, he visited the Franch Ervino Copper Shop in Cloz. Owners **Rosa and Gianpietro**, shown here with Dan Kalstad, are relatives of **Grant Rauzi**, who has several beautiful crafted items from there.



Donna Franklin generously donated a book to the club on "Malosco e la sua gente." Dan Kalstad, who reviewed it, reports that it is a "wonderful 240 page book, in Italian. It has photos and is very thorough in covering the commune and surrounding area of Malosco (near Fondo) in the Val di Non." Please do check it out if this is of interest to you.



Joan and John Barker recently celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary on June 29. *Auguri!*

Shawna Gibson and **Dan Blood** announced their engagement, to be married in the summer of 2016. Congratulations, Shawna and Dan!

Congratulations to **Giada Degasperri** in the Association Trentini Nel Mondo office in Trento on her recent marriage to **Fulvio Berloff**. *Auguri!* Giada has been our contact in providing us with resources and communication over the months.

Dan Zadra sent us a photo of a gift from **Rosie Zadra** who framed one of the cloth bags sent to us from the Provincia, an innovative and beautiful use!



Coro San Romedio 2016 Fundraising



Coro San Romedio (Italian Alps) Trentino, IT

The Seattle Trentino Club recently extended our invitation to the men's choir, Coro San Romedio from Val di Non, to come to Seattle in 2016. **Dan Kalstad** is leading the initiative for organizing the event and has created a Kickstarter campaign to get funding for this group. *"I found some 'gold' in the Italian Dolomite Mountains and I want to let you in on this discovery!"* Dan writes, referring to the golden voices of this mountain choir. This is a great cultural opportunity and an easy way to offer support. Time is of the essence, as Dan is hoping to make the initial goal by October 1.

Please check it out and consider being a sponsor: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/corosanromedio/coro-san-romedio-seattle-fall-2016-italian-mens-ch>

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!

- web design and creation
- member directory
- photography
- youth activities
- hosting and organizing an event
- teaching a craft or skill related to Trentino culture
- taking responsibility for recycling at our major events
- soliciting sponsorship from business community

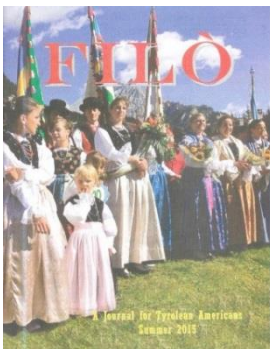
Map Project: Some of you may have seen the beautiful mounted maps of Trentino and Val di Non on display at the Polenta Picnic. Many thanks to **Richard Rotruck** for his volunteer labor to make that happen. We hope to get maps of the other valleys printed for our members' use and reference at events as we find economical ways of doing that. Thanks again to the Trentini nel Mondo office for making the digital versions available.

Regional History Project: We have received some fascinating inputs from our members as part of the membership application. Our family stories are an important part of the Trentino/Tyrolean contribution to local history. If we don't write our history, who will? **Joan Barker** has agreed to initiate a regional history project. If you are interested in being part of this, please contact Joan: faretuttabarker@icloud.com

Trentino in the News

A group of women from a small village in Trentino is famous! Calling themselves the "Funne" (dialect for women), these women utilized innovative ways (including a calendar and a successful Kickstarter campaign) to raise money for travel from their village to see the sea. A delightful BBC article: "How a group of grannies got their first holiday," also has a short video in which you will hear the sounds of our language and see typical village scenes. Most of these hard-working women (average age 80) had never traveled. Ester Bugna of Palo Alto, CA writes that her cousin Orsolina Bugna (whose artwork we featured in the June newsletter) is featured in the December image for their fundraising calendar. <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-33723575>

Publications of Interest



The August issue of Filò is available, featuring Val di Fassa. It focuses on the rich folk customs, myths and rituals of the people of the Dolomites. Family stories are also included. If you do not already receive this publication, contact Lou Brunelli at filo.tiroles@att.net or register online: <http://filo.tiroles.com/Registration.html> You won't want to miss this fascinating and informative issue. Lou generously mailed us some extra issues for distribution, which we'll bring to the next event.

Other 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 upcoming activities:

Il Punto! The Italian Cultural Center for 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/>

San Gennaro Festival, Sept. 11-13 annual street festival with food, entertainment; fundraiser for local charity, <http://www.sangennarofestivalseattle.org/>

Festa Italiana, September 26-27, 2015, annual festival of Italian culture at Seattle Center,
<http://www.festaseattle.com/>

Dante Alighieri Society. Bi-monthly programs on Italian culture starting **September 9**, one in English, one in Italian. Italian language school with six levels of classes beginning **October 1**. <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 **Nov. 12-19**; Italian language scholarships; annual picnic; <http://www.seattle-perugia.org/>

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/>

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



THANK YOU for your membership from your 2015 Seattle Trentino Club Board!

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

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