

# SEATTLE TRENTINO CLUB

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

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## June 2016

### 2016 BOARD MEMBERS

- *President* – Mary Beth Moser
- *Vice-president* – Jan Agosti
- *Secretary* – Anne Zadra
- *Treasurer, Past President* – Joan Barker



~~~Happy Summer!~~~

Buon' estate! Good Summer to you! As I look forward to the gifts of summer, I also look back and count my blessings, and being part of this Circolo is certainly among them. When I am celebrating with fellow Trentini, my heritage comes alive. For me, participating and serving is one way I can honor my grandparents who ventured to this "new world" from Trentino more than 100 years ago. There is something comforting for me, and perhaps for our ancestors, knowing that celebrations of our shared heritage are continuing. As we make new connections through our travels, research, communications, youth exchanges and gatherings,

we learn more about ourselves and create possibilities for the future.

At our annual membership meeting in January, we re-elected **Jan Agosti**, vice president and **Joan Barker** as treasurer. It is an honor for me to serve another year as president. Thank you to outgoing board member **Gary Piazzon**, who served as secretary in 2015. We appreciate your service! Founding member **Anne Zadra** has volunteered to serve as secretary. Anne is a life-long resident of Seattle with roots in Val di Non who has served our organization in a variety of capacities in the past, including as a board member. Welcome Anne!

In this issue, we have a wonderful first-hand report on the gathering for youth in Wyoming by one of our members, **Emily Kalstad**. Yet to come this summer, there is the convention/cruise for all the Trentini/Tirolesi in North America. And of course our annual Polenta Picnic on Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.

For those who are traveling to Trentino and beyond this summer, safe journeys to all! We travel with you in our hearts!

With connection, *Mary Beth Moser*

\*\*\***Save the Date – Polenta Picnic Sunday, August 14, 2016**\*\*\*

- **Annual Polenta Picnic** – We will hold this event on **Sunday, August 14, 2016** at the beautiful **Des Moines Marina**, where we held the event last year. More details to follow. We hope to see you there!

## Trentini Convention/Cruise

- **2016 ITTONA Convention/Cruise AUGUST 3-7, 2016** – Come join Trentini from all over the US and Canada for this three-day cruise/convention out of Los Angeles. Although the deadline has passed, please contact Anna Vann if you have any questions or you are still interested in participating!  
Anna Vann, 6895 Morrison Drive Denver, CO 80221-2510, 303-650-1057 [tmvenv@msn.com](mailto:tmvenv@msn.com)

## Past Events

**Christmas/La Befana Party, January 10, 2016** – The Seattle Trentino Club gathered for our annual La Befana party at the beautiful Tyee Yacht Club in Seattle. The afternoon was filled with visiting, eating, singing, and exchanging gifts. Babbo Natale (**Bruce Johnson**) arrived as promised, followed by La Befana (**Joan Barker**) who swept in with candy for everyone. Following our annual tradition, **Dianna Piazzon** read the La Befana story while we passed gifts around a circle. We were happy to see some new members there! Welcome! Baby **Oliver Boldrini-Senn**, ready to fully participate in the party with his parents **Kim and Jake**, took his very first steps! **Giulia Schwarz**, host to our Trentino exchange student last year, was visiting from Trentino. She spoke to us after dinner about how the exchange has benefited her view of Trentino as well.

The delicious food included **Grant Rauzi's** homemade salami and **Joan Barker's** crauti. We appreciate the music-makers: **Joan Barker** on accordion, and **Bruce Johnson** on violin. (Check out their playing on our Facebook page.) A big thank you to everyone who



helped, especially **Anne Zadra** and **Rich Rotruck** who were there from start to finish. Afterwards at our annual all-member meeting, we elected the Board Members for 2016. Thanks to all of you who came! We have a fantastic group of members.

### More Photos from La Befana/Christmas Party



### Report on Wyoming Youth Gathering

- **Blueprint, A Youth Gathering in Rock Springs Wyoming, May 25-30, 2016, by Emily Kalstad**

*I wasn't quite sure what I was signing up for when I applied but it turned out to be better than I ever could have expected. This was the first "Blueprint" to take place in North America. It brought together North Americans 18-36 years old who have family roots in Trentino. There were about 50 people total from New York, Massachusetts, California, Vermont, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Vancouver, Toronto, and of course Seattle! We met in Salt Lake City and then were bused out to Rock Springs, Wyoming. Rock Springs had, and still has, a huge Trentini population due to the coal mines many emigrants worked in.*



*During the 5 days together, we learned about where we came, who we are and where we are going as a group. We visited Rock Springs museum and did a walking tour of the town. We visited cemeteries and saw many surnames we recognized (Zadra!).*

*Superior, Wyoming, which had some of the largest coal mines in the area, was a boom and bust town. We saw some of the homes that our ancestors may have lived in--they were built into the hills to save money on building materials. The living conditions did not sound very pleasant. It's incredible to think of the journey many of our ancestors made to seek out a better life.*





*Each participant was to bring an artifact and a story of our heritage. We shared our stories and items in smaller groups and then worked to develop a presentation combining all of our stories. During the process, two people in my group found out their bisnonni were in the same boat over to Ellis Island. Pretty incredible!*



*The delegation from the province of Trentino included six people from the emigration office and **Luca Dorigati** (Consulore of the Province of Trento for the USA) and **Lucia Flaim** (Consulore or "representative" for Canada). The delegation did a great job of bonding the entire group through several small group interactive activities,*



*reflections and discussions on what it means to be Trentino. I was amazed how similar many of us are and the strong moral foundations our families have instilled passed down from generation to generation.*



*The big take-away action item was as a group we created a Facebook page "Il Refugio Trentino" and website [rifugiotrentino.com](http://rifugiotrentino.com) to share ideas, events, resources, opportunities and culture with other circolos in North America. I'm still reflecting on the experience because it was so meaningful and touched me in a deep way. It's a little hard to put into words but it felt like going to a big family reunion where you don't know anyone when you arrive, but soon you feel that you are close family.*

***Marco Laezza**, an Italian who attended this Blueprint, and also participated in the exchange last summer, came to stay with my family in Seattle for about a week. So fun to have him visit! It's great having friends all over the US and Italy who share common heritage and are just overall really great people! I'm going to visit **Giulia Schwarz** in Vancouver BC this weekend (she is working on a work visa at an Italian restaurant). I'm very proud to be a part of this special heritage and look forward to helping expand the community in the Puget Sound region!*



Best,  
Emily



## Member News

Happy Birthday to **Joan (Zadra) Barker** (seated at the table surrounded by her family), founding member of the Seattle Trentino Club, who turned 80 on January 23, 2016. *Buon Compleanno, Giovanna!*



### Newcastle Cemetery

In May, some of the STC members attended a presentation hosted by the Dante Alighieri Society. Vicki Olson talked about the Italian immigrants (some of whom were from Trentino, according to our members) who came to the Seattle area at the end of the 19th century to work in the coal mines in Newcastle, across Lake Washington from Seattle. Vicki showed an informational video, aimed at soliciting help for some needed upkeep on this cemetery. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Vicki directly: [vickieo456@yahoo.com](mailto:vickieo456@yahoo.com)

## Visitors. . . and Exceptional Hospitality



*Dan Aspromonte, across from daughters Amira and Ilaria, and Giulia Schwarz, visiting Santa Cruz, CA from Trentino*

**Giulia Schwarz**, from Trentino, who hosted **Emily Kalstad**, from the Seattle Trentino Club, visited the Seattle area over the holidays. Giulia continued her travels on the west coast, making connections with other Trentini Americans in the San Francisco area. Thank you to all of the California Trentini, including **Dan Aspromonte**, Circolo Trentino di San Francisco secretary, who hosted Giulia and showed her around! **Lino Rizzi**, the vice president and his wife **Janet**, **Michael Job**, and **Heidi Vitlacil** also offered wonderful hospitality.

Also many thanks to our Seattle Trentino Club members **Mauro and Maria Pia Rizzi** and **Dan and Lynne Kalstad** who met with Circolo San Francisco board member **Alice Amigassi** (Val di Ledro) and her family, on their recent visit from the Bay Area in California to the Northwest. The Trentini truly are one big family!

## Letters Received from Members and Others

**Rita Flaim Larson** writes about **Rock Springs, WY**:

My dad was the Trentini president in that region for many years. He and mom did a lot with the club for many years. **Lil Zadra** (in the Seattle club) is from Rock Springs as well and went to school with my brother, **Louis**. Her parents and mine were good friends.

I graduated from RSHS in 1980 and have been in Seattle/Portland ever since then, except for summers and regular visits to my folks'. My mom passed away in 2007 and dad in 2013. One of my brothers still lives in RS, having just retired from vice president of the community college. I have a brother who lives in the Denver area and two brothers in the Salt Lake City area. My brother, Joe is in heaven :-)

I have many relatives (cousins, primarily) who live in Italy - **Tregiovo, Revo, Cles** and **Bolzano**. I speak the language and my dream is to retire and live there part time.

**Kim Boldrini-Senn** is traveling to Trentino and would like suggestions:

Jake, Oliver, and my whole family are going to Trentino this September for a family holiday! I am wondering if you have any ideas which areas are best to stay at: Limone sul Garda, Arco, etc. We want to go to Pieve di Bono for at least a day trip. Also, have you ever used the Trentino Guest Card- is it worthwhile to get? See you soon at the Polenta Festival! Kim, Jake and Oliver the mountain goat!! Email Kim at: [kboldrini@gmail.com](mailto:kboldrini@gmail.com)



**Michael Piolini** of Val Rendena would like an opportunity to stay in the US and improve his English.

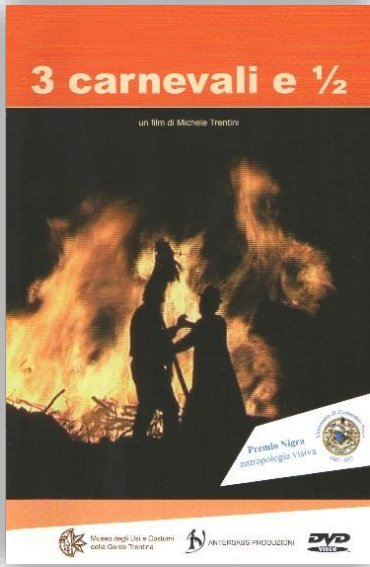
Sono Michele Piolini, ho 27 anni e sono trentino, di Villa Rendena, Val Rendena. Vi scrivo perchè cerco aiuto o dei semplici consigli per partire per una breve esperienza negli Stati Uniti. Chiedendo ad amici sono venuto a conoscenza dell'associazione Trentini nel mondo sperando che possa essere utile per i miei propositi. Mi sono laureato da circa due anni in architettura a Milano con il massimo dei voti. Attualmente lavoro in uno studio a Milano, ma la scarsa conoscenza dell'inglese sta ponendo dei forti limiti alla mia carriera. Ho deciso quindi di prendermi un po' di tempo per poter praticare l'inglese magari cercando nel frattempo un lavoro che mi permetta di mantenermi. Volevo chiedere se questo desiderio è realizzabile, se esistono degli scambi, lavori come famiglie alla pari ecc... Vi ringrazio, Michele Piolini [michele.piolini@gmail.com](mailto:michele.piolini@gmail.com)

**Gary Piazzon** has recommendations on good reads about World War I.

There is a remarkable article in this month's Smithsonian about WWI as it was fought in the Dolomites. Quite extensive and deeply moving. I believe it is titled "Blood in the Clouds." I'd also recommend the book *A Soldier of the Great War* by Mark Halpern. Also set there. Epic and a real page turner. Mio cugino **Lou Marini** is featured on the cover of the April issue of International Musician. <http://internationalmusician.org/lou-marini/>



## Carnivale DVDs from MUSGT



Many thanks to the *Museo degli Usi e Costumi della Gente Trentina* in San Michele all'Adige, Trentino, who sent the Seattle Trentino Club two DVDs on Carnevali. "3 Carnevali e 1/2" features carnival rites in Trentino. "Carnival Kings of Europe" shows celebrations around Europe. These DVDs are in PAL format and will play on a computer. (They may or may not play on your DVD player). Let us know if you are interested in viewing them and we can mail them around. Be sure to thank the *museo* if you stop there on your next visit to Trentino. The museum offers fascinating insights into our cultural history. They also have a mailing list of their events, to which you can subscribe via email.

<http://www.museosanmichele.it/en/>



## Film about Trentino Needs Support

*Mila* is an animated film being produced in Los Angeles with a Trentino storyline. Here is the trailer for the film: <http://milafilm.com> Cinzia Angelini, the Trentino director, describes the film:

*Mila is a CG animated short about a little girl whose life takes an unexpected turn during WWII. It's rare that animation takes on serious, complex matters such as War. Still, I believe animation is the perfect medium to tell this story set in my hometown, Trento (Italy). Mila is the story of a girl and two women during Trento's bombing in 1943. I wanted to talk about civilians, and especially the children. The girl who inspired me to create this movie was a child during WWII. That girl is my mother.*

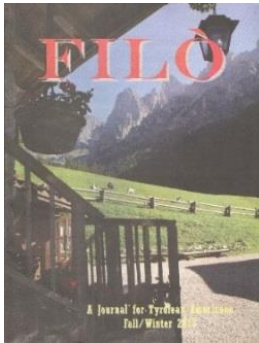
Cinzia is a very accomplished animator and story artist, who has worked on blockbusters such as Spiderman, Prince of Egypt, Bolt, Minions and Kung Fu Panda: <http://cinziaangelini.com>. She has started a funding campaign to bring this project to a successful finale. She asked us to spread the word to all the Trentini in our club. You'll get a Mila gift if you donate to the fund. We encourage you to generously contribute to this 100% volunteer-based project, with 250 artists from over 25 countries participating. Click here to contribute:

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/mila-letsmakeadifference-4-child-survivors-of-war#/>.

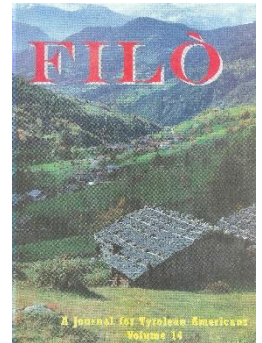
From Mila's mother, **Giovanna Eghenter**:

*The Mila Team needs everyone's, all Trentini in particular, collaboration and support. Every donation, even if \$5 counts. Every little bits counts. To see my daughter's call for action on FB please visit her page So appreciate anything you can do to support and spread the word. Grazie! <https://www.facebook.com/cinzia.angelini.7>*

## Publications/Web Sites of Interest



The latest issues of the **Filò** are available! The Fall/Winter 2015 Edition features **Primiero**, also known as the Valle del Cison, in the eastern part of Trentino. Volume 14 features the **Val dei Mocheni**, which has its own protected language, Mòchen. Please do check out these informative publications. We received some extra copies for distribution at our next gathering; you can receive your own copy by registering on line, where you can also view past issues, or by contacting the editor, **Lou Brunelli**, directly: [filo.tiroles@att.net](mailto:filo.tiroles@att.net)

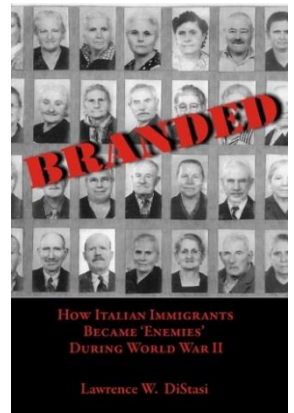


[Newsletter editor's note: The great grandmother **Domenica Lenzi**, of my grandmother, **Anna Casagrande** of Bedollo, was from Palù del Fersina in Val dei Mocheni, a truly special place, which I have visited several times, and resides in my heart.]



*Trentino Genealogy* is a new web site by **Lynn Serafinn**, with information on family history for Trentini descendants. On her web site, <http://trentinogenealogy.com/>, Lynn shares that she is a genealogist specialising in the families of the **Giudicarie**. Through extensive research, she has already linked together thousands of Trentini in an extended family tree. Her current research project is called 'One Tree, One Family, One Humanity,' the goal of which is "to create a genealogical 'map' of everyone either born in **Bleggio**, or whose ancestors came from there, from the 1500s to the current era, to serve as a visual and spiritual reminder of how we are all fundamentally connected."

*Branded, How Italian Immigrants Became 'Enemies' During World War II*, by Lawrence DiStasi, is a chronological rendering that starts with the government's preparations in the days before the war. It takes us through the early warning signs that exploded in December 1941 when 600,000 Italian immigrants were hit with the stigma that branded them as 'alien enemies' of their adopted country, and then fills out the narrative to its postwar conclusion. Orders can also be placed by email at [lwdistasi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwdistasi@sbcglobal.net); or by phoning (415) 868-0538.



*"I was so impressed with Branded that I gave a report on it to my Italian conversation class at the Museo, and almost all the members want to buy it. I then brought it to my branch of the SF Public Library and asked if they could order it. I think every college library, every public library, every library that might be used to learn about WWII should have a copy."* Costanza Ilacqua Foran

**THANK YOU** to all of you who have sent in your 2016 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.



## New Italian Library Opened in February

There is a beautiful new Italian Library in Seattle, thanks to Il Punto! They announced that:

Il Punto! Italian Cultural Center and Biblioteca Italiana Seattle have a new location at 14300 Greenwood Ave N., Seattle, WA 98133, with easy and free parking. Biblioteca Italiana Seattle provides a wide selection of Italian literature to promote Italian language and culture in the Northwest. Today about 1000 books are stored on our shelves. ([Visit Biblioteca facebook page here!](#)) Books can be checked out every Sunday from 2 to 4pm. Membership for BIS is free and users can borrow books at no charge. BIS has an incredible collection of important classic and modern Italian authors, as well as numerous contemporary international novels translated into Italian. A complete list of BIS books is available on [Goodreads](#). BIS also has a section dedicated to kids and teens. The library also has some DVDs of movies in original language. For more information, see [www.ilpuntoseattle.org](http://www.ilpuntoseattle.org)



STC member **Dan Kalstad**, who is also a board member of Il Punto! helped procure shelves and ladders for the library. This may be a good place to house our extensive collection of books about Trentino, which are now graciously being housed by Joan Barker.

## 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!** Italian Cultural Center in Seattle. "Il Punto!" (the Point) is "il punto d'incontro" (the meeting point) for all Italians, Italian-Americans and people passionate about Italy from around our region. The mission is to promote Italian culture through our common passion for food, literature, art, design, film, theater, dance, language, and music. <http://ilpuntoseattle.org/> **Il Punto! is hosting a Ferragosto Picnic this year on Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at Lincoln Park in West Seattle. Please see their web site for more information!**

**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>

## Volunteer Opportunities and Initiatives

Are you interested in volunteering? Do you have skills or interest in the following areas? If so, please contact us!

- member directory
- youth activities
- member outreach – contacting past members
- hosting and organizing an event
- teaching a craft, skill, or food-making related to Trentino culture
- compiling history of our members (Members have sent in some great family histories that would be of interest to us all.)

We will need volunteer help for setup, cleanup, and cooking for the upcoming Polenta Picnic and will be sending out more specifics.

## Newsletter News

Do you have news for the newsletter? Please let me know! We want to know about your major events. Thanks!  
Mary Beth Moser, [mbmoser@comcast.net](mailto:mbmoser@comcast.net)

## 2016 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. **Seattle Trentino Club, c/o Joan Barker, 700 S 282nd Street #742, Des Moines, WA 98198.** If you have not been a member before, or if your information has changed, please complete the Application for Membership (**see next page**); otherwise, the form is not necessary. If your email address changes, please let us know. *THANK YOU!*

## 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) 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](mailto:faretuttabarker@icloud.com)

**NOTE: THIS IS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS**