

SEATTLE TRENTINO CLUB

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

April 2018

Bella Primavera! Happy Spring, wherever you are! Here in the Seattle area it is rainy and green, with numerous plants and trees in bloom.

Last Fall, I had the good fortune to go to Trentino. The valleys of the Dolomites were brilliant yellow with the turning of the larches and truly breathtaking views. We were nourished by homemade Trentino food and drink at the Agriturismo's and in homes of our relatives, including excellent polenta with stew, canederli, and apple strudel. Fallen chestnuts lined the mountain roads and mushrooms were emerging in the forests. At every turn, there was beauty. Lago Tovel shined in its green glory.

At Trentino Nel Mondo, we were given a tour of the offices in Trento, and **Maurizio Tomasi** gifted us CDs of music. **Antonella Giordani** at the Provincia greeted us warmly and encouraged us to promote the yearly exchange of youth that the Province sponsors. **Lucia Larentis Flaim**, consultore to Canada, treated us to lunch in her hometown of Trento.

As I passed through the villages and valleys of our members, I thought about all of you, especially when I recognized a surname on a business or memorial. One of my sisters was seeing Trentino for the first time, so I experienced the wonders and feelings anew by being with her.

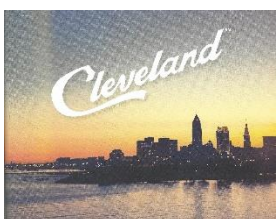
We visited the graves of those whom we lost since our last trip. The cemeteries are places of beauty adjacent to the churches, and often have spectacular views.

On the anniversary of the death of my paternal grandmother, Anna Casagranda, we went to her birth village of Bedollo to find the house where she was born. In the cemetery, we reconnected with long lost cousins, who were tending to the flowers on the graves of our relatives at that very moment. Did my Grandmother have a hand in our chance meeting? I have to wonder.

Perhaps the greatest surprise was telling folks along the way about our Seattle Trentino Club and discovering that they were truly pleased that we celebrate where we come from! I gave away all the club brochures I had brought along with me.

People care that we care. What we are doing matters. Not only is it fun, but our gatherings honor where we come from and connect us to those who are still there, both living and buried, in the way that celebrations can. My wish for all of us is to be able to connect to the land and to the people of Trentino, however we can: through travel, communication, genealogy, and our celebrations here in the beautiful Northwest.

Mary Beth Moser



23rd ITTONA Convention
August 2-5, 2018 Cleveland, Ohio
Come join us!



Recent Events

- The presidents of the Trentino clubs in the US and Canada met on **Nov. 15-17, 2017** in **Cleveland, Ohio**, in preparation for the upcoming International Tyrolean Trentino Organization of North America (ITTONA) Convention in August. See more details about the convention later in this newsletter.
- Happy Anniversary to the Seattle Trentino Club! We turned eight on **March 20, 2018!** We are so grateful to the Founding Members and especially to Joan Barker.
- We celebrated our annual **La Befana Party** on **January 14, 2018** at the Tye Yacht Club. Here are some photos of our wonderful La Befana gathering! Thanks to all of you who came, especially the children! A special thanks to **Bruce Johnson** (Babbo Natale) and **Joan Barker** (La Befana) for your magical presence and live music, to **Annie Zadra** for reading the La Befana story, to **Clarissa Szabados** for leading us in song, and to **Robert Jusko** for bringing cake and celebrating his birthday with all of us!





Photos from our 2018 La Befana Party!

Upcoming Events – Save the Dates

- **August 2-5, 2018** International Tyrolean Trentino Organization of North America Convention in Cleveland Ohio on. The convention, which is held every two years, is a gathering of all the Trentini clubs in North America. **THERE IS STILL TIME TO SIGN UP!** Please contact ITTONA Secretary **Anna Svaldi Vann** by email: tmvenv@msn.com, or call 303-650-1057.
- **August 18, 2018** Seattle Trentino Club Annual Polenta Picnic Des Moines, Washington.
- **September 20-23, 2018** Volunteer Opportunity. At our annual group meeting this year, we discussed ways we could contribute as a club to the community. **Jan Agosti**, who is a medical doctor, donates her time volunteering at the Seattle King County Clinic, a yearly event at Seattle Center at which free medical care is provided to the public. Jan provided this report about the 2017 event:

There were 51 different languages spoken (the 36 listed plus about 100 patients who spoke 15 other languages), so it truly does reflect an immigrant population. There were 2297 who received dental services, 2361 who received medical services and 1285 who received vision services. Unfortunately, no need for Italian translation!

This event was accomplished with 4229 volunteers plus 549 volunteers who helped with preparation or wrap up. Don't worry if you don't have a healthcare background since only 365 of those volunteers were health care workers.

99% said they would recommend volunteering to their friends and 97% said they felt more connected to the community. 100% thought that excellent care was provided.

I think this would be a great activity for the club. Volunteers get a cool t-shirt and free lunch. There is free parking at the Seattle Center in certain areas.

Please put it on your planning calendar! <http://seattlecenter.org/skccclinic/> and on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SKCCLinic/> Volunteer registration starts **June 1**.



New Seattle Trentino Club Sticker

Do you have your window sticker yet? **Annie Zadra** initiated the printing of this beautiful sticker for our club! When you pay your membership dues, you will receive one free sticker as a way of saying THANK YOU. All additional stickers cost \$5.00, so please let us know if you want more than one when you send in your membership dues. THANK YOU to all of you who have paid your 2018 dues! The membership form and address are on the last page. Your dues support the cost of our gatherings!

Letter Received from Ledro Valley: Seeking Job Opportunities I am Alessandro Barilari, a 27 years old guy who lives in Trentino, more specifically in Ledro Valley. I am writing to you to kindly ask for information. My wish for the future is to find a job in US because I would like to discover a new country with different cultures and traditions. So I thought maybe you could help me out. In 2008, I took part in a two-week language course in Seattle, thanks to the twinning project with "Roosevelt High School", hosted by local families. Since that time, I fell in love with this city. Recently I received a Master's Degree of Architecture and currently I am completing my Master's Degree in International Business and Development at the Department of Economics of Parma University. My field of expertise is Real Estate, but I am open-minded and willing to do anything. Please let me know if you know any job opportunities that could fit my request. Attached to this mail, you can find my cover letter and my resume. Grazie mille! Alessandro Barilari alebari@hotmail.it



Member Family History Siblings Jan Agosti and Tom Agosti

Our grandfather, **Serafino Agosti**, was born in 1893 in the village of Scanna near Livo, Trentino in the Val di Non, where the family goes back at least 400 years and still has cousins. He was the last of seven children of Davide and Giuditta Agosti, both of that village. Serafino was a cheese maker and played the accordion in a band that travelled along Lago di Garda. He was drafted into the Austrian army in WWI and ended up in a Russian POW camp. After the camp was liberated, he had to walk and boat home which took 28 days with little food. When he arrived home to his fiancé, he was so skinny that he was unrecognizable. He married Ebe Pedroni and moved to her family's area in Lombardy, just south of Brescia. Our father, Lino Agosti, was born in Acquafredda in 1920.

Serafino, Ebe and baby Lino immigrated to the US in 1921 where Serafino found work in the coal mines in Lafferty, Ohio, a common destination for Trentini. When Serafino began to ail from esophageal cancer, possibly exacerbated by the coal dust, they moved to Pittsburgh where he passed away in 1926, leaving Ebe with two children, Lino, now age 6, and Lydia, age 2. With the help of Serafino's brother Daniel, Ebe took on running a boarding house on Mulberry Street in the Pittsburgh Strip to support her family. If you visit the Heinz History Museum in Pittsburgh, they lived on the alley just behind the museum.

Lino volunteered for military duty in WWII and served as a paratrooper in the Pacific theater, especially Occupied Japan. After returning to the US, he met our mother Dona Wolking and started a family in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They moved the growing family of three girls to Alaska in 1959 where they were joined by four more children, all boys. Three of those boys still run Lino's business. Most of Lino and Dona's kids and 20 grandkids still live there. They have 5 grandkids (so far).

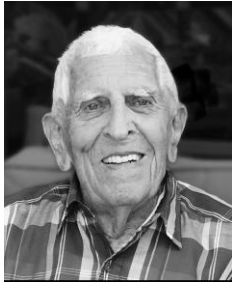


**You will find this story and more wonderful family stories on our web site
[Seattle Trentino Club, seattletrentinoclub.org](http://seattletrentinoclub.org)**

We know that not all of you could participate in the filming by **Vincenzo Mancuso** last summer, but we hope to keep the momentum going by receiving your written stories for the newsletter and web site. Please send them to me! mbmoser@comcast.net

STC Member News

Welcome new members! We are glad you are here. Please send us your news!
We hope to learn more about everyone's heritage and family stories in months to come.



Charlie Zadra – We lost long time STC member, Charles R. Zadra, who passed away in Missoula, Montana on Nov. 29, 2017. At age 97, Charlie was likely the oldest member of our club. We toasted him with a glass of wine in memoriam at our La Befana party in January. Charlie submitted a beautiful family history to us, detailing his life. In it, he talked about his first trip to Revó, in Val di Non. “As I came into the area I had a strong feeling of connection to my heritage and experienced feelings of both adventure and comfort to know this was where my roots are from. Meeting the people to whom I was related was very rewarding and helped me understand my own heritage.” Our condolences to his wife, Nancy, his children, and to all the Zadra family. Please see more information in the online obituary [here](#).



Dennis Ghezzi – We were sorry learn of the loss of Dennis Ghezzi, who passed away on March 1, 2018. Dennis played the accordion at our first Polenta Picnic. In his application to STC in 2010, Dennis wrote that he was able to visit Bondo in Trentino where his grandfather emigrated from in 1905. On that trip, he was able to meet all his relatives and see the church where his grandfather was baptized. “It was the trip of a lifetime,” he wrote. Please see the online [obituary](#) for more information. Our condolences to his wife, Marcy, and to his children, David and Andrea.



Bruce Johnson [made our local King5 news](#) last October when he intervened upon encountering a woman being attacked. Bruce stepped in between the victim and attacker, who threatened to stab him as well. "I'm not a brave person, but there was nobody else. I just had to do it," said Johnson. He calmly confronted the attacker and tried to keep the focus on himself. On March 8, 2018, Bruce, who is an Orthodox priest known as “Father Michael” at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Assumption where he assists, received the National Boy Scouts of America Honor Medal for “unusual heroism in saving. . . life at considerable risk to self.” His daughters **Maria**

Johnson and **Alexia Cortes-Johnson** attended the ceremony. You can read more about Bruce and his well-deserved award [here](#).



Dan Blood and Shawna Gibson (left) celebrated their first anniversary in Trentino!

Maria Pia Carmagnani and Mauro Rizzi (right) celebrated 20 years of marriage on the Queen Mary. Auguri, tutti!



Resources of Interest

Be sure to check out the [Seattle Trentino Club](http://seattletrentinoclub.org/) web site! Under the Geography section of our web site under the “Trentino” tab, you will find high-definition illustrated maps of each valley, sent to us by Trentino Nel Mondo. These files are downloadable onto a storage device for printing.

<http://seattletrentinoclub.org/>



Also check our **Facebook site “Seattle Trentino Club,”** where all of us can post news and share events.

Marco Manincor gave us a DVD guide to the **Museo Retico** in **Sanzeno**. It is in Italian and is available to borrow.

Other Local Italian Organizations

Several organizations in the Seattle area celebrate Italian heritage, language and culture.

- **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 - September 7-9, 2018** annual street festival with food, entertainment; fundraiser for local charity, <http://www.sangennarofestivalseattle.org/>
- **Festa Italiana** annual festival of Italian culture at Seattle Center, <http://www.festaseattle.com/>
- **Dante Alighieri Society.** Bi-monthly programs on Italian culture, one in English, one in Italian. [Italian language school](http://das.danteseattle.org/) with six levels of classes. <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/>
- **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 organizations with social events including an annual picnic, <http://www.glnw.org/information.htm>

**With gratitude for your support and membership from your
Seattle Trentino Club Board for 2018!**

Mary Beth Moser, President – mbmoser@comcast.net

Jan Agosti, Vice President jagosti@stanfordalumni.org

Annie Zadra, Secretary aezadra@yahoo.com

Joan Barker, Treasurer and Founding President faretuttabarker@icloud.com



Joan Barker, Jan Agosti, Mary Beth Moser and Annie Zadra

2018 Seattle Trentino Club Dues

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.** SOME MEMBERS HAVE SUGGESTED RAISING OUR DUES, AS OUR COST OF HOSTING EVENTS ESCALATES. WE WOULD LIKE TO KEEP OUR DUES LOW, WHICH WE CAN DO IF EVERYONE CONTRIBUTES. 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 2018 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**