

SEATTLE TRENTINO CLUB

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



February 2019



~~~ **Happy New Year!** ~~~

*Buon Anno!* The wheel of the year has turned once again. Here in the Seattle area, we are just emerging from a series of recent snowstorms, reminding us that we are still in winter's domain.

La Befana swept up a big windstorm just before our annual gathering on the Epiphany, leaving several neighborhoods without electricity, including the restaurant where we planned to meet. Thanks to Annie Zadra's quick on-site action – walking around the neighborhood to see who still had power – we were able to find a nearby last-minute location and had a delightful celebration. Thanks to all of you who came and who submitted photos! Some are included in this issue and there are more on our [Seattle Trentino Club Facebook page](#).

This year we celebrate the 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Seattle Trentino Club! With each passing year, we are making more connections and creating new memories. We have already started making plans for our polenta picnic on August 11 in the summer and you will find the details on page 3.

Last September I had the good fortune to visit Trentino again. Every time I go, I am filled with the wonder and awe of the natural beauty there.

By chance, while staying in Val di Rabbi, I met Sylvia Gramola, a helpful young woman who works at the tourist information office. Later in the trip, I happened to converse with a man on a remote

hiking trail – her father, Fabio. We determined that they are relatives of my maternal great grandmother, Felicita Gramola Tabacchini, of Deggiano, Val di Sole. Surely the Ancestors wanted us to meet, given these two unlikely encounters!

In Bedollo, I fulfilled a long-held desire to see the cows come home from the high mountain meadows, adorned with flowers and greenery, in the annual tradition known as the “Desmalgada,” a dialect word related to the name of the mountain dwelling, the *malga*, where cheese is made from the cows' fresh milk during the summer.



In late October, a devastating storm flooded the rivers and toppled countless trees in the woods across Trentino, some of the very places I had just visited. This natural disaster, from which the land is still recovering, is a reminder of our most precious connections and the importance of community, near and far. Thanks to all of you who donated to the Disaster Relief Fund. We hope our monetary support conveys our care and concern.

With connection,  
*Mary Beth Moser*

## Trentino Disaster Relief Fund

Thank you to our Seattle Trentino Club members who donated to the Disaster Relief Fund for those affected by the devastating storm in October 2018.

In addition to local contributions, we received donations from Idaho, Alaska and New York! We also donated 10% of our club savings. We hope that our donation can help the recovery effort in some small way.



## Volunteer Event at Seattle Center

*"I had a great time and have found myself thinking about all the patients and volunteers that I met."* Jan Agosti

*"A wonderful experience!"* Dan Kalstad

*"The SKC Clinic was a very satisfying experience and fulfilling for the STC."* Joe Zuech



At our all-member meeting at the beginning of last year, we had discussed ways that we could contribute as a club to the community. Jan Agosti suggested an event that she has participated in for a few years: the Seattle King County Clinic, a yearly event at Seattle Center at which free medical care is provided to the public. On **September 20-23, 2018**, some members of the Seattle Trentino Club volunteered. Over 3650 people received care that weekend.

A big acknowledgment to **Jan Agosti, Joe Zuech, and Dan Kalstad and Lynne Kalstad** for volunteering! It sounds like it was a very rewarding experience. Jan, a medical doctor, saw patients. Dan worked in the dental x-ray area with a team of about 30 using the imaging software. Due to the construction of a new arena at Seattle Center there will not be a Clinic in 2019. Please let us know if you have suggestions for this year. We'll keep you posted on plans for Spring of 2020 for this event. <http://seattlecenter.org/skcclinic/>

## Upcoming Deadline - Trentino Youth Exchange Program

The deadline for the Trentino Youth Exchange Program is near. **Applications must be submitted by Feb 28, 2019.** For more information and an [application form](#), see “Provincia Autonoma di Trento – Interscambi Giovanili” at this [web site](#). Let us know if we can help you with this process.



\*\*\*\*\* **Save the Dates** \*\*\*\*\*

## Annual Polenta Picnic – Sunday, August 11, 2019

We have the date for our annual Polenta Picnic at the scenic Founders Lodge at **Des Moines Marina!** Do plan to attend this annual event with communally-cooked polenta! We will keep you posted this summer via email and evite on the details. Please feel free to invite your relatives from out of town to the beautiful Northwest. We would love to have you there. It is a great opportunity to share stories, eat great food, and celebrate together in beauty.

## Next ITTONA Convention – August 6-9, 2020 in Albany, NY

We received an email from Andrew Zatik, secretary of the ITTONA Board about the biennial Trentino convention.

I am pleased to announce that the officers of ITTONA have set the 2020 convention to take place in Albany, New York August 6-9, 2020. Albany is the capital of New York State. The convention hotel will be the Desmond Hotel. As we get more information (cost, dining, events, etc.) we will share it with all of you.

In addition The Trentino Youth Council (TYC) will be holding their annual convention in conjunction with our convention. “

## Recent Events

### January 6, 2019 - La Befana/Babbo Natale Party



"It was a night of magic" the story of La Befana says, and so it was. Evoking our celebration two years ago, La Befana arrived after a powerful windstorm. Even with power outages and last-minute relocation of our event to Round Table Pizza in Burien, (to whom we are grateful), we had a wonderful La Befana party! Our beloved Babbo Natale (**Bruce Johnson**) and La Befana (**Joan Barker**) arrived, to the delight of us all, sharing their gift-giving spirit.



THANK YOU to everyone who came! There was an abundance of delicious treats, including homemade sugar cookies made by **Fernanda Say**, and chestnuts from [Nella's Chestnut Farm](#) in Hood River, OR from **Joe Zuech** who went to the Castagnata there last fall. A special thanks to all of the kids that came, **Sarah and Michael Jusko**, and **Wesley, Elliot, and PJ (Paula Jane) Gough**, and to the parents and grandparents who brought them. It would not have been the same without your delightful presence!

# STC Member News



**Welcome New Baby!**  
Congratulations to **Alexia Cortes-Johnson** and **Juan Cortes** on the arrival of **Tenoch Michael Cortes-Johnson** on November 27, 2018. We hope to see you at our next gathering!

Our condolences to the family of **Carrol Zadra Vizzare**, who died on January 16, 2019. She was the sister of members **Fred, Dan** and **Anne Zadra** and related to many more. Carrol was clearly beloved by numerous people. Her obituary may be found [here](#).



In the back row (left to right) **Fred Zadra, Carrol Zadra Vizzare, Denny Johnson, Bruce Johnson**, and in the front row, **Joan Barker, Dan Zadra** and **Annie Zadra**.

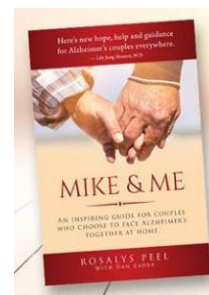
**Congratulations to Bruce Johnson**, also known as Father Michael, who retired from the Greek Orthodox Church of the Assumption in September, where he was honored with a farewell luncheon. Bruce was one of the founding members of our club. We hope to see you often at our gatherings, Bruce!



**Kim Boldrini-Senn** sends her greetings from New York. Baby **Oliver**, who took his very first steps at our La Befana party in 2016, has grown! Thank you for your continued support to our club, Kim, and congratulations on your business, The Family Healing Spot <https://kimboldrini.net/>



**Dan Zadra** is promoting a new book, *Mike & Me: An Inspiring Guide for Couples Who Choose to Face Alzheimer's Together at Home*. After meeting the author, Rosalys Peel of Bainbridge Island, and hearing her inspiring story, Dan helped her produce and publish it. This is a beautiful guidebook about Rosalys' life with her husband Mike, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. "We were able to surpass virtually all of our expectations and enjoy ten full years of life, love and meaning together," Rosalys writes.



**Joan Barker** was featured in a great [Seattle Times](#) article recently for having been one of the first people to drive over the newly-completed viaduct, SR 99, in 1953. The double-decker highway was closed on January 11, 2019, due to earthquake safety concerns, and has been replaced by a tunnel 200 feet under the city. We appreciate Joan's long connection to the city and her family's personal connection to local areas.

## New Publication on DNA for Trentino Genealogists

*DNA Tests, Genealogy, Ethnicity Versus Ethnicity and Cultural Identity: Trentino, Tyrolean, Italian?*

*Why DNA Tests Are NO Substitute for Genealogical Research*

*Relatives Map*

*TrentinoGenealogy.com*

Genealogist **Lynn Serafinn** has written an excellent and informative 4-part essay 'DNA Tests, Genealogy, Ethnicity and Cultural Identity' which can be found on her website, [TrentinoGenealogy.com](http://TrentinoGenealogy.com). [Part 1](#) discusses fundamentals of genetics, Y-chromosome, mitochondrial and autosomal DNA tests and pedigree collapses; [part 2](#) discusses why DNA tests alone cannot tell us everything about our ancestry; [part 3](#) discusses cultural labels and personal identity, and explores the ethnic history of northern Italy. Part 4 is forth- coming. Brava and thank you, Lynn!

Lynn also moderates a very active Facebook site, [Trentino Genealogy](https://www.facebook.com/TrentinoGenealogy), for folks who are doing family research about Trentino. It is not uncommon for members to discover that they are related to each other on this site.

## 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/>

**Dante Alighieri Society.** Bi-monthly programs on Italian culture, one in English, one in Italian. Italian language school with six levels of classes. <https://www.danteseattle.org/>

**Seattle Perugia Sister City Society:** Regular and special events focused on Italy; monthly gatherings 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/>

**Order Sons and Daughters of Italy:** Italian organization with social events including an annual picnic. <https://www.osia.org/about/history/>

**THANK YOU for your membership from your 2019 Seattle Trentino Club Board!**



- Mary Beth Moser, President – [mbmoser@comcast.net](mailto:mbmoser@comcast.net)
- Jan Agosti, Vice President - [jagosti@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:jagosti@stanfordalumni.org)
- Anne Zadra, Secretary - [aezadra@yahoo.com](mailto:aezadra@yahoo.com)
- Joan Barker, Treasurer and past President - [faretuttabarker@icloud.com](mailto:faretuttabarker@icloud.com)

## 2019 Seattle Trentino Club Dues

THANK YOU to all who submitted dues for 2019! 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! See the form on the next page.*

**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 2019 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 FOR JOAN BARKER**