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SOCIETY



L'Osservatore Lancastriano

President's Message

Cari Amici,

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable and safe summer.

LICS members continue to offer great ideas for future trips and other activities. Please check the Calendar of Events in our newsletters and look for E-blasts.

On Sunday, July 12th, we attended the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and San Paolino in Brooklyn, New York. The main event of the day was the procession. The statues and the setup weighed 8000 pounds. It was unbelievable to watch 150 men carry it on their shoulders while dancing to Italian folk music. The activities and the Italian food were at its best. I especially enjoyed the Italian sausage, peppers and onions with broccoli rabe and delicious cannolis for dessert.

On **Friday, September 4th**, LICS will participate in the **Frank Sinatra 100th Birthday Celebration** during the Barnstormers game at Clipper Stadium.

The **LICS summer picnic** will be held on **Sunday, September 13th** at the Liederkrantz. Save the date and plan to attend with family, especially children and grandchildren, who are the future of our society.

The bus trip to **Vendemmia** is scheduled for **Sunday, October 11th**. Please read the enclosed flyer for details.

The very popular **Spaghetti Dinner** will be **Saturday, October 17th**. Invite family and friends to enjoy a delicious meal and support the LICS Scholarship Fundraiser.

Sempre Amici,

Charlie

The Birth of the Italian Republic

Excerpted from an article by Joseph Cannavo

On June 2nd, Italy commemorates the birth of the Italian Republic with the *Festa della Repubblica Italiana*, or the Festival of the Italian Republic.

In 1946, after the fall of Fascism and the end of World War II, an institutional referendum was held June 2-3 to determine whether the Italians preferred their government to remain a monarchy or become a republic. After 85 years of reign, the monarchs of the House of Savoy were exiled, and Italy became a republic.

Three years later, on May 27, 1949, parliament passed Article 260 which declared June 2 as the *data di fondazione della Repubblica*, or the date of the founding of the republic. It became a national holiday.

Before the founding of the Republic, the Italian national holiday was the first Sunday in June. It was known as the Feast of the Albertine Statute, which was the constitution that King Charles Albert conceded to the Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia on March 4, 1848.

Between 1977 and 2001, an economic downturn in Italy resulted in Republic Day being moved to the first Sunday in June and stripped of its status as a national holiday. Only in 2001 was the celebration moved back to June 2, becoming a public holiday again.

For Italians, it is similar to Bastille Day in France or the Fourth of July in America. On this day, special ceremonies take place in Italy. All over the world, Italian embassies celebrate and invite the host country's heads of state. In Italian communities around the world, parades and festivals are held. Like many other Italian holidays, the annual *Festa della Repubblica Italiana* has its traditions. Most notable are the events in Rome. Ceremonies include the laying of a wreath at Italy's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and a military parade, presided over by the Italian President. The prime minister and other high officers of state also attend.

Later in the day, the public gardens at the Palazzo del Quirinale, the seat of the presidency of the Italian Republic, feature performances by martial bands of the Italian Army, Navy, Air Force, Carabinieri and Guardis di Finanza.

One of the highlights is the flyover of the Frecece Tricolori. Officially known as the Pattuglia Acrobatica Nazionale (National Acrobatic Patrol), nine Italian Air Force aircraft, in tight formation, fly over the Vittoriano monument, trailing green, white and red smoke, the colors of Italy's flag.

Dancing Under the Stars

The "Dancing Under the Stars" event was held on Friday, June 12th. Over 100 members and guests enjoyed the evening as well as the music and food.

SAVE THE DATES!

Friday, September 4, 2015

Frank Sinatra 100th Birthday Celebration

Clipper Stadium Barnstormers Baseball Game
The Barnstormers will be celebrating the 100th Birthday of Frank Sinatra and have invited LICS to participate with the festivities...great Sinatra music, film clips, Italian food, dancing, Bocce and lots of fun!

More information will be forthcoming, so be sure check the E-Blasts. You don't want to miss out on this wonderful event!

Sunday, September 13, 2015

Annual Picnic

Come and join us for our annual Family Picnic at the Lancaster Liederkrantz Pavilion. (See flyer in this newsletter.)

Saturday, October 17, 2015

Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Join us once again for the 12th annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to help with our Scholarship Fund. (See flyer in this newsletter.)

Lancaster Italian Cultural Society Officers

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LICS Art Award Winners for 2015 are:

Michelangelo Award to Abigail Yoder of Solanco High School

Leonardo di Vinci Award to Alexis Clifford of Warwick High School

Modigliani Award to Zachary Shaffer of Manheim Central High School

Artemisia Award to Sydney Strickler of Manheim Central High School

(Each winner received an award of \$25.)

2015
CALENDAR FOR MEETINGS AND EVENTS
(Subject to Change)

Friday, September 4th	Frank Sinatra 100th Birthday Celebration	Clipper Stadium
Sunday, September 13th	LICS Annual Picnic	Liederkrantz
Sunday, October 11th	Vendemmia Festival	Wilmington, DE
Saturday, October 17th	LICS Spaghetti Dinner/Fundraiser	St. John Neumann
Sunday, November 8th	General Meeting/Program	Liederkrantz
Sunday, December 13th	Christmas Party	Eden Resort

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS--TUESDAYS, 6:30 PM AT ST. JOHN NEUMANN
August 11, October 13, December 8

MEMBERS CORNER

Benvenuto (Welcome):

Cory LaBrasca & Anna Cunningham
Richard & Jessica Graybill
Janice & Dave Longer
Rev. Bernardo Pistone
Jeff & Mary Williams

Bravi (Well Done):

John and Dee Viscardi received the "Family of the Year" Award from the Knights of Columbus for their support to the organization and especially with fundraisers since 1986.

Anthony Scheuerman recently finished his second semester at Lebanon Valley College majoring in music. Playing the viola, he has played at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and traveled to Ireland. Locally, Anthony has performed with the Allegro Orchestra in Lancaster and the Hershey Symphony.

He and other performers from the college will be the entertainment at the LICS picnic on September 13th.
John and Dee Viscardi are his grandparents.

Glenn Ebersole has been named the 2015 Tri County Area Chamber of Commerce's Volunteer of the Year.

Condoglianze (Condolences):

The Family of **Shirley Roda** on her passing.

Michael and Diane Velletri Hinerdeer and Family on the passing of his father, Gerald Hinerdeer.

Marie Laboranti and Family on the passing of her husband, **Jerry Laboranti, Sr.**

Roseann and William Bozochovic and Family on the passing of her mother, Rose Tretter.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are once again looking for volunteers to help with the 8th Annual Spaghetti Dinner/Fundraiser.

In addition to purchasing tickets, we are asking your help on the day of the event.

We need volunteers for two hour shifts, from 3:30pm to 5:30pm, 5:30pm to 7:30pm and 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

If you would like to help, you may contact one of the following:

Frank Provanzo
(717) 898-2503
frank@flmdev.com

Pete Byrne
(717) 393-6700
plhbyrne@verizon.net

When a board member calls and ask for your help please volunteer.

THE COLORS OF ITALY

Azzurro (literally, azure) is the national Italian color. The light blue color, together with the tricolore, is a symbol of Italy.

The origins of the color date back to 1366, when the Conte Verde, Amedeo VI of Savoy, on a crusade organized by Pope Urbano V, displayed on his flagship, next to the banner of Savoy, a large blue flag in tribute to the Madonna. From that time forward, military officers wore a blue knotted sash or scarf.

In 1572, such use was made mandatory for all officers by the Duke of Savoy. Through several changes over the centuries, it became the chief insignia of rank. The blue sash is still worn by officers of the Italian armed forces during ceremonies. The Italian presidential banner is bordered in *azzurro* to signify law and command.

Also, in tribute to religious figures, the ribbon of the Supreme Order of the Santissima Annunziata, the highest Italian chivalric ensign (and among the oldest in Europe) was light blue. Blue ribbons are used in the military for certain medals (such as the Medaglia d'Oro al Valor Militare and Croce di Guerra al Valor Militare).

Forza Azzurri!

During the twentieth century, *azzurro* was adopted as the official color of athletic jerseys for national Italian teams. The Italian national soccer team, as a tribute to the Royal House of Italy, wore blue shirts for the first time in January 1911, and the maglietta azzurra quickly became the symbol of the sport.

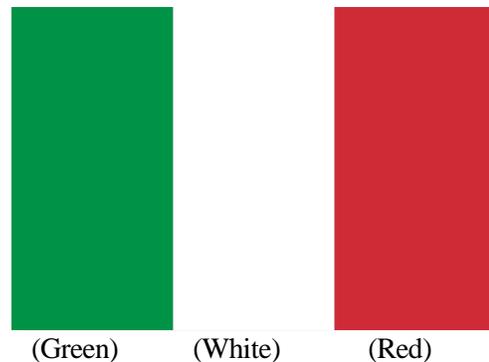
The color took several years to establish itself as part of the uniform for other national teams. In fact, during the 1912 Olympic Games, the most popular color remained white and persisted, even though the Comitato Olimpico Nazionale Italiano, established in 1914, recommended the new jersey. Only during the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles did all Italian athletes wear blue.

The national football team also briefly wore black shirts, as demanded by Benito Mussolini. This shirt was used in a friendly game with Yugoslavia in May 1938 and, during the first two World Cup matches that year, against Norway and France. After the war, even though the monarchy was ousted in Italy and the Italian Republic was born, blue uniforms were kept for national sports (but the royal crest of Savoia was eliminated).

It's worth noting that the color also frequently serves as the nickname for national Italian sports teams. *Gli Azzurri* refers to the Italian national soccer, rugby, and ice hockey teams and the Italian ski team as a whole is referred to as the *Valanga Azzurra* (Blue Avalanche). The female form, *Le Azzurre*, is likewise used to refer to Italian women's national teams.

The only sport that doesn't use a blue shirt for its national team (with some exceptions) is cycling. So, the next time you are watching a soccer match or some formal Italian function, and you see a blue symbol of representation, remember the long history from which this color emerged and appreciate the tradition started in the 14th century and continuing into the 21st century.

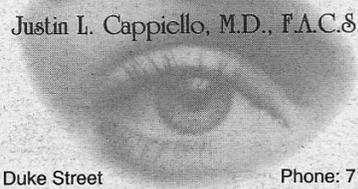
From an article written by: By Michael San Filippo, Italian Language Expert



If you would like to become a LICS member or would like more information, please please contact Anita Bomberger, Membership Chairperson, at (717) 569-2724. Or visit us our website for a membership application:
<http://lancaster-italian-cultural-society.org/become-a-member-application/>

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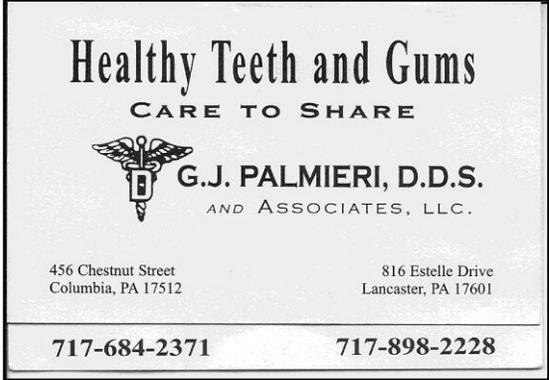


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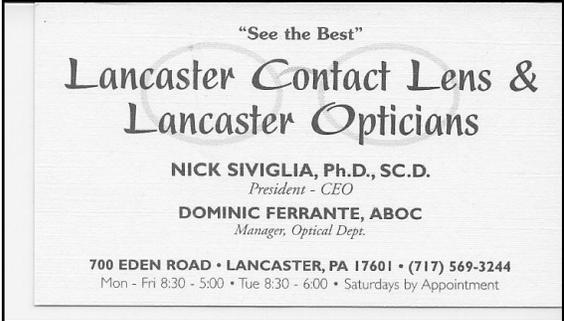


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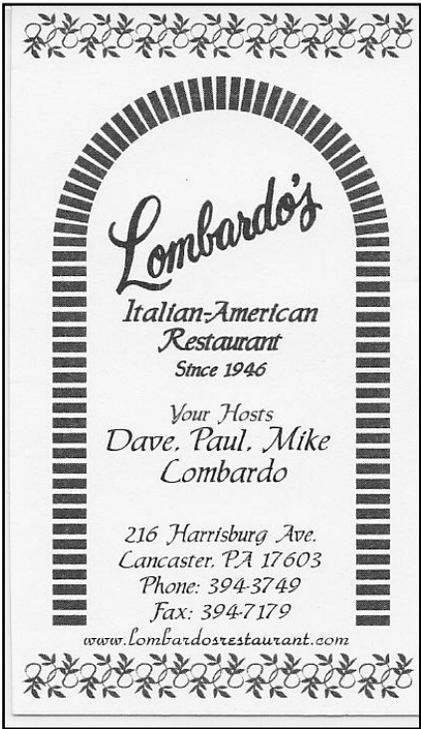
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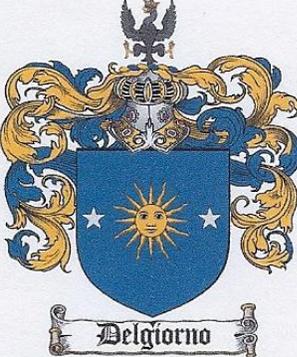



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2015 LICS Scholarship winners: A \$2,000 Scholarship was awarded to each of the following students: Emily Kurisky, Lancaster Catholic High School, Victoria Fracica, Achievement House Cyber Charter School, and Madeline Williams, Palmyra High School (Lebanon County).