

## Picnic &amp; Lititz Festa Photos!

## LICS Bollettino Periodico

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*The Digital Periodical of the  
Lancaster Italian Cultural Society*

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LANCASTER  
ITALIAN  
CULTURAL  
SOCIETY



# L'Osservatore Lancastriano

## *Gentili Amici,*

I cannot begin to tell you the excitement, the joy, the pride, the tearing up with emotion that I have experienced these past two weeks. I want to begin by saying I am so very proud of you, and I am so glad to be a member of our organization. We all make it what it is, and we are giving our all. **It all began on Saturday, September 11 at the ONE WORLD FESTIVAL** that took place at the F&M Gymnastic Arena. After months of preparation, that had been delayed two years ago due to Covid, a multitude of ethnic organizations pulled all their will, energy, cultural, and culinary talents to show the world that they are here and are part of this community. Among all these national representations, Italy was there too. Our booth was continually occupied by volunteers, handing out flyers, brochures, answering questions, giving out sweet goodies, and engaging in conversation in Italian or English. Just to be there with so many people visiting, enjoying the ethnic food and the entertaining, was magic, exhilarating. I was so glad to be there and see so many of you and many new faces. I must thank Helen Ebersole, Peter Byrne, Tim Austin, David Ferruzza and many more for doing such a good job! It was not easy, many difficulties had to be resolved... and they had them well in hand. Bravi, well done, Complimenti!

**The second event was on Saturday, September 17th at the Lititz Park, la festa Italiana, simply called L'Italia.** My friends, what a turn out! And to think, it was thought out and organized in just a few weeks by a bunch of Italian speaking people who wanted so much to celebrate Italy with all its traditions, personality, culture, fun loving, hospitality, music, delicious food and just to come together and celebrate this loving, unforgettable, old, spectacular country.

At this point I am getting too emotional. Forgive me. I was planning of course to be there, but I was called the night before and asked to demonstrate something Italian. When I said that I needed a kitchen or a stove, it was not a possibility. The most I could have was an electrical receptacle and a table. So, I took out my old Iron Pizzelle maker, prepared a large dose of dough flavored with Anise, and there I was the next morning at 9:00 AM, setting myself up to bake pizzelle for hours...

...well, my friends, the aroma drew people to my corner constantly, I could not make those sweet, thin cookies fast enough. The day was great; the people were happy and looking forward to next year. The event was very successful, an excellent Italian Fest, thank you Tim Austin for all your wonderful partners and their vision.

**The 3rd event was on Sunday September 18 at the LICS Family picnic.** How great the day was! Such cordiality, such plentiful good food! How good it is to spend quality time with family and people we love, enjoying doing simple things. That's what happiness is, just doing and loving the simple things in life. Especially when, in the midst of this fun loving event, almost 100 young women from the ENCORE dance Studio appeared on the floor to perform for us a variety of dances. They were wonderful! They danced and danced, and at the end, to honor our Italian Heritage, they perfectly danced the Tarantella. No one's eye was dry; our hearts swelled with emotion and tears appeared and fell from our eyes. Could we have had a better day to end our family get together? Thank you to Kathy and Tony Fisichella and their family, to Dee Viscardi, Deb Saporetti, David Ferruzza, Rosa Abbatiello, Pattie Meyer, the Encore Dance Studio and all the many, many volunteers, who constantly come forward to help. You are wonderful and dear to me,

Con Affetto, Nella



**Nella, addressing the crowd at the Lititz Festa.**



Above: Fiorella Spidalieri, Ron Roda, Helen Ebersole, Mary Cae Williams, and Nella Seward.

### Upcoming LICS Events

Saturday, October 8 - **Spaghetti Dinner**, St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall, 4 to 7 PM, \$12.00 pp.

October 18, 19, 20, 21 - **Villa Roma Resort Trip**, Call Dee Viscardi, 717-951-7112, for more details.

Saturday, November 5 - **"Oldies but Goodies Movie"**  
At The Oaks Club House, 2 to 6 PM.

Pizza after the movie, \$6.00 pp

Please see attached Flyer for details.

Saturday, December 17 - **Christmas Party**, At The Conestoga Country Club. 5 to 10:30 PM, \$65.00 pp. Limited to 80 attendees.

**Ladies Luncheon** - Every 1st Wednesday of the month. Please watch for locations' announcement.

Look for all the details regarding our activities in the Bollettino, the Newsletter, the Eblast, and on the LICS' Website.

### "One World Festival" Demonstrated Unity - Italian Style! By Helen Ebersole

On Sunday, September 11, our Lancaster Italian Cultural Society (LICS) participated in the thrice-planned "One World Festival" at Franklin and Marshall (F&M) College's Alumni Sports and Fitness Center.

The third time in planning the festival proved to be a charm for the F&M supported community volunteers group.

Several Lancaster area food vendors, cultural groups, some with their dancers, enjoyed sharing the best of their cultures to create a multi-cultural fun and educational experience!

As "One World Festival" participants, our LICS table proved (according to our own volunteers) to be the most energetic, festive and welcoming group!

We made many new multicultural community friends who were (and are) genuinely interested in our group and in what we do.

Numerous old friends stopped by to say hi and to chat after two years of separation. It was a fun and heartfelt experience, indeed.

Our wonderful table volunteers and others provided educational club information and goodies through the distribution of LICS information cards, LICS brochures, our members' original Italian recipe cards, biscotti, membership information and more! We also had unique, creative posters depicting various aspects of Italy's interesting culture.

A big THANK YOU to all of our LICS family who, through their support, made it possible to have a successful, educational and entertaining LICS booth!

Our condolences to James and Karen Lombardo and family, on the passing of his sister, Theresa (Lombardo) Schwartz.

Our condolences to the Fulginiti family, on the passing of Samuel J. Fulginiti, Sr.



**Gary Saporetti – LICS Scholarship Award Winner from 2014** by *Mary Cae Williams*

It was our pleasure, recently, to touch base with Gary Saporetti, who was awarded a scholarship by the Lancaster Italian Cultural Society in 2014. He graduated in 2019 from Drexel University with a degree in Civil Engineering. Gary currently works with the consulting firm of AECOM. The work Gary does includes consulting on roadway projects, site developments and design for contracts secured by AECOM. Their task is to create the final, approved design that is construction ready. PENNDOT, DELDOT, and Amtrak are among their clients. Gary's group never actually slowed down during the height of the Covid pandemic although other parts of the company did see the work flow lessen.

Gary shared a little about his degree work at Drexel. He chose to pursue the 5-year degree that the university offers its students. This program includes extended internships that give students direct, real-world experience in the fields they are studying. Gary completed three internships, in all. "These Co-Ops were great experiences," Gary commented, "What I learned in the classroom needed to be expanded on through direct experience. My internship exposure to CAD (computer assisted design) software, for example, allowed me to jump right in to do the work once I was hired." Gary also noted that serving in the internships is very useful in helping students narrow down their own, personal interests in their fields of study. In Gary's particular field, he gained an understanding of the coordination that must go on between and among many levels of government.

When asked about how the LICS scholarship supported him in pursuing his college degree, he shared a little about how he came to apply for it. Nella Seward is a good friend of the family and encouraged both Gary and his sister to write essays to apply for the scholarship. He decided to research Lazio, the region from which his family came, originally. He had never met his great-grandfather, who immigrated and talking to his father about him helped Gary to get more personal information about his heritage. Writing was not stressful for Gary. At the same time he was researching and writing his essay for LICS, he was studying for an AP Test. The writing actually gave him a break from the stress of studying for the test. It seems that Gary was learning about balancing his energies even in high school.



**Above: Gary with his dog, and his long-term girlfriend, Jillian.**

On a personal level, Gary spends a lot of time running in the outdoors. He has a new dog, who is an eager companion for these runs. Gary acknowledged that it is important to find a health balance between the stresses of work and non-work activities. He also noted how important it is to get out of the office, occasionally, and visit the job sites directly, "To actually see what's on the ground."

To this day, Gary looks back on the process of applying for the scholarship with pleasure. He learned so much about the area where his great-grandfather lived; his parents encouraged him throughout the process; he deepened his connection to his heritage. Gardening had always been big in his family. Through his research, he learned about the agriculture in the region and the produce that his great grandfather grew and sold when he was younger.

Gary remembers the LICS banquet during which he was awarded the scholarship. "It was such a good experience and a great opportunity."

Thank you, Gary, for helping to make our roadways and railways safe and well designed.





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Please send us member news to include in the Bollettino and Newsletter. We miss hearing from you. Email us at:  
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## PYFER REESE STRAUB GRAY & FARHAT PC

Sandra Edwards Gray - Attorney  
sgray@pyferreese.com



128 North Lime Street  
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The above photos are courtesy of L'Italia Festival of Lititz.



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**Bollettino/Newsletter Committee:**

Mary Cae Williams  
Marian Caroselli  
John Day, Nella Seward  
Rudy DeLaurentis, editor  
**LICSNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM**

**Willow Street**  
2421 Willow Street Pike | 717.464.4600  
**Manheim Township**  
3110 Lititz Pk. | 717.560.5100  
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Lancaster Italian Cultural Society Afternoon at the Movies

**Houseboat starring Sophia Loren and Cary Grant**

November 5 @ 2 pm  
The Clubhouse at Oaks  
192 Black Oak Drive

\$6 per person. Pay at the door.

Choice of pizza (cheese, pepperoni or mushroom) and  
dessert will be provided

Please call Dee Viscardi (717-951-7112) to indicate the  
names of the people in your party who are attending and  
their pizza selections.

**RSVP by October 26**