

Buon Anno a Tutti!

2022 Italian-American Service Award Form

LICS Bollettino Periodico

L'Osservatore Lancastriano



*The Digital Periodical of the
Lancaster Italian Cultural Society
Volume 4 & Digital Issue 1 January 2023*

Lettera January 2023

Gentili Amici.

Buon Anno 2023 a tutti!

After a year of fun filled LICS events and weeks of preparation to celebrate Christmas, we are now embracing a new year. The LICS board is planning lots of new and traditional activities for everyone. Look for upcoming events in the February and March Bollettini. In March, we shall have election for the new Board members. Please attend the event so we can socialize and count on your vote. We are all looking forward to a year full of good health, happiness, and most of all peace in the whole world. Let us all be together on this Hope.

Please know that I am always available to hear from you, whatever you want or need to share.

Arrivederci a presto.

Nella Seward

Condolences to Helen Ebersole and family on the passing of her brother-in-law, Edward Phillips, husband of Helen's sister, Betsy Walton-Phillips.



The Roof Rockers!

Dear LICS Friends,

We were so pleased to be able to once again enjoy our Annual Christmas Party, in person and filled with joy. Here are pictures courtesy of the amazing Dee Viscardi. Thank you, Dee for taking the time to capture these great shots. Thank you Everyone for making the event such a pleasure.

Buon Anno a Tutti,

The Newsletter Committee



Christmas Party Committee: Valerie Faiola, Dee Viscardi, Livia Riley (chairperson) and Pat LaBarbera. Peter Mastropietro was not available for photo.

To find the LICS Group page on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/4133958646671653/>



Sebastiano and Josephine Santoro, Joseph and Rosanne Galante, Tony and Kathy Fisichella, and Dee Viscardi. Background: a member of the band (The Roof Rockers).



Helen Ebersole reported that she had fun dancing at the party "Great band," she said, "I loved the atmosphere, the food was very good, and the service was great!"

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Sebastiano & Josephine



Cristoforo Colombo Luxury Liner



Precious Cargo By Marian Caroselli

The Italian luxury liner, *Cristoforo Colombo*, is notable for twice carrying very precious cargo to the United States. On December 8, 1961 it carried Nella Seward, then known as Nella Caponi, from the port of Naples destined for the port of New York. In the spring of 1964 it carried the Pietà from the Vatican to the 1964 New York World's Fair.

The Italian Line, whose official name was Italia di Navigazione, was founded in 1932. In World War II the company lost many ships, including *Rex* and *Conte di Savoia*. Others were captured by the United States and converted into troop ships. Four of them survived the war: *Conte Biancamano*, *Conte Grande*, *Saturnia*, and *Vulcania*.

The Italian Line at this point decided to build only moderately-sized ships that were very luxurious, comfortable, and stylish. Commercial service was resumed in 1947 under the company's new name Società di Navigazione Italia. In addition to the four vessels returned to the company by the United States, two new vessels, *Andrea Doria* and *Cristoforo Colombo* were commissioned in 1953 and 1954.

Cristoforo Colombo was a beautifully proportioned ocean liner, the finest Italy could produce, even in a land of superb artists. She was launched in 1953 and was ready for a 1954 maiden voyage. When launched, *Cristoforo Colombo* was larger than *Andrea Doria*.

In 1956, *Andrea Doria*, the company's three-year-old flagship, collided with the Swedish *Stockholm* near Nantucket and sank, with passenger deaths estimated at 46 or 55. The company replaced *Andrea Doria* with *Leonardo da Vinci*, which went into service in 1960. This ship was based on the same design as *Andrea Doria*, but was larger, and featured technical innovations.

The *SS Raffaello*, which Nella sailed on for her first trip back to Italy, was built at the sunset of the great transatlantic ocean liner era. Part of the duo, *SS Raffaello* and *SS Michelangelo*, the two ships were the largest ocean liners built in Italy since *SS Rex* and *SS Conte di Savoia* of the 1930's. Designed as a transatlantic vessel, the ship soon encountered fierce transatlantic competition from the faster *SS United States* and *RMS Queen Mary*, as well as the expanding airline service. With this affecting passenger size, the ship was transitioned into a cruise ship.

As previously mentioned, *Cristoforo Colombo* carried the Pietà to the New York World's Fair. It was put in a crate that was filled with plastic foam and lowered onto a rubber base in the first class pool where the least damage was likely to happen to it. During the actual loading, *Cristoforo Colombo* had been put in dry dock so that she would not move and jeopardize the crate and its contents. In case *Cristoforo Colombo* sank during the voyage, the crate had the ability to float. In New York, the crate was lifted by a heavy-lift floating crane onto a barge that was put alongside the ship.

Cristoforo Colombo and *Leonardo da Vinci* were kept as the flagships and the prime Italian ships on the North Atlantic until 1965, when the new *SS Michelangelo* and *SS Raffaello* were placed into service. She was painted entirely white in 1966 in order to match the other ships in the Italian Line, which had abandoned black as a hull color. The ship brought many Italian postwar immigrants to the United States and Canada calling at Halifax and New York in the last decades of large-scale ocean liner immigration to North America.

Cristoforo Colombo is prominently featured in the 1962 Warner Brothers film *Rome Adventure* starring Suzanne Pleshette, Troy Donahue and Rossano Brazzi. The opening titles of the 1971 film *The Burglars* ("Le Casse") by Henri Verneuil shows *Cristoforo Colombo* at dock in Athens, Greece. The ship's name is clearly seen.

In 1973, *Cristoforo Colombo* gave up the New York service. It was therefore redirected to the Genoa-Barcelona-Lisbon-Rio-Montevidéo-Buenos Aires service to replace *MS Giulio Cesare* that had suffered serious mechanical problems. In 1977 she was sold to Venezuela, where she was used as an accommodation ship for workers at Ciudad Guayana. By 1977 all Italian Line transatlantic service had been discontinued for the usual economic reasons.

(Continued on the following page.)



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In 1981, the Cristoforo Colombo was sold to US scrappers. However, upon arrival at Kaoshiung, Taiwan, Cristoforo Colombo was towed to Hong Kong with hopes of returning to service. As the ship was expensive to operate and was in poor condition after her time in Venezuela, the Cristoforo Colombo was towed back to Kaohsiung in the autumn of 1982 and scrapped.

While these impressive Italian ships could not meet the needs of the modern world, our dear Nella keeps adapting and growing, strong and vital as ever! The Italians got that part right.

John Day's Italy Trip - Sunday, December 18, 2022

Hello fellow travelers,

The rain that was here for a week has left. It was a beautiful day of enjoying Rome without a lot of pressure to see "the sights". My youngest daughter, Diana, & her husband Jason are traveling with me along with their 2 children. They have good friends in Rome (also with 2 children, but younger), and we spent all day yesterday with them. They used Uber, and there were no glitches at all, nothing to report which was close to an adventure. I would say, though, from riding in the front seat each time, you don't want to drive in Rome. There are rules, which sometimes turn out to be suggestions, and there is a protocol in who has the right of way that we don't follow. I'm not sure what it is, but there were situations where I thought, "That's not right".

The meals here are amazing, and not as pricey as you would think. Yesterday we saw the Circus Maximus (chariot racing) and St. Peter's Basilica, the latter in the evening all lit up. There was a walk through area where different crèche scenes were displayed. Jet lag has been an issue. I don't recommend seeing Rome first thing after arriving in Italy.

Today, we went to the Colosseum, where there were no longer individual tickets available. That turned out to be a blessing because the person leading the guided tour was great. She gave us a good feel for the history of the place, and at the same time kept the kids interested. Then we walked to the Palatine Hill, where all the rich people lived, overlooking the Roman Forum. If you wanted to be somebody important, you had to have a house on the Palatine Hill.

Then we met up with the friends at the Spanish Steps, and went to the Life Ristorante. The adults all got the lobster sampler - 4 courses, each with a different wine to match the food. I opted out of the first one - raw fish & meat thinly sliced (carpaccio) - and had some cooked calamari instead. We were there from 2:30pm to 5:00pm. It was wonderful. (No supper for me.) Afterwards we stopped at the Trevi Fountain on the way back to the apartment. Then we saw the rest of the World Cup final between Argentina and France. An amazing game!!

Until next time,
John.

Please support our sponsors. To become a sponsor, contact J.D. Roda: bruno1914@comcast.net

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
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2022 Italian-American Service Award

Nomination Form

Name of Nominee _____ Phone _____

Name of Recommender _____ Phone _____

Email of Recommender _____

Date of Submission of this form _____ (not valid for current year if submitted after Feb. 15, 2022.)

Reason for Nomination (see criteria below):



LANCASTER
ITALIAN
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Timeline:

- Applications may be downloaded year-round from the LICCS Website.
- Nominations are received by committee chair, Dee Viscardi at: **ditalia1013@comcast.net, or mailed to: 6486 Lincoln Court, East Petersburg, PA 17520.**
- Judges (three board and two at large members) will review all nominations in February and make a selection at that time.
- Award will be announced/presented at the annual March meeting.

Criteria:

- Nominee may be an active member of the LICCS, but also may come from the greater Lancaster community.
- Must be a resident of the Lancaster area.
- Nominee can be male or female but must be of Italian heritage.
- Nominee will be most qualified if they have been active on multiple fronts within the Society or Lancaster community.
- Successful nominees will have made a real and substantial contribution to the Society or Lancaster community through committee work, volunteering at events, recruiting, fundraising, public relations or other such significant activity.
- Current officers and board members are eligible to be candidates for the award.
- Past winners are not eligible for nominations for three years following the year in which they won.
- Annual winners will receive a plaque from the LICCS and will be granted free attendance at all activities during the year of their award (example, winner is announced in March 2023 and is eligible to attend all events free for one year to March 2024). Honoree's guest will still pay for attendance.