



CAPE FEAR REGION

# Italian Heritage Society

## Membership Newsletter



Our Country



Our Heritage

September, 2006

**President:** David Domenic 794-3361  
**Vice President:** Giacamo Appice 371-3048  
**Treasurer:** Jeanne Ray 458-9555  
**Secretary:** Domenick Rella 395-4906

**Board Members:**  
Marge Gerlach 791-8104  
Joe DeMichino 371-1955  
Marco Zaza 791-6360

### Monthly Meeting

Our next meeting is Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm  
St. Marks Catholic Church Parish Center  
Eastwood Road, Wilmington

**Our speaker is Mary Bowen Caputo.** Ms Caputo volunteers as a docent at the Pender County Historical Society Museum and is a native of Burgaw.

Mary will speak to us about the Italians who moved to Pender County in the early 1900's and became settlers on Hugh McCrae's farmlands. These Italians and other groups from Eastern Europe developed the community known as St. Helena's.

\*\*\*\* Please feel free to bring snacks. Coffee will be provided \*\*\*\*



### Arrivederci Michael and Monna

Our founding members, past president and close friends Michael and Monna Mattiace are preparing to leave Wilmington and move closer to family in New Jersey.

The date for the move hasn't been set yet but we may only have a few weeks to tell them how much their friendship has meant to us. This town will not be the same without them and it is heart breaking to say goodbye. But the IHS speaks as one when we say each of your spirits will live with us forever.

Godspeed Michael and Monna!

**(Luigi's Restaurant has been reserved following our meeting for us to treat Michael and Monna to Sunday dinner. All are welcome.)**

## **Congratulations Elmer and Jeanie Sparagna!**

Elmer has added a new member to our club by marrying Jeanie in a wonderful ceremony at Hollytree. The ceremony was followed by dinner and dancing and the seniors did justice to the music on the dance floor!



Jo Ann

Elmer

Jeanie

Angelo

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## **COMMITTEES & GROUPS**

All members are encouraged to join at least one committee that interests them.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Chair – Francis Esposito. Please pick up an extra application from Fran to carry with you and give to any potential new member.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Chair – Regina Grimes. Many exciting and different programs are being uncovered by Regina, including trips to different locations. Please contact Regina to offer any help or suggestions you may have.

**PUBLICITY & RECRUITING:** Chair – Joe DeMichino/Janet Trafuno. Our goal is to make everyone of Italian heritage aware of our society and to greatly increase our membership. We will participate in parades, events and set up a booth where appropriate. Newspapers, Radio and TV will be used. Look for our signs around town about our frequenting certain establishments.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** Chair – Anita Lupo. Our scholarship fund is \$1,000. Anita is preparing the process that will award the scholarship in December.

**BENEVOLENCE:** Chair – Sal Carrera. Please contact Sal whenever a Get Well or Sympathy card should be sent to any member or family member. If anyone would care to donate cards for any occasions, please give them to Sal.

**CANTIAMO ITALIANO:** Chair – JoAnn Toscano. Our singing group continues to entertain and brighten the days of everyone who hears them. Singers and musicians are always welcome and experience is not a prerequisite. The group has just purchased a Karaoke machine for venues around the area.

**DINNER GROUP:** Chair – Jo Ann Toscano. Anyone interested in joining the dinner group should contact Jo Ann at 397-7847. The group is divided into groups of 4 couples who meet in each other's homes. Dinners are scheduled about once every two months and a schedule with assignments is provided. Even if you are currently in the group, please contact Jo Ann if you want to participate again this year. Schedules will go out by the end of this month.

**BOCCE:** – Michael Mattiace [With Michael's departure a new chair is needed]



Weekend play and social time is every Saturday morning at 9:30 am at Empie Park. Everyone is invited and welcome. Our club gets wonderful publicity with anyone happening by and watching us enjoy the game and each other's company. There will be a bocce tournament at the picnic this year.

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



**EMPIE PARK PICNIC:** Bob and Corrine Bush are chairing this Fall picnic and are coming up with great ideas for it. The Taste of Italy will cater pasta, sausages & peppers, eggplant parmesan and all the trimmings. We will need help with setting-up, serving and other things. Please contact Bob or Corrine to help. The picnic will be Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 5. Prices have been set at \$8 for members, \$10 for non-members and children under 12 half price.

**IMPORTANT:** Your check needs to be in by October 8<sup>th</sup>. Please make it out to IHS and send it to PO Box 299, Carolina Beach, NC 28428.

**CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE:** Marge Gerlach and Jeanne Ray are chairing this year's event and it is starting to look like a marvelous time. It will be at the UNCW Warwick Ballroom. Catering will be chicken marsala and roast beef with all the trimmings and two bottles of wine at each table. We will need help with arrangements and coordination for the event. Please contact Marge or Jeanne to help. The dinner dance will be on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30 to 10:30. Prices are \$45 per member, \$55 for non-members. More info as we get closer.

## DEAN MARTIN SHOW:



34 people signed up for the Thursday, Sept. 21 Dean Martin Show and dinner. Please send your check for \$27 per person made out to IHS. Checks need to be mailed to Jo Ann Toscano, 6122 Northshore Drive, Wilmington, NC 28411. If you prefer going on Saturday, Sept. 23 please contact Jo Ann immediately. Only 5 people have said Saturday but the discount requires least 15 people.

If anyone is interested in renting a van, please contact Jo Ann. She will not be arranging it but will be happy to get those who want to chip in together. Figure on about \$12 per person for transportation in a 15-person van.

For those who are attending, we will all meet at the Palace Theater at 4:00 on Thursday, Sept. 21.

In light of the coming trip to see "Dean Martin", can you name Dean's real, given name?  
How about:  
Vic Damone.....Vito Farinola  
Tony Bennett.....Anthony Benedetto  
Frankie Laine.....Frank LoVecchio  
Frankie Avalon.....Frank Avalone  
Bobby Rydell.....Roberto Ridarelli  
Connie Francis.....Concetta Franconero  
Bobby Darin.....Walden Cassotto  
Frank Sinatra..... Perry Como (just kidding)  
and oh, Dean, was Dino Crocetti

## NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Try as we might, we could not find a Columbus Day parade to participate in here in Wilmington this October. Perhaps we will have to start one next year?

## **From the Presidents Desk**

*Saluti Amici!*

*I have been having very mixed feelings lately. My friend and mentor is moving to Jersey and will be greatly missed. But, Michael's style and grace will continue to inspire all we do in the future.*

*Our membership count is lower than it has ever been. However, I am pleased and happy with the strong, supportive core group we have now. I am confident that our ranks will grow as more and more paesans become aware of our club and the fun we have together.*

*Ciao! Dave*