



THE ABRUZZO AND MOLISE HERITAGE SOCIETY

of the Washington, DC Area

Celebrating Italian Culture & Community since 2000

www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org

AMHS NOTIZIARIO

MARCH 2016



Top: The 110 members and friends at Carnevale 2016 – what a beautiful group of AMHS and Lucchesi nel Mondo family and friends!
Bottom (left): Immediate Past President Dick DiBuono presents the oath of office to President Maria D'Andrea. **Bottom (right):** Maria D'Andrea presents a gift to Dr. Barry Centini following his presentation at the January 31 general Society meeting. *(photos courtesy of Tricia Maltagliati and Joe Novello).*

NEXT SOCIETY EVENT: March 20, 2016 general Society meeting at Casa Italiana; Colonel Sganga, Military Attaché, Embassy of Italy, will give a talk on “How Italian Characteristics Shape Italy’s Military”; April 3, 2016 trip to Hillwood Estate and Gardens. See inside for additional details.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Cari amici,

I just recently returned from my wedding and honeymoon in Hawaii (the Big Island and Kauai), so it is rather difficult to get back into the “swing of things”!

I wish to thank Romeo Sabatini for his tremendous support in working with Maria Fresco and Nancy DeSanti on this issue of the *Notiziario*. Without his help, this issue would not be possible!

I also wish to thank a couple of people who have provided invaluable service to the Society over the past few years: Jeff Clark, who served as AMHS Treasurer from 2013-2015; and Dick DiBuono, who served for three years as Chair of the AMHS Scholarship Committee and just finished his final act as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee (B&FC) – to oversee the development of the Society’s 2016 operating budget. Dick and the B&FC members - Peter Bell, Ray Bernero, Jeff Clark, Ted Cocca, and Joe Novello – formed a cohesive team that ultimately brought the necessary oversight to all matters pertaining to the Society’s finances.

In the January issue of the *Notiziario*, Dick DiBuono reported on the AMHS Scholarship Program, in great detail about the amount available, made possible through matching funds from NIAF. Applications for the 2016-2017 academic year were accepted starting December 1, 2015 and ending March 1, 2016. We certainly hope that members who have children or grandchildren who are eligible for these scholarships, based on the criteria established by the Scholarship Committee, encouraged them to apply.

Once again, this issue is full of wonderful and interesting articles, which we hope you will enjoy. Please read about our upcoming events, including the March 20 general Society meeting and a planned trip to Hillwood Estate and Gardens. We look forward to seeing you at these events and, as always, we are forever grateful for your continued support!

Cordiali saluti,
Maria



UPCOMING SOCIETY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

MILITARY ATTACHE TO TALK ABOUT ITALIAN ARMY AT THE MARCH 20, 2016 PROGRAM

By Nancy DeSanti, 1st Vice President – Programs

What distinguishes Italy’s military from the military of other countries? What is it in the Italian character that makes the difference? To find out the answers, come to our program on March 20, 2016, to hear Colonel Rodolfo Sganga, the Military Attachè of the Embassy of Italy.



Colonel Sganga is a much-decorated soldier who has served in Afghanistan and elsewhere, and who will tell us about the role of the Italian military in

today’s world. The history of the Italian Army (*Esercito Italiano*) dates back to the unification of Italy, but since the end of the Cold War, the Army has seen extensive peacekeeping service and combat in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Colonel Sganga, who is from Varese, studied at the military academy in Modena, at the University of Trieste and the University of Torino, as well as at the United States Marine Corps University at Quantico, Virginia. As a paratrooper, among his prestigious assignments was commander of the 187^{so} Reggimento Paracadutisti Folgore, the airborne brigade of the Italian Army.

Before the program, we will have a delicious lunch catered by 3 Brothers. The menu will consist of rigatoni al forno, chicken marsala, rice, vegetable medley, salad, bread, and desserts. And of course, wine.

You won’t want to miss this wonderful program, so please plan to come and tell your family members and friends, and remember to make your paid reservations early. A flyer with additional details, including a reservation form, is included in this issue of the *Notiziario*.

WELCOME SPRING WITH TRIP TO HILLWOOD ESTATE & GARDENS

By Nancy DeSanti, 1st VP - Programs

Come celebrate the beginning of spring by joining us on a trip to Hillwood Estate & Gardens. It’s a chance to enjoy Hillwood’s beauty and serenity right in Washington, DC.

We are planning a trip on Sunday, April 3, leaving from Casa Italiana at 12:30 p.m. Parking at Hillwood is free, so you could drive yourself or share a ride with friends. If we have a group of 10 or more, tickets to tour the mansion would cost \$15 per person. Lunch at the café on the premises is optional.

The tour covers the beautiful mansion, highlights of the French collection, highlights of the Russian art collection and stories of the Russian treasures. As an added bonus, there is an exhibit featuring the color, romance, and extravagance in the lives that captivated late 19th century Russia, as portrayed in exquisite detail by Konstantin Makowvsky, known as “the Tsar’s Painter.” The exhibit is traveling to Hillwood for the first time from St. Petersburg through Paris to the United States where it has been received with great enthusiasm.

If you are interested in joining us, please let Nancy DeSanti or Nancy Hurst know you plan to come. Their e-mails are ndesanti7@gmail.com and nhurstosia@gmail.com. More information is available on the Hillwood website at <http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org>. Please let us know by March 20 if you are interested.

RECENT SOCIETY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

“THOSE BOMBASTIC ITALIAN VOLCANOES” EXPLAINED AT JANUARY 31, 2016 PROGRAM

By Nancy DeSanti



After being snowed in during the Blizzard of 2016, everyone was glad to get out and we ended up with a big turnout for our first program of the year, on Sunday, January 31, 2016. About 114 people showed up for what turned out to be a very interesting and entertaining talk by geologist Dr. Barry Centini, who gave us a lot of good information with a few jokes thrown in for good measure. AMHS Past President Dick DiBuono had heard Dr. Centini speak before, and so he knew Dr. Centini was a great

speaker—informed, interesting, and, as you can tell by the title of his talk (“Those Bombastic Italian Volcanoes”) has a great sense of humor—our kind of guy!!

The topic was how the geography of Italy had a big role in shaping its history. The topic was very relevant as we can see by the news reports in early December of a dramatic eruption of Mt. Etna, the highest and most active volcano in Europe. This eruption, ranking among the most violent by Etna in decades, saw “fountains” reach heights of over 1 kilometer although some jets were as high as 3 kilometers above the summit of the volcano. Ash fell near Messina and even as far as Reggio Calabria on the mainland. And as you may know, it’s not a rare

occurrence for the Catania airport—Italy’s third-busiest airport—to be shut down due to an eruption by Mt. Etna.

Dr. Centini started by telling us that he is one-quarter Italian since his grandfather was from Aquasanta Terme in Le Marche, and his grandfather came here through Ellis Island in the early 1900s, and at the age of 16 with no English, to work on the Baltimore railroad. Fast forward 100 years or so and Dr. Centini, having earned a Ph.D. in geology, was giving us a talk on how the geography of Italy helped shape its history.

Dr. Centini taught geology at Emory University, worked with the U.S. Army and was a senior research engineer for SRI International. As you can tell by the title of his talk, he likes to add a little humor to a serious subject.

Without getting too technical, Dr. Centini gave us enough information in his powerpoint presentation to help us understand the points he was making. He told us about the geology of the earth going back 180 million years, and about how the tectonic plates shifted over the millennia.

He explained that Italy has more volcanic eruptions and earthquakes than any other country on earth, and he showed us a map to illustrate his point. He said that in Italy, one problem is that a lot of the buildings are centuries old and not built to withstand earthquakes, and another problem is that Italy just doesn’t have the money to repair earthquake damage. In fact, Dr. Centini told us that the volcanic eruptions and earthquakes are certain to come, it’s just a question of when, not if. And in fact there will certainly be some huge earthquakes, although not in our lifetimes. Scientists are sure of that, he said, adding that he worries about the effects on the world economy.

As far as past volcanic activity, Dr. Centini showed pictures of Ercolano and the result of Mt. Vesuvius’ eruption centuries ago. More recently, he said, in 1944 Vesuvius erupted and delayed the Allied landing. Nowadays, he said, Naples has an evacuation plan in case Vesuvius erupts whereby 600,000 people would be evacuated in 7 days (some audience members from the Naples area commented the plan really consists of “prayer”).

We also learned about the volcanoes in the Aeolian Islands, which are all volcanic, and he noted that Stromboli is one of the most active volcanoes in the world. And of course he talked about Mt. Etna near Catania, Sicily, where eruptions sometimes shut down the Catania airport, and how amazing that an adventurous skier can actually ski on the snow-covered Mt. Etna.

Dr. Centini noted that volcanoes and earthquakes go hand in hand. He told us about the big earthquake in Messina, Sicily, in 1908, which killed 90,000 people and which was estimated to be 7.1 on the Richter scale (which didn’t exist then). He also said an earthquake in Molise in 1805 killed 5,000 people and was estimated to be 6.6 on the Richter scale.

In addition, we learned more about the disastrous earthquake in L’Aquila in April 2009. Dr. Centini showed us pictures of the L’Aquila earthquake and he explained that L’Aquila was built

on ancient lakebeds, which made it especially susceptible to earthquake damage.

He criticized the prosecution of Italian scientists over their failure to give warnings about the earthquakes, saying that as of now, there is no perfect way to predict earthquakes. He explained that there are earthquakes that reach 9 on the Richter scale, but they happen under the seas or oceans. Earthquakes are much in the news recently too, and of course now we have the most recent big earthquake in Tainan, Taiwan in February 2016.

Before the program, we had a delicious lunch catered by Fontina Grille. Many thanks to Lynn Sorbara for arranging the lunch, and to the many volunteers who helped set up, serve, and clean up including Edvige D'Andrea, Amy & Mateo DiFiore, Anna Maria DiPilla, Mark Lino, Albert Paolantonio, and Sam Yothers.

We had a brief business meeting before the lunch began, during which AMHS President Maria D'Andrea took the oath of office for a new term as our President, and the other officers and board members were also installed. Then AMHS Scholarship Committee Chairman Dick DiBuono called on our scholarship winner, Maria LaVerghetta, to say a few words. Maria told us about her exciting time at the University of Perugia and how she reconnected with her relatives in Vasto, Abruzzo, during her stay in Italy. Maria is now in the graduate program at the University of Maryland and is now qualified to teach Italian. Congratulations, Maria. All of us are very proud of you!!

At the end of the program, a raffle was held and \$273 was collected for the AMHS Scholarship Fund. Our heartfelt thanks to the donors for the raffle items and to those who bought tickets.

CARNEVALE 2016

By Sarah Scott, AMHS Board Member

Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society partnered with The Lucchesi nel Mondo-Tuscany Club again this year for Carnevale 2016. Members and friends of the AMHS and The Lucchesi Club were all decked out in fabulous costumes to celebrate Carnevale 2016. Carnevale is the last celebration before lent begins and many deprive themselves of something they enjoy. Even with the recent blizzard, the event was very well attended by 98 adults and 17 children.

This year's theme was "*Costumi di Carnevale*", or "Carnevale Costumes." This brought out diverse transformations, as party-goers donned masks and elegant costumes depicting a multitude of characters, including those from the movies, Bedouins, and harlequins.

There were so many excellent costumes, the judging was not easy, but our costume judges for the evening, Tina Magnani and Natale Caminiti, rose to the challenge! The children's costume winners were Rett Walker, Keegan Murray and Keely Murray.

The best group prize went to the Star Wars themed family costumes of Janelle, Tony, Alessandra, and Lucia Barsi. Adult

winners were Trish DiPietri Brewer and Tricia Maltagliati. The group prizes went to couples, Samira May Badawi and Peter Easton, and to Annella Auer and Larry Mansuetti.

The party wasn't just about costumes. A wonderful meal was catered by Basilico LLC, with authentic Italian fare. Our DJ was Chris Styles, who did a great job playing music that appealed to all ages. Hand and line dancing continued throughout the evening. Vincent Cipriani, Nasi Pelivani, Paola Reale worked hard to keep one and all happy!

This event raised \$600 for Holy Rosary Church. We also collected \$160 for a 50/50 drawing, which was won by Matthew Murray, who donated his earnings to the Holy Rosary Altar Society.

We are thankful to many people who donated their time and energy to planning this event, and to those who helped set up, helped during the event, and helped with clean-up: Osvaldo Barsi, Peter Bell, Matteo Brewer, Patrizia DiPietri Brewer, Silvana Cipriani, Maria D'Andrea, Amelia DiFiore, Matthew DiFiore, Mariangela DiPietri, Tricia Maltagliati, Sarah Scott, and Eileen Verna.

This issue of the *Notiziario* includes only a handful of photos from the event. A fun photo booth was set up to capture photos of the experience. To see more – and to see how very fun this event was for all ages – check out our website (<http://www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org/mission/gallery/>) or Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.475786005940435.1073741858.203036083215430&type=3>).

Mark your calendars for next year's Carnevale: Saturday, February 25, 2017.

AMHS MEMBERSHIP

by Lynn Sorbara, 2nd Vice President - Membership

I am pleased to announce that our membership is now 305 and growing! Thank you for your support of the Society's programs and activities. We have many wonderful events coming up in the next few months and your membership makes them possible!

Social Networking

AMHS is involved in social networking and post pictures of our events and interesting articles about Italy online. Please take some time to visit our AMHS Facebook page and hit the "Like" button to follow our updates, <https://www.facebook.com/abruzzomoliseheritagesociety>.

New Members

A warm welcome to our newest members, Donna Avallone and Jeffrey Dennison, Joseph Bove, Bob Farrace, Peter and Gina Mirigliano, Melis Mull, Anthony Phillips, Elicia Pierno, Roberto Severino, Patricia Violante and Guido Cassetta, and Scholarship winner, Maria LaVerghetta. Please reach out and greet our newest members and make them feel welcome!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

The following members celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in March and April. *Buon compleanno, buon anniversario e Auguri!*

Birthdays

Compleanni a Marzo

Eileen Parise Del Monaco, March 1; Robert D'Onofrio and Greg Bernabei, March 2; Maria Fresco, March 3; Melis Mull, March 4; Mary Catucci, March 5; Salvatore DiPilla and Renato Sozio, March 8; Joseph Sandri, March 9; Maria Kellaher and Sam Yothers, March 12; Raffaella Luciani, March 13; Mary Petrino, March 14; Lucio Marchegiani, March 16; Guy Fero, March 18; Theda Corrado and David Scalzitti, March 19; Fiorenza Pasquini and Pam Lupo, March 21; Mary Katherine Theis, March 25; Vincent Pereira, March 27; Lucio D'Andrea, March 28; Rial Coleman, March 30; Anna Maria DiPilla, March 31

Compleanni ad Aprile

Eva Del Vecchio, April 1; Joseph Theis, April, 4; Diana Bernabei and Gay Ferrante, April 6; Elizabeth Chiaverini, April 9; Emidio Pasqualucci, April 11; Gloria D'Andrea and Rita Giovenco, April 12; Bob Farrace, April 13; Domenico Santini, April 14; Rosina Schacknies, April 15; Joyce Del Borrello, April 18; Stephen Ulissi, April 21; Julia Conti, April 22; Michael Nardolilli, Vera Gordon, and Peter Iovino, April 24; Bonnie Gregorio and Belinda Sabatini, April 25; Joann Novello, Laura Alberico Crump and Constantino Taglienti, April 28; Tommaso Profenno, April 30

Anniversaries

Anniversari a marzo

Robert and Marlene Lucian, March 3; Mary Ferramosca and Martha Harris, March 27.

Anniversari ad aprile

Angelo and Melvena Puglise, April 11; Vincenzo and Dora Marinucci, April 15; Gino and Lina Marinucci, April 24; Roberto and Bess DiTullio, April 25; Silvio and Lina Pronio, April 29.

THE 2015 AMHS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN FOR THE AMHS SCHOLARSHIP

By Helen Free, AMHS Board Member and Chair, Fundraising Committee

Marking the 15th anniversary of the founding of our Society made for some wonderful memories and precious thanks to our founding members. It also opened the door to reflecting on how to build upon the work of past benefactors. Tasked with finding, developing and executing a plan to raise funds for the Society's scholarships, the AMHS Grant and Scholarship Fund (AMHSGASF) and other activities of the Society deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee and the membership (according to the AMHS Bylaws), the Fundraising Committee searched for a way to refresh the 2015 appeal.

The Committee agreed on two goals: to inspire participation rather than donation amount; and to do a better job of recognizing donors. We are pleased to inform our members that

more of you donated this year than in some of our previous campaigns, raising \$4,250 for the Scholarship Fund (including, in January 2016, one donation to the Scholarship Fund and one donation to the Scholarship Endowment Fund.

It seems that by categorizing giving levels – Azzurro, \$500 or more; Verde, \$250 - \$499; Rosso, \$50 - \$249; and Bianco, \$10-\$49 - more members felt encouraged to donate.

As indicated in your appeal letter, we will also publish in November of each year a financial report magazine which will include a donor recognition page. This page will be a cumulative record of donations, since 2005, to the Scholarship Endowment Fund and the AMHS Annual Scholarship Fund.

The Fundraising Committee's momentum is strong. We are excited to serve and approach the AMHS family with new ideas for adhering to one of our missions, to fund scholars of merit with two scholarships per year. *Mille Grazie a tutti!*

SIAMO UNA FAMIGLIA

AMHS President Marries in Unforgettable Ceremony on the Big Island of Hawaii

On Thursday, February 11, 2016, AMHS President Maria D'Andrea married her "one true love", Sam Yothers, on the summit of Mauna Kea on the Big Island of Hawaii. Truly driven by adventure and thrills, the happy couple planned their wedding ceremony with the help of Reverend Dard Aller and photographer Eric Rhodes. The Reverend incorporated traditional Hawaiian blessings into the ceremony including water, the wind, and the wrapping of a "ti leave" around a stone that was placed by the couple atop the summit. Standing at 13,796 feet above sea level, Mauna Kea at its peak is the highest point in the state of Hawaii. Much of the mountain is under water; when measured from its oceanic base, Mauna Kea is over 33,000 feet tall – taller than Mount Everest!

On their wedding day, the Hawaiian Gods and Goddesses were with them, in that the weather was superb in terms of clarity, visibility and lighter winds than normal. (Temperatures at the summit can reach 20 to 30 degrees below zero with the wind chill factor). Nonetheless, as you can see from their wedding "attire", it was cold (around 30 degrees).



To add to their adventure, the couple rode bicycles down from the summit – a total of 13+ miles that included 4 miles of unpaved road. (The bikes were named Vincent and Marcellus, from the movie “Pulp Fiction”). Regular bikes certainly would not do; the special-rental bikes had shock absorbers and disc brakes, which came in handy when descending at high speed from 13,000+ feet! Reverend Dard Aller, who is a triathlete, joined the couple in their descent.

According to Reverend Aller, who has married many people over the years on the Big Island (on the summit on Mauna Kea, on the beaches, underwater), Maria and Sam is his first “clients to marry on the summit AND bicycle down the entire descent. They want to market this as a new package to prospective couples, and plan to use photos from our event on their website for promotional materials. Kind of cool to be the “first of our kind”!

The wedding day ended with an elegant, private, 4-course dinner under a gazebo on Turtle Cove at the Fairmont Orchid.

The couple’s 5-night stay on the Big Island was followed by an 8-night stay on Kauai, one of the most spectacular places on earth. There, Maria and Sam enjoyed many hiking adventures (including one 8-mile hike on the Kalau Trail of the Na Pali coast, considered one of the top 10 hikes in the world); a helicopter tour of the island, to include a view of the waterfall/landing from the 1st Jurassic Park movie, as well as of Mount Wai’ale’ale, a shield volcano and the second highest point on the island of Kauai (its name literally means “rippling water” or “overflowing water”), and rightly so – at 5,148 feet, it is one of the rainiest spots on earth; and a kayak trip on the Wailua River, the only navigable river in the state of Hawaii.

While our wedding ceremony was intimate and shared only by the two of us, we thank the love and support of our families, especially our parents Lucio, Edvige, and Sara Brisbane Yothers, Sam’s daughters Lauren and Maria, and our many siblings, nieces, and nephews. The couple will celebrate their nuptials, with friends and close family, at a post-wedding celebration in April 2016. (*Submitted by Maria D’Andrea*).



“LA PRINCIPESSA LILIANA E IL PRESIDENTE MATTARELLA”



During his historic visit to the United States, President of the Republic of Italy Sergio Mattarella attended Mass at Washington's Holy Rosary Church on February 7 and paid a brief visit to Casa Italiana. At that time, he graciously consented to be photographed with Liliana Fuggitti, the nine month old granddaughter of AMHS members Joe and Joann Novello. This was an honor for the entire family and

President Mattarella’s *gentilezza* will never be forgotten.

ENNIO MORRICONE HONORED WITH GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD

By Nancy DeSanti

It was big news in Italy recently when famed Italian composer Ennio Morricone won a Golden Globe award for the soundtrack of the latest Quentin Tarantino movie, “The Hateful Eight.” The 87-year-old maestro couldn’t make it to Beverly Hills for the awards ceremony in January, so Tarantino accepted it on his behalf.

But that wasn’t quite enough for his many fans. So Lorenzo Soria, head of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association which awards the Golden Globes, presented Morricone with his statuette at an event January 30 hosted by Italian luxury jeweler Bulgari at its historical premises on Rome’s Via Condotti. This is the third Golden Globe for Morricone, who also was awarded an honorary Oscar for lifetime achievement in 2007. He composed the musical scores of over 500 movies but his best-known score may be for “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.” That score, considered one of the most influential soundtracks in movie history, has been inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame.

Romeo Sabatini Connection: One of our AMHS members, our long-time webmaster Romeo Sabatini, had reason to be especially pleased that Morricone was being honored. Romeo’s cousin Edda Sabatini Dell’Orso has sung in many of Morricone’s film scores. Romeo recently visited his cousin who now lives in Rome but who is from Abruzzo and who is, according to Romeo, “100% Abruzzese.” Romeo says that of the hundreds of songs his cousin did with Morricone, the one he loves best is “Once Upon a Time in the West,” which he calls “a most beautiful piece of music.” You can see her performance on YouTube at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cvsv98CcZg>.

Morricone himself was born in Rome into a musical family—his first teacher was his father who taught him to read music and

play a few instruments. As a composer, conductor and trumpet player, he composed in a wide range of musical styles, making him one of the most versatile and influential composers of all time. In a span of 7 decades, he composed over 500 film and TV scores and over 100 classical works. In addition to the many film scores, Morricone composed the official theme for the 1978 FIFA World Cup and his music has been used in TV series from *The Simpsons* to the Sopranos.

In support of his Oscar bid, the Union of Italian Astrophiles named an asteroid after Morricone. Amateur astronomers from the observatory of Campo Catino near Frosinone have named an asteroid “Morricone.” It is located in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. Well, that must have brought him good luck, because at the Academy Awards on February 28, 2016, Morricone won an Oscar for “The Hateful Eight” score. Immediately afterwards, Prime Minister Matteo Renzi tweeted “Superb Maestro, finally” and Culture Czar Dario Franceschini tweeted “an all-time movie giant has triumphed!!” Bravo, Maestro!!

LA MIA STRADA: TRANSUMANZA AS METAPHOR FOR TRANSCENDING FAMILY RECONNECTIONS IN ABRUZZO AND AMERICA

By Kirsten Keppel, AMHS Member

Just when it may seem that the myriad paths to and from Italy and Italian America have been unearthed or upturned, the 2012 documentary *La mia strada* (My Road: Michaelangelo Productions) offers new inroads into two aspects of the ongoing dialogue between families separated by country and ocean yet connected through story, culture and identity.

The film offers a rare perspective of interviews with Italians left behind after emigration, and shares their perspectives on how that affected a feeling of being abandoned by members who left for America. It also offers a growing perspective shared by Italian-Americans who make their way back to Italy and, in returning to the point of departure, come full circle in reconnecting and feeling united by what DiLauro calls “an indelible genetic bond.”

I saw the film at the Corner Store, a house near Eastern Market that has an Italian story of its own to share. Current owners Kris Swanson and Roy Mustelier enjoy sharing the story of how an Italian family used to own the house. The Corner Store is a family home with space for *salons* that spotlight studio, gallery and performance art, including a room large enough for the screening of *La mia strada*.

For anyone wanting to know what it might feel like to take the path back to family in Italy, about whom stories may have been told around the dinner tables of America, *La mia strada* offers a moving and enticing cultural metaphor for finding home. DiLauro’s personal story grounded the film in what he says “was passed around the table growing up.” His great-grandmother Chiara DiLauro was his grandmother Filomena DeMuro’s field boss in Puglia, where the two picked *lampasconi* (a type of wild onion). One day, Chiara heard the

bagpipes (*zampogne*) and said to Philomena, “I hear the bagpipes – it must be the shepherds from Abruzzo. Go up the hill and give them the ‘eye’ and maybe they’ll give us some cheese.”

That’s how DiLauro chose the metaphor of the *tratturi* – the paths traveled every year in *la transumanza*, in which the sheep migrate south from Abruzzo to Molise and Puglia – to become the anchor of *La mia strada*. “I discovered connections between these ancient *tratturi* and the ones that led to the New World,” DiLauro says in the film. “And as a result, I linked people on both sides of the Atlantic who were also looking to discuss and perhaps re-evaluate their own identity with those of similar DNA.”



La mia strada is unique in that in sharing the story of the DiLauro family back to the ancestral town of Ascoli Satriano, near Foggia, in Puglia, it offers every family with roots in Abruzzo and America an eye into what reconnection might look like for thousands of families spread throughout the Italian diaspora. Both sides of the family – in Italy and America – discover reconnection. The film includes dozens of interviews, including with Abruzzesi currently living in Philadelphia, as well as historical sites, family photographs, and oral histories. The gorgeous traditional Abruzzese folk music of the Sulmona-based group DisCanto includes special tracks made for the film.

AMHS member Joseph D’Andrea is featured in an interview in the film, along with Italians and Americans who may be familiar to current AMHS members. Philadelphia-based Francis Cratil, owner of the Abruzzese restaurant Le Virtù (named for the Abruzzese minestrone soup made in Teramo on May 1st after the hard winter), students from L’Aquila attending university in America, and DiLauro himself all offer personal perspectives and stories about their journeys on the path that touches the lives of so many Italians and Italian-Americans.

Pittsburgh-based Italian-American activist Maria Palmieri offers a story to which many Italian-Americans can relate, and many more may hope to experience: “I grew up in Pittsburgh,” she explains in the film, “but we don’t have a lot of extended family. All of my cousins and extended family are in Italy. Around that (dinner) table, my dad made us understand who we were connected to there. So...when we got there (to Italy) for

the first time, we knew who everybody was. All we had to do was attach the face with the name. And people were just shocked that I would know the stories and the nicknames of people. You know, everybody in my dad's town has a nickname. They call it *sopranom* (*il soprannome*). It's a name on top of your name just to distinguish what family you belong to, or usually by a trait: a big nose, short pants... There was a guy in my dad's town that wore a hundred – well, maybe not a hundred, but a lot of belts. And they used to call him *Centofibbie* One Hundred Belts. When I got to Italy, and asked my aunt, who had never met me, 'Where is *Centofibbie*?' She couldn't believe it."

Stories like this one resonate throughout the film and reconnect Abruzzo's villages to American dinner tables. Luca Guardabascio, an Italian writer and filmmaker (*Inseguito*, 2002) notes that in making the film, "DiLauro has stirred up the dust that has settled beneath our soul." DiLauro admits that "I wanted to talk about my connection (to Italy) and put it out there. I really wanted to commit myself in telling the story and putting stories and anecdotes out there that may stir up the dust literally or metaphorically."

The upturned earth offers new ground for the next generations – DiLauro's wife and co-producer Jan, his sister Angela, and her sons Graham and Sean are all featured in the film, along with Graham and Sean's Italian cousins who are thrilled to meet their American family. "All of them have embraced putting faces, places, people and towns together with their heritage," DiLauro says. "I came to the realization...it must be me who reconstructs the familial trail from America back to Ascoli Satriano."

The film has received critical acclaim from scholars as well as filmmakers. Author and historian Ben Lariccia says, "[the] film explores some of the harder truths: the brokenness, the silence, and the finality that result from migration." Out of that brokenness, new ground is broken in the rich imagery, music, and stories. In reconnecting the past to the present, *La mia strada* offers one family's example of personal reconnection, and may inspire many to share their stories of finding their own paths back to Abruzzo, Molise and Italy.

An official selection at the Palestrina Film Festival in Italy (2012) and the Atlantic City Film Festival (2013), *La mia strada* won a silver medal at the Media Communications Association International Film Festival (2014) and a Silver Award at the Spotlight Documentary Film Award (2014-2015). DiLauro is currently the Director of the Academic Media Center and Associate Professor at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, and an award-winning director and producer of documentaries, television programs, and corporate productions.

Website and film trailer, <http://www.lamiastrada.org> ; DisCanto (Abruzzese folk music group from Sulmona, Province of L'Aquila), www.discanto.org; The Corner Store, www.cornerstorearts.org

MY ROOTS

By Anthony D'Erme, AMHS Member

In my last article (in the September 2015 issue of the *AMHS Notiziario*), I wrote about a visit to my mother's town, San Bartolomeo in Galdo, where she grew up. I have a cousin there and she knew we were coming.

I made this trip with my wife Jacque and her sister Annette. We stayed in a hotel in Campobasso, about a one hour drive from my mother's town of San Bartolomeo in Galdo in Benevento; one hour from my father's town, San Martino in Pensilis in Molise; and one hour from my wife Jacque's father's town, Formicola in Caserta. We rented a car and a driver for the five days we visited our families. The driver spoke excellent English which was a big help.

This article will be devoted to our trip to my father's town. My father came to this country in 1920 at age 22. I have written two books that give more detail about my father's entry to America, so I will not go into too much detail here. He was the only one of his family of six children to come to this country. He went back to San Martino in Molise in 1961, after 41 years of being away. While there, he had a photo taken of his entire family. We have had that picture since 1961. There are 21 people in the picture; however, the only person we knew was my father. I had no idea who or what we were looking for. My father, for reasons unknown, never talked about his family. I do remember his reaction when his father and mother died. Then he talked a little about them.

When we drove into this small town of about 5,000 people, we found many men playing cards in the "piazza" (when they saw the black Mercedes they stopped playing cards to look.) I told the driver to pull over in the middle of this little town. I told him I would go to see the gas station attendant to see if he could help me as to whom we were looking for. I walked up to him, and showed him my name, which is French (some say Greek, but I say French), and asked "Do you know anyone by this name?" He looked me in the eye and said "Yes, me!!!" I was astounded and could hardly catch my breath. It turned out that he is Lorenzo D'Erme, my first cousin: his father and my father were brothers. I could hardly speak - I just hugged him and told him my name and my father's name. I also asked him to give me all the data about himself, i.e. age, date of birth, marriage, children etc. (I still have that piece of paper.)

While we were looking at the picture, a man named Michael, who married into the D'Erme family, came across the street. He pointed at the picture and said, "that's me". My newly-found cousin told the man to put everyone in the car and drive to another house. (I am deaf and I wear a cochlear implant; it is very helpful, but sometimes I miss things, which is what happened to me on the way to "the house"). I was the last one to enter the house; I saw the name D'Erme on the doorbell, so I took a picture.



When I went inside I met another first cousin, Giuseppe D'Erme. His father and my father also were brothers. I showed my picture to Giuseppe and he recognized it immediately. He began telling me about my father. He knew about New Rochelle, New York, where my father settled and where my three sisters and I were born. He looked just like my father. I was in tears, I just could not handle this without becoming emotional. Giuseppe's wife, Maria, was also there. She wanted to fix lunch and I said we would all go out for lunch, which is what we did. The waiter, who was also the owner of the restaurant, did not stop putting food on the table. No one else was in this large restaurant probably because it was about 2:30/3:00 pm. All the while, Maria was speaking Italian, to Jacque and Annette who did not understand one word she was saying.

But she kept talking. My Italian has an accent from Abruzzo. These relatives, including the waiter, spoke with the same accent and we got along fine (except for Jacque and Annette).

On the way home on the plane, Jacque and I agreed we had to go back. And we did that in 2012, which will be the subject of my next article.

FROM THE REGIONAL CORNER

AIELLI, PROVINCE OF L'AQUILA, ABRUZZO REGION

By Nancy DeSanti

Translated by Maddalena Borea, AMHS Member



The beautiful small town of Aielli, overlooking the Fucino basin, is about 30 kilometers from L'Aquila. The town is actually located in the plain of the former Lake Fucino.

The town has approximately 1,439 inhabitants, known as Aiellesi. The first mention of the town as Aielli, derived from the Latin Agellum, was in 1280.

Aielli is known for its imposing cylindrical tower which has an octagonal interior. The tower was strategically situated at the highest point in town, and was built in 1356 by Ruggiero, the count of Celano. Nowadays it houses an astronomy observatory (Osservatorio Astronomico Torre delle Stelle).

The town's location made it ideal for defensive protection. The higher levels had wooden floors connected by stairs. Many arrow slits are located over the exterior face of the wall—thin vertical openings in the fortification through which archers used to launch arrows in case of attacks near the wall.

The circular tower was damaged by an earthquake in 1915 but it has been completely restored. Now, in addition to the modern observatory, there is a museum (Museo del Cielo) and a scientific library that contains over 500 scientific volumes and that features computer simulations, a permanent photographic display and various solar instruments. A highlight of the museum is the planetarium which projects 2,500 stars on a dome (cupola) 6 meters in diameter. Pretty impressive!!

What to See

- Chiesa di S. Adolfo, built in the 1930s with works by sculptor Arturo Dazzi
- Chiesa di S. Rocco
- Cylindrical tower with the observatory

Important Dates

- August: Sagra of amaretti (typical almond biscuits)

Sources:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aielli>
<http://www.abruzzocitta.it/comuni/aielli.html>
<http://www.mondimedievali.net/Castelli/Abruzzo/laquila/aielli.htm>
http://www.scuolanticoli.com/images/Aielli/passeggiata_Aielli.htm
<http://www.comunediaielli.it/>
<http://www.italyheritage.com/regions/abruzzo/laquila/aielli.htm>

AIELLI, PROVINCIA DELL'AQUILA, ABRUZZO

La pittoresca cittadina di Aielli s'affaccia sul bacino del Fucino, si trova a circa trenta chilometri da L'Aquila, ed è nella pianura che fu un tempo la pianura del Lago Fucino.

Conta circa 1439 abitanti, i quali sono conosciuti come Aiellesi. Si comincia a leggere di Aielli intorno al 1280, quando era chiamata col nome latino di Agellum.

Forse la più importante attrazione della città è la sua imponente torre cilindrica, dall'interno di forma ottagonale. Detta torre, strategicamente eretta nella parte più elevata del centro abitato nel 1359, da Ruggiero, Conte di Celano, è sede di un

osservatorio astronomico, noto come Osservatorio Astronomico Torre delle Stelle.

La sua posizione geografica la rese nel passato strategicamente ideale.. I punti piu' alti ancora hanno diversi livelli in legno, ai quali è possibile accedere, ancora oggi, attraverso gradinate. Sono ancora visibili su pareti esteriori antichi squarci di antiche frecce, e le fessure più ampie nelle pareti servivano da scudo agli arcieri in momento di attacchi.

La torre circolare, distrutta durante il terremoto del 1915, è oggi completamente restaurata. Oltre all'Osservatorio, la cittadina ospita anche una specie di Museo, Museo del cielo, con una libreria con più di 500 volumi scientifici, con mostre fotografiche, e con vari strumenti solari. L'attrazione del museo è il planetario che proietta 2500 stelle su una cupola dal diametro di sei metri.

Attrazioni del luogo

- Chiesa di Sant'Adolfo, costruita negli anni trenta, e contenente lavori di scultura di Arturo Dazzi
- Chiesa di San Rocco
- La torre cilindrica con l' Osservatorio

Date da ricordare

- Agosto: Sagra degli amaretti

MIRABELLO SANNITICO, PROVINCE OF CAMPOBASSO, MOLISE

By Nancy DeSanti

Translated by Maddalena Borea



The town of Mirabello Sannitico has a rich, agrarian-based culture dating back to at least the 12th century, with the Tappino River flowing on either side of the town to the north and south. Mirabello Sannitico has approximately 2,100 inhabitants, known as Mirabellesi, and it's located near Campobasso to the northwest and Vinchiatturo to the southwest.

According to tradition, where Mirabello Sannitico is now situated, nearby there was the Samnite town of Ruffirium in the area called Monteverde. In the 3rd century B.C., the Romans destroyed Ruffirium in a bloody battle and the population moved away and founded another village called Mirum Bellum,

while on the ruing of the Samnite town the Romans proceeded to build a tower used as a fortress for political prisoners. Over the centuries, numerous bloody battles were fought over water rights, and many earthquakes have historically plagued the area, including one in 1805 which killed 6,000 people in Molise and 300 in Mirabello Sannitico.

The town is laid out in a typical medieval fashion, with streets radiating outward from the principal church, Santa Maria Assunta in Cielo. The townspeople observe many feast days, celebrating in traditional style with parades, processions and fireworks. Many inhabitants still make their own wine, preserve tomatoes, make olive oil and slaughter a pig shortly after Christmas, as has been the custom over the centuries. The most elaborate celebration takes place on April 23, the feast of St. George, the town's patron saint.

A beautiful legend tells the story of the miraculous intervention of St. George in the Middle Ages. As invaders were approaching the village, a majestic knight appeared on a hill - now known as Colle San Giorgio - and at each touch of his spear from the ground, there arose innumerable soldiers, and this frightened the invaders who then withdrew. The townspeople went to the top of the hill and saw not even one soldier, just in the middle of the vineyards the statue of St. George, previously kept in a chapel, and the saint was then made the patron saint.

In more recent times, emigrants from the town are scattered throughout the world. From about 1880-1925, many settled in New York, Philadelphia and Cleveland, but after World War II, emigration to Canada, Switzerland and South America was more common.

What to See

- Church of Santa Maria Assunta with a silver cross decorated with the images of San Giovanni Battista, San Nicola di Bari, San Antonio and San Francesco d'Assisi

Important Dates

- March 19: Feast of St. Joseph
- April 23: Feast of St. George
- June 1: Feast of St. Anthony
- August 15: Ferragosto

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mirabello_Sannitico

<http://www.italyworldclub.com/molise/province-campobasso/mirabellosannitico.htm>

<http://www.moliseccitta.it/comuni/mirabellosannitico.html>

<http://www.viewphotos.org/italy/images-city-of-Mirabello-Sannitico-3017.html>

MIRABELLO SANNITICO, PROVINCIA DI CAMPOBASSO, REGIONE MOLISE

La cittadina di Mirabello Sannitico è una cittadina agricola, che risale almeno al dodicesimo secolo, ed è situata, a nord e a sud, sulle sponde del fiume Tapino. Conta approssimativamente 2100 abitanti, i quali sono chiamati Mirabellesi.

Si dice che nelle vicinanze dell'odierna Mirabello, ed esattamente nell'area di Monteverde, esistesse una città sannitica di nome Ruffiriu. I Romani l'avrebbero distrutta durante una sanguinosa battaglia, in seguito alla quale gli abitanti fuggirono e andarono a creare un nuovo centro abitato, che chiamarono Mirum Bellum. Sulle rovine della città distrutta fu eretta dai Romani, una fortezza adibita a carcere che ospitò molti prigionieri politici.

Attraverso i secoli molte battaglie si combatterono nell'area, e molti terremoti decimarono gli abitanti: il sisma del 1805 uccise 6000 persone del Molise, di cui 300 erano di Mirabello. Costruita in stile tipicamente medievale, le sue strade convergono tutte verso la chiesa Madre, la Chiesa dell'Assunta.

Durante l'anno varie sono le feste locali con parate, processioni e fuochi d'artificio. Gli abitanti di Mirabello ancora oggi fanno il loro vino, fanno la loro salsa di pomodori ed ancora ammazzano il porco, dopo le feste di Natale. La festa più grandiosa della città è la festa di San Giorgio, il Santo Patrono, che cade il 23 aprile.

Secondo una leggenda, San Giorgio avrebbe difeso, in tempi remoti, il villaggio da una sanguinosa invasione. Si dice, infatti, che all'approssimarsi degli invasori, un cavaliere apparve su un colle, chiamato oggi Colle San Giorgio. A un lieve movimento della sua lancia la cima del colle si popolò di una moltitudine di soldati, pronti a difendere gli abitanti, e decisi a mettere in fuga gli invasori, i quali si dispersero atterriti. Finita la battaglia, gli abitanti corsero verso la cima del colle, per incontrare i soldati liberatori, ma non vi trovarono nessuno. Trovarono solo, in un vigneto, la statua di San Giorgio. Da allora in poi il Santo è il patrono della città.

In tempi più recenti molti Mirabellesi sono emigrati in altri paesi: dal 1880 al 1925 si sono trasferiti a New York, a Filadelfia e a Cleveland, ma dopo la seconda guerra mondiale molti sono andati in Canada, in Svizzera o nell'America del Sud.

Attrazioni del luogo

- Chiesa di Santa Maria Assunta, con la Croce d'argento affigurante San Giovanni Battista, San Nicola di Bari e San Francesco d'Assisi

Date da ricordare

- 19 Marzo: Festa di San Giuseppe
- 23 Aprile: Festa di San Giorgio
- 13 Giugno: Festa di Sant'Antonio
- 15 Agosto: Ferragosto



THE AMHS WEBSITE

Please be sure to check out the newly-designed AMHS website, www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org.

The site provides new and enhanced features, such as an event calendar; ability to join and/or renew membership; and a shop! We are very pleased to offer a high-quality white cotton Buon Appetito Chef Apron, with the new AMHS logo. The price is \$25.00+\$5.75 for shipping and handling.



Also for sale, a 2nd printing of the AMHS cookbook, the price of which is \$10.00+\$3.00 for shipping and handling; and the AMHS polo shirts. (Order forms for the cookbook and the polo shirts are also provided in this issue of the *Notiziario*.)

Registration for events, membership, and merchandise orders can be made via secure online payment (Visa or Mastercard only), or by mailing a flyer, membership renewal, or merchandise order form with payment by check (instructions are included on the website).

We also encourage our members to post blogs on the website, especially as they pertain to our culture and our two regions (travel, cuisine, genealogy, etc.). A blog post can be sent to hfree.gonzaga@gmail.com (posting will be subject to the discretion of the Publications and Publicity Committee).

JANUARY 31, 2016 GENERAL SOCIETY MEETING



Top (left): A wonderful and large crowd of members, friends and guests wait patiently for a scrumptious lunch and a very interesting and lively presentation on “Those Bombastic Volcanoes”.

Center (left): The AMHS Scholarship Committee, AMHS scholarship recipient Maria LaVerghetta, and her parents (from left to right, Peter Bell, Maria D’Andrea, Michele LaVerghetta, Maria LaVerghetta, Ray LaVerghetta, Dick DiBuono, Lourdes Tinajero, Romeo Sabatini, and Ray Bernero. **Center (right):** Maria LaVerghetta addresses the members and guests.

Bottom (left): . Maria D’Andrea presents the oath of office to newly-installed officers and board members, from left to right, Peter Bell, Nancy DeSanti, Lynn Sorbara, Lourdes Tinajero, Andrea Balzano, Jonathan Stern, and Sarah Scott. **Bottom (right):** Sebastian DiTullio, grandson of AMHS members Ennio and Emma DiTullio, and son of AMHS member Daniela DiTullio, assists Nancy DeSanti and Eileen Verna with the raffle. (Photos courtesy of Joe Novello and Romeo Sabatini).

CARNEVALE 2016



Top (left): AMHS members Peter Bell and Barbara Friedman. **Top (right):** AMHS President Maria D'Andrea with, from left to right, Lucchesi nel Mondo members Tricia DiPietri Brewer and Lucchesi nel Mondo President Tricia Maltagliati. **Center(left):** Members of the extended Murray family in the costume judging contest. **Center (right):** Dancing the night away! **Bottom (left):** AMHS members Lucio and Edvige D'Andrea "still have that swing"! **Bottom (right):** AMHS member Sam Yothers and fiancée Maria D'Andrea, with "smiles all around"! (Photos courtesy of Sam Yothers).



THE ABRUZZO AND MOLISE HERITAGE SOCIETY

of the Washington, DC Area
Celebrating Italian Culture & Community since 2000



❧ LUNCHEON MEETING ❧

"How Italian Characteristics Shape Italy's Military"

By

**Colonel Rodolfo Sganga
Military Attaché, Embassy of Italy**

When: SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2016

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Casa Italiana
595 Third Street, NW



MENU: catered by Three Brothers Italian Restaurant, Bladensburg, MD. Menu includes rigatoni al forno, chicken marsala, rice, vegetable medley, salad, bread and dessert. Beverages are included.

COST: \$20.00 members; \$25.00 non-members.

**WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO PAY ONLINE
(USING VISA OR MASTERCARD) AT
WWW.ABRUZZOMOLISEHERITAGESOCIETY.ORG
(SEE ICON ON THE HOME PAGE FOR "UPCOMING
EVENTS"). ONLY PAID RESERVATIONS WILL BE
ACCEPTED, WHICH MUST BE RECEIVED BY
MARCH 16, 2016. NO PAYMENTS AT THE DOOR.**

Please join us for a very interesting presentation by the Military Attaché of the Embassy of Italy, Colonel Rodolfo Sganga, who will talk about what distinguishes the Italian military from the military of other countries - what is it in the Italian character that makes the difference. Colonel Sganga is a much-decorated soldier who has served in Afghanistan and elsewhere, and we are sure you won't want to miss his very informative talk. A raffle will be conducted, with some wonderful prizes, the proceeds of which benefit the AMHS/NIAF scholarships.

For information, please contact Nancy DeSanti, (703) 967-2169 or Maria D'Andrea, (703) 998-6097

✂----- Return with Payment

PAID RESERVATIONS for AMHS General Society Meeting on Sunday, March 20, 2016

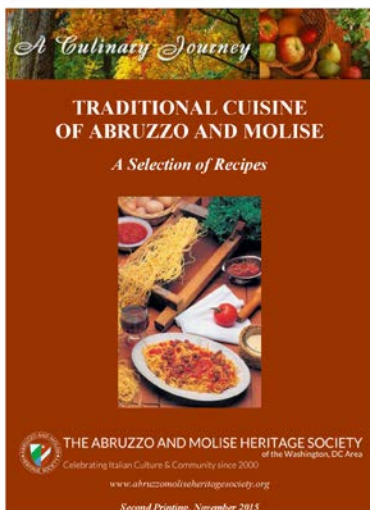
Please make check payable to AMHS.

Send to AMHS, c/o Peter Bell, 328 8th Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20002

NAME(S): _____ Phone: _____

GUEST(S): _____

Number Attending: _____ Check Amount: _____ Email: _____



“Traditional Cuisine of Abruzzo and Molise: A Selection of Recipes,”
2nd Printing November 2015

PRICE: \$10.00 + \$3.00 per book for postage and handling

Make check payable to AMHS, c/o Sarah Scott,
1201 East-West Highway, #434, Silver Spring, MD 20910

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

OF COPIES: _____ **AMOUNT:** (\$13 x number of copies): _____

THE AMHS LOGO POLO SHIRT

 <p>Model A - Enlarge Model B - Enlarge</p>	<p>AMHS Logo Polo Shirt Model A</p> <p>MATERIAL: 53% combed cotton 47% polyester "EDRY" tm fabric COLOR: light blue MEN's sizes (only): S / M / XL WOMEN's sizes: M / L / XL</p> <p>PRICE: \$25 + \$4.50 postage and handling</p>	<p>AMHS Logo Polo Shirt Model B</p> <p>MATERIAL: 60% cotton 40% polyester regular fabric COLOR: light blue</p> <p>WOMEN's sizes (only): M / L</p> <p>PRICE: \$20 + \$4.50 postage and handling</p>
---	---	---

Complete one line below for each Polo Shirt being ordered:

MODEL (enter A or B):	<input type="text"/>	(M or W):	<input type="text"/>	(SIZE):	<input type="text"/>	(PRICE):	<input type="text"/>
MODEL (enter A or B):	<input type="text"/>	(M or W):	<input type="text"/>	(SIZE):	<input type="text"/>	(PRICE):	<input type="text"/>
MODEL (enter A or B):	<input type="text"/>	(M or W):	<input type="text"/>	(SIZE):	<input type="text"/>	(PRICE):	<input type="text"/>
MODEL (enter A or B):	<input type="text"/>	(M or W):	<input type="text"/>	(SIZE):	<input type="text"/>	(PRICE):	<input type="text"/>
TOTAL POLO SHIRTS:	<input type="text"/>	Total Price:		<input type="text"/>			

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Please add \$4.50 for postage & handling for each shirt.
Make check payable to AMHS, c/o Sarah Scott
1201 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910



THE ABRUZZO AND MOLISE HERITAGE SOCIETY
of the Washington, DC Area
Celebrating Italian Culture & Community since 2000

4669 Lawton Way, #104
Alexandria, VA 22311



Color copies printed courtesy of Todd Tomanio
and Sydnee Patterson,



TransPerfect Document Management, Inc.
700 6th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

AMHS NOTIZIARIO

Maria Fresco, Editor
Maria D'Andrea, Co-editor
Nancy DeSanti, Contributing Writer

AMHS NOTIZIARIO is published bi-monthly from January through November. The deadline for the submission of articles is the 15th of the month preceding publication of the issue. Please send submissions via e-mail to Maria D'Andrea, uva051985@comcast.net. All submissions may be edited for clarity and become the property of AMHS. Publication of submissions is at the discretion of the Editors; however content of articles that are published is the sole responsibility of the author.

You may choose to receive the *Notiziario* by electronic mail (email) only. This will save on paper and postage and will allow you to get your copy more quickly. If you wish to select this preference for online delivery of the latest AMHS news and information, please contact Maria D'Andrea by email at uva051985@comcast.net or by phone, (703) 998-6097. Thank you for considering this option.

The *AMHS Notiziario* is an official publication of the Grant and Scholarship Fund Inc. of the Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society of the Washington, DC area, doing business as The Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society of the Washington, DC area, a non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian society legally incorporated in the District of Columbia.

Officers

Maria D'Andrea, President, uva051985@comcast.net, (703) 998-6097
Nancy DeSanti, 1st VP-Program, ndesanti7@gmail.com, (703) 967-2169
Lynn Sorbara, 2nd VP-Membership, drlynnrose@yahoo.com, (301) 926-7792
Maria Fresco, Secretary, abruzzo_sicilia@hotmail.com, (301) 262-3150
Peter Bell, Treasurer, peter@ezhudhelp.com, (202) 276-2483
Dick DiBuono, Immediate Past President, rjdibuono@aol.com, (703) 960-5981
Lucio D'Andrea, President Emeritus, ldandrea1933@comcast.net, (703) 490-3067