



THE ABRUZZO AND MOLISE HERITAGE SOCIETY

of the Washington, DC Area

Celebrating Italian Culture & Community since 2000

www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org

AMHS NOTIZIARIO

March 2017



Top (left & center): AMHS/NIAF scholarship winners Salvatore Pitino and Nicholas Rao. **Top (right):** Guest speaker Catherine Flumiani, First Counselor, Embassy of Italy talks about promoting the Italian language at the January 29, 2017 general Society meeting. **Bottom:** Upwards of 80 members and guests listen to the guest speaker. *(photos courtesy of Romeo Sabatini).*

NEXT SOCIETY EVENT The next AMHS general Society meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 9, 2017** at 1:00pm at Casa Italiana. Author Ceil Lucas discusses a "Genealogical Memoir". *See inside for details.*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cari amici,



I was sorry to have missed the first general Society meeting of the year, which I understand was quite successful in terms of the presentation by the First Counselor, Embassy of Italy; the presentation by the two scholarship winners; and the lunch that was catered by Osteria da Nino. (I was “sailing the high seas” on a Western Caribbean cruise!). I was very pleased to learn, upon my return, that the AMHS Executive Committee voted to donate the proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets and merchandise, from this meeting, to relief efforts in Abruzzo. The region has been subjected to some major disasters lately, not so long after the horrific earthquake that struck L’Aquila in 2009. We raised \$238, and we plan to follow the same course at the April 9 meeting. At that time, we will share with you the planned recipient for our donation AND that the Society will match the funds raised from both meetings. So more on this later!

We have had a most successful 2016 fundraising campaign for the AMHS scholarship and the AMHS endowment fund. As of end of January, 42 members have donated \$5,010 to the AMHS Annual Scholarship Fund, and \$625 to the Endowment Fund. On behalf of the Fundraising Committee, I wish to thank each of you who gave so generously – we will give a full reporting of our fundraising initiative in November.

This is a big year for the Society: the terms of office for the President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and 3 board members expire at the end of the year. I will soon create a Nominating Committee to carry forth the very important work of finding qualified individuals who can volunteer their time to manage the operation of the Society, persons who are passionate about the mission of the Society and want to see it growth and thrive moving forward. ***I also wish to reiterate a very urgent appeal for someone to consider serving on the Executive Committee as Secretary.*** The primary responsibility is to take the minutes at the EC meetings, which are held 6 times a year, and to disseminate the minutes to the officers for review. We know there is someone ready, willing and able to help!

Once again, this issue is full of wonderful and interesting articles, which we hope you will enjoy. We look forward to seeing you and, as always, we are forever grateful for your support and dedication to the Society.

Cordiali saluti,
Maria

UPCOMING SOCIETY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

AUTHOR CEIL LUCAS DISCUSSES A “GENEALOGICAL MEMOIR” ON APRIL 9, 2017

By Nancy DeSanti, 1st Vice President – Programs

For our second program of the year, we are so pleased to have as our speaker a prolific author who also teaches at the Casa Italiana Language School.

Since immigration is really a topic of interest right now, we thought it would be a great idea to hear from someone who has thought a lot about what it means to be “from here.” What makes a person feel they are “from here” or “not from here”? When does a person feel they are truly “home”?



Ms. Lucas will tell us about her expatriate upbringing. She was born here but spent her formative years growing up in Guatemala City during a politically tumultuous time and then in Rome, where she lived during the economic boom times followed by the “years of lead” and terrorism. Finally, she came back to America, and she has been teaching Italian since 1973, including the last 16 years at the Casa Italiana Language School.

So we were very happy when AMHS member Joe Lupo, the Director of the Language School, suggested Ms. Lucas for our speaker.

Ms. Lucas will also tell us how she came to write her book, “How I Got Here: A Memoir” which she calls a “genealogical memoir.” She will share with us the surprising things she learned and how her ancestors’ stories have become her own. After her talk, copies of the book will be available for purchase, signed by the author.

We will be serving a delicious lunch catered by Fontina Grille. Please plan to join us for this most interesting program, and bring your friends and family members. Paid reservations are due by April 6, 2017. See flyer on page 15 for additional details.

RECENT SOCIETY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

EMBASSY COUNSELOR CATHERINE FLUMIANI DISCUSSES PROMOTING “LA BELLA LINGUA”

By Nancy DeSanti

We were off to a running start with our first program of the year. We had 85 attendees on January 29, 2017, and the number of favorable comments, during and after the program, showed that it was a big success.

Our speaker was Embassy of Italy official Catherine Flumiani, and she talked to us about “Promoting the Italian Language—Italy’s Rich Heritage.” Ms. Flumiani was accompanied by Maria Fusco, the Education Counselor of the Embassy of Italy.

We know that Italian language classes are so popular today, even though Italian is not as widespread in the world as, let’s say, Spanish, Chinese or Arabic. So there must be something that makes learning this beautiful, elegant language so popular—actually the 4th most studied language nowadays.

To find out how to make the Italian language even more popular, we turned to Ms. Flumiani, the First Counselor of the Embassy of Italy, to enlighten us. Ms. Flumiani is the First Counselor for Consular Coordination and Social Affairs, responsible for coordinating the activities of the Italian consular network in the United States. She talked to us about the goals and strategies to further promote the teaching of the Italian language in both public schools and private schools in the United States, and she illustrated the tools that the Italian government has put in place in this regard and the importance of the interaction and cooperation with the Italian and Italian-American associations in this respect.

Our speaker arrived in Washington in the fall of 2016 after a distinguished career elsewhere. Ms. Flumiani is a native of Varese and graduated from the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano with a degree in political science. Before coming to Washington, she was posted to Amman, Jordan and Berlin, Germany. Since coming to Washington a few months ago, Ms. Flumiani has hit the ground running, such as giving inspiring remarks at the Columbus Day ceremony at Union Station shortly after her arrival here, as well as more recent events in conjunction with the Istituto di Cultura Italiana.

Ms. Flumiani told us the teaching of Italian is becoming more and more popular, and in fact last year over 2,700 students took the AP exam for Italian. She said one of the goals of the Italian government is to cultivate exceptional teachers and give them more training. Also, she said the Italian government wants to work more closely with Italian and Italian-American organizations, including national organizations such as the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) and the National Organization of Italian American Women (NOIAW) as well as groups such as AMHS.

She mentioned the efforts of the Ente Gestore and she gave a special thanks to Joe Lupo, who directs the Casa Italiana Language School. That school is the only Managing Entity (Ente Gestore) in the Washington, D.C. area which administers funds contributed by the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs for the teaching of Italian in local schools, preparing students for the AP exams, and providing comprehensive courses for students with native language ability (*corsi integrativi*).

After Ms. Flumiani’s remarks, many in the audience asked questions and made thoughtful remarks. In answer to one question, she noted that she favors “bambini classes” because

the brain is most elastic before the age of 8 so that foreign languages are easier to learn. In answer to another question, she noted that many of the students are second- and third-generation Italian-Americans, whose immigrant parents or grandparents did not pass down the language, while other students do not have Italian heritage at all but they appreciate Italian culture or opera and they love this musical, elegant language.

On a personal note, Ms. Flumiani told us she was in Rome during the earthquake last August, and she took note of all the relief efforts for central Italy, especially in Abruzzo following the earthquakes, snow and avalanche.

After the comment period, special thanks was given to those present who have done so much to promote the Italian language and culture, namely, Joe Lupo, Lucio D’Andrea, Pino Cicala and Melo Cicala.

A brief business meeting was held prior to Ms. Flumiani’s talk. Rocco Caniglia, Maria Fresco and Sergio Fresco were each given a certificate of appreciation and thanked for their outstanding service. Then Albert Paolantonio was sworn in as a new board member (Jeff Clark will be sworn in as a new board member at a later date).

Next we heard from Ray La Verghetta, chairman of the AMHS Scholarship Committee, who introduced our 2 scholarship winners, Salvatore Pitino and Nicholas Rao. They both made a few remarks, which were warmly received by the audience (see next article in the *Notiziario*).

Before the meeting began, we enjoyed a delicious lunch catered by Nino Pino of Osteria da Nino in Shirlington, Virginia. By all accounts, the meal was very much appreciated, and Nino received a warm round of applause after the lunch.

We raised \$158 from the raffle and \$82 from the merchandise sales. The money will be donated to a charitable organization to help victims of the recent disasters in Abruzzo.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ADDRESS AMHS GENERAL SOCIETY MEETING

By Ray LaVerghetta, Chair, AMHS Scholarship Committee

The two winners of the NIAF/AMHS scholarship for the 2016-2017 academic year addressed the AMHS General Society Meeting on January 29th. Salvatore Pitino and Nicholas Rao each took a turn at the podium to explain to AMHS members and guests the value they place on their ties to Italy as well as the importance of the scholarship to their continuing studies.

Mr. Pitino, a junior at George Mason University, spoke first. He began by noting that his major in Economics and minor in Italian Studies together allow him to pursue his academic interests and his love for Italian. He pointed out that his parents and grandparents were all born in Sicily, and that his first language was neither English nor Italian – but Sicilian.

He heard a number of Sicilian dialects growing up, as his aunts and uncles were from different locations on Italy's largest island. In fact, Mr. Pitino acknowledged that he felt some embarrassment growing up when he had to explain his attendance in ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes in school. Although not the average heritage speaker of Italian, inasmuch as he heard exclusively various Sicilian dialects growing up, he knew enough of the national tongue by the time he got to college that he was able to test out of the beginning and intermediate levels of the language. Salvatore cited his desire to improve his knowledge of Italian as the main reason for adopting a minor in Italian studies. His enthusiasm for this part of his program was evident as he spoke of his involvement in the Italian club on campus, as well as of his efforts, alongside those of his Italian professor, to bring a chapter of the national Italian academic honors society (Gamma Kappa Alpha) to his university campus.

Salvatore recalled with admiration the extraordinary efforts that his maternal grandparents had made in working multiple jobs to put his mother through school. He also expressed his gratitude to the Society for its support of his education, which he noted was substantially more expensive because of his out-of-state status at George Mason University. He sees his AMHS scholarship as a continuation of the support that Italian-Americans have always lavished on younger members of the community.

Nicholas Rao took the podium next. Mr. Rao is a junior at The Catholic University of America, where he double majors in Philosophy and Italian Studies. He explained that his Italian heritage runs through his father's side of the family, which has roots in Sicily, Campania, and Basilicata. He acknowledged his father's influence in the choice of both of his areas of specialization – Philosophy and Italian. According to Mr. Rao, his father started a non-profit organization of Catholic intellectuals known as the Roman Forum. Every summer, the organization held a symposium on the shores of Lake Garda, Italy, where Catholic philosophers, historians, lawyers, and scientists would gather for two months to discuss Catholicism's intellectual and cultural heritage. Nicholas tagged along every year, and he attributes his passion for philosophy, music, drama, art, and Italian culture to those summers in Italy.

Nicholas noted that the AMHS and the NIAF have enabled him to strengthen his links to the Italian-American community. In addition to his new association with the AMHS, he had the opportunity to cement his ties to NIAF through an internship, which allowed him to understand better the workings of our country's umbrella Italian-American organization.

Nicholas pointed out that he likes to seek connections among many disciplines, a trait that likely derives from his summers of multi-disciplined exposure in Italy. His college education provides him with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do just that, and he thanked the Society for its generous support of his educational goals. He also thanked his father for deeply influencing nearly all aspects of his life – from his intellectual

curiosity, through his love of music, drama, and literature, to his joys in the kitchen.

Both Salvatore and Nicholas are outstanding students and extremely qualified and deserving scholarship recipients. Their accomplishments made a most favorable impression on AMHS members and guests, who also had praise for the work of AMHS Scholarship committee members – Peter Bell, Dick DiBuono, Lucio D'Andrea, Ray LaVerghetta, Romeo Sabatini, and Lourdes Tinajero – in selecting the awardees.

"SONGS OF MIGRATION AND LONGING" DRAWS A BIG CROWD

By Nancy DeSanti

A crowd of 200 people turned out for the "*Canti di emigrazione e nostalgia*" ("Songs of migration and longing") event at Casa Italiana on February 5, 2017, among them many AMHS members who were either performers or attendees.

The idea for the program came about thanks to Holy Rosary Pastor Father Ezio Marchetto, who personally selected the 16 songs - not an easy task considering he had so many to choose from. The day was intended to honor the immigrants of the past who left Italy, the land they knew, and came to America in search of a new life. It was a day to remember our parents, grandparents, friends and others who brought with them their faith, culture, language, music, work ethic, and so much more. For sure, there were many immigrant success stories in the room!!

Before the musical program began, we enjoyed a delicious lunch of pizza, pasta, meatballs, salad, bread and dessert. The lunch was a big hit, and it was thanks to the advance planning and hard work of Parish Council members Darlene DiBattista, and Simonetta Baldassari, who were assisted during the event by Parish Council member Bill Leali and his wife Anne Marie.



Maria Marigliano at keyboard directing Holy Rosary choir

During the musical program, before each song was performed, there was a beautiful narration by Silvia Fregni which matched the images projected on a big screen behind the musicians. Those musicians were Maria Marigliano on keyboards, Sergio Fresco on accordion (both AMHS members) and Oscar Bartoli

on guitar. All three also sang, as did Anna Siciliano. They were backed up by the Holy Rosary choir, including AMHS members Carmela Ventresca and Roger McClure.

To get the program off to a fast start, Sergio Fresco sang and played “*Merica Merica*,” on the accordion as images flashed on the screen showing immigrants arriving at Ellis Island during the early 1900s. Next we heard Maria Marigliano sing the famous song of emigration, “*Mamma mia, dammi 100 lire*,” about a man who asks his mother for money so he can come to America. The title of this song was used on the beautiful big cakes served for dessert, which spelled out “*Mamma mia, dammi cento lire, che in America voglio andar*.” Then we heard the haunting “*Il Naufragio del Sirio*,” which told the sad story of the 1906 shipwreck of the Italian steamship SS Sirio which sank off the coast of Spain resulting in the loss of life of hundreds of immigrants. Among them was the Bishop of Sao Paulo, who was said to have gone down with the ship while blessing the passengers.

One of the crowd-pleasers was “*Santa Lucia Lontano*,” which as sung by Anna Siciliano, drew an enthusiastic round of applause. The song “*Miniera*” was sung while images on the screen showed scenes of the dangers of migrants working in the mines, as borne out by the Monongahela mining disaster in West Virginia. As our narrator explained, emigration slowed down in the 1930s as the Fascists did not like the image of Italians having to go abroad to find a better life.

The song “*La Porti un Bacione a Firenze*” was sung in the Florentine dialect by Oscar Bartoli while playing his guitar. Eventually, migration changed from South to North in Italy, from the countryside to the cities. We heard the emotional song “*Amara Terra Mia*,” by Domenico Modugno (of “*Volare*” fame). This poignant song tells of the pain of leaving one’s homeland.

Towards the end of the program, Father Ezio called on Simonetta Baldassari to come up and give a tribute to someone in the audience who has done so much for the Italian and Italian-American community for over 50 years, as a radio and TV host who now maintains a website of Italian news and events, who was one of the founders of NIAF and a longtime supporter of the Lido Civic Club, who helps keep the religious traditions of his hometown alive here, and who helped plan the Women’s Museum of the Arts in his other life as an architect. At the end of her remarks, she named AMHS member Pino Cicala and expressed everyone’s thanks for all he has done. Then a bouquet of flowers, chosen by Darlene DiBattista, was presented to Pino by AMHS vice president Nancy DeSanti.

The program ended on a high note as everyone, including the audience, sang the beautiful song “*Con Te Partirò*,” made famous by Andrea Bocelli and Sarah Brightman. We bet there was hardly a dry eye in the house!!

AMHS MEMBERSHIP

By Lynn Sorbara, 2nd Vice President - Membership

2017 Membership Renewal Campaign Continues

Our relatively new online system is able to track many items for the membership. One of these helpful tasks is letting our members know when it is time to renew by sending an email notification directly to the member. These emails are automatic and are designed to give time for renewal. The majority of AMHS memberships for 2016 have expired. Many have taken advantage of the automated reminders by using the renewal option available on the AMHS website. In doing so, this saves both time and money for the club. For those who have not renewed online, or who have not provided an email address, I have sent out renewal reminders by mail. Please keep a look out for these online and paper reminders. We appreciate your continued support of AMHS events and activities.

February 2016 Membership

We are pleased to report that there are 310 members of AMHS, including seven new members. Thank you for your support of the Society’s programs and activities. We have many wonderful events coming over the rest of the year and your membership makes them possible!

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to our newest members: ***Gabriel A Battista, Joseph Cusato, Tony & Judy D’Ambrosi, Jaison & Katie Harris, Justine Petracci Lawson, Roger McClure, Salvatore Pitino, Nicholas Rao, and Gary Redente.***

Birthdays

Compleanni Marzo

Eileen Parise Del Monaco, March 1; Robert D’Onofrio and Greg Bernabei, March 2; Maria Fresco, March 3; Melis Mull, March 4; Salvatore DiPilla and Ronato Sozio, March 8; Joseph Sandri, March 9; Maria Kellaher and Sam Yothers, March 12; 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; Nicholas Rao, March 23; Mary Katherine Theis, Linda Carullo, March 25; Vincent Pereira, March 27; Lucio D’Andrea, March 28; Rial Coleman, March 30; Anna Maria DiPilla, March 31.

Compleanni Aprile

Eva Del Vecchio, April 1; Joseph Theis, April, 4; Diana Bernabei and Gay Ferrante, April 6; Steven Wright, April 8; Elizabeth Chiaverini, April 9; Gloria D’Andrea and Rita Giovenco, April 12; Bob Farrace, April 13; Domenico Santini, April 14; Joyce Del Borrello, April 18; Stephen Ulissi, April 21; Enrico Granafei, Julia Conti, April 22; Michael Nardolilli, Vera Gordon, and Peter Iovino, April 24; Belinda Sabatini, April 25; Joann Novello, Laura Alberico Crump and Constantino Taglienti, April 28; Tommaso Profenno, April 30

Anniversaries

Anniversari Marzo

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

Anniversari Aprile

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

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NIAF BOARD OF DIRECTORS, STAFF, AND IALC RETREAT JANUARY 12-13, 2017

By Maria D'Andrea-Yothers & Peter Bell, AMHS Treasurer

The 2017 NIAF Retreat was held on January 12-13, 2017 at NIAF Headquarters in Washington, DC. This was an opportunity for NIAF staff, Board members and members of the Italian American Leadership Council (IALC) to come together to discuss the current and future work of the Foundation. Peter Bell, AMHS Treasurer, attended the retreat on January 12; Peter and I attended the NIAF dinner on Thursday evening; and I attended the retreat on January 13.

As a member of NIAF's IALC, we thought it important to share key highlights of the discussions that were held during the retreat:

NIAF Headquarters Designation as an Italian American Museum: Work continues with the DC Government to bring NIAF headquarters and its exhibits into conformity so that the DC Government will certify the Headquarters building as a museum space (the NIAF Italian American Museum). NIAF President John Viola spoke about the establishment of the Victoria J. Mastrobuono Learning Center, which will be comprised of a Library, Resource Database and Memory Booth/Center.

Italian Garden Project Proposal: NIAF is exploring participation in a Garden Project, one that is currently in place in Pittsburgh, PA (at this location, a selection of heirloom plants and fig trees associated with Italian families will be maintained and cultivated). The proposal would be to use the front of the Headquarters building to display heirloom varieties of plants. If NIAF decides to participate, it will conduct a separate fundraising effort to support this initiative.

Wishwall Foundation: The Wishwall Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization and social community that collaborates with other non-profit groups that promote social integration and the defense of human rights as well as with companies who wish to sponsor worthy initiatives. They have built Wishwalls in Venice and in cities in the U.S. The Foundation is built on the "pay it forward" philosophy. Its core principles are to give a voice to the voiceless and to help make meaningful wishes come true. The Foundation has approached NIAF to obtain its cooperation in building a Wishwall in the DC area; this is under consideration.

Shroud of Turin Replica - As part of this discussion, John mentioned that NIAF was instrumental in getting a replica of the Shroud of Turin sent to DC's Holy Rosary Church. This replica of the Shroud is one of only three in existence and the only one that was blessed by the Archbishop of Turin.

Viral Marketing – Community Engagement for a New Era: John Viola discussed a number of Viral Marketing initiatives and their importance for NIAF's future success. These initiatives represent an efficient vehicle for reaching out to younger Italian Americans to get them involved with NIAF.

i-Italy Partnership - NIAF and i-Italy have partnered to offer 2 internship opportunities for recent Italian American graduates interested in building the basis for a career in media while furthering their proficiency in the Italian language. The interns will perform their duties on a part-time basis at the i-Italy headquarters in New York City. i-Italy is the largest editorial network dedicated to Italian and Italian American affairs in the U.S. It comprises a web portal (www.i-Italy.org); a bi-monthly print magazine and a weekly TV show broadcasting every weekend on NYC Life (Channel 25) in the New York City metropolitan area.

Little Italy Project – Two NIAF Board members have formed a partnership with Airbnb to support Little Italy's around the country, the objective of which is to preserve and develop the traditional Little Italy's in Italian communities.

Italian Feast Project – NIAF is considering developing an extensive data base that lists all of the Italian Feasts that operate around the country. This will facilitate the trading of best practices between these feasts. There are apparently hundreds of Italian Feasts around the country. OSIA and the Sons and Daughters of Italy both have data bases that contain existing information and we will cooperate with them in performing this work.

Make Sunday Italian Again – John Viola came up with this logo/idea. In Italian families, Sunday was always a day for getting the entire family together to spend time and eat meals. The thought is to promote a return to this through NIAF; work is underway to trademark the slogan and the website, MakeSundayItalianAgain.org.

Participants Open Discussion

- Engaging High Schools around Italian Studies – develop a best practices tool kit and provide it to high schools that have Italian clubs, as a means to reach out to younger individuals and involve them in NIAF.
- NIAF Teacher Membership – Provide a membership opportunity to teachers for \$50.
- Columbus Day – NIAF Board of Director Basil Russo spoke passionately about the need for NIAF to continue to support Columbus Day. He mentioned that many of the efforts to replace Columbus Day were intellectually dishonest.

Youth Initiatives at NIAF: NIAF is continually striving to involve young Italian Americans in NIAF – a good job was done in involving young people at last year's Gala, to include

students from college and university Italian clubs, and involving former Voyage of Discovery participants as volunteers. NIAF wants to share best practices for attracting younger members with other Italian American organizations.

Voyage of Discovery – We want to do follow-up research on Voyage of Discovery (VOD) participants. Many of these individuals have gone on to have very successful careers (one young woman recently was included on the Forbes 30 under 30 list of successful young professionals). NIAF has developed a Facebook page for VOD participants and this could be a source of information; they are also working to find past scholarship winners (to include winner of the AMHS/NIAF joint scholarships) to showcase the successes they have had in their lives.

IALC Professional Network – NIAF Senior Director of Development Alex Benedetto mentioned that she is developing an online network for IALC members. Participation in it would require the approval of individual members.

Fellowships Created by NIAF – NIAF has developed five fellowship programs: Congressional Fellowships; Museum Fellowships; NIAF on Campus; and i-Italy and NIAF Internships.

2017 Region of Honor: Sicily is the 2017 Region of Honor. Sicily has committed to paying two hundred thousand Euros for this honor. The dates for NIAF's travel to Sicily that will include Board and IALC members will be announced shortly. A separate IALC Summit will be held in NYC in May 4.

NIAF's 42nd Anniversary Gala will be held November 2-5 in Washington, DC. NIAF is working to grow the Expo by inviting appropriate vendors and will increase the number of vendors over last year. The vendors pay to participate and this represents additional Gala revenues.

SIAMO UNA FAMIGLIA

ELENA BYRNE GRADUATES FROM HUNTER COLLEGE



I am very proud of my granddaughter, Elena Byrne, who received a Bachelor's Degree, with honors, in psychology from Hunter College, CUNY on January 19, 2017.

She is currently teaching psychological statistics at Hunter College, and plans on continuing her education in Clinical Psychology in the fall. (submitted by Agnes Sabatini DeMauro)

NOVEMBER WAS PERFECT TIMING FOR TRIP TO SOUTHERN ITALY

By Nancy DeSanti

The timing could not have been better than early November 2016 for a trip to southern Italy. The weather was sunny and in the low 60s, and the rainy season had not yet begun. As an added plus, some of the cities had already begun putting up their beautiful Christmas decorations.

On my two-week jaunt to the South of Italy, I was joined by some of my usual travel companions from New York and New Jersey. We started out in Rome, flying into—where else?—Naples. Our first morning, we enjoyed breakfast on the hotel terrace at dawn overlooking the Bay of Naples with Mount Vesuvius off in the distance.

We learned that Napoli was the largest city founded by the Greeks, and so naturally it's full of archaeological treasures. In fact, construction of part of the subway has had long delays because of discoveries such as three Roman ships. We also learned that the real estate overlooking the Bay of Naples is as expensive as it is in Manhattan. Naturally we couldn't leave without sampling the famous pizza Margherita, which was invented in Naples. And of course we had to go shopping along the Via Toledo which had so many beautiful, irresistible shops!!

Half a day was not nearly enough time to spend in the National Archaeological Museum, but we did see a lot, including the famous "*Toro Farnese*" (Farnese Bull), a magnificent sculpture carved out of one huge block of marble. Before leaving this amazing city of famous Neapolitan songs, we had dinner on the waterfront at a restaurant named "*La Bersagliera*." And not that there are women who are elite soldiers known as *Bersaglieri* (there aren't), the name just means "*una donna forte*." (strong woman).

We made a brief stop in Benevento, walking under the famous Arch of Trajan, on our way down to Puglia, where we stayed in Bari. We noticed that Bari was the one place we visited where there was a lot of security, with carabinieri and soldiers in armored vehicles stationed around the city, especially in front of the Basilica of San Nicola and in Bari Vecchia.

We learned that legend has it that San Nicola was a kind man who gave money to a father of three daughters who needed a dowry to save his daughters from a drastic fate. The bones of San Nicola, which were brought back from Turkey, are kept in a crypt. While we were visiting the Basilica, a group of Russian Orthodox priests and congregants were conducting a service, with incense and prayers in Russian. At the end, they each knelt down and kissed the box by the altar containing the bones of the saint. It was a very moving sight.

We were told that San Nicola became known as "Sinter Klaas" in the Netherlands and eventually he became Santa Claus in the U.S. His red outfit was supposedly due to the influence of the Coca Cola Company.

We took a walk around Bari Vecchia, the old part of the city with its maze of alleyways and winding streets, and learned that Bari was once considered the most dangerous city in Italy where a police escort was needed to go to church, but then “Operazione Primavera” cleaned up the area, and many people were arrested or paid to leave. Nowadays you see the many vegetable and fruit stands, the men playing cards, kids riding bikes, and women making the famous *orecchiette* pasta at outdoor tables.



Bari Lungomare

The city features a magnificent Swabian castle and a beautiful walk along the sea, the Lungomare, where you can see fishermen bringing in their catch fresh from the sea or beating an octopus to soften it up. Bari is a major port which handles 2 million passengers annually on the big cruise ships. It is also a port from where many of the Crusades to the Holy Land were launched centuries ago, which may explain the tight security.

We enjoyed some of the delicious seafood at a restaurant near the Lungomare, and were amazed to see a waitress walking through the restaurant balancing several dinner plates on one arm while talking on her cellphone. That's what you call multitasking!!

Of course a visit to Bari would not be complete without a stroll down the Via Spadana, although sadly, the palm trees are no longer there. But you can find most every designer store your heart desires, from Gucci to Prada to Hermes to Furla and so much more. We also visited a modern design store close to the Lungomare, but the next day it had been temporarily transformed into the set of a popular TV talk show, which we watched on the outdoor video screen.

That night the results of the U.S. presidential elections started coming in, although with the time difference it was almost dawn in Italy. Afterwards, everyone we encountered in the

streets was anxious to give us Americans their opinion, which was one of shock, to put it mildly.

Driving south to Lecce, across the sea is Dubrovnik, Croatia. Of course beautiful Lecce is known as the “Florence of the South.” Maybe what stands out most is the ancient Roman amphitheater that sits right in the middle of the city, where centuries ago gladiators battled, wild animals fought, and sea battles were reenacted. In Piazza San Oronzo, we saw an 800-year-old olive tree, which is called a “teenager” in this land of thousand-year-old trees. To step on the coat of arms in the square is bad luck, we were told, and none of us was ready to risk that!! Nearby were the *papier-mache* workshops, which at that time of year featured delicate *presepi* for the Christmas holidays.

Of course we had to see Lecce's beautiful Cathedral of Santa Croce, with its façade of lions, dragons, angels and undersea creatures which took three generations of artisans to create. Next door to the cathedral is a new Jewish museum, not yet officially open.

We made a day trip to Otranto, where we went to the famous cathedral with a crypt with the skulls and bones of the 800 martyrs who were killed by the Ottoman Turks after a pitched battle, for refusing to convert to Islam. A month after he was elected, Pope Francis traveled to Otranto for the canonization of the 800 martyrs, and there is a plaque in the cathedral commemorating his visit. We also saw the many famous mosaics in the cathedral's floor, such as the one depicting creatures from the Inferno and another mosaic of a cat with boots on only his two left paws.

Knowing that the 60 million olive trees in Puglia produce some of the world's best olive oil, that evening we visited a fancy *masseria* for a delicious dinner and wine tasting, and we went down to the wine cellar and learned how their wine was made and also how they made their delicious olive oil. Our hostess was a British expatriate who had worked there for 17 years and had some very interesting stories to tell us.

Otranto is the easternmost point of Italy, so on a clear day you can see Albania 45 miles away. We learned that there is a big celebration here every New Year's Eve since this is the first place in Italy to welcome the New Year.

Next we traveled to Ostuni, in a beautiful area with watchtowers along the coast and many whitewashed houses. It was built on a hill, like many towns, for protection. From the third floor of the houses, boiling water could be poured on invaders. One of its wonderful restaurants is the “Osteria del Tempo Perso,” and along the way, a man playing guitar and harmonica was singing Bob Dylan songs with an Italian accent.

Our next trip was to Alberobello, with its 1,400 *trulli*, or conical stone houses. We visited the “royal trullo,” the only one with two floors, which had gunports in case of invaders. The crafty townspeople built the walls around the *trulli* so they could be easily disassembled when the tax man came around, and then quickly reassembled.

Next, we paid a visit to Matera, in Basilicata, which is the Culture Capital of Europe for 2019, and we learned that the road from the airport in Bari has already been widened in anticipation of the influx of visitors.

Of course Matera is famous for the 6,000 *casagrotte* in the *sassi*, the homes carved into the caves. It's possible to visit one of them to see how the people lived under primitive conditions with their animals, until around the 1950s. The sad situation was written about by Carlo Levi in his book "Christ Stopped at Eboli."

But Matera has been transformed into a thriving city with a lot of visitors from Europe and beautiful little shops. There is also a big art museum which features a huge sculpture of a raindrop by a Japanese artist. One of the little shops features the "*fischetti*," the colorful painted whistles in the shape of animals, including ones in the shape of a rooster, which is considered good luck. Just in time for the Chinese "Year of the Rooster"!!

Crossing from Puglia into Basilicata, we passed many mountains and canyons, and we learned that the best water comes from this area, and in fact, Coca Cola uses this water for its products all over Europe.

Our final stop was Sorrento, a beautiful city where Christmas decorations could be seen everywhere, including in the beautiful parks and gardens. The views were spectacular, especially across the Bay of Salerno.



Imperial Hotel Gardens in Sorrento

We stayed at the beautiful, Old World-style Imperial Hotel Tramontano, which you enter via a long driveway with palm trees and flowers everywhere. Next door are public gardens with more palm trees and flowers, and benches to sit and relax and enjoy the view overlooking the water. In the hotel, we enjoyed our breakfasts and dinners looking out on the Bay of Naples with Mount Vesuvius and Pompeii in the background.

In a hidden alcove in the lobby, there is a plaque which names the famous guests who have stayed at the hotel, such as Keats, Shelley, James Fennimore Cooper, the Prince of Wales before he was King George, Queen Wilhemina, and a Russian princess. The last line on the plaque says: "You who are visiting now are our honored guests, just as they were." But the hotel may be most famous for the song "*Torna a Surriento*," which was composed by Giambattista De Curtis on the Tramontano terrace.

Exploring the city was an amazing adventure. We found a store called "Shopping Victims" and had dinner at the *Ristorante o' Parrucchiano* which featured "magical gardens" and where we encountered an American couple who had been to the restaurant 40 years ago on their honeymoon.

Down the street from our hotel was a beautiful church with a statue of San Francesco, and next door was an artists' gallery which was having an exhibit of Sofia Loren photographs. When we went inside to take a look, there was a inner courtyard with a big tree in the middle defying gravity and leaning at a 45° angle. And next to the photos of Sofia, there was an exhibit of Art Deco music boxes and carillons. They were all beautifully decorated with delicate paintings and scrolls, and all of them (30 or more) were playing at the same time, which created an angelic sound.

When it was time to leave, we flew from Naples back to Rome and then New York. Arriving at Fiumicino Airport, always a hectic place, we made our way to the Alitalia lounge and there we were greeted by the sounds of a piano. A talented young guy was playing classical piano, ragtime and blues, for over two hours, with our plane visible beyond the big glass window behind him. Such an enjoyable way to pass the time while waiting!! Is that not so Italian?

FROM THE REGIONAL CORNER

FARINDOLA, PROVINCE OF PESCARA, ABRUZZO

By Nancy DeSanti

The beautiful town of Farindola is located 45 kilometers from Pescara in the region of Abruzzo. Farindola has approximately 2,040 inhabitants, known as Farindolesi.

Farindola has recently become known worldwide as the town closest to the area where the snow avalanche buried Hotel Rigopiano.

The picturesque town is situated on a rocky hill along the left bank of the Tavo River. The area is rich in natural springs and is renowned for its pecorino cheese.

As with other places beginning with the root “Far-“, the name of the town comes from the Lombard word for “borough.” But the various Paleolithic findings point to an earlier origin. In the 11th century, two important Benedictine monasteries occupied the area. Later on, Farindola came under the control of the city of Penne and the Farnese family. One of the interesting sights to visit is the Palazzo Farnese with its beautiful frescoed rooms.

One of the important festivals in Farindola is the Sagra del Formaggio Pecorino, celebrating the pecorino cheese for which the area is famous. The event is held annually on August 4 and attracts cheese lovers from all over.



Farindola and the Gran Sasso Mountains

Farindola has been in the news lately because of its close proximity to the disastrous snow avalanche in Rigopiano, one of the town's frazione. Hotel Rigopiano, a four-star hotel at the front of the Gran Sasso mountain about 135 kilometers northeast of Rome, was buried following a snow avalanche on the afternoon of January 18, 2017, after a series of earthquakes nearby. The deadly avalanche swallowed the hotel, trapping dozens of people inside. Despite heroic efforts by the Alpine rescue teams which saved many lives of adults and children, the death toll was 29. The force of the avalanche was so great that the hotel building shifted 10 meters down the slope from its foundations. Our thoughts and prayers are with those families.

What to See

- Medieval fortress
- Palazzo Farnese with frescoed rooms
- Church of San Nicola di Bari
- Typical countryside architecture of isolated houses with stone stairway partly inside the walls
- Prehistoric remains of the lower Paleolithic age, at Rigopiano
- Gran Sasso-Laga National Park

Important Dates

- March 31: Spring festival
- June 13-15: Feast of St. Anthony and St. Vincenzo Ferreri

- July 19: Feast of Santa Maria del Carmine
- August 4: Pecorino festival
- August 1-11: Mountain festival

Sources:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Farindola>

FARINDOLA, PROVINCIA DI PESCARA, ABRUZZO

Translated by Maddalena Borea, AMHS Member

La bella cittadina di Farindola si trova a circa 45 chilometri da Pescara, nella regione Abruzzo. Recentemente ha acquistato fama per trovarsi nelle prossimità dell'albergo Rigopiano, sepolto da una valanga di neve.

Conta 2040 abitanti, i quali sono conosciuti come Farindolesi, e sorge su colline rocciose nei pressi del fiume Tavo.

Quest'area, ricca di sorgenti naturali, è anche famosa per il formaggio pecorino. Il nome deriverebbe dal prefisso longobardo "far-" per borgata., ma, secondo ricerche archeologiche, questa città avrebbe origini più antiche. Nell'undicesimo secolo dei monasteri benedettini occuparono quest'area, e più tardi fu sotto il controllo della città di Penne e della famiglia Farnese.. Il palazzo Farnese, con i suoi affreschi, è una delle attrazioni della città. Importante è la sagra del formaggio pecorino, il 4 agosto, che attrae molti amatori di questo formaggio.

Recentemente si e' parlato molto di Farindola per la sua vicinanza all'albergo seppellito dalla valanga di neve, causata da scosse sismiche. nel pomeriggio del 18 gennaio dell'anno corrente. L'albergo, ai piedi del Gran Sasso, è a circa 136 chilometri da Roma. Le nostre preghiere e il nostro pensiero sono rivolti alle famiglie vittime di questa tragedia.

Attrazioni del luogo

- Fortezza Medioevale
- Palazzo Farnese coi suoi affreschi
- Chiesa di San Nicola di Bari
- Case di campagna, circondate da mura con scalinate in pietra
- Resti preistorici paleolitici, a Rigopiano
- Parco Nazionale del Gran Sasso e monti della Laga

Date da ricordare

31 Marzo: Sagra di Primavera
 13- 15 Giugno: sagre di Sant'Antonio e di San Vincenzo Ferreri
 19 Luglio: La sagra della Madonna del Carmine
 4 Agosto: La sagra del formaggio pecorino
 1 - 11 Agosto: Il festival della Montagna

TORO, PROVINCE OF CAMPOBASSO, MOLISE

By Nancy DeSanti

The picturesque small town of Toro is located 8 kilometers east of Campobasso, in the region of Molise. The town has approximately 1,513 inhabitants, known as Toresi.

Toro is located on a hilly area that rises along the tratturo (shepherd's trail) going through Abruzzo to Puglia, so that it has been heavily dependent on the pastoral economy.

The name of the town first appears in historical records in 1092 when the Lord of Limosano, Roberto Tristano, donated it to the Benedictine Abbey of Santa Sofia. Thus Toro remained a church fiefdom dependent from the diocese of Benevento until 1785.



It is well known that in Molise, a land of tiny churches sometimes carved in the most barren rocks, sometimes built and rebuilt in ancient villages, often there are discoveries of signs of millennial historical and artistic treasures. One of the interesting sites in the town is the Convent of Santa Maria di Loreto, built in 1592. Last August, the Convent held an event entitled "Madonna Found," about the recovery of the "Madonna and Child," a wonderful example of wooden

sculpture dating back to 1700, preserved over time thanks to delicate restoration work.

Toro maintains some cherished local traditions such as the *Maschera del Diavolo* (the Devil's Mask) at Carnevale. Amidst the local music and dances, a parade through the town includes masked men in devil's costumes. The amazing *Maschera del Diavolo* can be viewed on YouTube. Just in time for Carnevale!!

What to See

- Convent of Santa Maria di Loreto, built in 1592 by the *Frați Minori Osservanti* (Fraternity of Friars Minor)
- Church of San Salvatore, with interesting medieval baptismal stone basin

Important Dates

- February 19: *Maschera del Diavolo*
- March 19: Feast of St. Joseph
- August 16: Feast of San Rocco
- August 26: Feast of San Mercurio Martire, the patron saint

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toro,_Molise

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhuenIoje8E>

TORO, PROVINCIA DI CAMPOBASSO, MOLISE

Translated by Maddalena Borea

Toro si trova a circa 8 chilometri da Campobasso, il Capoluogo della regione Molise. Conta circa 1513 abitanti, i quali sono conosciuti come Toresi.

La cittadina è situata in una zona collinosa, nei pressi di un tratturo, il sentiero dei pastori, che conduce dall'Abruzzo alla

Puglia. Il suo nome appare inizialmente verso il 1082, quando Roberto Tristano, Signore di Limosano, dona questo luogo ai Benedettini dell'Abbazia di Santa Sofia.

Toro diviene così territorio ecclesiastico alle dipendenze di Benevento, fino al 1785. È ben noto che in Molise, terra di molte chiesette, a volte costruite sotto le montagne, si scoprono segni di storia antichissima e tesori artistici. La chiesa di Santa Maria di Loreto, costruita nel 1592, è una delle attrazioni di questa cittadina. Lo scorso agosto il Convento ha tenuto un evento dal titolo "Madonna Ritrovata" in occasione della scoperta di una Madonna col Bambino, una bellissima scultura in legno, ben custodita e restaurata di tanto in tanto, che porta la data del 1700.

La cittadina ancora conserva delle antichissime tradizioni come *La Maschera del Diavolo* a Carnevale. Musiche, danze e una parata attraverso la città sono l'espressione carnevalesca del luogo, e in tale occasione uomini di Toro si esibiscono vestiti da Diavoli.

Attrazioni del luogo

- Convento di Loreto, costruito nel 1592 dai Frati Minori Osservanti
- Chiesa di San Salvatore

Date da ricordare

- 19 Febbraio: *Maschera del diavolo*
- 19 Marzo: Festa di San Giuseppe.
- 16 Agosto: Festa di San Rocco.
- 26 Agosto: Festa di San Mercurio Martire, Santo Patrono

FROM WINTER BLUES TO BLISS

By Maria & Sergio Fresco

Chiamateci pazzi – call us crazy – but we are fans of winter. OK, we detest ice, sleet, and power outages like everyone else but we look forward to cold weather, snow, and cozy winter nights by a fireplace. What could possibly make winter even better? Enjoying Christmas in Abruzzo – a first for both of us! – back in December. Here are some highlights from our unforgettable trip:

Celebrating Mamma Luisa's 70th Birthday

AMHS member and Maria's mom, Luisa Caminiti, turned 70 on December 15 but celebrated her milestone birthday with her husband Natale, her entire side of the family, and us in Messina, Sicily on December 18. The lovely reception site, *La Risacca dei Due Mari* (literally "the undertow of the 2 seas") overlooks a breathtaking portion of the strait of Messina and neighboring Calabria, specifically the fabled sight where Ulysses survived the six-headed monster Scylla and the deadly whirlpool Charybdis in Homer's *Odyssey*.

Window shopping in downtown Messina

After the birthday party we braved Sunday shopping crowds and falling temperatures to take in the sights and sounds of downtown Messina. We were delighted by all the twinkling

Christmas lights and lighted arches as well as a live bagpiper. vendors like we had hoped. Also, slick window displays of costly clothes, “White Christmas” sale signs at every turn, and shoppers’ laments of having to do so much in so little time were eerily familiar and indicated that consumerism is alive and well in Italy.



Sergio and Maria Fresco and snow-covered Mount Etna

Visiting Altino

We enjoyed Christmas Eve dinner at a relative’s childhood home in Altino, an elevated town in the province of Chieti which overlooks the valley of the Aventino River. Two of the delicious foods we tried were fedelini pasta (DeCecco brand of course!) simmered in a tuna and tomato sauce and Altino’s eponymous deep red peppers (aka Serranelle peppers). They had been cored, seeded, dried, and fried whole and resulted in tasty crisps similar to potato chips.

Christmas Festivities and Feasting

At the stroke of midnight Christmas Eve we walked with parishioners from church to a life-size crèche at the nearby municipal hall. Together we recited prayers, sang traditional carols like “*Tu scendi dalle stelle*,” and wished one another “Buon Natale.” The next day we sat down to a large Christmas table with Sergio’s maternal relatives in San Vito Chietino and savored a 6-hour meal including mini ricotta “cakes” stuffed with walnuts and fresh thyme, chicken soup, cannelloni, turkey and stuffing (a nod to us visiting “americani”), tossed salad, and the jewel in the crown – pandoro stuffed with gianduia and nocciola gelati and drizzled with dark chocolate ganache.

Outings to Orsogna and Lanciano

The next day cousins brought us to Il Feuduccio di S. Maria d’Orni in Orsogna, a highly respected and award-winning winery which grows indigenous grapes such as Montepulciano d’Abruzzo and Pecorino and boasts majestic views of the Maiella and the Adriatic Sea. Afterwards, we made our way to Lanciano and enjoyed its 4th annual exhibit “Lanciano – La Città dei Presepi.” Hundreds of local participants young and

Unfortunately, we couldn’t locate any roasted chestnut old submitted their interpretations of nativity scenes, from wooden hand-carvings and crocheted linens to carefully crafted dioramas.

An Evening in Roma

We spent our last night briefly visiting Italy’s capital including St. Peter’s Square. The evening resembled lyrics from “An Evening in Roma” once performed by Dean Martin (and Sergio): “*Com’è bella c’è la luna brille e strette / strette com’è tutta bella a passeggiare / Sotto il cielo di Roma / Down each avenue or via, street or strada / You can see ‘em disappearing two by two / On an evening in Roma.(sic)*”

SHOW YOUR AMHS PRIDE!

by Sarah Scott, AMHS Board Member

We are excited to announce that AMHS has new t-shirts available for our membership.

We will offer these and our other AMHS logo items (see order form at end of this issue) at our upcoming events or, if you would like to order one of these t-shirts by mail, please send your check payable to AMHS with your name, address, shirt size, and gender to:

AMHS, c/o Sarah Scott, 5108 Donovan Drive, #105,
Alexandria, VA 22304



AMHS Men’s T-Shirt

Material: 50% cotton/50%polyester

Sizes: S/M/L/XL

Price: \$25 + \$4.50 postage and handling



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Material: 60% cotton/40% polyester

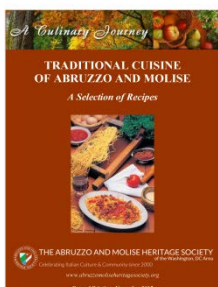
Sizes: S/M/L/XL

Price: \$25 + \$4.50 postage and handling

**AMHS JANUARY 29, 2017 GENERAL SOCIETY MEETING
AND "SONGS OF MIGRATION AND LONGING" PROGRAM**



Top (left): AMHS 1st VP Nancy DeSanti introduces guest speaker Catherine Flumiani. **Top (right):** AMHS/NIAF scholarship winners Salvatore Pitino and Nicholas Rao, with Scholarship Committee Chair Ray LaVerghetta at the podium. **Middle (left):** Swearing in of AMHS Board member Albert Paolantonio. **Middle (right):** AMHS members Joe & Pam Lupo, Father Ezio Marchetto, Pino Cicala, and Lucio D'Andrea with guest speaker Catherine Flumiani. **Bottom (left):** Nancy DeSanti presents AMHS member Pino Cicala with a bouquet of flowers at the February 5 event. **Bottom (center):** Cakes made by Simonetta Baldassari, with verses from songs sung at the event. **Bottom (right):** AMHS member Sergio Fresco on accordion. *(photos courtesy of Romeo Sabatini, Joann Novello and Francesco Isgro).*



“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 = \$13.00


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Buon Appetito Chef's Apron with new AMHS Logo

Product details: Extra-long length for more protection. Center divided patch pocket. Ultra-durable 65/35 poly/cotton twill; protected by ProDura with a stain-release finish.

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Sarah Scott, 5108 Donovan Drive, #105, Alexandria, VA 22304



Author Ceil Lucas Discusses Her “Genealogical Memoir”

When: SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Casa Italiana
595 Third Street, NW
Washington, DC

MENU: Lunch will be catered by Fontina Grille. Menu will include penne primavera, chicken marsala, rice, house 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
APRIL 6, 2017. NO PAYMENTS AT THE DOOR.**

Please join AMHS for a very interesting talk by Ceil Lucas, who will tell us about her expatriate upbringing, including growing up in Rome during the economic boom times and the “years of lead” and terrorism. Ms. Lucas, who has taught at the Casa Italiana Language School for the past 16 years, wrote “How I Got Here: A Memoir”, a genealogical memoir in which she recounts how her ancestors’ stories became her own. Ms. Lucas also provides her thoughts about what it means to be “from here,” and what it means to feel truly “home.” Books will be available for purchase after the talk. We will also hold a raffle, the proceeds of which will go towards the Society’s fundraising efforts to support the region and children of Abruzzo.

For information, please contact Nancy DeSanti (703) 967-2169

✂----- *Return with Payment*

PAID RESERVATIONS for AMHS General Society Meeting on Sunday, April 9, 2017

Please make check payable to AMHS.

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

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AMHS NOTIZIARIO

Romeo Sabatini, Editor
Maria D'Andrea, co-Editor
Nancy DeSanti, Contributing Writer

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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 receive the newsletter by online delivery only, please contact Maria D'Andrea-Yothers by email at president@abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org by phone, (703) 998-6097. Thank you for considering this option.

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