



THE ABRUZZO AND MOLISE HERITAGE SOCIETY

of the Washington, DC Area

Celebrating Italian Culture & Community since 2000

www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org

AMHS NOTIZIARIO

September 2018



Top: AMHS President Ray LaVerghetta, Mike DeBonis (guest speaker at the July 22 meeting) with his daughter Rosie, and Nancy DeSanti, 1st VP-Programs.

Bottom: AMHS members, friends and family at the August 12 Ferragosto picnic, Fort Ward Park, Alexandria, VA. (photos courtesy of Joe Novello).

NEXT SOCIETY EVENT: AMHS General Society Meeting, **Sunday, September 23, 2018** at 1:00pm at Carmine Restaurant. Immediate Past President Maria D'Andrea-Yothers, talk about the transhumance in Abruzzo and Molise. *See inside for details.*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear members and friends:

It may be hard to believe, but we really are in the month of September. That means Fall cannot be far behind. As you think back over the past days of summer, your memories may include one or more of our

recent AMHS events. One such event might be our July 22 General Assembly meeting, which featured Washington Post reporter and AMHS member Mike De Bonis. Mike gave us an extremely interesting talk on both his travel to Abruzzo and his experience as a reporter covering congressional and national politics. If we measure the interest of a talk by the number of questions from attendees, then Mike's presentation has to rank as a huge success. Those in attendance also had the opportunity to see the results of the good work of our scholarship program, as Ben Abeles, one of our scholarship winners for the 2017-2018 academic year, addressed the membership on his background, his recently completed university studies, and his plans for the future. For a good description of the meeting, see the article in this edition of the Notiziario.

Another memory might be our Ferragosto picnic on August 12, when a sizeable number of our members and friends gathered at Ft. Ward Park, Alexandria to celebrate this traditional Italian summer holiday. This was our second picnic at the Alexandria location. Those attending brought their own picnic baskets, ate home-cooked food as well as meats on the grill, enjoyed beverages of all kinds, listened to music, and simply enjoyed each other's company on a relaxing Sunday afternoon. There was some rain later during the picnic, but it didn't put a damper on the festivities. For proof, see the pictures that appear in this edition of the Notiziario.

Looking ahead, you'll be able to make some more good memories, this time of an evening of superb classical music. Our Society will sponsor a unique cultural event on September 8th. Entertainment will be at the hands of two very talented musical artists from Abruzzo, Alberto Ortolano and Tania Buccini, who will perform a wonderful repertoire of music written by the Abruzzese composer Francesco Paolo Tosti, as well as by Rossini, Verdi, Mozart and Puccini. The music and the reception together should make for a delightful, late-summer diversion. For additional details, see Nancy DeSanti's article later in this Notiziario.

Please keep in mind too our next General Assembly meeting at Carmine's on September 23. In addition to the excellent food at Carmine's, we will have the pleasure of hearing one of our members, Immediate Past President Maria D'Andrea-Yothers, talk about the transhumance in Abruzzo and Molise. The word transhumance refers to the movement of sheep (or other animals) to mountainous pastures in the summer and

back to pastures on the plains in the winter. It is a centuries-old tradition that is characteristic of these two regions, with the sheep tracks still visible today. Maria will touch on other significant traditions as well. It will undoubtedly be a very interesting afternoon, so don't forget to mark the date on your calendar.

As we move into the Fall, I encourage you to continue to take part in your Society's activities. An active membership is a great source of strength for any organization. I hope to see you at our meeting on September 23rd. Moreover, if you and I haven't formally met yet, please feel free to come up and say hello on the 23rd or on any event thereafter. It's time for me to get to know as many of you as possible.

Best regards,
Ray LaVerghetta

THE NIAF ITALIAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL AND AFFILIATE PROGRAM

By Ray LaVerghetta

In September 2015, 2016 and 2017, AMHS members voted to formally affiliate with the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) for one year. The Society's membership as a formal affiliate means that:

- AMHS is a member of NIAF's Italian American Leadership Council;
- NIAF continues to provide matching scholarship funds (\$4,000 a year) to AMHS, which allows the Society to award two \$4,000 scholarships instead of just one; and
- AMHS members are formal affiliate members of NIAF, whereby you get all the traditional benefits of NIAF membership including a yearlong subscription to NIAF's Ambassador Magazine; NIAF member discounts for travel, genealogy, retail, and more; mention in NIAF's Annual Report publication; and exclusive NIAF member gifts.

The financial commitment for formal affiliation remains at \$2,500 for one calendar year.

At the August 19, 2018 AMHS meeting of the Executive Committee (EC), the officers unanimously voted to support a fourth year of formal affiliation with NIAF. Some of the reasons for this decision include:

- 1.The matching scholarship funds and NIAF management of the scholarship process; scholarship candidates are screened by NIAF using the collective criteria established by both NIAF and the AMHS Scholarship Committee. The Committee then selects the two winning candidates. Subsequently, NIAF notifies the candidates, ensures that the award checks are made out to the appropriate educational institutions and are delivered to the students' preferred address, obtains thank you letters and photos from the awardees, and arranges publication of the announcements in the winners' respective local media;

2. AMHS continued representation on the Italian American Leadership Council (IALC), which, through IALC events, has brought greater name recognition to AMHS with NIAF's Board of Directors and the Italian American Congressional Delegation; and
3. Benefits of NIAF membership to every AMHS member.

The EC recommendation will be submitted to the membership for its consideration and vote at the September 23 general Society meeting. Voting will be done by closed ballot. The AMHS Executive Committee will address any questions you have prior to the vote. If you wish to learn more about NIAF and the IALC, visit www.niaf.org

UPCOMING SOCIETY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ALONG THE SHEPHERD'S TRAIL

By Nancy DeSanti, 1st Vice President-Programs

For our fifth program of the year, please join us on Sunday, September 23, 2018, 1:00 p.m. at Carmine's Restaurant, for a presentation by AMHS member Maria D'Andrea-Yothers on the *transumanza* and *tratturi*, a phenomenon that has profoundly influenced the economy, culture, and history of Abruzzo and Molise.

The *transumanza* is the traditional twice-yearly migration of sheep and cows from the highlands to the lowlands, and back. The word literally means "crossing the land". The regional pastoral economy was based on the seasonal transfer of herds of sheep to the green pastures of the higher Apennines in Abruzzo and Molise in summer, and to the green plains of Puglia and Lazio in winter. The routes followed by the shepherds are known as *tratturi*. In what is sure to be an interesting and informative presentation, Maria will illuminate this pivotal aspect of our regional identity.

We will see how the ancient *tratturi* (plural of *tratturo*) is one of the main features of the Molise and Abruzzo landscape. For example, numerous *tratturi* cross Molise from north to south, east to west, with each one offering rich and unique occasions for immersion in the culture and history of the region.

We will also learn about how, from the pre-Roman era up until just a few centuries ago, ancient Italians traveled these trails from season to season. Undertaken mainly by the Samnites since the 6th century B.C., the practice of transhumance enjoyed a period of resurgence under the Romans, who expanded the *tratturi* "grid" in order to better connect the Empire's urban centers. Many of the *tratturi* run next to the stone-paved ancient Roman roads. Surprisingly, these green trail ways are still almost entirely intact today. Nowadays, tourists can walk the same ancient paths that shepherds once followed with their herds.

You may recall that this topic was the subject of an article by Lucio D'Andrea, which appeared in the May 2018 issue of the *AMHS Notiziario*. In that article, we noted that Italy has made a bid to have *transumanza* added to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) list of intangible cultural heritage. This bid has the backing of Greece and Austria. UNESCO's decision is expected in November 2019 (Source: The Local it, March 27, 2018).

Maria is Immediate Past President and a long-time member of the Society. She is a 2nd generation Italian-American: her mother was born in Pacentro, Abruzzo and her father in Roccamandolfi, Molise. Maria was recently appointed to the Board of the National Christopher Columbus Association, to serve a 3-year term. In her professional life, Maria is Acting Director, Office of Textiles and Apparel, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC). She is responsible for domestic and trade policy issues, and her country portfolio includes Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East.

Before Maria's talk, we will enjoy a delicious lunch of roasted red peppers & mozzarella, Carmine's salad, penne alla vodka, ravioli with marinara sauce, chicken lemon & butter, bread, and dessert. Beverages include coffee, tea, soda, iced tea, and water. *Wine and beer are available by individual purchase only.*

Please make your reservations early and invite your family members and friends to what is sure to be an interesting and informative event. The deadline for paid reservations is noon on September 19. See the flyer on page 16 for additional details including how to make payment.

THE NATIONAL COLUMBUS DAY CEREMONY

By Maria D'Andrea-Yothers, AMHS Board Member

Please join AMHS, the Lido Civic Club, the National Italian American Foundation, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, the Knights of Columbus, and the National Christopher Columbus Association for this year's National Columbus Day Ceremony on Monday, October 8, 2018. The ceremony will take place at Columbus Plaza, outside Union Station in Washington, D.C. The musical prelude is at 10:45 a.m.; the program starts at 11:00 a.m.

The ceremony will include the reading of Proclamations from the White House and the Mayor of the District of Columbia; remarks by representatives from the Embassies of Italy, Spain, and the Bahamas; and the announcement of the winner of the Christopher Columbus Essay Contest. See flyer in this issue of the *Notiziario* for additional details.

Background on Columbus Plaza and the National Christopher Columbus Association (NCCA) (*excerpted from the NCCA website, www.ncaa.org*)

The most prominent commemorative figure of Christopher Columbus in the nation's capital, the only U.S. jurisdiction

named for Columbus, stands in a marble fountain setting in a plaza in front of one of the great landmark buildings in the city, Union Station opposite the U.S. Capitol. Dedicated in 1912 before a crowd of nearly 20,000 individuals including President William Howard Taft, members of his cabinet, Supreme Court justices, members of the U.S. Congress, thousands of Knights of Columbus, and others, it has been a focal point for annual celebrations to honor the great navigator and discoverer. Over the decades the celebrations were held by various organizations.

In 1934 Congress authorized and requested the President to issue an annual Columbus Day proclamation, and in 1968 declared Columbus Day a public holiday, commencing in 1971.

After that time there was a gradual evolution of planning for the annual Columbus Day event, which involved the Knights of Columbus, Italian American organizations, U.S. military organizations, the diplomatic corps (Italy, Spain, and the Bahamas), and the National Park Service. In 1989 these efforts culminated in the organization of The Washington Columbus Celebration Association, which has been responsible since then for the yearly Columbus Day event. Renamed the National Columbus Celebration Association in 1999, the Association is governed by a board of directors elected by its general membership, with officers chosen annually by the board.

ABRUZZESE MUSICIANS PERFORMING HERE SEPTEMBER 8

By Nancy DeSanti

As you may recall from a previous mention in the Notiziario, we are pleased to welcome two accomplished and talented musicians, the Duo Buccini Ortolano, who will be visiting from Abruzzo in September and who will be performing at Casa Italiana on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

The husband and wife musicians, Alberto Ortolano, a pianist and choral director, and soprano Tania Buccini, will leave Italy on September 4 and return to Italy on September 9. Please contact Ray LaVerghetta if you would like to participate in welcoming them during the week they are here.

Alberto Ortolano has had extensive experience performing all over the world, including Switzerland, Germany, Slovenia, France and Poland, as well as the United States. He was a docent in Paris at La Scuola Italiana di Parigi. He was also docent for the pianoforte at Il Liceo Musicale di Vasto. He has given performances in London, Florence, Trieste and Crakow, among many other cities. He performed as a soloist for the Abruzzese communities in Boston in 2004 and in London in 2017.

Tania Buccini has sung in theaters in Italy and abroad, including in operas such as L'elisir d'amore, Falstaff, Macbeth, Il flauto magico, La traviata and La serva padrona, among others. She, too, has sung extensively all over Italy and abroad and is a docent at Il Liceo Musicale di Vasto. She has won numerous awards for her singing.

The Duo Buccini Ortolano is known for their refined and elegant repertoire. The musical selections they will perform for us are:

F.P. Tosti - Vorrei
F.P. Tosti - A' vucchella
F.P. Tosti - Pour en baiser
F.P. Tosti - First waltzi
F.P. Tosti - Van gli effluvi
F.P. Tosti - Invan preghi
F.P. Tosti - O falce di luna calante
G. Rossini - La promessa
G. Rossini - La pastorella delle Alpi
F.Liszt/G. - Verdi - Parafrasi dal Rigoletto (solo piano)
F.Liszt/G. - Verdi - Valzer dal Faust (solo piano)
Mozart - Dove sono i bei momenti
Puccini - Quando me'n vo'
Gounod - Je veux vivre

We are looking forward to their arrival in September. Please plan to come to this wonderful concert and bring your family and friends.

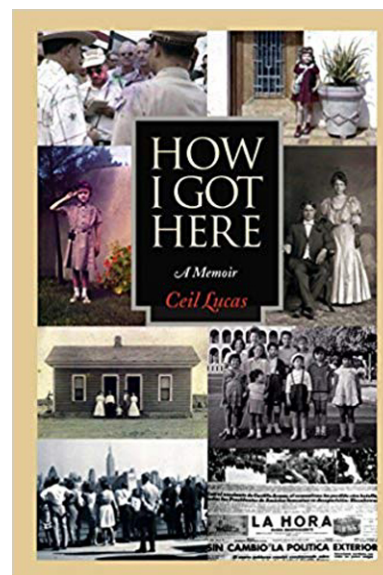
AMHS SPEAKER CEIL LUCAS FEATURED AT BUSBOY AND POETS

By Nancy DeSanti

To those AMHS members who heard Italian teacher and author Ceil Lucas speak at our program in April 2017, and to those who couldn't make it, you have another opportunity to hear Ceil at a special event at *Busboys and Poets* in Washington, D.C. The date is Sunday, September 9, 2018, at 6:30-8:00 pm and the event is co-sponsored by the Casa Italiana Language School, where Ceil is a longtime teacher. The location is 14th & V Streets, N.W. in Busboys and Poets'

Langston Room. Ceil will speak about her book, "How I Got Here: A Memoir," which tells her story of growing up in Guatemala, the many years she spent in Rome and then as a young adult in America.

By the way, Ceil knows six languages—English, Italian, Spanish, French, Irish and Sign Language—which is pretty impressive, but in addition, she is the author of the book she calls a "genealogical



memoir."

In the book, the author talks 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"?

To find out about these and other interesting questions, please come to the book signing and talk, and invite your friends and family. See you there!!

RECENT SOCIETY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

AMHS MEMBER MIKE DeBONIS DESCRIBES LIFE AS A REPORTER FOR LEADING WASHINGTON NEWSPAPER

By Nancy DeSanti,



For our fourth program of 2018, we were pleased to welcome as our speaker, Washington Post reporter and AMHS member Mike DeBonis. His topic: “It’s Not (Usually) Fake News: How political reporters do their jobs in 2018.” As a reporter who covers congressional and national politics, Mike has had a number

of front-page stories in the Washington Post and has appeared on several television news programs. Mike is well-known to many AMHS members through his family ties to our former President Omero Sabatini, and so Mike also traces his roots to the town of Secinaro in the province of L’Aquila in Abruzzo.

Before Mike’s talk, about 55 attendees enjoyed a delicious lunch catered by Fontina Grille, and we heard from Benjamin Abeles, our AMHS scholarship winner who charmed everyone with his easygoing manner and his knowledge of Italian literature. He told us about his family’s Italian immigrant generation who got up early every morning to go to work and who helped build one of the buildings of Cornell University, from which Benjamin just graduated.

After lunch, Omero gave a wonderful introduction to his nephew Mike. It turns out that Mike, who is from Indiana, decided to come to Washington and study at Georgetown University, because here was the only place he had a relative who would invite him to a delicious home-cooked meal every Sunday. So you could say it’s possible Mike would not have ended up with the career he has, and have the wonderful family he has, if not for Omero’s culinary skills.

Mike was accompanied by his wife Dena and their 15-month-old daughter Rosie, who has already come to some of our meetings. And Rosie stole the spotlight by coming down out of her highchair in the middle of her father’s talk, walking up to the podium and saying “Dada, Dada.” And Mike picked her up in his arms, and kept talking without missing a beat!!

Mike began by showing us some slides of his trip to Abruzzo with his family. We saw the beautiful scenes of Secinaro where Omero grew up and where some of their family members still live. Then he began his talk by saying, “The

trends are clear. Americans trust us less,” he said of the news media, citing a recent Pew Foundation poll.

He stressed that it’s important to notice that newspapers such as the Washington Post clearly label their articles as (1) reporting, or (2) analysis, or (3) opinion. Exactly what does this mean? Mike explained that the job of the reporter is to find out and report the facts to the best of his or her ability, while the analyst takes those facts and tries to put them in context with what else is known, and the opinion writer (or editorial board) expresses, in his or her view, what it all means.

One of the themes of Mike’s talk that he kept coming back to was how to be a better news consumer. He joked that even though he would love for everyone to read just the Washington Post, it is much better to read several news sources, especially newspapers, which can do in-depth articles, unlike cable news shows which often deal in sound bites and frequently don’t have time to examine issues in detail, given the time constraints. Mike notes that as part of his job, he reads all sorts of news sites, from far right to far left, to get a feel for what sort of news stories (or not) are out there.

And he said social media has changed the way reporting is done, with many people getting their news from Facebook and social media such as Twitter, and then placing too much stock on what they read on the Internet. He said this is why it’s important to get the news from a variety of sources and to be mindful of standards for news sources, such as how do they correct errors. Mike noted that in the previous week, he received an e-mail from a reader who pointed out a mistake Mike made in an article written in January. He said he checked and he had indeed made an error so the Post ran a correction, regardless of the fact that the error was a small one on a six-month-old story.

He said this was a good example of engaging with your news source, and although Mike said there is not enough time to read all the comments readers make to the online articles, he tries to respond to at least some readers’ comments or concerns.

Regarding the upcoming congressional elections in November, Mike noted that he and his colleagues will be traveling to various congressional districts to interview candidates and voters. With 24 seats needed to flip the House to Democratic control, he predicted that the Democrats will pick up 20-30 seats, but in the Senate, because of which seats are in play, the Republicans may increase their majority.

After Mike’s talk, he took questions from members of the audience, who made thoughtful comments and asked interesting questions on such topics as Russian meddling, coverage of voters in the heartland, likely Democratic presidential candidates and authorship of presidential tweets. Before the lunch and Mike’s talk, Oscar Bartoli sang “Tu sei per me la più bella del mondo” to put everyone in a good mood. And after the program, Oscar put on his blog an outline of Mike’s talk, which can be found at

<https://oscarb1.blogspot.com/2018/07/its-not-usually-fake-news.html>.

We thank all those who helped serve the lunch, Fontina Grille who donated the raffle prize and those who bought raffle tickets, which brought in \$146 for the Society.

THE 2018 FERRAGOSTO PICNIC – FUN, FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP

By Albert Paolantonio, AMHS Board Member

Ferragosto 2018 was celebrated Sunday, August 18, for the second year at Fort Ward Park in Alexandria, Virginia from 3:00 - 7:00 PM. Approximately forty AMHS members, friends and family braved the very hot and cloudy conditions to celebrate with a wonderful picnic. Once again, we were joined by members of the Lucchesi nel Mondo-Toscana Club, the Passatempo Meetup group, and parishioners from Holy Rosary Church. Because of the weather conditions, there were not as many people as last year, but we were kept safe and dry under the pavilion.

We were treated to some delicious food prepared by some wonderful cooks. Edvige D'Andrea's sausage and peppers were a personal favorite among an abundant variety of Italian foods which were shared. There were also delicious pasta salads, cheeses, Italian salami, olives, and, it would be safe to say, no one left the picnic hungry! No picnic celebrating Italia and its traditions would be complete without vino. We enjoyed plenty of Rosso and Bianco with leftovers to share at our next function. Many thanks to Sam Yothers and Maria D'Andrea-Yothers for also making sure there was "birra Italiana" for those who preferred a cold beer or two on a hot day.



Because, eventually, the rains did arrive we were not able to play bocce this year, unfortunately. The thunder and lightning did provide us a nice backdrop under the pavilion to share the delicious food and talk about past and future trips to Italia. Some of our members who were not present are making new memories there now.

Many thanks to all of you who attended! Also, a special "grazie" for those who helped with set-up and tear-down. Fort Ward Park proved once again to be a perfect venue. Taking time out of our busy lives to laugh and celebrate together was

truly a wonderful and memorable event. I will look forward to Ferragosto 2019. For the album of photos from the picnic, see <https://photos.app.goo.gl/esBAYgKijxstWgux7>

AMHS MEMBERSHIP

By Lynn Sorbara, 2nd Vice President – Membership

I am pleased to report that there are 247 members of AMHS. Thank you for your continued support of the Society's programs and activities. We have wonderful events planned for the rest of the year and your membership makes them all possible!

As a reminder, with our automated system, you will receive email reminders when it is time for renewal. If you do not have email, you will receive a reminder by regular mail. Please pay attention to these various reminders. Thank you.

Names of new members:

Emilia & Palmer DeMeo, Dr. Thomas Guglielmo, Carmela (Lena) Lupica, Ashland Robertson, and Richard Stonestreet.

Birthdays

Compleanni a Settembre

Bruno Fusco, September 2; Richard DiBuono, September 3; Anthony Phillips, September 4; Sharon Callahan, Anthony D'Ermes, and Lina Marinucci, September 5; Michael A. DeMarco, September 7; Maria Marigliano, September 8; Tom Savage, September 15; Rose Napolitano, September 18; Theresa Duncan, September 19; John "Jack" Monaco, September 20; Olimpia Micheli, September 27; Jeffrey Clark, Romeo Sabatini, and Maria LaVerghetta, September 29.

Compleanni a Ottobre

Nicola Pellegrini, October 1; Maria Marchegiani, October 3; Elizabeth DiGregorio, Charlie Iovino, and Kirsten Keppel, October 8; Jacqueline Arthur, October 10; John Fuscillo, October 11; Irena DiCarlantonio and Melvena Puglisi, October 12; Guy Caruso, October 21; Liana Campanella, Roger McClure, and Sarah Scott, October 22; and Louis Alfano, October 26.

Anniversaries

Anniversari a Settembre

Jeffrey & Mary Petrino, September 1; Sergio & Maria Fresco, September 6; John & Lucille Fuscillo and Matthew & Amelia DiFiore, September 16; and Jonathan Stern & Katie Musolino, September 20.

Anniversari a Ottobre

Joseph & Mary Katherine Theis and John & Eileen Verna, October 3; Frank Charles & Susan Ann Bonsiero, October 6; Rocco Del Monaco & Eileen Parise, October 9; Alfred & Diana DelGrosso and Porter & Dianne Francesconi Lyon, October 14; Joseph, Sr. & Rose Ruzzi, October 19; and Salvatore & Anna Maria DiPilla, October 30.

SIAMO UNA FAMIGLIA

THE D'ANDREA & FANTOZZI FAMILIES AT HILTON HEAD ISLAND



From July 21 – July 28, certain members of the D'Andrea family, along with their cousin Leda (Fantozzi) Heidenreich, spent one week sharing a magnificent house on Hilton Head Island. The “clan” enjoyed the beach, kayaking, bicycle riding, and golf (for the men). The group consisted of myself and my husband, Sam; my sister Lisa, her husband Dave and their two children, Sydney and Justin; my sister Laura, her husband Lenny, and their three children, Mikayla, Tyler, and Julia; and Leda, her husband Jeff, and their two sons Luke and Josh. Leda and her family joined us all the way from Coraopolis, Pa.

Our time spent together magnified the close family ties we have shared over the years. Leda is the daughter of Victoria Fantozzi, sister to AMHS member Edvige D'Andrea. (Victoria passed away in 2011; she was a member of AMHS). While in Hilton Head, we spent evenings reminiscing about the many summers and family vacations the D'Andrea family spent visiting their “nonni”, “zii”, “zie”, and “cugini” in McKees Rocks and Coraopolis, Pa. We remembered visiting with Nonna Pitassi, grandmother to the D'Andrea children and Leda, eating her homemade biscotti and dipping them in Sanka instant coffee; playing in our great Uncle Vince and Aunt Marie's bountiful garden; playing restaurant in the basement of Nonna and Nonno D'Andrea, where we used clothes pins for restaurants and “pretend” cooked and baked in an old stove; running through the Donald Duck sprinkler and the pool owned by our Uncle Robert, brother to my mother Edvige. These summers and vacations were filled with wonderful memories that live on in each of us, and we cherish and value the close relationship our family has maintained with the cousins who live in Pa.



Maria with Kathy DiGiacomo

Following the week in Hilton Head, my husband and I spent a week in Asheville, N.C. and Gatlinburg, Tenn. where we enjoyed the mountains and hiking to the summits of the highest peaks in three states (Mount Sassafras, S.C., elevation 3,554 feet; Mount Mitchell, N.C., elevation 6,684 feet; and Clingman's Dome, TN, in the Great Smoky Mountains, elevation 6,643 feet).

One evening we went out to dinner in Asheville, at one of its most famous restaurants, The Lobster Trap. We were sitting at the bar waiting for our table. I look to my left and I'm like “I know that person”. The woman, who was with a friend, got up to get seated at their table and instantly we were like “oh my gosh, what are you doing here?” I had run into Kathy DiGiacomo, a parishioner of Holy Rosary Church and member of AMHS! She was in Asheville to visit a friend. It is indeed a small world! (*submitted by Maria D'Andrea-Yothers*).

LUCIO MEETS LUCIO!

In July, AMHS President Emeritus Lucio D'Andrea, his wife Edvige, and their daughter Candida went to Culpeper, Va., to have lunch at Lucio Restaurant. The restaurant was brought to their attention by their daughter. You can imagine Lucio's surprise and delight at finding a restaurant with his name! The owner, Lucio Tonizzo, moved from his native Precenico, a small town near Venice in northern Italy to Rome when he was only 14. The dream of many young boys was close to reality: the opportunity to play professional soccer. At the same time Lucio developed a taste for the culinary arts, which eventually eclipsed his hopes of a soccer profession. He opened this restaurant in 2001.

The family enjoyed a wonderful Italian meal in a warm and friendly atmosphere, in a town rated one of the 10 best small towns in America. It is about 70 miles from Washington, D.C.

To learn more about the restaurant, visit <http://www.luciorestaurant.net/index.html>; to learn more about the town of Culpeper, visit <https://www.culpeperva.gov/>. (*Submitted by Maria D'Andrea-Yothers*).



FINDING A LITTLE BIT OF ITALY IN PORTUGAL

By Elizabeth DiGregorio, AMHS Member

Wherever I travel, I always seek an Italian connection. Travelling to Portugal this past May did not disappoint. Whether in Lisbon or travelling along Portugal's Silver Coast, the Italian influence is alive and well. As in Italy, the art is amazing, the wine delicious and for those who enjoy a Mediterranean diet, there is plenty of fresh local fish, fruit, vegetables, and olive oil to savor.

Lisbon's beautiful museums are filled with Roman and Italian art. The Museu Nacional De Arte Antiga has part of Piero della Francesca's St Augustine altarpiece. It also has sculptures by Andrea and Girolamo della Robbia. They are believed to be pieces gifted by Pope Julius II to Dom Manuel I. The Gulbenkian Museum houses della Robbia's Faith among its many treasures.

Lisbon is divided into districts or neighborhoods. Each is unique and portrays a city before and after the earthquake of November 1, 1755 that destroyed the city. The Igreja (church) do Carmo in the *Baixa District* is a good starting place to get a feel for the city before and after the disaster. November 1 was All Saints Day and the church was packed with worshippers when the 8.9 earthquake struck. The roof collapsed, the candles ignited fires that lasted for days. The church was never rebuilt but today, it is a museum as well as a central building for the Municipal Guard.

Lisbon is a magical city that has rebuilt itself following the devastating events of 1755. The combination of earthquake, tsunamis, and fires destroyed not only Lisbon but many of the surrounding areas. Walking the Districts that define Lisbon, I was struck by the rich art history of the churches, marveled at what survived, what was rebuilt, and managed to find an Italian connection in several of them. Here are a few to put on your list.

Barrio Alto District is home to the Igreja Sao Roque. Built in the 16th Century it is one of Portugal's first Jesuit churches. The highlight is the Chapel of St. John the Baptist. It came right out of the Vatican. It was made in Rome by Italian architectural masters, then disassembled and shipped to Lisbon for its installation. The precious stones and materials make it the costliest chapel ever constructed in Portugal.

Continuing from Sao Roque, the *Chiado District* houses the Igreja de Loreto or the Chiesa Nostra Signora di Loreto. It is referred to as the "Italian Church". This church was built by the Venetians and Genovese merchants who came to live and trade in the region. It just celebrated its 500th anniversary! The interior is beautiful, baroque and proudly displays the papal arms of Borromini, flanked by two angels. **CEILING** It is an experience to sit and look up at the beautifully decorated ceiling.

The *Alfama District* is home to the Igreja de Santo Antonio de Lisboa. *Santo António de Lisboa* is also known as Saint Anthony of Padua where he died in 1231. The church stands on the place where Saint Anthony was born. The Portuguese are fiercely protective and proud of their saint. The church was rebuilt in 1767 and includes Saint Anthony's statue that survived the earthquake, his birthplace's crypt, and a very realistic canvas painting depicting the saint.

If you are there June 12-13, you can experience Saint Anthony celebrations. Altars, parades, music, floats, marching bands and bonfires for grilling fresh sardines take place in every neighborhood with the grand parade marching down the Avenida da Liberdade.

Saint Anthony is ubiquitous in Portugal. Statues of the saint adorn churches, images are created in the ceramic tiles and there is an undercurrent of thought among many of the locals that the Italians, especially the Padovani, will come and reclaim their favorite saint. Perhaps, this explains the Plexiglas box protecting a lovely gold leaf statue of Santo Antonio that can be found in the exquisite Mosteiro de Santa Maria de Alcobaca, the largest Gothic church in Portugal. Alcobaca is a beautiful small town along Portugal's Silver Coast.



Italy has influenced not only Lisbon but the many small towns up and down the coast. If your schedule permits, spend some time in Cascais. Cascais is a beautiful seaside resort town rich with Italian history. Portugal was neutral during World War II and this elegant town became home to many exiled royal

families including King Umberto II of Italy (the last king of Italy). The Avenida Rei Humberto II de Italia is the main

street in this beautiful, walkable city. To read more about travelling through Lisbon and Portugal's Silver Coast, following the link here: <https://lacuisineus.com/travel-alert-a-golden-time-along-portugals-silver-coast/>

*Elizabeth DiGregorio contributes to the blog **Kitchen Detail** <https://lacuisineus.com/> dedicated to food and travel. Many of the articles explore Italy's food, people and places to visit.*

INTRODUCING THE WINNERS OF THE 2018-2019 AMHS/NIAF SCHOLARSHIPS

By Ray LaVerghetta, Chair, AMHS Scholarship Committee

As most of us know, the Society awards a scholarship each year to two deserving students who have demonstrated academic excellence as well as a keen interest in the Italian language or in Italian studies. Our Society partners with the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) to sponsor the two scholarships. During the month of April, the AMHS Scholarship Committee conducted its evaluation of the applicants and in May it advised NIAF of our selections. Now that all of the candidates have been notified, we are finally pleased to present this year's winners to the AMHS membership: they are Francesca Minicozzi and Kathryn Donati.

The Scholarship Committee selected this year's winners from the largest and most qualified pool of applicants it has ever received. As a result, the Committee members – Peter Bell, Lucio D'Andrea, Ray LaVerghetta, Romeo Sabatini, and Lourdes Tinajero – had to do a lot of careful analysis before making its final decision. The selection of this year's winners represents the best judgement of the Committee, which had to reconcile two opposing realities: the number of scholarships available is two, while nearly every one of the students who applied truly deserved to be a winner.

This year's winners will be honorary members of the Society for the calendar year 2019. The AMHS President will invite them to attend one meeting as the Society's guest, at which time they will address the membership and tell us about themselves, their studies and interests, their plans, and their relationship to Italy.

The winners

Francesca Minicozzi is currently a sophomore at Loyola University of Maryland, where she is majoring in Biology and minoring in Italian Studies. Her Italian roots are on both sides of her family: her maternal grandparents immigrated to America from Sicily, while her paternal great-grandparents also came from Sicily and Puglia as well. After her university studies, Francesca plans to attend medical school and become a pediatrician. She began to deepen her relationship to her Sicilian roots while in high school, visiting the island every year during her high school years and re-connecting with her family members there.

Kathryn Donati is starting her third year at the College of William and Mary, where she is a double major in English and Italian Studies. Her Italian roots are on her father's side, and

they trace to the region of Trentino-Alto Adige. At the present time, Kathryn is considering pursuing either a graduate law degree with a concentration in international law or a career in the Foreign Service.

Letters from the Winners

The two winners have written to the Society to express appreciation for their scholarships, and we re-print the letters below:

(Francesca's letter)



Dear Abruzzo Molise Heritage Society:

I want to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your generous \$4,000 scholarship. I was truly honored to learn that I was chosen as a recipient of the 2018 NIAF Abruzzo Molise Heritage Society scholarship. Most people who know me recognize how much I love the Italian culture and language, and it gives me great joy to receive this scholarship. As a scholarship recipient, I know I am making my Italian family proud, but most importantly my Nonna. She came from Sicily all by herself to America in search of a better life. Now many years later, my hard work and dedication has led me to receiving this scholarship in her honor. I know she would have been very proud of the woman I have become.

I sincerely thank you for your generosity as the past few years have been difficult for my mother and me. In May 2016, my father passed away from Stage 4 Lung Cancer and my mother and I were heartbroken. It has been difficult for us to get by, but we were doing our best. This scholarship greatly helps us with the financial burden of college tuition.

I will begin my sophomore year at Loyola University Maryland in the Fall with a major in Biology following a pre-med track, along with a minor in Italian Studies. By awarding me the 2018 NIAF Abruzzo Molise Heritage Society Scholarship, you have greatly lightened my financial burden, which allows me to focus more on the important aspect of school – learning. With this scholarship, I am a step closer toward my dream of becoming a pediatrician.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. Your kindness has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope that one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals, just as you have helped me achieve mine.

*Sincerely,
Francesca Minicozzi*

(Kathryn's letter)



Caro Abruzzo Molise Heritage Society:

am writing to express my gratitude for the generous scholarship awarded to me by your Society. My Italian-American heritage is extremely important to my sense of identity and has recently become a vital part of my academic pursuits. As such, your support of my

studies through this scholarship is deeply appreciated. Your incredibly generous scholarship will be used this upcoming spring of 2019 as I spend the semester studying abroad in Perugia, hoping to further my studies of Italian language, history, and literature.

When I entered university at the College of William & Mary, I knew that I wanted to study English literature, which had been by far my favorite subject throughout my years at school. What I did not anticipate was how interested and invested I would become in the Italian Studies Department of the College. Learning to read, write and speak Italian was the first of many stepping stones toward fully embracing this part of my culture that I had never previously appreciated in such a manner. Now, I am double majoring in both the English and Italian Studies departments and my education would feel incomplete without my Italian courses.

I grew up aware of my Italian heritage but did not consider it a major part of my identity until recently. While I was living overseas during my time in high school, I did not feel wholly true to who I am by identifying myself as simply American. I added the Italian part to my identifier and have not looked back since. As a proud Italian-American, I spent the better part of my recent spring break extensively researching our family tree. The Italian roots of my family are a paternal lineage that can be traced back at least six generations to my great-great-great-great grandfather Benamato Donati. My family has its origins in the Trentino-Alto Adige region of northern Italy and though I have explored Venezia, Firenze and Roma, I cannot wait to return to Italy and explore this region of my ancestors.

The opportunity to study Italian culture, language, and history in an academic context with such a deeply personal connection has added so much value to my education that I could not imagine my time as an undergraduate complete without it. As I look to the future and the possibility of pursuing a law degree with an international focus or joining the Foreign Service and working for the State Department, my Italian studies and heritage factor heavily into these decisions. It is with the support of organizations such as the NIAF and the Abruzzo Molise Heritage Society that I look forward to the future of being an Italian-American professional giving back

to our community. Grazie mille to the board and all the members of the Abruzzo Molise Heritage Society,

Kathryn Donati

FROM THE REGIONAL CORNER

CIVITELLA DEL TRONTO, PROVINCE OF TERAMO, REGION OF ABRUZZO

By Nancy DeSanti



One of Abruzzo's most beautiful towns, Civitella del Tronto, is located about 15 kilometers north of Teramo, in the Gran Sasso and Monti della Laga National Park. The town has approximately 5,130 inhabitants, known as Civitellesi. Its main attraction is a fortress which is one of the largest and most important works of military engineering in Europe.

The town has become fairly well-known. In March 2001, the Consulta del Turismo dell'Associazione dei Comuni Italiani (an alliance of Italian towns which loosely oversees matters of tourism) began the program known as I Borghi Più Belli d'Italia (the Most Beautiful Villages in Italy). The initiative ranked and categorized villages and towns according to aesthetic beauty, but also for historical importance, art, culture and liveability. As of last year, 23 of Abruzzo's towns and villages have won the award. Civitella del Trento is one of them.

So it's not surprising that a well-known travel adviser said that if you visit only one place in the province of Teramo, it should undoubtedly be the stunning town of Civitella del Tronto--a small, wall-enclosed gem famous for its impressive fortress, important from both an architectural and a historical point of view.

Civitella del Tronto, a 16th century town that grew during the time of the Spanish domination of the area, is famous for the magnificent Bourbon Fortezza (fortress) that dominates its skyline.

At first glance, Civitella is dominated by the huge squat fortress occupying the entire hillside above the beautiful village below. Its brooding presence is made even more dramatic by the backdrop of high mountains surrounding the village.

The fortress at Civitella del Tronto is Italy's highest fort and the last Bourbon bastion which Vittorio Emanuele II of Savoy conquered by a siege from October 1860 ending March 20, 1861, 3 days after the official establishment of the Kingdom of Italy.

This massive fortress, said to be the second-largest in Europe at 25,000 square meters, can be dated back to 1069, and has survived many assaults, before finally succumbing to the Piedmontese siege in 1861, one of the last bastions against Victor Emmanuel II's pursuit of a unified Italy. One of the mysterious stairways eventually leads to a large stone entranceway to the fortress itself. The scale and order of the place is remarkable and visitors can ascend a long, walled-in ramp and then continue upwards to the main palazzo, where the relatively intact shells of the Governor's house and the Church of San Giacomo still stand. From there, visitors can travel the length of the fort via the parapets, or via the internal courtyard. The fortress has a museum, containing ancient armor and weapons, and maps, an art gallery and "bottega," as well as a chamber containing modern sculptures of a military nature.

Walking the length of the fort, visitors can appreciate the strategic advantage of the location, and the feeling of near invulnerability the structure must have given its residents. The military history of the fortress gives a fascinating insight into the history and development of Italy itself.

And if you can't visit this beautiful town just yet, you can take a virtual tour of the fortress at Civitella's Fortezza Museo delle Armi official website <http://www.fortezzadicivitella.it/>.

Although its origins are no doubt older, the Fortress of Civitella seen today dates back to the 16th century when it was transformed by Philip II of Habsburg, King of Spain. Further important changes took place in the 18th century but then the fortress was abandoned and largely destroyed by the local inhabitants. However, a major renovation project took place in 1975-1985 and nowadays the fortress is open to visitors every day except Christmas day.

Visitors can explore the ramparts, cisterns, barracks, the ruins of the Governor's palace and the Saint James church. The 360° views from the fortress over three different mountain ranges as well as the village below and out over the Adriatic Sea are said to be absolutely stunning.

After admiring the fortress and its views, visitors can wander down the hill and explore all the streets and alleys of the town. Its stone buildings date from Medieval and Renaissance times. And of course, there are plenty of cafes and bars allowing visitors to savor the peaceful atmosphere.

In addition to the fortress, the town has some important religious buildings. The Abbey of Santa Maria in Montesanto was one of the most powerful abbeys in the region in the 12th century, and although its decline began in the 15th century and

continued over the centuries. It has recently been restored to its 13th century state and is considered one of the most beautiful monuments in the area.

The convent of Santa Maria dei Lumi sits on a hill opposite the town and has suffered during each of the sieges and attacks that the town has endured. It was largely rebuilt in the 19th century but it has a Romanesque portico and a polychrome wooden statue of the Madonna and child which is also in Romanesque style.

What to See

- The majestic Fortezza, the medieval fortified borough towering above the village surrounded by walls, a unique example of medieval military architecture in Abruzzo
- Fontana degli Amanti (Lovers' Fountain) along the walk leading to the Fortress
- Church of San Francesco, in the Romanesque style, built in 14th century near the ancient convent, which is now the seat of the town hall
- Church of San Lorenzo of the 13th century, with a copper and silver processional cross, the Croce di S. Ubaldo
- Porta Napoli, built in large stones and probably dating back to the 13th century, with a vaulted roof, and on top the town's emblem with five towers
- Monument to Matteo Wade, built by Francesco I in 1829, in honor of the Dutch commander of the Fortress, who led the resistance of the town to French armies in 1806
- The Romanesque Santuario della Madonna dei Lumi, outside the town walls, with a wooden, 15th century sculpture probably by Giovanni di Blasuccio

Important Dates

- July 24-26: International festival of popular music
- August 13-16: "A la corte de lo Governatore," a re-enactment of a medieval banquet inside the walls of the fortress

Sources:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/#label/AMHS+A%26M+articles/164779a0abf5406c>

CIVITELLA DEL TRONTO, PROVINCIA DI TERAMO, REGIONE ABRUZZO

Translated by Maddalena Borea, AMHS Member

Una delle più belle cittadine d'Abruzzo è Civitella del Tronto. A circa quindici chilometri da Teramo, si trova nelle vicinanze del Gran Sasso e dei monti del Parco Nazionale della Laga. Conta poco più di cinquemila abitanti, i quali sono familiarmente conosciuti come civitellesi. La principale attrazione di Civitella è la sua Fortezza, forse una tra le più grandi d'Europa e la più ingegnosa dal punto di vista di architettura militare.

Il villaggio ha acquistato fama dopo l'anno 2001, quando è stato scelto come uno dei più caratteristici d'Abruzzo dal Consiglio del Turismo dell'Associazione Comuni d'Italia. Questa Associazione basa la sua scelta sull'importanza storica, sulla bellezza e sulla cultura delle cittadine che esamina. Un avido viaggiatore è consigliato di visitare la bellissima Civitella, chiamata la gemma dell'Abruzzo. La sua storia risale al sedicesimo secolo, durante la dominazione borbonica dell'area, e la cittadina è cresciuta col tempo.

La sua fortezza, che abbellisce tutta la vista, le dà un aspetto di potenza. Essa domina dall'alto la cittadina, che si estende ai suoi piedi. Il panorama di Civitella è reso più drammatico dalle alte montagne che la circondano. La Fortezza, l'ultimo bastione borbonico, fu assediata dall'ottobre 1860 al 20 marzo 1861 da Vittorio Emanuele II, tre giorni prima della nascita del nuovo Regno d'Italia. La fortezza risalirebbe al 1069, e dopo essere sopravvissuta a molti attacchi lungo i tempi, dovette arrendersi ai piemontesi e al tricolore che rappresentava la nuova Italia.

È possibile accedere al centro di essa. Quasi intatti nel palazzo principale sono la casa del Governatore e la chiesa di San Giacomo, e interessantissimo è il suo museo, che offre ai visitatori esempi di antichi armamenti, mappe, oggetti di arte moderna e sculture di oggetti di natura militare. Essa e i dintorni della cittadina spiegano al turista la natura strategica del luogo e la sicurezza e l'invulnerabilità che la fortezza stessa offriva ai suoi difensori. La sua storia può meglio spiegare anche la Storia stessa e lo sviluppo dell'Italia. Nell'impossibilità di visitare Civitella, si consiglia di fare un viaggio virtuale al sito <http://www.fortezadacivitella.it/>.

Abbandonata e a volte delapidata dagli abitanti, è stata finalmente restaurata grazie a un progetto, durato dieci anni, dal 1975 al 1985. I suoi bastioni, le cisterne, le rovine, la casa del Governatore, la chiesa di San Giacomo sono accessibili a tutti, come accessibile a tutti è la magnifica vista che dalle alte cime dei monti si estende al Mare Adriatico. Dopo aver visitato la fortezza, il turista può comodamente vagare attraverso i vicoli del villaggio e attraverso le sue case di pietra, alcune delle quali risalgono al Medioevo e al Rinascimento. Le altre attrazioni della città sono alcuni santuari religiosi, che vale la pena visitare, come l'Abbazia di Santa Maria di Montesano, oggi restaurata al suo stile del tredicesimo secolo e la Chiesa di Santa Maria dei Lumi, che siede su una collina. Questa ha sofferto molti attacchi durante i secoli, ma ha resistito al tempo e agli attacchi dell'uomo. Il suo Portico e la sua Madonna con Bambino, tutt'e due in legno, sono in stile Romanesco.

Attrazioni del luogo

- La maestosa Fortezza
- La Fontana degli Amanti, lungo un sentiero che conduce alla Fortezza La chiesa di San Francesco del 14th secolo in stile Romanesco
- La Chiesa di San Lorenzo con la Croce di Sant'Ubaldo
- Porta Napoli del 13th secolo

- Monumento a Matteo Wade eretto da Francesco I nel 1829 per onorare il comandante della fortezza che resiste all'attacco francese del 1806
- La chiesa della Madonna dei Lumi

Date da ricordare

- 24-26 luglio: Festival di musica popolare
- 13- 16 agosto: "Alla Corte del governatore"- una replica di banchetti dei tempi d'oro della Fortezza

PETRELLA TIFERNINA, PROVINCE OF CAMPOBASSO, REGION OF MOLISE

By Nancy DeSanti

The picturesque small town of Petrella Tifernina is located about 13 kilometers south of Campobasso. The town has approximately 1,280 inhabitants.

The name derives from "Pratella", recorded in the 12th century as a fiefdom of Norman Ruggero of Molise, then under the Anjou. It was given to Raimondo and Berlingieri from Provence, France, who lost the title in favor of the Santangelo and later the Mormile families. The last feudal lords were the Pulce family.

The territory of this center goes from the mountain where the small hamlet of Castel di Rocca rises at 863 meters above sea level, down to the green hills of the main center which reach to the banks of the Biferno river. The historical center is very unusual, with 14 small alleys and ancient stone houses on each side, going down the slope from the main street that leads to the church square. A recent settlement was built with modern houses called Castellino Nuovo.

The Church of San Giorgio Martire, located in the upper part of the historic center of the village, is in Romanesque style and dates back to the 13th century. The church is very beautiful and according to tradition, it is thought to have arisen on the remains of an ancient Samnite settlement. There are many decorative elements carved both inside and outside the church and recall both pagan and religious symbolism, so that it is called "Chiesa Tempio Vivo". And it is among the churches classified as "the Bible of the poor," because those who could not read could still have teachings thanks to the images.

Another notable attraction is the Palazzo Ducale. Built around the year 1000, it was the home of the successive local lords over the centuries and it was these passages of different lordships that today leave important evidence on the "life" of the castle. Before accessing the noble floors, there is a large courtyard where there are the entrances of what must have been the workshops of the court artisans. In the main floor, there is a large hall and next to it there is a chapel with a stupendous wall altar. There is also a prison that was called the "cafurdio," hollowed in the tufa and without light. Nowadays the noble part of the castle is used as a reception hall and for weddings and parties.



There is a "Campo Sportivo" located at the base of the village which has generally replaced the village's piazza as the main gathering place for its residents

Since the end of World War II until the 1970s, the town's population declined considerably due to emigration, especially to the Canadian cities of Montreal and Toronto.

What to See

- The Romanesque Church of San Giorgio Martire of the 13th century
- The Palace of the Sette Medici

Important Dates

- April 23: Feast of San Giorgio Martire, the patron saint

Sources:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/#label/AMHS+A%26M+articles/16477add812f39a0>

<https://www.enchantingitaly.com/regions/molise/province-campobasso/petrellatiferina.htm>

PETRELLA TIFERNINA, PROVINCIA DI CAMPOBASSO, REGIONE MOLISE *Translated by Maddalena Borea, AMHS Member*

La pittoresca cittadina di Petrella Tifernina si trova a circa tredici chilometri dal suo capoluogo, e conta quasi 1,300 abitanti. Il nome deriva da Pratella e fu' accatastata come possedimento del Normanno Ruggero di Molise.e più tardi come possedimento angioino.

Fu poi di Raimondo e di Berlingieri di Provenza e più tardi delle famiglie Santangelo e Mormile. La famiglia Pulce fu l'ultima Signoria. Il suo territorio si estende dalle montagne dove sorge Castel di Rocca fino alle sponde del fiume Biferno. Il centro del villaggio, molto insolito, ha quattordici vicoli che si estendono fino alla piazza. Le sue case sono antiche e situate da una parte e dall'altra dei vicoli.

Recentemente un nuovo quartiere è sorto e prende il nome di Castellino Nuovo. La chiesa di San Giorgio Martire, in stile Romanesco, situata nella parte storica del villaggio, risale al

tredicesimo secolo. È molto bella, e, secondo una leggenda sarebbe sorta dalle rovine di un villaggio sannita. All'esterno ed all'interno di essa si ammirano molti elementi decorativi, che sono simbolismi cristiani e pagani. È chiamata "Chiesa Tempio Vivo", o "Bibbia dei poveri", perché chi non sapeva leggere, leggeva il significato delle immagini.

Interessante è il palazzo ducale, dimora di molti feudatari lungo i tempi, e importante testimonianza della vita del castello durante il soggiorno dei vari Signori. Aveva una entrata per i servi e per gli operai e l'altra per i residenti. Ha una chiesa con un interessante altare, ed ha anche un carcere nei sotterranei dove non v'era luce.

Oggigiorno il castello è usato per feste e per ricevimenti nuziali. Il Campo Sportivo si trova ai piedi del villaggio. Gli abitanti preferiscono radunarsi lì invece che nella piazza.

Dopo la seconda guerra mondiale e fino agli anni settanta, la popolazione è calata. Molti abitanti di questo villaggio sono emigrati in Canada: a Toronto o a Montreal.

Le attrazioni del luogo

- La Chiesa in stile romanesco di San Giorgio Martire dei 13th secolo
- Il Palazzo dei sette Medici

Date da ricordare

- 23 aprile: festa di San Giorgio, Santo Patrono



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. These custom shirts were recently released for sale at the Italian Festival on September 11, 2016 and were a big hit. Additionally, we now have available the AMHS logo Tote Bag.

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 (or the AMHS Tote bag) 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



AMHS Women's T-Shirt

Material: 60% cotton/40% polyester. Sizes: S/M/L/XL

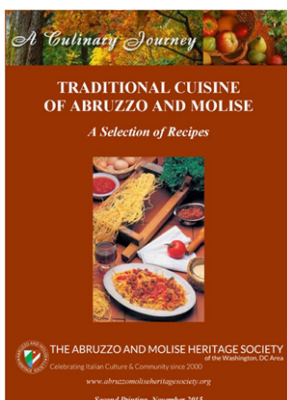
Price: \$25 + \$4.50 postage and handling



NEW! AMHS logo Tote Bag

17" W x 6" D x 13 1/2" H; bottom 12" W; handle drop 9"

Price: \$40 each + \$5.75 for shipping and handling



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

PRICE: \$10.00 + \$5.75 per book for postage and handling = \$15.75

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

OF COPIES: _____ **AMOUNT: (\$15.75 x no. of copies):** _____

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AMHS POLO SHIRT (ON SALE!)

**AMHS Logo Polo Shirt
Model A**



Model A

MATERIAL: 53% combed cotton
47% polyester EDRY tm fabric
COLOR: light blue
MEN's sizes (only): Small
WOMEN's sizes: M / L

PRICE: \$20 + \$4.50 p&h

**AMHS Logo Polo Shirt
Model B**



Model B

MATERIAL: 60% combed cotton
40% polyester regular fabric
COLOR: light blue
WOMEN's sizes only: M / L / XL

PRICE: \$15 + \$4.50 p&h

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"/>
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Buon Appetito Chef's Apron with the 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.

PRICE: \$25.00 + \$5.75 postage & handling = \$30.75

NAME: _____

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OF APRONS: _____ **AMOUNT: (\$30.75 x no. of aprons):** _____

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FOR MERCHANDISE PAYMENT - CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO AMHS - SEND TO:

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



THE ABRUZZO AND MOLISE HERITAGE SOCIETY

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

❧ LUNCHEON MEETING ❧

“Along the Shepherd’s Tracks: Tratturi & Transumanza”

Presented by Maria D’Andrea-Yothers

When: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Carmine’s Restaurant
425 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC



MENU: Includes roasted red peppers & mozzarella, Carmine’s salad, penne alla vodka, ravioli with a marinara sauce, chicken lemon & butter, bread, and dessert. Beverages include coffee, tea, soda, iced tea, and water. *Wine and beer are available by individual purchase only.*

COST: \$35.00 members; \$40.00 non-members.

Pay by check, using form below, or online (Visa or Mastercard) at www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org
Paid reservations must be made by noon on September 19, 2018. The online payment system will close at 11:45 p.m. on September 18.

Please join us for a presentation by AMHS member Maria D’Andrea-Yothers on the *transumanza and tratturi*, a phenomenon that has profoundly influenced the economy, culture, and history of Abruzzo and Molise. The *transumanza* is the traditional twice-yearly migration of sheep and cows from the highlands to the lowlands, and back. The word literally means “crossing the land”. The regional pastoral economy was based on the seasonal transfer of herds of sheep to the green pastures of the higher Apennines in Abruzzo and Molise in summer, and to the green plains of Puglia and Lazio in winter. The routes followed by the shepherds are known as *tratturi*. In what is sure to be an informative presentation, Maria will illuminate this pivotal aspect of our regional identity.

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

✂----- Return with Payment

PAID RESERVATIONS for AMHS General Society Meeting on Sunday, September 23, 2018

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: _____

JULY 22, 2018 GENERAL SOCIETY MEETING



Top left: AMHS members Lourdes Tinajero, Lucio and Edvige D'Andrea, and Barbara Friedman. **Top right:** AMHS members Elisa DiClemente and Lena Lupica.

Middle left: AMHS guest speaker Mike DeBonis, his wife Dena, and their daughter Rosie. **Middle right:** From Mike's presentation.

Bottom (left): AMHS scholarship recipient Benjamin Abeles. **Bottom (right):** The "kitchen crew", Joann Novello, Helen Free, Sarah Scott, and Elisa DiClemente. *(photos courtesy of Joe Novello).*

AMHS 2018 FERRAGOSTO PICNIC



Top left: Joe & Joann Novello with Amy & Matteo DiFiore. **Top right:** Tom & Cindy Savage, Sam Yothers, and Sarah Scott and Bob Tobias.

Middle left: Joe Novello, Ray LaVerghetta and Lucio D'Andrea. **Middle right:** Steve Balducci, Jeff Clark, and Lourdes Tinajero.

Bottom (left): Edvige D'Andrea & Lourdes Tinajero. **Bottom (right):** Tricia Maltagliati, Mei-Lin Lu, Maria D'Andrea-Yothers & Rico Allegrino. (photos courtesy of Maria D'Andrea-Yothers and Bob Tobias).

Columbus Day in the Nation's Capital

The National Columbus Day Ceremony

Monday, October 8, 2018

MUSIC PRELUDE: 10:45 A.M. - PROGRAM: 11:00 A.M.



★ **Christopher Columbus Memorial** ★

Columbus Plaza – Union Station – Washington, DC

"Bring the Family to this Educational, Historic, and Patriotic Event"

Featuring:

"The President's Own" United States Marine Band
United States Joint Armed Forces Honor Guard
Knights of Columbus Color Corps with Historical Flags of the U.S.
Presidential and Mayoral Columbus Day Proclamations
Diplomatic Corps from the Embassies of Spain, Italy, Bahamas
Presentation of National Youth Essay Contest Winner *
Wreath Presentations - Embassies, Fraternal, Civic, Service, and Patriotic Societies

* The Christopher Columbus Essay Contest is cosponsored by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and the National Italian American Foundation; open to all students grades 9 – 12.



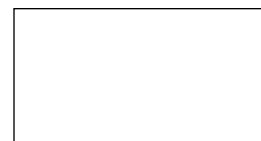
Event Sponsor:

**The National Christopher Columbus Association
In coordination with the National Park Service**



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

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Alexandria, VA 22311



AMHS NOTIZIARIO

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