



Triangle Sons & Daughters of Italy

Serving the North Carolina Triangle since 2004

LODGE 2817

Table of Contents

TSDOI Calendar of Events.....	2
July Birthdays.....	2
Good & Welfare.....	2
Interfaith Food Shuttle.....	2
A Summer Evening of Dinner, Movie and More! – August 22.....	2
Durham Bulls – Games On!.....	2
Olive Oil Tasting and Introduction to Sicilian Products.....	3
Call for Nominations.....	3
Bocce Tournament 2021.....	3
Helen Wright Dinner.....	3
Annual Picnic.....	4
Interessante Italian Web Sites, Food Culture and Places.....	6
Festival-Style Grilled Italian Sausage.....	7
Suddenly, the Lines of Tourists Return to Rome	8

IL GIORNALE DI TSDOI

Luglio, 2021

IL GIORNALE DI TSDOI

Editor: Nick Verna

Send comments or suggested materials to nickverna14@gmail.com.

TSDOI Calendar of Events

July 18 ___ Durham Bulls
Aug 12 ___ Olive Oil Tasting
Aug 15 ___ Helen Wright Dinner
Aug 22 ___ Dinner, Movie & More
Sep 4 ___ Fund-Raising Breakfast
Sep 25 ___ Festa Italiana
Oct 6 ___ General Membership Meeting
Nov 14 ___ Helen Wright Dinner

July Birthdays

This month we celebrate the birthdays of those members celebrating in July: Lorraine Passaretti (5), Marie Scalco (7), Roxeanne DeMarche (10), Becky Stinnett (11), John Confalone (13), Frank DeMaria (20), Mary Muth (22), William Ward (23), Anita Kretchik (28).



Good & Welfare

Brad Moses will be having hip replacement on July 15th so please pray for him and his email is: brad_moses@yahoo.com if you want to send him a word of encouragement.

Interfaith Food Shuttle



I just wanted to thank everyone who contributed to the food drive for the Interfaith Food Shuttle. In addition to food donations, many members also donated the requested hygiene and household items and infant foods. Special shout-out to Vinnie for helping load donations into my car. I dropped everything off this morning at the warehouse near Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, and it was all much appreciated. As you can see in the picture, we had two large grocery carts of donations (222 pounds in all). It would be nice to try to beat that the next time we do a drive. Thanks again to all.

- Mary Muth

A Summer Evening of Dinner, Movie and More! – August 22

5:00 PM
Cary Jones Center
309 Holleman St, Apex, NC 27502



For those of you that enjoy Movie Night, it's back as a summer evening of fun, food, and friends. Our own members will be cooking, DJ Gino will be back to show the film **A Taste of Memory** from Cindy and Mike Salerno, a local Italian couple that has made the film and a cookbook to go with it. There will be 50/50 and a lesson in how to play SCOPA and much more, so won't you join us and also sign up to help?

If you would like to help set up for the event please contact Nick Verna, 919-454-3750, nickverna14@gmail.com.

Durham Bulls – Games On!

Sunday, July 18
5:00 PM

Only 2 Tickets Left!

The Durham Bulls are back and with FIREWORKS - hooray!!! We have already sold 28 of our 30 tickets for Sunday, July 18 for an evening game. Only 2 tickets left. Contact Fran Giannuzzi if you are interested,



Olive Oil Tasting and Introduction to Sicilian Products



August 12, 2021, 1:00 PM, 2205 Westinghouse Boulevard Ste. 109, Raleigh, NC

Free tasting but items you purchase will be at your own expense.

<https://bonafurtuna.com/>

TDSOI members have been invited to attend an olive oil tasting at Bona Furtuna (from the olive farm of La Furtuna Estates in the Sicani Mountain region of Sicily where they harvest premium Sicilian fare of the utmost quality). From their estate grown EVOO (extra virgin olive oil) to their organic marinara pasta sauce, salt seasonings or aged balsamic vinegar, their food products are sustainably produced for flavor and body while preserving the biological heritage of the island. They have five extra-virgin olive oils to include their award-winning Heritage Blend and Biancolilla Centinara as well as Forte, Passalunara and the Grand Cru.

RSVP by August 6 to Fran Giannuzzi at fgiannuzzi94@gmail.com if you plan on attending.

Call for Nominations

The Call for Nominations is forthcoming. In July the Nominating Committee will send out an email and solicit new Council members to join the TSDOI Executive Council. Voting will take place in September and new Council members will be inducted in October. If you are interested in getting more involved please email roverna754@gmail.com.



Bocce Tournament 2021

Our 9th Annual Raleigh Regional Bocce Tournament was our biggest ever with a record 14 teams competing. The weather was perfect and a good time was had by one and all.

Congratulations to the Johnston County Allstars who defeated the Cigar Club in the finals.



Helen Wright Dinner

Helen Wright Center

We delivered another successful dinner for 20 women at the Helen Wright Women's Shelter in May. We delivered the following meal:

- Shredded BBQ Chicken (Nick Verna)
- Cole Slaw (Mark Spano)
- Potato Salad (Mark La Mantia)
- Buns & Drinks (George Quartel)
- Dessert (Moses, Confalone)

Thank you all who contributed. The next dinner is **August 14th**. If you would like to participate please contact Nick Verna at nickverna14@gmail.com. To learn more about Urban ministries go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWrz5SnnYMs&t=2s>

Annual Picnic

Thanks to all that joined us at the Annual Picnic. We celebrated our scholarship winners, ate lots of great food from Backyard Bistro, 50/50 raffle, played Left-Right-Center (most players ever – Karen Bledsoe won \$53) and had our bubble blowing contest. Thanks to the members that helped set up and to the non-members that always help too. The Castellanos, their family the Russos, Jan DiSantostefano, Nick Verna and to those that helped clean up.



WOW!

This is the before and after of blowing giant bubbles!

GROSS!





Interessante Italian Web Sites, Food Culture and Places

Here are some links that showcase our Italian culture. If you have suggestions please email Nick Verna at nickverna14@gmail.com the URL site and we can put it in a future newsletter.

Italian Facebook Groups

Here are a couple of Italian Facebook Groups that you may enjoy:

- *Growing up Italian*
- *Nonnas Cooking*
- *The Sons & Daughters of Italy*

Genealogy

<https://www.italiangenealogy.blog/>

Italian Genealogy Blog is a resource if you want to start your own research, hire a professional to find your roots or help you with Italian citizenship, they have a post or a podcast to help you. Or, just check out their podcasts to hear some interesting stories of people tracing their ancestors and their amazing finds. Here are some research links from the site:



Interactive Map of Italy – [Rough Guides](#)
Campania – [Municipalities](#)
Guide to Italian Birth Records – [Translation Assistance](#)
Sicilian Research – [Sicilian Family Tree](#)
Professional Translation Experts – [Proz](#)
[Southern Italy Genealogical Center](#)

Italian Migration – Where Did it Start?

Italians had a long history of migrating to foreign countries as a way of coping with poverty and dislocation. During the 19th century, more Italians migrated to South America than to North America. The earliest Italian immigrants to the United States were northern Italians, who became prominent as fruit merchants in New York and wine growers in California.

What the Italian flag stands for:



Festival-Style Grilled Italian Sausage

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/143146/festival-style-grilled-italian-sausage-sandwiches/>



Servings: 4

Ingredients

4 (4 ounce) links hot Italian sausage
1 red bell pepper, halved and seeded
1 small onion, peeled and cut in half crosswise
2 teaspoons olive oil
salt and pepper to taste
1 tablespoon olive oil
4 (6 inch) sandwich rolls, split and toasted
ADD ALL INGREDIENTS TO SHOPPING LIST

Directions

Step 1 - Preheat an outdoor grill for medium heat. Lightly oil grate, and set 4 inches from the heat.

Step 2 - Pierce the sausages in a few places with a fork, and set aside. Slice off the bottoms of the onion halves so they will sit flat on the grill. Brush the bell pepper and onion halves with 2 teaspoons of olive oil.

Step 3 - Place the sausages, onions, and peppers on the preheated grill. Cook and turn the sausages until well browned and juices run clear. Cook vegetables until tender and peppers are slightly charred. Remove vegetables and sausages from the grill.

Step 4 - Place the peppers in a paper bag, close, and cool slightly. Remove and discard the charred skin from the peppers; slice peppers into strips. Slice the onion halves. Place salt and pepper to taste, and 1 tablespoon olive oil in a bowl. Add the peppers and onions, and toss until evenly coated. To serve, place sausages in sandwich rolls, and top with the pepper and onion mixture.

Festa dell'Unicorno (Unicorn Festival)

<https://rove.me/to/florence/festa-dellunicorno>



Immerse yourself in a world full of magical creatures every July! Festa dell'Unicorno gathers fairies, elves, and sirens during the two editions of the festival per year—winter edition in Fortezza da Basso in Florence (Firenze Fantasy) and the summer edition in Vinci, about an hour away from Florence.

During the three days, attendees can visit about 300 shows such as elves' weddings, unicorn parties, elves' parades, live music concerts, and special exhibitions. Fun competitions include Challenge of Magical Arts or the Best Fantasy Creature Contest. Festa dell'Unicorno features eight themed areas, featuring cosplay, role-playing activities, and celebrity guests. Meet star actors like "Highlander" Christopher Lambert, Sean Austin, who starred in Lord of the Rings, or Isaac Hempstead-Wright, starring as Bran Stark in Game of Thrones.



Don't forget to visit the fair market in the centre of the medieval town with themed venues, animations, and shows. The final day of the festival features a large pyrotechnic show over the 13th-century Guidi castle, dominating the town.

The town of Vinci is famous not only for its well-preserved medieval castle. It's renowned as a birthplace of the genius artist and inventor, Leonardo da Vinci. Don't miss Museo Leonardiano with the display of the inventions from Leonardo's notebooks as well as Casa Natale di Leonardo, the house where Leonardo da Vinci was born. There are a few copies of his drawings and other works.

Suddenly, the Lines of Tourists Return to Rome



BY CHICO HARLAN WASHINGTON POST

In the 64 weeks since Italy went hurtling into its initial coronavirus lockdown, its capital and most-visited city has had moments of subdued, locals-only charm and plenty of stretches of dire stillness. But over a matter of days - in a jarring transformation for Rome's residents - the city is beginning to approximate its pre-pandemic self: bustling, doors wide open.

Suddenly, there are lines streaming out of the Vatican Museum and out of a Venchi gelato shop. (Not the city's best, any local would tell you.) There are tourist-area cafes - with menus in seven languages - that had been shuttered for months, left for dead, and have suddenly resurrected. There are Bulgarian tour groups entering churches, Germans with backpacks at the Pantheon and just-arrived architecture students from the University of Notre Dame.

"There are people in shorts looking at maps again," said Gillian Longworth McGuire, an American and travel consultant who has lived in Rome for 15 years.

The transformation has come about as European countries begin to open themselves up to leisure travelers. Italy has dropped its quarantine requirement for Americans on "covid-tested" flights, as well as for travelers from the European Union, Britain or Israel who show a negative coronavirus test.

At the same time, the E. U.'s own inoculation campaign has at last allowed countries to loosen restrictions.

In Italy, some 40 percent of the population has received at least one shot. a ratio below that of the United States. But the vaccination drive, coupled

with warming weather and some general precautions, has been enough to spur a turnaround. The number of people hospitalized in Italy has plummeted more than fourfold since early April. Indoor dining is again allowed. A curfew, in place for seven months, is on the verge of disappearing.

"Italy is ready to welcome back the world," Prime Minister Mario Draghi had said at a news conference in early May, a quote that was then packaged into an Instagram post by the account CO?visititalyofficial.

The current crowds in Rome feel noteworthy in the eyes of a city that had gotten accustomed to so few visitors. The crowds dipped so dramatically that Piazza Navona, mid-lockdown, was sprouting grass through the cobblestones.

But even as tourism returns, it's still well shy of the level from before. Passengers at Rome's Fiumicino airport are still down 80 percent from the norm. And people from some parts of the world aren't here at all - a reminder of the inequities of vaccine access. Many of the tourists in Rome are simply Italians from other cities, newly vaccinated, hoping to see their capital before it is overrun.

"We feel like we're breaking out of jail" after pandemic lockdown, said Angelo Rizzo, 47, from the Sicilian city of Trapani, as he visited the Vatican with his wife and three of his children.

Many Romans, so dependent on tourism, welcome the beginnings of an uptick. Marco Gallani, 74, who runs a frame shop, said it had been "depressing" to see tourist quarters so empty. "A pandemic should not be the way you take back a city," Gallani said.

But there was also an upside to the temporary emptiness, particularly in moments when the health situation felt contained. Like never before, Romans had the Forum and the Colosseum to themselves. They developed a bit of bunkered-down neighborly solidarity. They ordered takeout from their favorite restaurants, hoping they could help them survive.

An Italian business association says that as many as 650,000 tourism jobs were lost last year. Some stores remain shuttered. But other places are bouncing back.

One gelateria on a major street had been closed for months, plastered with a sign that it would reopen only when life returned to "normal." On Thursday, the gate was up, with remodeling work taking place inside.