

SOUTHWEST ITALIAN

Newsletter



AMERICAN CLUB

January 2011

SWIAC – 2010 IN REVIEW – “NUOVO ANNO FELICE”

In this same newsletter exactly one year ago, I detailed the SWIAC happenings and events of 2009 through my eyes. The response was very positive so it made sense for me to do it again to kick off 2011. Please excuse me if some of the sentiments and events are repeated, and other parts sound a bit self-serving, but as most everyone is aware, I have a high level of passion for the club and as I say repeatedly, many of my activities and actions with the club are “a labor of love”.

2010 was a very busy and gratifying year for me, and a year that saw the Southwest Italian American Club experience some milestone events and a breakthrough in our efforts to promote club growth and our commitment to the community and the culture. As I reflect on the events of the past year it has a somewhat bittersweet feel as I exit as President and move on to become a Trustee. I remarked to some of the members at the last meeting that it will feel very strange for me to sit in the audience at the next meeting after being at the head table for the last three years.

As the leadership reins are turned over to **Mike LaMarca**, I feel fairly secure in the knowledge that through my stewardship the club is in a stronger position both within our membership and our standing in the Northeast Ohio Italian-American community.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the club activities and volunteered to help with the various functions and causes. I look forward to serving as a Trustee for the next two years and as always will put forth my best effort to positively represent the club in the area, and promote greater cooperation both internally and externally as well as continue to promote cultural awareness and growth in the community.

We remain committed to providing our members with the opportunities to promote fellowship within the club, as well as taking every opportunity to give back to the community through our chosen charitable causes.

Here is a month-by-month synopsis of 2010 – keep in mind that

I also produced this newsletter on time every month.

January

First general meeting on Jan. 5. Paul Bellitto joins the club.

AEF-NEO meeting on Jan 11.

Jan. 12 – Long Rang Planning Meeting. Friday, Jan. 15 – Friuli photo exhibition opening party at the Western Reserve Historical Society. A very nice event that was also attended by Bruno and Lenore Moreal and Remo and Toni Grilli

February

General meeting on February 2rd. Ken Ramser joins club.

Feb. 15 -Visit to Hillside Party Center with Spring Dance committee members to evaluate the facility.

Bruno’s Ristorante on Feb. 16 with committee for a food tasting for Spring Dance.

March

General meeting on March 2rd.

Marty Roberto and Steve D’Alessandro elected to club.

AEF-NEO meeting on March 3rd. March 13th – Appearance on WRUW Radio Italia to primarily promote the Spring Dance and the SWIAC donation to the radio station.

March 20th – Rionero Sannitico Spring Bash at Normand Party Center in Wickliffe.

April

General Meeting on April 6th.

Tony Marlette, Don Grispino, Mike Lallo and Len Immormino Join the club.

April 21 – Sang National Anthem at the Lake Count Captain’s game.

April 28 – Presentation by Santa Casciata, Italian professor at John Carroll, at Solon Italian Club. A very in depth look at the events and aftermath of the devastating Earthquake experienced in the Abruzzo region on April 6, 2009.

May

Final fundraiser for Abruzzo Earthquake fund on May 1. Event was held at Massimo da Milano as SWIAC was represented by Me, Al & Clara Lippucci and Joe & Winona Lippucci. May 4th – Long Range Planning Meeting.

Many of the plans for the SWIAC Anniversary Party are worked out.

General Meeting on May 11th.

May 15th – SWIAC Spring Dance. Many feel this was one of our best events with 300 attendees.

May 17th – Photo Exhibition reception at art center in Hanna Building featuring images from Naples and other regions of Italy. May 26th - Ceremony at Padua to honor the winners and recipients of awards for the Italian American Cultural Foundation Essay Contest. SWIAC Casino junket to Seneca Allegany.

June

General- Meeting on June 1st.

Vince Delia and Sal Salupo voted in as members.

June 4th – Italian American Heritage Night at the Lake County Captains ballpark. At the last minute, the day before, I was asked to fill-in to sing the National Anthem because the original singer backed out. It was a great outing thanks to Armand Rossi’s family and friends as we were represented by a group of over 60 people.

June 5th- Festa della Repubblica-64th Anniversary of the Italian Republic celebration at the Italian Cultural Garden. 200 local citizens and visiting dignitaries from Italy in attendance at ceremony and reception. Many local I-A clubs are represented as symbolic check from AEF-NEO is presented to La’Aquila mayor.

June 11-13--- SWIAC sponsors a booth at the Italian American Summer Festival in Berea. I am at the booth on Friday and Saturday along with other members. Thanks to Lew Marlette, Joe & Winona Lippucci, Marty Roberto, John Verdone, and others who manned the booth.

June 22nd- Long Range Planning Meeting- Details are finalized for 25th Anniversary celebration.

IACF appreciation Brunch at Villa Serena on June 27th. Attended by Al & Clara Lippucci and Me.

July

General Meeting on July 6th. Matt Summa joins the club.



Remo Grilli and Rob Lippucci at the Italian Cultural Garden

July 10th - SWIAC 25th Anniversary Party. A great event attended by almost all members. Special nametags, a commemorative program, and a historic PowerPoint photo perspective are all prepared for the occasion. All members as of Dec. 30, 2009 receive special edition SWIAC commemorative watch.

Opera in the Garden – July 25th. Another great free performance by Opera Per Tutti.

August

General Meeting on August 7th. Herman Panigutti accepted as new member.

August 9th – I participate in the 2nd meeting of the Cleveland Italian-American Heritage Month at City Hall Chaired by Matt Zone and Rose Zitiello

August 25th – SWIAC Casino Trip. August 31st. Planning meeting for Cleveland IAH month celebration.

September

General Meeting on September 1st. John Salvatore joins the club.

Senior honorary lifetime member Joe Granata passes away on Sept. 3rd.

September 14th – IAH month meeting. September 23rd – Cleveland Italian Film Festival-Cedar Lee Theater. SWIAC sponsors event at “Producer” level and group attends screening of Il Mostro and the pre-show party at Jimmy O’Neils.

Clambake on Saturday, Sept. 25th.

2nd annual Clambake is a success with a 30% increase in attendance from last year.

October

City of Cleveland Italian Heritage Month Ceremony on Monday, Oct. 4th. SWIAC recognized along with other clubs, attended by Moreals, Cosianos and Jim LaMarca.

General Meeting on October 5th.

October 11- SWIAC again participates in the Columbus Day Parade in fine fashion with the Euclid Beach Rocket Ship and the Thriller Roller Coaster as transportation.

Casino Trip to Wheeling Island on October 20th.

November

Newsletter

General Meeting on November 9th. New officers and trustees for 2011 voted in.

Nov. 11- I attend Veterans Ceremony at Italian Cultural Garden featuring Mayor Frank Jackson, Councilman Matt Zone, Marco Nobili and Serena Scaiola.

Nov. 20 – Remo Grilli and I help to decorate the Italian Cultural Garden for Christmas along with Joyce Mariani and Gino Collage.

December

General Meeting on December 1st. New members John Salvatore, Dan Rice and John Geggus.

SWIAC Christmas Party at Nido Italia on December 19th.

Edited by Robert Lippucci