

Italian American Club of Maui
General Membership Meeting
Kaunoha Senior Citizens' Center
January 12th, 2010

Having cleared his throat, with microphone in hand, Presidente Doc Vitale called the meeting to order and offered a hearty “Benvenuti” to the assembled.

The invocation followed, after which Doc pointed to the buffet table and urged all and sundry to “Mangia” vigorously. Taking that cue, members and guests lined up to sample the thoroughly appetizing offerings – these ranged from antipasto to ravioli to tortellini to the requisite pizza, courtesy of Chef Pasquale Prestopino at Costco. As we ate, not a few slurps could be heard – slurps that signaled the gusto with which we consumed two soups: an exquisite pumpkin variety [Arnold Garzino’s creation] and an equally sumptuous Italian Wedding concoction [Doc Vitale’s recipe]. And let’s not forget James Vitale’s “ono” crumb cake. Did we chase it all down with Deardorff “vino”? Oh, yessss! “Grazie,” everyone, for your “deliziosi” potluck provisions.

Sated and satisfied, we proceeded, under Doc’s guidance, to tick off items on the agenda. After recounting the 15-year history of the IACM, Doc introduced guests and then asked each of us to introduce ourselves and identify our specific contributions to the buffet -- to hearty rounds of well-deserved cheers and applause.

Segretario Fred Rawe – Wannabe Italian and Maria’s “marito” – distributed the minutes of the January 5th Board Meeting. CHECK THOSE MINUTES CAREFULLY FOR THE 2010 EVENTS AND DATES.

Arnold Garzino, the new IAMC Tesoriere, reported that we have no creditors, are in the black, BUT need to ramp up our fundraising

efforts. This prompted everyone to check wallet and purse for the monthly raffle. All of us, including Mamma Maniaci [self-proclaimed Bingo Champion at Our Lady of Peace Church in Lynbrook, NY] joined in. The prizes were many and varied, though no one opted for the most unusual: a tassel from Mussolini's personal fez. Oh, it wasn't?

Our Italian Moment featured Maria Rawe who told of her emigration, at age 10, from Gliaca, Sicily, to Long Island, NY – and of her evolution as a student who spoke no English when she first arrived. Maria's compelling story engendered thoughts amongst us all -- of our personal history and the events that shaped it.

Doc emphasized that we need to register our Italian Moment presenter well ahead of time, preferably a month, so that we're not "winging it" at meeting time. Sad to say, Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi, will NOT be able to speak at our next gathering – something about a court summons connecting him with a Sicilian Mafioso, Vittorio Mangano. Silvio sends his sincerest "mi dispiace."

It's "che peccato" that we still have no HIGHWAY or FUNDRAISING Committee Chairs. Anyone? Anyone?

As all good things come to a "fine," the meeting was adjourned, but not before Frank Fiorentino reminded us to check the IACM's official website: Italianamericanclubofmaui.com

Respectfully submitted.

Fred Rawe , Segretario

