

SONS OF SICILY SAN JOSE WOMEN'S CLUB

Carte Di Donne



Children walk with their homemade lanterns on a stick through the streets following a man on a horse dressed as St. Martin. The walk usually ends at a bonfire, where the depiction of St. Martin sharing his coat comes alive.



KAREN'S CORNER



Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make the raffle baskets for the SOS Christmas Dinner. Since it is a lot more fun to create a basket with all themed items, if you volunteered to make a basket you will purchase the items and the club will reimburse you \$40 per basket. I have attached a Reimbursement Form and Volunteer List to this newsletter. **We will collect the baskets at our December 10 meeting.**

We have had inquiries about ordering our new T Shirts. We will collect orders and \$12 each at the November check-in. If we get at least 12 orders, we can place the order the next day.

Last month we welcomed three new members: **Shirley Battaglia, Ann Nicolosi and Gina Lorenzano.** Gina shares a birthday with another member. There will be a prize for whomever knows the member and the date at the next meeting! Keep bringing your friends and family to our meetings. Guests are always welcome. The dinner charge for guests is \$27.

If you have any items for Cancer Care Point or travel sized toiletries, there will always be a collection location at our meetings for those items.

CULTURAL CORNER

St. Martin's Day in Sicily

On November 11 St. Martin is celebrated and as a tradition, you taste the new wine! In Sicily, people spend these days tasting wine, food & sweets.

This day is the celebration of the Bishop of Tours, known as St. Martin. He was known for his humility and his charity that gave birth to some legends. One of these legends is linked to Indian Summer, and results in some traditional folk festivals.

The legend tells that Martin, son of a Roman army officer, due to an order of that time also became a Roman soldier. When he was in Amiens on a grey, autumn day, he met a half-naked beggar. On impulse, he cut his military cloak in two and shared it with the beggar. Miraculously the cold faded and the sun appeared; that was the first Indian Summer, or as they say in Sicily, “l’estate di San Martino”.

This date, symbolically associated with the maturation of the new wine, is therefore an opportunity to meet and celebrate with people toasting and uncorking new wine. Many wineries open their doors for tasting this day.

Some proverbs remind us that on this occasion many Sicilian families butchered the pig to make ham, salami and sausages. This tradition is still alive in some agricultural centers.

These days in Sicily are the perfect opportunity to enjoy the classic roasted chestnuts and fine local wines, but also homemade bread and desserts typical of this feast, like the cookies of St. Martin. In Palermo, people eat a special sweet called biscotto di San Martino, round cookies flavored with anise seeds, which are broken and wet in the muscat wine. But the sweets of San Martino are many and widespread throughout Sicily: the tricotto (crisp and crumbly perfect for the soak), the rasco (soft cheese, soaked in liquor, filled with cream cheese) and the version of the cookie decorated (soft cheeses, dug out and filled with preserves, frosted and laced with sugar and decorated with chocolate and silver fringes).

BISCOTTI

di San Martino



The typical biscuits prepared during this period are crusty, dry, rounded cookies that are usually eaten with Moscato.

So, use this recipe to make these cookies, break them and sop up your sweet wine for the Sicilian experience.

2 cups flour
7 TBSP butter
1 egg + 1 yolk
6 TBSP sugar
2 TBSP milk
pinch of baking soda
2 TBSP anise or fennel seeds
1 tsp lemon zest

1. Mix all together and put in refrigerator for one hour.
2. Shape into cookies (either horseshoe or roll like a cinnamon roll).
3. Bake @350 for 20 minutes.
4. **Enjoy your Sicilian treat!**

UPCOMING *Events*

**Monday,
November 12th**

Monthly Meeting
at Three Flames

- Kayla Masini will have 60 gift tags for our **Family Giving Tree** donations
- Ramona Marr will be collecting money to donate towards turkeys for **City Team**

**Monday,
December 10th**

Women's Club Christmas Party
at Three Flames

- We will be collecting the 60 promised holiday gifts for **Family Giving Tree**. Please remember to bring them to the meeting unwrapped.
- Bring a separate wrapped gift for our **special holiday game**
- Bring your gift baskets for the men's Christmas Party!

**Friday,
December 14**

SOS Christmas Party
at Naperdak Hall

SICILIAN PROVERB OF THE MONTH

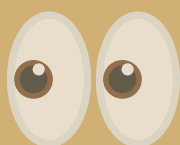
Du' su' i putenti, cu
avi assà e cu nun avi
nenti

There's two types of
powerful, those who
own too much and
those who don't own
a thing

JOKE OF THE MONTH

How does every
good Sicilian joke
start?

By looking over your
shoulder.



LOOKING TO BE A SPONSOR?

If you have a business, you can have your
business card appear in our newsletter
every month for just
\$25 a year.

Please let Karen Heverling know if you
are interested.

BUON COMPLEANNO! NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 - Sharon Vignato

5 - Karen Ravizza

16 - Samantha Palermo

27 - Theresa Zambataro

HEALTH AND WELNESS

Please keep Lynn DiSalvi, Arlene Taormina's
husband, Frank, and Denise Vento's father-in-law,
Russ in your thoughts. They are all recovering from
recent surgeries.

Please also keep Kim Zambataro's mother, Elaine,
in your thoughts. As she is recovering from a fall.

If you have any news for the membership, please
contact Janet Salciccia.

Denise Vento, Secretary (408) 460-5786
Denisev5591@hotmail.com

Esther Zambataro, Treasurer (408) 772-3465
EZ3712@yahoo.com

Janet Salciccia, Member at Large (408) 267-2541
Janetsalciccia@gmail.com

BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

Karen Heverling, President (408) 221-7506
K.heverling@yahoo.com

Judy Taormina, Vice President (408) 267-2509
Pops51@aol.com

Member Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2018

Call To Order:

Meeting was called to order by Karen Heverling, President @ 7:30

Flag Salute

Minutes:

Grace Vaccaro moved to accept the Minutes of September 10 as submitted; Mary Ellen Cancilla seconded the motion.

Financial Report:

Esther reported that the current balance is \$11,306.83 A deposit of \$1,285 and a withdrawal for \$492.44 was transacted since last meeting.

Reports:

Health & Welfare - Maryann Quartuccio gave the Health & Welfare report in the absence of Janet Salciccia. Thoughts and prayers out to Lynn DiSalvi, Russ Vento, Beverly Cusimano & Marie Bandy. October birthday cards were distributed.

Coat & Sweatshirt Drive – Sharon Vignato read a letter from *Learning & Loving Center*, Morgan Hill thanking our members for their generous donations last month.

Old Business:

San Jose Family Shelter – Lauren Salciccia reported that the center needs games, stuffed animals & gift cards for older children. Our drive for this shelter will continue in November.

T Shirts – We can reorder shirts when we have at least 12 orders.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk- Lauren reminded everyone to join in the WALK on October 27.

Cancer Care Point - Gae LaTorre thanked everyone for their donations of

\$55 in donation money, about 60 scarves, three purse, two hats, and about 50 pieces of jewelry last month. Gae will be accepting donations whenever we bring donations.

Travel Sized Toiletries – Dottie Gingerelli will be collecting these items at every meeting for the shelter.

Little Italy Street Fair – Our club was offered (gratis) a booth for the September 30 event at the Festival in August. However, when Esther and the SOS tried to contact the organizers for details, there was no response. We did not participate in the event.

New Business:

Family Giving Tree – Kayla Masini reported that our club has committed to fulfill the wishes of 60 cards. She will distribute the cards at our November meeting. The cards will give the name, age & wishes of the recipient. We will then bring the gift, unwrapped, to our December meeting. The cards must be securely attached to the gift.

Christmas Meeting, December 10 – Denise Vaccaro explained our fun, upcoming event. We will have tables of 8. Each table will have a hostess. The hostess will decorate the table about an hour before the meeting & she can also provide little treats (cookies) for her table if she chooses. The hostess will go to the gift table and bring 8 gifts to the table – one for each person. A story will be read and each time the word *right* is mentioned, each person passes the gift they are holding to the right. Each time *left* is mentioned in the story, we will pass the gift to the left, etc. When the story is finished, each person keeps the gift they are holding.

Each member will bring a \$15 wrapped gift for the distribution table. All gifts will be based on one theme. We voted on *Soft, Cozy, Fuzzy* as our theme.

Hostess Volunteers – Maureen Psomas, Roberta LaDucca, Esther Zambataro, Lisa Chairamonte, Gina Lorenzano, Lauren Salciccia, Karen Ravizza, & Karen Heverling. Alternates: Janet Salciccia, Dottie Gingerelli & Sharon Vignato.

Raffle Baskets for SOS Dinner, December 14 – SOS has asked us to put together ten (10) raffle baskets for their Christmas Party. Our volunteers are: Beverly Cusimano & Barbie Sunseri (3 baskets), Roberta LaDucca (2 baskets),

Denise Vaccaro, Grace Vaccaro, Sharon Vignato & Tonnie Jones, Elaine Hathaway & Patti Brunetti, Maryann Quartuccio & Janet Salciccia. We will get all the basket contents from the SOS by November.

If anyone has a baskets or wooden containers for this project, please bring them to our November meeting.

Italian American Heritage Foundation – Linda Binkley, President, attended our meeting to thank our club for our contribution for the Christopher Columbus Statue. The Italian American Heritage Foundation will have a celebration for all contributing organizations in January.

Tabard Theatre – Grace Vaccaro promoted the upcoming performance of *The Explorers Club*. The show will be at the theatre Oct. 26 – Nov. 18. Tickets are around \$35. The Theatre is on San Pedro Street. For more info: www.TabardTheatre.org

Cultural: Lisa Chairamonte shared her recent experiences in Sicily visiting family and attending the wedding of her niece. She highlighted the Sicilian tradition of Serenade: the groom, family, friends and villagers serenade the bride to be late night on the eve of the wedding.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Psomas for Denise Vento, Secretary

VOLUNTEERS

SOS Raffle Baskets	1. Bev & Barbie
	2. Bev & Barbie
	3. Bev & Barbie
	4. Roberta LaDucca
	5. Roberta LaDucca
	6. Denise Vaccaro
	7. Grace Vaccaro
	8. Sharon Vignato & Tonnie Jones
	9. Maryann Quartuccio & Janet Salciccia
	10. Elaine Hathaway & Patti Brunetti
Christmas Dinner	1. Maureen Psomas
Table Hostesses	2. Roberta LaDucca
Denise Vaccaro, Coordinator	3. Esther Zambataro
	4. Karen Heverling
	5. Lisa Chairamonte
	6. Gina Lorenzano
	7. Lauren Salciccia
	8. Karen Ravizza
Alternates	1. Janet Salciccia
	2. Dottie Gingerelli
	3. Sharon Vignato

Sons of Sicily San Jose

Women's Club

Reimbursement Voucher

Date submitted for payment_____ Voucher#_____

Reimburse to:_____

Items purchased and total cost: (Attach receipts)

Grand total reimbursement:

Event for which item(s) were purchased:_____

Payment approved by:

President_____

Treasurer_____

Payment Date: _____ Check # _____