

SONS OF SICILY SAN JOSE WOMEN'S CLUB

Carte Di Donne



Chairs set up for All Saints Day at the Vatican. All Saints Day traditionally honors all those who have died for the church.



KAREN'S CORNER



Thank you everyone who attended our last meeting with the SOS. The men provided us a fabulous dinner and at the end of the night, they split the cost of the \$20 dinner with our club. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 8th at the Three Flames. Keep bringing your friends and family to our meetings. Guests are always welcome to dinner for a \$27 charge.

Our club was offered a booth (at no charge) at the upcoming Little Italy Italian Street Fair. This is a one day event and last year the attendance was quite large! We will be selling our merchandise from the Italian Festa & some items for the SOS. Thank you to the following ladies for volunteering for our booth. If you can help in the empty time slots, please contact Esther @ EZ3712@yahoo.com

SHIFT	VOLUNTEER
10:00 - NOON	1. Samantha Palermo
	2. Ramona Marr
NOON - 2:30	1. Marissa Austin
	2. Barbara Sunseri
2:30 - 5:00	1. Dottie Gingerelli
	2.
5:00 - 7:30	1. Gina Billing
	2.

Our shirt orders were a great success! We had prepaid orders for 45 shirts, so the order has been placed. We will have the shirts for distribution at the October meeting. From now on, we will have to order at least **12 shirts in each order**, so if you are interested in purchasing a shirt in the next order, please let the check-in ladies know at the next meeting.





SUPPORT THE CAUSE



One Warm Coat- Our members were so generous in their donations, that One Warm Coat has all the donations they can handle right now, so we will not be collecting any more coats & sweatshirts. Thank you to Barbara Sunseri & Sharon Vignato for collecting!

San Jose Family Shelter - Lynn DiSalvi will collect \$10 games and/or stuffed animals at our October and November meetings.

Cancer Care Point - If you have any costume jewelry, hats or scarves to donate, Gae LaTorre will be collecting them at at the October meeting.

Hotel Toiletries - When you return from a trip, unpack your bags, and find all those hotel toiletries, please bring them to our meetings. Dottie Gingerelli will be collecting them throughout the year for the homeless.

UPCOMING EVENTS



**Sunday,
September 30**

Little Italy Street Festival
at Little Italy San Jose

**Saturday,
October 27th**

Making Strides Against
Breast Cancer Walk
at Santana Row

**Monday,
December 10th**

Women's Club
Christmas Meeting
at Three Flames

**Monday,
October 8th**

Monthly Meeting
at Three Flames

**Monday,
November 12th**

Monthly Meeting
at Three Flames

**Friday,
December 14**

SOS Christmas Party
at Naperdak Hall

CULTURAL CORNER

Messina Earthquake of 1908

On the night of December 27, the city's hotels were full of guests in town to see a performance of the opera Aida. At 5:21 the following morning, a large tremor, centered only five miles deep and just off the coast, suddenly shook the city for a full 35 seconds. It was the deadliest earthquake in European history! An eight-foot tsunami crashed about 100 yards inland, but most of the deaths in Messina were a result of buildings collapsing. A military barracks gave way, killing nearly everyone inside; in total, about one of every three residents perished.

Moments after the earthquake, a 40 ft tsunami struck nearby coasts, causing even more devastation. 93% of structures in Messina were destroyed and some 70,000 residents were killed. Rescuers searched through the rubble for weeks, and whole families were still being pulled out alive days later, but thousands remained buried there. All electricity, gas, water and sewage lines were destroyed. Eighty-seven of the 91 churches in Messina were demolished. The prison was also destroyed and escapees reportedly pillaged and looted while would-be rescuers attempted to pull out survivors from beneath a million tons of rubble and debris. The last survivors—two children—were pulled out a remarkable 18 days after the quake.

Buildings in the area had not been constructed for earthquake resistance, having heavy roofs and vulnerable foundations. Most of its buildings were not well built, using rounded stones, weak mortar and unsupported cross beams. When it was over, the city of Messina, which only had a population of 150,000, had been entirely destroyed, along with the nearby city of Reggio di Calabria, and other outlying areas. It is estimated that the combined earthquake and tsunami killed almost 100,000 people that fateful December morning. There was also widespread destruction and death on other parts of the island, bringing the overall death toll to 120,000.

To make matters worse, it took a week for the Italian government to respond and it wasn't until January 9 that martial law and some sense of security was established. Foreign military ships proved to be invaluable, transporting the thousands of injured to hospitals in Naples and Rome. Forty-three governments ended up providing relief and the Red Cross contributed \$1 million in aid.

Sicily is situated near the spot where the European and African continental plates collide. The island endured a horrible earthquake in 1783 in which an estimated 30,000 people died, and in the 125 years following, there were another 20 major earthquakes. None of these subsequent quakes were particularly deadly, though, and the population of Sicily grew to about 3.8 million people by 1900. 158,000 of these people resided in Messina, a port city just across a strait from Reggio on the Italian mainland. Over 40% of the population of Messina and more than 25% of Reggio di Calabria were killed by the earthquake and tsunami, as well as by fires in some parts of Messina. Severe damage was felt throughout large parts of Calabria, Sicily and north to Naples and Campobasso & on Malta, Montenegro, Albania and on the Ionian Islands. Tsunami heights of 20-39 ft were observed on the coast of Sicily south of Messina and heights of 20-33 ft observed along the coast of Calabria.

Aftershocks continued into 1913. The Messina quake was undeniably the most destructive to ever hit Europe. Most of southern Italy's cities lost as many as half their residents that morning. Accounts of shaking and aftershocks were reported throughout Sicily. Signs of the jolt even appeared in Washington, D.C., where the day's crude technology picked up signals of the disaster. A far more rigorous building code was established in Sicily following this earthquake, but it took a very long time for the island to rebound. Fifty years later, there were still 10,000 people living in temporary housing established in the aftermath of the quake.

WORD OF THE MONTH

zucca, n

Avere sale in zucca

**Literal: You've got salt on your pumpkin
OR**

Figurative: You're smart, have your head screwed on right

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Did you hear the one about the Italian who went trick-or-treating?

He dressed up as a "Fun Ghoul"

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! OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

12 - Connie Esposito

12 - Ann Nicolosi

13 - Marina Masini

24 - Taylor Formico

HEALTH AND WELNESS

Arlene Taormina's husband, Frank, is recovering from back surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery.

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

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