

SOGNA

SOCIETÀ ORGANIZZATA PER GIOIESI IN NORD AMERICA

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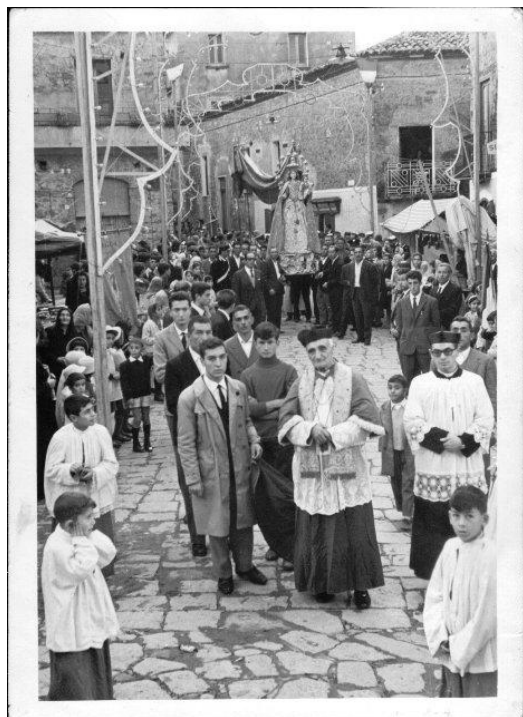
GIOI TODAY AND IN THE PAST—GIOI DI OGGI E DI IERI



PROCESSIONE-AUG. 2006-BY MATT HARRINGTON



CARD GAME-1978-FROM www.comunegioi.it



PROCESSIONE-OCT 1962-FROM www.comunegioi.it 1697 Route 3 East, Clifton, NJ 07012

As you all know, The PICNIC is a blast! We serve hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks. The wine tasting contest and the pot-luck dishes have to be the highlights of the day. Bring you best bottle of wine and your favorite dish to share with everybody. As in the past, we ask you to help pay for the food and drinks expenses and for the donation to the Monastery for the use of their grounds. It is all voluntary. The recommended contribution is **\$25.00 per family or \$10.00 for adults over 12.**

Come and join the fun!

Hope to see you all on the 2nd of June. ARRIVEDECI!

Carissimi Gioiesi,

Gioi is changing fast! It is evident from the pictures and the articles in this issue. On the next page, Michele Ruggiero describes how Gioi, the town of emigrants as many of us remember, is becoming a destination for Eastern European immigrants. We all knew that Gioi was changing, but never would I have predicted new arrivals from foreign countries—All three Piazza pictures on this page, were taken from the same direction. I recognize many faces on the two black and white pictures. Do you remember Don Ciccio, the priest and Don Fernando as a seminarist? Who are the young kids up front? Do you recognize Alberto Infante to the immediate left of Don Ciccio?—SEVERINO D'ANGELO

SOGNA PICNIC—June 2, 2007

Mark your calendar. The fun starts at 11:30 am. Don't miss it!

Holy Face Monastery

1697 Route 3 East, Clifton, NJ 07012

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SOGNA, Inc

P.O. Box 54

Totowa, NJ 07511

(949)494-0972

staff@gioi.com

<http://www.gioi.com>

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<http://gioi.altervista.org>

www.comunegioi.it

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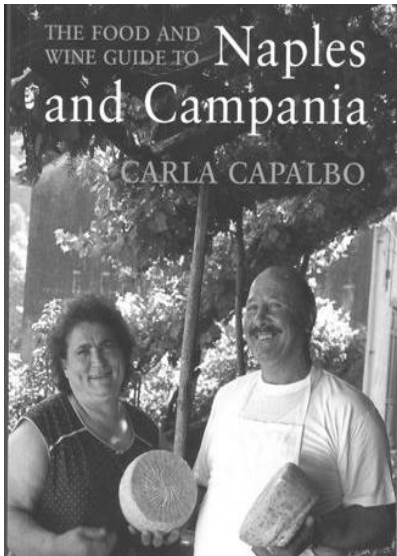
www.marioromano.it

www.oasicasalvelino.com

www.soppressatadigioi.com

PS: The DINNER/DANCE will be October 27, 2007. More information in the next SOGNA issues.

TRAVEL AND CULTURE—By ENZO MARMORA



If you are visiting Gioi and the Campania Region, now there is a comprehensive guide book that offers a road map to the region centuries-old agriculture and culinary traditions. It is a very useful companion to visitors to the region. The name of the book is "THE FOOD AND WINE GUIDE TO Naples and Campania" by Carla Capalbo whose other

previous famous books include "THE ULTIMATE ITALIAN COOKBOOK" and the "FOOD LOVER'S COMPANION TO TUSCANY". Presented in a historical and cultural context, the Naples and Campania book provides in-depth background information about local food preparation techniques. In it, you will find fascinating information about wines, olive oil, cheeses, vegetables, cured pork meats and other local products. Gioi is described on page 287, where the author writes about the *soppresata di Gioi*, a salt and pepper cured salami that has been given a "presidio" by the Slow Food organization. Visit www.slowfood.com The *soppresata di Gioi* is the only salami made in the Campania region to receive a "presidio" for the purpose of safe-guarding the millennium-old recipe meticulously followed by Gioiesi since the Middle Ages. Carla Capalbo describes the resulting product "a gastronomic gem". You can find the book in the travel section of Barnes and Nobles, book number 9781873429716. It is also available from Borders.

In a related story, a few months ago, located in the nearby town of Stio, a new company called "**Il Salume del Cilento**" opened a salami processing plant producing *soppresata di Gioi* and other fine local salami. It is a large operation processing approximately 2000 pigs per year. For detailed information visit the website beautifully designed by Giacomo Reielli, www.soppressatadigioid.com

BED & BREAKFAST—For the traveler preferring a rural accommodation while visiting Gioi, there are two *Agriturismo* bed and breakfasts available. Both called *Le Cicale*, one is located in the *Ferrara* section of the countryside and the other in the *Sterza* section. If you do not like walking a few miles uphill, a car is essential to drive to town from both places. Visit www.provincia.salerno.it for more information, and click on *Le Cicale* in the *Agriturismo* section.

THEATER & RESTAURANT—Desiring an evening at the theater while staying in Gioi? Half an hour away, in Vallo, you will find the theater *La Provvidenza* offering excellent plays and concerts. Visit www.teatrolaprovvidenza.it for program information. The theater is located on *Via Valenzano*, right next door to an excellent restaurant called *Il Sinodo*.

ANCEL KEYS DIES—I am saddened to report the departure of Ancel Keys, author of the "Mediterranean Diet". A Minnesota native, Dr. Keys died in his 90's after having lived for almost half a century in the *Cilento* coastal town of *Pioppi*, about 10 miles west of Gioi. Dr. Keys demonstrated with convincing scientific documentation, that the simple and straight forward Mediterranean diet of vegetables, olive oil, grains and fish, equals good health and longer life. His residence, *Palazzo Vinciprova* has now been turned into the museum *Museo del Mare*. His writings and lectures have made Italian food more popular than ever.



SOGNA TRUSTEE MEETING, DEC 2006—FROM RIGHT: ENZO MARMORA, BICE DEL GALDO, ARLENE AND NICK D'AGOSTO.

ELDERLY AND FOREIGNERS: TWO WORLDS SEEMINGLY FAR APART. BY MICHELE RUGGIERO
Traduzione di: "ANZIANI E STRANIERI: DUE MONDI APPARENTEMENTE LONTANI". SOGNA, 15^{ma} edizione.

The elderly: Who better than they represent the historical identity, soul and aspects of Gioi? At the same time, the foreigners: they give us a glimpse into the future of the emerging new European identity. Gioi's elderly and the recent influx of foreigners to our small town, represent two worlds seemingly different; but in Gioi, they are closely linked. It is a new phenomenon, strange in some ways; but very real. Today, Gioi has a large aging population in constant need of care while recovering following medical interventions. But often, such assistance extends to house cleaning or it is limited to simple companionship for the elderly person.

Gioiesi have hired about 30 guest workers from Poland, Ukraine and Romania to provide these services full-time or as a part-time assignment. By large, these guest workers are well educated women, adapted to hospice care with seemingly unlimited patience and capable of performing humble work without complaining. Usually, they are seen on Sundays, walking in small groups to the "Castello" on toward the "Leoni". They are the "colf" or the caretakers and represent a true change for Gioi in recent years.



LEONI—Redesigned by M. N. Ruggiero to look more like the original ancient PORTA NOVA.

Emigration has been an important chapter in Gioi's history as well Italy's as a whole. Early in the twentieth century, millions of Italians, including many Gioiesi, crossed the Atlantic in search of a better future in the United States, Argentina and elsewhere in South America. Following WWII, emigration took a different direction towards northern Europe to countries like Germany, France and Belgium. Remittances from these emigrants, earning from abroad sent to their families, back in those days, were a major contribution to improving our national economy. Today's Italy, the land of emigrants of the past, has turned into the land of immigration. Reminiscing our past may help in understanding the problems and the fears of our guest-workers who hope to find in our town a more dignifying life. Today our town relives its history, but in reverse. We watch foreigners walking our streets and see in them our past emigrants, their hopes and dreams for a better future.



LEONI-Redesigned: Fountain and ruins of look-out tower.

Post WWII GIOI—BY SEVERINO D'ANGELO

Those born in Gioi during the first half of the 1940's or earlier, remember our medieval little town as it was before the arrival of indoor plumbing, cooking stoves or central heating. For me, those are priceless memories that I will cherish forever. Having experienced the Italian medieval way of life before being overtaken by the TV and computer age, it is like gift of having miraculously traveled back in time without ever leaving home. At times, when I reminisce those 'good old days' with other Gioiesi; failing to see my enthusiasm, my friends assume that I malign my birth town and denigrate my upbringing. Nothing could be farther from the truth! I would never trade my Spartan upbringing in Gioi in the 1940 for any royal house. Now that you know how much I really love my birth place; I can say without prejudice and hopefully, without getting my compaesani upset, how primitive Gioi truly was in the 1940's and early 1950's!

To start, many of us literally lived with the animals. Not in the same room of course; most houses, including my own, had two stories; people lived upstairs while the animals were housed in stables downstairs. These animals usually included, pigs, donkeys, goats, chickens and rabbits. Traveling recently to the Greek island of Santorini, I learned that the ancient Greek city of Akrotiri, in 1500 BC; (that was 1000 years before the Romans and the Classic Greek period) kept their farm animals outside the city walls. It is fascinating, that nearly 3500 years later, Gioi and other southern Italian towns still had not adopted this simple rule of public sanitation.

Winters in Gioi were bitterly cold, so much so that I and other little kids, every year developed frost bites "geloni" on hands and feet. The fireplace in the kitchen was the only source of heat for the entire house and it doubled as the only place to cook food. Lacking running water and a water heating system, made it nearly impossible to take a bath in the winter. Washing my face, hands and feet out of a bucket containing nearly freezing water, was terribly unpleasant. Not long ago, I read an account comparing post WWII Southern Italy to a third world country. At first, the analogy surprised me, but quickly I had to agree.

By looking at Gioi today, one will never suspect its humble past. As it has been for many years now, contemporary Gioi is a sparkling clean, charming little hill-town, second to none in modern conveniences. No longer pesky flies try to share your lunch; and chickens, once free-ranging through town, have been relocated to the farms nearby. All the animals and their smells are gone. Even the faithful donkey, the traditional all-terrain transportation vehicle, unmatched by modern SUVs its off-road skills, is vanished forever. **END**

JENNIE RIZZO TELLING US WHO SHE IS

Ciao tutti! My name is Jennie Marie Rizzo. I am one of three new trustees of SOGNA, along with Antonio Infante and Angela Rizzo. Being named a SOGNA trustee is such an honor. I am American born, but with strong ties to Gioi, as well as Italy. I was born on May 9, 1982, in Secaucus, NJ and raised in Little Falls, NJ. I graduated from Montclair State University in 2005, with a degree in Italian. I am currently a preschool teacher in Clifton, NJ. My father was Albino Rizzo, the youngest son of Antonio Rizzo and Carmelina Ferra. He was born in Gioi, 1935 and moved to America in 1963, at the age of 27, with his older brother Adolfo. Here he met my

mother Rosalie Errico born in 1948 in Jersey City, NJ. She is the daughter of Raffaele Errico, another Gioiesi descendant, and Giovannina Buonadiaz, of San Mango, Cilento. Sadly, my father, my only direct tie to Gioi, passed away April 12, 2001, leaving behind my mother, myself, my two brothers, Eric and Marc, their wives Sharon and Nicole, and my 2 nieces, Gabriella and Gianna. On a happier note, I am proud to call myself the daughter of a Gioiese. I learned so much from not only my father, but my entire family, and I could not be more proud of being part of this FANTASTIC organization.

JENNIE RIZZO CI DICE CHI E' LEI

Ciao tutti! Mi chiamo Jennie Marie Rizzo. Sono una dei tre nuovi fiduciari di SOGNA, insieme ad Antonio Infante e Angela Rizzo. Questo ruolo e' un grande onore per me, poich  sono nata in America, ma con un forte legame a Gioi, e con l'Italia. Nata il 9 Maggio 1982, a Secaucus, NJ, sono cresciuta a Little Falls, NJ. Laureata in Italiano da Montclair State University nel 2005, adesso insegno in una scuola d'asilo a Clifton, NJ. Mio padre, Albino Rizzo, nato a Gioi nel 1935, era il nono e ultimo figlio di Antonio Rizzo e Carmelina Ferra. A 27 anni venne in America nel 1963, con il fratello, Adolfo. Qui,

incontr  mia madre, Rosalie Errico, nata il 1948 a Jersey City, NJ. Lei e' la figlia di Raffaele Errico, un'altro discendente da Gioi, e Giovannina Buonadiaz, di San Mango Cilento. Sfortunatamente, mio padre, il mio unico legame con Gioi, mori il 12 Aprile 2001 lasciando, me, mia madre, i miei due fratelli Eric e Marc, le loro mogli, Sharon e Nicole e le mie due nipotine, Gabriella e Gianna. Come ho gia' detto, sono orgogliosa di essere una discendente di Gioi. Ho imparato tantissimo da mio padre e da tutta la mia famiglia, e sono orgogliosissima di essere parte di questa FANTASTICA organizzazione.

SOGNA—335 Cajon Terrace
Laguna Beach, CA 92651—USA



Jennie Rizzo, new SOGNA Trustee and Alberto Infante, SOGNA President.

SOGNA PICNIC—June 2, 2007!

**AIR MAIL
FIRST CLASS**