

SOGNA

"Societa' Organizzata per Gioiesi in Nord America"

Quattordicesima Edizione

Primavera 2005

Arrivano Gli Americani!

Quando dissi a mia moglie Barbara, che avevo deciso di portare a Gioi un gruppo di Americani, lei mi rispose: "Non lo dici sul serio! Io non ci vengo!" Barbara é una di quelle donne che oltre ad essere adorabile, ha di solito ragione. Questa volta però é stata un'eccezione. Il viaggio dei 16 e' andato senza incidenti e ha avuto un successo fenomenale. Voglio ringraziare tutti voi Gioiesi che ci avete aiutato ad organizzare l'evento. É impossibile elencare tutti, ma voglio dar credito almeno a quelli che mi saltano in mente incominciando con l'efficientissima MariaTeresa Scarpa, presidente del Proloco. Occupatissima con i suoi altri impegni, MariaTeresa ha trovato il tempo per organizzare tutto e far sì che questo progetto riuscisse. Delle grazie speciali vanno al sindaco dott. Leopoldo Errico, per l'ospitalità offertaci al municipio. Altri da ringraziare sono...

- L'artista Mario Romano per aver dato ad ogni ospite, come ricordo, una stampa del suo capolavoro Panorama di Gioi con dedica personalizzata.
- Don Fernando Scarpa per averci accompagnato a Roma ed essere venuto poi a Gioi per celebrare la Santa Messa, a richiesta di Rose Cardine.
- Carlino Scarpa per il suo entusiasmo e per aver offerto la colazione a tutti i visitatori, l'ultimo giorno della nostra visita a Gioi.
- Elena e Antonio Scarpa, Franco e Adriana Grompone, Elena e Raffaele Errico, Rina Del Galdo-Scarpa, per la calorosa ospitalità nelle loro case.
- I Quattro Venti per aver preparato quei pranzi squisiti con ingredienti freschi e genuini che si possono trovare solo a Gioi.
- Carmelina Torraca per averci accompagnato con le sue canzoni sull'autobus da Roma e poi ospitatici a casa sua.
- Adele Grompone per il giro di Gioi ricco di spiegazioni storiche.
- MariaElena Passaro per averci fatto da guida tra i templi di Paestum.

Un grazie di vero cuore va poi a tutti voi Gioiesi che ci avete accolto con quel calore che solo noi Italiani sappiamo manifestare. SEVERINO D'ANGELO

(See English translation inside 'THE AMERICANS ARE COMING TO GIOI')

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THE AMERICANS ARE COMING TO GIOI

When I said to my wife Barbara that I intended to guide a group of Americans to Gioi; she answered: "You've got to be kidding! No way, am I coming along!" Barbara who is adorable, smart and rarely wrong, this time she was wrong. The trip concluded with no mishaps and was a phenomenal success. I must thank all those from Gioi who contributed to organizing the event. It is impossible to list them all, but at least I should mention the few who come to mind, starting with the tireless Maria Teresa Scarpa, president of Proloco. Although, very busy with her other responsibilities, she managed to find the time to organize and see this project to fruition. In addition, I must extend special thanks to the Mayor of Gioi, Dr. Leopoldo Errico, for the culminating reception at city hall on our last day before departing for Rome. Others to thank are as follow:

- The artist Mario Romano for having given prints of his masterpiece Gioi-Panorama to each of us. The prints in sparkling colors carried a personal dedication for Mario to each individual recipient.
- Don Fernando Scarpa for having first come with us to Rome and then returned to Gioi to celebrate the Holly Mass as requested by Rose Cardine.
- Carlino Scarpa for his enthusiastic welcome and his generosity, having bought breakfast for all of us, the last day in Gioi.
- Elena and Antonio Scarpa, Franco and Adriana Grompone, Elena and Raffaele Errico, Rina Del Galdo-Scarpa for sharing their homes and hosting our guests.
- I Quattro Venti restaurant for preparing those delicious dinners and breakfasts with fresh ingredients that one can only find in Gioi.
- Carmelina Torraca for having entertained us with her songs on the bus from Rome and for opening her house to all the guests.
- Adele Grompone for her informative tour of Gioi and Elena Passaro for guiding us among the Greek temples of Paestum.

WHO WERE THE VISITORS?

- From California, David and Nancy Ballantine came to Gioi and Italy to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. David and Sandy are not of Italian origin; but they wanted to see that side of Italy, such as Gioi, that tourists do not normally see. They were impressed with the Gioiesi's warmth and friendliness.
- From Detroit, Christopher Cardine, formerly a tank battalion commander, now works for General Dynamics and remains a foremost tank technology expert. He came to Gioi with his mother Rose Cardine who, living in Pennsylvania, nearly 80 years of age, was the senior member of the group. Rose, the daughter of Giovannina Del Galdo and Sabato De Marco, came to Gioi with Christopher to revisit the birthplace of her parents.
- From Maryland, Gioi welcomed for the first time, the young Romano family. The dad is an American

related to Giuseppe Romano, who lives in Gioi. Along with their two year old daughter, the Romanos came to Gioi to get to know their relatives and trace their roots.

- Bice Del Galdo, born in Gioi, splits her time between New Jersey and Florida. She came to Gioi with her husband Roger Lentz and her daughter Jeannette and family, including husband George Kosachak and energetic 2.5 year-old Nicolas.
- Having left Gioi 50 years ago, Elena Fortunato-Harris returned for the first time with her son Robert. Visiting Gioi for the first time Robert said in his own words: "This trip was not only a cultural and historical one, but a chance to put all of the pieces of my mother's, aunt's, uncle's and grandmother's stories, songs and lives together. It has taken the puzzle out of my (Fortunato) heritage and made it somewhat complete."
- The good humored Anita Santomauro lives in Florida. Part of the Marmora extended family, Anita was born in Uruguay and moved to the USA as a little girl.
- Helen Medel was born in Gioi in 1928 from Giuseppina and Francesco Feola. She often visits the Errico's, her relatives in Gioi.



Visiting Pompei



Sorrento

MY CONNECTION TO GIOI (continued from previous newsletter)

Now that I had established contact with my roots in Italy, the next step had to be to meet them in person! My wife and I had long dreamed of a vacation to Italy, but now there was a compelling reason to make the trip now. Since it was our first trip, we decided to take a tour, but added several days on to our vacation to allow us time to meet the family. With the tour ending in Rome, we drove to Salerno and initially met my father's 1st cousin, Lucia. Despite the language barrier, we could feel the bond of family immediately. Later in the day we met Lucia's sister Anna, her husband Alfredo and their children and grandchildren. Francesco and Mario were fluent in English so communication was much better. We exchanged pictures and reviewed the family tree that I had been working on for the last several years. As luck would have it the newest D'Agosto descendant was being christened the Sunday we were there. We traveled across Italy to Bari for the Christening, where I got to meet the rest of D'Agosto family that had descended from Luigi D'Agosto, my grandfather's brother, the one that remained behind when all his siblings had left for a better life in some foreign land. What was amazing to see was how well, happy, and successful the whole family seemed, even when compared to the descendants of the siblings that had left for the better life! The most memorable aspect of the trip, however, had to be the warmth and familial love that I felt, even though we were separated by generations and were almost half a world apart! I look forward to returning in the not too distant future. (For additional pictures from Gioi, check out <http://dagosto.com/italy/images/gioi/gioi.htm> on the author's personal website)

NICHOLAS D'AGOSTO III



Author entering the D'Agosto home at Via Mazzinni, 15 in Gioi!



The celebration after the christening of Giuseppe D'Agosto.

From Vancouver, BC, Canada

Many Gioiesi in North America, live in Canada, from Montreal to Vancouver. Fiore Romano, his son Armando and their respective families live in beautiful British Columbia, near Vancouver. British Columbia is on the Pacific Ocean, immediately North of Seattle and the state of Washington. Below is picture from Armando and his wife Colleen riding their new Vespa:



Armando and Colleen Romano

Saluti da Armando Romano a tutti i Gioiesi!

GIOI BURIED BY SNOW

Usually, Gioi does not receive very much snow. Many of us know that it is very cold there in the winter but rarely snowy. However, as the picture below show, the winter of 2005 was the exception. Last time that anything like this happened was approximately 50 years ago. However, many Gioiesi believe that this year, the snow storm was bigger and lasted longer.



Castello-March 2005

SEVERINO REGAINS HIS ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP

Yes! I am again an Italian citizen. But you must read the story I am writing on the subject. Depending on your sense of humor, you can see it as funny story or as a tragedy. Either way, you will learn a great deal about the efficiency of the Italian bureaucracy. Until you will have a chance to read my story, if any of you is interested in regaining or gaining for the first time Italian citizenship, contact me, Severino.



Scene from via Roma-Gioi



Piazza-MariaTeresa Scarpa with the Ballantynes

More pictures from Gioi

***Viva Gioi
E
Saluti ai Gioiesi in tutto il MONDO!***

PICNIC 2005 PLANS

- **When:** Saturday, June 18, 2005
Mass @ 11:00 a.m.
Festivities @ 12 noon to ???
- **Where:** "Casa D'Angelo"
89 Columbus Ave.
Totowa, NJ 07512
(973) 389-1133 (please RSVP by June 8)
- **What:** Fun
Games
Gioiesi Comraderie
- **Cost:** \$10 adult
\$5 children under 12
\$25 "Family" ticket
- **Menu:** Hamburgers
Hotdogs
Homemade Pasta
Beer
Soda
Homemade Wine

Sogna Dinner-Dance will be September 24, 2005

La Reggia - Meadowlands Plaza Hotel, 40 Wood Ave., Secaucus, N.J. 07094 (201)422-0200
Adults \$65.00 & \$30.00 Child (up to 12yrs old)

Mark your calendar and Look for invitation in the mail.

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