ITALIAN GENEALOGICAL GROUP

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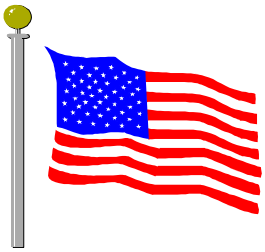

Presidents' Message

Cari amici,

This holiday season let us take the time to continue our collection of historical family events as we gather together with our family and friends. This is the time to reflect upon those humorous, adventurous, and sad moments in our lives. Now is the opportunity to be thankful that we are able to continue to enjoy the company of those whom we love.

We urge you to transcribe and preserve your memories and present them as gifts to your children and grandchildren. Personal historical events are priceless.

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We wish to thank the Irish Genealogical Group for joining in our November meeting with Steve Morse.

Our January meeting will focus on our individual research, sharing our progress, and questions and answers. Please share with your regional group the memorable reminiscences you have collected.

Buon Natale a tutti,

Marilyn Verna and Michael Genovese
Co-Presidents

Computer Corner

More websites from **Tony Sasso, Anthony DiMarino, Barbara Florio** and **Joanne Heffernan.**

Here is a great website where you can enter any year and automatically see the entire year. That's great for finding a day of the week for an event, obit or whatever <http://www.timeanddate.com>

You can sure learn a lot about any zip code at <http://zipskinny.com/> Check out your zip code. You will not believe the information you will find.

Check out <www.Trulia.com> one of the 10 best real estate websites. You can see what's going on in the neighborhoods

Check out Il Vernacolo Lucano—The Lucanian Dialect at <http://members.tripod.com/~toncxjo/Lucano.html>.

Two more very interesting genealogy web sites are:<http://www.nyvagenealogy.homestead.com/newyorkrecords.html> and:<http://www.deathindexes.com/>

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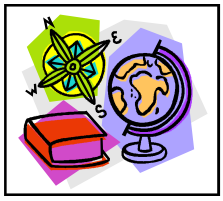
Annual Membership: Individual $22 per year; Family $27 per year; Outside U. S. Membership $27 per year
Newsletter is published 10 times a year.
Meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of each month, Sept. to June at 10:30 AM

Profiles from the Four Corners

Michael S. Genovese



Our profile this month centers on IGG member, **Jan Graef** who hails from San Dimas in California. Jan and Dave, her husband, have been married for 30 years and have three adult children. Dave was born in Pennsylvania and moved to California as a toddler, and Jan was born in New York and moved to California at age seven. Their children were born in California. Currently Jan is retired, but over the years she worked as an insurance adjuster, a clerk for K-Mart, a special education instructional aide and at a variety of secretarial positions. Janice, who just started her research in earnest expressed her concern about family history in these words, "It is one thing to read another's story, but quite another to have your own story for public perusal." I thank Janice for her sharing with our readers. It's only in the sharing that we help each other in our search for our family's roots.

"My hobbies include my four horses, shooting clay pigeons and targets, sailing, reading and being with my family and friends, and now my hobby's have increased to include genealogy. It is only within this past year that I became serious about searching for my ancestors.

My interest began years ago, however, from stories that my mom told me about her father. My maternal grandfather is a mystery. He never told his family exactly where he was born or anything about his immediate family. On censuses and draft registration resources, he lists his place of birth in various places, from New York to Texas to Denmark. Well, being naturally curious, I decided to find out the truth, and that started my search. I never knew my maternal grandfather, as he died when my mom was only eleven. My paternal grandfather died when I was a teenager, and at that time his ancestry didn't seem important to me.

I connected with IGG quite by accident. I believe I was searching my great-grandfather's surname when IGG popped up via a search site called "Surname Navigator." I immediately began using your website and thought, 'Wow, this site has been so helpful I'd like to join the group.' I was and still am impressed with the fact that IGG is an all-volunteer manned website. After the holidays, I'd love to help out with typing information for the databases posted on the website. I would really like to give back because your site has been so helpful. IGG is the only website that has provided me with names and dates of marriages of family members that I was unable to locate anywhere else via the internet. I know that I need to actually spend time at a local LDS location but up to now my main research has been accomplished on the internet. My mother has some paperwork she is going to share with me, but because of distance, I don't have these items yet.

My Italian connections come from my mother, whose grandparents were both born in Italy. Unfortunately, the Italian language was not passed down to my mother or her siblings, so I speak no Italian. I have had some successes in my initial search, but many more obstacles. All of the readers probably have similar obstacles: name changes, misspellings, a disconnect with relatives from over the ocean, conflicting information on various records, etc. It isn't easy to unravel the threads of our lives. I am enjoying all of it though because each discovery is like a gift and it helps me to identify with my ancestors."

Jan's surnames include: Iosca, Camera, Balsomo (possibly Balsamo) and Allegretti and she believes that the surnames are all from Trivigno, Potenza, Basilicata.

I wish to thank Jan Graef for her sharing and wish to extend her our good wishes that she continue with success in her research. We are glad that IGG has played a part in her quest and look forward to corresponding with her on a regular basis.

You may send articles by mail or electronically in WORD format. Send articles by mail to Michael S. Genovese, IGG Membership Profiles, 50 Daisy Avenue, Floral Park, New York, 11001 or e-mail your story as a Word attachment to: mikegino@aol.com

Who was Salvatore Studioso?

Salvatore Studioso was known in his adopted country as *Charles Studioso*. He was my mother's father, my grandfather. He died at age 96 years, in 1981.

Mr. Giovanni Montanti at www.sicilyvideo.it was able to confirm my suspicions. Salvatore Studioso was born in Mazara del Vallo in the Province of Trapani, on May 20, 1885 to an unwed mother. Although Italian law states that the father must be identified, neither he nor the mother were.

Seven days after his birth, he was baptized in the Cathedral of San Salvatore in Mazara del Vallo when he was adopted by a couple who could not have children. His adoptive parents educated him through grammar school and high school, a highly unusual occurrence in that day and age in southern of Italy.

Mailmen even today, know much about the areas and people they deliver mail to every day. I guess it was no different in Italy in those days. One day, the mailman saw young Salvatore speaking to a young girl in another part of Mazara. The mailman, knowing both Salvatore's history and that of the girl, told the boy's adoptive father. The adoptive father and mother who had only told Salvatore that he was adopted, now had to tell him that he also had an older brother and a younger sister by the same parents. The girl he had been speaking to was his sister. Later, in America, Salvatore also met his older brother.

Charlie Studioso, came to the United States when he was eighteen years old in 1903, the ships manifest identified Salvatore as able to read and write and his occupation was listed as a Barber. The record also stated that he had $6 in his pocket and was sponsored by his uncle Francesco Tortorici of 189 Jackson Street in Brooklyn. This address just happens to be the same address as my mother's grandparents. Francesco Tortorici and Francesca Perricone eventually became my great grand parents.

On December 29, 1904, Charlie Studioso and Francesca Tortorici married. She had been in the US seven years, he only one year and a few months. This fact leads me to think that this was an arranged marriage. Francesca was 23 years old when she married 19 year-old Charlie. This marriage produced six children, four girls and two boys. The first, a girl known as Anna, but christened Hanna. This name Hanna comes up again in family verbal history as that of the young girl Salvatore had been seen speaking to by the mailman.

Francesca Tortorici Studioso died in 1928. This left Charlie with five children from ages twenty to eleven years old. One of these children, the oldest boy, was serving time for armed robbery at a "college" called Sing-Sing in upstate NY. The subsequent legal fees and embarrassment were difficult for Charlie, having lost his wife. Less than a year after Francesca died, on March 14, 1929 he married a widow from the neighborhood, which did not leave a warm feeling in the three older girls (21, 20 and 18). This widow was my father's mother, Josephine (Demeiri) Falabella. This joined the two families whose children were approximately the same age.

Grandpa convinced my father to learn how to be a barber, a trade he could always fall back on. My father spoke and understood Italian. One day a stranger came into the shop. He waited for my grandfather's chair. When grandpa was finished, he paid and left.

In those days, each barbershop was a news gathering spot for the old timers. When this new customer left, one of the old timers said, "Charlie don't you know who that was?" They had noticed that very little had been said between the two men. They told my grandfather, "That was your brother." My father when he came home told my mother, "I saw your uncle today." She thought he had seen her uncle Frank Jr., her mother's brother. He explained to her what had happened. It was from this point that the cat was out of the bag.

The new customer came back many times. Both brothers were trying to establish a relationship, until the older brother dropped the other shoe. He told Charlie that their sister was living in Manhattan, and he thought his brother and their families should meet. With that, my grandfather refused to continue the relationship. Charlie started his apprenticeship in Francesco Tortorici's barbershop. One wall of the shop was lined with shelves (called pigeon holes) for the customer's personal shaving

cups and brushes. Each cup had the customer's name engraved on it in gold leaf. It also had an emblem of the customer's choice. The shop also had elaborate wood cornices and mirrors.

At first, the cleaning of these cups and the shop were Charlie's job. In between, he was learning how to be a barber. Each barber shop also had a barber pole out front. It was red and white swirl and rotated. This identified the barber shop on the street, which was also a place for first aid when needed. As a pre-teenager it was my job to keep grandpa's barber pole spring, wound up and the red and white pole spinning.

With the barber shop in Brooklyn doing well and the older Studioso girls and Falabella boys working, they finally buy a house of their own.

Eight months later on October 1929, the New York stock market crashed. It took some time before the "little people" felt the result of that crash. By the end of 1929, my aunt Anna, the oldest, married my uncle Mark Labriola, who later became my godfather. My father and his two brothers had been going to my grandfather's competitor's barbershop across the street. Both shops opposite each other were successful in their businesses.

On June 17, 1930, my mother and father married. I was born in December 1930. I became my own step cousin with a step aunt and uncle who were also my mother and father.

I am not giving up on finding information about my mother's father, Salvatore Studioso. There are three Studioso families that live in a town on the north coast of Sicily. This I found on Giovanni's web site. An odd thing about this is that town's name is "Tortorici." I remember asking my grandfather how he got the name Studioso. His answer was, "I am smart, so they called me Studioso (studious)." He also referred to himself as the "Sicilian Prince." It was not until I started his research that I found out he came to America on the ship named the "Sicilian Prince." He and I had the same interests; both of us were good at art and working with our hands.

I find genealogy fascinating. It is a very personal thing, OUR History, who we are. We are the sum of many people that for thousands of years passed their physical and mental characteristics, on to future generations.

A big thank you to John Martino, Grace Olivo, Tom Fugalli and Giovanni Montanti for their help with this research story.

Mike Falabella maf1228@optonline.net

Volunteer Service Awards

On October 13, 2007**, Barbara Florio**, presented 2007 Volunteer Service Award Certificates to **Ann Holland, Dolores Frank, Ivan Frank, Linda Carco, Bill Amadio** and **Fred** and **Carol Danner**. The Armand Tarantelli award plaque was presented to **June Hessler**.

June Hessler, Barbara Florio and Marilyn Verna

Bill Amadio, Barbara Florio and Marilyn Verna

Westchester Chapter

June Hesler

In honor of Italian Heritage Month and Family History Month the Westchester Chapter on Saturday, October 27th, provided a program on basic genealogy. We were fortunate to have IGG member **Tony Lauriano**, who does a two part program for Seniornet in Rockland County, as our speaker.

Tony began with the basic information one should gather. Realize that those stories heard over the years will contain some accurate information and some not so accurate, so keep these stories in the back of your mind. Tony then discussed Italian naming traditions with the first male being named after the paternal grandfather and the first female after the paternal grandmother. Thus one can end up with many people with the same name. Is this one your great-grandfather or is it his cousin? Therefore not only are you working backwards but also sideways when gathering information. With the possibility of similar names be careful not to sell yourself on your findings. Even though you have the correct name and other matching information, sometimes not everything completely matches. Rather than put it in your permanent file just hold onto it. You have to be patient. If not, then genealogy is not for you.

The most important U.S. record to start with is the federal census. Here will be found the most information about the immigrant including the year of immigration, if naturalized, the number of children and occupation. Ancestry.com is an excellent source for census records and provides the ability to search a name based on what it sounds like, helpful if you don't find it with the exact spelling. Tony pointed out that when looking at the census page look before and after the names you are researching. You can find information you weren't even looking for since many times relatives lived near each other or even sometimes in the same household. By way of the information listed in the census, you can bring out family stories.

The next records of interest are the ship passenger lists. These forms were made up in the US and sent to the major world ports. The forms were then filled out at the port of departure. Besides looking at the page where your ancestor is listed, look also at the first page which lists the captain's name and look at the last pages for the "Records of Aliens Held for Special Inquiry" which lists those who were held over and the reason. Sometimes you need to look at a page two to three times to really notice everything. And once you have the name of the ship go to the website TheShipsList <theshipslist.com> for a picture and description.

Tony mentioned that not everyone entered through Ellis Island. First off, it opened in 1892, so for prior records you need to look at Castle Garden <castlegarden.org>, but also it was cheaper to enter through Canada. To check that border, Ancestry.com has "Border Crossings: From Canada 1895-1956."

Naturalization papers (Declaration of Intent and the Petition of Naturalization) were also covered. The book *They Became Americans* by Loretto Dennis Szucs is the definitive book on the naturalization process. In 1906, the law changed and the INS started. Prior to 1906, you would go to the local courts to file your naturalization papers, but after it is handled by the federal courts. A lot more information was collected including a description of the person applying, date of arrival and spousal information. The IGG databases <www.italiangen.org/databaselist.stm> were mentioned as a very valuable source of information. Once you have the certificate number, you can send to the National Archives for a copy of the record.

Other records discussed were birth, death and marriage records. The NY State Department of Health Genealogy & Resource web page <www.health.state.ny.us/vital_records/genealogy.htm> provides information on obtaining birth, death and marriage records. As for the SS DI, Tony felt the Rootsweb site <www.rootsweb.com> was easier to search than Ancestry.com.

As a final piece of genealogical research one can request from the National Archives <archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/replacement-medals.html> replacement of military awards, decorations and medals for all branches of the service. It is best if a copy of the serviceperson's discharge papers is included with the application. If the serviceperson is deceased, a letter signed by the next of kin is required in order to release the medals.

Pittsburgh Chapter

Marilyn Verna, Ed.D.

The Michael A. Musmanno Chapter of the IGG in Pittsburgh, PA is having productive meetings with its members and guests.

The group utilized its guides and journals obtained from us as a springboard for its roundtable discussions.

Jerry Boscia was honored as a pioneer organizer of the Greci (Avellino, Campania) reunion held in July in Canton, OH. Jerry and his cousin compiled a database of old Greci records (1810-1936) which can be viewed on line.

Rose Bagin and **Kathy Rosella** shared photographs of weddings and funeral processions and discussed the significance of the items in the photos. **Jean Phillips** shared a newspaper article she found about an older brother whom she never knew who died in an auto accident.

The members have been active in attending the Western PA Genealogy Society meetings, the Milwaukee Italian Festa, lectures dealing with WWII and the fascist regime, and attending Italian language classes.

In the photo above is **Kathleen Vescio Rosella** (left) and **Marilyn Cocchiola Holt** (right) who are explaining how to interpret Italian birth, death, and marriage records at the Little Italy Days in Bloomfield, PA

The Mystery of the Grave;

On that Day the Dead Will Reveal their Secrets

Anthony Di Bartolo

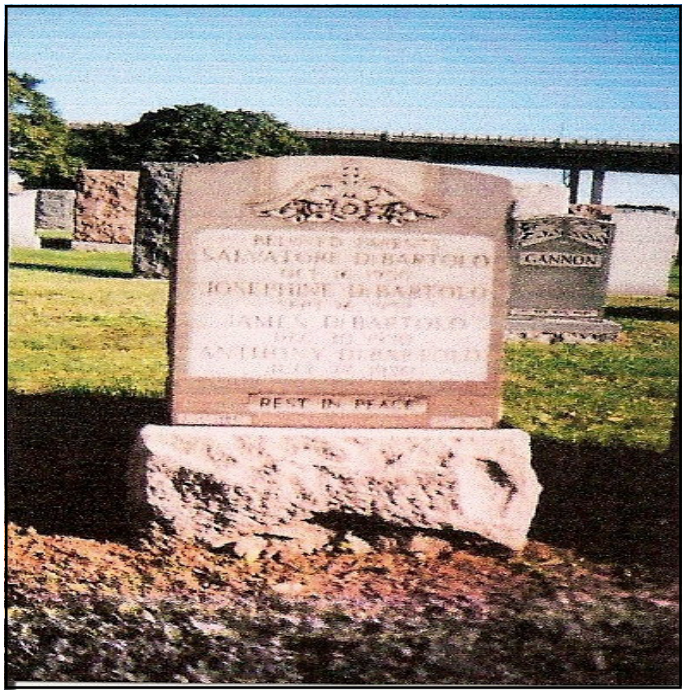
I had never been to the grave of my father's parents, Salvatore and Josephine DiBartolo until four years ago. When I started my genealogical search, I decided that it was time to make that visit. Since my mother and father were estranged, we weren't invited to attend their funerals. I knew that my grandparents were buried in Calvary Cemetery and that the funeral services took place in St. Leo Church in Corona, NY. I also knew that the wake was probably held at Cappolato Funeral Home directly across the street from the Church. I called the church for information on the date of death. I got in touch with Cappolato to get copies of their death certificates. Then I went to the cemetery office and asked to be directed to the grave. I was told that my grandparents were buried in Fourth Calvary.

It felt strange approaching the grave for the first time. History told me that I didn't belong here, but I shook off these feelings. When I first looked at the grave stone, everything appeared normal. My grandparents' names were as they should be on the stone. Then something caught my eye. Surprise! There was another name. It took me a minute to comprehend what I was seeing. James Di Bartolo, Dec 30, 1930. Later, I would learn that James had died one day after his 10th birthday. That made perfect sense.

Immediately, I called my aunt on my cell phone. "Aunt Mary, I am here at grandpa's grave and there is a James buried here. Is that the reason why you called Jimmy, James?" "No," she shot back. "I didn't even know that there was a brother named James until I was standing over the grave for the first time myself. Uncle Charlie never mentioned anything about having a brother James," she said. "I felt uncomfortable seeing my son Jimmy's name on the tomb stone," she continued. We had never heard about James Di Bartolo either.

I went back to the office and asked the receptionist about James Di Bartolo. She located the burial record in the microfilm. After fumbling with the reader, she looked at me and said: "There is no James Di Bartolo in that grave. His name is An-

thony Di Bartolo and he was 68 years old. "That doesn't make sense," I said. "Why would they give two kids the same name?" I asked rhetorically. Then the "68 years old" hit me, and the proverbial light went off. I had found my great grandfather. He was my namesake. He had come to this country in 1911, and he had died an enigma.



I asked her again "Who is James Di Bartolo?" She took another glance at the record. "There is no one named James Di Bartolo in that grave!" she insisted. I tried to reason with her, but she remained unconvinced. I returned to the grave to double check my senses. Confirmed, I went back to the office with the same question. "Who is James Di Bartolo?" She was intransigent. When she realized that I wasn't happy with her answer, she returned once again to the microfilm. She looked up from the reader once again and looked in my direction. "His name is not James," she said. "His name is Vincenzo." Many years before, I had named my son Vincent without realizing the family connection to the name. Custom and culture would help to explain the name James on the tomb stone. Jimmy is the nickname for Vincenzo in those early Italian households.

On that day, the dead had revealed their secret. I had found both my great grandfather Antonino and my Uncle Jimmy.

Postscript:
Mission Accomplished

After discovering that my great grandfather was buried in Calvary, it bothered me that his name wasn't written on the stone. After all he is my namesake. Had "la forza del destino" chosen me to have his name inscribed on the marker? What legal right did I have to make this change? He was my great grandfather, but I didn't have the deed to the plot.

Back to the office I went with my quandary. The gentleman at the reception desk told me that the process was very simple. I had to file a notarized affidavit indicating the changes I wanted to make on the stone. I would also have to attest to the fact that after a diligent search I was unable to locate the original deed.

Once my request was approved by the cemetery administration, I contracted with Riley Brothers Monuments, Inc. in Woodside to inscribe my great grandfather's name on the stone. The process took two weeks to complete. At this writing I am contemplating have a new stone put on the grave because of the numerous mistakes on the first stone. I would have to change names and dates of death as well as the order of burial. Since I am a retired history teacher, I believe the stone should be factually accurate. My great grandfather's name is Antonino, not Anthony. James is Vincenzo and he died in 1932 not 1930.

Jesus said, "Let the dead bury the dead?" Who really cares anyway? I do! I am plagued by the malady we call genealogy.

November Guest Speaker: Dr. Stephen P. Morse

Marie Pastore introduced Dr. Stephen P. Morse, of the One-Step Website, which simplifies using the Ellis Island database. Dr. Morse presented a very detailed, chronological, history of his One-Step Website <stephenmorse.org>.

John Martino and Dr. Morse

Dr. Morse's presentation was entitled: *Searching the Ellis Island Database and the US Census with fewer tears. Blue, White, Grey, or Gold. What color Ellis Island Search Form should I use?*

On April 17, 2001 the Ellis Island Database was placed online. Dr. Morse began searching for records of his Polish-Jewish ancestors who had Americanized their names. You were able to search the EI database by several parameters: name and gender, year of arrival, age on arrival, port of departure, name of ship, a limited number of ethnic groups, one parameter at a time. There were server problems resulting in long waits between computer screen steps. It became impossible. At that point Dr. Morse, calling on his electrical/computer background and genealogical training, decided to make the Ellis Island website more user friendly.

In May 2001, One-Step Website was placed Online (White Form) allowing searching all of the items above in one-step.

In August 2001, the Jewish Search was placed Online (Blue Form.) This form allowed search by town or by soundex, after Michael Tobias harvested one million Jewish entries from the EI database. Italian and Irish towns were not available.

In June 2002, the Ship Lists Form was developed. There were many way to spell ship names. The Ship Lists covered it all. Fifty volunteers transcribed 84,000 ship arrivals.

In August 2002, the Ellis Island data was reformatted through a new server located in France for easier access. Also, the Short Form was implemented (Gray Form) in order to allow a universal search by town or soundex, including Italy and Ireland.

In early October 2002, Sounds-Like Search, Town Search (White Form) went in service. There were problems.

After some ongoing maintenance and some improvements to the One-Step website, on October 27, 2002, the Renaissance began. There were also new features added on the Ellis Island site.

In November 2006, there was a "new kid on the block" <ancestry.com>. The NY passenger arrivals database was expanded to cover all arrivals from 1820-1957. The One-Step search forms were tied into the Ancestry search engine.

In November 2006, The Enhanced Form (Gold Form) was designed. It allowed searches through all 25 million entries, on any number of the transcribed parameters.

For the Ellis Island Web Site Today, Dr. Morse recommends using the Gold form for all searches. The White and Blue forms are obsolete.

Playing Hide and Seek In the US Census.

On April 1, 2002, the 1930 US Census became available. Very few states were indexed by name, and there were many misspellings. Today many on-line indexes are available; however, many names are missing or misspelled.

Since 1880, all US Census information is cataloged by Enumeration District (ED). If you do not know the ED, you cannot search by address. A method to search by Enumeration District was needed.

In anticipation of the 1930 US Census, NARA volunteers in Boston (Dave Kehs) and LA (Joel Weintraub), were preparing ED tables. They contacted Dr. Morse and together created a website for their ED tables. The same process is now underway for the 1940 US Census.

Dr. Morse took the audience through the ED search process using Power Point to locate records for Franklin Roosevelt, Herbert Hoover and John D Rockefeller.

Tidbits

New Members for November

Theodore DeBlanco of Howard Beach, N.Y.; **Stephanie Stellaccio** of East Norwich, NY researching family names of Florio and Mainiero; **Peter E. Sesnick** of Pine Brook, NJ researching family names of Cerone, Perillo, Rita and Cristiano from Castelgrande, Potenza, Basilicata; **Gloria Auletta Bailey** from Everett, WA researching family surnames of Auletta, Orlando, Orlanda, Odierno, FGranca, Mancuso, Carillo and Perano from Sarno, Salerno, Campania; **Joyce Mazzochi** of Paducah, KY who is researching family names of Mazzocchi and Tufano from *San Vitaliano, NA,CP* and DiPierro, Bifano from Armento, PZ,BA and Bifano from Torraca, SA,CP and finally Fanuele and Difina from Montemurro, PZ, BA; **Valarie J. Clark** who resides in Centerville, OH and is researching surnames of Gatto, Pagliaro and Ortale from Donnici –Inferiore, CS, CL and Gatto, Amendola, Cozza and *Gallo* from Rogliano, CS,CL.

Donations: Thanks to **Donna Vazquez** of Umatilla, FL for her recent donation of $50.

E-mails and snail received by IGG: Mrs. Yvonne Bishop from Barrington, NH writes, "Really enjoy reading the Italian Genealogical Group newsletter." **Rosalie Sacco** was born in Elmont, NY in 1927 and is asking anyone of the surname of "Sacco" to contact her at tallowean@aol.com . **Nichola Chevali** e-mails IGG, "I am looking for information on a Benvenuto Molinari who was born abt. 1838 from the Como area in the Lombardy region. Help! E-mail me at chevali@tiscali.co.uk "

Gratitude to key IGG and GGG members: In a show of support for the databases project that **John Martino, Don Eckerle, Bob Boeckle,** and so many others give so much time and effort to, and with such positive results, the German Genealogy Group has written a check for $500 that will be given to the Federation to be used for the continuation of this project.

Thanks again to Ed Hess: When membership applications are received by IGG, quite a few applicants mentioned that they joined because of the kindness and diligence of Ed Hess who responds to their e-mail inquiries. Silently and unnoticed, Ed Hess has always been a volunteer and advocate of IGG as well as the German Genealogical Group. Thanks Ed !

Fondazione Civilta Bresciana: This foundation was established in the north of Italy about 20 years ago. It is organizing an art exhibition on Brescian people who immigrated to the USA between 1800 and 1930. If you have ancestors who come from this area and have information, photos or copies of documents about your ancestors, please contact Alessandra Mazzini or Francesca Podetta at pibaini@libero.ir

Schedule of Events—Bill Amadio reported that a memorial service was be held on Friday November 9th, at Saint Anthony's High School, in Huntington, followed by a presentation in honor of Rev. Vincent Robert Capadanno, a Marine Chaplin and Medal of Honor winner. Father Capodanno, a Staten Island resident, was killed in 1967 on a Vietnamese battlefield. Although wounded himself, he went on to assist a wounded man, was shot 27 times in the back and died. In 2006, Father Capadanno took the first steps toward becoming a Catholic saint.

Linda Carco, Barbara Florio and Marilyn Verna

Federation Genealogical Societies Report

William S. Gimello

General

The New York Military Naturalization Project Database consists of over 36,000 individuals from all over the country. These records are from the World War I, World War II, and the Korean War eras. They include names of military personnel who petitioned the government for citizenship while at various military camps situated in the New York Tri-State area. Many soldiers were processed for discharge in New York, although they may not have been from the New York area. Searches are by surname or Soundex code. The index was compiled by members from groups that make up the Genealogy Federation of Long Island and is an ongoing project.

National Archives and Google Offer Historic Films Online

Archivist of the United States, Allen Weinstein and Google Co-Founder and President of Technology, Sergey Brin, announce a program to provide the public access to a diverse collection of historic movies, documentaries and other films from the National Archives via Google Video <video.google.com/nara.html> as well as the National Archives website <www.archives.gov>. The pilot program features 101 films from the audio-visual collections preserved at the National Archives. Films of interest to genealogists would include US government newsreels of World War II, 1941-45; history of the spaceflight program by NASA; and motion picture films in the 1930's that document the history of the national and state park system and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

New York

Northern New York Historical Newspapers
Northern New York Library Network
6721 US Highway 11
Potsdam, NY 13676
<http://news.nnyln.net>

More than two dozen titles and 500,000 pages of newspapers are available for searching at this website. Click on the title of the newspaper for each index. The year range is 1842 (*Malone Franklin Gazette*) to 2004 (the *Lake Placid News*, 1914-2004). Other titles are the *Akwesasne Indian Time*, 1982-2002; the *Fort Covington Sun*, 1887-1987; the *Plattsburgh Sentinel*, 1866-1931; and the *Ticonderoga Sentinel*, 1874-1950.

Check back often, as this is an ongoing project.

Illinois

Bureau County Genealogical Society
629 S. Main Street
Princeton, IL 61366-2012
<www.rootsweb.com/~ilbcgs/>

Publications include *Marriage, Birth and Death Information*, 1887-1920 *from the* La Moille Gazette Newspaper, *La Moille, Bureau Co., IL* (northeast part of Bureau County, bordering on Lee County and LaSalle County. Includes out-of-town deaths); *Bureau County Directory* 1858-1859 *Extractions* (over 5,000 names listed alphabetically by head of household and by location); *Marriage Extractions*, 1878-1900, *from the* Bureau County Republican (nearly 5500 notices which identify bride and groom, marriage or licenses application date, and who performed the ceremony); and *The Complete Name Index to* The Voters and Taxpayers of Bureau County, Illinois (name-only index of over 12,700 names mentioned in the original 1877 publication).

Source: FGS Forum, Vol. 19, No. 1, Spring 2007

Ivan and Dolores Frank, Barbara Florio and Marilyn Verna

Future Meeting Dates for the Italian Genealogical Group

January 12, and February 9, 2008

All meetings start at 10:30 AM

December 8th Annual Christmas Party, no regular meeting

Directions to the Bethpage Library, 50 Powell Ave, Bethpage, NY:

By Train: The Bethpage Library may be reached by taking the Long Island Railroad to the Bethpage Station. You can then walk east one block to Broadway, turn left, go (north) 3 blocks on Broadway; then (at the second traffic light) turn right on Powell Avenue; the Library is about 500 ft on your right.

By Car: Use the Southern State Parkway or the Long Island Expressway. If using the Southern State Parkway take exit 28A and go north on the Seaford-Oyster Bay Expressway (Route 135). If using the Long Island Expressway take Exit 44S and go south on the Seaford-Oyster Bay Expressway (Route 135). Exit Route 135 at the Powell Avenue Exit. Proceed in a westerly direction towards the village, about 3 blocks. There is ample parking across the street from the Library. Our meeting will be in the downstairs meeting room.