ITALIAN GENEALOGICAL GROUP

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Volume 18, No. 8 **April, 2012**

President's Message

Once again we would like take this opportunity to thank **Ann** and **Frank Chiappisi**, **Louise Perrotta**, and **Tricia Stipo** for setting up the hospitality table. Thank you, also, to the members who to stayed after to help to put the table away after our March meeting. There were so many helpers that cleanup was a breeze. Special thanks to **Ann Holland, Sabina Anselmo, Margaret DeAcetis**, and **Carol Esmiol**.

We are looking forward to our annual election of officers at the June meeting. If you are interested in holding an elected office or serving on the Nominating Committee please contact **Barbara Florio**.

Tony Lauriano's talk *Finding Female Maiden Names* in the records of our ancestors was very informative. Tony's experiences resonated with me. My material grandmother, Maria Rosa Pascale, was 20 years old when she left her home town of Viggiano in the province of Basilicata for the ship that would take her to America. Her house name was *Rosina*. She was traveling with her 17 year old brother Vincenzo when they sailed on the *SS Neustria* in 1899. Unlike the American custom, Italian women always keep their maiden names in Italian records. I had my grandparents' marriage certificate as well as Grandma's passport, so I knew not to search for her under my grandfather's last name, *Borrillo*. Yet, I couldn't locate her on the manifest. It took me a while to realize what had happened when my grandmother and her brother booked passage to America. Apparently, because she was unmarried, she was listed as "sister" (Maria Rosa) on the line under Vincenzo on the manifest.

Tony also mentioned finding an individual buried among the babies in Calvary's "potters'field." *(Continued on Page 2)*

Inside this issue:

March Meeting-Tony Lauriano	**Page 3**
1940 Census Website	**Page 5**
2012 Genealogy Events	**Page 6**
Computer Corner	**Page 6**
Storing Digital Family History	**Page 7**
Death Resources	**Page 8**
Palermo, the Pearl of Sicily	**Page 9**
Proposed Amended By-Laws	**Page 10**

(President's Message continued from Page 1) Both my maternal and paternal grandparents are buried in Calvary. It's an immense cemetery with four sections. You can see its enormity from the movie *The Godfather*. It was the backdrop for the funeral of Don Corleone. Rosina Pascale died during the influenza epidemic of 1932. A careful study of the tombstones in that section reveals the devastating effects of that outbreak.

My grandfather, Pellegrino Borrillo, died in 1940 on Welfare Island from complications of diabetes. Aunt Angie made frequent trips to her parents' grave. She took me and my brother Frankie with her on these pilgrimages. We took the No. 7 train (then called the IRT) to Sunnyside and walked across Queens Blvd. into the cemetery. Aunt Angie brought flowers for the grave at a street-side nursery on the boulevard. As we walked through this first section, Aunt Angie was certain to point to a large field. A statue of the Crucifixion with a kneeler was the only monument in this grassy meadow. "The little babies who are in Limbo are buried there!" she would say. I always felt sad for these little abandoned souls who were eternally consigned to that space. On our way home, Aunt Angie stopped at the hot dog stand under the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway to buy us a frank and a Mission soda. Aunt Angie had a way of making these trips an adventure.

Happy Palm Sunday and Buona Pasqua! These holidays bring memories of seasons past with the family gathered around the table, our mouths watering for the first taste of meat after the drought of a long lenten fast. We looked forward to the joys of spring, which might mean getting the garden ready for tomatoes, zucchini, piselli, and the aromatic smell of *basilico* (*perfume italiano naturale*).

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ITALIAN GENEALOGICAL GROUP

P. O. Box 626
Bethpage, New York 11714-0626

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Meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of each month, Sept. to June at 10:30 AM

March Meeting-Tony Lauriano

Joe Battagliese

Tony Lauriano

At the March, meeting our guest speaker was Tony Lauriano, who gave his presentation on *Finding Female Maiden Names*. Tony is an accountant, a long time researcher and a popular lecturer and writer. He has researched family members, in the US, back to the Civil War. Tony provided a unique approach to analyzing genealogical records by applying accounting techniques to his search. Tony's lecture covered all ethnic groups. Here are the Italian/New York area highlights of his Power Point presentation.

Tony began by introducing the audience to his family with old photos and then went on to explaining naming traditions and spelling variations. He said Italian and French woman kept their maiden name for official documents after marriage and that their maiden name was used on the ship manifest.

He says spelling variations were common in the early records. Tony found many of his family names were misspelled: Cavuoti became Cavoti or Cavuto, and Vilano became Villana. Lauriano could be Auriano, L'Auriano or Auriana etc. Tony showed us many documents with these various spellings.

He also says that many new immigrants changed the given name: Concetta to Margaret, Filomena to Florence, Rosalia to Rosalie, RoseLee, Rosa, etc. Rachele was changed to Rachel or Ray. Many times the immigrants changed their surnames themselves. For example, in one instance Villano was changed to Vills, so you might find "two" maiden names for the same person. For name spelling help, he uses the website MYHERITAGE.COM

Next, Tony went through a list of the types of documents that he used in his search for maiden names:

Death, Cemetery and Funeral Records

Death Certificates are civil records to be found in the local archive. If the death of a person occurred more than 100 years ago, try the children's death certificates. Cemetery and Funeral Director records can be identified on the death certificate. Tony found these records as a good source of information. State death certificates can be located on the following website: cdc.gov/nchs/howto/w2w/w2welcom.htm. Just click on your state.

For New York City death certificates Tony uses Italiangen.org

Marriage Licenses and Children's Birth Certificates

If the woman was married in America, her maiden name will appear on the marriage record. If the woman was married outside the US, many areas list the mother's maiden name on the children's birth certificate. Use the same website mentioned for obtaining US Death Certificates.

Social Security Death Index

Social Security commenced in 1936. Persons deceased after 1936 and who filed for SS benefits should be listed on the death index. You don't need to know the SS number; the ancestry.com index will usually provide it (*there are some new restrictions*). Look under the husband's last name and the woman's first name. If the woman filed for a Social Security number before marriage her SS-5 form it will have her maiden name as she signed the form.

Newspaper Obituaries

Check newspapers in the localities where your ancestor lived in her lifetime. If you can't find an article for your ancestor directly, you may find her maiden name in her children's obituary notices years later. Check the local library or the following newspaper archives for New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Newspaperarchives.com

Nytimes.com

New Jersey Division of Archives, PO Box 307, Trenton, NJ 08625-0307, 609-964-3296,www.http://nj.gov/state/darmresources.html

New York State Newspaper Project, New York State Library, Cultural Education Center-6 Floor, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12230, 518-474-7491, http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/nysnp/

Bureau of State Library of Pennsylvania, Technical Services and Collection Management, Office of Commonwealth Libraries, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-1745, http://www.statelibrary.state.pa.us

You can also find obituaries on cyndislist.com and stevemorse.org Look under periodicals or newspapers.

Census Records and Ship Manifests

US Census records are available from 1790 to 1940 (1890 not available due to fire loss). Parents and grandparents may have lived with a young couple. Sometimes, if it was the custom of her country, a woman could list her maiden name in the census after becoming a widow. Census records can give you an estimate of the marriage date, indicating the number of her children living and deceased at the census date. Census records can be obtained on-line on Ancestry.com ($) or Heritage Quest. Many public libraries subscribe to ancestry.com.

The wife's maiden name was used on the ship manifest. The children used the husband's name. For ship manifest, look-ups go to castlegarden.org for New York for pre-Ellis Island (before 1892) or go to ellisisland.org from 1892 to 1950's.

Church Records

Before the use of civil records, churches have long recorded births, marriages, deaths, and religious ceremonies. Either through family stories or census records, you can determine the areas where your ancestor lived during her life. Use your computer search engine such as Yahoo or Google to locate the religious authority that will lead you to where the church records are retained

Military Records

Military records consist of pension, life insurance and military benefit records. If the woman's husband or she herself served in the US military, some of the above records are available. Even if the records are for her husband, a woman's maiden name is usually listed. These are federal records available from the National Archives on the website-archives.gov

Naturalization Papers

A woman would automatically become a citizen when her husband became a citizen. After September 22, 1922 a woman could not become a citizen by virtue of being married to a citizen. However no Declaration of Intention was required when she filed for citizenship. Until 1931, a female citizen who married an alien who was ineligible to become a citizen, would cease to be a citizen, even if she was born in America. No woman could be naturalized while married to an alien who was ineligible for citizenship. By 1931, the above law was changed so that no woman could lose citizenship by marriage. Go to http://genealogy.about.com/od/surnames/tpmaidennames.htm

LDS Records and Foreign Records

The Mormon Church (LDS) has one of the largest genealogical collections available to the public. Copies of various records are available at their Family History Libraries located around the country. From church or town records, maiden names can be determined. Their International Genealogical Index can be searched on-line on the website familysearch.org. Ancestry.com also provides information on foreign records. Tony showed us some town records he procured on-line from Pietrapertosa, via ancestry.com.

Here are some additional websites that Tony recommends for tracing female ancestors.

www.behindthename.com
www.cyndislist.com/female.htm
www.maidenname.net
http://genealogy.about.com/od/surnames.htm
stevemorse.org
www.bellaonline.com/site/Genealogy
http://news.google.com/archivesearch
www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/summer/women-and-naturalization-1.html

Those who attended the March IGG meeting enjoyed the presentation as evidence by the large number of questions posed to Tony.

Website for Free 1940 Census Release

The National Archives, with its partner Archives.com, launched its new website 1940census.archives.gov in preparation for its first-ever online U.S. census release, which will take place on April 2, 2012, at 9 a.m. (EST). The public is encouraged to bookmark the website now in order to more quickly access the 1940 census data when it goes live. No other website will host the 1940 census data on its April 2 release date.

The National Archives has teamed up with the U.S. Census Bureau to celebrate "40 Days to the '40 Census." Using social media channels to post videos, images, facts, and links to workshops nationwide, the National Archives is getting its researchers ready for the online launch on April 2. Be sure to follow us on Twitter (using hashtag #1940Census), Facebook, Tumblr, Flickr, YouTube, and subscribe to our blogs: NARAtions and Prologue: Pieces of History.

On April 2, 2012, users will be able to search, browse, and download the 1940 census schedules, free of charge, from their own computers or from the public computers at National Archives locations nationwide through the new 1940 census website: 1940census.archives.gov.

A National Archives 3:13 minute video short on its YouTube channel (http://tiny.cc/1940Census) and on 1940census.archives.gov provides a "behind-the-scenes" view of staff preparations and gives viewers tips on how to access the data once it is launched on April 2. This video is in the public domain and not subject to any copyright restrictions. The National Archives encourages the free distribution of it.

Background on the 1940 Census

While the original intent of the census was to determine how many representatives each state was entitled to send to the U.S. Congress, it has become a vital tool for Federal agencies in determining allocation of Federal funds and resources. The census is also a key research tool for sociologists, demographers, historians, political scientists and genealogists. Many of the questions on the 1940 census are the standard ones: name, age, gender, and race, education, and place of birth. But the 1940 census also asks many new questions, some reflecting concerns of the Great Depression. The instructions ask the enumerator to enter a circled x after the name of the person furnishing the information about the family; whether the person worked for the CCC, WPA, or NYA the week of March 24–30, 1940; and income for the 12 months ending December 31, 1939. The 1940 census also has a supplemental schedule for two names on each page. The supplemental schedule asks the place of birth of the person's father and mother; the person's usual occupation, not just what they were doing the week of March 24–30, 1940; and for all women who are or have been married, has this woman been married more than once and age at first marriage.

For the release of the 1940 census online, the National Archives has digitized the entire census, creating more than 3.8 million digital images of census schedules, maps, and enumeration district descriptions.

About the National Archives

The National Archives and Records Administration is an independent Federal agency that preserves and shares with the public records that trace the story of our nation, government, and the American people. From the Declaration of Independence to accounts of ordinary Americans, the holdings of the National Archives directly touch the lives of millions of people. The National Archives is a public trust upon which our democracy depends, ensuring access to essential evidence that protects the rights of American citizens, documents the actions of the government, and reveals the evolving national experience.

About Archives.com

Archives.com is a family history website, owned and operated by Inflection a data commerce company headquartered in the heart of Silicon Valley. Inflection was chosen by the National Archives to host the 1940 census website. Learn more go to www.archives.com/1940census

2012 Genealogy Events

On **April 11th,** at the Newtown Genealogy Club at 7:00 PM at the Cyrus Booth Library, 25 Main Street, Newtown, CT, Toni Mckeen will lecture on *Cases That Made My Eyes Cross*.

On **April 14th,** Toni will be at the Passaic County Genealogy Society at 10:00 AM at Lambert Castle, 3 Valley Road, Paterson, NJ. Her subject will be *20th Century Military Records*.

The next meeting of the IGG will be held on **April 14th**. The guest speaker will be Tom Riley who will discuss the *Orphan Train*. The orphan train ran between 1854 and 1929, relocating an estimated 250,000 orphaned, abandoned, or homeless children. At the time the orphan train movement began, it was estimated that 30,000 vagrant children were living on the streets of New York City.

And on **April 21st,** at 10:00 AM at Westchester Italian Cultural Center, 1 Depot Square, Tuckahoe, NY Toni will repeat her lecture on *Cases That Made My Eyes Cross*. Reservations are required (914) - 771- 8700

The NGS 2012 Family History Confrence will be held at the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cinicinnati, Ohio, **May 9-12**. Go to http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/confrence_info for more information.

Tony Lauriano will present his *Beginning Genealogy* to *Writing the Family Story Series*, on Tuesdays, **May 15, 22, 29, and June 5**, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM, at the valley Cottage Library, Route 303, Valley Cottage, NY. Contact Joanne McNally at this number to register, 845-268-7700.

The Huntington Historical Society will sponsor a research trip to the *Family History Library in Salt Lake City,* on Sunday, **May 20-27**. Contact Arthur F. Sniffin, SLC Tour Leader at 631-271-3140 for an application.

A conference for the nation's genealogists, will be presented by the Federation of Genealogical Societies on **August 29, to September 1, 2012** in Birmingham, Alabama. Included are 148 lectures. Register online at www.fgs.org or request a registration form from: FGS/AGS 2012 Conference, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940, E-mail: office@fgs.org, Fax 1-866-347-1350

Computer Corner

Here are some more websites from **Anthony DiMarino, Joann Heffernan and Barbara Florio.**

The New England Historic Genealogical Society has posted New York State, Albany County Deeds 1630-1894, online. Go to the website http://web1.americanancestors.org/home.html

Here is a video that helps to understand how the United States came together. It gives a history of when states were brought into the union. Go to http://www.animatedatlas.com/movie.html

What did your town look like according to Penny Postcards? Check out your old stomping grounds during the times of the penny postcard. Click on the state and then on the county name to see old penny picture postcards from that area. Pretty neat! Go to http://www.usgwarchives.org/special/ppcs/ppcs.html

Show My Street Anthony DiMarino says this site is fantastic. You can see streets and houses, in Italy. Go to http://showmystreet.com/

Joanne Heffernan says to check out Church of Saint Raymond-Cemetery at http://www.straymondparish.org/cemetery.html. In 1843, St. Raymond's Parish became the first Catholic Church in the Bronx. As many Irish immigrants moved into the Bronx in the 1850's, the church quickly expanded. St. Raymond's Cemetery was established as part of the parish.

Joanne also says to check out Historic American Newspapers-Chronicling America. The site is sponsored jointly by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress. You can search America's historic newspapers pages from 1836-1922 or use the U.S. Newspaper Directory to find information about American newspapers published between 1690-present. Go to http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/

Storing Digital Family History

Patrick Marshall

Patrick Marshall in a special Q & A column to The Seattle Times, Business/Technology section, has answered an interesting question on archiving digital data.

Q: We are rebuilding a family cabin that is more than 100 years old. I want to put a time capsule into one rebuilt interior wall, including some photos taken of the original cabin and great-grandparents on the porch, etc., along with the current family, including those great-grandparents' great-great-great grandchildren — who will (I hope) be elderly by the time they have to dig into this wall and remodel again.

The old black-and-white photos have held up really well and I have digitized them. But I'm trying to figure out the best way to save these images, plus current ones. Would a portable hard drive be easier or should I just use a thumb drive or two? It's hard to guess where technology is going.

We will, of course, also keep and store all the original photos, along with some slides (taken in the '50s and '60s).

— Colleen Browne

A: Whatever you do, don't be tempted into storing them on CD/DVDs you burn on your computer. You can expect those to last only a few years before the dyes in them start to break down.

For archiving digital data, I'd opt for a solid-state flash drive. With no moving parts, you can expect it to survive a good deal longer than other media. In fact, if it's stored in climate-controlled conditions, there's no reason it couldn't be around for 200 years or more.

The question will be whether those who find the drive will also have the equipment and software to read from such a device.

For that reason, it's also a good idea to store the photos, too. If you print using archival papers and inks — and, again, if the photos are stored in a dark, dry and acid-free environment — you can expect those photos to last up to 200 years.

As for those slides, even under ideal conditions you can't expect them to last more than 30 years without losing quality.

If you're really intent on ensuring maximum survival, you can take your photos and slides to a service bureau for scanning and reprinting on archival paper with archival inks.

Certificate of Still Birth

Daniel's STAR reports that, the New York Certificate of Still Birth law became effective on March 21, 2012. New York is beginning to issue certificates of stillbirth.

Any parent who has had a stillborn child (20+ weeks) can apply, at any time, for a birth certificate with the New York Department of Health. The law has a retroactive clause. Losses that occurred prior to this law are eligible for a birth certificate.

Daniel's STAR website (http://www.danielsstar.org/) has posted complete instructions for submitting an applications for a Certificate of Still Birth or Correct a Birth Certificate. You can print the required application from their website.

If you delivered your child in NYS (outside of NYC), use the NYS Department of Health application.

If you delivered your child in one of the five boroughs within NYC, use the NY City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene applications.

If you have any questions you can call Daniel's STAR at 877-622-STAR or e-mail info@DanielsSTAR.org

SSDI Update

The Records and Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, National; Genealogical Society and International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies have formulated a Call to Action in-order to Help Save the Social Security Death Index. Learn more at the SSDI FAQ at our website http://www.fgs.org/rpac/.

Spread the word, especially to your genealogy society members and colleagues.

Death Resources

Tina Sansone, BellaOnline's Genealogy Editor, says the death date is one of the vital things we need as we research our ancestors. We know once they have died, any other documentation will be limited on them after that date. That is why resources like death certificates and the Social Security Death Index are vital to our research.

Where can we find our ancestor's death date? The first place many of us see it is a death certificate we have ordered, or that is handed down through our family lines. Family bibles or journals may have the date documented as well. Funeral homes, obituaries, headstones and church records are another resource to find these death dates.

There are some online databases that lists deaths. Here are a some that I have found very helpful:

•FindaGrave •Billion Graves
•Interment Cemetery Records •Death Indexes
•Missouri Death Certificates
•Texas Death Records
•California Death Index-1905-1939

Here are some Obituary online resources:
•Legacy Obits
•Tributes
•Obituaries Research Guide

There are some websites that have a subscription, but quite a few of them are free. Online websites that have death information are Ancestry, FamilySearch, Rootsweb and many of the US Gen Web county sites. Cyndi's List has a great resource of Death & Obit resources.

If you need to order a death certificate, a couple of places I have found to be good resource sare Vital Rec and Vital Check. Mississippi can order a death certificate for a very low price at Cheap Mississippi Death Certificates for 1912-1943.

Many genealogists use the Social Security Death Index (SSDI) in documenting death. The SSDI is also used to solve probate and estate cases; discover the next of kin in guardianships; civil pension, social security and veteran benefits; prove oil, gas and mineral rights, immigration as well as many other cases. Your help is needed to help Save the Social Security Death Index (SSDI) as an accessible resource for the genealogical community and others. Please visit the Records Preservation & Access Committee website for more information on how you can help. There is also a Petition we are urging all genealogists and their family/friends to sign to help us in this endeavor. More information on this can be found at The Legal Genealogist – SSDI Call to Action!.

Below are some places to look when researching your ancestor's death:

•Vital Records •Church Records •Newspapers
•Bibles •Obituaries •Military Records
•Family Histories •Cemetery and/or Headstones
•Funeral Cards •Social Security Death Index
•Family Letters •Taxes

Family Search On-line Records Update

IGG Library: Phil Figario continues to provide updates to the list of browsable images, from Italy and New York, recently added to Family Search Historical Record Collections:

Italy, Catania, Caltagirone, Civil Registration (Tribunale), 1861-1941

Italy, Catania, Catania, Civil Registration (Comune), 1820-1905

Italy, Cuneo, Alba, Civil Registration (Tribunale), 1866-1910

Italy, Genova, Chiavari, Civil Registration (Tribunale), 1866-1941

Italy, L'Aquila, Civil Registration (State Archive), 1809-1865

Italy, Messina, Messina, Civil Registration (Tribunale), 1866-1939

Italy, Messina, Patti, Civil Registration (Tribunale), 1865-1910

Italy, Treviso, Treviso, Civil Registration (Tribunale), 1871-1941

New York State Census, 1905

New York, Marriages, 1686-1980

New York, Orange County Probate Records, 1899-1921

New York, Probate Records, 1629-1971

New York, Queens County Probate Records, 1899-1921

Palermo, the Pearl of Sicily Part 2

William S. Gimello

Religion

Roman Catholicism is highly important in Palermitan culture. The patron saint of this city is Saint Rosalia. Her feast day, July 15, is the biggest social event in the city. The area attracts significant numbers of tourists each year and is widely known for its colorful fruits, vegetables and fish market at the heart of Palermo, known as the Vucciria.

Some of the churches are San Cataldo on the central plaza Bellini, Santa Maria della Gancia, Santa Maria della Catena, San Giuseppe di Teatini (a Baroque church considered to be an outstanding example of the Sicilian Baroque) and the Church of the Jesus (Chiesa del Ges'u), built by the Jesuits in 1549.

Genealogy in Palermo and other Cities in Sicily

Several members of the IGG told me that researching genealogy in Palermo and the remainder of Sicily is the most difficult task they have encountered. Below are listed some tips that may help you:

1. Have a basic understanding of the Italian language and be familiar with the Sicilian dialect and Latin

2. Be able to decipher the handwriting of the annotators.

3. Write in advance of arrival to determine the exact address of the place where the civil and canon records are located.

4. Don't telephone those you assume are relatives. Write them in advance, inclosing a list of parents, grandparents and or cousins. Enclose a self-addressed envelope with a least 2 Euros which you can obtain from a foreign bank in the US, to pay for return postage.

5. When visiting the archives and/or the church, give information about your family surname(s) and offer to pay at least 1 Euro per copy. Expect to receive a handwritten or typed transcript since many small towns do not possess photostat machines.

6. Give consideration to hiring an experienced professional genealogist and expect to pay at least 400 Euros just to discover your ancestors.

7. When visiting relatives, always bring a small gift and proof that you are related (certificates, photos, letters, etc.)

8. Know about the municipality divisions of Palermo. There are thirty-five quarters of Palermo; these thirty five neighborhoods or "quartiere," are further divided into eight governmental community boards.

The following list describes some important genealogical records sources in Sicily. The full list can be found at http://www.bestofsicily.com/genealogy.htm

1. Vital Statistic Acts 1860-present: Acts of birth, marriage, death, some adoptions. Source: Stato Civile office of the Municipio (city hall).

2. Vital Statistic Acts 1820-1860; Acts of birth, marriage, death, some adoptions. Source: Provincial State Archive (Archivio di Stato), more rarely Municipio Stato Civile office.

3. Processetti Matrimoniali; Marriage back-ground documents. Source: Provincial State Archive for some (but not all) provinces.

4. Parochial Acts; Acts of baptism, marriage, death, some confirmation and parish census records. Source: Parish archive. Note that some towns had more than one parish.

5. Rivelli; Tax census records. Source: Tribunale del Reale Patrimonio and Deputazione del Regno, retained at the State Archive of Palermo.

6. Atti Notarili 1500-1800; Notarial Acts. Source: Provincial State Archive.

External Links

Palermo travel guide from Wikitravel

Official website (http://www.comune.palermo.it) Italian

Official tourism website for the city (http://www.palermotourism.com/)

Rosalio-Palermo's blog (http://www.rosalio.it/)

Palermo: the complete guide (http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/travel/destinations/italy/article5745644.ece) Times Online

Best of Sicily (http://www.bestof sicily.com)

Sources: Best of Sicily Magazine, January 14, 2012

Proposed Amendments to the By-Laws of the IGG

A vote on these proposed amendments to the IGG By-Laws will be held at the regular meeting of the Italian Genealogical Group on May 12, 2012. Copies of the amended By-Laws will be available at the April and May meetings.

ARTICLE V-BOARD OF DIRECTORS and ARTICLE VI- OFFICERS

These articles are deleted and are combined into a new **ARTICLE V-OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.**

OFFICERS- Items 1-6

The new language describes the titles and nine as the number of elected officers, eliminates the office of Co-President, the qualifications to hold an elected office, the term of each office and three as the number of consecutive terms an officer may hold in any elected position.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS- Items 1-7

The new language states that all elected officers are members of the Board of Directors and include the Immediate Past President as a voting member of the Board, defines a quorum for the transaction of business, the method for the election of a new Board member due to a vacancy on the Board and four as the minimum number of times the Board must meet.

ARTICLE VI-NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

Sets the April regular membership meeting for the presentation of the slate of candidates for officers and for the nomination of any alternative candidate for any office by a member in attendance.

ARTICLE VIII- DUTIES OF OFFICERS is replaced by **ARTICLE VII-DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

1. President- No longer refers to a Co-President.

6. Treasurer- The President, First Vice-President and the Treasurer are authorized to sign checks and all checks shall be signed by one of these authorized signatories.

ARTICLE IX-COMMITTEES is changed to **ARTICLE VIII**

(k) Adds the Archives Committee as a standing committee.

The proposed amendments to the By-laws read as follows:

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

1. The elected officers of the organization shall consist of the President, First Vice President, Vice President Programming, Vice President Public Relations, Vice President Publicity, Vice President Special Projects, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer

2. Any additional officers deemed necessary by the Board of Directors shall be nominated and elected at the annual membership meeting.

3. Any member in good standing who is 19 years of age and who has been a member of the organization for 6 months prior to the nomination is qualified to be elected an officer.

4. All elected officers shall hold office until the next annual membership meeting. An officer appointed by the Board of Directors due to a vacancy in the Board shall serve until the next annual membership meeting.

5. Officers may serve no more than three consecutive terms in any one elected position.

6. The newly elected officers shall assume their positions on July 1st. following the annual membership meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers. In addition, the Immediate Past President of the organization shall be ex-officio a voting member of the Board.

2. The Board of Directors shall meet quarterly or as frequently as needed to carry on the business of the organization.

3. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

4. The vote of a majority of the directors present shall be an act of the board providing a quorum is present. Each director present shall have one vote. In the absence of a quorum no actions may be taken until a quorum is present.

5. A vacancy of any office caused by resignation, death, relocation or any other reason shall be filled by nomination and election by a majority of the board members present. Such elected officer shall hold the office for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

6. Any board member who is absent for three consecutive meeting without a valid cause shall be

considered to have resigned from the board.

7. The President shall have the authority to set the number, time and place for the Board's meeting but there shall be no fewer than 4 meeting annually. Special meetings of the board may be called by the President upon 5 days notice to the directors either personally, by regular mail or by electronic mail.

ARTICLE VI- NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three members selected by the regular membership in March. Any member of the Nominating Committee may also be a nominee. Each nominee must consent to be nominated. Such committee will elect its chairperson.

The Nominating Committee shall select a slate of candidates who are willing to perform the duties of each office. The slate shall be presented to the membership at the April meeting. At that meeting members shall have the right to propose alternative candidates for any office providing the candidate qualifies under Article V of these bylaws. In the event of alternative candidates, it shall be the responsibility of the Recording Secretary to prepare written ballots indicating the alternative candidates. These ballots shall be distributed to all qualified members at the June annual membership meeting. The slate shall be published in the Newsletter at least one month prior to the vote at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

I. **PRESIDENT** - The President shall be the principal executive officer and shall preside at all membership meeting and the Board of Director's meetings. The President shall, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, appoint all committee chairpersons, and be a member ex-officio of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

When a new president is elected, the retiring president shall become the Immediate Past President. At Board meetings, the Immediate Past President shall provide advice and counsel to the new President and the Board of Directors in a voting capacity. If the Immediate Past President is unwilling or unable to serve, then the position shall be filled by the previous President.

2. **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

The First Vice President shall preside at regular membership meetings in the absence of the President and shall assist in the executive functions as required by the President and/or the Board. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the First Vice President will assume the duties of President for the remaining term of office.

3. **VICE PRESIDENTS**

Each Vice President elected shall be responsible for one or more committees.

4. **RECORDING SECRETARY** - The Recording Secretary shall keep a written record of all meetings of the regular membership and of the Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary shall be the custodian of the books and records of the organization.

5. **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

The Corresponding Secretary shall carry out any necessary correspondence on behalf of the organization.

. 6. **TREASURER**

The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds of the organization. Such funds shall be kept on deposit in financial institutions approved by the Board of Directors. He or she shall pay obligations incurred by the Board of Directors and members, and keep accurate financial records. The Treasurer, the President and the First Vice President shall be authorized to sign checks and all checks shall be signed by one of these authorized signatories. The Treasurer shall make a monthly financial report to the Board of Directors. He or she shall prepare an annual financial report to be submitted to the board and prepare and submit a proposed budget for the October board meeting. Records of the Treasurer shall be audited each year and a report submitted to the Board of Directors and the regular membership at the October membership meeting.

ARTICLE VIII- COMMITTEES

(k) **The Archives Committee** shall manage the archives of the organization, collect materials for inclusion in the archives, maintain a detailed inventory of all archival materials and perform such other services as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

THE NOMINATIONS SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2012-2013

President	Angela LaGiglia
First Vice President	Anthony DiBartolo
VP Programs	Barbara M. Florio
VP Public Relations	Anthony DiBartolo
VP Publicity	Ann Holland
VP Special Projects	John Martino
Treasurer	Gayle Cinelli
Recording Secretary	Joseph Battagliese
Corresponding Secretary	Dr. Marilyn Verna

The term of office for a member of the board may be extended for one year at the discretion of the board, The Slate will be presented at the May meeting and voting will be at the June meeting.

Future Meeting Dates for the Italian Genealogical Group

April14, May 5, and June 9, 2012

The Library opens at 9:00 AM, the meeting starts at 10:30 AM

Directions to the Bethpage Library, 47 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.