



CCI Newsletter No. 1 Vol. 1

CALENDAR

Feb. 15: Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced Italian Classes Begin

Feb. 17: Conversation & Children's Classes Begin

Feb. 21: "Who Was Christopher Columbus?" Lecture by Dr. Martin Ederer, Associate Professor of History at Buffalo State College at 7:30PM.

Feb 28: Film Screening of *Amarcord* by F. Fellini at 7PM.

Mar. 21: Lecture "A Life on the Lower West Side" by Mr. Joey Giambra at 7:30PM.

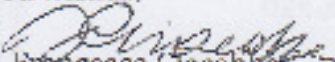
Mar. 28: Film Screening of *Il Postino* Dir. By M. Troisi at 7pm.

Please note that all lectures and movies are held at our current location at 1510 Hertel Avenue and are free to CCI members. Seating is limited. Call (716) 832-2653 or send an email to ccibuffalo@gmail.com to reserve a seat!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to take this opportunity to update you all on the status of our plans to relocate our center at the former North Park Library. I am pleased to report that Sen. Chris Jacobs and Assemblyman Sean Ryan have each promised \$150,000 toward our project, and we are making significant headway toward securing additional funds. In addition, we have secured the service of a reputable lawyer to represent CCI, and have contracted the distinguished architect Mr. Tommaso Briatico to draft our plans. Soon, we plan to display the rendering of the future CCI site prepared by Mr. Briatico at our current Hertel location. The assistance of local developer Mr. Rocco Termini, former mayor Mr. Tony Masiello, and all of the CCI board members has also been instrumental in the planning of this recent endeavor. Soon, we will launch a fundraising program, and we will be sure to keep you all informed. Ultimately, I look forward to seeing a fine building for the Italian-American community in Buffalo and for all those interested in the Italian culture in Western New York.

Good wishes,


Dr. Francesco Giacobbe

The North Park Library Project:

Below are just a few of the ideas we are planning for the future CCI location.

- A newly landscaped green space in the front with a bocce court.
- A kitchen for cooking classes and dinners
- Several classrooms to accommodate the different levels of teaching including a learning space for children.
- A museum that traces the Italian-American heritage in Western New York and showcases the many contributions by Italian-Americans in this country.
- A library to house a collection of Italian textbooks, literature and film and to establish a genealogy center.
- A cafe that models the "bar italiano" and serves espresso, cappuccino & Italian desserts, along with televised Italian programs, soccer games, etc.
- An auditorium for lectures, meetings, film screenings, and other events celebrating Italian culture such as La Befana, La Festa di Carnevale, and St. Joseph's Day.

TRIP TO SICILY

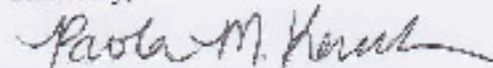
CCI is pleased to announce its second trip to Italy. The trip features a tour of Sicily and is scheduled for Sept. 24-Oct. 5th. More information on this trip will be given in the next newsletter. For information now, feel free to contact Dr. Giacobbe at (716) 868-2497.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear CCI Member,

I am thrilled to present you with our very own first CCI newsletter! Through this correspondence, I intend to keep you all updated on upcoming plans and events. The newsletter will be mailed out on a quarterly basis, so going forward you will receive a newsletter in the following months: January, April, July, & October. I encourage you to send any suggestions or comments to kerschp@dyc.edu or you may call me at (716) 829-7692. Grazie e buon Carnevale a tutti!

Sincerely,



Paola M. (Giacobbe) Kersch, PhD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There are still openings for the children's classes! For more information contact Toni Dileo at (716) 832-2653 or send an email to ccibuffalo@gmail.com.
- Our annual fundraiser "Gnocchi Night" is planned for early May. More details will follow in the April newsletter.
- Don't forget to check our website periodically for updates at ccibuffalo.org and like us on Facebook!

MEMBERSHIP

In addition to discounted adult lessons, free children's classes, access to monthly lectures and films screenings, CCI membership gives you a 10% discount at: Illo di Paolo, Lombardo's, 31 Club, Amici and Gigi restaurants as well as Napoli per la moda atelier. Go to ccibuffalo.org, download the membership form, and renew your CCI membership today! Thank you for your continuing support!