



CCI Newsletter No. 9, Vol. 3

CALENDAR

Feb 19: Lecture “My Experience Growing Up in Italy” by Angelo Polisano at Dash’s, 1770 Hertel Avenue, 2nd floor Community Room at **7:00 P.M.**

Mar 14: “Italian Opera in WNY” featuring Pianist Antonella diGiulio at Holy Spirit Church in Buffalo at **1:30pm. \$10 suggested donation.** Benefits the Scholarship fund of the Chromatic Club. Italian language is closely connected to music. This beautiful language was the reason why Italy is the motherland of singing and of Opera. Italian language, with its musical and natural flow of vowels, was the ideal tool for composers. Starting from the Renaissance, Naples, Rome and Venice slowly became a real musical industry, attracting the best talents of that time. In collaboration with the Chromatic Club of Buffalo, the CCI will present a journey through some selected precious pearls of the Italian musical tradition.

Mar. 19: St Joseph’s Day Table at Tappo Pizza, 166 Chandler St. at **6:30P.M. \$25.00.** For reservations, call: (716) 393-4353.

Mar 26: Lecture “Hertel Walls” by Councilmember Joel Feroletto at Dash’s, 1770 Hertel Avenue, 2nd floor Community Room at **7:00 P.M.** The talk will highlight the “Hertel Walls” project he began in collaboration with the Albright Knox and several local and international artists in an effort to enhance Hertel Avenue.

Call (716) 832-2653 or send an email to ccibuffalo@gmail.com to reserve a seat for the lectures!

A year in review

2019 has been a busy year and with 2020 showing no signs of slowing down, I thought I would take a moment to highlight the best moments of 2019!

- Kicked off the year with a new collaboration with pianist Antonella di Giulio featuring a concert of Italian classical music at Buffalo State College. We are happy to continue this collaboration with an event scheduled for this March at Buffalo’s Holy Spirit Church.
- Launched our new building Capital Campaign which continues its momentum in full stride to reach our ultimate goal of raising \$2,000,000.
- Kicked off Buffalo’s Italian Heritage Parade with CCI’s new center groundbreaking ceremony!
- Organized a second group trip to Italy, touring some of the most spectacular parts of Northern Italy.
- Held another successful Gnocchi Night featuring the music of Michael Castaldo.
- Welcomed three new board members: Mrs. Maria Foss, Mr. Louis Terrognoli, and Mr. Rob Castiglione. The board also rang in the new year with the Honorable Judge Fiorella joining the board.
- Debuted two promotional videos created by LiteWork Productions.
- Launched a fresh new look with an updated website complete with an embedded calendar and online payment options.
- Secured our most successful turnout for a lecture with Theresa Potenza’s magnificent talk on the Etruscans with over 50 guests in attendance at the new Dash’s on Hertel Avenue. Our collaboration with the new Dash’s on Hertel continues into this new year!
- Held our first Christmas Dinner at ThinMan Brewery on Chandler Street with a turnout of 200 guests, our biggest CCI event to date!
- **Received the title for the new CCI building!**

Lecture Notes from the 2019 Trip to Italy:

Paola (Giacobbe) Kersch

CCI Board Member and Programming Chair

I recently attended the talk “Reflections on the Northern Trip to Italy,” and even though we featured a piece on this trip in the last newsletter, I couldn't help but share a more insider's scoop of the trip. Here are some of my notes:

- ◇ Much to my amusement, I learned about a notorious mosaic in Galleria Vittoria Emanuele II where people step on a certain sensitive area of the bull for good luck!
- ◇ I learned that securing a visit to DaVinci's “Last Supper” is no easy feat, but one that CCI travel agent, Miriam Renzi made sure the group had tickets to!
- ◇ I must admit, a bit less surprisingly, I learned that the decadent food of Northern Italy: ragù, pesto, risotto, polenta and of course *la cotoletta milanese* did not disappoint!
- ◇ I learned that on the way to Juliet's balcony in Verona people leave love letters and wishes.
- ◇ I learned that the “City of Good Neighbors” extends beyond the “pond” to Verona as I listened to a story of how a lost wallet was miraculously returned to its owner through the relentless efforts of a Verona native, aka “Angel of Verona,” and a Cheektowaga relative.
- ◇ I learned about the flavors of French cuisine i.e. fondue and crepes, in Northern Italy.
- ◇ Best of all, I learned that the group developed a very special bond, and in the spirit of a tight-knit Italian family, are already eagerly planning their next adventure together ...

Stay tuned for more information on the next trip in September to Tuscany!

CCI Receives the keys to the new Center!!



“The KEY that holds a commitment to teach the future generations cooking, language, art, music, hard work and dedication to family is what is most meaningful in life. Next to God..”

Dr. Francesco Giacobbe

CCI President

Announcements:

- You can now follow CCI on Instagram at @CCIBuffalo
- Don't forget to check out our new website at www.ccibuffalo.org as we continue to post new information.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Paola M. (Giacobbe) Kersch, PhD

Send your feedback to: kerschp@dyc.edu or (716) 517-5168.

CCI Christmas Party 2019

A night of exquisite food, great entertainment and all around Christmas cheer.

