



Italian Historical Society of America Newsletter

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BY JANICE THERESE MANCUSO

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Tutto Italiano

Benvenuto a *Tutto Italiano*

One hundred and fifty years ago, the United States was at war, a war within the boundaries of the country. At the same time America was fighting to divide, Italy had won its fight to unite, a fight that also took place within its boundaries. With a few battles to be fought before the entire country was unified, in 1861, Italy became a united kingdom.

While many lost their lives for Italy's freedom from foreign rule, three men took the lead for the cause. Italian patriot Giuseppe Mazzini, Prime Minister (of the Kingdom of Sardinia) Count Camillo di Cavour, and revolutionist Giuseppe Garibaldi brought freedom to Italy; but of the three, Giuseppe Garibaldi became a national and world hero. He was in exile from Italy when he fought for freedom in South America (1834-1848), and – in exile again – he lived on Staten Island for a while.

In 1860, with his 1000 Red Shirts, Garibaldi overthrew the Kingdom of Naples, and this important event in Italian history was being watched from across the Atlantic Ocean. A year later, Garibaldi was offered a position as major general in the Union Army. He declined, remained involved in other revolutionary causes, and spent the later years of his life and died on [Caprera](#), a small island located off the northeastern coast of Sardinia.

Garibaldi was the subject of a painted panorama that measures 273 feet long. Noted as a precursor to motion pictures, panoramas were unrolled before an audience. [The Garibaldi Panorama](#) (Previously mentioned in the June 2008 issue of *Tutto Italiano*.)

[The Italian Unification](#)

[Giuseppe Garibaldi Collection](#)

[Caprera e Garibaldi](#) (YouTube)

[Bully for Garibaldi](#) (NYT: Article about the Civil War)

Italian American Heritage

October is Italian American Heritage Month, or Italian Heritage Month, or Italian Culture Month, or Italian Heritage and Culture Month, or Italian History Month, or ...

To celebrate the contributions made to America by Italians and Italian Americans, organizations throughout America have given it many titles. Currently, proclamations for Italian American heritage month have been officially acknowledged by bills passed only at the state level; but a bill has finally been introduced to U.S. Congress to permanently decree October "Italian and Italian American Heritage Month."

The organization behind this national movement is UNICO. In previous newsletters dating back to 2008, information has been provided to support UNICO by contacting your state representatives and urging them to pass a bill recognizing October as "Italian and Italian American Heritage Month."

Below are just a few links to organizations that work to promote and honor our

heritage and culture.

[UNICO](#)

[The Italian Heritage and Culture Committee of New York](#)

[Italian American Heritage Month Committee](#)

[American Italian Heritage Association](#)

[Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans](#)

Thirty-One Days of Italians

Celebrate each day in October by learning about a person of Italian heritage who has made a significant contribution to America. The 2011 List of Thirty-One Days of Italians is now available.

In September 2006, while researching for the October issue of *Tutto Italiano*, I found very limited information about Italian American Heritage Month and thought that something had to be done to not only preserve our heritage, but also to educate others about the extraordinary contributions those of Italian heritage had made to America. Thinking about Black History Month, I thought that each day should honor one person and Thirty-One Days of Italians was born.

Based on my research, I compiled an initial list and soon realized there were many more accomplished Italians and Italian Americans than days in the month. I created a List of Honorary Members – those who must be on the List every year, and for the remaining days, decided that to get others involved and keep Thirty-One Days of Italians interactive, an annual vote would be held.

Now in its fifth year, Thirty-One Days of Italians has evolved to provide numerous resources for those of Italian heritage who have made significant contributions to America. This year Ernest and Julio Gallo; John N. LaCorte; and Sabato Rodia have been voted onto the List.

Frank Capra, Fiorello La Guardia, Mario Lanza, and Giovanni Verrazzano have been voted onto the list each year since its inception. Those making repeat appearances in 2011 include Helen Barolini, Giovanni Caboto, Geraldine Ferraro, Daniela Gioseffi, Lee Iacocca, Dean Martin, and Frank Sinatra. [View the complete 2011 List of Names at Thirty-One Days of Italians](#) and learn more about each person by going to the [Index of Names](#).

A PDF of the 2011 List, courtesy of the [Italian American Police Society of New Jersey](#), is posted on the website of the [Italian Historical Society of America](#). The List is a single page formatted into three columns and includes photographs. It's eye-catching and informative. Download and print to distribute to businesses (especially Italian restaurants and pizzerias), schools, and local clubs. Help spread the word about Italian and Italian American Heritage Month.

Con Amore

"The East End of Long Island sets the scene for a group of chefs attending a weeklong conference on Italian food. Food journalist and cooking instructor Janine Fiori is thrilled to be invited, but her enthusiasm fades as she encounters a series of puzzling events. Romance, a bit of suspense, the history of Italy, and numerous recipes combine to create a story about love, food, and life."

Con Amore is now an ebook. It can be downloaded for Kindle, Apple iPad/iBooks, Nook, Sony Reader, Kobo, and other formats. The electronic version includes a linked table of contents (with chapter recipes) that allows the reader to navigate through the book by chapter. Some minor changes were made to the text for clarity and to bring the story up to date. The ebook also has color photographs of some of the recipes. If you don't have an eReader, you can read ebooks on your computer with EPUB. Download the software free from [Adobe Digital Editions](#).

A new website for *Con Amore* is also in the works. The website will feature step-by-step color photographs of many of the recipes (see [Chocolate and Almond Stuffed Pears](#)); discussion guides for reading groups; reviews; and author's notes about the characters, setting, recipes, and other aspects of the book.

To sample (read the first six chapters) or purchase *Con Amore* visit my page at [Smashwords](#). (<http://smashwords.com/b/88866>) For purchase, the ebook is regularly \$3.99, but for the month of October, it is offered at a 25 percent discount, for a special price of \$2.99. This offer expires October 31st, and must include coupon code UN48P. Share this offer with family, friends, and co-workers.

Read about the adventures of Janine Fiori, learn about the history of Italy and Italian food in America, try some great recipes, and enjoy a story of romance touched with suspense. Download *Con Amore* [here](#).

Italians and Wine

Italian immigrants greatly influenced the [wine industry in California](#). Read my article "[Robert Mondavi: A Passion for Wine](#)" on the website of *La Gazzetta Italiana*.

Buon anno, buon tutto, buona vita,
Janice Therese Mancuso
Author of [Con Amore](#)
[Con Amore Ebook](#)

[Thirty-One Days of Italians](#)

Support Italian American History in America's Schools
[Make a donation for Italian American Education](#)

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Please Note: On the date of publication, the links in this newsletter were current. In older newsletters, some links may be inactive if the URL has changed or is no longer available.

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