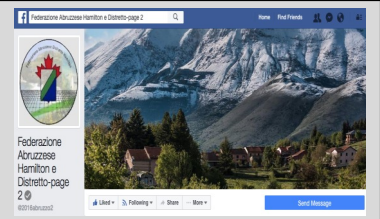




Bollettino della Federazione Abruzzese

Di Hamilton e Distretto

www.abruzzohamilton.org



420 Crerar Drive, Hamilton, Ontario L9A 5K3; Tel: 905-527-3400; Fax: 1-866-271-7523; email: fedabruzzo14@gmail.com



Hello, I bring you greetings from myself and the executive members of the Federazione Abruzzese di Hamilton e Distretto.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Federazione Abruzzese Choir. After close to 40 years, the choir has decided to disband. I would like to thank the current and past members of the choir for their hard work and dedication in providing us with the sound of

traditional Abruzzese songs for many years. A special thank you to Sarena and Christina Bilich for taking the time over the last two years to keep our traditions in song alive. To Rita Ventresca, thank you for your hard work and stepping up to lead the choir. The choir will be missed!

Vorrei cogliere l'occasione per rendere omaggio al Coro della Federazione Abruzzese. Dopo quasi 40 anni, il coro ha deciso di sciogliersi. Desidero ringraziare i membri attuali e passati del coro per il duro lavoro e la dedizione con cui da molti anni ci hanno regalato il suono dei canti tradizionali abruzzesi. Un ringraziamento speciale a Sarena e Christina Bilich per aver dedicato del tempo negli ultimi due anni per mantenere vive le nostre tradizioni nel canto. A Rita Ventresca, grazie per il tuo duro lavoro e per esserti fatta avanti per guidare il coro. Ci mancherà il coro!

On September 20th, we had our annual Festitalia Regional Food Night at Carmens. I would like to congratulate the organizing committee members for their hard work in putting together this event. At the dinner we presented scholarships to bright young students. A special thank you to our sponsors, without their support this would not be possible.

The executive committee received many concerns regarding the dinner from patrons that attended the Regional Food night at Carmens. The Federazione Abruzzese Executive and I would like to extend our sincere apologies for the experience. It is an embarrassment as an organization that our patrons had the experience they did at the dinner, it was not acceptable, and it could have been avoided. We met as an executive, discussed measures with great concern and also met the senior levels of Carmens management. On page 3 of this Bollettino is a letter of apology from Carmens which will be followed up with a \$25.00 gift certificate for all those who attended the dinner. The Executive of the Federazione will work on the logistics for distributing the gift certificates. As an executive we will continue our efforts and goals to maintain and promote the Abruzzese culture and traditions in the Hamilton area. We hope that you will continue to support the Federazione and join us at future events.

On December 12th, we have our Christmas Concert at St Catherine of Siena Parish on Rymal Rd. We look forward to seeing you there.

On behalf of the executive and myself, I would like to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas filled with joy and happiness. May your new year be prosperous and full of happiness.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!

Robert Ricci, President

FEDERAZIONE ABRUZZESE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2022-2024

Ricci Roberto	President
Faiella Elda	1 st Vice President
Mugheddu Lucy	2nd Vice-President
Mastracci Tony	Treasurer
Marini Franca	Recording Secretary
La Civita Franca	Corresponding Secretary
Di Nardo Ersilia	Past-President
Cerminaria Marcel	Councillor
Ciotti Silvano	Councillor
De Luca Rita	Councillor
De Santis Sabrina	Councillor
Di Battista Carmen	Councillor
Di Ianni Angelo	Councillor
Di Nello Livio	Councillor
Liberale Lena	Councillor
Mancuso Anna	Councillor
Mauro Mary	Councillor
Presutti Remo Jr	Councillor
Presutti Remo	Councillor

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FEDERAZIONE ABRUZZESE

OF HAMILTON

invites you to our

🎵 **Christmas Concert** 🎵



Featuring

**SOUTHERN ONTARIO LYRIC OPERA
(SOLO) ENSEMBLE**

JOE BAIARDO AND LUC BERARDOCCO

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY CHOIR

Thursday, December 12, 2024, 7pm
St. Catherine of Siena Church
620 Rymal Road East, Hamilton



*Donations of non-perishable food items for
the Good Shepherd will be
gratefully accepted!*



Merry Christmas



Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Re: September Festitalia Dinner at Carmen's

Dear Guests of the Federazione Abruzzese Dinner,

As the owners and founder of Carmen's, we would like to apologize for the disappointing evening experienced by many of you at the Regional Festitalia Dinner on Wednesday, September 19th. As fellow proud Abruzzese, who try diligently to live by the values of '*forte e gentile*', no one feels more disheartened than we do knowing the disappointment the dinner caused

Carmen's has a long, 37-year history hosting the Federazione Abruzzese dinner. It is one that we have a very sentimental connection to as the patriarch and matriarch of the Mercanti Family, Giuseppe and Yolanda Mercanti, were born in Teramo, Abruzzi and attended this very dinner for many years. Out of respect to the legacy of our parents and nonni, and owing to the gratitude we have for the Abruzzese Community, we feel we owe the executive committee and guests in attendance an explanation about what happened and how we seek to rebuild our trust with you.

First, the service-related issues around the lack of wine glasses on the tables, the late delivery of bread, the oversight regarding children's meals, and the non-replenishment of the pasta courses were simply unacceptable and should never have happened. Secondly, and most notably, the delivery of the veal entrée and sausage platters fell far below our standards as the colour and texture was extremely surprising. Carmen's has served the exact same veal entrée to rave reviews many times in 2024 hence our disappointment on what was served at the dinner. Upon a deep dive investigation which included many re-tests of the same veal product, we discovered that the batch shipped to us had a pigmentation issue (vs. the standard veal colouring). The veal itself served at the dinner was fully cooked and 100% safe to consume however we acknowledge that the main entrée was beyond disappointing and not to the culinary standard to which we hold ourselves.

In order to rebuild the trust and confidence that we have with the Abruzzese community and the broader Italian-Canadian community in Hamilton who attended, we would like to provide all guests to the dinner with a \$25 gift certificate to Baci Ristorante. We will be launching a new menu at the restaurant on November 15th and we would be honoured to have you experience the delicious cuisine offered at our restaurant as an apology for your experience at Carmen's. We will coordinate the delivery of the gift certificates through the committee members who secured your event tickets.

Additionally, Carmen's will be strategizing with the Federazione Abruzzese executive committee about bringing back the 'sample meal tasting' for the executive committee to try the meal before the eventual event to work out any culinary or presentation kinks. We will also work towards having chefs travel from Abruzzo to Hamilton to work with our Carmen's team to make future meal experiences authentic and innovative in accordance with Abruzzese culinary traditions. We are committed to restoring your confidence in the Carmen's brand and in our company, and we look forward to our continued partnership and collaboration with Federazione Abruzzese.

With kindness and respect,

Peter Mercanti, PJ Mercanti, and Joe Mercanti

Founder and Owners of Carmen's

1 KING ST W, SUITE 1200, HAMILTON, ON L8P 1A4
HELLO@CARMENSGROUP.COM 🐦 905-381-4100 🐦 CARMENSGROUP.COM

Federazione Abruzzese Scholarship Awards Presentation September 20, 2024

It was certainly an exciting evening for 6 young University students of Abruzzese descent who were all in attendance with their families as they received the Federazione Abruzzese Scholarship Awards from the award sponsors. Each of the award recipients received \$1000 through the generosity of the sponsors. It was gratifying and encouraging to see the confidence and skill of these young people as they addressed a very attentive audience after receiving their awards. A sincere thank you to the sponsors for their very generous and long-standing support of the Scholarship Awards program. I would like to acknowledge the work of the judges and commend them for the manner in which they undertook the responsibilities to evaluate all of the scholarship applications. Sincere thanks to all of you. The award winners and sponsors follow:

Josh Bellavia sponsored by Anthony DeSantis Jr.: A DeSantis Developments

Daniel Del Conte sponsored by Frank Ciancone: City Window and Glass

Carina Mamone sponsored by LiUNA Local 837

Laura Ponikvar sponsored by David DeSantis: Multi Area Developments Inc.

Alessia Pontillo sponsored by Joe Trombetta and Gina Colalillo: Titan Mortgage Group

Julianna Pusztay sponsored by Tony DeLuca: Pettinelli Mastroluisi LLP



Josh Bellavia



Daniel Del Conte



Carina Mamone



Laura Ponikvar



Alessia Pontillo

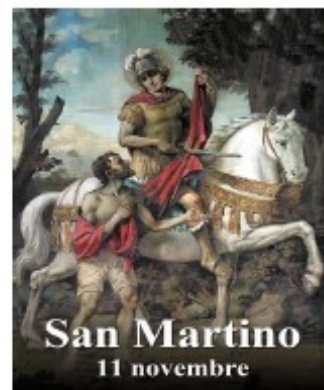


Julianna Pusztay

The Gagliano Aterno community celebrates San Martino



On November 9th, the Community of Gagliano Aterno Social Club celebrated its patron saint, San Martino, with an annual dinner dance, a tradition that has been going on for more than 35 years. St. Martin of Tours feast day falls on November 11, the same date as Remembrance Day. The evening began with a touching ceremony in memory of those who fought in World War I and II. Guests included members of the Introdacqua and Brittolesi Associations as well as representatives of the Federazione Abruzzese of Hamilton. The evening proved to be fun with good food and good music enjoyed by all.



11 Novembre
San
Martino



**Festa dell'uva
e del buon vino.**

*La nebbia a gl'irti colli
Piovigginando sale,
E sotto il maestrale
Urla e biancheggia il mar;
Ma per le vie del borgo
Dal ribollir de' tini
Va l'aspro odor de' vini
L'anime a rallegrar.
Gira su' ceppi accesi
Lo spiedo scoppiettando:
Sta il cacciatore fischando
Su l'uscio a rimirar
Tra le rossastre nubi
Storni d'uccelli neri,
Com'esuli pensieri,
Nel vespero migrar.*
(Giosuè Carducci)

Giuseppe Carducci
(1835-1907)

Carducci, Giosuè nasce a Lucca il 27 maggio 1835 e muore a Bologna il 16 febbraio 1907. Fu definito «Vate della Terza Italia» per la sua concezione eroica della poesia e per il prestigio nazionale e ufficiale che gli fu riconosciuto dopo l'unità. Fu il primo italiano a vincere il Premio Nobel per la letteratura nel 1906.

Vate= Carducci venne considerato tale per il suo passato da patriota e per la forza e l'energia della sua poesia che glorificava personaggi del Risorgimento.



*Giosuè Carducci
calen d' maggio 1880*

CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN ABRUZZO

Those who want to experience the magic of the Christmas holidays will find several villages in Abruzzo where this tradition is particularly heartfelt. From November, the historic centers dress up to celebrate Christmas with typical markets and other special events, ready to welcome and excited adults and children.



CARAMANICO TERME (PE)

16 November - 6 January every weekend

In the heart of the Maiella National Park is the enchanting town of Caramanico Terme. Among the stands in its Christmas Village, one will find artifacts, artistic and artisanal products and typical gastronomic delicacies. There will be the Kingdom of Santa Claus and the House of the Elves with music and Christmas shows, the ice rink, the Christmas train and the House of the Befana. There are bon fires to warm up in front of, sip mulled wine and enjoy the view of the mountains.



CAMPO DI GIOVE (AQ) Nov. 23 - January 6 weekends

It is impossible not to mention the Campo di Giove Christmas market, where the wooden houses, full of delicacies and typical craftsmanship, accompany a rich series of shows. Lovers of artisanal and organic products can go shopping and those who love trekking and walking can explore the evocative area, surrounded by uncontaminated nature. Here too, in one of the most characteristic towns of the Maiella National Park, the Italian Trans-Siberian stops, in a true Christmas atmosphere. Warm up with a sip of mulled wine and don't miss out on chestnuts and the many desserts on offer!



PACENTRO (AQ) 7 - 8 December 2024

Pacentro's Christmas Market has two village squares set up with houses and food stands enlivened by music, events and shows. Typical specialties include gnocchi with roe deer sauce, cured meats, cheeses and hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows. The alleys of the historic center are all beautifully decorated. Strolling the narrow streets, you will discover artisan workshops, exhibitions and the well-known Caldora Castle. Located on the north-eastern side of the Majella, walks and excursions in Pacentro are immersed in nature. The magical moment truly comes at night, when its festively lit medieval alleys make it resemble a nativity scene.

MERCATINI DI NATALE IN ABRUZZO

Chi desidera vivere la magia delle festività natalizie, troverà in Abruzzo diversi borghi dove questa tradizione è particolarmente sentita. Da novembre i centri storici si vestono a festa per celebrare il Natale con i tipici mercatini ed altri eventi speciali, pronti ad accogliere ed emozionare grandi e piccini.



CARAMANICO TERME (PE)

16 novembre - 6 gennaio tutti i weekend

È ormai tempo di pensare a regali, addobbi e dolci tipici ed il nostro tour non può che iniziare in montagna, nel Cuore del Parco Nazionale della Maiella, e in particolare a Caramanico Terme. Tra le bancarelle troverete manufatti, prodotti artistici e artigianali e prelibatezze gastronomiche tipiche. Ci saranno il Regno di Babbo Natale e la Casa degli elfi con musica e spettacoli natalizi, la pista di pattinaggio, il trenino di Natale e la Casa della Befana. Potrete riscaldarvi davanti al fuoco, sorseggiando il vin brulé e godendo della vista sui monti.



CAMPO DI GIOVE (AQ)

23 novembre - 6 gennaio weekend

A Campo di Giove ci sono le casette in legno, ricche di prelibatezze e artigianato tipico, e una ricca serie di spettacoli. Il Natale è il periodo perfetto per visitare il paese di Campo di Giove, dove gli amanti di prodotti artigianali e biologici possono fare shopping e chi ama fare trekking e passeggiate può esplorare il suggestivo territorio, circondato dalla natura incontaminata. Anche qui, in uno dei paesi più caratteristici del Parco Nazionale della Maiella, fa tappa la Transiberiana d'Italia. Scaldatevi con un sorso di vin brulé e non fatevi mancare castagne e i tanti dolci!



PACENTRO (AQ) 7 - 8 dicembre 2024

I Mercatini di Natale a Pacentro si trovano nelle due piazze del borgo allestite con casette e stand gastronomici, rallegrati da musiche, eventi e spettacoli. Le specialità tipiche sono gli gnocchi al sugo di capriolo, salumi e formaggi e per concludere cioccolata calda con panna e marshmallow. I vicoli del centro storico sono decorati in ogni angolo. Si passeggia piacevolmente, scoprendo tradizioni, botteghe artigiane, mostre ed il noto Castello Caldora. Pacentro sorge sul versante nord-orientale della Majella, dove è possibile fare passeggiate ed escursioni immersi nella natura. Sia di giorno che di sera, lo spettacolo qui è meraviglioso. Ma la notte arriva davvero il momento magico, quando i suoi vicoli medievali illuminati a festa lo fanno somigliare ad un presepe!

MOSTACCIOLI RECIPE

This recipe is from a dear neighbour Cecilia Lancia (from Pettorano) Enjoy! – Mary Mauro

Ingredients:

6 eggs
2 cups of sugar
1 cup of espresso (cold)
1 cup mostocotto or marsala al'uovo
1 cup oil
8 tbsps baking powder
2 lbs roasted and processed almonds
Rind of 2 oranges
2 cups cocoa, 1 bitter, 1 sweet (hot chocolate mix)
1 tsp cinnamon
6 cups (approx.) all purpose flour

Directions:

Beat eggs and sugar. Mix in the rest of the ingredients. Knead into a smooth log. Pinch off pieces and roll on lightly floured board as gnocchi. Flatten and cut into diamond shapes. Bake at 350 °F for 11 minutes.

Icing:

1 ½ cup icing sugar
2 or 3 tbsp of brewed coffee – add until thick but runny consistency
Spread by brush or finger on cookie



Associazione Introdacquesi di Hamilton Inc.



Dear Introdacquesi and friends,

Join us on Saturday December 21, 2024, at Winona Vine Estates (269 Glover Road, Stoney Creek, ON L8E 5H6) for a festive Christmas dinner and dance! Enjoy a delightful four-course meal, dance to tunes from J.G. Disc Jockey Services, and look forward to a special visit from Santa. It's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the season with family and friends. We can't wait to see everyone there!

Program: 5:30 p.m. Doors Open, 6:00 p.m. Passed Hor's D'oeuvres, 6:30 p.m. Visit from Santa, 7:00 p.m. Dinner Served, 9:00 p.m. 50/50 draw

Menu: Antipasto Classico, Cheese filled Tortellini with Alfredo Sauce, Penne with a classic Tomato Sauce, Roast Veal Au Jus, Oven Roasted Chicken, Oven roasted potatoes, seasonal vegetables and mixed garden salad, Triple berry cheesecake martini served with coffee and tea

Tickets: \$70.00 per person and \$30.00 for children 3-16, Children under 3 free.

CASH BAR

Fabrizio, Sandra, and Alexander Giuliani 905-981-6729

Rossana Radman 905-332-7142

Sonia and Eladio Vilar 905-689-9771

Miriana Giuliani 289-756-2264

Dan and Marissa Spinosa 905-870-4388

Doris Harper 905-383-6256



Be sure to visit our:

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/2016abruzzo2/>

Instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/abruzzohamilton/>

Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfp-EH6npE575Qhy984c0ng>

Website: www.abruzzohamilton.org

To learn about all things Abruzzo: www.lifeinabruzzo.com

Please inform a member of the executive committee of any milestone birthdays, anniversaries, and cards of condolences.



Comitato per il Bollettino: Remo Presutti, Mary Mauro, Franca La Civita, Lena Liberale, Paula Mucci, Ersilia Di Nardo.