



NOTIZIE

della Famèe Furlane di New York

20-08 127 Street College Point, NY 11356

Autumn • Sorunviêr • Autunno 2011

OPINIONE

Submitted by Gina Paveglia

GIULIETTA AND ROMEO WERE FRIULIAN?

The Real Story, Protagonists and Places

Lucina Savorgnan was just 15 years old when she met Luigi Da Porto at a masked ball on the evening of February 25, 1511, at the Palace Savorgnan in Udine. Though it was love at first sight, it was also a tormented love that cruelly was never realized.

The story of Romeo and Giulietta itself was born in Friuli and its protagonists, Lucina and Luigi, were both members of the powerful Savorgnan family. Lucina made her formal debut into the social and political world of the Savorgnans at the masked ball at the palace that evening. She sang and danced in a manner which both enchanted and captivated Luigi, a captain of the cavalry, who was stationed with his garrison in Cividale del Friuli.

Though a great spark of love was ignited that gala night, the fates were callous with the young couple. Luigi was to return to his garrison and to the civil war being waged at the time. After months of fighting, in the Battle of Natisone, Luigi was gravely wounded and was left partially paralyzed. It seemed that all was lost especially when some years later, Lucina was forced to marry her cousin, Francesco Savorgnan. This was a political marriage, common at the time, brought about in order to achieve peace in the region. However, Luigi did not despair, neither from his injuries nor his loss of Lucina. Luigi was a prolific writer who

used his pen as a weapon of hope and authored the short story of "Romeo e Giulietta," which he dedicated to Lucina. However, Luigi shifted the love story to the city of Verona, a literary pretense created deliberately to hide its autobiographical content.

At the end of the sixteenth century, this short story somehow reached the hands of William Shakespeare who then transposed it into the dramatic piece of theatre that still resonates to this day. The myth of Romeo and Juliet residing in Verona remains alive while, in fact, the real story, sites, and protagonists were and are in Friuli.

The Places

Ariis di Rivignano is the real site of the fortified Savorgnan family residence, where Lucina lived with her mother in the early 1500's after the death of her father, Giacomo. The Villa Ottelio Savorgnan, encircled by a beautiful park, overlooks the River Stella.

Udine, the city, is the geographical and historical heart of Friuli and where the Piazza Venerio is located. The Savorgnan Palace where Luigi and Lucina met at the masked ball once stood in this piazza.

Cividale del Friuli is the city where Luigi captained the garrison. He was stationed and lived in the tower gate known as Arsenale Veneto.

Gradisca d' Isonzo, a Venetian fortress built in 1479 to protect against the attacking Turkish regiments, is located in southern Veneto. Luigi and his cavalry battled here from March through June, 1511, until he was injured.



WE NOW HAVE WIRELESS INTERNET CONNECTION

Network ID: Friuli

(password available at the bar)

THE FAMÈE FURLANE NEWSLETTER

Editors: Gina Paveglio, Patrizia Patrizio Sumers

Contributing Editors: Irene Rosa, Cynthia Paveglio Tomasi

Contributors: Rita Bonich, Sabrina DeBernardo, Peter Longo, Marc Lupinacci, Irene Rosa, Licia M. Radovich, Mark Rosa, Lana Magnan Schnitzer, Ilya Speranza, Nicholas Steffen, Vivienne Trebino

To contribute to the Notizie, please email:newsletter@fameefurlane-ny.com**Cena alla Casalinga***tutti i venerdì sera da settembre a giugno*

Per le prenotazioni telefonate a

Marcello Filippi: (718) 335-7382

Ines Peressin: (718) 886-6842

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Frank Caponssacco, Paul Casabona, Eligio Clapcich, Antonino Cusenza, Giovanna D'Elia, Jose Gonzalez, Mario Jelcic, Linda Laghi MacKenzie, Vincent Maraldo, Jr., Brian O'Malley, Ernest Vogliano, Jr., Marie Vogliano, Robert Vogliano, Joseph Yasparro, Gabriel Robert Yevoli

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS*Newly Appointed Vice Presidents:* Cynthia Paveglio Tomasi and Linda Peressin Zulic*New members to the Board of Directors:* Franco Centa and Sandra DeBernardo**CLUB BYLAWS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE**www.fameefurlane-ny.com (under Membership)

Mara Fabbro is a self-taught contemporary artist whose work is often described as Abstract Expressionism. Her creations are compositions of pigments and materials that together are paintings and bassorilievo or bas-relief sculptures; flat yet topographical. Fabbro's works demonstrate an exquisite use of color, material and contrast of light and shade. The combination results in interesting textures and surfaces. "...*their most tantalizing and exquisite details are only discernible upon close reading, like counting the rings in a tree trunk.*"

Fabbro cites her father as an early, unconscious influence, a brick-layer whose essential materials of grout and mortar were precursors to her boldly tinted mixes of sand and acrylic.

Born and raised in Aviano (PN), Friuli Venezia Giulia, Fabbro splits her time between Primo Piano Art Gallery in Venice, Italy, and New York where she is represented by Agora Gallery.

From December 23, 2011, to January 12, 2012, you may view Mara Fabbro's work at the Angora Gallery exhibition, "The Odyssey Within". An opening reception will be held December 29, 2011, from 6 to 8PM.

The Agora Gallery
530 W. 25th Street
NYC



The Freedom Tower Sacred Ground

CALLIGARIS NEW YORK CITY

Calligaris celebrated the grand opening of its newest store on November 17th in New York City. Hosting the event was **Alessandro Calligaris**, the founder's grandson and company president, who took time away from his busy schedule to fly over from Italy. Calligaris, an Italian home design company, has been producing furniture since 1923 in Manzano (UD)—an area in Friuli world-renowned for its handcrafted wood furniture. The company launched making custom wood chairs, most notably the ladder back chair called the Marocca, and is now known for their modern, functional designs.

Famèe Furlane Club member **Paolo Tomasi** facilitated the efforts in setting up the New York City store and organizing the grand opening event. Tomasi joined Calligaris in 2009, first working in Manzano, and is now their Brand and Contract Manager for their USA headquarters in High Point, NC.

Attendees of the event were able to view firsthand the signature Calligaris style of design, quality, function and value. Featured at the event was the recently launched Orbital extending table, designed by the legendary Pininfarina in collaboration with the award-winning Calligaris technical team. In one elegant move, the glass tabletop rotates to reveal two leaves that twist into place, turning the six-seater into a set-up large enough for 12. Standing besides the Orbital table, Calligaris proudly commented, "Seating may be our most iconic pieces, but at the forefront of each and every piece of furniture is quality and workmanship, combined with functionality to suit the customer's needs."

Guests included **Deputy Consul of Italy, New York, Dino Sorrentino**, and owner and director of the famous De Gustibus Cooking School, **Salvatore Rizzo**. Rizzo furnished not only his school with Calligaris designed seating, but his home as well. "Calligaris designs are architecturally beautiful, yet practical and comfortable. I was so pleased with the results, I moved on to my home", commented Rizzo on his personal experience with the company.

The store is located at 969 Third Avenue, NYC. (www.calligaris.com/)



Paolo Tomasi with Alessandro Calligaris in front of one of the Orbital extending tables

NEW YORK VISIT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REGION FVG, TONDO



Renzo Tondo with Mario Collavino

On October 7th a special dinner was held at the Famèe Furlane Club to honor two distinguished Friulians. The **Hon. Renzo Tondo**, President of the Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia, was welcomed as the first president of the region to visit our Club. Hon. Tondo brought greetings from the Regional Council, the Executive Committee, and symbolically, therefore, from the citizens of the Region.

The second honoree was Mr. **Mario Collavino**, the president of the Collavino Construction Company, in recognition of his company's work rebuilding One World Trade Center, better known as The Freedom Tower. Other guests recognized that evening included **Hon. Laura Aghilarré, Italian Vice Consul General in New York**, and our **New York State Senator, Tony Avella**.

This special occasion at our Clubhouse was best described by president **Marcello Filippi**, "We are here to honor the outstanding contributions from emigrants from a unique region," and presented a commemorative plaque to Mr. Collavino in recognition of the work by a Friulian in the USA. He then presented a commemorative gift to President Tondo in honoring the Friulian community by his visit.



Renzo Tondo, Tony Avella, Marcello Filippi, Laura Aghilarré

VECIA TRIESTE

On October 1, 2011, the internationally renowned 20-piece orchestra “Vecia Trieste” from Trieste, Italy, put on a two-hour show at the Clubhouse performing a variety of traditional folkloric music, as well as popular Italian and international melodies. Most memorable was Ileana Pipitone's rendition of *Don't Cry for Me Argentina*, but it was her powerful vocals in the finale *New York – New York* that really brought down the house. An extremely talented group, this lively performance was enjoyed by all. Bravi! Thank you **Eligio Clapcich** of the **Associazione Giuliani nel Mondo** for organizing this event.



LICEO SCIENTIFICO A. EINSTEIN OF CERVIGNANO DEL FRIULI

This summer, eight students from the **Liceo Scientifico A. Einstein of Cervignano del Friuli (UD)** were in New York with their English teacher, **Mari-lena Beltramini**. The students were taking an English course at St. John's University from July 16th to the 28th and were interested in meeting members of our Club. We met the students at Boulder Creek Restaurant where we enjoyed a typical American meal and concluded the evening at the Club.

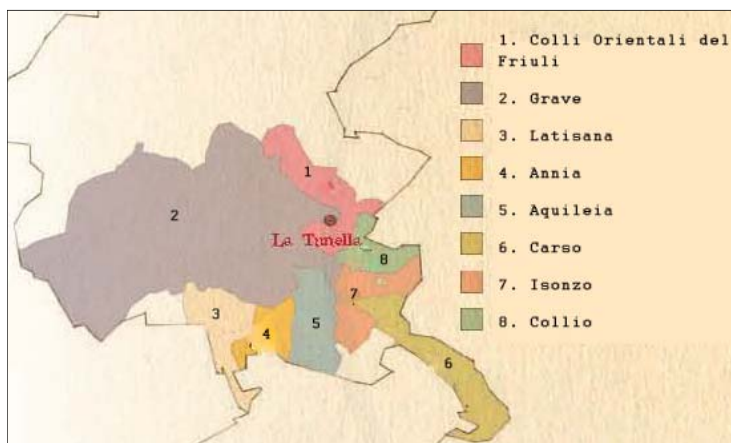
The students were very interested in the history of the Club and had many questions for **Ugo Peressin**, while **Irene Rosa** and **Toni Ann Petovello** (Board member **Paul Petovello's** daughter) engaged the students in conversation about life in New York.

The students were ecstatic to be able to practice their English with members of our Club.



(Pictured Sofia, Alice, Claudia, Anastasia, Gianluca, Stefano, Laura, Giulia, Marilena Beltramini, Paul Petovello, Toni Ann Petovello, Elaine Leist, Raymond Brun del Re, Cynthia Paveglio Tomasi, Ines and Ugo Peressin, Irene Rosa and husband Phillip Jordan).

WINES OF FVG



Azienda Agricola La Tunella
Via del Collio 14
Ipplis (UD)
www.latunella.it

Friuli Venezia Giulia is divided into eight wine-growing areas with D.O.C. denominations: Collio, Grave, Isonzo, Carso, Aquileia, Latisana, Annia and Colli Orientali del Friuli. The latter denomination is known throughout the world for its excellence in white wines. One wine producer within the Colli Orientali del Friuli is **La Tunella** of **Marco and Massimo Zorzettig**, the third generation that is carrying forward their family tradition.

“Making less means making better”, a local tradition to ensure quality; and La Tunella wines are superb. The tasting room is open to the public where you can sample all La Tunella wines, as well as make purchases.



15 - 18 YEARS OLD TEEN TRIP (EFASCE 2011)*Nick Steffan***"A TRIP AND SO MUCH MORE"**

".... nothing scheduled for tomorrow afternoon," were words we heard only once on the entire trip and we were ecstatic!" "We" consisted of the group of grandchildren from the New York and Philadelphia chapters of the Famèe Furlane, an organization made up of Italian emigrants from the northeast region of Italy called Friuli. EFASCE (Ente Friulano Assistenza Sociale Culturale Emigranti) and the Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia, created this trip to educate the descendents of its emigrants about where they come from and the culture of the Friulian. We learned more about that culture on the day that nothing was scheduled than on any day of field trips scheduled seeing the gorgeous Italian tourist attractions.



In the classroom

On the first day of the trip, I discovered the difference between breakfast in Italy and in the USA. I woke up at seven o'clock, showered and dressed, then went to eat. My meal consisted of freshly baked cake (my favorite was the lemon rum cake), some "S" shaped cookies that went with the coffee, a freshly picked peach and a delicious fruit juice, which fruit though I still do not know. I loved eating breakfast in Italy, an activity I find burdensome in the US, because it was quick, delicious, and refreshing. Breakfast did not fill you up but held you over until a gigantic lunch was served at noon, again something I learned my first day there. After breakfast, we walked across the street to the church house for class with Emilio. An ex-mayor of the town, Emilio, volunteered to try to teach us Italian while we were there, despite the fact that he did not have a great grasp of English. His grey beard, stained yellow from tobacco, covered his face. Always jovial, he went about class teaching us about Friuli, all the while speaking Italian and occasionally trying to translate into English. Both teacher and students took a lot away from each class --- mostly laughter!

The best way to learn about a culture is to immerse yourself in it is a lesson I learned from Emilio. Class let out early that day because it was Monday, and in Maniago, Monday is market day,

far and away the best way to live Italian culture. Market day almost resembles an American flea market but its size and selection of goods are substantially greater. Vendors occupy the entire town square, the heart of the town, and they sell everything from fresh fruit, meats and cheese, fried chicken, to clothes, shoes, and miscellaneous goods. After walking among the stands for about an hour we found our chaperone, Daniela, and asked her to inform the restaurant not to prepare lunch for us as we wanted to make our own. We bought bread, prosciutto, soppressata, and the local cheese which is sold in chunks cut from the wheel itself. We then went up to our rooms and made the best lunch I ate during the whole trip despite the fact that we stayed in a four-star hotel. Then, we all took part in one of my favorite cultural activities, SIESTA! In small Friulian towns, everything shuts down from noon until three o'clock --- and so did we!

Night time was free time and we did our usual thing and went out into the town even though we had an eleven o'clock curfew --- the hotels actually lock their doors at night! nights provided me the greatest understanding of Italian culture. We met a group of local teenagers and we taught each other, although not the objective, about our own cultures. When they asked where we were from, most Italian children study English in school from a very young age, their eyes lit up at the mention of New York City. We taught each other new words, mostly them teaching us, and we American kids learned how the people there live.

Traveling to Italy this summer completely changed my understanding of where I come from. The various trips to wondrous cities and ruins, meetings with local government officials, and the classes delighted me. This trip I took and lived through, convinced me to spend time there in the future, and I will probably study there in college. I love that way of life, but I only learned this because I experienced firsthand how people live their culture. Jawaharlal Nehru once said, "Culture is the widening of the mind and spirit." This experience certainly widened my mind, showing me how much I can love another culture but, more importantly, helped me understand where my family came from.



The group with the artist, Carlin Beltrame, visiting the exhibit 'Iis mans di Carlin', in Frisanco

SOGGIORNO IN FRIULI

Gina Paveglia

My experience this year in Friuli took me throughout the Region where I noted places that I thought worth sharing.

EATING

Trattoria Solder, Via Gramagliano, 17, Corno di Rosazzo (UD). Typical Friulian cuisine with seasonal dishes accompanied by wines of their own production. The restaurant is set on top of a hill with a panoramic view of the Colli Orientali wine region and the Abbey of Rosazzo, built around the year 1000.

Agriturismo Ponte Maraldi, Via Ponte Maraldi, Meduno, (PN). The best gnocchi in Friuli. Regional, seasonal cuisine at great prices. Ask for Renata or her brother Fulvio.



SHOPPING

Mosaiko Donna, Piazza Garibaldi, 7, Spilimbergo, (PN). Contemporary fashion for women that is simply Italian: classic, stylish and chic. All clothing is made in Italy and extremely high quality. Even with the exchange rate, prices were reasonable. Two sisters own the shop and have a talent for selecting the fashion lines; ask for Renata and Rosanna.

LODGING

Hotel Suite Inn, Via F. di Toppo, 25, Udine, (UD). A few steps from the historic center of Udine, you will find this boutique hotel—a converted 19th century home with 13 rooms all distinctively furnished. The design and details blend the past with the present. Simple, elegant, comfortable. The proprietor is Giuliana Ganzini, a young and talented woman who is dedicated to providing exceptional service to her guests, as well as a memorable experience visiting Friuli Venezia Giulia. (www.hotelsuiteinn-udine.com)

Azienda Agricola Pontoni Flavio “Braidès”, Via Peruzzi, 8, Buttrio, (UD). A converted hay loft in the rural village of Buttrio, in the wine growing area known as the Colli Orientali del Friuli. There are 4 private bedrooms, each have their own bathroom, small refrigerator, Internet and are air-conditioned. You can rent bicycles and ride through the wine region, visit nearby Cividale del Friuli (the Lombardic capital), Palmanova (the 17th century star-shaped town), San Daniele (prosciutto capital), the beaches of Grado and more. (www.pontoni.it)

FESTE

Paesi Aperti, (PN). The first weekend in September, the oldest towns of the Valcellina open their streets to visitors. Surrounded by mountains, Frisanco, Poffabro and Casasola, participate in this highly popular, annual event. Visitors are shuttled by bus from one town to the next where they can sample typical mountain cuisine, buy artisanal works and dance to lots of music.

Medioevo a Valvasone, Medieval festival held in a medieval

town, the second weekend in September. Valvasone, (PN), just off the Tagliamento River, is listed in “I Borghi Più Belli d’Italia”, among the most beautiful small towns in Italy based on their historical features. Truly beautiful, Valvasone makes a perfect backdrop for this festival.



Friuli Doc, Udine (UD). The third weekend in September. Wine, food, music, events, art and culture—a celebration of the Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia held in the historic center of Udine. ‘Doc’ refers to the strict Italian labeling system that designates products as being produced in a traditional manner or come from a specific geographic area.

MISCELLANEOUS

RC di Croni Roberto e Riccardo, Via Arba, 51, Maniago (PN). Tel. 0427 72572 or Cell 348 7502189. Automotive services: body repair, mechanics, damage from hail stones, 24/7 towing. Note: Had the good fortune to meet Roberto when a gas attendant pumped diesel fuel in my car’s gasoline tank. Rather than go home to have dinner with his family, Roberto serviced the car, finishing at 10:00PM...a very long day for him.

TRAVEL TIPS

VAT Refund As a visitor to Italy, you may qualify for a VAT refund on purchases of 155 euro and above. Currently, the rate is 21% of the sale price. If you see the ‘Euro Tax Free’ sign displayed, show your passport and ask the store clerk to issue a “Tax Free Shopping Receipt”. The store will charge you tax at the time of sale, but the Tax Free Shopping Receipt will indicate the amount of VAT refund you will be eligible to claim. Present the new merchandise and paperwork to the Customs Office at the airport upon your departure to be stamped. Next, present the paperwork at the “Tax-Free Cash Refund” booth for an immediate refund.

If the store does not participate in the “Tax-Free Italy” program, ask for a special invoice known as a ‘fattura’, which should be made out to you and must include the phrase “Esente IVA ai sensi della legge 38 quater” (Exempt from VAT pursuant to Law 38). The fattura must indicate the VAT amount. Present the fattura and the goods at the Customs Office on your departure to be stamped. You must then mail the stamped fattura back to the store (either from Italy or your home country) within 90 days of the purchase date. The store will then send you the VAT refund by return mail to whatever address you specify. This can take quite some time, but may be worth the effort.

Travel Services, member **Mario Vallerugo** is a travel consultant offering personalized services for groups and individuals; he has a track record of getting excellent deals. I was very pleased with my Fiat 500 and the low airfare he found even during the peak travel season. Telephone: 718.886.2516

SUMMER 2011 FVG

Michele Bernardon, Segretario EFASCE, with member **Deanna Mayo**, one of the teens selected to participate in the summer study abroad program for 2011. Deanna is a talented singer and just finished performing for her peers.



The unveiling of the monument dedicated to the 'Emigrant', 5th of August in Muris, FVG.

Cav. Gran Croce Dr. Adriano Degano, president of the Fogolar Furlan di Roma, **Marcello Filippi**, president of the Famèe Furlane Club, **Michele Bernardon**, Segretario, EFASCE, and **Enzo Ombramonti**, executive vice president, Famèe Furlane Club.

Friuli nel Mondo's VIII Annual Convention held in Spilimbergo, 6 - 7 August

Executive vice president of the Famèe Furlane Club, **Enzo Ombramonti** with **Pietro Pittaro**, president of Friuli nel Mondo, and president of the Famèe Furlane Club, **Marcello Filippi**.



The aerobatic demonstration team of the Italian Air force, **Le Frecche Tricolori**, is based at Rivolto Air Base in Codroipo (UD), FVG.

Guided visits upon request and reservation through Turismo FVG. www.turismofvg.it

NORTH AMERICAN FRIULIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

Marc Lupinacci

On behalf of the Famèe Furlane Club of New York, I had the honor of attending a meeting of "young fellow-regionals" living in the United States and Canada sponsored by The Region of Friuli Venezia-Giulia.

The three-day conference held in Toronto, Canada, began on October 21st and was headed by the **Hon. Dr. Elio De Anna**, Regional Assessor for Culture, Sports, and International/Community Relations. There were approximately 85 young attendees including a small, strong representation from the United States. Most USA representatives were from New York and Philadelphia but others came from California, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Tennessee.

The conference itself was kicked off with a fantastic presentation on our regional identity, language, and culture given by Mr. Paolo Canciani, a Canadian journalist. This was followed by presentations from Dr. Cristiana Campagno, Rector of the University of Udine, Hon. Sergio Marchi, Canadian Ambassador to The World Trade Organization, and other knowledgeable speakers.

Break-out sessions were then held during which the young attendees were able to consolidate the information presented and to prepare recommendations on ways the region of Friuli could maintain strong cultural ties with young Friulian North Americans. This three-day event was a great opportunity for these youths to meet and start life-long friendships, which were surely created!

BLOG PROMOTING ITALIAN AND FRIULANO FOODS

WWW.WE CookATHOME.COM

We were contacted through our Website by **Daniela Francescutto** of Pordenone, Friuli Venezia Giulia. She and her mother-in-law have created a new blog promoting Italian and Friulano cuisine. The site is in English and Italian with easy, quick tips and recipes to entice everyone to eat and live well.

ITALIAN LESSONS

Interested individuals should contact:

Marc Lupinacci

Telephone: 203-539-0359

Email: MarcLupinacci@gmail.com

JIM SNIDERO

Hailed as an “alto sax virtuoso” and “master musician” by Downbeat Magazine, **Jim Snidero** has been a highly-respected bandleader, important soloist and international recording artist for over a quarter century. “A talented musician and passionate musical advocate”, Snidero has performed throughout the US, in Europe, Japan, Australia, and even at the Famè Furlane Club with jazz master, **Armand Hirsch** (son of member **Pamela Candusso Hirsch**). Snidero’s latest recording, *Interface*, received critical acclaim, including from Musica Jazz, Italy’s #1 jazz music publication.

Snidero’s paternal grandparents are from Udine and Cividale del Friuli, Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia; his maternal grandparents are from Rome, the Lazio Region, and Napoli, the Region of Campania.

For upcoming performances, visit www.jimsnidero.com

AWARD-WINNING ARCHITECT**CONGRATULATIONS TO I NONNI**

Congratulations to **Cynthia** and **Mariano Tomasi** on the birth of their first grandchild, Lola Sofia Tomasi. Their son Paolo and his wife Florencia are the proud parents. Lola Sofia was born on March 30, 2011.



David L. Businelli, celebrated Italian Heritage and Culture month at Wagner College with an interactive presentation on Italian Influences in Architecture. On October 24th, **Businelli**

discussed the artistic philosophy behind his innovative, contemporary architectural creations for functional performance and positive environmental impact.

Businelli is an award-winning Architect and president of Studio 16 Architecture, Staten Island, and the New York State American Institute of Architects (AIA)

I GIOVANI

Ross J. Schnitzer Jr. is the grandson of **Nelsa Magnan** and the late **Dominick Magnan** and the son of **Lana Magnan Schnitzer** and the late Ross Schnitzer. Ross is a junior at Iona Prep in New Rochelle, NY. He has made a verbal commitment to Loyola University in Maryland as a rising Junior to play Division 1 Lacrosse in 2013. He will be studying International Business. Congratulations!



Lyonella, daughter of **Mark** and **Luanne Rosa**, married Lee Bleakley on October 29th in River Ranch, Florida. Congratulations!



ARIA WINE BAR – ROBERTO PASSON

Aria Wine Bar, located at 117 Perry Street in the West Village of Manhattan, is **Roberto Passon's** latest venture and first solo project....and well worth a visit. It's small with both private and communal tables with a casual, warm, cozy interior of wood and exposed brick. Aria has been described as rustic chic. On the menu are entrees and small, sharable plates called 'cicchetti'—and affordably priced. The menu is well balanced with the wine selection and all dishes can become a favorite. You'll find mushroom bruschetta with montasio cheese, burrata with prosciutto and tomato, polenta, rabbit, pasta dishes and blissful desserts, such as, tiramisu and panna cotta. Every night is busy and they get very, very busy as the evening goes on; best to go as early as possible.



At left, **Roberto Passon** with his wife Tanya at the Famèe Furlane Club's 82 Anniversary Dinner Dance. Below is an interior view of Aria Wine Bar.



DENTAL SERVICES WITH MARIA FACCIOLA

Maria Facciola, granddaughter of member **Frank Martorano**, is studying Dental Hygiene at Farmingdale State University of NY. In order to complete her course, Maria must work at the Dental Hygiene Care Center on campus. The primary purpose of this facility is to educate future hygienists. This state of the art facility provides services to the public using currently accepted dental hygiene procedures to provide optimum care for each patient. The x-ray department utilizes up to date technology in all radiologic procedures including routine radiographs, panoramic and digital radiography. All treatment provided is supervised by registered dental hygienists and dentists employed by the State University of New York. The Center provides optimum dental hygiene care for a nominal fee—and Maria will gain the experience she needs for her degree.

For more information or an appointment with Maria, call the Center at 631.420.2128.

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Riviera Ristorante

17-12 Utopia Pkwy, Whitestone, NY 11357
718.352.2225 718.352.2235

The recently opened Riviera Ristorante in Whitestone occupies the site of the former Il Fagiano, which locals enjoyed for many years. Riviera continues the tradition of good Italian food and good service in a family friendly atmosphere. The new owner, Danny, worked at the former restaurant for many years, and brings his experience to the table.



Theresa "Terry" Marangiello
Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker

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Theresa.Marangiello@prudentialelliman.com

UP CLOSE: CYNTHIA PAVEGLIO TOMASI AND LINDA PERESSIN ZULIC

Irene Rosa

The Bylaws, which went into effect January 1, 2010, provide for three Vice Presidents with each Vice President overseeing one of the three Divisions: 1) the Cultural/Education Division 2) the Membership/Outreach Division; and, 3) the Social/Recreational Division.

Cynthia Paveglia Tomasi and **Linda Peressin Zulic** are first-generation Friulane-Americans, and are the first women in the history of the Club to serve on the Executive Committee.



Linda and Cynthia

CYNTHIA PAVEGLIO TOMASI

Congratulations on your recent appointment as members of the Executive Committee. Can you please explain what positions you hold now and what duties those entail?

I currently hold the positions of Vice President and of Financial Secretary.

Serving as a Vice President, we are part of the Executive Committee that has the responsibility for the management of the facility and its operations. In addition, we are also charged with directing a Division. Under each Division, there are specific standing committees—by the way, any member can serve on a committee of their choosing. We encourage members to participate as it is their Club.

At this time, I direct the Division of Membership/Outreach. Under my Division there are four Committees: Membership, Newsletter, Public Relations/Website and Outreach. I serve as a contributing editor to the newsletter, *Notizie*, and under Public Relations act as the Italian corresponding secretary and provide translations when necessary. I also answer all email that arrives through the Club's Website under info@ and membership@.

Outside of my Division, I work closely with Vice President Linda Zulic on Committees under her Division of Social/Recreational. I serve on the Special Events Committee, as well as the Menu Committee, which entails developing the monthly *cena* and event flyers and planning the menus.

Under our Bylaws, Ad hoc committees may be formed as deemed necessary, and I served on the Bylaws committee to review and update the Club's Bylaws.

In 2009, I led the Education Committee, under the Division of Cultural/Education, and wrote the original proposal for

granting Education Awards, which I believe are, together with the summer study programs in Italy, a great investment in the youth of our Club.

You support the Club in many capacities, and the insight demonstrates the need for membership involvement. Could you give a summary of how you first got involved and why you have stayed involved in the Club?

I first became involved in 1978; I was on the planning committee for the 50th anniversary of the Club. I only attended a few meetings and never got to participate in the anniversary events because I moved to Italy to marry Mariano. In 1996 we moved to New York and we would occasionally attend Club events. In 2005 I received a call from Board member Christina Maddalena to attend a meeting. The Club was holding a meeting to form committees. It was Christina's call and Marcello's invitation that made me change from being an occasional participant in Club events to an active Board member and Officer of the Club.

Ever since I joined the Board of Directors in 2006, my focus has been on growing membership. I recognized that there was a need to track our membership and to make potential members aware that there is a vibrant Friulian Club in New York.

The first task tackled was creating spreadsheets to track membership. The Club now has easy access to important information, such as the number of regular and associate members, and we are able to track dues payments. We are now able to sort our lists by different fields to give us a better picture of how our membership is composed.

The next task was a Website. A committee was formed with Board member Gina Paveglia as the webmaster. Our simple but informative Website has proven to be a big step forward for our Club. We have gained membership through the exposure we have on the Web and the site is now an important tool for keeping our members up to date on Club events. With the Website, we gained the ability to send out bulk emails so we are now able to send reminders about events and news out to the members that have email addresses.

As Financial Secretary, we are no longer using manual ledgers for our accounting. In 2008 we began using QuickBooks. Now all our accounting is computerized and we print our checks. With the recent installation of Verizon Triple Play, thanks to Trustee Mark Lupinacci, we now have Internet service in the Clubhouse; wireless too. This allows us to use online banking. We are able to schedule our payments, and we always have up to date account information and balances. The QuickBooks software allows us to analyze and categorize our expenses and income, giving us a valuable picture of our financial state at any time.

How do you envision the Club's future?

I am concerned about the Club's future. At the moment

there are about 10 people that are doing the bulk of the work. There is so much more the Club could do if there were more people willing to donate their time. I would like the Famèe Furlane to be a Club where all the members are involved. I would also like to see the Clubhouse open more, with more activities. But this, at the moment, is not possible because of the low rate of member involvement.

What are you excited about doing in your new position?

Continue the growth of membership. I'd like to see the Club with 3 generations of members. For me, there is nothing more satisfying than to see grandparents, their children, and their grandchildren enjoying themselves at the Club.

LINDA PERESSIN ZULIC

Congratulations on your recent appointment as members of the Executive Committee. Can you please explain what positions you hold now and what duties those entail?

Right now I am one of the three Vice Presidents and direct the Division of Social/Recreational and the standing Committees under the Division, which include the Special Events, Cene/Menu, Annual Events and Fellowship Committees. I also serve as Corresponding Secretary.

My duties include assisting the President as needed, and under the Cene/Menu Committee, I manage the direct mail of the monthly event flyers to our members and other direct mailings that are event or business related. I also take care of the weekly linen service and facility maintenance services for our kitchen that occur monthly.

Could you give a summary of your years of service to the Club?

I got involved at the Club to keep in close contact with other Friulani. My background is very important to me and to that end, volunteering at the Club was the perfect scenario. I started when my daughters were young arranging the Annual Children's Christmas Party, along with Lorraine Avon, whose father was also a member. He has since passed, and she is no longer in NY. I was asked to serve on the Board about five years ago.

Could you explain why you sought the positions that you hold now?

I did not seek the position of Vice President. It was a non-election year, and I was appointed by the President, Marcello, after the resignation of one of the Vice Presidents. In fact, I believe that Cindy and I are the first women appointed to the Executive Committee.

How do you envision the Club's future?

I can only hope that more of the younger generation becomes involved in continuing the tradition of the Famèe Furlane Club. The Club currently sponsors educational trips to

Friuli, Italian language classes, scholarships, and we have installed WIFI/Internet in order to keep connected.

What are you excited about doing in your new position?

I will continue to do anything to help the continuation of the Club. With everyone's help and participation, the Club should continue to prosper in the future.

2012 ELECTION YEAR - FAMÈE FURLANE CLUB

Source: Famèe Furlane Bylaws, Article V, Section B.

B. Election of Officers and Directors

All officers and directors, except the Executive Vice President who is appointed by the President, are elected by the General Assembly and serve for a three (3) year term. Two associate representatives will be appointed to the board by the Board of Directors. At the spring meeting of the General Assembly in the election year, the Executive Vice President initiates the election process by appointing the Election Committee, consisting of: the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary, and three volunteer regular members. The Election Committee solicits input from the regular membership in order to develop a proposed slate of officers, ensuring that the regular members are engaged in the nomination/election process. The list of proposed candidates is sent to the regular membership at least 21 days prior to the November meeting of the General Assembly with a notice that nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the Assembly meeting. A candidate nominated from the floor must be present to accept the nomination. All nominees for office are expected to be present but may be excused in extenuating circumstances. A member in good standing, present at such General Assembly, may self-nominate for office. At such Assembly, all nominations must be made and seconded by regular members in good standing. Whether there are several candidates for each office or only one candidate, an election by mail-in ballot will be held within 30 days of such meeting. The five (5) members of the Election Committee will also serve as Ballot Inspectors and must be present at the opening and tallying of the ballots.

All officers and board members serve in a voluntary capacity and are expected to attend all regularly called meetings. Each elected officer remains in office for three (3) years. The installation of officers takes place during the month of January subsequent to their election the previous November.

The Bylaws are available for download at www.fameefurlane-ny.com under the link for Membership/Notizie.

Printed copies are available upon request at the Clubhouse.

EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS*Marc Lupinacci, Chair, Education Committee*

The Famèe Furlane Club is proud to award two Education Achievement Awards to **Nicholas Steffen** and **Sabrina DeBernardo**. Nicholas and Sabrina were chosen by the Education Committee based on their grades and an essay answering the question, "How has your family heritage contributed to your development and helped form your values and shape your plans for the future?" Sabrina is an honors student at St. Mary's High School and Nicholas is an honors student at Chaminade High School. The recipients received the \$500 award at the Club's Family Christmas Party on December 11, 2011.



Marc Lupinacci, chair of the Education Committee, with Sabrina DeBernardo and Nicholas Steffen

SABRINA VICTORIA DEBERNARDO

Friuli the northeastern region of Italy, bordered by Yugoslavia and Austria, surrounded by the Alps, is part of my ancestry. The other part is Tuscany, which I have heard described as the center of civilization, rich in natural beauty, artistic and culinary treasures.

The Furlans are very ambitious, adventurous and hard working people and Tuscany, as my grandmother, Carla, loves to tell me, is the center of art, literature, fashion, food, music, and anything else that is worthwhile!

My stubbornness and ambition must come from the Friulian influence. I am very hardworking. Nothing scares me, and I love to attempt to try new things. This combined with the Tuscan influence, I love art, sketching, cooking and writing. My Tuscan roots include a very slight parentage with Giacomo Puccini. Unfortunately, the music gene has skipped me. Although I love to listen to all types of music, I am not talented in this field. The only thing I can play is the radio. My maternal great grandmother, Costanza Puccini, would be proud of me, however, because I have tried and succeeded in making a mean Vodka sauce, spinach lasagna, and I love to bake. From what I am told, she was a great cook and was praised for her cooking.

The Friulian side gives me great strength and fortitude. I am presently a senior at St. Mary's College Preparatory High School, and I am now taking three Advance Placement courses. Of course, this gives me much more work. In addition, I have decided that I wish to go to the New York Institute of Technology, and I am aiming in being accepted in the six year Bachelor's and Doctorate Programs. This means that I must volunteer at least 100 hours at two Physical Therapy facilities before the end of November. As you can imagine, this also adds a lot of work and stress to my schedule. However, I am stubborn and I will work hard to achieve my goals.

I firmly believe that nothing is unreachable if you work hard and prepare yourself. I have heard from my grandfathers their many tales of their struggles when they arrived in the USA.

My grandfather, Luciano, came to this country when he was nineteen, alone, with very little money in his pocket. He worked long hours and saved every penny, and soon he bought some land in Maniago. Then he was drafted in the Army and while stationed in Germany, he saved enough money to build a house for his disabled father, my great grandfather, Carlo, and my great grandmother, Vittoria, for whom I am named. I try and imagine how hard it must have been for him at the young age of nineteen. Yet, he plugged along and he succeeded. He is one of my heroes.

My nonno, Linci DeBernardo, also came to this country when he was young. He too struggled to provide for his family and was able, through hard work and perseverance, to raise four children who, in their own rights, went to college and went on to receive advanced college diplomas. He and the rest of the DeBernardo clan are role models and I can learn from all of them.

My mother, Sandra, is my greatest heroine and role model! When my brother and I were small, she went back to work, and, on weekends and nights, took college courses. She became the first one in her family to, not only graduate from college, but to obtain a Master's Degree. Again this meant long hours and great sacrifices, but she persevered and succeeded. She taught me to be strong to pursue your dreams.

These are my role models. Stubborn, proud and hard-working Friulians and artistic and talented Tuscans are in my heritage.

I am FURLANA! I am TOSCANA! I am STRONG! I am INVINCIBLE! I am SABRINA VICTORIA DeBERNARDO!!



NICHOLAS STEFFEN

The people of Friuli have always been a hard-working people; people that had to work hard to move up in life. My grandfather is a prime example, having to work for years as a mason to earn a living. He succeeded by the same values that his fellow emigrants all used, hard work and determination. I incorporated these values into my own life, realizing that if I want something, I need to work to get it, and that if a job needs to get done, you have to keep working until it's complete.

My grandfather, on my mother's side, moved to America from Italy when he was six years old. As a family of immigrants, economic prosperity was not a luxury they enjoyed. My grandfather is an extremely smart man. His dream as a youth was to become an architect, and he would have been well qualified to do so, excelling in impromptu fixes, and out-of-the-box creations. I've often been awed by how easily he could turn a problem into a non-factor while he worked on projects around the house. But despite his dreams, his family needed him to start working instead of going to college. Although he couldn't get further education than a high school diploma, he was able to prosper, working hard as a cement mason, raising a family of three, and eventually being able to afford a house in Bellerose, Queens.

Seeing how hard work leads directly to success, I've worked hard myself, being very diligent in my studies. I chose to go to Chaminade High School, fully knowing it would mean working harder, because I knew that that same work would give me advantages in getting into college. Now, I'm realizing just how these advantages, and how hard work has helped me in getting ready for college. Visiting various institutions, I see how great an opportunity I have before me, and I know it's all because of the lessons I learned from my grandfather, a true product of his ancestry and culture.



FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 11, 2011

Thank you to Vice President **Linda Peressin Zulic** for organizing the Family Christmas Party. Under her Division of Social/Recreational, Linda chairs the Annual Events Committee that oversees this event. Serving on the Committee was **Elaine Peressin Leist**. Together the two covered the details and made all the arrangements for a truly fun, warm and welcoming family event. Remember, all members are encouraged to serve on a Committee under each Division. To participate, contact the appropriate Vice President.



REMEMBERING CLARA BONICH

Submitted by Rita Bonich

Our mom, Clara Fabris Bonich, was born in Cividale del Friuli, Italy, and was the oldest of three children born to John and Giuseppina Fabris. While she was growing up, my grandmother could always depend on her to watch over her brother, Frank, two years her junior and little Elsa, four years her junior. My grandfather had left for America to make a better life for them and was in the United States for about ten years before sending for my grandmother, mom, uncle and aunt. Unfortunately, Clara developed an eye infection and had to stay behind for six months before being cleared to come to America at the young age of 15 years. I always remember her telling me the story of her voyage, sharing a cabin with an older woman who was sea-sick the entire trip from Europe!

As she grew older, Mom worked in a factory, initially as part of the World War II effort, making parachutes for our US troops. Later on, she became a milliner and made the most beautiful hats...my sister and I always had special bonnets every Easter! While working at the factory, she met a woman (who later became my godmother), who introduced her to our dad, Donato Bonich. They married in 1952 and had two daughters, Rita and Ellen, and at that time the family settled in the Throgs Neck section of the Bronx. After dad passed away at the too early age of 57, mom developed breast cancer and initially survived it. However, later it recurred and still later, two other types of malignancies developed which consequently caused a hip fracture. She fought these terrible illnesses valiantly and without complaint for over 30 years; despite her suffering, she held strong and was a beautiful woman. On Mothers Day, 2010, at the Famèe Furlane Club she even got up to the dance floor with her walker to dance with us!

God bless our mother Clara! She was and remains a great inspiration to all of us. We shall never forget her love for us and her great pride in her, and our, heritage!

REMEMBERING JIM LONGO

Submitted by Vivienne Trebino and Peter Longo

Our dad was a good son, a loving husband, a devoted father, father-in-law, and grandfather. He passed away on February 10, 2011 but will always live in our memories of him.

Our dad had 4 great loves in his life:

His 4th love was his job as a broker on Wall Street. He never cared for amusement parks because the stock market was his roller coaster. His biggest joy was his relationship with his clients with whom he developed strong friendships.

His 3rd love was New York City. He came from Italy at the age of 4 with his parents, lived in the tenements on 33rd Street in Manhattan, along with other Italian immigrants, and later on moved to Queens. He always loved showing people around New York and never stopped marveling at the beauty of his city.

His 2nd love was Italy, his native country. We have so many memories of summers spent in Fanna and Frisanco walking up to the Madonna or just sitting at the bar of the Albergo. During parts of these summers, he and our mom would take trips, along with their many friends. All summer long they had parties and even danced in the streets -- he loved these summers!

His 1st love was his family. He was married to our mom, Marie, for 60 years; they were childhood friends then fell in love. Together, they built a family. Together, they built many circles of friends—Friulian friends, Douglaston Club tennis friends, respective co-workers, and neighbors. Dad and mom built a very happy life together; they shared the same background and values. She was his wife, lover and friend.

Dad and Peter, my brother, were very close—they were best friends, played golf and took trips together, and talked to each other every day. He served as best man at Peter's wedding.

Dad and Vivienne, my sister, shared that special and wonderful father-daughter relationship. Since she and dad were in similar fields of work he was also her mentor. He was always there for her with a phone call, a pat on the back, or with whatever was needed at the time.

His son-in-law, Steve, and daughter-in-law, Karen, joined the family and he embraced them with open arms. When he was with his 4 granddaughters - Lisa, Dana, Victoria, and Christina - he became a kid again, clowning around, teaching them to play cards, and telling them his stories.

This was his family. Our dad was never happier than when we were all together - either just having dinner, spending the Christmas holidays, taking a trip to Italy, or going on our annual August weekend to Mt. Snow, Vermont. Our dad passed away in February but these memories will always be part of our lives. His persona - his warmth, humor, love of life, generosity of spirit, and sense of values - will live on in all of us. He created the people we are today and we are who we are because of him. That will never leave us - we miss him and love him very much.

REMEMBERING UMBERTO SPERANZA

Submitted by Ilya Speranza

My dad was born on 33rd Street in Manhattan and was part of the "little Friuli" community of that time. His twin brother, unfortunately, lived only a few days and his death saddened my grandparents greatly. I guess my dad was a fighter right from the beginning and, therefore, was able to deal with his illness and dialysis so well for many years. On August 26th, my father passed away just shy of the first anniversary of my mother's death.

He was a very intelligent man who enjoyed learning and was widely read. He graduated from Stuyvesant High School, which is still one of New York's best in preparing students for college, and was accepted into Cal Tech, MIT and Stanford, but decided to stay at home in New York. He received his degree from the City University of New York in electrical engineering. In WW II my father served in the US Army, saw action in Europe, and was wounded in battle. He received both the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, but would never discuss the circumstances with me and said he would never tell anyone.

When my mother came to the US, she settled and lived with relatives on East 33rd Street and my father's apartment was across the street. He had always been a bit of a "player," dancing with everyone's girlfriends at local dances. He never really had a serious girlfriend of his own until he saw my mom; he often told me that at that moment he knew she was the one! He must have been right as their marriage lasted 56 years! My parents were a fixture at the Famèe Furlane Club for many years. Dad had been the Club's treasurer for around 20 years, was always glad to be there, and always interested in the Club's well-being. My mother could be seen on Friday nights "holding court" at her bar stool at the end of the bar. As they grew older and it became more difficult for them to travel, they still made every effort to attend the Friday night dinners and special events—the Club was a special place for them.

My dad is now buried next to my mom at Calverton National Cemetery, and I think about them every day. While I mourn their loss, I am comforted that they have both left their broken bodies and are now together, without suffering, and at peace. I am also happy they had the Famèe Furlane Club to attend and enjoy!

REMEMBERING ANTON MARIO RADOVIC

Submitted by Licia M. Radovic

On August 28, 2011, our family lost a truly special husband, father, and grandfather. Mario, as he was known by family and friends, passed away in his beloved Istria, at the hospital in Pula. He was surrounded by his two brothers and their families, a sister who was vacationing there from Astoria, NY and other family members. His wife's four cousins, who cared for him so much, drove there from Meduno (PN) to say their goodbyes, as he'd visit them every time he went to Istria.

Mario was born in the town of Sumer in 1931. At that time, the house he was born in was in Italy, then it was in Yugoslavia, and now it's in Croatia - that very same house. After finishing school, he worked as a carpenter and then was drafted into the Yugoslav Navy, where he served for 3 years. When he finished his tour of duty, he saw that things were not good there; therefore, he and friends made "secret plans" to leave;

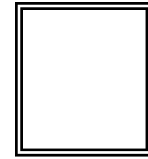
It was a dangerous decision, as had they been caught they would have been jailed. Nevertheless, they rowed a small boat across the Adriatic Sea for 25 hours in a very rough and treacherous sea and landed in Italy, where they requested and received political asylum. After a year's stay in a refugee camp doing carpentry, he was sent to Vancouver, British Columbia to work on the rails for the Canadian Pacific Railroad.

On one of his vacations, he visited his sister in Queens, NY via Montreal. He liked Montreal better than Vancouver - and it was so much closer to New York - that he moved there. On one of his trips, two of his friends arranged a blind date with their friend, Licia Mincin, and the rest is history. They were happily married for 48 years and he always enjoyed escorting his wife to and attending functions at the Furlane club. Licia is a long-time member of the Club and her father, Secondo Mincin, was one of its founders. Mario and Licia were further blessed with 3 lovely children, Marisa Mingoia, Anita LoPresti, and Danilo—who in turn gave them 3 loving grandchildren, Juliana and Jessica LoPresti and Anthony Mingoia.

Mario was a good man, a hardworking provider, and very kindhearted. As we were going to celebrate his 80th birthday on October 4th, he went to Istria one more time to visit his brothers and their families. On the second week of his 3 week-stay, he became violently ill and was hospitalized because of a ruptured appendix. He was operated on, was doing well, but passed away several days later. We were forced to wait two horribly difficult weeks for him to return to us. We all miss his friendly face and can't believe he is no longer with us.

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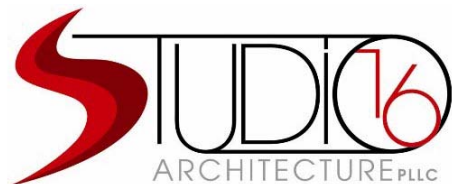
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