



EFASCE di Philadelphia  
**QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER**  
*The Friulan Entity for Social and Cultural  
 Assistance to Emigrants*

EFASCE di Philadelphia  
 P.O. Box 625  
 Flourtown, PA 19031

### President's Corner

*Ferragosto*, the holiday of the summer in Italy, is celebrated on August 15<sup>th</sup> with packed lunches, *grigliata* (barbecues), local trips, town processions, and many great displays of *fuochi d'artificio* (fireworks).

Originating all the way back to the *Feriae Augusti* of Emperor Augustus in 18 BC, it celebrates a period of rest after many weeks of hard work. Today's traditions of taking a *scappata* (getaway) originates in the 1920s with the Fascist regime when train rates were reduced to encourage travel, called the "People's Trains of Ferragosto".

No matter if *Ferragosto* is celebrated at home or away, it is always a day away from work with family, friends, or loved ones.

Yet another summer has flown by! The Entertainment Committee has been working hard to present our members with more opportunities to gather together and celebrate our heritage.

Please delve into this quarter's newsletter to learn more!

*A presto,*  
*Lisa A. Roman*

### Notizie....

- ❖ We welcome our newest member Elizabeth Maxwell and appreciate her interest in supporting our EFASCE committees. Check out Elizabeth's article on Mario Andretti in this newsletter.

### Upcoming Events

- ❖ Entertainment Committee Meeting Wednesday, **September 11, 7-8 pm** at the Venetian Social Club
- ❖ Join **Lou Del Bianco** at the Venetian Social Club, Saturday, **September 21<sup>st</sup>** as he tells the story of his Grandfather, Luigi, a carver of Mt Rushmore! See page 4 for details!
- ❖ The Southeastern PA Symphony Orchestra is holding "**A Night in Italy**" concert, on **September 28**. A Special BOGO offer has been offered to our EFASCE members, see page 3 for details and respond by Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>!
- ❖ Our annual **Festa dei Friulani** Dinner Dance, featuring The Tom Smith Trio, will be Saturday, **October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019** at the Sandy Run Country Club. See page 5 for details!
- ❖ **Italian classes** to start **October 7<sup>th</sup>**. Visit our website or contact Madalena at 215-233-2687 for more information
- ❖ The 'Eni & Leo Roman Memorial Polenta Dinner' will be Saturday, **April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020** at the Venetian Social Club.

Learn Furlan

by Joe Colussi

In this newsletter we'll continue to present English translations of older Furlan rhymes & poems. I heard this poem several times from my Father. Lisa Roman remembers her Nonno Dante saying it also. The Furlan wording and spelling of the poem were taken from "*La Valle del Colvera*", page 150.

La Luna

Vostu chi t'in disi una?  
 Vuarda la Luna!  
 Vostu chi t'in disi un'altra?  
 Vuarda ce alta!

The Moon

Do you want me to tell you one?  
 Look at the moon!  
 Do you want me to tell you another?  
 Look how high!

In a future newsletter, I'd like to present some of the sayings of our Parents, Grandparents, or older relatives and friends. If you have a favorite saying from long ago, that you'd like to share with our members, please send it to us. To start, here's one I often heard as a kid (I think Dad got it from his Mother) ..... "Idonno a la muarta in Vienna".

Request from one of our members -

Rina Fesnak called to ask for some help with two old children's rhymes. The Nona of a friend of Rina's used to say rhymes to her, as a child, that she can't remember the words to. Hopefully, one of these sounds familiar to someone.

In the first rhyme, the child would hold out their open palm and the Nona would make a circle on the child's palm, with her index finger, while reciting the rhyme. I asked around, and the only one to have any memories of a similar rhyme was Naomi Houseal, and she told me that the rhyme she remembers had something to do with a ball, but she couldn't remember the words.

The second rhyme had words like "Colon, colon cavale.....", where the adult crossed their knees and put a foot out while saying the rhyme. This sounds a lot like when my parents and adult relatives gave us kids a "pony ride" on their lower leg. The child sat on the adult's foot and held on to their shin, while the adult would extend and retract their leg; giving the child a "pony ride". I don't remember any words being said while doing this, but it was a lot of fun.

If anyone knows of children's rhymes that sounds like these, please contact us, so that we can continue to pass on these traditions!

As always, we thank you for your comments, and encourage input from our readers.

Please contact us at [newsletter@efasce.net](mailto:newsletter@efasce.net).

Calling for Entertainment Committee Members

If you are interested in bringing your ideas and contributing your time in helping us plan and execute social and fundraising events, please join us for a meeting in the Founders Room at the Venetian Club on **Wednesday, September 11, from 7:00 - 8:00**. If you have questions or would like to learn more about the committee, just send an email to [events@efasce.net](mailto:events@efasce.net) or call Rosemary Maieron Norwood at 215.800.9509, one of our Board Members and co-chair of the Entertainment Committee.

We look forward to having members get involved to help support EFASCE and make some new Furlan friends at the same time!

## Presentation by Vanessa Lovisa Gambin, from Toronto Canada

*“Hold on and Stay Connected.” An Italian Immigrant Presence in Canada: Friulian Identity and Cultural Preservation, 1932-1990.”*

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, Vanessa Lovisa Gambin from Toronto, Canada presented information on the Frulan Emigration to Canada, at the Venetian Social Club. There were about 20 members in attendance.

Vanessa, whose family origins are near Pordenone, shared some of the key points of the research she has done in conjunction with her Masters' thesis. She gave us an insight into the Famee Friulan of Toronto, her grandmother's pivotal role in the women's groups, and her involvement with the “20 Somethings” group.

Many of the attendees saw similarities to their own family stories!

Vanessa is scheduled to graduate this fall.  
*Buon lavoro!*



*Vanessa presenting her thesis*



*Vanessa speaking with Esther Colussi, Naomi Houseal, and Helen Henry*

## SE PA Symphony Orchestra “A Night in Italy” Concert

The Southeastern PA Symphony Orchestra is holding “*A Night in Italy*” concert, on **September 28**, beginning at 7:30PM, at Dock Mennonite Academy (Early Childhood to Grade 8 Campus), 420 Godshall Road, Souderton, PA.

Rino Rossanese has graciously arranged with the Symphony for a special Buy-One-Get-One (BOGO) offer for our EFASCE members.

The concert will feature music from: Rossini's “The Barber of Seville” and “William Tell”; Puccini's “Madam Butterfly”, “La Bohème”, and “Turandot”; Verdi's “La Traviata”; as well as: Capua's “O Sole Mio”, Danza's “Finiculi, Finicula” and other composers including Morricone, Rotta and Mascagni. Additional Information on the concert can be found at [WWW.SPSO.INFO](http://WWW.SPSO.INFO).



To get the special EFASCE BOGO offer, you **must** contact Rino by **September 5th** at [mjrossanese@gmail.com](mailto:mjrossanese@gmail.com), or call him at 267-626-8395.

Rino will take your name and number of tickets and place your name on a special BOGO list at the Symphony door. Mention EFASCE when purchasing your tickets at the door and you will get the 2-for-one deal, two tickets for \$20.

This is a terrific offer for the opportunity to listen to the music of the Southeastern PA Symphony Orchestra, and we greatly thank Rino for his efforts in making this offer available to our EFASCE members.

Please join EFASCE and the Venetian Social Club to learn about



the chief stone carver on Mount Rushmore who came from Meduno,  
a town in the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region.

### Lou Del Bianco

portrays his grandfather and tells the story of his unique contribution to the carving of our  
nation's greatest memorial

at the **Venetian Social Club**

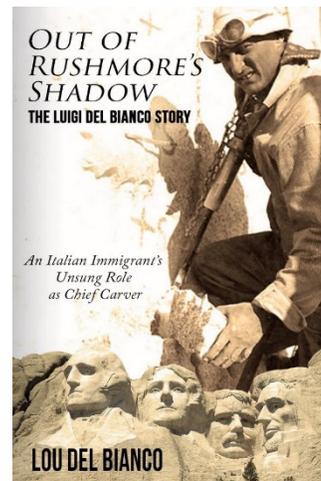
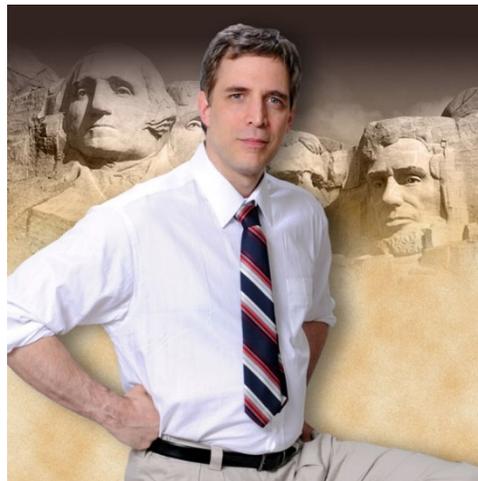
on **Saturday, September 21, 2019 at 2 pm**

Please RSVP to [event@efasce.net](mailto:event@efasce.net) or

Call the Venetian Club at 215-247-9858

This is a free event – the favor of an RSVP would be greatly appreciated.

Lou Del Bianco has written a book about his grandfather's work and life.  
The book will be available to purchase at the event.



Lou Del Bianco, artist, singer and storyteller, has received many awards, including those from Parents Magazine, TV Guide Magazine, and Parent's Choice.

For more information, please visit <https://www.luigimountrushmore.com/>

All ages are welcome!

Images and information from [www.luigimountrushmore.com](http://www.luigimountrushmore.com) and [www.findlou.com](http://www.findlou.com)

INFORMATION ON UPCOMING 2019 FESTA DEI FRIULANI

## EFASCE DI PHILADELPHIA ANNUAL FESTA DEI FRIULANI

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019**

COCKTAILS\* AT 5:30 - DINNER AT 6:30

MUSIC & DANCING TO FOLLOW

**SANDY RUN COUNTRY CLUB**

200 EAST VALLEY GREEN ROAD, ORELAND PA

**\$65 PER PERSON [\$20 UNDER AGE 12] INCLUDES:**

APPETIZERS, SALAD, CHOICE OF ENTRÉE,  
[BEEF, CHICKEN, SALMON OR VEGETARIAN]

WINE WITH DINNER, DESSERT & COFFEE

RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 20

MAIL PAYMENT (CHECKS PAYABLE TO EFASCE DI PHILADELPHIA)

TO: EFASCE DI PHILADELPHIA, PO BOX 625, FLOURTOWN PA 19031

OR REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE [efasce.net/events](http://efasce.net/events)

QUESTIONS? PLEASE SEND EMAIL TO: [event@efasce.net](mailto:event@efasce.net)

\*CASH BAR

## Famous Furlans – Mario Andretti

*By Elizabeth Maxwell*

Mario Gabriele Andretti was born on February 28, 1940. He is a renowned race car driver who raced from 1966 – 2000 and has achieved many marvelous things throughout his career.

Along with his twin brother Aldo, the two were born in Montona, Istria which is now modern day Motovun, Croatia. His mother's name is Rina and his father's is Alvisè. Back then, Istria was part of the Kingdom of Italy, but it was annexed by Yugoslavia at the end of WWII.

As a result of this, the Andretti family left in 1948 and ended up in a refugee camp in Lucca, Italy. Andretti talked about the situation to Paul Sterling and said, "My father left everything behind, we left our home and took what we could carry and went further into Italy. They (the Italian government) had to swallow all of these families that were dispersed and they (the Italian government) formed all different camps over Italy and we were shipped to a place in Tuscany."



He also added, "Life was a bit weird at the time but the one thing that my father always did, he always provided for us. As kids we were never cold, we were never hungry, we went to school, he always provided quite well."

When the boys were little, they would run around the kitchen, holding pot-lids and yelling "Vroom! Vroom!" This was before they had seen a car. At the age of five, he and Aldo were racing hand-crafted cars down the streets of their hometown.

At the age of thirteen, Mario got a job parking cars at a garage. He described the experience, "The first time I fired up a car, felt the engine shudder and the wheel come to life in my hands, I was hooked. It was a feeling I can't describe. I still get it every time I get into a race car."

Andretti's first racing experience, also at thirteen years old, was in a youth racing league called Formula Junior in Ancona, Italy.

The Andretti family maintained contact with a relative who lived in the United States for many years. The plan was for the Andretti family to move to the States and then return to Italy after about five years. Mario explains, "When I looked at my life in many ways, out of so many negatives, here comes a positive and this was certainly one of them, here was an opportunity created for us, the kids, and my dad always cited that. He would say in a sense I am looking at your future, where I think would be the best solution for you kids to have opportunities and he was correct, he was right because if we had remained in Italy I don't know whether I could pursue what my first passion was and the only passion I really had career wise."





In 1955, the Andretti family emigrated to the United States of America, settling in Nazareth in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley. Mario was fifteen years old.

His American racing career spanned five decades and included dirt ovals, asphalt ovals, and road courses. He raced Three Quarter Midgets, sprint cars, open wheel racing cars, sports cars, stock cars and Le Mans racing machines. He won the championship four times.

In his Formula One career, he has raced for Lotus, March, Ferrari, Parnelli, Alfa Romeo and Williams. He has made 131 entries, won one championship in 1978, won 12 times overall, podium 19 times.

He is only one of three drivers to have won major races on road courses, paved oval and dirt tracks in one season; a feat he accomplished four times. He also became the first driver to have won Indy Car races in four different decades and the first to win automobile races of any kind in five decades.

Fast forward many years and Mario is now retired. He got married to Dee Ann (Hoch) Andretti and had three children; Michael, Jeff and Barbie. He is a magnificent role model to many young drivers and is living proof that you can do anything if you put your mind to it.

For more information on Mario's life and career, please visit:

"Drive Like Andretti" video link: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=P9qx2ZlfGj8>

References:

<https://www.istrianaet.org/istria/illustri/andretti/index.htm>

<https://www.marioandretti.com/montona>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mario\\_Andretti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mario_Andretti)

All photos from Google images

### Corrections from Past Newsletters:

In the May newsletter, we mistakenly identified Rina (Brun) Brun as Rina (Brun) Fesnak in a photo with Esther Colussi. We apologize to all for the mistake.



Longtime friends Rina Brun and Esther Colussi at the Polenta Dinner



# 42° INCONTRO DEI CORREGIONALI ALL'ESTERO

## Caneva, 26-28 luglio 2019



**42nd Incontro dei Corregionali all'estero** was held in Caneva 27-28 July 2019, with the theme of "*Languages of the Emigrants. The roots of taliàn (Le lingue degli emigranti. Le radici del taliàn)*"

Friday July 26th there was a meeting at the Municipal Building in Pordenone of all the representatives from abroad with the Board of Efasce di PN and the Vice Mayor of PN.



Saturday, July 27th - Seminar included presentations from the Mayor of Caneva (Andrea Attilio Gava), Professor Carla Marcato of the University of Udine, Vanessa Lovisa-Gambin of Toronto, Argel Rigo Coordinator of EFASCE Brazil; moderated by Enri Lisetto, a journalist with *Messaggero Veneto*. The theme was Languages and how emigrants brought their languages to their new areas of settlement and mixed it with their new languages in an effort to maintain their cultural ties and identities with their homelands.



Following the presentations, the "Odorico da Pordenone" award was given to Argel Rigo of Brazil for his work over 30 years, through institutional actions, participation in initiatives of cultural associations, publication of books and commitment to volunteering, Rigo has been preserving, revitalizing, promoting and disseminating the culture, memory, and traditions of Italy in Brazil.



Sunday, July 28th - Laying of a wreath at the Monument of the Fallen, Mass in Caneva.



EFASCE di Philadelphia is proud to have been represented by members **Joanne and Tom Kearns** and their grandchildren, **Grace Sorrentino** and **Max Broek** in the Ri-Scorpire Friuli Program and **Philip and Gabriella Lindsay** in the Young Adults Program this year!



*Joanne Kearns, Max Broek, Grace Sorrentio and Tom Kearns in the Ri-Scorpire Friuli Program*



*Philip Lindsay speaking at the Incontro*



*Descendants of Friulans from around the world are welcomed by EFASCE di Pordenone*

**Connect with EFASCE!**

WEBSITE: <http://www.efasce.net/>  
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/efascediphiladelphia/>  
 Use #EFASCE or #EFASCEdiphiladelphia  
 on social media!

**Italian Classes** continue at the Venetian Social Club on Monday nights. Visit our website or contact Madalena at 215-233-2687 for more information.

**Officers**

Lisa Roman, President  
 Laura Maxwell, Vice President  
 Madalena Lorenzon, Treasurer  
 Linda McGlenn, Secretary

**How to Contact Us**

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**Directors**

Frank Brandolisio	Robert Henry
Ellen Cericola	Robert Mack
Joseph Colussi	Rosemary Maieron
Dan Giacomelli	
Maurino Rossanese (Parliamentarian)	

**In Other News**

- ❖ EdP is getting our library of donated books organized to make them available for our members to borrow. If you'd like a list of available books or wish to borrow a book, please contact us at [contact@EFASCE.net](mailto:contact@EFASCE.net).
- ❖ AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, *at no cost to you*. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. To participate, go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select *Segretariato EFASCE di Philadelphia* as your charity or click on [smile.amazon.com/ch/94-3457922](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-3457922) to make your online purchases, and EFASCE di Philadelphia automatically receives a donation from Amazon.

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