



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

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

### President's Corner

Bundi!

I hope everyone is doing well during these difficult times of quarantine. It has become so apparent how much I miss gathering with friends, family, and fellow Friulans.

Rest assured, the EFASCE Board has been meeting virtually every month to discuss future events and all the interesting situations the COVID pandemic has presented to us.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to EFASCE di Philadelphia if the pandemic has put you in a difficult position – If we can help, we would like to do so!

I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer – I can't believe how fast these last few months have gone by!

Good luck this year to all those returning to school – both virtually and in-person.

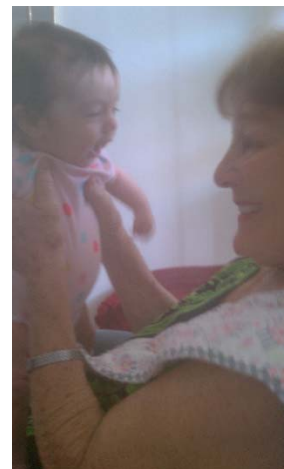


Mandi,

Laura Lorenzon Maxwell, President

### Notizie

- ❖ Congratulations to Esther Colussi on the birth of her 6th great-grandchild, and to Mary Ann and Jim Fortunato on their 2nd grandchild. **Iain Fortunato Loftus** was born to Andrea and Jay Loftus on July 15th.
- ❖ Congratulations to Bonnie Cintron on becoming a Nona for the first time! **Fiona Renee Cintron** was born March 27, 2020 to Bonnie's son, Derek and wife, Beth!



- ❖ Our condolences to the Messori family on the passing of JoAnn (Nina) on June 11th.
- ❖ Our condolences to the Puglia family on the passing of Ada on June 22nd.
- ❖ Our condolences to the Maieron family on the passing of Felix on July 15th.

**ZOOM-ing Around!**

Your directors are still working hard to keep our organization running during the CORONA lockdown. The Directors of EFASCE have continued our virtual meetings via ZOOM, during the months of June, July, and August. See photos below. Many thanks to Vice President Lisa Roman for setting up these virtual meetings.

**July 2020 Directors Meeting****August 2020 Directors Meeting**

*Grazie Mille* to all our members that were able to attend our Virtual Social on May 21<sup>st</sup>! It was a wonderful opportunity to connect members that are not always able to make in-person events. Stay tuned for information on our next Zoom Social!



### Member Spotlight



Check out our member, Max, age 14 from Bonnie Lake, Washington, proudly wearing his new EFASCE shirt! Last summer he discovered Friuli through the Ri-scoprire program. Together with his grandparents, Joanne and Tom Kearns, they spent 2 weeks with EFASCE di Pordenone learning the history, culture, language, and cuisine of the region. His trip helped him grow to appreciate his heritage. He even got to meet extended family while they were there!

### Upcoming Events

- ❖ The 'Eni & Leo Roman Memorial Polenta Dinner' had been postponed until November **2020** at the Venetian Social Club. Tickets will go on sale as soon as we know the status with the pandemic. The health and safety of our members is a great priority! Stay tuned for more information as this popular event sells out fast. We will be entertained once again by our beloved **Heimat Klänge Orchestra** as we eat polenta and dance the night away.

The Board will make a decision on this event at the September meeting...stay tuned!

- ❖ If anyone is interested in getting involved with the EFASCE Entertainment Committee and help plan our events, please email [events@EFASCE.com](mailto:events@EFASCE.com).

YOU could be featured in the next newsletter!!  
Send information and/or photos to [newsletter@efasce.net](mailto:newsletter@efasce.net) or our PO Box.



## 43° Incontro dei Corregionali all'estero– Meeting of Friulians Abroad

By Lisa Roman

On Saturday, July 25, 2020. EFASCE di Pordenone (EdiPN) held the 43rd Annual Convention in a completely new format – Streaming online! This year's theme, *Connessi per creare il futuro* - Connections for creating our future.

EdiPN President, Gino Gregoris said “We did not want to skip a year, rather, we took this difficult time as the opportunity to communicate more with each other and above all to experience this moment as a new beginning.”

Speakers included:

**Michaleangelo Agrusti**, President of the Confindustria Alto Adriatico;

**Paolo Vernier**, President of the Midj Furniture Company;

**Anna Bortolussi**, General Manager of Amazon Europe Market Place;

**Massimo Pascotto**, Head of Technology Innovation and Labs at Scandinavian Airlines;

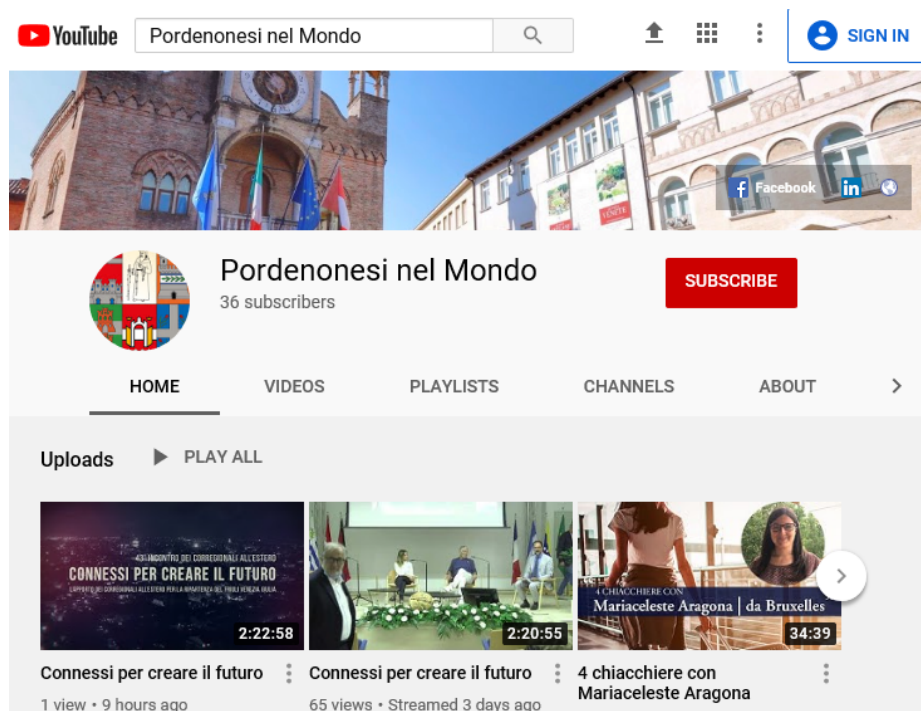
And a special song played by violinist **Laura Bortolotto**.

A greeting was also given by our Vice President, Lisa Roman.

People connected not only from Italy but also from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Luxembourg, Romania, USA, South Africa, Switzerland, Uruguay and Venezuela, countries in which EFASCE's Secretariats are active.

If you would like to view the recording online, you may go to **YouTube.com**, search for **Pordenonesi nel Mondo**, and it will be listed in their archives by the title *Connessi per creare il futuro*, or through this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWvuQ-1dMZA>



Also on the Pordenonesi nel Mondo's YouTube Channel, you may find short chats with young Friulians around the world in their “4 Chiacchiere con...” Series.

Note the Convention as well as the interviews are solely in Italian.

What a great way to practice listening to the language!

## *Famous Italians*

Submitted by Joe Colussi with assistance from George Filippi

**Filippo Mazzei** - “Godfather” of the Declaration of Independence, was born in Poggio a Caiano, a town and comune in the Province of Prato, in the Tuscany region of Italy, on December 25, 1730. He died in [Pisa](#), Italy on March 19, 1816. He was a surgeon, a merchant, a language teacher, an agriculturist, a writer, and a diplomat. Filippo Mazzei was an intellectual who spoke several languages and knew art, architecture and literature. He studied medicine in [Florence](#) and practiced in Italy and the [Middle East](#) for several years before moving to [London](#) in 1755 to take up a career as an importer and teacher of Italian language.



Mazzei became friends with Benjamin Franklin and John Adams in England. While doing work for Franklin, Mazzei shared his idea of importing Tuscan products to the New World. In 1773, Franklin and Adams convinced the Italian to move to the colonies, where Mazzei bought part of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello estate to cultivate wine, olives and silkworms. Mazzei and Jefferson created what would become the first commercial vineyard in Virginia. In 1779 Mazzei returned to Italy as an unofficial ambassador and secret agent for the state of Virginia. He purchased and shipped arms to them until 1783. He credited with securing France's assistance during the American Revolution and his plan for capturing the British in New York that was executed at Yorktown. After briefly visiting the [United States](#) again in 1785, Mazzei travelled throughout Europe promoting Republican ideals. He wrote a political history of the American Revolution, '*Recherches historiques et politiques sur les Etats-Unis de l'Amerique septentrionale*', and published it in [Paris](#) in 1788. After its publication Mazzei became an unofficial roving ambassador in Europe for American ideas and institution.

Forming a close friendship with his neighbor Jefferson, who spoke Italian, Mazzei shared his political leanings in writings at Jefferson's urging. In 1774, Mazzei wrote an essay in the Virginia Gazette that suggested, "***All men are by nature equally free and independent. This equality is necessary in order to create a free government. All men must be equal to each other in natural rights.***" Many scholars credit Mazzei with the phrase “all men are created equal,” which Jefferson incorporated in the Declaration of Independence. The phrase appears in Mazzei's writings several years before Jefferson, with whom Mazzei shared a lifetime of correspondence, wrote the nation's founding document. John F. Kennedy credited Mazzei for the writing in his book, "A Nation of Immigrants."

Mazzei received little attention for his contributions to the nation's founding. His face was placed on a 40-cent U.S. airmail stamp in 1980, to commemorate the 250th anniversary of his birth. His name was also given to a World War II-era Navy cargo ship.

**Note:** Many thanks to George Filippi for forwarding the Chestnut Hill local article which introduced Filippo Mazzei to us; making us aware of his contributions to our country, so we could share it with our members.

### References:

- ... <https://www.chestnuthilllocal.com/2020/07/09/forget-columbus-filippo-philip-mazzei-is-the-historical-figure-italian-americans-deserve/>
- ... <https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20200630/constable-in-columbus-wake-another-italian-proves-statue-worthy>
- ... <https://www.facebook.com/notes/the-federalist-papers/philip-mazzei-the-virginia-gazette-1774/186576408032752/>
- ... [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip\\_Mazzei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_Mazzei)

## Learn Furlan

### MANDI!

Submitted by Rosemary Maieron



Sometimes in Friuli, you will hear "**Mandi**" as a greeting.

If you are curious about this word, wonder no more!

Board member Rosemary Maieron found the following explanation on social media:

*MANDI, il saluto friulano che equivale al ciao, soprattutto i turisti d'estate mi chiedono spesso il significato di questa parola. Ci sono varie interpretazioni, una corrisponderebbe a "nelle mani di Dio" o "nelle mani degli Dei", l'altra dicono derivi dal latino "mane dui" ovvero che tu rimanga (su questa terra) a lungo...*

MANDI, the Friulian greeting that equals hello, especially summer tourists often ask me the meaning of this word. There are various interpretations, one would correspond to "in the hands of God" or in the "hands of the Gods", the other they say comes from the Latin "mane dui" meaning that you stay (on this earth) for a long time...

Have you found Friulian on Social Media? Submit your interesting finds to [newsletter@efasce.net](mailto:newsletter@efasce.net)!

#### Connect with EFASCE!

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

**Italian Classes** are currently postponed. Visit our website or contact Madalena at 215-233-2687 for more information.

#### Officers

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

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