



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Nonprofit Corporation; Omaha, NE

SAUSAGE SALE

PICKUP

**Saturday, December 13th
10 AM to 12 PM**

Sausage \$33 / 5 pounds

Peppers \$15 / quart

Olives \$15 / quart

Spaghetti Sauce \$9 / quart
(2 or more \$8 each)

Frozen Meatballs \$28 / bag of 25

Italian Salad Dressing
\$5 - 16 oz



Place your order by Wednesday, Dec. 10th,
email secretary@omahaitaly.com or call
402-493-8888 x1.

Please include: name, cell phone number,
Regular or Hot sausage and amount of the
items you are ordering. Thank you!

WE NEED YOUR HELP CUTTING MEAT!

Thursday, Dec. 11th from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 13th from 7 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Call 402-493-8888 x1 if you can help.

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

Mark your calendar for the AIHS Epiphany Celebration which will be held on Sunday,
January 4th from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Epiphany is one of the best family events we
hold. More information will be available in the December Newsletter.



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

UPCOMING EVENTS**November Membership Meeting**

Monday, November 10th

Social Hour 6:30 PM

Meeting 7:30 PM, Elect Board members

Sausage Sale Pickup

Saturday, December 13th 10 AM - Noon

Italian Cookie Exchange at the December Membership Meeting

Important Reminder:*** Please send in Festa ticket money AND Membership Dues which were due in June.****October 2025 Membership Meeting Report**

There was a social hour before the meeting. Members brought homemade foods, soup, pasta, snacks and desserts for all to share. Casual conversation and camaraderie was enjoyed by all present. The General Membership Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm on October 13, 2025 by President Terry Bolamperti and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with veterans Larry Belfiore and Jim Mazzei as flag-bearers. There were 26 members in attendance. Members were asked to take a moment of prayer for members that are ill and for members that have passed away this year.

New members were welcomed. Becky Bauman, a friend of Beth Gibbs, is from Albany in upper state New York. Her Grandfather was born in Sicily. Becky and her family moved to Omaha due to her husband's job with Conagra. In addition, new members Jim and Christine Medici both grew up in Providence, Rhode Island. Jim's grandparents were from the town of Casserta just north of Naples in Italy. They moved to Omaha in 1999 as Jim worked for Mutual of Omaha. New members were warmly welcomed. Next on the agenda, the minutes of last month's meeting were read and approved by members. The Treasure's Report was given by Terry Bolamperti and approved by the membership.

Old business discussed was the Festa Italiana. It was a very successful Festa with an enthusiastic crowd. The persistent rain on Sunday did result in a decrease in attendance. Profits, though good, were somewhat down. A detailed Festa report was given by Festa financial secretary, Emma Leo-Mueller. She reported all Festa Booths sales. Festa Booth Captains were thanked. They did an outstanding job. Festa chairman Terry Bolamperti once again thanked all volunteers that helped in any way making this year's Festa a huge success. All members present at the meeting were very pleased and grateful to be a part of this successful event. Mille Grazie a Tutti!

New business was discussed including honoring Christopher Columbus on the commemorating of his Discovery of America. The month of October is Italian Heritage Month and all were asked to do things this month to enhance our Italian culture. Terry reported that the Sons of Italy (SOI) held a very successful Columbus Day Banquet last weekend at Cascio's restaurant, awarding scholarships to several very qualified students. For new business it was reported that the AIHS Fall Pasta and Meatball Dinner will be held at the Palazzo on Sunday, November 2nd and all were asked to sell tickets, attend and volunteer if possible to make it a success. Many signed up to help at the meeting. It was also announced that Society specialty food items will be sold at the Pasta Dinner including meatballs, sauce, salad dressing, cannolis and baked goods. The Pasta Dinner meatballs will be made (mixed, balled, baked and bagged) on October 23rd. The sauce will be made on October 17th. The Board Elections were discussed and there were no new nominations from the floor. Bios will be in the November Newsletter for the 3 nominees for the Board, Beth Gibbs, Lauren Orsi and Sarah Bartolomei. Board elections will take place at the November Membership Meeting. There was a purchase proposal on the North lot. The Board will do due diligence on this proposal.

The meeting was adjourned and the Piece of the Pie winners were Jim Mazzei and Poly Chandler. Members were invited to come to the next Membership Meeting which will be held on Monday, November 10, 2025.

Submitted by AIHS President Dr. Terry Bolamperti



Special Election for Board of Directors

According to the Bylaws, Board Elections will be held at the **November 10th Membership Meeting**. Nominees are approved by the vote of the general membership. Members who are up-to-date on their membership dues will be given a ballot to approve/disapprove individual nominees. After voting, ballots will be counted and results will immediately be announced and reported to those in attendance. If any member is unable to attend, an absentee ballot must be returned to the AIHS office by the Monday, November 10th, in a sealed envelope marked BALLOT on the front with **both printed name(s) and signature(s) on the back**.

Beth Gibbs

Dear AIHS members:

My name is Beth (DeLeo) Gibbs and I am excited to be in the running to serve on the AIHS Board of Directors. I have been a member for a few years and have served as a Festa Captain for 2 years, helped with Sausage sale events, served at several Pizza and Spaghetti dinners and made Tiramisu for 2 of the Wine Tasting Events. I have attended most of the member meetings as well.

I have been a nurse for 43 years and am currently working at CHI Health in the Clinical Informatics Department overseeing the regulatory program for our electronic medical record. In January, I will have been a massage therapist for 28 years and work PRN (as needed) at Peaceful Hearts Hospice doing massage for hospice patients and will also start giving massages for the assisted living and independent residents at Ovation Heartwood Preserve.

Both my parents were Italian, my maternal grandmother was from Campobasso in the region of Molise, north of Naples. My grandfather's parents took him to Italy to cheer him up because his first wife died. He saw my grandmother at a well and wanted to marry her. He went to her house to ask permission to marry her. She was 'older' - 28 and not many eligible men left in her village so her father said yes! She didn't speak English and he didn't speak Italian but she came over to Cleveland where he lived and his mother lived with them. My grandmother didn't learn English until my mother went to school and came home to teach her! My father's family is from Buccino, south east of Naples.

I have 3 adult daughters, the youngest is married and lives in Omaha. The oldest is a massage therapist living in Denver and the middle daughter moved back from Medellin Colombia last year and is living with me and saving her money until she can move to Miami.

AIHS Absentee Ballot

For Board of Directors

Circle One

Beth Gibbs	approve	disapprove
Lauren Orsi	approve	disapprove
Sarah Bartolomei	approve	disapprove

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Beth Gibbs	approve	disapprove
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THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Lauren Orsi

Ciao AIHS Members!

My name is Lauren Orsi, and I am honored to be nominated for a position on the Board of Directors. My family has a long-standing connection with the AIHS, as my grandparents, Neva and Clem Orsi, were Charter Members of the Society. I have many fond memories, from helping at the Festa pastry booth with Nonni as a child to more recent volunteer efforts at the t-shirt booth this past year.

I've attended various AIHS events throughout the years such as wine dinners, pasta nights, and the Festa of course, but have made a commitment recently to be more active on the membership side including attending the monthly meetings and introducing new friends and family to the community. Beyond the AIHS, I volunteer with Marian High School's Alumni Association and with Learning for All, an organization that helps ESL students gain confidence in speaking English.

Professionally, I worked for 12 years in the multifamily industry at Robert Hancock & Co., with the latter seven years serving as Vice President of Operations. For the past 11 years, my husband and I have successfully operated our own business, working with various companies to develop wind farms across the United States. My recent decision to focus full-time on our business has provided me with greater flexibility in my day-to-day life and allowed me to spend more time with our beautiful 13-year-old spunky pup, Scooby.

My Italian heritage is important to me, and Italy holds a special place in my heart. I'm even trying to brush up on my Italian speaking skills! My Nonno was from Colle di Compito, and my Nonni from Bagni di Lucca, Tuscany, where our family still owns her childhood home. My husband, Scott, and I chose BDL for our wedding in 2014 and returned for our ten-year vow renewal last year. I am grateful for this opportunity to work closer with the AIHS and look forward to contributing my energy, dedication, and professional experience to the Board.

Sarah Bartolomei

My name is Sarah Bartolomei, and I am willing and eager to serve as a board member for the American Italian Heritage Society. I've been a member of AIHS for only a year, but in that time, I've enjoyed volunteering and recruiting my family to join me at this year's Festa. My awareness of AIHS stems from my grandparents, Nelso and Margherita Bartolomei. My grandfather was an active member of AIHS and would host a booth selling statues every Festa. I still hold fond memories of coming to the Festa—first running to find my Nonno and his booth, then spending the night eating and dancing. It's these memories and deeply held pride in my grandparents that inspire me to serve in this capacity and honor their legacy as Italian immigrants hailing from Tuscany, residing in the neighboring towns of Monte di Villa and Riolo.

During the day, I work for a nonprofit organization called RISE. We work with currently and formerly incarcerated individuals and help provide knowledge and tools to rebuild their lives as productive and healing members of the community. Working with this population has shown a bright light on how many privileges and opportunities I have been granted by the nature of the parents and grandparents I have. My immediate family honors my Italian roots by being fiercely involved in one another's lives. My day-to-day includes my partner, Ann, our big ole dog, Max, and a sweet kitten, Jade. We purchased our first home last year and have faced the highs and lows of homeownership. More broadly, it's my hope to evolve and grow with each passing day through staying active, reading, and intentionally visiting with friends and family.

Thanks for considering me for this role!



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our members who are ill, including Ted Bolamperti, George Grillo, Cookie Mascarello-Ladwig, Geno Crisafulli, Maria Leo, Margo Pirruccello, Ann Marie Falco-Marr, Judge Joe Troia, Tara & Tim Virgilito, Cecilia Bellinghiere, Sam & Lucy Marasco, Lou Buda, Joan Gentzler, Kathy Eichelberg, and Leo Fascianella.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We would like to warmly welcome our new members; Beverly Vazzano, Debra & Tim Monaco-McMahon, Andrew Cutinella, Gina & Dave Bartholet, John & Darcy Cottone, and Dave & Becky Bauman. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

SAUSAGE SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need your assistance for another successful fundraiser. Volunteers are needed to help cut pork and prepare the sausage on two dates. On Thursday, December 11th 8 AM—4 PM will be cutting and prepping the meat. Saturday, December 13th we need a kitchen crew and volunteers to work the sale. If you would like to Volunteer please email Beth at secretary@omahaitaly.com or call the AIHS Office at (402) 493-8888 x1. Thank you!

SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to take this opportunity to give many thanks to member, Beth Gibbs who graciously and generously put together 5 Italian themed raffle baskets for the Pasta Dinner. #1 Basket Rosso & Ricco was won by guest Kristin Buhr. #2 Basket Bianco & Buono was won by member Deb Bezousek. #3 Basket Notte Al Cioccolato was won by guest Carrie Lindell. #4 Basket Caffee e Dolce was won by member Micky Bolamperti. #5 Basket Calma & Coccola was won by member Rose Koch. Thanks again to Beth for her creativity and donations to help raise more funds for the Society.



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www.omahaitaly.com



secretary@omahaitaly.com



THE AMERICAN ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Meatball Day

We had a great crew rolling and baking meatballs on Thursday, October 23rd at The Palazzo. Everyone worked hard and then we enjoyed a nice lunch together. This great crew made over 6,000 meatballs for the Pasta Dinner held on Sunday, November 2nd and our upcoming Sausage Sale on December 13th. A special thanks goes to all our great volunteers who pitched in. We work hard but have a lot of fun. Mille Grazie!



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Wedding Cake

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AIHS Cookbook

by John Marchello

Cake:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 2 tsp. baking soda | 1-2 c. chopped walnuts |
| 2 eggs | 1 lg. (15-20 oz) can
sweetened or unsweetened |
| 2 c. plain flour | crushed pineapple |
| 1 c. sugar | |

Frosting:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese
room temperature | 1 c. powdered sugar |
| 1 stick margarine, room temp. | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| | Walnuts (optional) |



Cake: Mix all the ingredients together by hand. Bake cake in a floured greased 9 x 13-inch pan for 35 to 45 minutes at 350 degrees. Check after 30 minutes with a knife inserted in the center.

Frosting: Mix frosting with electric mixer and spread on warm cake.

THANK YOU from Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Dear Friends at A.I.H.S.,
On behalf of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Omaha, please know how grateful we are for the generous gift that you made in honor of your St. Joseph's Day Celebration. Your support makes a real and meaningful difference to the individuals and families who seek assistance from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul—those currently homeless, as well as those living paycheck-to-paycheck and very often on the brink of falling into homelessness.

Your gift is a reminder of how blessed the Society is to have compassionate friends and donors who share our mission of serving our "least among us" neighbors in need.

Again, Friends, on behalf of the many thousands of households from right here in our community that we have the privilege of serving each year, thank you for your support of the critical mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Omaha. In addition to sharing with you our sincere gratitude, please know that you are most assuredly being remembered in the prayers of the Society.
God bless you for your gift!

With gratitude,
Jill Lynch-Sosa
Executive Director

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John Delano
402.983.0155
jdelano@mightydogroofing.com
14503 Grover Street, Suite 105
Omaha, NE 68144

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Felice Ringraziamento!

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