



The GOOMBazette*

May 2009 - *A recap of 2008*

*Picture of Temecula
By: Joe Vita*

***The Official (yet light-hearted) Publication of the Italian-American Police Officers Association of Southern California**

A day with IAPOA “Wine Tasting” or “Degustazione di vini”



More than a carafe of IAPOA members spent a sun brightened fun-filled day embraced in the vineyards of the astounding Temecula Valley in October. We sampled “Vini” or “Vino” (depending on your ancestral region in Italy) that had been crafted by knowledgeable and passionate local winemakers. We discovered several premier wineries aboard “The Grapeline Wine Country Shuttle” – which was hosted by an exuberant and friendly hostess, and her diligent driver. The itinerary was carefully arranged so that we would capture the true ambiance that this area had to offer. While we had a few delays that changed our wineries on the original itinerary, there wasn’t a soul on board that wasn’t extremely inspired by the grapes. (Who says surprises aren’t fun?!) It included more than five wineries, including: Bella Vista, Wiens, Mount Palomar, Oak Mountain and Wilson Creek, where we enjoyed a wonderful lunch. The wineries each had many special vintages that various members found incredible. The tours of several wineries that day included glimpses into what can only be described as the living dream of a true Italian with a love for wine. Many association members arrived a day early and dined at Francesca’s Italian Kitchen enjoying fine wines, great food and even greater company. Those of you who didn’t join us please plan on attending our next “Degustazione div Vini” in October 2009, and those of us who were there, we are not-so-patiently awaiting our next tour!



Message del Presidente (President's Message)

Ray Lombardo

Greetings to everyone! Welcome to the first edition of our 2009 Newsletter. As I begin my second year as your president, I want to thank all board members for their hard work in 2008. It was truly a great year as many things were accomplished. Our 2009 board is now in place and I want to welcome member Joe Vita as our new Vice-President. I am looking forward to working with Joe on a number of projects.

Speaking of accomplishments, 2008 saw a number of firsts for the IAPOA. In addition to the usual social activities that we enjoy, we increased our membership, introduced our new website and designed our very own IAPOA "Challenge Coin." My personal thanks to members Frank and Dara Pettinato and Joe Vita. Each of them was instrumental in making the website and the challenge coin a reality. If you haven't visited the website, it is a must. You can log onto www.iapoaosc.org. The site will provide you with all you need to know about our club, its activities and how you can purchase our beautiful challenge coin. In addition, there are also links to other Italian American organizations and functions.

2008 also saw our club continue its relationship with the LAPD Children's Support Group and the Feast of San Gennaro. The children are our single charity and the Feast has allowed us to raise funds by selling cannoli over the three-day event. As a result, the IAPOA was able to hold two special events for the children during the year. In August, we arranged for a group of children and family members to enjoy an evening at Dodger Stadium watching the Dodgers play. In December, the club hosted a well attended Christmas Party at Palermo's Restaurant where we provided the children with dinner and some very special Christmas presents.

As we begin 2009, please consider the following: If you like great Italian food, enjoy drinking wine (red or white) and you want to socialize with a great group of people, then the IAPOA is for you. As an example, we had a record number of 42 members and friends travel to Temecula to enjoy a day of wine tasting. The number of participants has grown every year. Don't miss our trip in 2009. Lastly, our club meets the second Wednesday of every month at Palermo's Restaurant, 1858 N. Vermont Ave. Please stop by and enjoy dinner with us. Meetings begin at 5 PM. Ciao!

Mmmm Another PASTA Dish!!!!

Limoncello Pasta

A simple pasta flavored with lemon liqueur.

Ingredients

- 1 lb of 2-foot long-pasta, spaghetti maybe used**
- 1 clove garlic, crushed**
- 1 ¼ cups heavy cream**
- ¼ cup limoncello or white wine**
- 2 lemons, 1 peeled and 1 zested**
- 1 cup (loosely packed) basil leaves, torn**
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper**
- 1 cup shredded Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese**

Preparation

Place a large pot of salted water over high heat and bring to a boil. Once boiling, add the pasta and cook according to package instructions or how your grandma taught you. Drain and reserve the pasta in the cooking pot.

While the pasta is cooking, combine garlic, cream, limoncello and lemon peel over medium – high heat in a medium size sauce pot. Bring the mixture to a gentle boil, then reduce the heat and simmer until slightly thickened, about 10 minutes. Remove the garlic clove and lemon peel from the sauce and discard.

To the pot with the reserved pasta, add the sauce, the basil and a couple handful of Parmigiano Reggiano. Season with salt and freshly ground pepper, and toss to combine. To serve, top each portion with additional Parmigiano Reggiano and some lemon zest.....

The Feast of San Gennaro



As we mentioned before, the primary fundraising opportunity for the Children's Support Group occurs at the annual *Feast of San Gennaro, Los Angeles, in September*. The IAPOA sponsors a booth selling Cannolis supplied by Palermo's Italian Restaurant. IAPOA volunteers and their families work both day and night shifts from Thursday night thru Sunday selling Cannolis. There is no pay, but there is great food, even greater company and the satisfaction that the children benefit from our hard work. Anyone can see, we hand fill the premade cannoli shells, top them with powdered sugar, and "viola...magnifico."



*"Grazie" to Palermo's Ristorante
for their years of support & friendship!*

Buon Natale!

Approximately six years ago our IAPOA adopted the LAPD Children's Support Group as its charity. Since then, the primary fundraising opportunity occurs at the annual *Feast of San Gennaro, Los Angeles*, where the IAPOA sponsors a booth selling Cannolis provided by Palermo's Italian Restaurant, 1858 N. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles. The IAPOA hosted a Christmas Dinner, "Cena di Natale" with the LAPD Children's Support Group at Palermo's Restaurant in December 2008. There were specially selected gifts for all the children who attended, the photographs below capture the moments of happiness of the children





Christmas Potluck Dinner at the Lombardo's -

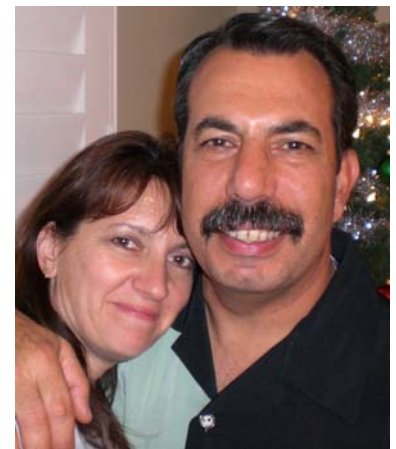
What a TREAT!!!!

Also in December the IAPOA celebrated Christmas at President, Ray and wonderful wife Glenda's home. Cindy Curti brought her homemade wine that was the talk of the room, there was enough food for everyone to take home a snack for the next day, and the Lombardo's had quite the white elephant gift exchange.

The friendships grew, the holiday season was celebrated, the room was bursting with everything that you would expect from a houseful of Italians! And men kissing on the cheek just as they do in the old country. All that was missing was old Saint Nick himself.... Well and maybe Dean Martin!!!!



Until next time... ENJOY EVERY SEASON, AND MAKE EVERYTHING ITALIAN!!!



We need and love submissions to the newsletter!! Please send to ajvita@gmail.com with the subject line "GOOMBAZETTE!"

Ciao for now!!!
~Joe and Marie