

CALIFORNIA



Tom Torriglia on the accordion with his band, "Bella Ciao."

Italian Heritage Night on Aug. 22 in San Francisco's AT&T baseball stadium saw the home team *Giants* play the *Arizona Diamondbacks*. During breaks, the crowd of 30,000 heard the band, *Bella Ciao*, led by maestro **Tom Torriglia** of the **Cornelia-Vita Nuova Lodge #1198**. They played Italian oldies and the Italian national anthem, "the first group ever to perform it at a major U.S. ball park," says Tom. See www.ladyofspain.com

NEW JERSEY

Sam Fumosa, a National CSJ resource person and former NJ Grand Lodge president, is hard at work informing the public about Italian American history.

Working with National CSJ Secretary **Rosemary Feterik** and Monmouth University professor **Susan Douglas**, Sam brought two exhibits to the university recently: the CSJ's Medal of Honor exhibit and *La Storia Segreta*, on the internment of Italian Americans during WW II. *To book these exhibits, contact him at 973/808-0506.*



Learning about "La Storia Segreta"

And...**Anna Marie Rotonda, Ed.D.**, president of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, received the 2006 Christopher Columbus Woman of the Year award from *The Italian Tribune* at the newspaper's annual Columbus Day Gala Oct. 6 in West Orange. Dr. Rotonda is the state chapter's first woman president.

GOT A GOOD STORY?

Send details with your lodge's name and number (photo optional) to: *ITALIAN AMERICA* Magazine, 219 E Street NE, Washington, DC 20002 or E-mail ddesanctis@osia.org. Include a daytime telephone no. Entries not acknowledged and photos not returned unless requested.

REMINDER

Order your books through OSIA and Amazon.com. Just go to www.osia.org, click on "Sons of Italy Book Club" and choose either a Book Club selection or another book. Orders are shipped within 24 hours.

As a special bonus, Amazon.com will donate a percentage of book sales ordered on our site to OSIA.

OHIO

In an extraordinary gesture of generosity and support, the **Cristoforo Colombo Lodge #772** in Toledo donated \$10,000 to OSIA's Garibaldi-Meucci Museum on Staten Island, NY. a fast-growing cultural center for all things Italian.

“Supporting our heritage was a good use of our money,” says lodge president **Don Mooney**. When he and lodge vice president, **Robert Bauman** presented the check last June, the museum gave them a plaque of gratitude to take back to their lodge.



Ohio's Robert Bauman accepts a plaque from curator Emily Gear as lodge and museum officials and family look on.

NEW YORK

Hats off to **Joe DiMaggio Lodge #2248** in East Fishkill and former lodge president **Joe Zingone**. In 1982, under Zingone, the lodge successfully lobbied to have Italian taught in its local school district. It began with 12 students and now has 750 children and 6 full-time teachers.

Five years ago, lodge member **Bill Green** introduced Italian into the town summer recreation program where children 5 to 10 years old play Bingo, learn the alphabet, watch movies and even sing “Happy Birthday” all in Italian. Now other towns are contacting him to start similar programs for their children.

BENVENUTI!

Highlands Sons & Daughters Lodge #2830 Sebring, Florida
 Emilia Sammartino Lodge #2831 Crabtree, Pennsylvania
 West Shore Sons & Daughters of Italy in America Lodge #2832 West Haven, Connecticut
 Italian American Families of SW Missouri Lodge #2833.....Springfield, Missouri

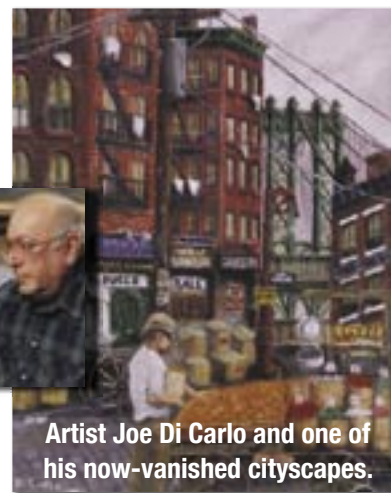


OSIA National 5th Vice President Joseph Di Trapani (R) congratulates Dante Rebori, president of the new OSIA lodge in Missouri.

VIRGINIA

You can't go home again, but you can remember it, says At-Large member **Joseph Di Carlo** of Vienna. In his detailed paintings rich with nostalgia, he recaptures the Brooklyn of the 1950s: Ebbets Field, Coney Island and the city's many ethnic neighborhoods and people.

Hailed by art critics as “a new Edward Hopper,” Di Carlo was an advertising executive and “Sunday painter.” Now retired, he paints full-time and is fast gaining recognition in art circles, where he has been chosen by *Art & Antiques Magazine* as one of today's “emerging artists.”



Artist Joe Di Carlo and one of his now-vanished cityscapes.

See www.josephdicarlo.com (Email: jdicarlo3@cox.net)

Compiled by Dona DeSanctis

OSIA MOURNS

Sad news from our brothers and sisters in Virginia who recently lost two past state presidents: **Martin V. Cornetta** on May 27 and **Joseph Festa**, who died July 7. We will keep them and their families in our prayers.