
MEMBER NEWSLETTER



MISSION STATEMENT

The Center is committed and dedicated to

1. preserving and promoting our Italian heritage, culture and history
2. maintaining a vital repository of and being an important resource for information about Italy and the Italian experience in America
3. undertaking social, charitable, benevolent, and educational endeavors
4. teaching the Italian language and the history of Italy and Italian immigration to Maine and offering instruction on the significant contributions Italians have made to the Arts, Sciences and Humanities
5. fostering the sharing and handing down of customs, traditions and cuisine from generation to generation.



PRESIDENT

Bill Lucatuorto 303-887-9164

First and foremost, I want to introduce our new Business Manager. She is Amy Hillenbrand and comes to us with quite the background. She starts officially on June 30 so please welcome her! Her position is to market the business side of our club. If you are a member and need something, please see Tracy or me as Amy will be focused on outside business, not internal member business. She will have her hands full getting us new rentals and she is not to help the members other than blocking rooms and ordering food for events. As for a cook, we'll continue to use volunteers and Rent A Cook until business picks up to a point where it supports a regular cook. Again, a huge thank you to Krista and Carlene for manning the office so we can maintain a business. We couldn't have done it without you. We have so many events coming up. Please support your club by attending these events! Yes, some cost money, but what doesn't these days! We have no choice but to charge for the entertainment and food. Many of our members work hard to put these on, so please support them.

I continue to thank Bob Lax for helping with the food ordering and the many folks that continue to cook: Rocco Toppi, Marianne Reali, Nancy Polito, and so many more who are also cooking and prepping! What would we do without them? A loud applause for Cathy Giuffre-Renaud for bartending on Friday nights. What a success Friday nights have been. The Board has said to continue with them, so we will! The Board also approved the revival of the pull tab machine in the Cantina. Rules for its use, etc. will be put together this month with the machine hopefully available for use starting next month. Bringing the Pot of Gold back is still under consideration and is not approved for now. As we move forward, please accept change (sometimes it happens). Please be happy, do not complain about things, welcome people you don't know, and remember there is a chain of command within our organization. Question? Ask me. A problem? Ask me. A constructive suggestion? Tell me. As always, be respectful of other opinions, be kind, and be happy. Most of all please remember that ultimately we are all trying to pull the rope in one direction. This Center is YOURS and the Board is here to just lead it. It takes a Village and let's not lose sight of that. Feel free to reach out to me. wild.billlucy@gmail.com or 303-887-9164.

Bill Lucatuorto, President

You must have your
MEMBERSHIP CARD
to attend the general
meeting.



DATE: Thursday, July 16
TIME: 5:30 dinner/6:30 mtg
PLACE: Columbus Rm
COST: \$15 dinner

If you are coming for dinner at 5:30 pm, you must
RSVP by MONDAY, JULY 13 . Please call Bill at 303-887-9164

IHC POSITIONS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Directors - 11)				COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
PRIMARY OFFICERS		ELECTED DIRECTORS		By-Laws	Sam Rinaldi
President	Bill Lucatuorto	Activities Director	Tracy Rinaldi	Charity	Katie Guzman
Vice President	Ed Angelo	Director/Associate	Katie Guzman	Cultural	VACANT
Treasurer	Martin Joyce	Director	Joseph Cupo	Facilities	Ed Angelo
Recording Secretary	Cathy Giuffre-Renaud	Director	Annette Hoglund	Health & Welfare	Carlene Aceto
Membership Secretary	Robert Lax	Director	Jay Scala	Marketing	Melissa Martin
		PAST PRESIDENT	Vincenza Dunn	Scholarship	Judy Ann Ferrante
APPOINTED POSITIONS				OTHER/TECH	
Sergeant at Arms	Bruce Koharian			Business & Events Manager	Amy Hillenbrand
Parliamentarian	Martin Joyce			Webmaster (events)	Amy Hillenbrand
updated 7/1//2026				Webmaster (members)	Connie DiBiase



ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Tracy Rinaldi 207-671-1238
Monday - Friday, 3pm-9pm, Sat/Sun before 9pm

Happy Semiquincentennial USA!

I hope you all enjoyed making new memories with family and friends.

A look back:

In June, the Activities Committee offered a shortened schedule to enable members to enjoy events hosted by other committees. However, Show Me the Money had some members rolling in the dough! June 14, we enjoyed an afternoon at the Lyric Theater for "9 to 5".

In other news...the Summer Beach Party is riding the waves into July with Melissa and Bill in tow. I hear it will be gnarly dude! The **NEW DATE is July 24.**

June birthdays were also celebrated; however, since I was unable to attend, we will be combining June and July birthdays so I can celebrate with everyone.

A look ahead:

- July 11 - Marc Macisso returns for our birthday celebrations.
- July 25 - Bonus Show Me the Money

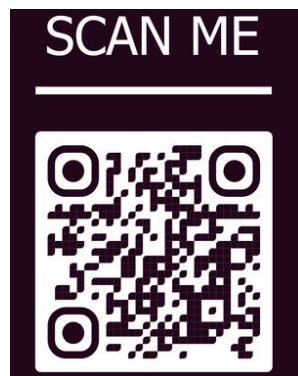
Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- August 1 - IHC Yard Sale (Please let me know if you have items to donate) Money from the yard sale will go towards future member events. More details to come.
- August 14 - IHC night at the Portland Sea Dogs - 6pm game with fireworks. Group rate is \$12 (reg \$17). Once available, the link will be provided for ticket purchases.
- August 22 - the Hawaiian Luau featuring the highly popular "UNDER THE COVERS" band.
- October 24th Halloween Bash with music by TRIFECTA!

Tracy

Want to watch the **JULY 2026**
SLIDESHOW OF EVENTS & ACTIVITIES?

[click this link](#) to watch or scan the code



The slides replay when finished or you can close it



1. Open the camera app on your phone (or other device)
2. Point it at the QR code (as if you're taking its picture)
3. When some words appear on your screen, tap on that
4. The first slide will appear (like the one pictured here)
5. Slideshow **starts automatically** & slides **auto change every 10 seconds**

SCAN & wait 10 seconds for each slide to change!

RECURRING EVENTS



DATE: Tuesday & Thursday
TIME: 9 - 11 am
LOCATION: La Cantina



DATE: Wednesday
TIME: 9:30 am
LOCATION: La Cantina

DATE: Wednesday
TIME: 5 pm bar opens
 6 pm game
PLACE: La Cantina

Show Me The
MONEY

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: First MONDAY of month
TIME: 5:30 pm
LOCATION: La Cantina

Contact Tracy Rinaldi - 207-671-1238

MARC MACISSO
 Performing in the
CANTINA
 AT THE
 ITALIAN HERITAGE CENTER
SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026
 BAR OPENS 5:00 PM | BRING YOUR OWN FOOD | MUSIC 6:30-9:30 PM
Hey Members - bring a friend!

&



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

Link to **Photos** [May 2026 Birthday Celebrations](#)

BONUS

DATE	SATURDAY, July 25
TIME	5 pm dinner/6 pm game
LOCATION	La Cantina

Show Me The
MONEY



This is such a wonderful time to relax, chat with friends, meet new friends. You can reminisce, share stories, laugh and get lost in conversations that are not drowned out by a band or DJ - just cool tunes playing lightly in the background. Come try it out!

IMPORTANT UPDATE: To give more people the opportunity to attend and enjoy a midsummer night of music, dancing, food, and fun, The Summer Beach Party will now take place on Friday, July 24, 2026. All previously purchased tickets will be honored for the new date.

Use this link to get [TICKETS](#)

*Join us on **Friday, July 24, 2026** for an unforgettable evening featuring live music from The Vista Cruisers, one of New England's favorite surf rock bands. Whether you're coming with friends, your significant other, or looking for a fun night out, this is your chance to throw on your best Hawaiian shirt, sundress, or beach attire and celebrate summer in style.*

THE SUMMER BEACH PARTY RETURNS!

NEW DATE!
FRIDAY, JULY 24TH

FEATURING
The Vista Cruisers

TICKETS
\$25 IHC MEMBERS
\$30 GEMBRAL PUBLIC

BUY TICKETS ON
eventbrite
SEARCH
"IHC Beach Party 2026"

AVOID SERVICE CHARGES!
Buy tickets in the Cantina during business hours
OR MAIL CHECK TO:
Italian Heritage Center (Attn: Melissa Martin)
40 Westland Ave, Portland ME 04102

DOORS 5:30 PM
FOOD 6:00-6:45 PM

BEACH PARTY STARTS 7:00 PM
featuring *The Vista Cruisers!*

COSTUME CONTEST
with a **CASH PRIZE!**

RETRO DRINKS & LOTS OF FUN!

We had a blast in 2024 so now we're bringing it back!



MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Bob Lax 207-671-8470 robertlax@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Statements were sent out at the end of June, **payment is due before August 30, 2026***

Individual \$85.00/year Married/Partner \$140/year

*The Board has extended the due date for your yearly dues.

Be sure to get your payment in on time. According to the By-Laws:

"During the time of delinquency, a member cannot hold a valid key card and is considered a non-member. When delinquent, members must pay a full year's dues to continue uninterrupted membership."

Last year we had **38 new regular** members, **12 associate** members and **15 reinstatements**.
Total membership to date: 313 Regular members • 113 Associate members • 160 Lifetime members

Effective April 1, 2026, any member requesting a new card (lost or misplaced) will be charged a \$10.00 processing fee. If your card does not work, please drop it off at the Center, and we will replace it at no charge.



Do you know someone who might want to become a
REGULAR member • **ASSOCIATE** member • **REACTIVATED** member?

[download a MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION here](#)

OR grab a
copy in the Lobby at the IHC

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

ITALIAN Idiom

(nonna said it best)

Tutto apposto, ma niente in ordine.
(Everything is there, but nothing is in order.)

Meaning, "I have everything I need, but my life is totally in disarray."



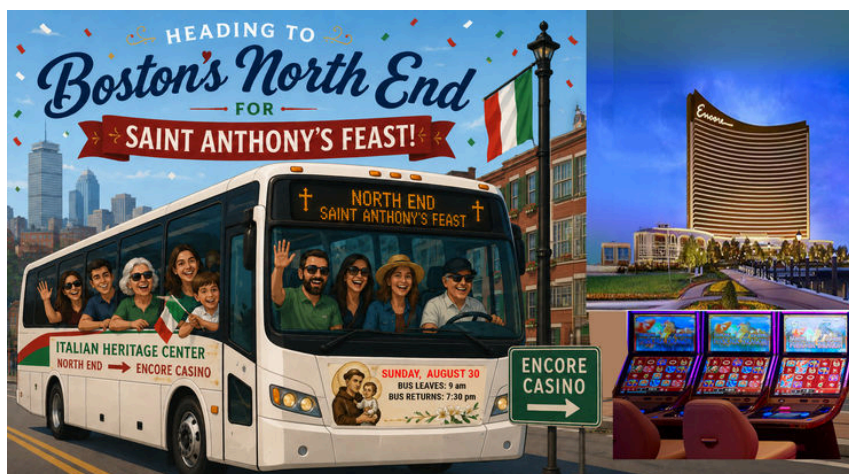
What was the first city in Europe to have fully paved streets?

- a. Florence
- b. Seville
- c. Paris
- d. Barcelona

ANSWER: see page 13

Come join the IHC on a trip to the "Feast of All Feasts" in Boston's North End

Contact: **Cathy Giuffre-Renaud 207-939-4354** or **Judy Ann Ferrante 207-671-9412**



Saint Anthony's Feast 2026

(also celebrating Santa Lucia/Saint Lucy)

Sunday, August 30, 2026*

*Itinerary may be adjusted for inclement weather

TICKETS should be **PURCHASED BY JULY 7**, but **no later than 7/30**

- 9:00 am Leave the IHC parking lot
- 11:00 am Feast and Vendors Open
- 12:00 noon 10-Hour Grand Procession of Saint Anthony Begins at Outdoor Chapel
- 1:30 pm Ambrosiani on the Main Stage
- 3:00 pm Leave the North End, travel 15 minutes to The Encore Casino (Everett, MA)
<https://www.encorebostonharbor.com/casino>
- 5:30 pm Leave The Encore Casino
- 7:30 pm Arrive back at the IHC

We will have a map of the venue and other points-of-interests/recommendations for those who want to wander beyond the Feast in the North End.

LINK TO [**JIGSAW PUZZLE**](#)



Try this **ONLINE JIGSAW PUZZLE** & see how you do.

You can click on the link or scan the QR code.

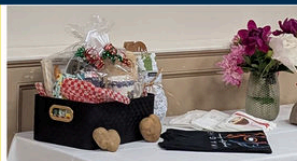


PUBLIC EVENT

LINE DANCING Night

Bring Your Friends!

SATURDAY
JUNE 13
2026



Great crowd, great food. Wonderful night full of dedicated dancers being lead by Chris Lefebvre & Line Dance 207 helpers.

CONTACT JUDY ANN FERRANTE
207-671-9412

Get Ready to Rock with Soul!

BLUES BROTHERS

Next Generation

★ IHC SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER ★



SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 26, 2026
★ DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM ★



GO TO EVENTBRITE.COM
AND SEARCH "BLUES BROTHERS IHC"

➤ IHC MEMBERS – BEST VALUE! ➤

BUY TICKETS IN THE CANTINA!

\$40 MEMBER
TICKET

Cash • Check • Credit Card Accepted

Tickets available during Cantina Hours.
Use drop off/mail in form below
if paying by check.

AVOID
ONLINE
SERVICE
FEES!



ONLINE OPTION
Purchase online through Eventbrite.
(Service fees apply online.)

GO TO EVENTBRITE.COM
AND SEARCH "BLUES BROTHERS IHC"



SCAN ME
FOR TICKETS &
EVENT INFO

**LIVE MUSIC,
GREAT FOOD,
RAFFLES, 50/50,
CASH BAR!**



TICKETS WILL SELL OUT!

➤ **TICKETS ON SALE NOW!** ➤

★ ★ ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE IHC SCHOLARSHIP FUND SUPPORTING LOCAL STUDENTS. ★ ★

Use this [link to buy tickets](#)



HEALTH & WELFARE

Carlene Aceto, 207-405-7156

otecac@gmail.com



Please be in touch if you know of anyone I should send a card to. Those cards might be Get Well • Thinking of You • Sympathy • Mass cards, etc.
Thank you - Carlene



NEW MEMBER

Teresa Serappa,
Bill Lucatuorto,
President



50/50 WINNER
Paul DuPerre



VOLUNTEER BASKET

Judy Ann Ferrante



QUORUM WINNER
Phil Rotolo*

*donated to Charity



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Put your special touch on one of our largest events.

This year we are having a **CONTEST** to come up with our **New Year's Eve theme**. The winner of the NYE theme will **receive a \$100 gift card to L.L. Bean**. The contest will run **from now until September 15**.

Entries can be submitted by completing a short form in the Cantina or by contacting Tracy: email: rinaldi.tracy@gmail.com
text: 207-671-1238

We are also looking for **color scheme** suggestions.

Last year's decor search made one thing clear - most NYE decorations come in black and gold. However, we'd like to add a unique IHC element.



Link to
[complete](#)
[your entry](#)
[online](#)
or
**SCAN
THIS
CODE**





Please join us for this always fun, summer picnic!

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE PICNIC

- We have the “covered” area **reserved for the day**. The Park closes at sunset.
- **RAIN** or **SHINE**
- If you are **65+**, **your entry is FREE any time** (no need to mention IHC Picnic - this will avoid needless charges)
- IHC **will cover the entry fee for all under 65** - just say you are attending the IHC picnic!
- **Parking is FREE**
- **11 am** - come anytime after that
- Bring your **own chair**
- Bring your **own drinks** - alcoholic beverages are not allowed in the park
- Bring a **snack, side dish, or dessert to share**
- The IHC **will provide burgers & hotdogs**

The Private Picnic Area (covered) - is all the way up the path on the left near the playground. Let us know if you have any mobility issues, you can unload people and things at the site and go back to park.

You are welcome to use the grill to cook your own food if hamburgers and hotdogs are not your thing. We have fun listening to music, playing corn hole and bocce, and enjoying each other's company. There is a playground and gorgeous walking trails along the coastline. There are plenty of clean restrooms.



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Judy Ann Ferrante, Chair 207-671-9412

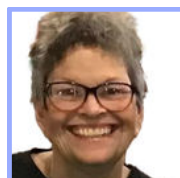


We have received the scholarship applications. In recent weeks these applications were scored using a rubric. By the time this newsletter is posted these students will have received their notifications from our Scholarship Team here at the Italian Heritage Center.

- **Thursday, July 16, at 6:30 General Meeting, immediately following dinner, Scholarship Recipient Night will begin!** At this time we will announce who the recipients are, along with their families. **We are grateful for the two Donors.** This year they are **the Germani Family, honoring Louis Germani, their Dad, and past president of the IHC; and, Diane DiPaolo Morency, in memory of her sister Deborah DiPaolo Sweet.**

Please plan on attending to **hear their essays, celebrate with them and CONGRATULATE them!**

BLUES BROTHERS: NEXT GENERATION TICKETS are available for purchase at the General Meetings, in the Cantina, online at Eventbrite-IHC Blues Brothers. You can also complete the order form - Contact Judy Ann Ferrante (207) 671-9412



CHARITY COMMITTEE

Katie Guzman, Chair 207-518-3152

Happy July

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and all the fun events happening at the IHC.

Please remember on **Wednesday** and **Saturday nights** CHARITY sells **SNACKS**. This is one of our fundraising activities. We encourage you to bring your DINNER to enjoy, which must be completed by 6 PM before the game or event starts.

We are looking for some help with the **Flag Pole Area**. We want to remove some plants and have the area rototilled and new soil added. **Please get in touch with me** if you would like to help out, or have some plants you would like to share.

We are **keeping the bottle drive open** for Portland T-ball for the rest of the summer, but we are doing it a new way. You can contact me and I will give you **clink bags and stickers**. You can bring them back to the Center or you can drop them into the Clink drop off yourself. I have been asked by members to give them stickers and this seems to be working out really well.



Thanks,
Katie

YOU'RE INVITED TO

COMEDY Night!

Door Prizes

21+

ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY

THE GREAT FALLS COMEDY CLUB

★ 3 HILARIOUS COMEDIANS! ★



JOHNNY ATER

Life-long local and arguably Maine's funniest, down-home comedian.



HOST, LEONARD KIMBLE

Owens and operates Great Falls Comedy Club.



RAY HARRINGTON

He's been seen on Conan, his documentary BE A MAN won the LA Comedy Festival.

★ SATURDAY ★
JULY 18

6 pm Doors Open
6:30 pm Dinner
7:30-9 pm Show

★ TICKETS ★

MEMBERS: \$45
NON-MEMBERS: \$50



Free
Parking

Join Us!
at the

IHC

ITALIAN HERITAGE CENTER

40 Westland Ave, Portland, ME 04102

- Menu*
- PIZZA BAR
 - PASTA SALAD BAR
 - CHICKEN WINGS
 - HOMEMADE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

*Gluten Free available

- CASH BAR -



SCAN FOR TICKET*

*small handling fee applied

★ GOOD FRIENDS. GREAT FOOD. NONSTOP LAUGHS! ★



TICKETS ARE LIMITED!



RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!



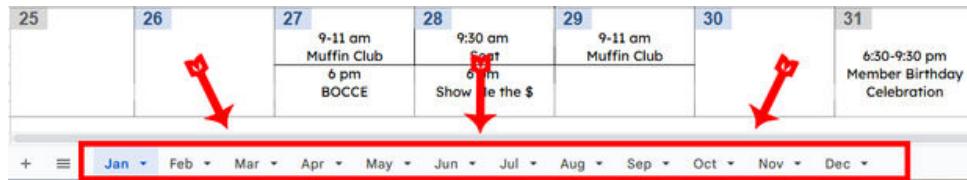
QUESTIONS? 207-807-2299

LINK TO [ONLINE TICKETS](#)

LINK TO [MANUAL PAY FORM](#)

Pay with Cash/Check

IHC MONTHLY MEMBER CALENDAR can be viewed by clicking on [this link](#). You may then view separate months by clicking on the tab for a specific month.



July 2026						
IHC ITALIAN HERITAGE CENTER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6 pm Show Me the \$	2 9-11 am Muffin Club	3 5-7 pm Cantina Open	4 Independence Day CLOSED
5	6 5:30 pm Activities Comm Meeting this Month	7 9-11 am Muffin Club	8 5:30 pm Cultural Mtg 6 pm Show Me the \$	9 9-11 am Muffin Club	10 5-7 pm Cantina Open	11 6:30-9:30 pm Marc Marcisso Performance
12	13 Reminder to RSVP for Monthly Mtg DINNER	14 9-11 am Muffin Club	15 6 pm Show Me the \$	16 9-11 am Muffin Club 4 pm Board Mtg 5:30 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Member Mtg Scholarship Night	17 5-7 pm Cantina Open	18 6 pm Doors Open 6:30-9:00 pm Great Falls Comedy Club
19	20	21 9-11 am Muffin Club	22 6 pm Show Me the \$	23 9-11 am Muffin Club	24 5:30 Doors Open Beach Party Band: Vista Cruises	25 6:00 pm BONUS Show Me The Money Birthday Celebrations
26 11:00 am Annual Two Lights Picnic	27	28 9-11 am Muffin Club	29 6 pm Show Me the \$	30 9-11 am Muffin Club	31 5-7 pm Cantina Open	

TRIVIA

ANSWER to Trivia Question on page 6 = a. Florence

In 1339, funded by its wealthy merchants and banks, Florence became the first major Western European city in the post-Roman era to pave its city streets. It pioneered the return of paved urban infrastructure in medieval Europe, setting the stage for the Renaissance.



ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

- If you are **not getting your emails** from us, check your junk/spam folder.
- Please remember to put your **membership number on all your correspondence.**
- Due to the State of Maine Rule & Regulations for private clubs, the **Cantina Door MUST always be locked.**
- All **guests** MUST be signed in by a member and leave when the member leaves.



HARBORCITY REALTY

HarborCity Realty
207-775-1991 (office)
www.harborcityrealty.com
Jean Russo 207-776-1816 (cell)
jeanrussomaine@gmail.com

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Your business could be here and on the IHC website! Download a sponsor ad purchase [FORM](#)



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7:30 am - 5:00 pm

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PLEASE NOTE: If you want your name (or a family member's name) to appear here, please contact Bob Lax, robertlax@aol.com.

Membri a Vita Lifetime Members

Paul J. Connolly	Marianna Grimaldi Oleson	Albert Stivaletti
Mario Grimaldi	Michael Pizzo	Filomena Lapomarda Tripaldi
Gloria Giordano Lax	Philip G. Rotolo	Maria Trivellin
Robert Lax	Jean Russo	

In Memoriam

Joseph Aliberti, Sr.	Dominic Distasio	Fannie Grimaldi	
Stephen W. Amero	Lucy Ferrante	Joseph Grimaldi	Emily Pirone
Joseph A. Capelluti	Sammy Ferrante	Frank Lorello	Alphonse Pizzo, Jr.
Josephine N. Capelluti	Lou Germani	Richard Lorello	Martin R. Pizzo
Orlando J. Capelluti	Rose Germani	Emilio (Leo) Micucci	John E. Pizzo
Andrew Carlista Sr.	Connie Giordano	Philomena Nicholas	Settimo Trivellin
Mary C. Connolly	Nino Giordano	Carmine Pirone	