

Dear Cenacolisti,

Welcome to the first bulletin of fall. I hope that you and your family enjoyed summer—wasn't it warmer than usual?—and didn't the time just fly? Obviously a function of age! This bulletin contains information about upcoming events and other matters that I hope you will find useful.

A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE BOARD—

The big news first. On the matter of admitting women as members to Il Cenacolo: over the past year since the club-wide “referendum” there has been a lot more input and discussion to the point that your Board decided to reconsider its previous position. At its September 21 meeting, the Directors of Il Cenacolo unanimously agreed to accept applications from women. This policy will go into effect January 1, 2018, although earlier applications are both encouraged and welcome.

There were many compelling reasons for changing our policy, including the belief that women will add a new and improved dynamic to our Club, that admission will increase our membership totals, and that women will provide a unique, perhaps different, and certainly enhanced perspective. We realize that this revision may be controversial. I encourage you to send me your thoughts, suggestions, etc. via email (ilpresidente@ilcenacolosf.org). Your Board strongly believes that this change will be a major step (among many) towards the continued growth and evolution of Il Cenacolo.

PEOPLE—

Just a couple of reminders:

—Our TEAMS are in the process of doing important work. As before, I encourage you to join one of these committees. Your contribution will be appreciated and will make a difference. Please take the time now to contact one of the team chairmen (they are listed after this message) and get involved!

—We will soon be gearing up to identify those members who would be good Board of Director members next fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018. I know it's early to start this process, but it takes time. Please refer to last month's bulletin for more information on this. You are needed to help lead our Club. Please contact me now ilpresidente@ilcenacolosf.org to throw your name into the hat for consideration.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS—

Thanks to Ken Sproul for organizing the September programs. The programs were really well-received.

This bulletin highlights our October programs—organized by David Giannini. Many thanks to David. Please support your Club by attending as many of the Thursday luncheons as possible. Your support is really needed, so please continue to enjoy the outstanding programs and the camaraderie of your fellow club members.

Just for your future planning—

OCTOBER

Meetings will be held as usual on each Thursday.

NOVEMBER

Meetings will be held each Thursday, except for November 23 (Thanksgiving) and November 30 (the day before the Holiday Gala).

DECEMBER

Regular meetings will be held on December 7 and December 14. There will be no meetings on December 21 and 28 because of Christmas and New Year's.

JANUARY

Regular meetings each Thursday.

The Annual Opera Outing was held on August 27. What a wonderful event! There were over 125 in attendance. The live music by opera singers was enjoyed by all. The weather was nice. The food and beverages were enjoyed by all. Lots of people to thank for a great event: to **Michael Muscardini, David Cobb and Ron Fenolio**—many thanks gentlemen for your gracious donation of wine from your wineries—**Muscardini Cellers, Cobb Wines and Veeder Crest Wines**. The entire event was orchestrated by **Chuck Stagliano**. He was supported by his team including **Richard Ruff, Ron Derenzi and Don Lewis**, and they spent many hours ensuring that we all had a good time. Well done, gentlemen!

The Marin Italian Film Festival took place on September 23 and **Il Cenacolo** was a major participant on opening night with several of our members in attendance at the performance and afterward at a nearby Italian restaurant for dinner. Too late to report on the results in this bulletin, but I know that **Ken Sproul and Lido Cantarutti** put together a fantastic evening. Our fellow member, **Lido Cantarutti**, has organized this festival for about 40 years now and the **Il Cenacolo** opening night event was sold out early.

Our next major event will be the **Holiday Gala on December 1** at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. **Ron Derenzi**, the Gala's chairman, and his team are working on this real Italian-style holiday party—with great food and lots of fun. This year's Gala is a change from prior years and will be different in style and substance—in a much more casual environment and at a lower price. We will be honoring our **Woman-of-the-Year—Anna Maria Pierini**, Executive Director of Italian Community Services—an agency that has provided outstanding service to our Italian community for many, many years. Please mark December 1 on your calendars now. More information will follow in future bulletins.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 12, 2017

Just a reminder that you are invited to attend and observe a Board meeting. If you are interested, please e-mail me ilpresidente@ilcenacolosf.org and let me know your preferred date (we usually meet at 9:30 am on the second Thursday of each month—right before the weekly luncheon meeting).

FINALLY—

Many thanks to each of you who have made an effort to increase your participation—at both our events and at our Thursday luncheons. Your involvement is critical to the continuation of our Club and to the support of our San Francisco and Italian culture. It is rewarding to observe your enjoyment of the programs and camaraderie with your fellow members.

Best regards,
Franz Cristiani
President



“Loden dal Brun” - Achille Beltrani