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IRS Non-Profit Corporation ID 72-0817602

Quarterly Meeting: August 11, 2013

Minutes

President Victor Musso convened the meeting at the Italian Hall in Gretna, LA at 11:10 AM.

Present were: Federation Officers: Chuck Anselmo, Cecile Scialdone, Lou Lato, Joe Piccione, Maria Falco, Joe Distefano, Dom Grieshaber and Nicoletta Giannico.

Club Delegates: Bette Cadwell and Mae Webb (AICC and St Lucy Soc); Sal Serio, (Cefalutana Soc.), John and Sandy Bruno, Gasper Schiro and Tony Foto (Contessa Entellina); Sonja Mistretta, Joyce Lucas, and Cheryl Hentze (Contessa Entellina, HA); Maria Falco (EJIAS); Anthony and Carolyn Musso (GBRAIA); Dom Grieshaber,(GNOICS), Cyndie Anselmo and Josephine Piccione (IAC Lafayette); Dennis Hausser, Giuseppe Cacioppo, Sam and Tessa Matrana (IASJ); Genevieve Harris, Mary Zeringue, Carol Lirette, Felicia Usner, Lilian Sadino, Catherine Breaux (IASJ-AUX).

The April 14 Convention minutes were summarized by Victor Musso and accepted by unanimous voice vote.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Joseph Piccione, and approved as read. The Beaumont Club be dropped from the AIFEDSE and Master List because they have never paid dues. A similar question was raised about the St. Bartholomeo Club, but no definitive answer was given.

In New Business it was reported that the Board Meeting held on July 28 approved three \$1,000.00 Scholarships to be presented at this Quarterly Meeting of the General Membership for final approval.

The First was for a renewal of the Panzeca Scholarship awarded to a Loyola University Opera Student of Italian descent to be chosen by Dean Boomgaarten and presented by Robert Lyall, Artistic Director of the New Orleans Opera and the AIFEDSE President in the Spring of 2014. Gasper Schiro moved and Dennis Hausser seconded the approval of the motion, which was passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Second proposal was for the renewal of the Joseph Maselli Scholarship to be presented at the Louisiana American Italian Sports Hall of Fame Banquet in January, 2014 to a student of Italian descent chosen by the AICC. The AIFEDSE President will present the scholarship. Sal Serio so moved and John Bruno seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

The Third was for a new scholarship to be given in the name of the American Italian Federation of the Southeast to be given to a student whose parent or guardian has been a member in good standing in a Federation member organization for at least 12 months, and who meets the criteria presented by President Victor Musso for the approval of the membership. A document describing the criteria was presented, (see attached), with the announced deadline for submission to be the April 30, and the recipient selected by a random drawing at the following quarterly meeting. Presentation of the scholarship would be made at the next Fall Meeting. Dennis Hausser moved and Gaspar Schiro seconded the motion which the membership unanimously approved by voice vote.

In other New Business, the question was raised if the Federation should purchase a table (seating eight persons) at the Sports Hall of Fame Banquet next January. Anthony Musso motioned to approve and Genevieve Harris seconded the motion, which was also approved by unanimous voice vote.

The question was then raised as to the location of the 2015 Convention site. The Board had agreed to ask the Lafayette club at this meeting if they would be willing to host it. Lou Lato proposed it but Chuck Anselmo stated that the club would need time to consider it because of a manpower problem. Joe Piccione amended the motion to give the club time to discuss it and to report their decision at a later meeting. Lou Lato and Dennis Hausser agreed to the motion which the group then approved unanimously.

Victor Musso then announced that Bette Cadwell will retire as Editor of the Italian American Digest after the January Banquet.

He expressed his belief that that would be a great loss for Italian culture in this region; Sal Serio and Gaspar Schiro proposed that she be asked not to do so. That motion too was approved unanimously.

Chuck Anselmo then reported that in his opinion the Italian American Library of which Sal Serio is the Curator and Custodian now located at the East Jefferson Regional Library, is in need of funds to purchase some materials (ink cartridges, etc.,) it needs. Sal stated that the person in charge of the bank account for all such donations is Regina Bertolino, President of the East Jefferson IA Society. Dennis Hausser proposed a \$500 donation, but Victor Musso stated that the AI Renaissance Foundation owns the Library and that the

Federation cannot make a donation until they pay their dues to the Federation. Bette Cadwell stated that she will strongly urge Frank Maselli to do so at once. Sal Serio said the Library can be independent but cannot take money---just supplies. Dennis Hausser amended his motion to make the donation contingent upon the receipt of the membership dues from the Renaissance Foundation. John Bruno seconded it, and the group approved it unanimously. Victor Musso stated that the check will go out when the dues are paid.

Joe Distefano then thanked the members of the IASJ for hosting the meeting. He announced that he is not well and is in need of prayers.

After lunch: Maria Falco made a brief presentation about the series on “The Politics and Art of the Italian Renaissance” which she will be offering at the East Jefferson Regional Library at 7 PM on August 14, 21, and 28th.

Gasper Schiro and Joe Distefano raised the issue of a statue in honor of Nick LaRocca, Creator of Jazz that was supposed to be housed in Jefferson Parish. It was stated that downtown New Orleans would make it more available to tourists. Perhaps a bust in the American Italian Cultural Center at some point.

Sandy Bruno asked if it would be possible to hold all the functions of the next convention at a single venue—including Sunday Mass, meals, Bocce and other functions, etc. That would be possible and the idea would be explored.

Sonja Mistretta asked if it might be held somewhere in the French Quarter. Joe Distefano replied that an annual Mass is held at the Cathedral by some clubs, but that hotels in the area are too expensive for some of our membership. Someone commented that there are similar difficulties in downtown Baton Rouge as well.

Anthony Musso stated that on June 13th ,the St. Anthony Society held its annual Mass on the Feast Day of St. Anthony at the St. Anthony of Padua Church on Canal St. in New Orleans. More than 300 people attended the Mass and more than 120 participated in a social afterwards. Because dues are not collected, he thanked donation contributors- Gasper ,Joyce ,and John-for their donations.

Anthony Musso had copies of the Flyers for annual Columbus Day Italian Festa. It will be held in Baton Rouge at the Belle Casino Atrium on October 19th & 20th. The Atrium is air conditioned with a free parking garage next to it. On October 19th there will be a Dinner- Dance and on October 20th the Festa. He reviewed the info on the Flyer.

It was also announced that the Gretna Italian Village will be hosted by Italian American Society of Jefferson October 4, 5, and 6. The Italian American Society of Jefferson will have a St. Joseph Altar next year.

Mae Webb invited everyone to participate in the St. Lucy Mass on December 14.

Bette Cadwell reminded everyone that the deadline for articles for the next edition of the Italian American Digest is August 15.

Sal Serio reported that the Cefalutana Society celebrated its 126th Anniversary at the Mother Cabrini Chapel on Esplanade Avenue.

He also stated that his Genealogy series at the EJ Regional Library on Wednesday afternoons has been very well attended—approximately 100 per class. He will also be giving similar classes for seven weeks at the West Bank Library on Manhattan Blvd near La Place.

Victor Musso thanked everyone who had helped prepare the great meal they had just been served. It was prepared by Italian American Society of Jefferson volunteers Giuseppe Cacioppo, Dennis Hausser, Sam Matrana, and Tessa Matrana. The Matrana Sugo was excellent, i.e. The Best.

Joseph Piccione reported on the revenues resulting from the Convention.

Gaspar Schiro announced that the 127th Anniversary Banquet for the Contessa Entellina Society will be held on September 1st.

Anthony Musso called for a round of applause for the Bocce Team that defeated that of the Bocce Club team.

Gaspar Schiro and Carol Lirette moved and seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting ended at 1:45 PM.

Copies of the new 2013 AIFEDSE Convention Book were given out to attendees. A check for \$1635 for a 10% refund on sales of ads for the Convention Book was presented to Joe Distefano & the Italian American Society of Jefferson by President Victor Musso. Their efforts were congratulated by all.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria J. Falco, Secretary
(As amended by President Victor Musso)



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Scholarships

\$1,000 academic scholarship awards to students attending a college or university may be awarded each year. The number of awards each year are to be determined by the American Italian Federation of the Southeast Officers on the Board.

The scholarship awards can be awarded by AIFEDSE to provide funds toward tuition provided the students are not enrolled in the Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) program.

Louisiana's TOPS is a comprehensive program of state scholarships and one of the most innovative and progressive student assistance programs in the nation. Students should check with their local school for further information concerning the TOPS program to determine their eligibility and the amount of assistance they may receive.

American Italian Federation of the Southeast Scholarship Application

Name & Phone: _____

Complete Address: _____

Email Address: _____

High School & GPA or ACT: _____

Address: _____

College & GPA: _____

Address: _____

AIFEDSE Member Organization: _____

Member(s) Name: _____

Member(s)Phone: _____

Scholarship eligibility requirements

1. Applicant must be a member, child or the legal ward or direct descendant of a AIFEDSE organization member who has been a member in good standing for at least twelve (12) consecutive months as of the application deadline. Only one scholarship award will be awarded per family per academic year.
2. A student can receive the AIFEDSE scholarship award one time. It is not renewable.
3. The scholarship money shall be used by an undergraduate student to attend on a full-time basis any college or university.
4. A first-time college student applying for the AIFEDSE scholarship must: a) have graduated from high school with at least a B average (3.0 GPA on a 4.0 GPA scale, or the equivalent); or, b) have graduated from high school and received a minimum ACT test score of 17. High school students who apply must be seniors.
5. An undergraduate college student seeking the scholarship must have achieved a minimum of 2.5 (on a 4.0 GPA scale) on all prior college work.
6. A scholarship application must be completed and returned to AIFEDSE.
7. The scholarship recipients will be chosen in a random drawing at a meeting of the AIFEDSE membership.
8. The scholarship recipients will be required to provide AIFEDSE with an official transcript verifying his/her eligibility within 10 days after the drawing.
9. The scholarship funds will be deposited to the recipients account upon presentation of a copy of the official invoice for the payment of full-time undergraduate tuition.
10. The scholarship award provides tuition funds to students who DO NOT participate in Louisiana's TOPS program or receive other scholarship assistance.

I understand and agree to the requirements stated above. _____

Your Signature

Mail both pages to: American Italian Federation of S/E _____

Attn: Treasurer

Print your name

1220 St. John Street

Lafayette, Louisiana 70506

Proposed by Victor P. Musso, President

American Italian Federation of the Southeast