



IL CITTADINO

Founded 1916

July 2026

IACC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

The Italian American Citizens Club of South San Francisco awarded two deserving students, Joseph Conti and Ariana Semenza, with scholarships for 2026 at the General Meeting on May 19.

Members attending, the scholarship recipients and their families enjoyed pizza and cake as Scholarship Committee Chairperson Karen Bettucchi made the presentations and acknowledged the work of the selection committee members, Barbara Baxter, Diane Huddleston and Kathy Semenza (who was recused from the selection process because a family member was nominated).

Awardee Conti, who is of Italian American descent, was noted for his remarkable leadership qualities. Conti graduated from South San Francisco's El Camino High School and will embark on his next chapter of studies at San Francisco State University.

Conti has distinguished himself in both the classroom and the field while maintaining an impressive 3.86 GPA while taking on a tackling and rigorous AO and Honors course load. His achievements didn't end in the classroom as he competed as a multi-sport athlete and served as the varsity football captain.

Going beyond his impressive academic and athletic record, Conti is a pillar in the community. He has demonstrated a commendable work ethic and deep sense of responsibility through his roles in El Camino Student leadership, as a youth sports referee and extensive volunteer efforts.

- Continued on page 2



IACC Scholarship awardees Ariana Semenza (center, left photo) and Joseph Conti (right, right photo) were the highlight of the General Meeting on May 19. Scholarship Chair Karen Bettucchi and President Leo Pierini also pictured.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear IACC Members & Friends:

The past few months have definitely consisted of Spring Cleaning activities. I want to acknowledge the efforts of our members who helped on the clean-up day on June 5 and those that performed the major maintenance work on the courts at the beginning of June.

With the courts opening once again on June 13, the Summer leagues and tournaments resumed right away with the Father's Day Tournament, followed by Summer Bocce League action for both our Club and the Parks & Recreation Department.

Club members Joe Lavin and Sandra Lencioni will participate in SSF's Fourth of July Parade as we continue to see more Italian related activities start to take form in preparation of Italian Heritage Month in October. Our annual Festa Italiana – SSF, in partnership with the City of SSF and the California Columbia Association, on Saturday, September 19 will usher in those activities, including the Italian Heritage Parade on October 11, which we will once again participate in.

Coming up in July is our annual Member's Appreciation BBQ on Sunday, July 19 and the SF Giant's Italian Heritage Night on Tuesday, July 28. You can find more information on all these activities and more throughout the newsletter.

Not to be lost in all these activities is our General Meeting on Tuesday, July 21 at the Clubhouse. I hope to see you there and at one of the many functions this summer.

Leo Pierini
IACC President

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

IACC Clubhouse
Tuesday, July 7, 2026, 1 pm

GENERAL MEETING

IACC Clubhouse
Tuesday, July 21, 2026, 6:30 pm

GENERAL MEETING & SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS



IACC President Leo Pierini acknowledges new member Dee Dee Martin (left) as the Lasagna Capo for 2026 from the Lasagna Challenge which was held on April 16, while Scholarship awardees Joseph Conti (center) and Ariana Semenza (right) share their cake with members at the General Meeting. Cake and pizza were enjoyed by all the members and the scholarship families at the event.

SCHOLARSHIPS - Continued from Page 1

Conti is inspired by his family's hardworking roots and his father's story of service and determination.

Awardee Semenza is a distinguished young woman of proud Italian American heritage and the granddaughter of IACC member Kathy Semenza. She graduated from Folsom High School with a remarkable 3.90 GPA and will be attending the University of Nevada, Reno with a major in Animal Science in working towards becoming a veterinarian.

Semenza has built an exemplary record of achievement and commitment to excellence that extends far beyond the classroom. She has been a leader in Allstar Cheerleading, earning two leadership awards, and has served as a junior cheer coach in mentoring young athletes in the sports she loves.

Semenza's passion for community service goes beyond the classroom as a team leader at the St. John the Baptist Youth Camp, an active volunteer with the California Scholarship Federation since her freshman year, and she has dedicated her time caring for animals at the Happy Trails Pet Sanctuary.

Semenza is deeply inspired by her father and the strong Italian American values that have been passed down through generations.

Both Conti and Semenza exemplify the qualities of leadership, service, perseverance and compassion that the IACC proudly celebrates.

NEW MEMBERS



Debra Warner



Michael Amato



Dee Dee Martin

**All photos in this newsletter and
more are on the IACC website:
WWW.SSFIACC.ORG**

IACC SSF – OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS



2026
(Terms Serving)



EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Leo Pierini, President (26-27)

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rich Garbarino, Chairperson (26-27) 650-438-7309

Debbie Cushman (26-27) * Armando Altamirano (26-27)

Rosemarie Garcia (26-27) * Norm Faria (26-27) * Lynn Keller (26-27) * Helen Birkeland (25-26) * Judy Dianos (25-26) * Janae Morales (25-26) * Bill Green (25-26) * Sandy Lencioni (25-26)

TRUSTEES

Steve Hawthorne (25-26) Rich Garbarino (26-27)

SPORTS / ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE DIRECTOR:

Manny Garcia 650-892-0391 MANNY3630@YAHOO.COM

IACC COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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SUNSHINE: Chris Babcock 650-873-8730
CHRISBABCOCK179@GMAIL.COM

RECYCLE PROGRAM: Barbara Guevara (Recycle Queen)
TISBARB@SBCGLOBAL.NET

OLD GLORY

By Diana Stanton Minsky

You've been burned, even torn
You've been hailed, also scorned
Remember it's true
When casting your eyes
on the Red, White & Blue
They are colors of Glory
Standing for Freedom, Justice, Democracy
The Flag of America
Our emblem of Dignity
That has seen triumphs & tears
And has endured for 250 years

ITALIAN AMERICAN CITIZENS CLUB

South San Francisco



GENERAL MEETING

HOT DOGS & APPLE PIE

(please bring \$5 for hot dogs & pie to offset costs)

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

FOOD - 6:30 PM

MEETING – 7 PM

IACC CLUBHOUSE & SSF Bocce Courts

In Co-sponsorship with the SSF Parks & Rec Department

Sunshine Corner



Battaglia Family
Vaznaugh Family



Rene Hartje
Dean Balestreri

*If you would like a Club member to
receive a card, contact Chris Babcock
650-873-8730*

SAVE THE DATES

Tuesday, July 7 – Board Meeting
Sunday, July 19 – Member's Appreciation BBQ
Tuesday, July 21 – General Meeting
Tuesday, July 28 – SF Giants Italian Heritage Nite
Saturday, September 19 – Festa Italiana SSF
Sunday, October 18 – IACC Festival
Sunday, Dec. 12 – Xmas & Person of the Year Dinner



Festa Italiana
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
A FREE, FUN FAMILY EVENT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
ORANGE MEMORIAL PARK
11 AM – 6 PM

BE ITALIAN FOR A DAY

MUSIC * FOOD * KID'S ZONE * CAR SHOW * CULTURAL DISPLAYS * VENDORS
BOCCE TOURNAMENT * EXHIBIT BY MUSEO ITALO AMERICANO

The poster features a stylized illustration of the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Colosseum in the background. In the foreground, a man in a hat and striped shirt stands in a gondola on water. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner.



RED SAUCE
RED SAUCE MEATBALLS.COM

The logo features a black silhouette of a food truck with a red hexagonal sign on its side that says "RED SAUCE". Below the truck, the website "REDSAUCEMEATBALLS.COM" is written in red.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With the Summer months upon us and as we enter the Fall season, we have a number of wonderful events for our members to enjoy. This also comes with the need to have our members step up and assist in making these events a success. Our Annual Member's Appreciation BBQ will be held on Sunday, July 19 at the IACC Clubhouse. Our Master Chef Rich

Girard can always use help at the grill as well as member's lending a hand with set-up and clean-up afterwards. The Festa Italiana – SSF will be held on Saturday, September 19 and volunteers are needed for set-up and clean-up as well as the car show and putting some time in at our booth. The Fall season brings us to our IACC Italian Festival on October 18, which is a potluck, but also requires assistance for the set-up and clean-up. As these events get closer, more information will be posted on the board by the courts. As usual, help is always needed for the various events, tournaments and other activities at the Club. We encourage all those that can assist in several roles, big or small, to sign up. The IACC is only as good as we make it. Tasks also include helping with the planning and the execution of a particular event. A list of the various committees, their Chairs and their emails are listed on page 3.

Help is always appreciated.

Italian American Citizens Club

South San Francisco

Members' Appreciation BBQ Lunch



Sunday, July 19, 2026

1:00 PM

IACC Members & Family Only

**Choice of Tri-Tip Sandwich,
Hamburger or Italian Sausage
And Various Salads & Desserts**

Please RSVP to IACC.EVENTS@YAHOO.COM

(RSVP how many are attending by July 16, so we know how much food to purchase)

This Event Is Open to IACC Members & Family Only

(\$10 Food Charge for Non-Member Guests, Collected at the Event)

Special Recognition for Lifetime Members & Others

At the Clubhouse / Orange Park Bocce Courts

In Co-Sponsorship with S.S.F. Parks & Recreation



BOCCE NEWS



It's summertime!

Time for barbeques, vacations, family fun, and bocce! I want to start out by saying thanks to Taco Morales and his crew: Don Sherer, Bob Bacigalupi, Mike Gallagher, David Umbertus, John Dianos, Germano Columbana, Charlie Fernandez, and Bob Schenone, for all their hard work to get the courts back in good shape.

This work will continue throughout the year and please pay attention to the signs when posted on various courts that they are under maintenance.

Summer leagues have started. The Tuesday morning league will end on July 28 and the Wednesday morning league will end on August 26. SSF Parks and Recreation leagues will end on August 12, 13, and 14.

The Parks and Recreation summer camp for youths from Kindergarten to 6th grade will be held on Thursday, July 2 with one morning session and one afternoon session only. A big thank you to Sandy Lencioni and her helpers for volunteering to run the summer program to teach the fundamentals of bocce to this group of kids.

An additional thanks to the volunteers who helped on May 22 with the SSF High School Italian class bocce tournament; Sandy Lencioni, Norm Faria, Steve Firpo, Joe Lacey, Frank Nichols, and Ben Cowlshaw. And for making it a fun afternoon.

The Special Olympics Saturday training league was a great success, and our appreciation goes out to Chris Babcock, Janae Morales, and Terry Elsibai for opening and closing the courts every Saturday. We look forward to the Special Olympics' program, either later this year or in 2027, expanding. It is important and rewarding to provide these young men and women with the experience of sports competition and the comradery that it brings.

With the number of programs, leagues and tournaments that take place during the course of the year, none of them are possible without the many volunteers from our Club who step up and volunteer. I do appreciate their time, work and effort.

Manny Garcia
Sports & Activities Director
IACC Vice President



TUESDAY MORNING SPRING LEAGUE



FIRST PLACE: Don Sherer, Larry Fioranelli, Hermie Lagman & Jorge Lagman



SECOND PLACE: Rob Aveson, Erica Baxter, Judy Dianos & Pam Madden



THIRD PLACE: Mike Bianchi, Janis Gallagher, Elaine Debono & Joan Daly

WEDNESDAY MORNING SPRING LEAGUE



1st Place – Pam Madden, Roger Weiner & Captain Germano Colombana. Missing: Patty Warren



2nd Place – Patty Cabano, Captain Debbie Cushman & George Lagman. Missing: Richard Fierro



3rd Place – Dan McGough, Diana Minsky, Ann Koenig & Captain Mike Gallagher

MOTHER'S DAY TOURNAMENT



1st Place – Joan Daly, Ann Koenig, Roni Vaznaugh & Patty Sarracino



2nd Place – Captain Chris Babcock, Helen Birkeland, Linda Dezmen & Denise Villa

FATHER'S DAY TOURNAMENT



1st Place – Ron Delcarlo, Gary Queirolo, Tom McGee & Andy Ynostroza

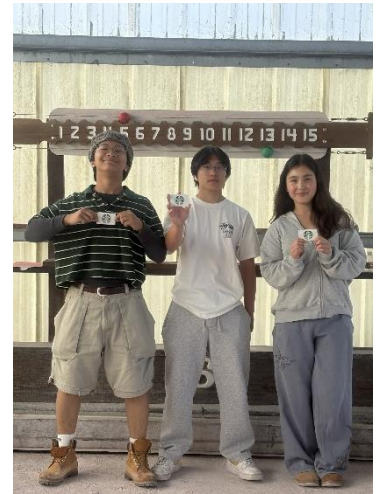


2nd Place – Allen Vernarecci, Germano Colombana, Joe Lavin & Bob Cox

SSF HIGH SCHOOL ITALIAN CLASS BOCCE TOURNEY



ST. DUNSTON MINISTRY BOCCE TOURNEY



6TH ANNUAL PEDRO TOURNAMENT



Roni Vaznaugh (4th Place), Andy Ygnostroza (3rd Place),
June Wydler (2nd Place), Larry Fioranelli (1st Place)

COURT MAINTENANCE

The IACC Clubhouse and Orange Park Bocce Courts underwent a clean-up day on June 5 while the courts were closed for maintenance from June 2 to June 12. Several of our members stepped up to volunteer for both occasions and their efforts, time and hard work is greatly appreciated. Helping with such events helps our Club prosper. Oyster shells and powder for 2026-2027 were also delivered.



The Maintenance Crew: David Umbertus, Don Sherer, Taco Morales, Mike Gallagher, Bob Bacigalupi and John Dianos (not pictured)



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IACC JUNE CLEAN-UP DAY



THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS: Winnie Girard, Chris Babcock, Sandy Lencioni, Loretta Callies, Janae Morales, Pat Reilley, John Sanna, Suzanne Sanna, Celeste Giuliani, Leo Pierini, Jennifer Pierini, Barbara Guevara, Debbie Cushman, Tom Wright & Armando Altamirano



S.F. GIANT'S ITALIAN HERITAGE NIGHT

S.F. GIANTS ITALIAN HERITAGE NIGHT VS. MILWAUKEE BREWERS TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026



**WE HAVE SECURED TICKETS FOR THE SF GIANTS ITALIAN HERITAGE NIGHT
IN CLUB LEVEL 227 WITH AN ITALIAN BASEBALL T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY
WITH TWO OPTIONS**

TICKET TO THE GAME AND TROLLEY RIDE TO AND FROM - \$55.00

TICKETS TO THE GAME ONLY - \$45.00

SPACE ON THE TROLLEY FILLS UP FAST

NAME: _____ CONTACT (CELL/EMAIL): _____

HOW MANY TICKETS: _____ WITH TROLLEY RIDE (YES/NO) _____ TOTAL: _____

\$55.00 WITH TROLLEY RIDE OR \$45.00 FOR TICKET ONLY

MAKE CHECK OUT TO: IACC AND PLACE WITH THIS SLIP IN THE BLACK BOX AT THE COURTS OR

MAIL TO: IACC, PO BOX 5674, SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94083. PLEASE SUBMIT BY 7/10/26.

IACC CALENDAR

DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

JULY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30 9:30 AM IACC Summer ... 6 PM IACC Friendship L...	1 10 AM IACC Summer Le... 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce	2 11 AM SSF P & R Summe... 1 PM SSF P & R Summer ... 5 PM P&R Bocce 2 more	3 9 AM P&R Bocce 10 AM P&R Bocce	4
5	6	7 9:30 AM IACC Summer ... 4 PM IACC Board Meeti... 6 PM IACC Friendship L...	8 10 AM IACC Summer Le... 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce	9 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce 7 PM P&R Bocce	10 9 AM P&R Bocce 10 AM P&R Bocce	11
12	13	14 9:30 AM IACCSummer L... 6 PM IACC Friendship L...	15 9 AM IACC Summer Lea... 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce	16 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce 7 PM P&R Bocce	17 9 AM P&R Bocce 10 AM P&R Bocce	18 IACC Members Appres Set...
19 IACC Member's Appreciat...	20	21 9:30 AM IACC Summer ... 6:30 PM IACC general M...	22 10 AM IACC Summer Le... 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce	23 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce 7 PM P&R Bocce	24 9 AM P&R Bocce 10 AM P&R Bocce	25
26	27	28 9:30 AM IACC Summer ... 6 PM IACC Friendship L...	29 10 AM IACC Summer Le... 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce	30 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce 7 PM P&R Bocce	31 9 AM P&R Bocce 10 AM P&R Bocce	1

AUGUST 2026

2	3	4 6 PM IACC Friend...	5 10 AM IACC Summ... 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce	6 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce 7 PM P&R Bocce	7 9 AM P&R Bocce 10 AM P&R Bocce	8
9	10	11 6 PM IACC Friend...	12 10 AM IACC Summ... 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce	13 5 PM P&R Bocce 6 PM P&R Bocce 7 PM P&R Bocce	14 9 AM P&R Bocce 10 AM P&R Bocce 4 PM P&R End of S...	15 5 AM P&R End of S...
16 8 AM P&R End of S...	17	18 6 PM IACC Friend...	19 10 AM IACC Summ...	20	21	22 5 AM Kwanis Boc...
23	24	25 6 PM IACC Friend...	26 10 AM IACC Summ...	27	28	29



I.A.C.C. General Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2026
6:30 pm
IACC CLUBHOUSE

Italian American Citizens Club of South San Francisco
P.O. Box 5674
South San Francisco, CA 94083-5674

