

# ITALEO Newsletter



*"Supporting those who protect us"*

2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES  
2024 MEMBERSHIP CARDS

## REMINDER:

Membership Cards will be handed out at the March Meeting or mailed to those who are not in attendance.

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR  
2024 DUES?**

## UPCOMING EVENT

### ANNUAL COMEDY SHOW

Saturday, March 23, 2024

**Italian American**

**Sports Club**

Featuring two local talents:

Dan Viola  
&  
Todd Youngman

More details:

[CLICK HERE](#)

## NEXT MEETING

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Tuesday, April 2, 2024**

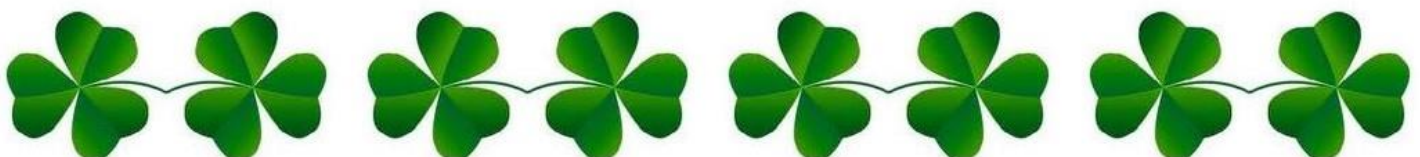
6:00 PM

Sicilian Sports Club

1296 E. Ridge Rd.

Irondequoit, NY

**SAVE THE DATE!**



## UPCOMING EVENT: Angels of Mercy 2024 Hoedown!



Shine up your Cowboy Boots, dust off your Hat and get ready to "boot scoot 'n boogie"!

To purchase tickets, click link below to be directed to the Eventbrite page:

[PURCHASE TICKETS HERE](#)

## ADDITIONAL SAVE THE DATES

ITALEO Members Picnic  
August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
12PM - 5PM  
3PM Netsins  
St. Paul Exempt



2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sharon Rivaldo  
Memorial Cruise  
September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
12PM - 2PM  
Colonial Belle  
Serving DiBellas Subs

## Irondequoit Police is bringing back its K-9 unit

Evan Bourtis – News 10 NBC

Published: February 27, 2024 - 1:22 PM

IRONDEQUOIT, N.Y. — After a 23-year hiatus, the Irondequoit Police Department is bringing back its K-9 unit.



A post on the department's Facebook page shows Officer David Gramlich (left) with his dog Ranger and Officer Richard Cole (right) with his dog Ollie. The two Dutch Shepherds are almost three years old and are ready to go to school in March. The department hopes that the K-9 teams will be on the streets in June.

## TICKETS ARE SELLING FAST! 3rd Annual ITALEO Comedy Show Stand Up for the Blue



### TIME & LOCATION

Mar 23, 2024, 5:00 PM – 9:30 PM  
Rochester, 1250 Buffalo Rd, Rochester, NY 14624, USA

Click link to visit EVENT PAGE on our website:

<https://www.italeo.org/event-details/3rd-annual-italéo-stand-up-for-the-blue-comedy-show>

Sponsorship Packages are available: [CLICK HERE](#)

Deadline to purchase tickets or a sponsorship is March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD****President***Jessica Franco***BOARD OF DIRECTORS****Vice President***Anthony DiFante***Treasurer***Charles Zona***Sgt at Arms***Mark D'Angelo***Secretary***Ed Bernabei***BOARD OF OFFICERS****Membership***Heidi Zimmer***Corresponding Secretary***Ellie Bonagura***Digital Coordinator***Rosalina Hosbach***Event Coordinator***Julia Sardellitti***Food & Beverage Coordinator***Sam Meloni*

ITALEO and Crime Stoppers present "THE ULTIMATE LOU GRAMM RAFFLE!"

3 Ways to Participate:

- Visit: <https://go.rallyup.com/lou-gramm-guitar-and-concert-tickets/Campaign/Details>
- Use the TEXT-TO-GIVE CODE: **TEXT LOU TO 33100**
- Use the **QR Code** on the flyer



First Runner Up: Lou Gramm Concert March 9th \*plus\* Meet & Greet!

**\*\*CONCERT TICKET DRAWING MARCH 4, 2024\*\***

The FIRST RUNNER UP up will receive 2 tickets to see "LOU GRAMM ALL STARS" at the Kodak Center March 9th at 8:00PM. The lucky winner and a friend will also get backstage passes for a personal Meet & Greet with Lou before the show.

Originally the lead singer with Foreigner, Lou Gramm will perform many of his world famous hits. Lou's All Star solo band includes two Foreigner alum! Bring your fave Lou Gramm merch for a personal autograph and photo! This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

\*ALL TICKET SALES FINAL. If concert is cancelled for any reason, winner will be offered two equal value tickets to any 2024 Kodak Center performance of their choosing.

Grand Prize: Lou Gramm Autographed Satin Red Epiphone Guitar, JSA Certified

**\*\*GUITAR DRAWING MARCH 27, 2024\*\***

\*Brand new Satin Red Epiphone Guitar donated by HOUSE OF GUITARS and autographed by LOU GRAMM!\*

JSA authenticated w/certificate.

Model: Epiphone SG Special Satin E1 Electric Guitar

Color: Cherry

Thank you to Bruce Schaubroeck from House of Guitars for donating this beautiful guitar!

There were 2 fundraising events held at the Distillery in February. Our goal is to raise \$6K. We have 20+ days to reach that goal. Please share with family, friends, anyone you know.



Thank you for your support of the  
ITALEO OFFICER RELIEF FUND and Crime Stoppers!

## St. Joseph's Table

By Bernice Hotchkiss (2019) – [CLICK HERE TO SEE HER VIDEO](#)

In the Roman Catholic Church, March 19 marks the feast day of St. Joseph, husband to Mary, foster father to Jesus, and the patron saint of carpenters, the poor, travelers, and of Palermo, Sicily. Traditionally, Sicilians and their Italian American descendants observe the day by creating a devotional altar and grand meal, known as a St. Joseph's Table. It may be offered by an individual, family, or a church community.

As the story goes, the Table originated in the Middle Ages, Sicily experienced a severe drought near the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. No crops could grow, and people were dying of famine and disease. The people prayed to God and asked St. Joseph, one of their patron saints, to intercede on their behalf and send rain. Miraculously rain did come, crops were planted and grew. At the harvest time the people prepared an outdoor feast from their bounty in thanksgiving for answered prayers, which gained the name "Tavola de San Giuseppe." The meal was open to all people with a special welcome to travelers and strangers, to extend God's compassion that had been shown to the hosts of the tavola.

The tradition traveled to America with Italian immigrants, especially those coming from Sicily. In western New York, St. Joseph's Tables have been celebrated for decades in cities such as Buffalo, Rochester, and Batavia, and also in smaller towns like Mt. Morris, Elba and LeRoy. In addition to honoring the saint, one might also pray for other needs or "favors" and sponsor a St. Joseph's Table to show thanks when the requests were granted. The petition, however, could not be for personal gain or benefit. Common requests were (and are) for a safe return of a loved one from war, or cure and recovery from serious illness or accident.

The foods prepared for guests on a St. Joseph's Table carry layers of meaning and symbolism that have evolved through time and across oceans. They primarily represent the common food of the peasants who prepared the first Table or, as Bernice Falsone Hotchkiss of Mt. Morris, learned it, "anything of the land and the sea."

We do not know when the first Tables were held, but when March 19 was established as St. Joseph's Day, this put the feast squarely in Lent. For traditional Catholics, this means no meat may be eaten; thus fish, snails, and other seafood take their place along with hard-cooked eggs and frittatas.

The vegetables in our region's St. Joseph's Tables combine traditional Italian verdure and American additions: Swiss chard, cardune, fava beans, peas, asparagus, mustard greens, spinach, broccoli, peppers, and tomato sauce help round out the list.

Fennel is said to be one of the first crops ready for the drought-stricken people to eat in the first tavola. It may be cooked as part of the meal, but also appear on the Table in its fresh form to remind one of the blessed rains. Similarly, a dried fava bean might be placed nearby as a remembrance of the legume's role in saving the people from starvation during the drought.

Perhaps the easiest symbols to recognize are in the breads formed into shapes relating to the saint. They include his staff, his beard, a crown, a ladder, carpenter's tools, the baby Jesus, a cross, a heart, and St. Lucy's eyes. Unlike a simple bread, these are made with more eggs, sugar and anise flavoring, all which help sustain travelers on their way.

The sweets are a favorite part of the Table. Pignolata, sfingi and scocchi are three characteristic kinds of fried dough in different shapes & sizes. The first are small balls stuck together with honey, the second often made with ricotta, and the third a strip tied in a bow and dusted with powdered sugar. A dessert appears on western New York St. Joseph's Tables, that is not as common elsewhere: the lamb cake. One reason may be that the feast falls close to Easter, in which the lamb symbolizes resurrection, as well as the new life of springtime. Our region also has longtime Polish American communities, who increasingly share parish spaces as formerly "Italian," "Polish" and "Irish" Catholic churches are being consolidated. A stick of butter, molded into the shape of a lamb, is a staple of a Polish Easter meal.

A St. Joseph's Table would not be complete without a devotional altar which pays homage to the saint. A statue or portrait of St. Joseph, fresh fruits and vegetables, lilies (referring to the Virgin Mary) or other flowers, candles, samples of all the foods, and the special breads will all have their place. Family photographs or keepsakes may also appear, in reference to the particular petitions that have been answered.

It is equally important that the food be blessed by a priest, who will offer a litany or set of prayers in honor of St. Joseph, the "Light of patriarchs," "Foster father of the son of God," "Model of workers," "Guardian of virgins," and "Patron of the dying." Attendees will often share a cup of wine following the prayers.



Everyone is a little IRISH  
on St. Patrick's Day  
except ITALIANS  
WE'RE STILL ITALIANS



Holy Week starts  
Palm Sunday,  
March 24



Easter Sunday is  
March 31