



Trentini Tirolesi del Minnesota Stella del Nord

April 2022

Buona Pasqua!

Dear Trentini and Friends,

Announcements:

***We have new updated event dates for 2022:**

Polenta Feed: April 24, 2022

Picnic: July 30, 2022

September meeting at Tonn's cabin on Dewey Lake: September 6, 2022

Antipasto processing: October 10-11, 2022

Christmas Party: December 3, 2022

***We have new meeting times (again):**

All future meeting are going to be at **1:30 PM** on the second Tuesday of the month at the Buhl Senior Citizens Center. There may be adjustments in case of scheduling conflicts with the Center.

Note: New Meeting Date for April, due to the Buhl Senior Center being painted during the week of our regularly scheduled meeting, the meeting will be held on April 19 at 1:30. Claire and Nancy will be the hosts. Coffee/Beverage and a store-bought snack will be served until further notice. The next meeting will be on May 10th at the senior center beginning at 1:30. Deb and Bill Krall are hosting. The June 14th meeting will be held at a restaurant, with time and place TBA.

Dues

2022 Trentini club dues are now due. They are \$15 and should be sent to Linda Obrien, 3227 1st Avenue, Hibbing, MN 55746. If anyone has changes in address, landline or cell phones, if there are any changes in emails or you would like to add your email to the membership list, please let Linda know. The club membership is currently 71.

Altruistic Donations:

In February, we voted on our altruistic donations for 2022. We gave \$100 each to: Chisholm Food Shelf, Hibbing Salvation Army Food Shelf, Nashwauk Food Shelf, Quad Cities Food Shelf, the Food Shelf donations are partially from the Christmas Party collection and further subsidized by the club to make the \$400 total. In addition, we gave \$100 each to the following: Rosie Marino (mittens for children), Access North (ramp/home mod. Program), Volunteers in Education, Canine Division – Hibbing Police Dept., St. Louis County Rescue Squad, Precious Paws-Chisholm. We welcome suggestions for deserving projects needing donations for 2023!

Vince Gentilini Polenta Feed:

The annual Vince Gentilini Polenta Feed will be held Sunday, April 24 at the Buhl Senior Center. The event will commence with the social starting at 12:30 p.m. followed by the polenta meal served at 1:30. There is no cost for Trentini club members who have paid their dues; the cost for a Trentini member's guest is \$6 per person. If you plan on attending, make a reservation by calling Linda at 218-262-5184 by April 17.

25 + 2 Anniversary Party:

Due to the pandemic, we were not able to celebrate our 25th anniversary in 2020. The 25+2 Anniversary of Trentini Tirolesi del Minnesota will be held at the December 2022 Christmas Party. It will be a great time to celebrate our Trentini heritage and friendships. Plans are in the making for festivities to celebrate Christmas and 27 years. We hope many can make it!

Trentini nel Mondo updates:

Welcome, Armando Maistri, the new president of Trentini nel Mondo. The next convention is scheduled to be held in Albany, NY on Friday, August 5th to Sunday, August 7th, 2022.

Club notes:



Rudy Zattoni was voted in as the 2022 Valentine's Day King at Edgewood Vista. Since then, he fell and broke his hip. It required a hip replacement. He completed rehab at the Waterview Pines Convalescent Home in Virginia. We are happy to report that he is back at Edgewood Vista.

Mila update:

In 2016, the Club donated to the "Mila" film project. It was written and directed by Cinzia Angelini. "Mila" is a war story from a child's perspective. It was inspired by vivid stories the director's mother often told her of World War II. In the film, the character of Mila represents the best of humanity. Although she has lost everything – her family, her house, and her peace – she still clings to hope. With little more than hope, her humanity, and her imagination, Mila manages to have a profound impact on others, including an inconsolable stranger who saves her. The film is based in Trento, Italy. It has won numerous awards, including the Humanitarian Award from Kineo, New York Los Angeles International Film Festival (NYLA) for best animation and others. In light of the war against [#Ukraine](#), and the looming threat of serious escalation, RAI RAGAZZI, official Mila Italian distributor lead by Luca Milano introduced the film to the European Broadcasting Association (EBU) that has selected Mila to be broadcast to any European television station that wants to share inspiring, anti-war content with their audiences during this time.

Donation:

The Club received a donation of a Tyrolean costume from Frances Niksic of California. She wrote: "I inherited from my great-grandmother. According to her handwritten note, she purchased it while visiting Tagernsee in 1908. I would love to give it to someone who would enjoy and appreciate it. Considering its age, it is in amazingly good condition. My great-grandmother was Ida Hofmann Staehle. She was born in 1869. The Hofmann family lived in the town of Asch, which is now in the Czech Republic but at that time was in Austria-Hungary. Her native language was German. I never met my great-grandmother because she died in 1943 and I was born in 1945. The outfit that I will send you was passed down to my grandmother, then to my mother, then to me. My grandmother and mother have both passed away, so the rest of what I will tell you is based on my memories of things I've been told Ida had an uncle living in Joliet, Illinois who

apparently was in poor health, so at the age of 17 she emigrated to the US to live with him and help take care of him. While in Joliet she met and married Otto Staehle, who was a dentist. They had two daughters, one of whom was my grandmother, Frances. At some point, they divorced, and Ida worked as a housemother at the University of Illinois. She also used to lead small tours of friends and acquaintances in Europe. Possibly, that is what took her to Tagernsee in 1908 when she acquired the Tyrolean outfit, but more likely she was just back visiting family. Eventually after retirement she moved to Pennsylvania, near Bethlehem, to live with my grandmother. She lived there until her death. Obviously, my great-grandmother didn't share your Tyrolean heritage, but I hope you still want the outfit. It was clearly special to her.”



Obituaries:

Corinna M. (Corky) Gentilini, May 24, 1922-February 28, 2020, was born in Mestriago (Val di Sole), Italy to Peter and Maria (Brusacoram) Gentilini. She immigrated to Chisholm, Minnesota in 1929 at the age of 7. She graduated from Chisholm High School and lived most of her life in Chicago where she worked as a merchandiser for Montgomery Wards. She moved back to New Hope, MN after retirement to be near her family. She was very proud to be from Trentino and visited there several times during her life and kept in touch with all her relatives in Italy. She was a loyal member of the Trentini Tirolesi del Minnesota club and traveled to many ITTONA conventions, including to the 1996 Mobile, Alabama convention where the club received their official banner from Trentini nel Mondo. She is survived by sisters Irma (Roger) Scherer of Plymouth, Minn. and Marina Gentilini of Washington D.C.; nieces Catherine Gentilini and Sharon (Robert) Kearney of Hibbing, nephews Vincent P. “Butch” Gentilini of Chisholm, and Garrett Gentilini of Dallas, Texas; great-niece, Stefanie (Michael) Carlson, great-nephews Jason Kearney and Tim Gentilini; great-grandniece, Devin Carlson; numerous other nephews and nieces. She was preceded in death by her brothers Vincent and Peter, an infant sister and sister Perina (Donald) Volsen.

Rita (Trenti) Pineo, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother passed away peacefully on March 26, 2022, surrounded by her family. Rita was born on October 14, 1930, the daughter of Italian immigrants, Giovanni and Della Trenti. Rita grew up in the Leonidas location before moving to the northside of Virginia where she remained her entire life while raising her family with her husband Carl Pineo.

Rita lived her life adoring her family and showering her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren with abundant love and generosity. Her time spent with family and friends at their Sand Lake cabin was precious to her. Nothing pleased her more than to serve, not only her family, but also others. Rita cherished her time at Sacred Heart Northside Catholic Church and Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Her time and talents were given with a generous heart as she sang in the church choirs, cleaned the church weekly, and volunteered at funeral lunches well through her 80's.

Rita is survived by her children Debra (Michael) Finn, Gordon Pineo, Katherine (Paul) Belobaba, Mary (Wade) Thurman, and Carol (Thomas) Farniok; grandchildren Shannon Warren, Alex Finn, John Pineo, Nick Pineo, Christian Belobaba, Audra and Hannah Thurman, Carl and Hale Farniok; great-grandchildren Ava, Will, Blake, Kason, Renley, and Campbell. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband; brother John Trenti; infant great-grandchildren Gracie Mae Warren, and Kylan and Rexton Pineo.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 2, 2022, at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Virginia with Reverend Father Brandon Moravitz as Celebrant. A private family interment will take place in the Greenwood Cemetery in Virginia. Family services provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

Robert Springhetti (December 15, 2021) was born on Sept. 7, 1927, in Buhl, Minn., to Peter and Irma (Chini) Springhetti. He graduated from Martin Hughes High School in Buhl in 1945 and enlisted in the U.S. Navy serving for three years. After being Honorably Discharged from the service at the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class, he enrolled in Virginia Junior College graduating in 1950. Robert was part of the VJC team that won the State Junior College Basketball tournament and

subsequently played in the 1950 National Junior College Basketball Tournament in Hutchinson, Kansas. Following his two years at VJC, he enrolled in St. Thomas and graduated in 1952 with a bachelor's degree in Education. In 1968 he completed his master's degree in Education through the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

On April 11, 1950, he was wed to Christina Louise Fredrickson. They were married for 71 years until her recent passing in August of 2021. Robert and Christine lived in Virginia until 2016 at which time they moved to an Assisted Care Facility in New Brighton, Minn., where they resided until their deaths. They were both lovingly cared for and admired during their time there.

Robert was an educator for his entire career, which included teaching and/or counseling roles at Clover Valley, Cook and Aurora-Hoyt Lakes school districts. Additionally, he was a Minnesota State High School Basketball referee. After retiring in 1989, he became an avid golfer, was a member of the I Cantatori Singers and the Iron Range Trentini Club. He sang with the East Range Choral Society and participated in local bocce and bowling leagues. Robert also enjoyed gardening, reading, and listening to classical music. He was a member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church and its predecessor Our Lady of Lourdes Church, where he sang in the choir and was a lector. He likewise was active in local politics running for 2nd Ward Alderman in Virginia. As well he was active in state politics, supporting the campaign of James Oberstar. Robert was proud of his service to our country and eagerly participated in the Honor Flight program in 2013.

Robert is survived by his three children, Mary Alice (Springhetti) Slick, Peter Springhetti, and Gina (Springhetti) Rochell; 10 grandchildren: Lisa (Slick) Roberts, Jeremy Slick, Christina Slick, Anna (Slick) Parranto, Aaron Springhetti, Bryan Springhetti, Stefan Springhetti, Lauren Springhetti, Matthew Rochell, and Isaac Rochell; and five great-granddaughters: Mae Roberts, Rosalie Roberts, Emery Slick, and Marigold Slick; and great grandson, Luca Springhetti. Robert was preceded in death by his wife, Christine; his parents, Peter and Irma Springhetti; and his sister, Alice (Springhetti) Hyduke.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Brightondale Care Facility as well as the Hospice Team from Health Partners who lovingly cared for Robert for the past five years.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held January 29, 2022, at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 306 2nd Street South in Virginia. The time of the service will be announced later. Interment at Lakeview Cemetery, Buhl, Minn., will take place later in the year. Memorials are preferred to the Brightondale Senior Care Facility.

Update: The funeral service for Robert Springhetti has been moved from Saturday, Jan. 29, 2022, to Tuesday, July 5, 2022. The funeral Mass will be held at Holy Spirit Parish, Virginia. Interment will be in Lakeview Cemetery, Buhl, Minn., on the same day. Details about the visitation and service will be published closer to the date of the funeral.

Helen Mary Ahola September 26, 1926 - January 5, 2022 Helen Mary Ahola, 95, of Hibbing, Minn., passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2022. Helen was born on Sept. 26, 1926, to Alma and Adolph Bonvicin in the Brooklyn section of Hibbing. She graduated from Hibbing High School in 1944 and the University of Minnesota with a degree in Home Economics in 1948. She taught home economics for many years in Chelan, Washington; San Francisco, California and on the Iron Range. Upon meeting and marrying Dr. Kenneth Ahola, Helen refocused her energies on raising her family and community volunteer work. Helen and Ken traveled the world, visiting their relatives in both Finland and Italy many times. She loved gardening, quilting, needlework, and the family lake cabin, in addition to, being a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. As the child of immigrants from northern Italy, Helen was proud to regain her Italian citizenship and was a dual citizen of the United States and Italy. Helen will be dearly missed by her family. He was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Ken; her infant brother, Arthur; her sister, Dorothy; and is survived by her three children: Karen Hemphill of Minneapolis, Minn.; Mikko (Elizabeth) Ahola of Colorado Springs, Colo.; David (Brigitte) Ahola of Veazie, Maine; and grandchildren: Nicholas, Timo, Morgan, Lindsay, Kevin, Catherine, Madeline and Samuel and nieces and nephews. A private family service will be held. Funeral arrangements are with Washburn-McReavy Funeral Home in Bloomington, MN.

If you have any announcements/concerns (recipes, weddings, anniversaries, births, achievements, birthdays, hospitalizations, and sadly, even if we lose those close to us, etc.) to share, please email or call, Louise Fort (lou_lou_fort@hotmail.com, cell: 218-258-8423) and/or Debbie Corradi (ziadeb@gmail.com, cell: 218-969-9939). We would also like to share news or articles from Trentino that would be of interest to others in the club.

We are trying to collect email addresses, so we can contact you easily and send out the newsletters by email. If you would like to share your emails, please send them to Debbie Corradi at ziadeb@gmail.com.

This club originally started as a mutual aid society. We feel that we are all "related" in one way or another. Because of this, we do not want any Trentini who may be in need, to hesitate to reach out to us for help. It may be as simple as transportation to a place or trying to get you signed up for a vaccine. Perhaps you would like to just visit with someone on the phone because you have been isolated for so long. We will do our best to support you!