



P.O. Box 334, 29717 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092, (440) 943-6957

CONGRATS TO THE NEW MEMBERS!

Joe Carroscia (Grounds)
 Matt Ciavarelli (Entertainment)
 Bob Cirino (Bocce)
 James Dirosa (Entertainment)
 Joe Gamiere (Grounds)
 Terry Hamilton (Entertainment)
 Pete Vitantonio Jr. (Cornhole)

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

Michael Borsich 3/20
 Domenic Carroscia 3/13
 John Cirino 3/12
 Frank Formica, Jr. 3/3
 Joseph Gamiere 3/16
 Thomas Iacobucci 3/31
 Seth Latessa 3/23
 Richard Liddy 3/18
 Joseph Pitingolo 3/18
 Phillip Simon 3/11
 Daniel Turi 3/8
 Louis Turi, Jr. 3/4

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, March 14th
 Struthers, OH Bocce Tourney
 (\$100/4 person team)
 Friday, April 4th
 Pinewood Derby @ Pat O'Brien
 Chevrolet-Lakewood
 Sunday, April 20th
 Club Brunch
 Saturday, April 26th
 Red Cross Blood Drive
 Saturday, May 24th
 75th Anniversary Dinner
 Saturday, May 31st
 Inaugural Cornhole Tournament
Sponsored by Pat O'Brien Chevrolet
 Friday, June 6th
 Scholarship Reverse Raffle
 (Applications are due soon!
 See Anthony Donsante)
 Fridays 5/30, 6/13, 8/15
 Club Nights! Details to Come



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – Albert Fratina

"Bert" is a senior member who has been active since 1956 and served as club manager. He was also a Navy vet from WWII! In December, Bert's charity was monumental to the success of the annual Children's Christmas Party at the club.

CHANGES IN CLUB COMMITTEES:

-The entertainment committee has been revamped! We are now combining it with a new committee – ADVERTISING! Rick Continenza will focus on advertising and Mario DiNero is going to focus on entertainment.

Bocce Pavillion Signs: 5 years for \$500!

-Also created is a cornhole committee. This event will be similar to our bocce tournament. Come enjoy entertainment and competition within our community. Charles Albertone is heading the committee with Bob Gallese and the new members. More info to follow.

Gino playing bocce with Robin Soboda, from Fox 8's "That's Life"

2008 OFFICERS:

Gino Latessa – President. Jim Vincent – Vice President. Clarke Brassell – Secretary. Pete Vitantonio – Treasurer. Ralph Randall – Financial Secretary. Board Members: Charles Albertone, Rick Continenza, Rick DiCicco, James Duda, Domenic Olivo. Sergeant in Arms – Carmen Latessa. Club Manager – Lornie Rotondo. Director of Property – Harvey Contenza. *Thanks to Les Ciancibello for all of his hard work while serving on the board!*

HAVING A PARTITO? Rent our Club Grounds!

Call Lornie Rotondo at (440) 943-6957

TRAVELLING BOCCE!

On December 1st and December 2nd. Two bocce teams from the Wickliffe Italian-American Club traveled to Toronto, Ontario Canada to play in the Rainbow Creek Invitational Bocce Tournament. Team #1 consisted of Mike Clayton, Mile Bezek and Tony Nagy. Team #2 consisted of Gino Latessa, Domenic Olivo, and Jim Vincent. We didn't bring home the trophy but we did have a great time and renewed our friendships and met many members of The Rainbow Creek Bocce Club. We look forward in seeing many of them in August when they come to play in the Pat O'Brien Chevrolet Cleveland Challenge Cup of Bocce Tournament.

On January 26th and January 27th two teams from the Wickliffe Italian-American Club entered and played in a two man team bocce tournament at Saint Anthonys Hall in Youngstown, Oh. The team of Mike Bezek and Mike Lepo placed 8th out of 36 teams. Our other team of Mike Clayton and Tony Nagy fell just shy of placing 10th.

MEET THE BOARD...

This month's spotlight is shining on Gino Latessa, current President of the Wickliffe Italian-American Club. Gino has been a member of the club for 21 years, joining in 1987. He has been a very active member since his initiation. He has served several years as a Trustee, and Vice President, but he has made his biggest mark as the President. A position he has held for the past 14 years, contributing thousands and thousands of hours to the club.

As president, he has performed every function from presiding at club meetings and negotiating contracts on behalf of the club to painting the pavilions and sweeping the floors. Gino has set the bar very high for his eventual successor, but believes our club has several members that could step in and take the reigns and do the same good work he has prided himself on for years. When asked

about the club, either in a television interview, radio interview or at any club function, Gino's pride can be seen in his face. "I couldn't do what I do without the help of all these guys", Gino says repeatedly.

Gino has recently become the Tournament Director in the Cleveland Challenge Cup of Bocce, which the club has hosted the past 20 years.

Gino said it takes several months of planning and organizing to make this tournament the "Best Bocce Tournament in the Mid-West".

Latessa continues, "Over one hundred members step up to the plate to volunteer countless hours for that weekend and when it's all over we have a sense of pride of accomplishment that is very overwhelming to all of us".

Along with being a very dedicated member of the Wickliffe I&A Club, Gino works as a wholesale buyer and sales for Cabbage, Inc. in Westlake, a "field" he has been in since 1964. He is also a husband to Cheri, father to Heather, Seth, and Todd and proud grandfather of Antonio and Ava. Some of Gino's hobbies include, spending time with his family, golfing and of course, playing bocce.

Thanks to Gino for his dedication to his club and for being a good Italian... *(Written by: Paul DiCicco)*

NECROLOGIO (Obituary): none!

-Please fill out our "Death Benefit Beneficiary Form"



Clarke, Harvey, Chris, and Gino at the Home & Garden Show

www.wickliffeianda.com