



Exchange News: The Last Word

Sept 13, 2011

A SICILIAN COMING FULL CIRCLE

Founded 1947

Home Club of The
Camel, The Elk, and The
Wolf

2011-12 Officers:

Pres.: Scott Martin

Pres. Elect: Sharon

Birchall

VP: Robin DiNatale

Sec'y: Chris Santacroce

Treasurer: Eleanor

Baker

IPP: Bruce Baril

Directors for 2 years:

Steve Alfano

Jennifer D'Agostino

Francisco Urena

Directors for 1 year:

Al Matthews

Paul Taylor

Charles Zanazzi

Events in Our Future:

**Friday, Sept. 23: Glow
Golf at Garrison's par 3
in Haverhill (See flier)**

**Tues., Sept. 27: Speaker
is Francisco Urena on
Veterans Affairs**

**Monday, Oct. 3:
Oktoberfest Cigar Night
at the Bashara
Boathouse. \$75 tickets,
6 PM start.**

**Tues, Oct. 4: Speaker is
Kim Carpenito from
Latitudes Sports Clubs**

**Saturday, Oct. 8: Fire
Safety Day of Service at
LFD, Lowell St. 10-2**

**Tues., Oct. 25: Don
Glass from *Just Imagine
an Even Better Life* will
speak to us about
Hypnosis.**

Andover, MA: Our first speaker at our new venue, the LANAM Club, this past week was Alfred Zappala, brother of Tom and cousin to Al Torrisi (I did not know that!). Al gave us a bio of himself, his family's journey to the United States, and a promise made to a father that would fulfill his and his grandfather's wishes.



Al's career spans that of lawyer, professor, entrepreneur and author. It was his writings about Sicily that brought him to Exchange. His book *The Reverse Immigrant* shares humorous stories of life in Sicily. Because he was born in the U. S. he considers himself as a reverse immigrant. He first visited Sicily in fulfillment of that promise made to visit the Church of St. Alfio and pray for the souls of his father and grandfather. He says that as soon as his feet hit the tarmac at the airport there, he knew he was "home". His grandfather, Gaetano, had arrived in the United States in 1908 \$12 and a trunk. That trunk will now make its way back to Sicily, but this time holding Al's belongings. The week of Sept. 12th his latest book, *Gaetano's Trunk*, will be released. More information

can be found on his website: <http://www.alfredzappala.com>.

In the meantime, Al has done numerous cultural talks around the nation to dispel the mischaracterization of Sicilians as Mafioso. He was always brought up on the philosophy, "Do good and forget about it; do bad and regret it." He tries to live that way through all that he does.

He says that Sicilians have nothing in common with those North of Rome. Sicilians are an amalgam of numerous ethnic groups who have occupied the island including the Greek, Spanish, Arabic, German and Roman. I hear there are more Greek ruins in Sicily than in Greece! Other pieces of information Al brought were that the price of gas in Sicily is currently \$9/gallon and the income tax is 52% while the unemployment rate is 51%! (I'm really wondering why one might want to move back there....geesh!) He does his part to help employ Sicilians by making deals to bring Sicilian goods to the U.S. He was able to employ 35 people in Sicily via a deal with TJX companies for imported olive oil. All Things Sicilian has brought Sicilian goods to our area. He did caution us to look carefully at products that seem to be from Italy, but are not, listing Barilla pasta and Filippo Berio olive oil as two.



September Birthdays

Chick LoPiano, 9/1
Eric Mane, 9/7
Scott Martin, 9/14
Sean Devan, 9/15
Jola Smith, 9/19
LJ Yameen, 9/26
Francisco Urena, 9/27
Kevin Shea, 9/27
Phil Laverriere, 9/29
Tim Rock, 9/30

September Anniversaries

Michael Griffin, 1 yr
Susan Hanna, 1 yr
Deborah Ingalls 1 yr
Christine Lewis, 1 yr
Mike Pawlik, 9 yrs
Mike Rurak, 29 yrs

Quotes of the Week

*"How far that little candle
throws his beams. So
shines a good deed in a
weary world."*

—Shakespeare

*"If everything seems
under control, you're just
not going fast enough."*

—Mario Andretti

*"Throw your heart over
the fence and the rest
will follow."*

—Norman Vincent

Peale

****Exchange Club of
Lawrence meets every
Tuesday at 12:15 at The
LANAM Club, Andover
starting on Sept. 6**

*****PLEASE bring in RAFFLE items to lunch for Glow Golf and Cigar Night—bring in anything you think people might be happy to win—like liquor, wine, golf balls/clubs, scratch tickets, tickets to games, boxes of cigars, OR contribute a few bucks and committee chairs will get some stuff...Do it THIS week! *****

Glow Golf—Friday night, **September 23 @** Murphy's Garrison Golf Center, Hilldale Ave. in Haverhill 7 PM, \$30 per person. Teams of 4-5 players wanted! Contact Chris Santacroce!

Oktoberfest Cigar Night—Monday, **October 3** at the Abe Bashara Boathouse, Eaton Street, Lawrence. 6 PM, \$75 per person for fine food, four fine cigars, raffles and more! Out under the tent (heated) with ambient music. Don't miss it!!

National Day of Service/Firehouse Open House for Fire Prevention—Saturday, October 8th 10-2 at Central Fire Station on Lowell Street, Lawrence. Volunteers needed for this Family Fun Day!