



The Gogebic Roots Quarterly Newsletter

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The Gogebic Roots Quarterly Newsletter is a publication of the Gogebic Range Genealogical Society, Inc. The Newsletter is published quarterly in January, April, July and September. We are located in Ironwood, Michigan, USA. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 23, Ironwood, MI 49938.

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Membership dues are based on a calendar year starting with the date of enrollment. The expiration date of your membership is shown on your membership card. If renewal of the dues is not received by the expiration date a reminder is sent. The reason for this is twofold. First and foremost we value your membership and hope you continue to support us. Secondly, our Bylaws state that a member in arrears 30 days after the anniversary date shall be removed from the rolls. Please keep in mind that one reminder only is required in this same section of the Bylaws and is sent in hopes that your membership continues without a lapse. If any member has a question regarding this please feel free to contact us.

Thanks for your continued support.

I first tasted true home made Ravioli when we would go to visit my mother-in law in Caspian. (Her maiden name was Madaski, with the original spelling being Madaschi. Teachers changed the spelling of the name when the children were enrolled in the local schools.) She had a neighborhood lady who made Ravioli and would sell it. I asked around and got the recipe for home made Ravioli from a woman in Bessemer, Paulette (Kapugia) Strelcheck.

RAVIOLI

FILLING: You may use left over turkey; pork and beef roast, or cook the meats specifically to make ravioli. Save the gravy, juices from the meats to use. Grind the meat with one onion. Beat two eggs. Add salt and pepper to taste. One jar of baby spinach-since this can be difficult to find in the stores, you can puree one can of spinach, however, do not use the whole can in the ravioli. It will depend on how much meat you have. Add these ingredients with the gravy and mix thoroughly. The meat should be moist.

DOUGH: One cup of flour to one egg and salt. Add a little water. Mix and knead. Roll out the dough and place a small meatball made from the filling mixture onto each piece of dough. Pinch edges of the ravioli to seal.

Add a dash of salt and a tablespoon of olive oil to a kettle of water. Bring the kettle of water to a boil. When you place the ravioli into the boiling water, lower the temperature so it does not break them apart. You need a soft boil, it will take about 20-30 minutes to boil and you shouldn't overload your pan.

The sauce that you add can be home made pasta, pesto or marinara sauce.

Another recipe that I have not tried but have heard many people say it is a real treat, is BANYA CAULDA, the English translation of this is "Hot Gravy". This recipe is from another Bessemer lady, Pat Phillipini.

Ingredients: 1 stick of butter 1 bulb of garlic that you have chopped fine
1 can anchovies ½ pint of heavy cream

Melt the butter in a pan. Add the anchovies and the garlic. Simmer until the garlic is tender, stirring often. Add the cream and simmer until it thickens slightly. Serve in a small bowl. Alongside of this, for dipping into the BANYA CAULDA serve cut up vegetables such as Savoy cabbage and peppers, and also cubed Italian bread.

USING THE U.S. DRAFT REGISTRATION TO FIND RELATIVES

On 6 April 1917, the United States officially entered World War I. Six weeks later, on 18 May 1917, the Selective Service Act was passed, to increase the military. As a result, every male living within the United States between the ages of eighteen and forty-five was required to register for the draft. Of course, not all the men who registered served in the armed forces, and there were some who served in the war but did not register for the draft. Non-citizens were required to register but were not subject to induction into the American military. In the beginning of the twentieth Century, between 1880 and 1920, more than 4 million Italians immigrated to America, the largest wave of immigrants from any particular country during a forty-year period. By 1930, one fourth of our country's Italian-American population lived in New York City, giving that city more Italians than Rome. It is estimated that 30 to 50 percent returned to Italy.

Upon arrival in America, Italian immigrants were made to fill out a standardized immigration form on which the only option they had for race and color questions was “white.” Some Italian immigrants, who registered during the draft, wrote their last names first, resulting in some cards being filed under first names. If your family member had his twenty-first birthday between 5 June 1917 and the summer of 1918, his registration card may also include his father’s birthplace as well as his own birthplace. Illiterate men were unable to spell their names and birth location, so you may need to be flexible when searching for specific names.

The World War I draft consisted of three separate registrations.

First Registration. The registration on 5 June 1917 was for men born between 6 June 1886 and 5 June 1896.

Second Registration. The registration on 5 June 1918 was for men born between 6 June 1896 and 5 June 1897. Men who had not previously registered and were not already in the military also registered. There also was a supplemental registration on 24 August 1918.

Third Registration. The registration on 12 Sept 1918 was for men born between 11 Sept 1872 and 12 Sept 1900.

The complete registration included men between the ages of 18 and 45—males born between 1873 and 1900—who were not already in the military. The original WWI Draft Registration records are kept at the National Archives—Southeast Region in East Point, Georgia. Microfilm copies are at the National Archives regions that serve their respective states. In addition, some large libraries have the film of these cards for their own state. The registration cards included the following information.

- ✓ Full name
- ✓ Home address
- ✓ Date and place of birth
- ✓ Age, race, and country of citizenship
- ✓ Occupation and employer
- ✓ Physical description (hair and eye color, height, disabilities)
- ✓ Additional information such as address of nearest relative, dependent relatives, marital status, father’s birthplace, or previous exemption from service
- ✓ Signature

There has been a strong custom in Italy that determines **how children are named**:

The first male is named after his paternal grandfather.

The second male is named after his maternal grandfather.

The first female is named after her paternal grandmother.

The second female is named after her maternal grandmother.

The subsequent children could be named after the parents, a favorite aunt or uncle, a saint or a deceased relative. You will see evidence of this tradition throughout your family tree.

Although this custom is pervasive, you should never use this as a method for assuming an ancestor's name. <http://italiangenealogy.com>

State Archives of Michigan Naturalization Record Indexes

Indexes to the records for twenty-nine Michigan counties are on-line (PDF format). They were created by volunteers at the State Archives of Michigan. Each index has been transcribed from the original hand-written index. Researchers may request copies of naturalization records from the State Archives.

http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449_18635_20684---,00.html

RESEARCHER REQUESTS HELP WITH ITALIAN ANCESTORS

I am conducting research into my Italian ancestors who came to the UP (Hancock) in about 1900. I am researching baptismal certificates from Locana (near Turin) from 1850-1880, particularly for CONTERIO & VALLINO. I am willing to share what I find, but am also looking for any information myself as clues are scarce. Thank you for any thoughts,

I am happy for someone else to try to use it, as I have not found any leads, yet. I need to search different years. For now, I have run out of time and will get back to it in a few months I hope. I have spent about 40 hours reviewing baptismal acts (Atti di Battesimi) from San Pietro in Vincoli parish in Locana on LDS microfilm, and creating spreadsheets for Conterio and Vallino entries for the years 1854-1862.

I attach both spreadsheets. My only condition for publication is that you print the following disclaimer: *"Please be aware that the film of the atti and/or the priest's handwriting is sometimes poor. Entries that did not potentially relate to my family were summarized quickly and there is a potential for error in the transcription of names."*

I have images on CD-ROM if anyone wishes to write me for a copy of a particular document.

Stew Estes of Seattle, WA

(IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN THIS REQUEST PLEASE CONTACT OUR SOCIETY AND WE WILL FORWARD THE SPREADSHEETS VIA EMAIL.)

Sara Rice has written a paper on Italian women and their lives in the U.P. She will be adding more information on Italians in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan on her site, **La Famiglia Zanotti** <http://www.geocities.com/saraarice/>

ITALIAN INTERVIEW ARCHIVE COLLECTION

\$4,000 was granted to the Northern Michigan University Archives by the Paisano Clubs of the Upper Peninsula to help preserve the history of the region's Italian-Americans. The grant was from Paisano Club chapters in Gogebic, Marquette and Dickinson counties, and used to help preserve and make available for public use interviews with Italian-Americans throughout the U.P. The project was also sponsored by the Michigan Council for the Humanities. Interviews of local Italians were conducted by the Center for Oral History, Northern Michigan University from 1982 to 1986. Most of the informants were interviewed by, Dr. Russell M. Magnaghi of Northern Michigan University. More than 150 individuals were interviewed. This collection of interviews created an opportunity for people to relive our local immigrant experience. The project visited every Italian-American community in Upper Michigan, neighboring Wisconsin, and Ontario. Monsignor David Spelgatti encouraged and aided the project over a period of twenty years. The catalyst who got the project started in 1982 was Greta Swenson, formerly of Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin. Dr. Magnaghi donated the original tapes to the Northern Michigan University Archives. Two additional copies have been made to facilitate their use among researchers. They are available at the Michigan Collection in the Bentley Library at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and at the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Dr. Magnaghi published a book based on the interviews on tape in this collection and on summaries of interviews not on tape. This book is entitled, *Miners, Merchants, and Midwives: Michigan's Upper Peninsula Italians* (1987).

Interviews include; the following communities:

- ❖ Chippewa County: Sault Saint Marie.
- ❖ Dickinson County: Iron Mountain, Kingsford, Loretto, Norway, Vulcan.
- ❖ Gogebic County: Bessemer, Ironwood, Wakefield.
- ❖ Keweenaw County: Mohawk.
- ❖ Houghton County: Baltic, Calumet, Franklin Mine, Hancock, South Range.
- ❖ Iron County, Michigan: Caspian, Crystal Falls, Iron River, Virgil.
- ❖ Mackinac County: Cedarville-Hessel.
- ❖ Marquette County: Gwinn, Ishpeming, Marquette, Negaunee.
- ❖ Menominee County: Hermansville.
- ❖ Iron County, Wisconsin: Hurley, Kimball.
- ❖ Ontario: Sault Saint Marie.

Interviews are with:

Longhini, Dominic of Ironwood, MI on March 19, 1983. The interview discusses Italian life in the Ironwood area, especially at Jessieville. Mr. Longhini talks about his mine model, the Longhini family, and the Croatians in the area. Also on August 11, 1982 on this tape with Matt Gardetto. The two men discuss life in Gogebic County, and the Piave Society. Side two is faint and of poor quality.

Longhini, Rose of Ironwood, MI on February 18, 1981. Originally the interview was carried out as a part of Greta Swenson's ethnic program. It discusses life in Ironwood, ethnic foods, and the immigrant experience.

Fillipini, Ida of Bessemer, MI on August 4, 1982. Mrs. Fillipini was in her 90s when this interview was made. She spoke in Italian, and her daughters translated. Topics discussed include life in Italy, friends, and her trip to Michigan.

De Rubeis, Peter of Hurley, WI on July 20, 1982. Mr. De Rubeis has been a musician all of his life, and was involved in Wisconsin politics. His interview stresses these facts and discusses the Italians of Hurley.

Darin, Margaret Chino of Hurley, WI on May 6, 1982. Mrs. Darin discusses Italian life in Hurley, and concentrates on her father, who was a steamship agent in town.

Crilli, Armand of Hurley, WI on September 9, 1981. A prominent individual in the community, Mr. Crilli talks about the Italians in the community, and discusses his role.

Contratto, Paul of Bessemer, MI on August 23, 1982. The Contratto farm in particular and Italian farms in general is discussed. Other business activities in the Gogebic County area are discussed.

Canelia, Cesaria of Hurley, WI on August 22, 1982. Mrs. Canelia came to the United States as an adult after World War II. She is one of the few recent immigrants in the area. She discusses the life of an immigrant and life on the farm in "Dago Valley".

Vittone, William and Reina of Hurley, WI on August 22, 1982. Also on the tape are Anthony Brunelli and C. Canelia. They discuss their life on the farms in what is called "Dago Valley" in Kimball, WI, which is near Hurley. This is a unique experience for the North Country.

Gentile, Guido of Hurley, WI on September 17, 1981. The Italians of the Hurley area are discussed.

Valesano, Amelia Benetti of Wakefield, MI on February 23, 1983. On this short interview Mrs. Valesano talks about the role of Italian women in the Ironwood and Wakefield areas.

Valesano, Charles of Wakefield, MI on February 11, 1983. Mr. Valesano carries out an excellent interview on general Italian life in Wakefield, and the role of women in the community.

Pricco, Dante of Bessemer, MI on June 1, 1982. For many years Mr. Pricco operated a bakery in Bessemer, as did his father. He discusses the bakery business in detail. Paisano Club Convocation

Martinetti, Martin of Hurley, WI on May 6, 1982. Mr. Martinetti was an immigrant in his 90s who has subsequently died. It is a bit of a confused interview because of the number of people talking. Part of it is in Italian. He discusses life in Hurley.

Connie's Supper Club of Hurley, WI on August 22, 1982. This is a tape of the convocation held at Connie's Supper Club. Included are a talk by Judge Varda, remarks by Dr. Magnaghi, and a sing-along. This is a typical late 20th century convocation.

Paisano Club Singers of Ironwood, MI in 1979. This is traditional Italian songs, probably sung and recorded at Christmas time. There is a song book that goes with these songs. Dante Pricco is one of the founders of the group. Paisano Club Sing-Along in Ironwood, MI on June 1, 1982. This sing-along consists of traditional Italian songs. It was sung prior to the spring banquet at the Piave society.

Mangiat, Elmer of Ishpeming, MI on December 16, 1985. Mr. Mangiat's family was originally from the province of Trentino-Alto Adige. He discusses life in the Italian community at Caspian.

Abruzzi Reunion of Hurley, WI on August 17, 1981. The Quattro Abruzzi Society dates from 1905 and was recently revived. This tape was made during an annual meeting held at the Liberty Bell Restaurant and is a bit confusing. The organization is discussed by members.

Erspamer, Otto of Hurley, WI Ca. 1980. Mr. Erspamer has subsequently died. The interview deals with life in early Hurley, mining, and in particular the Erspamer family.

Dominici, Ida of Virgil location, Iron Co., MI on September 20, 1979. Mrs. Dominici was in her 90s when the interview was conducted, and has subsequently passed away. She discusses life in Virgil, a mining location in Iron County.

Fittante, Joe of Caspian, Iron Co., MI on March 9, 1982. President of the Duke of Abruzzi Society, Joe Fittante discusses the organization.

Magnaghi, Russell M. in Marquette, MI on September 5, 1982. A Professor at Northern Michigan University, Dr. Magnaghi discusses his observations of the last meeting of the Federation at Iron Mountain, and also comments on the Italian societies in the Upper Peninsula. And at the Italian-American Federation of the Upper Peninsula in Iron Mountain, MI on September 4, 1982. This tape was made at the last meeting/dinner of the Federation, whose origins went back to 1909. It ceased to exist because of the lack of interest. There were remarks made at the end of dinner.

(There are others that I did not list.) To view an online DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION http://www.nmu.edu/archives/collections/oral/it_catalog.htm

Many of Russell Magnaghi's published works on the local Italian heritage are available at the NMU archives and at the University of Minnesota in the twin cities.

"From Michigan to Minnesota: The Internal Migration of Italian Miners," In *Entrepreneurs and Immigrants: Life on the Industrial Frontier of Northeastern Minnesota*. Edited by Michael G. Karni. Chisholm, MN: Iron Range Research Center, 1991.

"Columbus Day: An Italian Tradition," *Preview*. 5:10 (October 1985), 23, 25-26.

"The Italian Literary and Cultural Tradition in Upper Michigan," *Chronicle of the Historical Society of Michigan*. 21:1 (Spring 1985), 11-14.

"Italian Newspapers in the Upper Peninsula," *Harlow's Wooden Man*. 19:1 (Winter 1983), 9-11.

"Italians in the Upper Peninsula," in James M. Anderson and Iva A. Smith, eds. *Ethnic Groups in Michigan*. vol. 2 in *The Peoples of Michigan*. Detroit: Ethnos Press, 1983, 173-176.

"Marquette County's Italian Women Immigrants," *Harlow's Wooden Man*. 20:2 (Spring 1984), 8-10.

The Gogebic Iron Range's Italian Immigrants. Marquette, MI: Belle Fontaine Press, 1984.

Miners, Merchants and Midwives: Michigan's Upper Peninsula Italians. Marquette, MI: Belle Fontaine Press, 1987.

"The Italian Heritage in the Upper Peninsula," slide lecture and video funded by the Paisano Club of Upper Michigan and the Michigan Council for the Humanities, 1983.

Italian Immigration to Michigan's Upper Peninsula Oral History Project, Records Italian-American Immigrant Oral History Catalog.

Common Italian Words Found in Genealogy Documents:

Record Types

Birth Certificate - *atto di nascita, certificato di nascita*
 Census - *censimento, stato delle anime (censuses), stato d'anima (parish census)*
 Church Records - *registri parrocchiali (parish registers)*
 Civil Register - *stato civile*
 Death Certificate - *certificato di morte*
 Family Register - *stato di famiglia*
 Marriage Record - *acta de matrimonio (marriage certificate), registri matrimoniali (marriage records)*
 Military - *militare*

Family Events

Baptism - *battesimo, battezzare (to baptize, christen)*
 Birth - *nascita; nato (born)*
 Burial - *sepoltura, seppellimento, sepolto/a (buried)*
 Confirmation - *crema*
 Death - *morte, morire, decesso (deceased), morì (died)*

Divorce - *divorziata (female), divorziato (male)*

Marriage - *matrimonio, maritato, coniugato, sposato, to marry (sposare)*
 Marriage (banns) - *pubblicazioni, notificazioni*

Relationships

Ancestor - *antenato, avo, predecessore*
 Aunt - *zia, la zia*
 Brother - *fratello*
 Brother-in-law - *cognato*
 Child - *fanciullo, neonato (male), neonata (female), infante, bambino, figli (children)*
 Cousin - *cugino (male), cugina (female), cugino germano cui (first cousin)*
 Daughter - *figlia*
 Daughter-in-law - *nuora*
 Descendant - *rampolla*
 Father - *padre, papa, babbo*
 Grandchild - *nipote, nipotino(male), nipotina (female)*
 Grandfather - *nonno, avopaterno*
 Grandmother - *nonna, avomaterna*
 Great-grandchild - *pronipote*
 Great-grandfather - *bisnonno*
 Great-grandmother - *bisnonna*
 Husband - *marito, sposo*
 Mother - *madre, mamma*
 Niece / Nephew - *nipote*
 Orphan, Foundling - *orfana (f), orfano (m), trovatella (f), trovatello (m)*
 Parents - *genitori*
 Relatives - *parenti*

Sister - *sorella*
 Sister-in-law - *cognata*
 Son - *figlio, figlioetto, ragazzo*
 Son-in-law - *genero*
 Uncle - *zio*
 Wife - *moglie, sposa*

Dates

* In official Italian genealogical records, dates are generally written out, with the year first, followed by the month, the day, and the time of the event.

Day - *giorno, giornata*
 Month - *mese*
 Year - *anno*
 Morning - *mattina, mattino, mattinata*
 Night - *notte, sera (evening)*
 January - *gennaio*
 February - *febbraio*
 March - *marzo*
 April - *aprile*
 May - *maggio*
 June - *giugno*

July - *luglio*
 August - *agosto*
 September - *settembre*
 October - *ottobre*
 November - *novembre*
 December - *dicembre*

According to Andy Sewell, “The Yooper has not been in existence for very long, being the result of cross breeding Finns with Italians, Irish and Cornish people. While cautious around strangers, Yoopers will generally become very friendly if you offer to buy them a coffee.”



Our Officers are

Gary Harrington, President
Diane Egan, Vice President
Andrée Carlson, Secretary
Eddie Sandene, Treasurer
Carol Schleker, Membership
Dwight Filippini, Cemeteries
Tim Egan, Librarian

**Our board meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month
from 10 am to noon at the Bessemer Historical Society
Everyone is invited to attend.**