

JCCIA Journal

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*The Joint Civic Committee
of Italian Americans*
3800 Division St. • Stone Park, IL 60165
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~ Organized in 1952 ~



We're proud to honor those who answered L'Aquila's call for help

by Jo Ann Serpico, President

In my column, I always refer to Anthony Sorrentino's book, "Organizing the Ethnic Community" to make evident our continuity from then to now. Everything that was a priority and a goal for us in 1952 is still a priority and a goal today.

In 1980, Italy was devastated by a major earthquake in southern Italy causing severe damage to 150 villages, at least 3,000 deaths and thousands more injured. The JCCIA mobilized leadership and immediately established the Italian Disaster Fund.

In 2009 again Italy suffered another earthquake. The devastation in L'Aquila region of Abruzzo crumbled centuries-old churches and claimed the lives of at least 150 people, leaving hundreds more injured and thousands more homeless. The JCCIA immediately called on all affiliate organizations, associated members, friends and all interested to make a contribution of compassion and solidarity. We announced all contributions collected would be distributed in accordance with the instructions of the Italian Consul General Alessandro Motta.

Our JCCIA Earthquake Fund 2009 was in effect from the day of the horrific quake, beginning on April 6, 2009, and throughout the year. ABC Channel 7 made public announcements of our endeavors several times a day for one month. Again, the JCCIA made a dramatic example of recruiting the resources in our community. We wired the funds to an account dedicated to earthquake relief at the UniCredit Banca Di Roma in Abruzzo as per the Consul General Motta's instructions. This column is dedicated to acknowledging the generosity and compassion of the following organizations, businesses, elected officials and individuals who donated to this humanitarian endeavor.

MILLE GRAZIE, AMICI D'AQUILA!

Abbeduto, Frank • Alongi, John • Amari & Locallo • Ardito, Peter J. • Associazione Regionale Siciliana in America • Associazione Veneti nel Mondo USA • Barbatini, Constance • Bellino, John • Berardi, Vittoria • Bernero, Josephine • Bongiovanni, Ludovico • Brennan, Sandra Sansone • Carta, Mary Lou • Cataldo Family Enterprises • Ciaccio, Lee • Ciccio, Samuel • Citizens for Viverito • Clarke, Lola • Columbian Club of Chicago • Cominsky, Catherine Renzo • Congregation San Rocco di Mudugno • Cullotta, Florence • Cumberland Chapels Inc. • Damato, Rose Marie • D'Angelo, Oscar & Paula • Davino, Marie • Davito, Joanne • DeFina, Barbara • DeFranco, Joseph • Del Santo Mary Ann • Demory, Georgianna • Di Domenico, Carmen • Di Franco, Dr. Paul • Di Frisco, Dominic • Di Paolo, Speranza • Di Pirro, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph • Dionori, Virgil • Dzeba, Stephen • Fecarotta, Robert • Fiorentino, Joe & Heidi • Fiorentino, Steve • First Nations Bank — Florian Barbi • Fotopoulos, Ann • Friends of William J.P. Banks • Gagliano, Donald • Gervasio, Mr. & Mrs. James • Giacone (ACLI), Ann • Giglio, Frank • Gillio, Vickie A. • Gillio, Viva • Glimco, Joseph • Grano, Rosetta • Guistolise, Mr. & Mrs. Francis • Gullo International Development Corp. • Gullo Sarah • Herron, Lelia • Isacson, Norman • Italo American Maroons Ladies Club • ITAM Filippo Mazzei Ladies Aux #1 • ITAM Italian American Civic Organization of Berwyn • ITAM Italian American War Veterans Dept. of Illinois • ITAM Italian American Women's Organization • ITAM James Cuzzone, Ladies Aux #5 • ITAM Joseph Gentile Aux Post #2 • JCCIA Women's Division • Juarez, Lilia Leonardi • Keith, Susan • Lanzillotti, Joseph • Lawlor, Stephen • Lewinski, Joann • Long, Dr. Francine • Loverde, Joy • Lucchesi Nel Mondo Associazione •

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HAITI NEEDS OUR HELP!

On January 14, 2010, the JCCIA once again committed to mobilize our leadership and resources, this time to collect funds for the island of Haiti. The devastation there is insurmountable. We mailed notices to all of our affiliate organizations an important message asking support of the victims of the recent earthquake in Haiti to make a contribution for this worthy cause. Already contributions are flowing into the office.

Make checks payable to:
**Joint Civic Committee
of Italian Americans**

Mail to:
**3800 Division St.
Stone Park, IL 60165**

We are asking for contributions in any amount. Contributions will be distributed in accordance with the official agencies that are collecting donations for the victims. All donations are tax deductible.

Again, we thank you for your continued generosity and support and for setting an example in the community.

