

LA GRANDE FAMILLE DE PROCIDA & ISCHIA Newsletter N°33 – 15 October 2007

Our Association is 4 years old!

Founded on the 15th October 2003, our association hasn't stopped growing since. Since membership numbers have increased fourfold and a huge amount of work has been done in a short time.

Several hundred registers have been manually input, about thirty volunteer members working tirelessly to record them. Two General Assemblies have been held on the islands of Procida and Ischia, and our search engine and ordering system have been launched in 2007. Our world popularity increases every day!

Other parishes will most probably be recorded and uploaded during 2008 and our website will continue to expand.

In order to try a new type of meeting among our members, all volunteer members will meet for a meal in Paris on October 20th to celebrate our anniversary. This meal could be renewed very soon in Marseilles.

Thank you all for your support and see you soon!

Pascal SCOTTO DI VETTIMO

Renewing your Membership

The 2008 membership brochure is now available on our website. You can therefore renew your membership at any time. Please renew it before 31st of December 2007 if you do not want to lose access to the search engine.

For those joining for the first time from today until the end of 2007, your membership length is increased and will be valid until 31st of December 2008.

Volunteer members in 2007 will automatically be given Benefactor status in 2008 and will receive a bonus in the shape of free records in proportion to their contribution during 2007.

Annual update of our Website

On every anniversary we review and reorganize our website. The main changes and improvements are in the following sections:

- The "Members" section gives access to the members' list and to the profiles of the volunteers.
- The "**News**" section includes events, press articles and newsletters.
- The "Help" section includes your Wanted appeals, the Alfortville office and the group discussion forum.
- The "**Documentation**" section includes your work and publications, and information on searching records in France and Italy.
- The "**Tourism**" section gives information on travel and visits to Procida and Ischia.

The Various Documents and the Toulon Maritime Archives

These two ongoing projects started in 2006 by Henri SCOTTO DI VETTIMO are paramount to the preservation and history of our ancestors from Procida and Ischia.

The website is now up to date, and you are warmly invited to view the site pages and read the news.

With regards to the Maritime Archives in Toulon, you will find the list of computerized registers, the indexes and the explanation of how to order records.

With regards to the Various Documents, please remember to send us your contributions! Thank you.

Next steps for our search engine and ordering system

Development work for new functionality as discussed at the General Assembly has started with the help of our trainee. Efforts are mainly concentrated on:

- 1. The interface being made more international so that all non-French members will be able to navigate it.
- 2. The screens being optimized and all nonuseful page refreshing suppressed to make the search engine more quick and fluid.

These changes are not online yet but should be before year end.

Also, as we strive to continuously improve our site, be aware that it has been designed and tested to work with Internet Explorer. If you notice any malfunction with another browser, press the Print Screen button and send it to info@procida-family.com.

We are looking for volunteers

Within the framework of the members help exchange, the Association is looking for volunteers in the following areas which have been neglected until now:

- 1. Spanish website maintenance
- 2. English website maintenance

The objective is to catch up with the delayed translation and then translate new information as it is published.

3. Active leadership for the discussion group forum

The objective is to find a coordinator for this project in order to review group membership, to make sure all members know how to participate in the forum and also to start thinking about group leadership. I need your help, so if you have the necessary competences, please get in touch!

Search tips

You can use the wildcard "%" to define general search criteria.

Here are some examples:

- "ma%zel": you will find all the MAZZELLA, MAZELLA and other MACZELLA.
- "cat%rina": you will find the Caterina, Catherina and Catarina.

Gook luck with your research!

New indexes available

New indexes have been added to our database this month. Among these are the marriage registers of Campagnano, eagerly awaited by many of you:

Parish	Registers
Campagnano	B01, D02, M01 and M03
Ischia San Vito	B01.1, B14, D01.1 and D11
Various Documents	AF-D01 and FR-D01

Many thanks to all the volunteers that have helped us!

Share your stories and testimonials

Please enrich our website by making available your searches, stories and testimonials. Please share them with the other members and internet users, and we will have them published in the local press in Procida and Ischia!

Our most recent example is a very interesting publication by Hélène and Thierry BIANCO that discusses the arrival in the village of Saint-Mandrier of families of fishermen from Procida. You can read more about it in the "Documentation" section.

You too, don't hesitate to publish your own personal web page on our site or send us your stories to publish. Thank you!