



Newsletter #89 March 2020

**** COVID-19 ****

This is a topic that we would have gladly avoided mentioning here. This global crisis, this sneaky disease is on our doorstep and the messages are clear, stay at home and protect yourself to protect your loved ones.

How also not to think of our Italian neighbors who are afraid and hiding in their homes, our cousins and friends of our islands of Procida, Ischia, Ventotene and Ponza who do everything possible to resist the invader. The advantage of the islands is that it seems simple to remain isolated but in return it will be enough for an infected person to spread like wildfire ... A few cases were detected positive in Ischia and quarantined immediately.

**May St. Michael protect them
as he did in other earlier times.**

What impact on our projects ...

We had planned and organized for several months and not without difficulty two trips to Italy in March and April. Of course, and unfortunately, we had to cancel them at the last minute:

- The first trip concerned the start-up of the project to digitalize the civil registers of **VENTOTENE** ;
- The second trip involved a trip to **ISCHIA** to digitalize the missing Civil registers on FamilySearch and conduct several personalized searches for members of the Association.

These trips will be rescheduled as soon as possible, probably in the fall.

However, at this stage, we will keep our next meeting scheduled on 6 June in Clermont-Ferrand. We also plan to be present at the Regional Days of the South Provence Genealogical Centre in Port-de-Bouc on October 24 and 25.

To be continued...

Testimony: Here I am again European citizen, thanks to La Grande Famille de Procida

Once again an EU citizen, thanks to Pascal and La Grande Famille! As a US/UK dual national, descended from Italian immigrants to the US, I started the process of gathering documents to apply for Italian citizenship by descent just after the 2016 Brexit referendum.

Discovering La Grande Famille made me feel so much less alone. Pascal (a distant cousin!) and his contacts were invaluable in helping me obtain the necessary documents from Procida. More importantly, they maintained my connection to the EU and Europe – a connection too many UK politicians have dismissed or deliberately destroyed. Many of us were distraught at losing not only our rights and freedoms as EU citizens, but also our identities.

The process of gaining Italian citizenship has delighted my Italian American family – and it has introduced me to a new, larger family: La Grande Famille de Procida et Ischia.

Sara JAMES (née TORTORA)

Find your Spanish roots with Raices Reino Valencia

For your research in Spain, and especially in the region of the Valencian Community, there is a very dynamic association: *Raices Reino de Valencia* specializing in the three provinces: Alicante, Valencia and Castellon. This association was created in 2009 and digitalizes the diocesan archives. You can get very detailed information of religious acts. You will find online a database, a library concerning the Valencian Community, but also other regions. In the 17th century, the small Moorish villages abandoned during the "Reconquista" were repopulated mainly by Spaniards from the Balearic Islands.

<https://www.raicesreinovalencia.com/index.php/es/>

Henri SCOTTO DI VETTIMO

Next meeting on June 6, 2020
in Clermont-Ferrand (France)

Our next meeting is still scheduled in CLERMONT-FERRAND on Saturday, June 6, 2020 in the Hispano-Sicilian restaurant "Esprit Latin" thanks to Marie-Alice DAUPHIN (<https://espritlatin.eatbu.com>).

To date, we are 37 participants, for a maximum of 50. Entries will be registered according to the first-come-first-served rule.

In case of cancellation (COVID-19), you will be reimbursed, but I hope that by June we will all have resumed a more serene life.

The usual rates apply and are:

- 30 Euros for the member
- 30 Euros for the spouse or accompanying parent
- 35 Euros for other guests (friend/family)
- 10 Euros for children under 12

The menu will be communicated a few months before.

The conference program will be finalized later.

Thank you for your participation.

January 31 conference in Chailles (Loir-et-Cher)

On 31 January I had the pleasure (for 2 hours!) to present the **journey of our Italian migrant ancestors**, a conference illustrated with various acts and family documents.

No, I won't tell you any more 😊... This conference is expected to be on the program of the Regional Days of the Centre for the Genealogy of Midi Provence in Port-de-Bouc at the end of October.

The article published by the New Republic can be read in the "Press" section.

Pascal SCOTTO DI VETTIMO

New registers and index available

Please find below the list of new coming updates for the online registers and indexes:

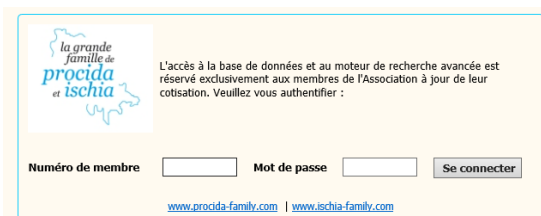
Archives	Registers
PROCIDA Abbazia San Michele Arcangelo	A00-1521 Inventory (Pascal SCOTTO DI VETTIMO)
SERRARA Parrocchia di Santa Maria del Carmine	D02 (Hubert BLAZEJEWSKI) D03 (Serge BARTHOLETTI) D05 (Frank SCOGNAMILLO)
VENTOTENE Parrocchia di Santa Candida	C01 (Frank SCOGNAMILLO)

Thank you to our volunteers who work for all of us.

If you feel having acquired now a certain knowledge and experience reading those old records, please join us to index the remaining registers. A good way to keep you busy during this period of confinement by participating in useful and exciting work.

Evolution of our web site

Discover our web site and search engine that takes its new colors in 2020. The new logo replaces the old ones, the greens and orange yellows are replaced by white, cream and blue ones!



A new look after more than 10 years!

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