



# NEWSLETTER

## A note from the President

- *Vincent Pacelli, Jr.*

Dear Amity Brothers,

As summer draws to an end, it is time for us to get another year underway at our great Club. I'm very excited and enthused about working hard with our Board of Directors and all our members to make this a successful year. I would like to recap our very successful summer events. The two wine cruises that Tony Pinto ran in July and August were well done. The family picnic, although it had some location issues worked out to be one of the best we ever had. I would like to thank everyone on the picnic committee and especially Frank D'Andrea Jr. for securing the Guilford Fairgrounds to hold event.

Our Amity Golf Classic held on August 4th was again, an amazing day. I would like to thank Dominic Twohill for all of his hard work in making the tournament one of the best in the state. I'd also like to thank our all of our golf committee members and volunteers. At the September 2nd meeting, I unveiled my President's Project. on September 16th which was also prospective members night we had Sgt. Nick De Lucia USMC, speak to us.

Looking ahead the month of October is going to be a very busy month for the club. We have

another prospective member night on the 7th with Dr. Dorsey Kendrick President of Gateway Community College as our guest speaker. We have the wreath ceremony at St. Michael's church on the 11th followed by the parade on the 12th in North Haven.

Our annual Wine tasting will be on the 16th with our partner Clifford Beers at Anthony's Ocean View. The final regular meeting for the month will be on the 21st with another guest speaker Dr Richard Diana.

On November 4th we have a closed meeting and our Amity Charitable Trust financial reporting. The 18th is Frank Rubino Night on which we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Trust along with our Past Presidents.

Brothers, as I mentioned at our September 2nd meeting my President's Project will be to establish a Designated Fund in our Amity Charitable Trust for Vincent Dominic Crudo. Vincent, who is the uncle of my three older children and a dear friend of mine, was severely injured last Columbus day while mountain biking with his two boys and a family friend. Vincent was left paralyzed and is fighting everyday to get back somewhat of a normal life.

We will have a Benefit Dinner on April 16th 2015 at Anthony's Ocean View to establish his fund in our Trust. There will also be an ad book for those who would like to send well wishes and sponsorships.

Vincent has given so much back to the community. First in serving as a Big Brother for eleven years to a young boy, Russ. Then serving as Treasurer and President of Big Brothers and Big Sisters in New Haven. He started and ran their annual golf tournament for fifteen years. He also was part of Clifford Beers.

So I'm asking our membership to help me raise money for a named fund in our Trust, to be called the Vincent Dominic Crudo Family Fund. It will be directed by Vincent and his family, to help others in similar circumstances dealing with the adversities in daily life.

God Bless you  
Vincent Pacelli Jr.  
President

## Deane Keller: Guardian of Our Heritage

- Michael Maddelena



At times, we may take our Italian heritage for granted. Hitler's dream of a Führermuseum and the wide spread destruction caused by World War II threatened the existence of Italian art as we know it today. Art is a cornerstone of our heritage, and works of art from perhaps your ancestral village to the most well-known

masterpieces in Italian cities were being methodically gathered by the Nazis for placement in the Führermuseum in Linz, Austria (Hitler's hometown). With the invasion by the Allies and the departure of the Nazis from Italy, Italian art was threatened by warfare and the intentional destruction of historic buildings, libraries and archives by the Nazis as they retreated. New Haven's own, Deane Keller, was one of some 12 American art professionals sent to save Italy's widespread treasures. His experiences and achievements will be on display at the New Haven Museum in an exhibit opening December 7, 2014.

Deane Keller was born in New Haven in 1901. He spent 40 years teaching art at Yale. Keller painted one of New Haven's most recognized works of public art, The New Haven Green in the Nineteenth Century, a lunette mural commissioned in 1934 under the Federal Arts Project of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Keller's mural is located in the main room of the New Haven Free Public Library.

In 1943 Keller, then married with a young son "Dino," lived on Armory Street when he volunteered for the Army. He was assigned to the Fifth Army, Manuscripts, Fine Arts & Archives Section known as the "Monuments Men." Keller was stationed in Italy where he was familiar with the language and the culture. His familiarity with Italy was rooted in the three years he spent as a Fellow at the American Academy in Rome after he was awarded the Prix de Rome in 1926.

Keller spent time in numerous locations throughout Italy including some cities and towns we know well such as Naples, Amalfi, Salerno, and Sorrento. One of Keller's greatest achievements during his three year mission in Italy (1943 - 1946) was the reconstruction of the bomb shattered 14th-15th century frescos at the Camposanto, a cloistered cemetery, in the core of historic Pisa. He led a team of civilians and soldiers as the battle to push the Nazis out of Pisa raged just a few blocks away.

After the war, Keller returned to Yale to continue to teach. He became a nationally known portrait painter whose subjects included politicians, presidents and numerous private and corporate clients. We should note Keller's portrait of William Celentano, former Mayor of New Haven and Past President of the Amity Club. This portrait hangs in New Haven City Hall. Also, Keller painted the portrait of Luigi Fusco, founder of the Fusco Corporation and former Amity Club member, hanging in the lobby at 555 Long Wharf Drive. In addition, Keller's work includes over 160 paintings for Yale University.



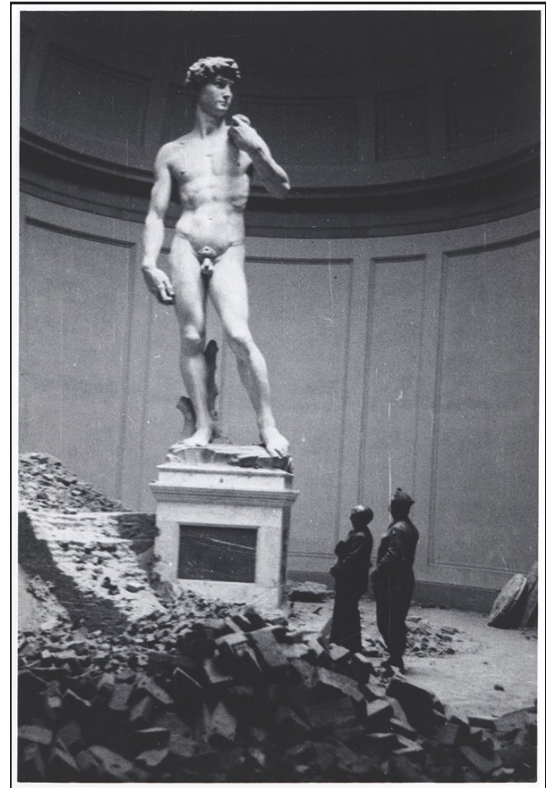
A certificate discovered by a former guest speaker of the Amity Club, Laura Macaluso, was proof that Professor Deane Keller spoke at an Amity Club Meeting on January 3, 1967. Keller died at his Hamden home in 1992. In 2002, Keller was reinterred in the Camposanto in Pisa, Italy.

## Deane Keller: Guardian of Our Heritage - continued

We should all pay homage to Deane Keller at the exhibit entitled "An Artist at War: Deane Keller, New Haven's Monuments Man." The exhibit opens on December 7, 2014 (Pearl Harbor Day). The exhibit's curator is our friend, Laura Macaluso, a Ph.D. candidate in public art from Salve Regina University. The Amity Club wants to show its support for the exhibit. The Board is considering a modest sponsorship for the opening on December 7th.

If you have an interest in supporting the exhibit, please contact Michael Maddelena at [mcmadde@hotmail.com](mailto:mcmadde@hotmail.com) or call 203-623-3655.

Deane Keller and Charlie Bernholz (Keller's photographer)  
With the statue of David




---

## AMITY CLUB WINE TASTING CRUISE

Welcome aboard!

Our first cruise this summer was on July 8th. Captain Bryan and crew of the Sea Mist took us on a wonderful 2 ½ cruise of the Thimble Islands. We had a wonderful buffet prepared by Anthony's of Guilford. Jim Downey, from InnoVino Wines and Scheid Vineyards was on board to talk about his wines.

It was a beautiful night, not too hot and a nice breeze. A big hit of the evening was an Orangecello made by Gioia Luisa that was served with an assortment of Italian pastries from Cheri's Bakery of Branford.

Our final cruise was on August 20th, this time the boat was in the great hands of Captain Jim and his first mate, Julie. It looked like we were going to get a thunderstorm all day, but the weather held out for us.

We did change course and cruise towards Branford, to make for a much smoother ride, although the group upstairs set a record for broken wine glasses. Great food was again prepared by Anthony's of Guilford. We had the pleasure of having Matt Winberger, wine manager from Worldwide Wines aboard to assist me in the presentation of the great wines that we tasted. We finished with some lovely Italian pastries served with a lovely Spanish Cava, Paul Cheneau Brut. It was yummy.

Ciao,  
Tony Pinto

## MAGNANINI WINERY BUS TRIP

- *Michael Maddelena*

The rain did not dampen the spirits of 85 people who made the trip to the Magnanini Winery in Walkill, New York on Saturday, September 15th. Frank D'Andrea Sr. expanded his Dunkin Donut empire, albeit for an hour, to the Derby Avenue commuter lot where everyone gathered for coffee, bagels, and muffins. The Pacelli's served Bloody Marys and Momosas on I-84. Both buses were well stocked with plenty of goodies, wine and spirits.

The visit started with a Wine Tasting in the cellar of the winery. Everyone enjoyed tasting the wines and sampling the charcuterie which included some of the salumi made on the premises. Our President, Vincent Pacelli Jr., opened the feast with a brief invocation. Maria Mancini and Mario Tacca's show began between the primi and secondi course. Once again, this dynamic couple enchanted the crowd with a moving performance including amazing operatic performances and accordion solos. In honor of 9/11, their performance was capped by a patriotic medley of music, cheered on by Betty Panza's energetic, napkin waiving run around the dance floor. Her son, Prisco Panza proudly watched!

Everyone enjoyed the amazing homemade meal and entertainment. Our Brothers in Amity and their guests, ended their visit with cigars, wine and Magnanini's award winning grappa on the deck overlooking the vineyard. The party continued on I-84 as some homemade goodies were passed about and limoncello and sambucca were enjoyed by all.



Performers: Maria Mancini and Mario Tacca



**MEMBER HIGHLIGHT – ROCCO L. FORTE***- Tom Ciesco***Communicating with the community**

Thanks to the efforts of Rocco Forte and his Forte Family Broadcasting, Inc., WGCH Radio 1490 AM Greenwich was able to celebrate its 50th anniversary earlier this month.

A native of Hartford, Rocco attended Hartford Public High School and went on to study at the University of Connecticut and the University of Connecticut School of Insurance. Rocco first became involved in radio while he was studying at the University of Connecticut. He worked on-air and in sales. Once he experienced radio, he realized it was not as straight-laced as he had thought. The radio industry was full of unusual people some of which were involved in activities that were less than honorable. Rocco decided to pursue other avenues of work. After graduation, he held a variety of executive marketing and advertising positions with the Orion Capital Corp., Fred S. James Co., and The Hartford Insurance Group. In addition, he held an elective office in the City of Hartford. Rocco is the former Chief Financial Officer of the Abate Insurance Agency and AIA Risk Services of New Haven. When Rocco reached 65 years of age, while being a co-owner of Abate Insurance, he decided to leave the insurance industry. Rocco decided to pursue his dream of being involved with radio.

Now, nearly 30 years after leaving radio, Rocco found an opportunity to make a difference in the community by taking a local radio station to a new level. Rocco is leveraging his experience in marketing and advertising to expand WGCH's client base and improve the station's programming. Rocco purchased the Greenwich based radio station from Business Talkradio Networks who had earlier become entangled in the legal troubles of its former CEO, who was charged with securities fraud related to his tenure as CEO of another company. Rocco plans to expand the existing local news, sports coverage and syndicated talk format. Also, Rocco has brought back some of the personnel who were fired under the previous owners. The radio station serves Greenwich, part of the Stamford/Norwalk community and reaches further into Fairfield and Westchester Counties. As quoted in [greenwichtime.com](http://greenwichtime.com), Rocco said "I am excited to be able to buy such a heritage station in Connecticut, and look forward to making the 50th anniversary year (2014) of WGCH a successful and even more profitable one." WGCH airs a news/talk format, broadcasting 24 hours a day at 1490 AM.

Like many of our Amity brothers, Rocco splits his time between Connecticut and Florida. We wish Rocco great success in having his radio station continue to be an asset in the community.

---

**MEMBER IN THE NEWS - MARK CANDIDO**

**Quinnipiac Bank & Trust** opened it's second branch on July 7th located at 24 Washington Avenue. Business is booming. Stop in for wonderful highly personalized service:

Quinnipiac Bank & Trust will be called **Bankwell** as of October 2nd. **Mark Candido** will be Regional Market President and SVP of Bankwell Corporate. Lending capacity will increase to up to 15 Million dollars.

## GOLF CLASSIC EARNS \$ 31,500 FOR ACT

- Dom Twohill

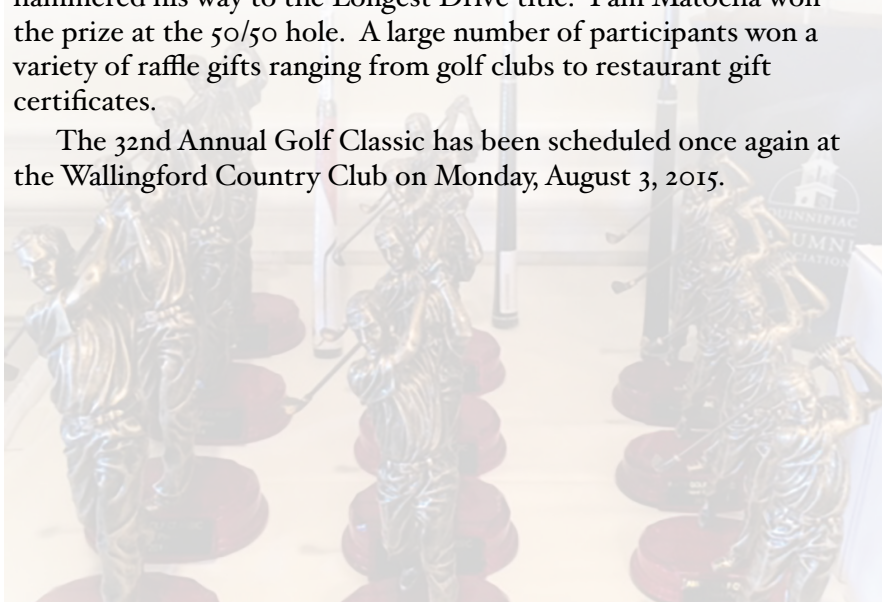
The Thirty-first Annual Amity Club Golf Classic was enjoyed by 136 golfers in perfect weather on the neatly groomed Wallingford Country Club course on August 4, 2014. They were joined for dinner by the committee and additional non-golfing members.

The event, which generated \$ 31,500.00 to support the Amity Charitable Trust Fund, received rave reviews from participants not only for the condition of the course and the quality of golf, but also for the abundance of fine food. Everyone enjoyed the availability of coffee and pastry upon arrival, lunch in the dining room prior to tee time, fresh fruit and refreshments on the course, the clam bar, hot dogs, and refreshments at the turn, and the raw bar during the cocktail hour prior to a four-course prime rib dinner.

The tourney, played as a four-player scramble format, was won once again by Amity members Tony Malafronte and Dick Pacelli, and their sons, Rick Malafronte and Rocco Pacelli. The foursome carded a 57. Second place honors went to Bill Ianniello, Jr., Bill Ianniello, Sr., Dave Ianniello, and Joe Pesticci who edged the foursome of Phil Frese, Dave Parnoff, Joe Gelsomino, and Don Battistoni by matching cards. Both foursomes scored 60s.

Dan Sullivan earned the Closest to the Pin Award and John Peters hammered his way to the Longest Drive title. Pam Matocha won the prize at the 50/50 hole. A large number of participants won a variety of raffle gifts ranging from golf clubs to restaurant gift certificates.

The 32nd Annual Golf Classic has been scheduled once again at the Wallingford Country Club on Monday, August 3, 2015.



### Do you have a story?

If you have a story or an idea to share with the Club, please contact us at: [newsletter@amityclub.org](mailto:newsletter@amityclub.org)

#### The Newsletter Committee:

Thomas Ciesco, Dennis Flanders, Anthony Pinto, and Dom Twohill

## - Calendar - Up Coming Events

### November 18, 2014

Frank Rubino Night  
Anthony's Ocean View,  
New Haven  
5:15 PM - 8:30 PM

### December 9, 2014

Christmas Party  
Anthony's Ocean View,  
New Haven  
5:15 PM - 11:00 PM

### December 14, 2014

Children's Christmas Party  
location TBD  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM



**Happy Thanksgiving!**