

## IL CENACOLO ITALIANO DI CLEVELAND

### **OUR MISSION**

The mission of Il Cenacolo shall be to promote the Italian language and culture through lectures and conferences, and to support those initiatives that contribute to the preservation and the advancement of Italian heritage for future generations.

### **OUR HISTORY**

It was in the 1920's that the idea of an Italian Cultural Club was born in Cleveland.

*Il Circolo* was thus founded in 1928 by the Italian Consul Dr. Antonio Logoluso, Dr. Leonardo Samartini, Prof. Joseph L. Borgerhoff, Mr. Burt Berardi, Dr. Nicola Cerri, Judge B.D. Nicola, and Mrs. Walter P. Rice, with the assistance of Dr. Robert Vinson, then president of Western Reserve University.

*Il Circolo* aimed at keeping alive the Italian language and culture in this city. Its first president, and perhaps the most influential single force, was Professor Borgerhoff.

In 1932, at the suggestion of Count Buzzi Gradenigo, *Il Circolo* was given the name of *Il Cenacolo Italiano* and began to attract new members such as Dr. William M. Milliken, former director of the Cleveland Museum of Art, Dr. Orfea Barricelli, Mrs. Henry Hunt Clark, and other distinguished persons. Years later the name was changed, more appropriately, to *Il Cenacolo Italiano di Cleveland*, most often simply referred to as *Il Cenacolo*.

*Il Cenacolo* is another name for Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper. In this case it simply means an intimate group of friends who, in the noble Renaissance tradition, are interested in the arts in general and in the Italian culture in particular. It is a spiritual link between Italy and the USA.

*Il Cenacolo* carries out its mission by offering a number of lectures on Italian cultural subjects throughout the year, sponsoring an annual scholarship competition, and supporting cultural institutions such as the Italian American Collection of the Western Reserve Historical Society and the Italian Cultural Garden of Cleveland. For many years, *Il Cenacolo* contributed to the augmentation of the collection of Italian books housed at John Carroll University. In addition, *Il Cenacolo*, as the administrator of the Ferdinand and Ina Fournier Fund, provides grants to Italian immigrants in need of financial assistance.

On its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, May 12, 1978, at the Canterbury Golf Club, Dr. Gian Pietro Barricelli noted:

Across its 50 successful years, the work of *Il Cenacolo* represents a necessary sharing in the democratic process of American civilization whereby all groups are acknowledged for that part of their heritage which acts as a fermenter of the present, a forger of the future, and a defender of all people whose histories and ideas underpin the making of the collective human mind. Our country would be impoverished without the Cenacolos like Cleveland's.

## MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES OF IL CENACOLO ITALIANO DI CLEVELAND

### A. Qualifications and Procedure for Membership:

A candidate for membership shall:

1. Have an interest in and appreciation of the Italian language and culture;
2. Have attended at least two meetings before applying for membership;
3. Be sponsored by an active member --- someone who has been a member for at least two years.
4. Submit a membership application to the chairperson of the Membership Committee who will present his/her recommendation to the Executive Committee for final approval.

### B. Responsibility of members:

The responsibility of all members is to uphold the mission and the objectives of Il Cenacolo.

### C. The annual membership fee is \$50.

The candidate will be notified when the membership fee is due.

Please send the application to:

Mrs. Elda Borroni, 40 Skyline Dr., Moreland Hills, OH 44022

If you have any questions, contact Elda Borroni via e-mail:

[ecb0838@gmail.com](mailto:ecb0838@gmail.com)

**IL CENACOLO ITALIANO DI CLEVELAND  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name of applicant: Mr., Mrs., Ms. Dr. (circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Why would you like to become a member of *Il Cenacolo*?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please, briefly tell us about your background that may be pertinent to Il Cenacolo:  
education, profession, interests, hobbies, travels, language, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

To be filled out by your sponsor (an active member for at least two years):

Name of sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant? What pertinent information could you give us  
about the applicant?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's signature \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_