

# WINE TASTING CONTEST 2013

By Delia Socci Skidmore



The “Federazione Laziali d’America” has celebrated the 21<sup>st</sup> annual

“Wine Tasting Contest” on October 3, 2013 held at the Italian Center of Stamford.

This event is celebrated every year in October, month of Italian Heritage.

Italians are proud of their heritage and are great wine makers and love to compete with each other. The evening of October 3 the hall at the Italian Center is rapidly filling up with guests and “tasters”. The bottles of wine in silver bags are lined up on the tables. The servers stand ready to do their job.

The evening begins with singing the American and Italian Hymn with the accompaniment of our music man: Bruno Macari.

The “tasters” are lining up in very long line, they take a sip of each wine and cast their votes. Some of the ladies take the score sheet to the “counters” who are ready to do their job with the help of their faithful computer. In the meantime Bruno continues to play and sing old Italian favorite songs. Some of the present, talented dancers, take to the dance floor. John and Lucy Frattaroli demonstrate how wine was made in “the good old days’ with the wine press John brought here with him from Italy many, many years ago along with handmade clay pottery. The press has become the symbol of the “Wine Tasting Contest”. A young and pretty lady dressed in the original e colorful



costume, climbs in the vat and begins to jump up and down to squash the grapes. Many spectators gather around clapping hands and



dancing. It doesn't get more Italian than this. The photographers walk around snapping pictures to forever immortalize the event.

Everyone is having a great time drinking, dancing and socializing.

The tasting is now coming to an end and we are ready to announce the name of the winners. Members of the committee gather at the podium, the president of Federazione, Anna Maria Raus Thomas, holds the Medals as well as Proclamations from the city of Stamford to present to the winners, the rest of us we'll help her .

The winners' are called one by one to the podium to be presented with the medals.

They come smiling proudly, they hug and kiss all around while the photographers

snap away. The evening ends on a happy note for the winners and not so happy

for the losers that feel they were cheated out of winning. The rest of us are tired but

happy to have once again participated and organize a happy event all Italian.

A tepid and starry night awaits us and the way home for a much needed rest.



**71 photos at :**

<https://plus.google.com/photos/113569224446403161310/albums/5939328856679004705?authkey=CM3T4OLd9Y-Nlw>

**Videos at :**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6wxyxBZRD4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DP0YSPOZ7kA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cqpg31qfAwo>