

Memories of our 20 years in Saint-Mandrier, France

On October 14, 2023 in Saint-Mandrier, in joy, fraternity and sharing, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of La Grande Famille de Procida & Ischia, 20 years of existence, projects and unforgettable encounters.



I would like to thank Romain Vincent, Deputy of Culture, for the warm welcome and hospitality of Saint-Mandrier, and Leonardo COSTAGLIOLA, Deputy of Tourism, who came expressly from Procida to show his support and attachment to La Grande Famille. I would also like to thank Katia CERULLO, Mylène DEL BIONDO and Donato MEO for the wonderful Neapolitan concert they gave us to close the day.



This **exceptional adventure** began more than 20 years ago with the realization of a lack of inner identity and a postcard of the Corricella found in old papers. The return to our roots was then initiated, the visits to Procida followed one another and marked us forever, the meeting with an extraordinary man, Don Luigi FASANARO, parish priest of the Abbey of Saint-Michel, sensitive to our quest gave us his support. The idea took shape on October 14, 2003 with the birth of La Grande Famille, the first stone was laid, that of a bridge that we will never stop building between the islands, the islands, and the descendants of Procida and Ischia, wherever they are in the world.

Driven by our motto "**Preserving and understanding our origins**", our large-scale digitization and indexing work follows one another, our successive meetings forge strong links, and important cultural projects are born with local institutions and museums. The twinning between Procida and Saint-Mandrier 10 years ago or the **Wall of Migrants** inaugurated in 2022 are the symbols of our common history and our return journey!



Today, our exceptional adventure continues in 2024 with other exciting projects, our **General Meeting** in Ischia, the installation of new plaques on the Wall of Migrants in Procida, an essential contribution to the Italian initiative of **tourism of return to the roots**, orchestrated locally in Procida by Leonardo and supported by Katia, President of the cultural association La Fenice.

And finally, a big thank you to our volunteer speakers, Vincent CHIRIÉ, Guy ATTANASIO, Alain RUMEAU and René BARONE who shared with us their research and stories. I would also like to thank all the members of La Grande Famille who came in large numbers to Saint-Mandrier to celebrate this anniversary with us and for their unwavering support over the years. Thank you also to the Racines Mandréennes for their welcome and to the crêperie Le Roy d'Ys who served us a perfect meal, a friendly break by the sea and under the Mediterranean sun.

Find the **program** and **conferences** on our website in the "News | Events" and the link to the photos in the message board.

The adventure continues ...

Pascal SCOTTO DI VETTIMO

Renew your membership for 2024

The renewal period is now open, so I invite you to renew your membership now and before December 31st.

Our rates remain unchanged (for 20 years!) and are still a minimum of 40 Euros. Your annual contributions are essential to the functioning of our association with our website, our meetings and our many cultural projects such as the Wall of Migrants.

Thank you in advance for your support of our Grande Famille!

2024 – the year of tourism of return to the roots

The aim of the Italian government is to highlight the importance of **the return of migrants' descendants** to discover their origins, family history and identity. Orchestrated by Leonardo COSTAGLIOLA, Procida's Deputy of Tourism, this project was launched on July 20, 2023. At this expert seminar, I had the honor of speaking personally and sharing our story and experience.

Announced by Leonardo in Saint-Mandrier on 14 October, and with the collaboration of Katia Cerullo, President of the La Fenice association, the **program for the year 2024** is currently being finalized. Thus, our history and the **Wall of Migrants** will be in the foreground in 2024, starting with our **General Meeting**, the installation of the new plaques on the Wall, conferences, meetings, and the setting up of a **photographic exhibition** at the Italian Cultural Institute in Marseille in the autumn.

Call for papers! For this exhibition, we need you to collect photos and documents illustrating the emigration, uprooting, integration, work, daily life of your ancestors, in France or Algeria. So dig through your family archives and send us your best photos in digital format. The selected photos will be enlarged, framed, and exhibited in 2024!



Catch of the day in Stora, Algeria – 1955

Our 10th General Meeting May 14 and 15, 2024

I am pleased to confirm that our next General Meeting will be held on 14 May 2024 in Ischia in the church of Fiaiano and on 15 May in Procida.

Provisional program

ISCHIA on May 14

- 7:15 Departure of the ferry to Ischia
- 9:00 Welcoming participants to Fiaiano
- 10:00 General Meeting
- 13:00 Lunch at Hotel La Luna
- 15:00 *Excursion to be confirmed: hike to the top of the Epomeo or visit the historic center of Ischia*
- 17:20 Departure of the ferry to Procida

PROCIDA on May 15

- 8:20 Departure of the ferry to Procida
- 9:30 Welcoming participants to ...
- 10:00 *Conferences to be defined*
- 11:30 Visit to the Wall of Migrants
- 12:30 Lunch at the Corricella
- 15:00 *Excursion to be confirmed: visit to the island of Vivara*
- 18:45 Departure of the ferry to Ischia

Registration & Fees

Registrations are now open by sending an email to info@procida-family.com to start the census of participants.

Our usual rates should apply for meals (i.e. 35 Euros for members and their spouses, 40 Euros for non-members), to which must be added the prices of the excursion tickets and the possible coverage of additional costs, such as the bus and the boat in order to facilitate the group's travel between and to the islands.

The **registration form** will be sent to you individually in the coming weeks to confirm the excursions and all the prices. You will then be able to confirm your attendance and send your payment.

Thank you in advance for your collaboration in the smooth organization of our event.

Pascal SCOTTO DI VETTIMO

I would like to thank our local supporters for the organization of our General Meeting:



The Wall of Migrants in the spotlight in 2024

Batch #4 is already open for the installation of the next plaques on the Wall of Migrants in May 2024. Already 12 new migrants have been registered for the next batch of plates!



Don't wait to register your migrant ancestor, honor his memory and tell his courage, his story and his descendants. Batch #4 will close on January 31, 2024.



Visit the digital Wall
www.murodeimigranti.com

Thank you for your support of our initiative and I remain available to advise you for registrations.

Pascal SCOTTO DI VETTIMO

Ada, the Florentine teacher in Barano

Some of you are looking forward to it and have asked me the question. Here is Florence GOSSON-LUSETTI's answer about volume 3 of her saga, which should be available for Christmas! For now, she gives you the summary:

Back to school 1867 in Barano. The municipal council was unable to postpone the deadline any longer: a teacher was sent to Barano by the Ministry of Education to create a class for girls. Serafina Baldani arrives from Florence, the new capital of almost unified Italy, with the mission of teaching the Italian language to children, where the population speaks only the dialect. To read and write, while most men themselves are unaware of it. Ada and Teresina are seven years old and will be the lucky beneficiaries of these advances. But for Serafina, things aren't simple; We have to fight to change mentalities. And for Ada, in her situation as a child under the guardianship of the orphanage, school is a safe haven. Meanwhile, Napoleon's troops stationed in Rome to defend papal interests were a last bulwark against the unification of Italy. A new world is emerging, the fruits of which the people of Barano will not see. Leaving to start over and ensure a better life for their descendants remains a leitmotiv for Grazia and Ciccio. An unexpected event will force fate.

Feel free to contact Florence directly.

New registers and index available

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

Archives	Registers
ALGERIE Maritime Archives	IM237 Bougie, Djidjelli 1912-1928 IM241 Bougie, Djidjelli 1917-1929 (Henri SCOTTO DI VETTIMO)
FORIO Parrocchia di San Sebastiano	Publications of marriage P02 1863-1874 P03 1874-1884 (Jean-Pierre FERRARI)
PANZA Comune di Forio	Birth Table 1810-1865 TN01 (Elisabeth WALZ)
PROCIDA Abbazia San Michele Arcangelo	Marriage Promises S05 1854-1891 (Henri SCOTTO DI VETTIMO) Census A56-1889 (Michèle SCOTTO DI VETTIMO)

Thank you to all the volunteers who produce this indexing and computerization work!

In the press

A new president and board of directors has been elected at the Museo del Mare in Ischia Ponte. Find on our website the article published in il Golfo on October 21, 2023, taking stock of their initiatives of the last two years.



As a reminder, in May 2022, at our last General Meeting, we inaugurated our permanent exhibition on the maritime migration of our ancestors from Procida and Ischia.



At the museum, you will find our 10 panels made with your contributions, as well as a work of art by Marité STRINO.