



All Saints & All Souls

By Marisa Di Nitto, ICR Specialist

November 1st and 2nd are religious holidays: ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS DAY.

Traditionally speaking, people in Italy celebrate these two holidays in the same manner, i.e., by visiting the graves of loved ones and attending church services. As you may know, Italy is noted as being the most homogenous when speaking about religion. About 90% are Roman Catholics.

The population in Gaeta increases slightly during this timeframe since relatives living far away come to visit friends and relatives as well as visit family graves. In small towns, people start going to the cemetery the week before these two days to "prepare" the tombs - the appearance of the tomb or family vaults need to look just so. The cemetery caretakers take care of the digging and undigging graves - the rest is up to the family. Occasionally, family members will take a small stool and sit near the tomb and "visit" for hours. Via Garibaldi (cemetery site) near Flamingo Hotel in Gaeta is always congested with cars and people during these holidays.

HALLOWEEN was formulated as a result of the two above-mentioned holidays.

In recent years, people in Italy have been looking for ways to celebrate Halloween. And they have. Today, this popular American event has been incorporated in our repertoire of "let's party!"



Career Options And Navy Skills Evaluation Program (CONSEP)

By Alice Slate, TAMP Manager

The Gaeta Fleet and Family Support Center, Transition Assistance Management Program, will offer a Career Options and Navy Skills Evaluation (CONSEP) class at the FFSC December 1-4. The course is designed to assist Sailors in making educated career and life decisions in order to remain competitive during and after their Navy career. The course is open to enlisted Sailors at their 6-12 year mark with at least two years left on their current enlistment. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend.

The four-day class will begin with a full day of personal assessments. Participants will look at where they are and where they eventually want to be. Additionally the participants will learn a little more about how they make decisions. Day Two will be an intense day with Financial Counselors discussing topics including Understanding Stocks and Bonds, Setting Financial Goals, Budgeting, and the Thrift Savings Plan.

Day Three will be spent with the Command Career Counselors going over the numerous commissioning programs available to Sailors, advantages of assignment options and other information relevant to career decisions. In partnership with the Navy College Office information on educational programs available in and outside the Navy will be offered.

The fourth and final day will allow participants the opportunity to start thinking about what they would like to do upon separation from the Navy. Information will be given out on resume writing, networking, and job-skills assessments. Students will also be given the opportunity to be videotaped while practicing interviewing skills.

If you would like to enroll in the next CONSEP class stop by the FFSC for more information or call you Command Career Counselor to get your name put on the list. Space will be limited to 20 participants.