



A Little bit of History

January 3, 2010

Well, 2009 is gone.....

while reorganizing my desk I was thinking that this would be the time to put in writing all that I want to do in 2010, including my dreams; but while staring at the paper, I realized that I do this most years and at the end never fulfill my wishessomehow life has the means to get in the way.

I know that since my trip to Quebec with Don Alessandro I have wanted to write a blurb to my fellow members attempting to explain why the bishop of Pisa thinks he has the right to deny us access to the miniscule morsel of history that our families' left behind for us: their names, their birth date, sometime the name of their spouses and children and where they are buried.

In searching the data I became engrossed with the various Concordats that the Catholic Church has negotiated with civil authorities' to retain control of the data they have collected. This took me to the start of organized religion, the impact of Christianity on the Roman Empire and the role that Constantine had in altering the *republic* of Rome in order to become Emperor/Dictator through his alliance with the Christians. I stopped at that point fearing that if I kept going I would soon be searching for the impact that Adam and Eve had on the fact that Archbishop Benotti, from Pisa, will not allow us to copy the available information regarding our ancestors.

Hopefully I'll figure out how to shorten what seems to be the history of Western Civilization, down to a couple of pages and send it out....soon...maybe.

Note the word "*Hopefully*" at this time of the year it may be the most used word in our language, a word describing a feeling of something that we wish to happen someday, a feeling that possibly one of the greatest musician that ever lived expressed in words and music while gazing toward our Garfagnana's mountains from his window in Lucca's Piazza della Cittadella.....Giacomo Puccini. I hope that in 2010 everything you want will come through... but I'll let Puccini say it through Cio-Cio San while expressing her wish to Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly's*..

Un bel di` vedremo....

Un bel dì, vedremo
levarsi un fil di fumo
sull'estremo confin del mare.
E poi la nave appare.
Poi la nave Bianca
entra nel porto,
romba il suo saluto.

One good day we will see
arising a strand of smoke
Over the far horizon of the sea
And then the ship appears
And then the ship is white
It enters the port,
It rumbles its salute.

<http://ca.youtube.com/watch?v=nu3ZVV5p05k&feature=related>

Renata Tebaldi – My father called her "La Divina"(My mother looked like her) **...I hope the "white" ship comes in for all of us in 2010 .** Lelio