

# Gino's Owner Shares Some of His Secrets in Cooking Class

By Andrew Vitelli

For years, those living in and around Mahopac knew that if they wanted some of the best in Italian food it was probably a good idea to have Marco or Gino Barbaro, the owners of Gino's Trattoria on Route 6, be the ones to cook it. Now, Marco is teaching some of those who have frequented his restaurant how to make the same food in their own kitchen.

Marco is offering cooking classes, where culinary experts and novices alike have the chance to learn how to make a variety of Italian dishes.

Marco offers two options for those looking to learn how to cook. One is for his students to come to Gino's and take classes there, giving them the chance to cook in a professional kitchen valued at \$500,000. The other choice is for a group of six or more

people to book Marco to come to their home and teach them some cooking in their own kitchen.

"I put them in groups, and they make the food themselves. In the end I put it together and we put it out, family style, on the tables," Marco explained. "Now that they've learned how to cook it, they eat it, hang out, have some wine and make martinis, stuff like that, and then that's it."

The classes at Gino's will be offered on four Mondays in October, while home classes can be booked any time. Marco says he enjoys teaching the class as much as his students love learning from him.

"Tuesday through Saturday at the restaurant is work. This is basically I'm getting paid to teach people what I love to do and doing what I love," he said. "They're drinking, not stressed, blown away by the

kitchen in the back, and they just talk about you. It's the best advertising for me because after I do a class they go on Facebook, they tell all their friends about it, they show their friends the pictures they took."

For pricing and information, call Marco at (914) 615-1859 or e-mail him at [MarkBarbaro@optonline.net](mailto:MarkBarbaro@optonline.net). Visit [www.ginostrattoria.com](http://www.ginostrattoria.com) for more info.



Marco Barbaro, a chef at Gino's Trattoria, shows off his cooking skills to some enthusiastic students.