



ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

editor: lou perry agosto (august) 2004 database: mary perry kentuckiana

Il Messaggio dal Presidente:

While the Italians have a long history of community involvement, one of the things for which they are best known involves the heritage weekend festivals on the Belvedere in the late 1970s and early 1980s. In fact, that is how most of the current members of the IAA initially began their awareness of and involvement with the IAA. These festivals were known throughout the city for their fine Italian food, great music, festive dancers, and family-friendly atmosphere. In fact, the Italian Heritage Week Festivals were known as the "best-of-the-best" festivals the city had to offer. Well, in the spirit of these great festivals of the past, it is my pleasure to inform you that the **Italian heritage festival is back** in the form of the Festa Italiana 2004.

The FESTA ITALIANA - 2004 will take place on Friday, September 10, 2004 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 11, 2004 from 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Located behind St. James Church, near the corner of Bardstown Road and Eastern Parkway, the **FESTA ITALIANA - 2004** will recreate the atmosphere of an authentic Italian street festival, complete with detailed scenic backdrops to create the look of buildings in a village plaza, food-vendor booths, a wine garden with lighted trees and red-and-white checker table cloths, and an area for dancing and romancing. With such features, the Festa Italiana is going to be, once again, the premier ethnic festival in the city.

While the planners of the festival have done their job to create a festive atmosphere, the success of the festival will depend heavily on the IAA providing enough volunteers to work at the festivals. **You can help make the Festa a success by volunteering your time and encouraging your family and friends to do so as well.** In the next few weeks, you will be contacted by Katherine Pulzone, Chairperson of the Festival Volunteers Committee, asking you to offer your support by volunteering to help at

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NEXT ACTIVITY

St. Joseph Picnic – IAA Booth

Saturday, August 14th

Friday evening, too, the 13th

(see p. 3 for details)

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ETRUSCANS

The Etruscans of Murlo.....about thirty kilometers from Siena, towards Rome, there is a little village in the hills isolated from major roadways where it is still possible to encounter Etruscans (about 35) in flesh and blood: the inhabitants of Murlo.

The early Etruscans were the inhabitants of the greater part of central Italy between the second and ninth centuries B.C. They had come to Italy as exiles from a region of the Middle East (possibly from modern-day Turkey) and in the end became subjects of the Roman Empire. From the very first centuries of their allocation in Italy, they had already developed a form of social organization, culturally and commercially unique to Europe. Although it is not certain that the Etruscans themselves founded Rome, it is certain that they were among the first Kings of Rome.

They left behind works of art inestimable in value. Chimera comes to mind, the frescos of the prince-like tombs and the magnificent pieces of gold which have been conserved today in archeological museums all over the world. It is also certain that the offspring of the Roman aristocracy were educated in Etruscan schools. The Etruscan population was enterprising even in business. The remains of Etruscan ships have been found all over the Mediterranean Sea. They produced oil and wine and exported it to half of Europe.

Etruria (the land of the Etruscans) was a confederation of 12

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the Festa Italiana. I hope that you will recognize how important this festival is to raising the visibility of IAA as the principal organization for promoting and preserving the Italian heritage in our community and volunteering as much of your time at the festival as you possible can. Believe me, the success of the festival will depend heavily on the volunteers from the IAA.

The IAA has given much to the members of the organization. I hope you can find it in your heart to give back to the organization by being a volunteer at the festival. I look forward to seeing all of you at the festival.

Warmest regards,
Bernardo J. Carducci, President

FESTA ITALIANA - 2004

FESTA ITALIANA - 2004, Friday and Saturday,
September 10 and 11, 2004

Hours: Friday, Sept. 10th from 5:00pm ~11:00pm
and Saturday, Sept. 11th from 2:00pm ~ 11:00pm

Location: St. James Church, 1826 Edenside Ave.,
corner of Bardstown Road and Edenside Drive,
one block north of Eastern Parkway

Special Features

- * Wine and Beer Garden
- * Authentic Italian foods and pastries, music, dancing and games (i.e., bocce) and activities (i.e., spaghetti-eating contest)
- * Featured Entertainment: The Pino Marelli Trio
- * Radio Disney Fun Zone (Sat., Sept. 11, 2004 from 3:00pm ~ 6:00pm), featuring the Radio Disney Extreme Dance Team, contests, and free prizes

For more information about the Festa, contact
Bernardo J. Carducci, Festival Chairman by
phone at
812-282-3938 or E-mail shydoc@carducci.com
<mailto:shydoc@carducci.com>



BIRTHDAYS – Agosto (August) **BUON COMPLEANNO !!**

Grisanti, Michael	8/10
Maccaferri, Marco	8/10
Mascagni, III, Frank	8/3
Mazzoli, Helen	8/1
Melillo, Barbara	8/9
Pollard, Debbie	8/25
Pollio, Ann	8/26
Profumo, Phyllis	8/3
Pulzone, Kay	8/8
Rothenburger, Janevera	8/14
Streckfus, David	8/14
Waters, Bob	8/2

SING.....

"Tanti auguri a te,
Tanti auguri a te,
Tanti auguri a (name of person),
Tanti a auguri a TE!"

It is the same tune as our:
"Happy Birthday to You"

(our database has these names only....., please if you see an omission, contact us)

OTHER Notable "things"

8-3-1492 **Columbus** set sails for the "Indies"
1457 **Andrea del Castagno** ...died (one of the most influential artists of the Italian Renaissance)

8-24-410 - **Visigoths Sack Rome**

Visigoths besieged Rome when negotiations with the empire for land and supplies broke down.....it had been almost 800 years since a foreign force had occupied Rome.

8-27-1491 Nothing Happened

UPCOMING EVENTS....Mary Rose Mattei

Get out your family calendars and mark these dates!

AUGUST

St. Joseph Picnic – IAA Booth

Saturday, August 14th.....all members are needed in the IAA booth at the annual **Saint Joseph Home Summer PICNIC**. Come lend a hand to help our group. Bring your own chair! On Friday evening, the 13th, there is a new, smaller, FREE gathering with music and a bit of gambling and more picnic food (also, decorate the IAA booth)....call Mary Rose...at 244-9339 and sign-up for your preferred volunteer time...WE NEED YOUR HELP.

SEPTEMBER

FESTA ITALIANA - Louisville

September 10 - 11 ST. JAMES CHURCH parking lot off EDENSIDE DRIVE/Bardstown Road - FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, for our **Italian Festival**. We will share our Heritage with all of METRO Louisville. Check with Bernie if you can help with this special weekend event. More details in the weeks ahead. This will be our biggest event of the year! Call Bernie to volunteer.

OCTOBER

Columbus Day Dinner / Awards

Monday, October 11 - Third annual IAA **Columbus Day Dinner-Awards** at the Knights of Columbus Hall on River Road. The beautiful view of the Ohio River, larger space and delicious menu will make this a nite to remember. Details to follow. Contact Lou Perry.

NOVEMBER

Day At The Races

November 6, Saturday.....IAA Day at the Races – only 40 tickets will be ordered. Box lunch is \$16 (includes a program). Enjoy Fall racing at Churchill Downs, tour the Derby Museum, and walk down to the paddock to get that last “hot tip”. Order your tickets now.....**must be prepaid by October 1**. Adults only.....order together to sit together.....send check to Mary Perry by October 1st; include self-addressed stamped long envelope.

Bet on any jockey wearing green, white, or red; or any named Luigi; ladies wear a big hat, spend \$\$\$\$\$\$, and have fun in air conditioned comfort. OK, OK.....if there is a horse named “Mary Rose”, place a bet (1st to return – ha) on the ol’ grey mare.

TRUFFLES....ugly-stinky-delicious!

Truffles bring a flavor to the table that can only be described by one’s own taste buds. Truffles are to the world of mushrooms what Gorgonzola is to the world of cheese. A Piemontese chef by the name of Giacomo Morra is credited with having been first to put truffles on the table. For many, the word “truffle” conjures little chocolate spheres with a light dusting of cocoa. Few realize that this sweet is modeled after an ugly, pungent, misshapen mushroom, which sports a light dusting of dirt.

These hidden treasures live about a foot underground and must be “hunted” by a skilled truffle hunter and his partner. In Italy you’ll see dogs trained to sniff out truffles. Large truffles cost more because they are rare. A kilo of truffles can cost \$750 in Europe. By the time they hit the American market the price may be as high as \$1,500. If you're shopping for fresh or dried truffles white truffles (the most expensive) generally come from the Piedmont and Umbria regions of Italy, black (expensive) from France, and gray (least expensive) can be found in North America.

Truffles use them soon after purchase to take full advantage of the pungent aroma and taste..... remove any soil from trufflesscrape or grate onto food and into sauces and soups just before eating.....Truffled Eggs, Risotto alla Truffles, Lamb with Truffles, Fettucine with Mushrooms and Truffles, and salad with breast of chicken white grapes and truffles.

CATERING TOO is Mary Rose Mattei’s new catering service.....she’s available now for small parties, office parties, and at home dinners.

DID YOU KNOW

Rome, Georgia was named in 1834. It was given that name because it was in a hilly area which was similar to the seven hills of ancient Rome in Italy.

VACATIONS - 21 million (of 30 million) Italians will remain in Italy. Favorite destinations are: Emilia Romagna (chosen by 9,7% of Italian vacationers), Sicily (8,9%), Sardinia (7,6%), and Tuscany (7,3%).

ANNUAL EVENTS IN ITALY

AGOSTO (AUGUST)

STELLA MARIS FESTIVAL - Punta Chappia (surburb of Camogli), GENOVA - 1st Sunday of August - originating in the 15th century, flowered boats reach Punta Chiappa in parade to honor Stella Maris (a Holy Virgin with Child on a special boat) carrying torches against the night to protect them from the tempest. The boat appears to be engulfed in flames as it crosses the tiny gulf of Camogli. Eventually the fishermen take thousands of small, colored wax cups with candles in them and float them in the sea. The spectacle of these thousands of lights floating out to sea from the beach is a vision of beauty that will forever remain etched on your memory. This festival is one of the most moving and original celebrations in all of Italy.

FERAGOSTA - Assumption Day August 15th National Holiday observed in all of Italy. This is the day that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was taken up and assumed into heaven and it virtually shuts down Italy. **August is considered 'vacation month'** and everything in Italy shuts down including most tourist attractions, supermarkets, restaurants, stores, banks, public services and offices, businesses, and most newsstands and bars. And as Italy implodes on itself, its industrial output, productivity, GDP, stock market and status as an open-all-year international trade partner all grind to a halt as the gears of 'socialistic entitlement legislation' collide with those of a modern global economy.

TROUT FESTIVAL - Bedonia, PARMA - middle of August. More than five tons of fish are fried in two enormous pans of twelve foot diameter at Piazza del Municipio.

FUGA del BOVE – Montefalco, PERUGIA; 3rd Sunday of August - this tiny, medieval walled town hosts a race that has been run since the fifteenth century. Each neighborhood is represented by a bull. Accompanying this bizarre contest is live music, wonderful wines, flag throwing competitions, dancing, food galore and a view that will make you gape. This town is famous for its special cloth that is made using techniques that has been passed down since medieval times and is said to be the best of its kind.

ITALIAN LESSIONS – Dialect of Luigi

Vowels/Vocali

a = ah e = a i = e o = oh u = oo
(simple, but workable at this stage)

Nouns/Il Nome:

Genders ... **masculine** - usually ends in "o" or "e",
feminine usually ends in "a".

BEING POLITE

When in Italy always be courteous.

CIAO - chow, can be both hello and goodbye in a familiar sense.

salve - Sahl-veh, formal hello

addio - ah-DEE-oh, formal goodbye.

arrivederci - ah-ree-vah-DEHR-chee, still another goodbye

Signora - seen-YOH-rah, Mrs. or madame

Signore - seen-YOH-reh Mr. or sir.

Signorina - seen-yoh-REE-nah, Miss.

una signora - a lady

un signore - a gentleman.

una signorina - a young lady.

PER FAVORE - pehr fah-VOH-reh, please.

GRAZIE - GRAHT-see, thank you.

PREGO - PREH-goh, you're welcome.

SCUSA - SCOO-sah, excuse me.

Bene - BEN-neh, well.

BUON GIORNO - bohn JORH-noh, good morning.

BUONA SERA - BOH-nah SEH-rah good evening.

BUONA NOTTE - BOH-nah NOHT-teh, good night.

Italians also speak
with their hands

Mettersi il paraocchi.

English translation:

To put on blinders.

(just to see things one way)



THE BEST ITALIAN CARS

1930 - 1966

1. 1930 Alfa Romeo 6C-1750 twincam drophead coupe Super Sport;
2. 1938 Alfa Romeo Tipo 8C 2900B;
3. 1950-1955 Alfa Romeo 1900 SS Cabriolet;
4. 1950-1958 Lancia Aurelia B20 GT;
5. 1951 Ferrari 340 America;
6. 1955 Maserati 3500GT;
7. 1957 Fiat 500 "Topolino";
8. 1958-1960 Fiat Abarth Zagato 750;
9. 1964-1967 Ferrari 275 GTB;
10. 1963-1968 ISO Grifo;
11. 1966-1967 Fiat 124 Spider;
12. 1966-1972 Lamborghini Muira SV.

LANGUAGES OF ITALY

The number of languages listed for Italy is 33 - all are living languages.

National or official languages: **Italian**, **French** (regional), **Standard German** (regional), **Serbo-Croatian**.

Literacy rate 97% to 98%.

Also includes **Judeo-Tripolitanian Arabic** 5,000, **Judeo-Tunisian Arabic**, **Assyrian Neo-Aramaic**, **English** 29,000, **Kabuverdianu** 10,000, **Maltese** 28,000, **Somali**, **Chinese** 40,000, people from **Eritrea**, **the Philippines**. **Christian**, **secular**.

Blind population 100,000. **Deaf** population 3,524,906. Deaf institutions: 80.

ANACAPA MIDDLE SCHOOL (Rome)

6th Grade Social Studies

World History and Geography:

Ancient Civilizations.....Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the early civilizations of Ancient Rome.

8th Grade U.S. History

American Popular Culture

Students will use a variety of print and electronic resources (including the World Wide Web) to collect information and evidence as part of a research project....a decades (1920's, '60's, etc) study; toys and games; rock & roll; and popular culture.

HIGH SCHOOL MATH – Italy

Mathematical logic helps to form the rational basis of common sense and is being given a central role in the Italian high school curriculum.....this renewal recognizes the increasing importance of logic in various scientific and humanistic fields and takes into account its influence on recent orientations of computer science and artificial intelligence research. Accordingly, logic elements have been introduced in both mathematics and computer science teaching at the high school level.

Italian Ancestry of the 108th U.S. Congress

Six United States Senators and 23 United States Representatives of Italian ancestry are serving in the 108th United States Congress.

The ancestors of six United States **Senators** immigrated to the U.S. from the regions of Italy.....two of Tuscany and 2 of Trentino-Alto Adige, and one each of Sicily and of Friuli-Venezia Giulia.

In the United States **House of Representatives**, the ancestors of the following Members came to America from: Campania (6); northern and central regions (8); Abruzzo (4); Basilicata (1); Calabria (3); and Sicily (4).

ITALY - TODAY

SPIDERMAN TOPS TOPO GIGIO

SPIDERMAN outshines CHARLIE BROWN AND MAFALDA and leaves TOPO GIGIO at the starting gate. Spiderman, with 20.6% of votes is the cartoon character with which Italian children identify the most. A remarkable number of children voted for Mickey Mouse (10.6%), Donald Duck (7.4%), Superman (6.2%), followed by the characters in the "Witch" cartoon (3.2%), Tex Willer (2.8%), Dylan Dog (2.4%), Julia (2.1%), Minnie (1.8%), Charlie Brown (1.7%), Mafalda (1.4%). In the report one section provides an analysis of the way cartoon heroes are perceived by children and teenagers. The aim of the survey was to achieve a better understanding of the world of children and the values that are part of it. The results show that even today the most popular cartoon characters come from the Disney world. Most girls voted for friendly but feisty Daisy Duck as their model, whereas others - a minority - chose the more feminine Minnie. Boys often identify with Mickey Mouse, a positive and clever figure, or with Donald Duck, perceived as awkward and funny (despite coming across as funnier than Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck is also known for his bad luck, which may explain why children prefer Mickey Mouse). Besides Disney characters, younger children identify with famous superheroes.....and poor ol' geriatric TOPO GIGIO is nowhere to be found.

MOODY'S CONFIRMS ITS RATING FOR ITALY

Moody's, the credit rating agency, confirmed an AA2 rating for Italy's public expenditure accounts and a stable outlook for the country. Moody's report for Italy reads: "An important factor which helps to confirm our positive rating is Italy's national debt, which dropped to 106.2% of GDP in 2003 from an estimated 123.2% of GDP for 2005. If this positive trend continues we will not change our AA2 rating for Italy".

Proverbio/Proverb

La fame muta le fave in mandorle

English Equivalent

Hunger makes hard beans sweet

ITALY - YESTERYEAR

ROCK ART DRAWINGS

VALCAMONICA, in the Lombardy plain, has one of the greatest collections of prehistoric petroglyphs to be found - more than 140,000 signs and figures carved in rock over a period of 8,000 years, depicting themes of agriculture, navigation, war and magic.

LUCCA, PISA - Some new rock engravings were recently found at Monte Cotrozzi, near S. Maria del Giudice (Lucca , Tuscany), which is one of the minor hills of the Monti Pisani, separating the towns of Pisa and Lucca. This place is locally known for the presence of a small etruscan settlement and a destroyed medieval castle. The rock engravings are placed in a flat zone at the base of the hill. They consist of cup marks, engraved small crosses and a large rock with more than forty holes connected with small engraved lines; also, they discovered new and unknown engravings which can be dated from the early to the late medieval age. Among them, a couple of stylized human figures with a cross-shaped body and with curved legs. The second important engraved rock shows the front-end of a church with a bell tower at the right side. The figure was realized using both pecking and linear engraving techniques and shows a richness of details. The structure of the church does not seem to reproduce an existing one in the neighborhood, just because all the old Romanic churches have the bell tower at the left side.

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cities, the so-called "dodecapoli". Many of these cities are very famous: **Volterra** - still conserves its Etruscan walls and also an exceptional archeological museum; and **Populonia** - one of the most beautiful archeological parks in all of Tuscany. In the past few years, the quest for the Etruscans has attracted more and more scholars and passionate historians all over the world and the phenomenon continues to grow.

Murlo has remained in tact and untouched by war and invasions; far from major roadways and communication ... near total isolation to its inhabitants to the point that the genetic heritage has remained almost uncontaminated.