

# ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

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membership: mary perry

kentuckiana

## Il Messaggio dal Presidente:

The political **election session** would not be complete without the annual election meeting of the IAA held each November at Clifton's Pizza. As usual, the election meeting was highly attended because it's a well-known fact that the Italians like their politics almost as much as they love their food. So, to meet these two basic desires, before enjoying the always-fabulous buffet prepared by the friendly folks at Clifton's Pizza, members of the IAA cast their ballots first for the members of the board of directors, then the executive committee (see results p. 4). Please make it a point to congratulate these individuals on their election to the board, as well as express your gratitude for their willingness to serve. Serving on the board of directors is one of the most significant things members of the IAA can do to preserve and promote our Italian heritage in the community. Without their efforts, the IAA would not be the vital organization it has been over these many years. Speaking of expressing gratitude, I want to thank Mary Rose Mattei, Bob Waters, Tom Moore, and Jim Flitt for serving on the board this past year.

The IAA always ends the year with the **Family Christmas Dinner** (see p.3) at St. Joseph Children's Home where the children and staff of St. Joe's are invited to be part of our family. So, I look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual IAA Family Christmas Dinner December 10<sup>th</sup>. In closing, as I have said for the last several years, once again, I am honored that you have given me the opportunity to serve a president of this organization that means so much to me.

Warmest regards,  
Bernardo J. Carducci, President

## ITALY'S BAN ON SMOKING

Last January the Italian government banned smoking in all indoor public places, including cafes, restaurants (except for a few with separate and regulated smoking areas), airports, and railway stations, as well as in all public and private workplaces. The restriction of smoking in public places in Italy has led to an 8% drop in cigarette consumption, a new study says. And the ban on smoking in indoor public places has been almost universally accepted and does not seem to have had an adverse effect on business. "The results ....show the advantages of smoke-free legislation..."

Additionally:

- \* support for the ban grew after it came into force.
- \* businesses have not been adversely affected.

"These results suggest that smoke-free legislation does not unfavorably affect the business of restaurants or cafes" (*Abergavenny*, Roger Dobsonround).

## NEXT SOCIAL ACTIVITY

### IAA CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Sunday, December 10 (see p.3)

MEMBERSHIP DUES DUE – see p.7



Merry Christmas to all IAA members, their family and friends, and to our beloved Troops

From: IAA Board and the IAA Newsletter staff

## ANNUAL EVENTS IN ITALY

**NATALE celebration** - The Presepio (Nativity Scene), this Italian invention is one of the oldest purely Christian traditions that has had a truly international impact; Bethlehem in the Grotto (Stiffe); Saint Nicola di Bari's Day; Christmas Markets; Immacolata Concezione - Immaculate Conception; Saint Lucia's Day; Festa della Squilla; and the commemoration of Natale - Christmas Day the birth of Christ. The first Christmas celebration took place in Italy in the year 336, after the Emperor Constantine approved Christian worship in the Empire; and Santo Stefano Day, the 26th. Also, there is the Cauzun-Gienghi-Scarpeggi Festival (typical Christmas sweets).

**INTERNATIONAL CAR and MOTORCYCLE SHOW** – Bologna. First two weeks; held in the Fiera (fairgrounds) where new models and makes are put on display, and put through trials to make even the most hardcore, ardent moto fans salivate. This show just celebrated a quarter of a century of exhibitions and is one of the most famous in Italy.

**ICE SCULPTURE COMPETITION** – Livigno (Lombardia); first week of December, 10 teams of sculptors compete for the prize of the best ice sculpture. The creations are enormous and the creativity of the ice artists knows no boundaries. Definitely worth a visit if you're in the area.

**FESTA della VENUTA** (which means the transferal of the Holy House) – December 9; Loreto (Marche); legend has it that in the year 1294, the house in which Mary lived in Nazareth was carried by angels to Loreto. In the evening fogari (bonfires) are lit in the country to commemorate the prodigious event and residents put candles in their windows. At 10 p.m. opening of the Basilica and starting of the ceremonies culminating with the parade in which the Blessed Virgin Mary's statue is escorted and carried on the pilgrims' backs (she is their protectress).

**TORCHLIGHT PARADE** – Agnone (Molise); this is a dramatic, traditional night parade on Christmas Eve with lots of fiery torches. The peasants carry a big pinewood torch, six to eight feet tall, parading it throughout the whole town and stopping in Plebiscito square, where a big bonfire symbolizing brotherhood is lit with it. The parade ends with the recalling of the Nativity prayers and discourses.

**CHRISTMAS AMIDST THE TRULLI** – Fasano & Alberobello (Puglia); held at the end of the month. There is an exhibition which features the local cuisine - vincotto thrush, orecchiette with ragu sauce, Rosatello della Selva wine and Bianco di Coccolicchio (a white wine).

**FEAST OF SAINT LUCIA** – Siracusa (Sicily); 13<sup>th</sup>; in a massive parade that includes thousands of pilgrims, the statue of the Saint is carried on a golden coffin from the crypt of the cathedral to the church of Saint Lucia. After seven days, on December 20th, the silver statue of the saint is carried back with a big hoopla including another parade, music and special illuminations. The week long celebrations end with a spectacular fireworks display over the harbor. It's a wonderful celebration in one of Sicily's most gracious cities.



**BIRTHDAYS:**  
December 2006  
**BUON COMPLEANNO !**

Last Name	First Name	Birthdate
Mula	Joseph	12/22
Pusateri	Evelyn	12/23
Rothenburger	Robert	12/18
Scorsolini	Bob	12/3
Waters	Mary Margaret	12/28
Camarata	Joseph	12/31
Rosencrans	Richard	12/2

**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"

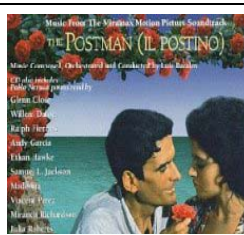
(our database has these names only...., please if you see an omission, contact us).

## PULZONE's CINEMA PIC

by Katherine Pulzone, IAA Board Member

### I' POSTINO 1979

A true story of a postman on a poor, remote southern Italian island, Procida, delivers the mail to a poet named Pablo who's living on the island due to being exiled. The fog-capped mountains and gently sheltering beach inspires him to learn how to write poetry so he can capture this ancient island. The quiet sounds of this fishing village inspires such emotion in him, the words start flowing on paper. The scenery is nothing short of splendid and this movie won high acclaim for how a place can move us –  
Rating: \*\*\*\*.



## PEACE ON EARTH



## CHE PASSA! (WHAT'S HAPPENING !)

### IAA Family Christmas Dinner

**Sunday, December 10 from noon until 4:00 p.m** ....The annual IAA Christmas Dinner with IAA members and shared with the children of St. Joseph Children's Home will be held in the cafeteria at St. Joseph Children's Home at 2823 Frankfort Ave. IAA will provide soft drinks, pasta, meat, tossed salad, and bread, all of which will be prepared by IAA Official Chef in Residence Bob Waters. IAA Members are asked to bring an item (enough to serve 6 to 8 more people than the number of people who will be attending with you) according to the following groupings by last name:

- A - F** ..... Cold Casserole or Fruit Dish (tossed green salad provided);
- G - L** ..... Vegetable Tray
- M - R** ..... Hot Casserole
- S - Z** ..... Dessert

In addition to all of the wonderful food, this family-friendly, alcohol-free event will include plenty of time to socialize, karaoke, 2007 membership payment, the singing of Christmas carols, and a visit by Santa with gifts for the children of St. Joseph Children's Home. Schedule of Events: Socializing begins at noon and dinner will be served beginning at 12:30 p.m

**RSVP Deadline:** please contact Bernardo Carducci by phone: 282.3938 or by E-mail: [bcarducc@ius.edu](mailto:bcarducc@ius.edu) by Wednesday, December 6. We need a headcount to ensure that we prepare enough food.

**Cost:** There is no cost to IAA members and their immediate family. Non-member adult guest (12 years and older) is \$5.00 per person.

**Annual Membership Dues Due:** Door prizes will be available for those present and with paid 2007 dues.

**Gift Note:** Each family should bring one gift for each of their children/grandchildren that is wrapped and tagged.

**Volunteers:** needed for light preparation & simple cleanup - contact Bernie at address/phone above.



### PAGLIACCI (Clowns)

**Pagliacci (Clowns)** is an opera composed by Ruggero L. Leoncavallo. It is the tragedy of a jealous husband in a commedia dell'Arte troupe. It premiered in Milan in 1892, and it is Leoncavallo's only successful opera. It has usually performed in a double

bill with Pietro Mascagni's **Cavalleria Rusticana** (featured next month). **Pagliacci** is the 14th most performed opera in North America. When *Cavalleria Rusticana* premiered in 1890, Leoncavallo was a little-known composer. After seeing *Cav*'s success, he decided to write a similar opera. **Pagliacci** was an instant success and it remains popular today. It contains one of opera's most famous and popular arias, "Recitar! ... Vesti la giubba". (To perform! ... Put on the costume). In 1907, **Pagliacci** became the first entire opera to be recorded.

### FERRARI.....Dream Cars



The first time Enzo Ferrari witnessed a car racing event, he immediately knew what his life was destined to be. Ferrari had quite a long tenure at Alfa Romeo. It was during his days at Alfa Romeo when Ferrari was given a unique distinction of carrying the family crest of Italian flying ace Francesco Baracca, a martyr of World War I whom Ferrari admired and idolized. The symbol is one of the few remnants of Baracca's plane when it crash landed, so Ferrari adopted it as his personal symbol. Currently, this insignia of the **Prancing Horse on a yellow shield** is well-known around the world as it can be seen on all bright red Ferraris, regardless if they are for racing or for sale to the public.

Ferrari was able to establish the Scuderia Ferrari team, somewhat of a subsidiary arrangement with his employer Alfa Romeo. Later, it was discontinued and this led to the founding of Ferrari's very own company, Auto-Avio Costruzioni Ferrari.

**Galleria Ferrari**, a museum for only the best memorabilia in Ferrari history, housing trophies, models, significant car parts, emblems, and other items that any Ferrari junkie would love to see, is a well-loved attraction in the country. This one-of-a-kind facility is even situated in Maranello, a town just south of Enzo Ferrari's birth place of Modena.

### NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS

After Alfred Nobel died at his home in San Remo, Italy his will stated that prizes would be given annually to "those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind." Since 1901 there have been 20 Italian and Italian Americans that have won this prestigious award, including:

#### PHYSICS

**Guglielmo Marconi** 1909 "in recognition for contributions to the development of wireless telegraphy".

**Enrico Fermi** 1938 "for his demonstrations of the existence of new radioactive elements produced by neutron irradiation, and for his related discovery of nuclear reactions brought about by slow neutrons"

**Emilio Gino Segrè** 1959 "for the discovery of the antiproton".

Con't on p 6

## ITALIAN AMERICAN POPULATION

Highest Ital-Amer Population	Lowest Ital-Amer Population
New York 2.7m	North Dakota 5,328
New Jersey 1.5m	South Dakota 7,541
California 1.4m	Wyoming 15,286 (Kentucky has 62,383)
Highest %	Lowest %
Rhode Island 19.0	Alabama 1.3
Connecticut 18.6	Arkansas 1.3
New Jersey 17.9	Kentucky 1.5

U.S Census 2000

## SAMPOGNARO

### Bagpipers



A delightful tradition, now finding renewal in Italy, is the ushering in of the December festivities by the **zampognari** or bagpipers. They descend from the mountains in the regions of Abruzzo and Calabria filling the air with anticipation for the joyous celebration to come as they play adaptations of old hill tunes such as **Cantata dei Pastori**. In Rome they play at various sites including the Christmas market at the

historic Piazza Navona, at the Spanish Steps, and at the entrance to St. Peter's Square. These shepherd musicians claim that it was bagpipe music that soothed Mary during her labor and lulled the Christ Child to sleep in Bethlehem. Figures of the zampognari are very popular in nativity.

## IAA MEMBERSHIP HAS SPOKEN

!!!!!!! CONGRATULATIONS !!!!!!!

The IAA membership elected a new IAA Board and Executive Committee for 2007 at its November 15 General Meeting. CONGRATULATIONS to: Bernie Carducci (President); Bob Scorsolini (Vice Pres); Mary Perry (Treasurer), Lou Perry (Secretary); new Board member Frank Mascagni III (Program Director); and also Paul Castagno, Marty Hanka, Ann Moir, Katherine Pulzone, returning Michele Melillo Clem, and new Board member John Beatty. Vicki Spradlin and Mary Perry are completing their first year of a two year term on the Board..... Buona Fortuna. The Board has one opening - Interested?? ...the Board can appoint after Jan 1<sup>st</sup> (call a Board member)

## ITALIAN LESSIONS – Dialect of Luigi

*farsi degli amici*

### Vowels/Vocali

a = ah e = a i = e o = oh u = oo

**Nouns/Il Nome:** Genders ... **masculine** - "o" or "e", **feminine** usually ends in "a"

### Italian Verb – Fare

If **essere** is the Swiss army knife of verbs, then **fare** is the all-in-one, handy-dandy kitchen appliance. The verb *fare* expresses the basic idea of doing or making, as in *fare gli esercizi* (to do the exercises) and *fare il letto* (to make the bed), but it is also used in many idioms, such as:

fare il biglietto	to purchase a ticket
fare del proprio meglio	to do one's best
farsi degli amici	to make friends
fare una fotografia	to take a picture

Note that the infinitive *fare* is frequently abbreviated to *far* before a consonant. For example, you may say *far colazione*, *far male*, *far torto*.

Besides idiomatic expressions the verb *fare* is used in a number of proverbs:

**Fare e disfare è tutt'un lavorare.** (It's all go, it's a hard life.)

**Chi la fa l'aspetti.** (You will get as good as you gave.)

**Chi fa da sé fa per tre.** (If you want something done, do it yourself.)

**Tutto fa brodo.** (Every little bit helps.)

**Chi non sa fare, non sa comandare.** (A bad worker is a bad master.)

Remember ....

Italians also speak with their hands

Un marito l'è che, dopo portare i rifiuti, dà fuori l'impressione che egli giusto ha pulito la casa intera

A husband is someone who, after taking the trash out, gives the impression that he just cleaned the whole house.



## THE MOST BEAUTIFUL VILLAGES IN ITALY

Noted for their history, art, culture, environment, and traditions; these small Italian towns have the architectural harmony, the quality of the public and private building heritage, and in general, the quality of life in the village in terms of activities and services for the people. Debatably (yes, I expect some "feedback"), this "smaller" Italy has left its indelible marks that would savor all five senses. Don't miss them thru actual or vicarious travel to Italy; they include:

### **ABRUZZO**

Anversa degli Abruzzi  
Castel del Monte  
Castelli  
Guardiagrele  
Introdacqua  
Pacentro  
Pescocostanzo  
Pettorano sul Gizio  
Pietracamela  
S. Stefano di Sessanio  
Scanno  
Tagliacozzo

### **APULIA – PUGLIA**

Alberona  
Bovino  
Cisternino  
Locorotondo  
Otranto  
Pietramontecorvino  
Specchia

### **BASILICATA**

Acerenza  
Castelmezzano  
Venosa

### **CALABRIA**

Bova  
Chianalea di Scilla  
Cirò  
Fiumefreddo Bruzio  
Gerace  
Morano Calabro  
San Giovanni in Fiore  
Santa Severina  
Stilo

### **CAMPANIA**

Àlbora  
Atrani  
Castellabate  
Furore  
Nusco

### **EMILIA ROMAGNA**

Brisighella  
Castell'Arquato  
Compiano  
Dozza  
Montefiore Conca  
Montegridolfo  
Vigoleno

### **FRIULI-VENEZIA-GIULIA**

Clauiano

Cordovado  
Fagagna  
Gradisca d'Isonzo  
Poffabro  
**LATIUM-LAZIO**  
Campodimele  
Castel di Tora  
Castel Gandolfo  
Civita di Bagnoregio  
Collalto Sabino  
San Donato Val di Comino  
Sperlonga

### **LIGURIA**

Apricale  
Castelvecchio  
Cervo  
Finalborgo  
Manarola  
Millesimo  
Noli  
Tellaro  
Triora  
Vernazza

### **LOMBARDY-LOMBARDIA**

Bienno  
Castellaro Lagusello  
Cornello dei Tasso  
Fortunago  
Gradella  
Lovere  
Monte Isola  
Oramala  
Zavattarello

### **MARCHE**

Corinaldo  
Esanatoglia  
Gradara  
Montefiore dell'Aso  
Montelupone  
Moresco  
San Ginesio  
Visso

### **MOLISE**

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### **PIEDMONT-PIEMONTE**

Mombaldone  
Neive  
Orta San Giulio  
Ricetto di Candelo  
Vogogna  
Volpedo

### **SARDINIA-SARDEGNA**

Castelsardo

### **SICILY-SICILIA**

Brolo  
Castelmola  
Cefalù  
Geraci Siculo  
Montalbano Elicona  
Novara di Sicilia  
Sperlinga

### **TRENTINO-ALTOADIGE**

Chiusa  
Glörenza  
Rango  
Vipiteno

### **TUSCANY-TOSCANA**

Anghiari  
Barga  
Buonconvento  
Castelfranco di Sopra  
Cetona  
Coreglia Antelminelli  
Giglio Castello  
Pitigliano  
Poppi  
San Casciano dei Bagni  
Scarperia  
Sovana  
Suv

### **UMBRIA**

Bevagna  
Castiglione del Lago  
Corciano  
Montefalco  
Montone  
Norcia  
Paciano  
Trevi  
Vallo di Nera

### **VAL d'AOSTA**

Antagnod  
Bard

### **VENETO**

Arquà Petrarca  
Asolo  
Borghetto  
Portobuffolè

Con't from p3 - NOBEL PRIZE

**Carlo Rubbia** 1984 "for decisive contributions to the large project, which led to the discovery of the field particles W and Z, communicators of weak interaction"

**William D. Phillips** 1997 "for development of methods to cool and trap atoms with laser light"

**Riccardo Giacconi** 2002 "for pioneering contributions to astrophysics, which have led to the discovery of cosmic X-ray sources"

### CHEMISTRY

**Giulio Natta** 1963 "for discoveries in the field of the chemistry and technology of high polymers"

### MEDICINE or PHYSIOLOGY

**Camillo Golgi** 1906 "in recognition of work on the structure of the nervous system"

**Daniel Bovet** 1957 "for his discoveries relating to synthetic compounds that inhibit the action of certain body substances, and especially their action on the vascular system and the skeletal muscles"

**Salvador E. Luria** 1969 "for discoveries concerning the replication mechanism and the genetic structure of viruses"

**Renato Dulbecco** 1975 "for discoveries concerning the interaction between tumour viruses and the genetic material of the cell"

### LITERATURE

**Giosuè Carducci** 1906 "in consideration of his deep learning and critical research, and as a tribute to the creative energy, freshness of style, and lyrical force which characterize his poetic masterpieces"

**Grazia Deledda** 1926 "for her idealistically inspired writings which with plastic clarity picture the life on her native island and with depth and sympathy deal with human problems in general"

**Luigi Pirandello** 1934 "for his bold and ingenious revival of dramatic and scenic art"

**Salvatore Quasimodo** 1959 "for his lyrical poetry, which with classical fire expresses the tragic experience of life in our own times"

**Eugenio Montale** 1975 "for his distinctive poetry which, with great artistic sensitivity, has interpreted human values under the sign of an outlook on life with no illusions"

**Dario Fò** – 1997 - "who emulates the jesters of the Middle Ages in scourging authority and upholding the dignity of the downtrodden".

### PEACE PRIZE

**Ernesto Teodoro Moneta** 1907 for his literary efforts on peace, as founder of the Society for International Peace, and the force behind the Pavilion for Peace

### ECONOMIC SCIENCES

**Franco Modigliani** 1985 "for his pioneering analysis of saving and of financial markets".

## Viva, Viva, la Befana

(It lives, living person, the Epiphany)



# La Befana

**La Befana** (an Italian Christmas tradition) is the benevolent old woman with magical powers who brings gifts to the children of Italy on the eve of the Epiphany.

**The Legend of La Befana:** at the time of the birth of Baby Jesus, the Christ Child. *La Befana* is an old woman who lives in a house in the hills of Italy. *Befana* spends her days sweeping and baking. One night, *Befana* notices a bright light in the sky. Later, a glorious caravan led by Three Wise Men stop and ask *Befana* for directions to Bethlehem and invite *Befana* to join them in their search for the Christ Child, but *Befana* is too busy. After the caravan disappeared over the hills, *Befana* thought of how much she missed her child who sadly died at a very young age. She changed her mind and wanted to visit this special child, because she loves children very much. So she placed some baked goods and gifts for the child in a sack, took her broom and raced out after the caravan in search of the Baby Jesus. *Befana* soon was lost. She searched and searched for the Baby Jesus. *Befana* still searches, even today, even after all these centuries. And so, every year on the eve of the Epiphany, whenever *Befana* comes to a house where there is a child, she drops in to see if it might be the child she seeks. It never is, but *Befana* leaves a gift anyway. For *Befana* has come to realize, over the years, that her searching is not vain, that in a way the Christ Child can be found in all children.

It has become an Italian American tradition to set aside one gift from the 25<sup>th</sup> to be opened on Epiphany (Jan. 6.....the last day of the 12 days of Christmas).

### IAA "OPERATION: AMORE" (Love)"

IAA members answered the call of "OPERATION AMORE (Love)", the program activity to provide care packages to our Troops. You answered with military requested items or cash and checks. We THANK all those who participated in this, our first attempt at this worthy effort. We have contacted ROTC staff, Marine Headquarters, two "dot.coms", and members to assist in selecting the units to send the packages to.....the IAA membership response has been very gratifying – such a warm fuzzy...THANKS.

Thru your generosity, we were able to provide 20 Prepaid International Phone Cards (9 over our goal) – each with 160 minutes with your checks and cash. Also in the packages were the items from the troops' list that you brought in, and these have been sent to: the Army's Camp Phoenix – Brigade Combat Team (Kabul, Iraq) and to the Marine's Armored Reconnaissance (Rawah, Iraq). According to Maj Kevin Trimble "Your work is not only needed, but greatly appreciated".

