

ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

editor: lou perry febbraio 2006 membership: mary perry kentuckiana

Il Messaggio dal Presidente:

One of the most disheartening comments to me is when folks around town say "I didn't even know there was an Italian Club in this city." In response to such comments, I am making it one of my principal objectives as IAA president this year to **increase the visibility of the IAA in the community**. One of the ways I propose to do this is to work with the IAA social committee to plan events that will be more public in nature. On a grand scale, the best example of this is **FESTA ITALIANA** that IAA produces each year. On a more regular basis, the IAA social committee will be **working to plan events that will take place in more public venues** that will also include the participation of the general public. An example of such event was the "**Wines of Italy**" wine tasting at The Wine Rack that took place on January 26th. As an official participant in the event, the IAA was able to have a presence at the tasting while letting all of the other Wine Rack customers know about our organization. John Johnson, owner of The Wine Rack, said having the IAA members at the event, along with displaying the IAA banner and the Italian flag, really created a festive atmosphere. Another example of the this type of high-visibility programming will be the IAA members gathering on February 7th at the University of Louisville's University Club to join other members of the community to enjoy an **Italian buffet and a travelogue featuring the beauty of the sights of Italy**.

Don't get me wrong. While we hope to raise the visibility of the IAA with such public events, we will still **feature many events involving only the IAA members and their guests**. For example, on February 28th, the IAA will be hosting a "**Carnevale Italiano**" dinner party in the private dining area of Romano's Macaroni Grill where IAA members will be encourage to wear as much green, white, and red to let folks at the restaurant know that "the Italians are in the house."

So, as you can see, there are many exciting events being planned that will promote the opportunity for IAA members to socialize with each other and to increase the visibility of IAA in the community. You can keep up with and plan for all of these great events by reading about them in the newsletter. You can best help to promote the vitality of the IAA by attending these events. I hope to see all of you at each of these events.

Warmest regards,
Bernardo J. Carducci, President

Note: see event details on p. 3

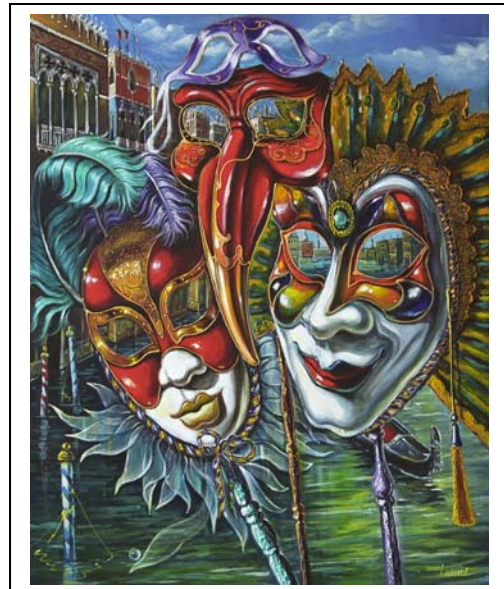
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MONTHLY SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Wine Tasting, Travelogue-Italy, Carnevale

See p.3 for Details

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The atmosphere of Venice is always unique and fascinating, but during the time of **Carnivale of Venice**, its charm is irresistible.

In the biggest square and in St. Mark's Square you can admire the many events like concerts and mask parades that take place there in this period of the year, but in the whole city the **Venice Carnivale** gives you magic and unique encounters.

Penetrating in the small calli (typical Venetian street), with their magic halo you will feel sensations that only this city can let you feel.

The **Carnivale of Venice 2006** never stops, and while in the old palaces takes place sumptuous parties in costumes that bring you back to the times of the Republic of Venice, outside, in the streets and in the squares this event preserves its most popular side.

ANNUAL EVENTS IN ITALY

CARNIVAL or Carnivale is celebrated all over Italy, and the country takes on a festive, party spirit. Derived from *carnem levare*, literally, 'remove the meat' in Latin, carnival officially starts in mid-January and ends on the day before Ash Wednesday. During Carnival disguises and laughter are used to chase away the evil spirits of winter. During the first week of celebrations adults go to *veglioni* (late night parties), often wearing costumes and masks while children wear disguises to school and around the piazzas. Celebrations reach a crescendo of parties and parades on the final day, *Martedì Grasso* (Fat Tuesday).

CARNIVALE IN VENICE - ten days of wild, raging fun as an almost never-ending sequence of cultural events mix with jugglers, mimes, fire-eaters, acrobats, street actors and over 500,000 curious visitors during the most famous Carnival in Italy. The drowning town is literally transformed into a colorful stage full of living masks and costumes. It all begins with the Children's' Carnival in Piazza San Marco, the main square. Masked balls and music shows follow. On Saturday there is the famous masked *vogata* on the Grand Canal, followed by a popular street party in the *Canaregio* district where there is usually a masked ball.

SAN VALENTINO (Saint Valentine's Day); a national holiday - February 14. The most popular legend depicting the origin of Valentine's day tells us that some 1700 years ago the Roman Emperor Claudius II outlawed marriage claiming that it decreased his male soldiers' zest for battle. Despite the Emperor's decree, a priest by the name of Valentine is said to have continued to perform marriage ceremonies for those who requested it. On February 14th, 269 AD, Valentine was beheaded for his commitment to young love. According to lore, lovers in Italy and around the world have been celebrating the memory of Valentine ever since. Italian storefronts and street vendors are flush with fresh flowers and candies.

GNOCCHI FESTIVAL (Baccanale del Gnoco) ...Friday before Lent; Verona, Veneto; which began in the 16th century from a grand gesture of generosity. The important doctor/philosopher Tommaso Da Vico distributed to the oppressed people of Verona (who were suffering from famine) cheese, flour and wine. The center of the celebration is the San Zeno district which is where they distribute free gnocchi. Every year a king is nominated by the populace. His stomach is full of gnocchi and as his symbol of authority he carries a big fork with a huge gnocco in it. With his entourage, he leads the grand parade of floats and historical carts.

HUNTING SEASON CLOSES; national occurrence the first week of February. It ends for the estimated 800,000 Italians who hauled out their shotguns last September.

BATTLE OF THE ORANGES...citta of Ivrea,Torino; Feburary 25-27; one of the strangest and most ancient Italian celebrations. Back in the twelfth century there was a popular uprising against the tyrant Count Ranieri. He had claimed first night's rights with all new brides and ran into the wrong person. A newly betrothed miller's daughter, Violetta, beheaded the amorous count and showed his head from his bedroom balcony. This sparked a popular revolution of the people which founded the roots of today's orange battle. Every year there is a new *Mugnaia* (miller's daughter) chosen. Then, 400 tons of oranges are used as ammunition as rival factions battle in a satirical but well-fought re-enactment of the people's revolt against their lords many centuries ago.

For birthdays and Valentines Day
Visit one of IAA's favorite spots;

Melillo's;

Ray Parrella's Italian Cuisine; or

Black Olive gathering

BIRTHDAYS --- Febbraio 2006

BUON COMPLEANNO !!

Dattilo, Gus	2/16	
Brown, Gordon	2/10	
Schweitzer, Steve	2/17	
Azzara, Michael	2/13	
Perry, Lou	2/24	
Hanka, Matt	2/18	
Streckfus, Maria	2/5	
Sapienza, Don	2/15	
Hayden, Frances	2/4	
Fragale, Frank	2/5	Mr. WVU ☺
Beatty, Theodora	2/11	
Brown, Eddi	2/10	

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).

SAFEST AGE

Statistically, the safest age of life
is.....drum roll please.....**10.**

FEBRUARY

February was named for the Roman god *Februus*, the god of purification. January and February were the last two months to be added to the Roman calendar, since the Romans originally considered winter a monthless period. This change was made by Numa Pompilius about 700 BC in order to bring the calendar in line with a standard lunar year.

CHE PASSA! (WHAT'S HAPPENING !)

BUFFET AND TRAVELOGUE – ITALY

February 7, 2006 at the U of L

See the sights of Italy without leaving Louisville. IAA members and guests are invited to enjoy a special Italian buffet and an informative travelogue on Venice/Genoa Italian Riviera at the **University Club** at the University of Louisville on Tuesday evening, **February 7**. From the antipasto to the main entrées, which will include braised chicken with red wine, pork Ramano with apple brandy and light cream, eggplant roulade, and fettuccine alfredo, to the assortment of desserts, the buffet promises to represent well the tastes of Italy. The travelogue will include many historical and famous landmarks. Buffet at 5:15 p.m., with the travelogue to follow....should end about 9:00 p.m. **Price:** \$15.95 (plus tax and 18% gratuity) and cash bar. **Dress code:** Business causal, which means not jeans; however, try to wear as much green, white, and red as possible. **Reservations:** To sit with other members at the IAA table, contact Mary Rose Mattei at 502-290-5200 no later than Sunday, February 5th to make your reservation or obtain more information about the event. **Directions:** Enter UofL at the entrance off Cardinal Blvd. by Second Street. Go to the stop sign and make a left turn. Go past the University Club, through the gate, and into a FREE large lighted, secure parking lot.

CELEBRATE CARNEVALE ITALIANO

Romano's Macaroni Grill, February 28th

In New Orleans they have Mardi Gras. In Italy, they have Carnevale. In the spirit of such festivities, IAA will host a **"CARNEVALE ITALIANO" dinner party** on Tuesday, February 28th at Romano's Macaroni Grill (private room), beginning at **6:30 p.m.** "Revellers" will have the opportunity to order off the menu (dinners range from \$16.99 to \$21.99). Since we want to create a festive atmosphere, IAA members and their guests will be encouraged to **dress** for the occasion by wearing as much green, white, and red, as well as hats, beads, and masks, to let all of the other customers at the restaurant know that "the Italians are in the house. **Reservations:** Make your reservation by Sunday, February 26th by contacting Bernie Carducci - 282.3938 or e-mail at bcarducc@ius.edu <mailto:bcarducc@ius.edu>. **Location:** Romano's Macaroni Grill is located at 401 S. Hurstbourne Parkway and is handicap accessible. For more specific directions, please call the restaurant at 432-9220.

.....ALSO, mark your calendars for: **March 19** for St. Joe's mass and dinner, and **April 15** for IAA's participation in the :Frankfort Ave. Easter Parade.



LIFE'S LITTLE VALENTINES

"Sometimes the heart does what it wants, without asking the mind."

"You never know when you're making a memory."

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

PULZONE's CINEMA PIC

(Katherine Pulzone – IAA Board Member)

"Buona Sera, Mrs. Campbell" 1968

Shelley Winters, Phil Silvers, Peter Lawford, Gina Lollobrigida)

W W II American GIs return to Italy believing they are the father of the child that resulted from an affair during their time in Italy with Gina Lollobrigida. It's been 20 years and they are returning for the first time since the war. After each of the three GIs sent money to Gina's character Mrs. Campbell to raise the child, she had a nice living and in San Forino. None of the GIs know that the other two have been sending Mrs. Campbell money for 20 years thinking they are the father and it turns out to be a matter of timing for Mrs. Campbell to keep them apart when they visit her. Naturally, Mrs. Campbell is frantic at their arrival and that her daughter wants to meet her father – but which one? It is a very entertaining comedy and of course the village people make it special.



King Cakes



WHERE ARE WE?

Review the picture below and email (L4Perri@aol.com) me as to where you think it is (whether it be street, building, town, lake, province, region). The one with the closest detail of the site wins.



Deadline
15 th
of
February

January's Answer:
Rialto Bridge, Grand Canal, Venice
Winner: Katherine Pulzone

SKATEBOARDING IN ITALY

imbarco del pattino di Italia



Italian skateboarding's most important event takes place at Jesolo Play Village (near Venice), featuring the best Italian, European and American pro skaters. Italy's Skateboard Society decided to hold several competitions with the same characteristics, only improved and more significant for the European skateboarding scene.

The event is held in the purpose-built skatepark at the Play Village in Jesolo. Undoubtedly the best Italian skatepark, it offers free locker rooms, showers, a snack bar and garden and a huge terrace where almost 1000 people can comfortably sit and watch the contest. The park offers a mini ramp, two pyramids, hip quarterpipes, handrails, a huge bank and other facilities.

The **ollie** is the first trick any skateboarder should learn; mainly, because it is the trick that will become the basis of all other tricks. So it is quite an important trick to learn....back foot on the tail - front foot about 2-3 inches behind the front bolts. Pop/snap the tail as hard as you can while sliding your front foot towards the nose...and jump; and plant the board on the floor...sweet move. Show your savvy, ask "Show me your best "ollie".

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".

Match The Phrases

- Il lavoro duro paga fuori in avvenire, laziness paga fuori ora.
 - Ricordisi di: Non smettete di ridere perché vi sviluppate vecchi, voi vi sviluppate vecchi perché smettete di ridere.
- a. Remember: You don't stop laughing because you grow old, you grow old because you stop laughing.
- b. Hard work pays off in the future, laziness pays off now.



FAETO

(Apulia region, province of Foggia). Faeto is the "root-in-the-boot" for IAA member Walt Carpenter (family name: Fraganoto - came over in 1901 on the steamer "Victoria").

Faeto has a population of 758 (333 families, 155 different surnames) with a zip code of 71020. Basically, Faeto was established in 1340 by French soldiers who stayed there after the war; and sent for their families.

Remember

Italians also speak
with their hands

**Di mai di testare la
profondità di acqua
con entrambi i piedi**

Translation

**Never test the depth
of water with both
feet.**

