



ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

editor: lou perry gennaio 2005 membership: mary perry kentuckiana

Il Messaggio dal Presidente:

If I am not mistaken, this marks the sixth consecutive year that I have had the opportunity to serve as president of the IAA. At the beginning of each year, I like to do two things: the first thing is to reflect on the highlights of past year, and the second thing is to look to the future. The **highlights of last year** include the continued growth of the IAA membership, the quality and diversity of events organized by Mary Rose Mattei, the Christmas Dinner with the kids at St. Joseph Children's Home, which include a wonderful pasta with meat sauce prepared by board member and official chef of the IAA, Bob Waters, and the enhanced quality of the IAA newsletter under the editorship of Lou Perry. However, in my view, the highlight of last year was the highly visible nature of the Italian Festival at St. James Church. The underlying success of the festival can be attributed to the members of the IAA coming together to volunteer their time and effort in the spirit of giving from the heart, which is one of the principal characteristics of the Italian people.

As you can see, last year was a banner year for the IAA. However, the coming year looks even brighter. **Key ingredients to the success of the IAA in the coming year** include experience and continuity. We have experience and continuity in the members of the IAA board of directors and executive officers. We have experience and continuity in the editorship of the newsletter. And we have experience and continuity with the planners of the festival that will serve to make the Italian Festival this year even better than it was last year. All of this experience and continuity serves to make my tenure as president more exciting because it gives me faith and confidence in the people I am working with which makes taking risks to expand the boundaries of the IAA easier.

So, when people ask me if I ever get bored with being president of the IAA year after year, my answer is a resounding "no." In fact, for the reasons noted previously, I am even more excited this year! I hope my excitement is contagious and will serve as an inspiration for you to renew your membership in the IAA and recruit new members.

Warmest regards,

Bernardo J. Carducci, President

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NEXT ACTIVITY

PAY 2005 DUES

(see last page for details)

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AUGURI **HAPPY NEW YEAR,** **FELICE ANNO NUOVO**

The IAA Board wishes you the very best in the coming new year may all of 2005 be filled with peace, health and prosperity.

To welcome in the New Year, it is traditional in Italy to light petards (a kind of firecracker) and fireworks that set the night sky aflame on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. This tradition is recognizable nearly around the world, **but in Italy**, many folks still throw old possessions out the window, in the hopes of forgetting past misfortunes and clearing the decks for good luck in the new year.

A more common way to salute the beginning of the year is to toast it with sparkling Italian wine. For the New Year's Day dinner, eating pork products accompanied by lenticchie, or lentils, is a tradition followed in most regions of Italy. The pork is said to represent the fat, or riches, of the land, and the lentils symbolize money or good luck. Some say that the lentil dish should be enjoyed on the last day of the year, some say the first.

In Italy the Christmas holidays end on 6th January, the Epiphany, a celebration in remembrance of the "Magi's"; or the Three King's visit to the Baby Jesus, and as would be, a visit from La Befana on Epiphany eve delivering goods and goodies to all the good kids of Italy. This good witch brings joy and happiness to all. Today in the USA Italian Americans should save one their Christmas gifts for opening on January 6th.



1. What is the capital of Italy? _____
2. What three countries border Italy on the northwest? _____, _____, and _____.
3. What two countries border Italy on the northeast? _____ and _____
4. Name a large volcano located near Naples. This volcano erupted, burying the city of Pompeii in 79 AD. _____
5. Italy is shaped like a boot. What is the name of the large island off the tip of the boot? _____
6. What is the name of a large volcano on the island mentioned in the last question? _____
7. What is the name of the large Italian island off the western coast of Italy? _____
8. What is the name of the sea that borders Italy on the east? _____
9. Name a tiny country that is located entirely inside Italy, between Florence and the Adriatic Sea. _____
10. The Alps are a mountain range that borders Italy on the north. Name a tall mountain in the Alps that is on the Italian-French border.



**BIRTHDAYS
GENNAIO 2005
BUON COMPLEANNO !!**

Last Name		Birthdate
Clem	Michele	1/18
Guzzetta	Carmille	1/19
Palumbo	Paul	1/28
Allsopp	James	1/3
Parrella	Ray	1/10
Gibbons	Gioia	1/12
Terry	Maria	1/20
Tomassetti	Al	1/19
Klawier	Wayne	1/28
Spradlin	Victoria	1/28
Renzi	Michael	1/13
Perri	Linda	1/19

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).



BEFANA January 6

UPCOMING EVENTS....Jim Vito Flitt

EDITOR'S NOTE:

IAA WELCOMES OUR NEW PROGRAM DIRECTOR, JIM VITO FLITT. Jim, I'm sure would welcome your ideas for the monthly IAA activity and/or HELP in assisting on an eventBuona Fortuna Giacomo

The IAA Board is planning a year of outstanding events. Usually we skip January because of the bad weather. However, if an event is planned, you'll be one of the first to know.

TRY THIS LITTLE EXERCISE:



How many of the 20 regions of Italy can you label? ABRUZZO, BASILICATA, CALABRIA, CAMPANIA, EMILIA-ROMAGNA, FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA, LAZIO, LIGURIA, LOMBARDIA, MARCHE, MOLISE, PIEMONTE, PUGLIA, SARDEGNA, SICILIA, TOSCANA, TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE, UMBRIA, VALLE D'AOSTA, VENETO.

Proverbio/Proverb

In bocca chiusa non entrano mosche

English Equivalent

A closed mouth catches no flies

NEW YORK DELI COMES TO CRESTWOOD

Looking for some Boar's Head products; how about mortadella, or maybe your tastes buds are calling for some dry sausage, fontina, or provolone. If it's sopressata, prosciutto, or eggplant rollatini; you need to head out to Crestwood for a visit to "Frascelli's New York Deli", the newest Italian place in the area.

Just a short drive off the Gene Snyder (Rt 146 – LaGrange Road) thru Pewee Valley and into Crestwood at the "Crestwood Station" shopping center, Frascelli's deli will serve an informal sit-down dinner, carry-out, or schedule your catering needs. Darren and Heather are young, entrepreneurial with roots in the Bronx and in Crestwood...call 502-243-9005.

BUONA FORTUNA, Frascelli's !!!!

"OFFICE ILLNESS" IN ITALY

A health magazine, *Salute Naturale*, published the results of a survey carried out on 880 employees aged between 24 and 55. Seventy (**70%**) of those interviewed said they suffered from "office illness", with symptoms such as headaches, chronic fatigue, and claustrophobia caused by poor ventilation, small rooms, artificial lighting, and prolonged exposure to computer screens. The remedies, according to the magazine, are to put flowers and essences in offices and to listen to music while working.

BLOGGING – ITALIAN STYLE

A **blog** is an easy-to-use web site, where you can quickly post thoughts, interact with people, and more. All for free.

La Vita Italo-Americana is an Italian Blog for Italophiles

For people interested in Italian and Italian-American culture, media, politics and family life. Scrive in Inglese o Italiano, tutto due sono tanto bene.

Sample:

http://italomedia.blogspot.com/2004_06_01_italo_media_archive.html

ANNUAL EVENTS IN ITALY

EPIPHANY - Epiphania - and Befana - An important Catholic holiday which celebrates the arrival of the three wise men bearing gifts for the newborn Jesus. According to legend, the three wise men stopped during their journey and asked an old woman for food and shelter. She refused them and they continued on their way. Within a few hours the woman had a change of heart but the Magi were long gone. La Befana (which is a corruption of Epiphany) still wanders the earth searching for the Christ Child. On Epiphany Eve (January 5th) the good witch flies from rooftop to rooftop on her broomstick (some say she rides a decrepit mule) bearing gifts for children. Like Santa, she enters through the chimney and leaves presents for good children and pieces of coal (carbon) for the naughty ones. All stores, banks, public offices, bars and most means of public transportation are closed on this day in observance. If this holiday falls on a Tuesday or a Thursday, the Monday or Friday in-between is treated as a ponte (bridge) holiday and most retail stores and public services remain incapacitated.....January 6National Holiday.

FESTA di SANT'ANTONIO ABBOT - a great bonfire is lit at dusk. The celebrants try to make it as brilliant as the sun so as to recreate daylight during the night. Everyone brings something old (and preferably wooden) from their house to burn representing a break with the events of the past year and a purifying start to the new year. Watchers get as close to the fire as they can in fact, many youngsters walk it's embers (with shoes on) in order to purify themselves and to welcome a fresh new year. The next morning is a solemn parade, after which is distributed locally made bread and wine. The daytime celebrations are frantic with dancing and music in the streets.....January 16Cagliari and many other parts of Italy.

CAPODANNO-New Year's Day - January 1 - National Holiday. There is a superstition that if the first person you meet when you go out on New Year's Day is a man, you will have a happy year. If it is a woman, well..(as I have never heard the rest of it, I can only hope that it means you will have health and wealth). Also, ask an "old timer" about zampone, the New Year's Day Banquet, and lentils which is a popular side dish because they represent money and should be eaten at the beginning of the year so they'll bring wealth and good fortune.

ITALIAN LESSONS – 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".

DIAL THAT NUMBER AND MAKE THAT CALL

Here's How:

1. Purchase a **scheda telefonica** (magnetic calling card)2. Find a **telefono pubblico** (public telephone).
3. Clip off the scored corner of the *scheda telefonica*.
4. Slide the *scheda telefonica* into the opening, 5. dial the desired number. 6. If you prefer instead, cellular phones can be leased in Italy with a prepaid amount of time of use. Then you'll fit right in!

Tips:

1. Common expressions used to make a telephone call include: **Pronto?** - Hello? **Chi parla?** - Who is speaking? **C'è [Carlo], per favore?** - Is [Carlo] in? **ArrivederLa.** - Good-bye.
2. It is not uncommon for an Italian family to have only one telephone in the house. Most families don't need an extra phone because Italians prefer to meet one another in the town square or at the local cafe'.
3. Since the tax rate on cellular phones (**telefonini**) is one-third that of land lines, the majority of Italians prefer to use them instead nowadays.
4. Quick vocabulary guide: *prefisso internazionale* (prefix to call your country), *prefisso per l'Italia* (prefix to call Italy), *fuso orario* (time difference).

Remember

**Italians also speak
with their hands**

LE CARTE ed i GATTII loro rallegrerà entrambi il su; MA quando giocano l'un l'altro.it è "Seppellisce I Gatti".

translation:

CARDS and CATSI will cheer them both on; BUT when they play each other.....it is "Bury The Cats"



