



# ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

editor: lou perry

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## *Il Messaggio dal Presidente:*

I know I say this every year in January, but I am excited about what the New Year will bring to the IAA. I am excited because, once again, for another year, I am allowed to be president of an organization that is near and dear to my heart. I am excited because I get to work with a group of individuals on the board of directors that shares my passion for helping to promote a sense of ethnic identity and cultural heritage that the Italians have maintained in this community. Most importantly, I am excited that I will have the opportunity to get together at our monthly meetings with all of the other members of the IAA, who, over the years, have become just like family to me.

In the coming year, one of my goals as president is to strengthen our sense of cultural heritage. I plan to do this in a number of ways. First and foremost in achieving this goal is to offer my unconditional support to Lou and Mary Perry as they establish themselves as editor and distributor, respectively, of the IAA newsletter. The newsletter is our most important link to disseminating information to the membership. As readers of the newsletter in the past will recognize, Lou has been a wonderful source of information regarding Italian cultural, customs, language, history, and, my favorite, trivia. The members of the IAA are very fortunate to have someone like Lou to serve as the editor of our newsletter. In this regard, I encourage all members of the IAA to support Lou and Mary by providing ideas and material for information you want to appear in the newsletter. You can contact Lou and Mary by phone at 502-263-5480 or E-mail at [L4Perri@aol.com](mailto:L4Perri@aol.com). In addition, thanks to the efforts of "webmaster" Lou, the IAA now has a website, which is [www.neighborhoodlink.com/org/italian](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/org/italian). Please visit the site, and encourage others

to visit it, as well.

I also plan to strengthen our sense of cultural heritage by providing my unconditional supporting for the efforts of Mary Rose Mattei as the chairperson of the social events committee. In addition to keeping my campaign promise of "food at every event," I will make a special effort to help increase the amount of cultural programming that occurs in conjunction with our general meetings in the coming year, such as including live entertainment and lectures. In this regard, if you have ideas or suggestions for the social committee regarding cultural programming, you can contact Mary Rose by phone at 244-9339 or E-mail at [maryrosemattei@bellsouth.net](mailto:maryrosemattei@bellsouth.net).

Still another way by which I plan to strengthen our sense of cultural heritage is through my role as the IAA representative for the 2004 Festa Italiana. "Festa" has been one of the most significant vehicles for increasing community awareness of the IAA. I am excited to say that efforts are now underway to revive the Festa Italiana! For more information on the Festa, please see the progress report include in this newsletter.

While I am excited about the upcoming year, I want to take just moment to comment on the IAA Family Christmas Dinner at St. Joe's. First of all, I want to thank Bob Waters and the members of the IAA Family Christmas Dinner Committee for organizing such a wonderful event to bring to a close 2003. Once again, Bob did a spectacular job of preparing all the food. I also want to thank Mary Rose and Louie Mattei for securing the delightful stuffed animals that were given away to all of the children from both St. Joe's and the IAA. Lou and Mary Perry did their usual great job of proving games and prizes for the evening, as well as organizing the highly

successful "group sing-a-longs." If you were not able to attend, you missed what I consider to be our most successful and enjoyable event of 2003.

So, as you can see, like me, members of the IAA have much to be excited about in 2004. I hope you will let me share my excitement with you by coming out and joining other IAA members at our events.

Warmest regards,

Bernardo J. Carducci, President

**ROME**....Four Romans braved the chill to dive 52 feet (17 meters) off a bridge into the muddy River Tiber to mark a New Year tradition on Thursday. A crowd of hundreds cheered the divers as they flung themselves off the Cavour Bridge into the swirling river that winds through Rome. Italian diver Aldo Corrieri, 40, dedicated the event, which has taken place since 1946, to world peace.

**DUES** ....Check the status of your membership below. Listed are the DUES PAID (Adult and Youth) for 2004 members and then the LIFETIME members.

**ADULT DUES PAID for 2004:**

Amenta,Conrad; Azzara,Marie; Azzara,Michael; Beatty, Theodora; Beatty,John; Damico,Rosalie; Damico,Al; Dattilo,Gus; DeVuono,Hallie; Fazio,Jean; Fazio,Al; Galofaro,Anthony; Galofaro,Anita; Guzzetta,Carmille;; Hambleton,James; Kettler,Elvira; Lanning,John Alan; Lenzi,Geraldine; Lenzi,Paul John; Mason,Audree; Mazzoli,Liliana; Mitchell,Delores Dattilo; Napier,Jessie; Napier,Clair; Perry,Lou; Perry,Mary; Pusateri,Evelyn; Rothenburger,Janevera; Rothenburger,Robert; Schweitzer,Carol; Schweitzer,Stephen.

**LIFETIME MEMBERS:**

Bukowski,Marie; Campisano,Frank; Carducci, Bernardo; Dattilo,David; DeVuono, Lewis; Gabriele,Vincenzo; Gadlage,Anthony; Grisanti,Michael; Hanka,Marvin; Hanka,Martha; Lampe,Julie; Mascagni III, Frank;Mattiussi,Sylvia; Mazzoli,Enricio; Melillo,Barbara; Moir,Rick; Ochsner,Angela; Renzi,Joe; Shipp,Rose; Spooner,Judith; Tomassetti,Al; Tomassetti,Berard; Waters,Robert.

**YOUTH DUES PAID FOR 2004:**

Hambleton,Joey

Send your dues (and the attached application) to: Mary Perry, IAA Treasurer; 4319 Saratoga Woods Drive; Louisville, KY 40299

**PROFILE OF TODAY'S ITALIAN AMERICAN (OSIA data)**

- The average Italian American is 34 years old, married with one child.
- Has a median annual income of \$61,300.
- In the USA, 15.7 million people identified themselves as Italian Americans....that's one million more than the 1990 census.
- Italian is the fourth European language most spoken in U.S. homes.
- Italian Americans' level of education is above the national average. Of Italian Americans, 48% have either a high school or college diploma compared to 44% of the general population.
- Most Italian Americans in the workforce, 66%, are in white collar positions.

To download the report, visit:

[www.osia.org](http://www.osia.org)

**BIRTHDAYS – FEBRUARY (FEBBRAIO)**

- 05 Enedina Struckfus
- 11 Renata Reeve
- 11 Carol Paglino
- 11 Rosy Woods
- 11 Theo Beatty
- 13 Michael Azzara
- 13 Stephanie Altobellis
- 16 Gus Dattilo
- 17 Marorie Sangalli
- 18 Donna Mancini
- 19 Iginia Davit
- 21 Russel Louis Ferreri
- 24 Lou Perry (LX)
- 27 Tom Schell

**BUON COMPLEANNO !!**

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"

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**IAA General Meeting & Dinner Show at Clifton's Pizza: Wednesday, January 28, 2004,**  
by Bernardo J. Carducci, contributing writer

Over the past year, some of the IAA's most successful and well-attended events have been at Clifton's Pizza. When I ask folks why they enjoy coming to Clifton's, the answer is always the same---"THE FOOD!" They say, "Where else can you get such wonderful, freshly made pasta, pizza, breadsticks, salad, and stuffed mushrooms—Oh, those big, juicy stuffed mushrooms—for under \$10? And it's all you can eat!"

So to help kick off 2004 with a guaranteed success, the January General Meeting of the IAA will be a combination dinner and musical evening at Clifton's Pizza on Wednesday, January 28, 2004. Yes, that's right. I said "musical evening." More specifically, to make the evening even more spectacular, in addition to Clifton's fabulous food, a special feature for the evening includes arrangements being made to have live entertainment by a group of vocalists performing songs in Italian.

So, if you want to enjoy some great food and hear the Italian language in song, plan on coming to Clifton's Pizza, located at 2230 Frankfort Avenue, on Wednesday, January 28, 2004 beginning at 6:30 p.m. There will be an all-you-can-eat buffet Italian dinner that will include stuffed mushrooms, tossed salad, assorted pizzas, chicken tetrazini, and bread. The entire cost of the dinner is only \$9.00, which includes tax and tip. For those individuals who still have room for dessert after all this food, for an extra dollar, you can order a slice of Italian-style cheesecake.

Reservations: To ensure that Clifton's prepares enough food for all of those who will be attending, as well as guarantee you a seat, we need to have a headcount prior to the event. To make your reservation for this event, please contact Bernardo Carducci by phone at 282-3938

or by E-mail at [bcarducc@ius.edu](mailto:bcarducc@ius.edu)  
<<mailto:bcarducc@ius.edu>> by Monday, January 26, 2004 and indicate the number of individuals who will be attending with you.

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**2004 FESTA ITALIANA Progress Report**  
by Bernardo J. Carducci, IAA Festa Italiana Representative, Contributing Writer

After a two-year absence, the IAA Board of Directors has begun plans to reestablish the "Festa Italiana." The Festa Italiana will be held on September 10 & 11, 2004, just off Bardstown Road on Edenside Avenue, which is one of Louisville's most vibrant and highly visible intersections for both motor and foot traffic. Such a location is going to do much to increase the attention of and attendance at the Festa.

However, in a significant effort to guarantee the Festa's success, the IAA Festival Committee will be working with one of the area's most well-established, professional fund raising organization to seek sponsorships to help underwrite the cost of promoting and producing the Festa. The sponsorship levels, which vary from signage during the event to couponing and merchandising opportunities at the event, range from \$1,500 to \$12,000.

I am told by the fundraising organization that it increases dramatically the likelihood of obtaining financial support if there is a personal, professional, and/or commercial connection with the event by the sponsor. So in this regard, I am asking members of the IAA to help me by providing the names of individuals, organizations, and businesses that you feel might enjoy and benefit from being associated with this highly visible, citywide, regionally promoted, family-focused event. After I receive these recommendations from IAA members, I will then personally pass them along to the fundraising organization to do what it does best—raise money for the Festa!

It is important to note, and I want to make it perfectly clear, that I am not asking members of the IAA to go out and ask people for money to support the Festa. However, if any IAA members and/or their businesses or employers want to

become sponsors, I will certainly welcome such support. Again, to make my point, what I am asking members of the IAA to do is to provide me with information regarding potential sponsors. That's all! So, if anyone out there has any personal or professional contacts or suggestions for contacts for potential sponsors of the 2004 Festa Italiana, or if you want more information about the Festa or details of sponsorship, please contact Bernardo Carducci as soon as possible by phone at 282-3938 or by E-mail at bcarducc@ius.edu <mailto:bcarducc@ius.edu> . The success of the Festa depends on securing sponsorships. I am making a personal appeal for all IAA members to help our organization secure those sponsors by proving me with any information you can. I look forward to hearing from you.

### MYTH, MOTH MEMORIES

Some time ago after visiting Calabria, I recall the story of a woman who was described as a “believer in the old way and superstitions.” It was said that she believed “the angel of death appears as a moth”. Growing up my mother told us that whenever there is a moth in the house that “The moth brings news”.

Many Italian Americans view the moth in their home as a sign on an impending death of someone they know. Others believe the moth's presence meant misfortune but not necessarily death. According to folklore black moths meant a sure sign that a death in the house would occur soon. White moths, universally, are linked with the dead.....carrying the sole of a departed love one, and you would be courting disaster to kill one.

One moth, the “Death's Head Moth” (it has skull-and-crossbones markings on the thorax); also, makes a dismal cry sound. Its biological name refers to a river of sorrows and in mythology, it with a pair of scissors severs the thread of life thereby ending it.

The “Death's Head Moth” goes Hollywood....on the poster for *Silence of the Lambs* it is placed over the mouth of a female face. Also, in the movie *The Mothman Prophecies* the moth creature appears over an area that will soon face impending doom.

## ITALIAN LESSIONS

### # 1 - Alphabet/Alfabeto

The Italian alphabet contains twenty-one letters:

Letters	Names of the Letters
a	a
b	bi
c	ci
d	di
e	e
f	effe
g	gi
h	acca
i	i
l	elle
m	emme
n	enne
o	o
p	pi
q	cu
r	erre
s	esse
t	ti
u	u
v	vu
z	zeta

The following five letters are found in foreign words:

Letters	Names of the Letters
j	i lungo
k	cappa
w	doppia vu
x	ics
y	ipilon

**Vowels/Vocali** will be next month....a,e,i,o,u like you've never heard before. Please forgive me Lord, I know not what I do, and send me someone who can do this better than me....lp



Let's not forget  
Italian's speak with  
their hands, too .

Che barba...  
English translation:  
**How annoying...**

# ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

## Membership Application Form

January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

- New Membership
- Renewal Membership
- Lifetime Membership

DATE joining club \_\_\_\_\_

Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name                                      First Name                                      Middle Initial/Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address                                      City                                      State                                      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone #                                      Occupation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone #                                      Fax Phone #                                      E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Birthplace and Origin of Heritage                                      Birth Date

**SPOUSE INFORMATION: (Fill out if spouse is also joining the club at this time.)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name                                      First Name                                      Maiden Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone #                                      Fax Phone #                                      E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Birthplace and Origin of Heritage                                      Occupation                                      Birth Date

**TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:** Adult membership is \$12 per year. Youth membership is \$1 per year. Membership fee may be prorated for initial month of joining. All membership dues are renewable on January 1 of each year.

- ADULT                      \$12 per year for each person over the age of 18
- YOUTH                      \$1 per year for each child under the age of 18
- LIFETIME                      \$100 one time payment per person

**PLEASE LIST THE NAMES AND BIRTHDAYS OF ALL YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_      May we include your membership information in the IAA directory?       Yes       No

**Please return completed form and dues to:** Make checks payable to the ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
Mary Perry, Treasurer  
4319 Saratoga Woods Drive Louisville, KY 40299