

# ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

visit: [www.LouisvilleItalians.com](http://www.LouisvilleItalians.com)

editor - lou perry

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membership - mary perry

kentucky – indiana sud

Messaggio del "House"

## ABRUZZO REFLECTIONS

It could have been a mere coincidence. Or, it could have been a kind of "destiny". I prefer the latter to explain how I came to be on the Floor of the U. S. House of Representatives in Washington on June 15, 2009, when House Resolution 430 was called up for a vote. H. Res. 430 is a Resolution expressing condolences to the citizens of Italy in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that struck the Abruzzo region of Italy.

Why do I suggest that destiny might have been at work in all this? First of all, because I had no idea before entering the House Chamber (as a Former Member of the House I retain Floor privileges) that H. Res. 430 was even on the House Calendar. And, because I was still reveling in the warm feelings left with me from having attended, less than twenty-four hours earlier, a fund-raising event sponsored by the Italian American Association of Louisville to benefit these same Abruzzo victims.



The IAA event, conducted under the expert guidance of Lou and Mary Perry and Professor Bernardo Carducci, was both aesthetically and gastronomically first rate, and it was a wonderful example of the generosity and caring of people coming together in Louisville to help people in need in far away Italy.

But, then, the IAA is an organization which always looks at the larger picture and always devotes its members' talents and energies to advance the purposes and needs not just of the Italian-American community in the Louisville area but of the broader human community.

I am proud to be a member of the Italian American Association of Louisville and to associate myself with its members and its good works. (received from the Honorable Ron Mazzoli).

Side-note from Mr. Mazzoli ...The President is in L'Aquila today (7-8-09) meeting with world leaders and viewing the damage caused by the quake. This could lead to added recovery resources going into this area.

## Next Events

St. Joseph's Charity Picnic – August 8  
UL-Travelogue/Dinner, Italy ... September 1  
(see p. 2 for details)

## ASSUMPTION OF MARY

This principal feast day celebrates the day that the Virgin Mary ascended into Heaven following her death; it is celebrated annually on or around August 15. **FERRAGOSTO** is, next to Christmas, Easter, and New Years, probably

the most important holiday in Italy. You will read that the entire country shuts down on August 15 to celebrate,



but many Italians take the entire month of August off.

August is holiday month in Italy, and while most tourist sights are open there will be plenty of "closed for the holidays" signs in shop and restaurant windows. And if you thought you might head to the beach in August on a whim, forget it - that is where all the Italians have disappeared to, and everything is booked up well in advance.

More than 50% of Italians are on vacation this August according to Telefono Blu. Where do they go? 72% of Italians on vacation are staying in Italy with 75% of those heading to the coast. The other 25% will visit the Lakes, mountains, or Italian tourist cities such as Rome and Venice, but tourist services mostly remain open. Meanwhile about 1.5 million foreigners will travel to Italy on vacation in August. So if you're traveling in Italy in August, you can expect crowds on trains and roads, especially near the coast.

## Weather in Italy

Italy is not a huge country (about the size of Nevada), but the weather from the top to the toe of this boot will vary pretty dramatically throughout the year. Plus, with the long coastlines and mountain ranges, the temperature can change in a matter of minutes as you go from town to town.

**UNISCALI**  
Join Us

**Find Italy in Louisville!**

You don't have to be Italian to join our fun events, so invite family & friends to participate in many exciting gatherings focused on the Italian culture and cuisine.

**MARK IT DOWN:**

August 8 – St. Joseph's Charity Picnic.  
September 1 - Italian Travelogue, UL-University Club; 5:30.  
RSVP: 409-7785, Mary Rose.  
September 4-6 – International WorldFest  
September 25-27, "La Traviata", KY Opera  
October – Italian Heritage Month – Mass (Columbus Day)  
November 18 – IAA Elections – Dinner (Clifton's)  
December – IAA Christmas Gathering (ideas)

**August 8 --- ST. JOSEPH'S ANNUAL CHARITY PICNIC** ..... IAA members and friends will be there manning the income-generating booth "Four-In-A-Row". Paul Castagno has done a wonderful job over the years in coordinating the volunteers and the work-shifts needed. As always, schedules change, and Paul's covered shifts may need a post to fill. Let Paul know you're willing to help if needed. If you can't be in the IAA booth, come out and support the Charity Picnic.

**September 1 --- Italian Travelogue, UL-University Club;** 5:30pm; RSVP by August 20 to Mary Rose, home - 409-7785 (cell - 523 8596).

**ITALIAN AMERICAN CELEBRATIONS**

**PEORIA SUMMER FESTA PICNIC** (80th annual) is a long-standing family event every year since its founding in 1929. The picnic brings a small piece of Italy and its traditions to central Illinois each summer. What began as a social event for Italian immigrants has evolved into the Society's major fundraiser for its two scholarship programs; Sunday August 9, in the Hickory Grove Park.

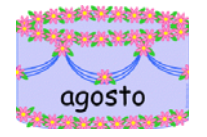
**BALTIMORE'S LITTLE ITALY FESTIVAL-** annual Saint Gabriel Festival located in the heart of downtown renaissance Baltimore. Nestled between the Inner Harbor and historic Fells Point; August 22nd and 23rd; come and experience good Italian food, music and many activities.

**TUSCARAWAS COUNTY ITALIAN-AMERICAN FESTIVAL,** 21st Annual; August 7- 9; historic Canal Dover, Ohio; Golf Tournament, Kids' Korner, Mayor's Breakfast, Bocce, Rocky Chirchiglia's band, Cheerleading Exhibition, Wine Judging, Street Art (Chalk Drawing), Spaghetti Sauce Judging, Morra, procession (religious icons), and a Spaghetti Dinner.

**ITALY : Population** 58.9 million; **Electricity** 230 volts AC, 50Hz; **Telephone** Country code: 39 (followed by code for city).

**BIRTHDAYS**

**FELICE COMPLEANNO !!**



Grisanti, Michael 8-10	Mazzoli, Helen 8-1
Mascagni, III Frank 8-3	Waters, Robert 8-2
Melillo, Barbara 8-9	Benassi, James 8-13
Palmisano, Mike 8-25	Crocco, Daniela 8-1
Rosencrans, Sylvia 8-20	Francesconi, Darrin 8-2
Pollard, Debbie 8-25	Schweitzer, Rob 8-4
Isetti, Rose 8-18	
Flitt, Brooklyn 8-5	
Marino, Joan 8-10	

**Grilled Vegetable Salad with Greens, Tomatoes, Herbs, Olives and Cheese**

For this fabulous salad use red onions, beets, zucchini, eggplant, and bell peppers, but any mix of summer vegetables would work. The salad gets served with grilled bread and is nice with your favorite wine. Yield: Makes 6 servings.

**Ingredients**

- 3/4 olive oil
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1 large red onion, cut into 3/4-inch-thick rounds
- 12 baby beets, stems trimmed to 1 inch, peeled, halved lengthwise
- 3 small zucchini, each cut lengthwise into 4 slices
- 2 large red bell peppers, cut into 2-inch-wide strips
- 6 slices country-style-Italian bread
- Additional olive oil
- 10 cups mixed baby greens
- 4 large tomatoes, sliced
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh basil
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives or green onions
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh marjoram
- 3/4 cup chilled fresh mild goat cheese, crumbled (about 3 ounces)
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Pecorino Romano cheese (about 2 ounces)
- 3/4 cup brine-cured black olives (such as Kalamanta)

**Preparation**

Prepare barbeque (medium-high heat). Whisk 3/4 cup oil and vinegar in medium bowl to blend. Place onion, beets, zucchini, eggplants, and red bell pepper on baking sheet. Brush both sides with some of vinaigrette. Sprinkle vegetables with salt and pepper. Grill vegetables until just cooked through, about 10 minutes per side for beets, 6 minutes per side for onion and 4 minutes per side for zucchini, eggplant, and peppers. (Vegetables can be grilled 1 hour ahead. Let stand at room temperature.) Brush Italian bread with additional olive oil; sprinkle with pepper. Grill bread until beginning to brown, about 2 minutes per side. Arrange greens on large platter. Overlap tomatoes atop greens in center of platter. Sprinkle tomatoes with salt and pepper. Arrange grilled vegetables atop greens around edge of platter. Drizzle remaining vinaigrette over tomatoes and grilled vegetables. Sprinkle tomatoes and vegetables with herbs. Sprinkle tomatoes with goat cheese. Sprinkle Romano cheese over all. Garnish with olives. Serve with bread.

## EVENTS IN ITALY

**FERRAGOSTO** - August 15, the feast of the Assumption, is a national holiday in Italy and marks the peak of the holiday season. The Italian name, "Ferragosto," comes from the Latin "feriae augustae," meaning "August holidays." Italian cities become ghost towns while most factories and businesses close down as families and groups of friends flock to the coast, the mountains, and the lakes.

**PELLESTRINA REGATTA**; August 2; the Pellestrina Regatta is one of the 120 regattas of the Venetian rowing season, and coincides with the colourful feast of the Madonna dell'Apparizione. Spectators can enjoy the action from the shore of the island.

**TUSCAN SUN FESTIVAL**, August 3-9, 2009; now in it's 7th year, the festival once again stays true to presenting a program that explores the 5 senses, all within the intimate setting of the medieval town of Cortona, in the province of Arezzo, Tuscany. Each evening the festival presents concerts by some of the world's most distinguished artists performing in the intimate setting of the 420 seat, Romantic-period theatre, Teatro Signorelli.

**BALESTRO del GIRIFALCO** is a fabulous crossbow shooting contest between the different districts of Massa Marittima; August 9; an unexpected little gem of a town in the wilderness of the Maremma. The contest is followed by food, drink, and colorful parades to brighten up the townscape. The crossbow may seem like an outmoded weapon now, but its arrival heralded radical changes in the battlefield strategies and in its time it was a fearsome weapon, capable of penetrating thick suits of armor.

**FEAST OF SAN LORENZO** – Rome; the anniversary of the death of San Lorenzo (or St Lawrence), second only to St Peter and St Paul in popularity, is on 10 August. The saint's martyrdom is celebrated every year with fireworks and public celebrations in the area surrounding his crypt on the Via Tiburtina, where he was killed in 258 AD. The cathedral on the site was erected much later in honor of the saint by Emperor Constantine, but there are records of the celebration dating back to the second decade of the 4th century, making the observance one of the earliest of the Roman Church

**SACILE BIRD FESTIVAL** (Sagra dei Osei), August 16. Sacile is a town in the province of Pordenone, in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region; crowds in the old town enjoy the trilling of the birds, which are brought from far and wide for the contest. There's even a challenge where men imitate the birdsong themselves. The year 2009 sees the **736th anniversary** of this event, which makes it one of Italy's oldest festivals. A panel of experts chooses the winning bird at the end of the competition.



**LANDING OF THE SARACENS**, August 17-19; this re-enacts the battle that took place on August 15, 1558 in the town of Positano, on the Amalfi Coast. Actors in costume, music and the almost-guaranteed spectacular sunset make for an entertaining family event.

## ABRUZZO RELIEF DONORS

The Italian American Association appreciates the help of the donors in making the earthquake victims' fundraiser a success. Accordingly, IAA would like to encourage you to visit and support the following:

### SERVING AT FERD's:

**ADRIENNE & CO BAKERY and CAFÉ** - on Court St. in Jeffersonville, IN – just across the river.

**CATERING BY TERESA** – call Teresa Crocco at 502-648-9307.

**GELATO GILBERTO** at Norton Commons.

**JOHNNY V's** – on the J'town Square.

**Le GALLO ROSSO** – on Bardstown Road – Highlands

**OLIVE GARDEN**: on Hurstbourne and in Prospect

**SELENA'S AT WILLOW LAKE TAVERN** on LaGrange Road in Anchorage.

**VINCENZO'S** in downtown Louisville on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

### OTHER DONORS (silent & live auction)

**LUIGI'S PIZZERIA & PASTA** – on Main Street near the BIG baseball bat.

**LOSTA PASTA** – on Lexington Road near the Shelbyville Rd & Frankfort Ave. intersection.

**KATHERINE PULZONE, ARTIST** (speciality – Italian oil paintings/prints) – 502- 489-3715.

**MATTEI NOVELTY COMPANY** – (502-583-4774).

**ZA's PIZZA PUB** – Bardstown Road – Highlands.

**JUSTICE RACING STABLES** – 502-810-4335.

**DyeSigns by PAMELA MATTEI** (silk scarf's) at 10219 Statia Lynn Court.

**KREMER'S SMOKE SHOPPE** – 401 E. Jefferson St.

**MAC's ARTISTIC INTERIORS** - 502-648-9307.

**MANY THANKS, AGAIN ..... with your help, we exceeded our goal**

## AUGUST

**Month:** Family Fun Month, **National Golf Month**, and National Picnic Month.

**Weekly Events:** Week 2 - National Smile Week.

### Special Days:

2 National Ice Cream Sandwich Day and also Friendship Day.

3 National Watermelon Day

3 Left Hander's Day -- Think about it: everyone is a left hander in Left Hand, West Virginia; also, everyone was born right handed, and only the greatest overcome it.

14-15 V-J Day - marks the end of WWII, and the cessation of fighting against Japan.

15 Relaxation Day – chill out.

**21 Senior Citizen's Day**

24 Vesuvius Day marks the date in 79 A.D. that Mount Vesuvius exploded and destroyed the Roman cities of Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Stabiae. They were buried by volcanic ash and pumice.

26 National Dog Day



# dc bocce league

When former Rep. Ron Mazzoli returned from his visit to his old stomping grounds on "the Hill" in Washington, DC, he shared the unknown .... **Bocce is BIG in DC.** For myself, I thought bocce in Toluca, Illinois over the Labor Day weekend was phenomenal, but after viewing the article from "Capital Living" and their website; I believe DC - bocce tops all that I have ever seen or heard about.

What started in 2004 as a fun hobby for five friends has grown to over 1200 "bocce-ers" in three leagues that make up the highly coordinated and organized "dc bocce league". It's all about having fun, and a stress reliever where play is so relaxed, and each event resembles a backyard family reunion.



The leagues are hosted by the Garfield Park, Rose Park, Kalorama Park, and the Capitol Hill, West End, and Adams Morgan communities. Games are played every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, rain or shine.

The league has Spring and Summer meets, and the rest of the



year is filled with many different activities.

## ITALIAN LESSONS

### GENDER

As you explore using your Italian skills while at Gelato Gilberto some Tuesday evening, you might reflect on being taught to recognize the gender of the word from its ending. It is thus easy to deduce that words ending in "o" such as: duomo (cathedral), castello (castle), palazzo (palace), museo (museum) are masculine and, on the other hand, that those ending in "a" like piazza, strada, casa are feminine. But do remember: there are a few exceptions: words ending in "o" like mano (hand) can also be feminine (fortunately there are very few of them) and words ending in a like problema, schema, teorema are masculine.

Additionally, the biggest nightmare for all students of Italian concerns words ending in e. There might well be some adults who still have not arrived at a conclusion as to whether words like fiume (river), ponte (bridge), televisione (TV), pensione (small hotel) are masculine or feminine. If it happens that one Tuesday evening while sitting at Gelato Gilberto for the Italian speaking sessions that you dream of being in Florence and wondering around Florence near Piazza della Signoria after one or two aperitivi, somewhat unsure of your bearings, you find yourself asking where the Old Bridge (Ponte Vecchio) or the river Arno ( fiume Arno) are, and start exploring the question in your mind as to what gender to attribute to these two words think no more: both are masculine, il fiume and il ponte. So, as you finish your banana gelato, remember that the right question to ask is: "Dove è il fiume Arno?" or "Dove è il ponte Vecchio" (Where is the river Arno, or where is the Old Bridge?).

Then there are accented words ending in é, such as caffè, tè. Could coffee, this famous and popular Italian drink, possibly be feminine? Definitely not! Accented words ending in è are always masculine. On the other hand, accented words ending in à (università, città) are all feminine.

### Remember ....

Italians also speak with their hands

**Soldi del prestito dai pessimista- don' la t lo prevede indietro**

Borrow money from pessimists-they don't expect it back

