



# ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

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

editor - lou perry

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kentuckiana

## Messaggio dal Presidente

The IAA is the oldest and most-active organization dedicated to promoting the Italian heritage in the community. Our efforts to raise community awareness regarding the IAA and the Italians in Louisville continue to pay off. As an example, I am already getting inquiries from around the city, the state, and the region-yes, the region-regarding the FESTA ITALIANA 2007. But in order to remain vital and grow, we need to continue to maintain a sense of visibility when opportunities present themselves. So, with this focus in mind, here are a few opportunities where members of the IAA can come out and help to show the city that we exist and demonstrate the pride we have in our Italian heritage:

**St. Joseph's Community Picnic:** August 11th-The IAA will be host a booth at the annual St. Joseph's Charity Picnic from noon to midnight. Your help would be appreciated - contact Paul Castagno at 425-1082 to volunteer with your family and friends.

**Southwest Regional Library** - Italian Heritage Events: September 8th (2:30-3:30 p.m.) & 11th (7:00-8:00 p.m.)-The library will be hosting Italian-theme activities. Lou Perry and Bernardo Carducci will be talking about our Italian heritage. These events are free and open to the public. Contact Lou (phone: 231-7702 or E-mail: L4perri@insightbb.com or Bernardo (phone: 282-3938 or E-mail: bcarducc@ius.edu for more information.

**WorldFest Parade of Nations:** September 1st (noon-1:00 p.m.)- March with other IAA members under the Italian flag in this short, four-block parade from Fifth and Market to the Belvedere. IAA members, along with their family, including children, and friends are encourage to wear green, white, and red clothing to add color to our parade unit. Contact Bernardo (phone: 282-3938 or E-mail: bcarducc@ius.edu for more information.

**FESTA ITALIANA 2007:** September 28th (5:00-11:00 p.m.), 29th (2:00-11:00 p.m.), and 30th (noon-6:00 p.m.)-The IAA will be presenting the FESTA again at St. James Church. Please help spread the word about the festival to your family, friends, and co-workers. Contact Bernardo for more information about the FESTA or visit the web site: [www.louisvilleitalians.com](http://www.louisvilleitalians.com).

**Cultural Showcase – Italy** at the Iroquois Library, October 20th (1:00-2:30 p.m.) -The library and IAA will be hosting Italian-theme activities.....orientation to Italy, achievements, heritage dances, opera, architecture, morra, music, language, bocce, and Italian refreshments. This event is free and open to the public. Contact Lou (phone: 231-7702 or E-mail: L4perri@insightbb.com for more information.

As always, I urge you to bringing your children and grandchildren to all of these events, for this is one of the best ways to help them to become aware of and preserve their Italian heritage, as well as to promote interest in them becoming future members of the IAA. So, put on some green, white, and red clothing and let's show the community how proud we are to be Italians.

Warmest regards,  
Bernardo J. Carducci, President

### Next Event

St. Joseph's Charity Picnic, Sat.- 11th  
(see p. 3 for details)

## WHERE'S GEORGE ?



**LAGLIO** (Lake Como, Lombardia) has a population of 888 Lagliesi. Actually, it's now 889. Recently, actor George Clooney acquired a place on the lake nearby. If you want to hang with George on your next visit, you'll probably have to get in line. Nonetheless, Laglio is a beautiful area and there are 45 industrial firms; four service firms; and a miscellaneous group of seven more firms.

Back to George:  
this is his  
"Villa Oleandra"



## RAIL TICKET PROTECTION .

In order to ensure peace of mind and protect your vacation, **Ticket Protection Plan PLUS** is essential for rail travelers. Rail passes are like cash. If you are traveling in Europe and your rail pass is lost or stolen, you will not receive a refund unless you have Ticket Protection Plan PLUS. Under the Ticket Protection Plan PLUS Program, you are entitled to a full refund of the unused portion of your original rail passes or rail and drive passes. You must purchase rail Ticket Protection Plan PLUS at the same time as your pass.



## ANNUAL EVENTS IN ITALY

**FERRAGOSTO - Assumption Day** - 15th; national holiday; this is the day that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was taken up and assumed into heaven and it virtually shuts down Italy. Most of Italy's geographical interior is already dysfunctional because August is considered 'vacation month' from the first day of August --- most tourist attractions, supermarkets, restaurants, stores, banks, public services and offices, businesses, and most newsstands and bars close down.

**BALESTRO of GIRIFALCO** – citta of Massa Marittima (Toscana); 2nd Sunday of August. In this Tuscan town with a magnificent



medieval piazza and a particularly beautiful Romanesque cathedral, crossbowmen representing the three rival districts of the old town (Cittanova, Civitavecchia and Borgo) compete with their heavy bowed weapons. The competition is preceded by a great historic parade decorated with flag wavers in the tradition of the ancient Republic and ends with the traditional competition of crossbows made strictly according to 14th century specifications.

**BRAVIO delle BOTTI** - last Sunday of August; citta of Montepulciano (Siena province); the origins of this odd race can be traced back to documents of law written first in the year 1372 that involved races between neighborhoods of the city using horses (a typical Italian palio). Eventually barrels replaced horses and now the eight 'contrade' (neighborhoods) each enter two well-trained men who roll 80 Kilogram (150 pound) wine barrels through (and mainly up) a distance of 1.65 Kilometers of cobblestoned streets to the finish line which is in the 'Piazza Grande'. The course winds its way through all of the neighborhoods where the streets are lined with emotionally charged residents who cheer their own men and jeer the rest. On the last Thursday of August (preceeding the actual race) there is a solemn procession of residents carrying fifteen pound candles throughout the city in a unifying ceremony that blesses the participants. The residents of this city are very proud of their ancient tradition and regard it with the utmost seriousness. This does not prevent them, however, from having a good time nor does it prevent them from embracing curious onlookers with open arms!

**CALA (Decent) del SASSO** ---- 24th, citta of Asiago (Vicenza province). On this day everyone retraces the 4,444 steps of a famous and ancient street used to haul goods & avoid the taxes on the right-of-way.



## BIRTHDAYS: Agosto 2007: COMPLEANNO FELICE !!

Last Name, First Name,	Birthdate
Grisanti, Michael	8/10
Mascagni, III Frank	8/3
Melillo, Barbara	8/9
Rosencrans, Sylvia	8/20
Crocco, Daniela	8/1
Waters, Robert	8/2
Pollard, Debbie	8/25
Spradlin, Charlie	8/29
Benassi, James	8/13
Mattiussi, Sylvia	8/21
Mazzoli, Helen	8/1
Mettallo, Todd	8/17

## UTOPIAN CITY ---- TODI, ITALY

**TODI** has been defined by a major US university research group as the most livable town on earth for its size, its climate, its hilltop location and for its harmonious relationship to its surroundings. An interesting artistic center in a magnificent position dominating the Tiber valley famous for its Roman and Etruscan remains, for its palaces, its churches, and its suggestive medieval environment. Picturesque winding streets, stone buildings, arches, medieval wells, views of faraway valleys, hills and mountains all contribute to **Todi's** unique charm.

In the center of town is the long rectangular Piazza del Popolo, considered to be one of the most beautiful in Italy, which faces the Palazzo dei Priori, Palazzo del Popolo and Palazzo del Capitano all originally 13th c. civic buildings still used as such today, and the 11<sup>th</sup> c. Duomo. The newly restored and reorganized Museo Civico e Pinacoteca houses important pieces ranging from rare Etruscan coins to 16th c. Italian paintings. **Todi** has a fascinating history. Built on Etruscan ruins the town is peppered with Etruscan arches, Roman cisterns, and medieval buildings. **Todi** is home to some of Italy's oldest public buildings (Todi - Umbria region; population– 17,075).



ITALY (about the size of Nevada) has 20 Regions (left), like our States ... 5 being autonomous). The regions include 110 Provinces, over 8000 communes, and over 35,000 frazioni.

## Che Passa!

(What's Happening)

IAA

**August 11, St. Joseph's Charity Picnic (see below)**

**September 28-29-30, FESTA ITALIANA** (St. James Church area)

**October 20, Cultural Showcase - Italy** (Iroquois Library)

**November 14, IAA Elections & Dinner** (Clifton's Pizza)

**December 9, IAA Christmas Gathering** (St. Joseph's Children's Home)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW**

## AUGUST

### St. Joseph's Charity Picnic – August 11<sup>th</sup>

The St. Joseph Orphan Society Picnic in its 157th year will be held on Saturday August 11. This is the principle fund raiser for the children's home and helps to support the residential program, child development center and the therapeutic foster care and adoption programs. Having a successful picnic is vital to the programs that the society supports. The Italian American Association has supported this event over the years and again this year we will sponsor the Italian American booth with the game "4-in-a-Row". We are in need of help in this booth and ask that if you & your friends can manage to give just two hours of your time on Saturday the 11th of August, please call Paul Castagno at 425-1082 or eMail Paul at p.castagno@insightbb.com. Shifts run every two hours ...12 noon -2; 2-4; 4-6; 6-8; 8-10; and 10-12 midnite.

### ITALY IN AUGUST

Vacations in Italy are ALWAYS a rewarding experience ..... however, if you can, try to avoid taking vacations in Italy during August, when many Italians take their own vacations. I have heard, Italy shuts down and everyone lives on the beach for 3 1/2 weeks. Personally, I still find this hard to believe, but this is what many travel experts say. You will find a surprising amount of hotels, restaurants, and shops to be closed down for an extended period of time. And cheap travel to Italy during the summer is a near impossibility. But if you prefer to enjoy your travels with an assembly of your fellow countrymen, visit Italy during the months of July and August. Assuming you don't mind the temperature climbing well into the 80s. According to "Fordor's" - summer is filled with festivities, and offers the best weather for sunning and swimming, bringing dense crowds and higher prices, especially during the middle two weeks of August, when Italians vacation en masse.



## PROBLEM GAMBLERS

### Casinos and Now Online

Casinos routinely dish out blenders, lunches, bathrobes, pump-priming cash, and bus trips right to their doors. The more you play, the better your comps—free nights at the hotel, for example, and dozens of drawings a week for jewelry or cars.....your reward for your steady patronage. Like the general adult population, most older Americans gamble responsibly in one form or another, overwhelmingly for fun and in the hopes of winning money. But older gamblers are especially vulnerable to wagering more than they can afford. The opportunities to gamble are multiplying.....new casinos, and now the Internet makes gambling available 24/7. As the percentage of people ages 50 to 64 using the Internet has grown—from less than 40 percent in 2000 to 69 percent in 2006—so has the share of older people's calls to gambling hotlines regarding addiction issues with online play. Gambling addicts often take out second mortgages; run up debt with credit cards, casinos and relatives; and squander their retirement savings. For those who get in too deep, the helping resources are minimal.

The gaming industry makes no bones about the fact that older gamblers are its "bread-and-butter" business. "Our mission is to get a fair share of every player's gaming wallet. But we never want to extend that wallet beyond a player's means." And when players do get in over their heads? "We train every one of our frontline people to recognize them," Harrah's rep says "and we're aggressive in weeding these players out." (contributed by *Emily Sachar*)

## PROMOTING EXQUISITE ITALIAN GIFTS

August 12 - 16 in New York in the Javits Center.

Consolidating the positive trend in exports to the US, which have risen by 8.2% the last two years, the Italian Trade Commission is organizing the summer edition as part of the NY International Gift Fair. This Fair is considered the most important event in the North American market for the gift industry .....attended by 2,900 exhibitors, spread over a 60,000 square meter surface and was visited by 45,000 people. The Italian participation to the Fair provides the opportunity to showcase Italian craftsmanship districts and their products and to facilitate new contacts between US importers and distributors and Italian firms.

Italy - the fourth biggest supplier for the US - has been penalized in the last few years by the rise of the euro over the dollar and by a challenge from its Asian competitors. This Fair will therefore be an opportunity to prove that Italian industry aims to consolidate in the high-end of the market, even for gift products.

**Let yourself go...**

## BELLY UP TO THE BAR

A bar in Italy is a business establishment in which patrons can purchase coffee drinks, wine and liquor, and often morning pastries and/or sandwiches called *panini* (*un panino* is one sandwich, two sandwiches are *due panini*). In larger bars, many flavors of Italy's famous *gelato* may be served.

In Italy, the bar (or refreshment store) is the center of social life, not a place to consume large amounts of alcohol. Italians may visit their local bar several times in the morning for coffee, and again in the early evening for an *aperitivo* or cocktail before dinner. In bars in larger cities, and especially ones near tourist centers, it will cost more to sit at a table (sometimes even more if the table is outside) than it will to stand at the bar. Prices are posted--*al banco* meaning the price for consuming a beverage at the bar, or *al tavolo*, meaning the price at the table. Smaller town bars may not levy table charges.

### Espresso? Latte? Caffè Corretto?

- \* **caffè (espresso)**—a small cup of very strong coffee, i.e., espresso
- \* **caffè Americano**—American-style coffee, but stronger; weaker than espresso and served in a large cup
- \* **caffè corretto**—coffee "corrected" with a shot of grappa, cognac, or other spirit
- \* **caffè doppio**—double espresso
- \* **caffè freddo**—iced coffee
- \* **caffè Hag**—decaffeinated coffee
- \* **caffè latte**—hot milk mixed with coffee and served in a glass for breakfast
- \* **caffè macchiato**—espresso "stained" with a drop of steamed milk: small version of a cappuccino
- \* **caffè marocchino**—espresso with a dash of hot milk and cacao powder
- \* **caffè stretto**—espresso with less water; rocket fuel!
- \* **cappuccino**—espresso infused with steamed milk and drunk in the morning, but never after lunch or dinner
- \* **granita di caffè con panna**—frozen, iced beverage (similar to a slush, but ice shavings make it authentic) and topped with whipped cream

### STARBUCKS Speaks Italian

Here, the early morning commuters call out their orders to the barista. "Doppio espresso con panna." "Venti cappuccino". "Grande latte". If you didn't see the familiar green mermaid logo, you'd think you were in an Italian caffè. Instead, it's our own -- Starbucks. They have a love affair with Italian coffee expressions. The pocket-size guide that Starbucks publishes reads like an Italian vocabulary guide: americano, breve, cappuccino, con panna, doppio, espresso, grande, latte, macchiato, misto, mocha, ristretto.

If you don't want to be labeled **maleducato** -- it's **espresso, not espresso**; and **caffè** (with two f's) is both the beverage and the locale that serves it.

## ITALIAN LESSIONS – Dialect of Luigi

### ARTICLES

From Andy's Enterprises

Articles can prove a little tricky to English speakers, because English only has two: *the* (definite article) and *a* (indefinite), and the only variation is the use of *an* (instead of *a*) when nouns start with a vowel: *a box, an eye*.

In Italian, though, articles need to match the noun they relate to, both by gender and by number: for example, translating *the lady* and *the man* different articles have to be used (**la donna** and **l'uomo**), as well as for *the cat* and *the cats* (**il gatto** and **i gatti**).

Furthermore, Italian language uses articles more often than English: general nouns and numerals sometimes require them, whereas in English they are usually omitted ("*he prefers wine to beer*" in Italian would be translated "*he prefers the wine to the beer*"; in the same way, "*I was born in the 1963*" sounds odd in English.

Finally, Italian articles also have to match phonetically the word coming next, to produce a more fluent sound, and they do this by modifying their basic inflection.....

But don't panic! Mastering these articles is a much easier task than it might seem from this description, and once you become familiar with the sound of Italian language (more than with the actual rules), your ears will help you more than your memory.

Later, we will become familiar with: DEFINITE ARTICLES, INDEFINITE ARTICLES, and INDEFINITE ARTICLES USED AS PRONOUNS.

**Origin of Italian dialects** ..... many Italian regions already had a different substratum before the conquest of "Italy" by the Romans: **Northern Italy** had a Celtic substratum known as *Gallia Cisalpina*, a Ligurian substratum, and a Venetic substratum. **Central Italy** had an Etruscan substratum, and **Southern Italy** had an Italic or Greek substratum. All of that began as a diversification between the way to speak Latin (the official language of the Empire). Due to the long history of separation in many small states and colonization by foreign powers, there has been ample opportunity for linguistic diversification.

### Remember ....

**I fumatori sono giusti come tutti altro. Non appena come lungo.**

Smokers are just like everybody else. Just not as long.

**Italians also speak with their hands**



## ITALY'S BEST ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUMS

Italy's soil is peppered with the remains of ancient cultures. Where do you put all the artifacts excavated from these sites? The best of the lot usually show up in archaeology museums. Yes, Italy's archaeological museums cover prehistoric, Etruscan, Roman, and medieval periods. Italy even has one of the world's best Egyptian museums. Here is a select few for your favorite archaeological period.

### Naples Archaeological Museum

Given its location in Campania, close to Pompeii and Herculanium, you'd expect the National Museum of Archaeology in Naples to feature loads of interesting artifacts from the Roman era, and it won't fail to please. This is the best place to go to learn about Italy's past.

### National Archaeological Museum - Chiusi

The countryside around Chiusi is loaded with Etruscan tombs. This is *the* place to see Etruscan artifacts, but there's also Greek and Roman remains in the museum as well. Also see the Porsenna Maze, an underground route first dug by the Etruscans that passes under the historic center of Chiusi and ends at a 13th century bell tower.

### National Archaeological Museum - Taranto

Taranto, nestled in the instep of Italy's boot, was the heart of the Magna Grecia, greater Greece. Spartans settled here to take advantage of Taranto's geographical position. Remarkable for both the quality and quantity of artifacts, the Museum is one of the oldest in Southern Italy.

### Civic Archaeological Museum of Bologna

Greek, Roman, Etruscan, and Egyptian relics are found here in the heart of Bologna.

### South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology - Bolzano

Here's where you can see Otzi, the Iceman who was climbing on the Schnalstal glacier where he died and mummified and has provided scientists with a snapshot of what life must have been like 5000 years ago.

### Regional Archaeological Museum - Syracuse, Sicily

The Syracuse Archaeology museum is an ultra-modern building that contrasts nicely with the antiquities outside, which run from the paleolithic through the Greek, Roman, and early Christian eras of Sicily.

### Egyptian Museum of Turin

Italians have always had a fascination with Egyptian art, and Turin has the bulk of the stuff brought back to Italy starting with the Savoy's in the 17th century. According to the literature, the museum site outside of the Cairo Museum dedicated solely to Egyptian art and culture.

### Florence Archeological Museum

A museum noted for its Egyptian and Etruscan collections and the building it's all housed in, the 15th century Palazzo della Crocetta.

### Lipari Archaeological Museum

The obsidian deposits on the volcanic Lipari Islands have contributed to an especially large neolithic collection. The Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Normans, and Turks have also visited and throughout history have become part of the heritage of the islands and left their records for us to see.

*Be An Archaeo-Volunteer*

## ANDREA DORIA FOLLOW-UP

by Sylvia Rooney-Rosencrans

I thought I would write some trivia concerning the **Andrea Doria** expose which you published in last month's (July) issue, and which I so enjoyed reading. One chapter, however, remains to be told.

I had just finished my junior year abroad in Paris and had traveled to Rome to visit my father's family in July, 1956. I tried, to no avail, to reserve passage on this magnificent ship for my return to the US. I had already reserved on the **Ile de France**, which sailed out of France. Ergo, I had to return to Paris in order to board and head for home. Our trip was uneventful and we landed in New York on a Saturday night. The **Ile de France** re-supplied and was returning to France when the **Andrea Doria** was "hit" by the Stockholm. The "**Ile**" picked up some survivors on Tuesday and headed back to NY. I would have been on that **Andrea Doria** sailing had I been able to change my reservation from a departure from France to one departing from Italy. Wow!

But that is not the end of the story. After graduating from Allegheny College, 50 years ago, I was hired by KDKA-TV as Assistant to the Executive Producer. I was to replace Helen Castaldo, who was actually a passenger on the **Andrea Doria** and was returning from her honeymoon in Italy when the terrible disaster took place. Need-less to say, Helen had many a tale to tell.....floating in the Atlantic in a life vest and looking for her husband, etc. She and her husband were picked up by the **Ile de France** shortly after I had disembarked from its decks.

Trust me, transatlantic crossings in those days were well worth it!!!! Truth is sometimes stranger than fiction.

## LOVE IS ETERNAL

Hugging for over 5,000 years

In **Valdaro** (Lombardy region) archaeologists discovered a couple locked in a tender embrace, one that has endured for more than 5,000 years. In the initial examination they appear young as their teeth are not worn down. The couple – dubbed the Lovers of Valdaro –



revealed that the man has an arrow in his spinal column while the woman has an arrow head in her side. Five thousand years ago the area around Valdaro was marshland and criss-crossed by rivers and the environment has helped preserve the skeletons in their near perfect state.