

# ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

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

editor - lou perry    gennaio (january) 2009    membership - mary perry    kentucky – indiana sud

## Next Event

January is **YOUR** month  
(see p. 2 for details)

## Messaggio di President

Happy New Year! 2008 was a wonderful, fun-filled year for the IAA. But, as I do every year at this time, I make a **New Year's resolution** to make the upcoming year an even better one for the IAA. As part of my resolution, I am going to try to make the IAA a more relevant and meaningful organization for our members and the community. For IAA members, I am going to try to develop programs and events that have more cultural significance. To help raise the visibility of the IAA in the community, I would like to try to program events that are open to the general public so that more individuals in the area can see what a great bunch of folks are involved with the IAA.

However, I know that making resolutions and keeping them are two separate challenges. I also know that keeping resolutions are much more likely to happen if you have the **support of others**. So, in an attempt to keep the resolutions that I am stating here today, I am asking for your support. I am asking that you **let me know if you have ideas for programs or events** that you would like to see the IAA develop. Do you know of other groups or organizations that you would like to see co-sponsor events with the IAA? Do you know of individuals you think might make a good speaker or performer for an IAA event? Do you know of any community events that you think the IAA should be involved with that might help us to raise our visibility in the community? I am open to any suggestions you have. So, please send your comments and suggestion to me or any of the other IAA Board members. We are dedicated to making 2009 an even better year for the IAA, but we need your help. **Contact me** by phone at 282-3938 or by e-mail at [bcarducc@ius.edu](mailto:bcarducc@ius.edu). A list of the 2009 IAA Board members and their contact information can be found on the IAA web site at [www.LouisvilleItalians.com](http://www.LouisvilleItalians.com). We welcome your comments and suggestions.

In closing, I have made as my New Year's resolution to make the IAA a better organization in 2009. I hope you will support me in my efforts. And one of the easiest ways that you can do that is by **bringing your family and friends** to upcoming IAA events. I look forward to seeing all of you in the New Year.

Warmest regards, Bernardo J. Carducci, President

P.S. Don't forget to renew you IAA membership. For only \$15 per year, you can help to keep IAA going so that future generations will continue to have a sense of their Italian heritage. A **membership/invoice application** is on the "Join Us" link of the IAA website at [www.LouisvilleItalians.com](http://www.LouisvilleItalians.com).

## BUON CAPODANNO

### 2009

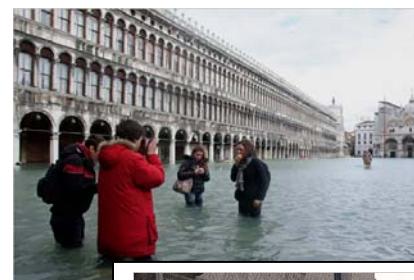


JANUS

## Happy New Year!

Adriatic Sea at high tide in Venice (12-1-2008)

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Visitors at St. Mark's Square, Venice (12-1-2008)



Platforms at Piazza San Marco in Venice as water recedes.

## Che Passa!

(What's Happening)

January is **YOUR** month in the IAA scheme of things..... **YOUR** time to renew your IAA membership; **YOUR** time to submit suggestions to the new 2009 IAA Board for programs and activities; and **YOUR** time to develop a resolution to promote the Italian culture in your family. The IAA Board meets January 28.... so, get your suggestions to Lou Perry at **L4Perri@aol.com** by that time.... Thanks.

## CASTELLAMMARE Del GOLFO (Sicily)

The castle on the gulf  
submitted by Barbara Messina

My cousin, Ginger Torcivia, who lives in NYC and I had talked about going to the land of our ancestors for many years. With our children all grown and out of our homes, we finally made our dream come true, we went to Sicily in September 2007. It was something we will never forget and we hope to visit again. We knew our family came from a small town called Castellammare Del Golfo (The castle on the gulf).



Castellammare Del Golfo

The original scenic town with its Castle on the Gulf was still there but it had built up into a beautiful city as far as the eye could see. From high up on a mountain before you went down the narrow road into Castellammare, you can see the Castle at the tip of the gulf surrounded by clear blue waters. The men in their boats fished in the waters surrounding the gulf, it was as if you were looking at a painting. Going through the narrow streets, we could only imagine how our ancestors lived. We sat at a cafe sipping Espresso and eating pastry (Casata, a pastry of the area), which made my cousin tear up as she remembered her grandmother making the same pastry for her, when she was young. We sat staring at the beauty of the place where our Grandparents were born and wishing we could spend more time, but we had a tour to catch the next day and needed to get back to Palermo. The tour was wonderful; it took us from Palermo and the West Coast of Sicily cross country to the East coast to Taramino and the Straight of Messina and all the many towns and cities in between, one more beautiful then the other, including the village where they filmed part of "The

con't in next column

## BIRTHDAYS

### COMPLEANNO FELICE !!

Clem, Michele Melillo 1/18  
Palumbo, Paul 1/28 Parrella, Ray 1/10  
Terry, Maria 1/20 Tomassetti, Al 1/19  
Cordini, Franco 1/10 Perri, Linda 1/19



con't from previous column

Godfather". We even went to the top of Mt. Etna which was breathtaking. You can see the influence of the Greeks in the many temples, the Roman theaters, the Arabs in the architecture, and the mosaics. We were there, in Sicily, the land where our Grandparents and ancestors were born. We really felt a feeling that we were meant to be there, and



Ginger Torcivia (l) and IAA Member Barbara Messina

a feeling of belonging filled our hearts. Seeing the countryside we realized the hardships that our great - grandparents made in order to travel across the land on foot with whatever belongings they could carry in order to board the ship to America. For that I am grateful and overwhelmed ... to the benefit of their children and future generations. Presently we have someone in Sicily helping us search for any family that may still be there and our hopes and dreams are to go back in a couple of years and sit with them, in the town of our grandparents, and have a real Italian/Sicilian family dinner.

## JANET NAPOLITANO .....

..... is the current governor of Arizona. She is Arizona's third female governor, and the first woman to win re-election. She has been named as President-elect Barack Obama's designate for Secretary of Homeland Security. Gov. Napolitano was born in New York City, the daughter of Jane Marie (Winer) and Leonard Michael Napolitano. She has two siblings, younger brother, Leonard Michael Jr. and Nancy Angela Haunstein. She is of Italian heritage and was raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Her Italian roots are thru grandparents Filippo Napolitano, b. Foggia, Italia, in 1890, came to US in 1903; and Angela (Di Fiore) of Illinois. Family tree names also include: Ferro, Benedetto, and Vigliotti.



## EVENTS IN ITALY

**EPIPHANY**, the arrival of the 3 kings, is celebrated January 6. In Italy, children hang their stockings the night before waiting for gifts from La Befana. Live nativities are performed around Epiphany, too. Italy's traditional celebration includes the tale of a white-haired witch known as *La Befana* who arrives on her broomstick during the night of January 5 and fills the stockings with toys and sweets for the good children and lumps of coal for the bad ones.

**BOLOGNA ART FAIR - January 23-26;** The International exhibition of modern and contemporary art - proud of its Italian origins - is the first date on the 2009 calendar. ArteFiera Art First is one of the world's leading art fairs, the event where market tendencies are confirmed, new trends are previewed and where you can encounter extraordinary works selected by a Committee of international experts. On Saturday 24 January, art white night will transform Bologna into a grand showcase for contemporary art, with special evening hours for museums galleries and shops in the historical center, plus concerts, shows and entertainment in the city's street.

**PEGGY GUGGENHEIM COLLECTION EXHIBITION** - all of January; In this 60th anniversary year of Peggy Guggenheim's collection in Venice, her museum will host an exhibition dedicated to a major figure in Italian and international art of the mid 20th century: Carlo Cardazzo (1908-1963), a Venetian whose centenary is this year and who shared with Peggy Guggenheim his passion for contemporary art. Carlo Cardazzo. A New Vision for Art, is the first exhibition to be devoted exclusively to this enterprising, even volcanic figure: patron, publisher, collector, and dealer. Cardazzo, through the multiplicity of his activities, the originality of his way of navigating the art world and his methods of promoting it, reached a new public, in part through his galleries, and in part through novel cultural strategies.

**New Year's - Venice's Lido Beach** - Start the New Year in style: swim in the freezing-cold waters of Venice's Lido Beach along with a handful of brave regulars. Initially an obscure event, the New Year's Greetings now attracts more than 2000 spectators at a ridiculously early time for the morning after the last party of the year. But it must be worth it, even if after touching the water you decide to stay on the shore and watch - it is so popular that it has been classified amongst Venice's top annual attractions.

**EPIPHANY WITCHES REGATTA** – Venice, January 6, 2009....this extraordinary race on Venice's Grand Canal involves over 50 men who row their boats while dressed up as Epiphany witches.

**SANT'ORSO FAIR** - this international event which has been around for a 1000 years is staged each year on the January 30-31, brings tens of thousands of visitors to Aosta from the various regions of Italy, from France, and Switzerland. Over 700 woodworkers have stalls to demonstrate their skills and sell wooden items.

## ITALIAN LESSIONS – Dialect of Luigi

The dialects of Italy are dying out. Ninety per cent of the speakers of dialects are above the age of seventy. However, dialects are enormously valuable for research into Romance languages. Researchers talk of the dialects of Italy, and not of the dialects of Italian. This is because the Italian dialects are not variants of Standard Italian, but sister languages of it, which have developed independently from Latin. Because Italy has been a politically fragmented area for a long time, they have been able to continue this independent development far into the twentieth century undisturbed.

The dialects have particular grammatical characteristics which directly contravene a number of basic rules of Romance languages which are normally set in stone. An example is the use of auxiliary verbs. There are certain instances where you use the verb 'to be' and other instances where you use the verb 'to have'. In Italian you can choose between two auxiliary verbs; it's not a free choice, but depends on the meaning of the main verb.

Researchers of Romance languages may simply dismiss this and others as bizarre exceptions, but to researchers like Roberta D'Alessandro that would be a pity. Again, I, you (singular), we and you (plural) are treated differently from he, she and they. Not in the choice of auxiliary, but in terms of case. This juggling with auxiliary verbs and person is not the only instance where important rules of Romance languages are broken. How it is that some Italian dialects behave so unlike Romance languages, and in particular aspects - but not in others. It is remnants of older languages, or the influence of neighboring languages? This is what is so intriguing.

This is all the more reason to make a careful study of Italian dialects before they die out, and also good reason for researchers into Romance languages to look further than the genetic relationship between Romance languages, and above all to talk to other linguists who in their turn can benefit from knowledge of Italian dialects.

### Remember ....

**Italians also speak  
with their hands**

**Se si siede a un  
gioco di poker e  
non vedere una  
ventosa, alzarsi.  
Sei il ventosa .**

If you sit down at a poker game and don't see a sucker, get up. You're the sucker.





## LOUISVILLE SALUTES BLUE APPLE ON BROADWAY

Saturday, February 7, 2009, 7:00 p.m.  
The Brown Theatre

Blue Apple Players co-founders Paul Lenzi and Geraldine Ann Snyder (they are also IAA members & FESTA volunteers) are gearing up for their annual fundraiser, **LOUISVILLE SALUTES BLUE APPLE ON BROADWAY** to be held at the Brown Theater on February 7, 2009.

This one-of-a-kind event showcases the talents of Louisville's leading citizens and features original songs from over 37 musicals written by Geraldine Ann Snyder. This mission driven event also provides an opportunity for Blue Apple to demonstrate its nationally acclaimed educational theatre programs for youth, an evening filled with spontaneity and show-stopping fun.

Each year 35 to 50 community leaders and celebrities show their real talents singing and dancing live on stage at the Brown Theater. This year's show promises to be the best yet featuring such performers as David Jones Jr. and Mary Gwen Wheeler, Congressman John Yarmuth, Steve Wilson, Chris Poynter, Gill Holland, Jim Bulliet, Karen Blue, Kim Strong, Vicki Diaz, Amy Lapinski, Craig Grant, Carla Sue Broecker, Tommy Lee, Denton Randall, Tommy Gift, Charlie Farnsley, Jackson Andrews and Lamont Gillespie & 100 Proof Blues to name a few! You will laugh... you will cry... it is an evening of surprises.



Yarmuth and Poynter

The evening begins at 7:00 p.m. with cocktails featuring Makers Mark bourbon tastings and extraordinary hors d'oeuvres in the lobby of the Brown Theater. Performers (some in their costumes) work off their pre-show nerves socializing with friends. A quick-paced performance of approximately 75 minutes is followed by a party in the lobby that has been transformed for serving desserts, coffee, and wine. The last of the crowd leaves about midnight. Mark your calendars... You do not want to miss this one-of-a-kind fundraiser where all receipts go to support Blue Apple Players theater education programs for children.

Ticket Price: \$100 a person or \$750 for groups of 10



A GREAT CAUSE  
and  
A FUN TIME

## INVOICE - 2009 Membership

ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
LOUISVILLE

**Dues Due – January 1 of Each Year**  
January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009

GO TO [www.LouisvilleItalians.com](http://www.LouisvilleItalians.com)  
For the Membership/Invoice form.

## PANDA – ITALY'S HYDROGEN CAR

FIAT's hydrogen-powered Panda is intended to highlight Italy's contributions to advances in technology and engineering. The Panda Hydrogen Concept Car features Nuvera's new Andromeda II fuel cell stack, which powers an electric motor directly, eliminating the need for a battery. This allows the car to have a cold start capability and accelerate from zero to 30 miles per hour in five seconds. The Panda can reach a top speed of about 78 miles per hour. Nuvera Fuel Cells Inc. is a high-tech developer based in Massachusetts and Italy.

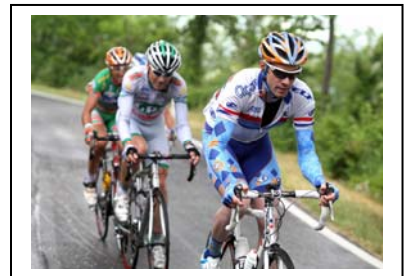


## GIRO d'ITALIA

The 2009 Giro d'Italia will celebrate its centennial with a unique route. Beginning **May 9** in Venice, the **2,110 mile journey** will progress into Austria, Switzerland and France before finishing in Rome on May 31. Teams' official entries are pending, but it's a safe bet seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong will be a key player for Team Astana. It will mark Armstrong's grand tour debut in his 2009 season comeback following three seasons in retirement.



**ROUTE:** Start - Venice Lido, Trieste, Padova, Innsbruck, Bergamo, Milan, Turin, Sestri Levante, Riomaggiore (Cinque Terra), Florence, Bologna, Chieti, Monte Vesuvius, Naples, Anagni, and finish in Rome.



NOTE: Someone will have to explain to the editor that with GIRO starting at Venice Lido -- how they will they get off the Lido to the mainland ... ???

The 100th Giro d'Italia will have a unique, different, and priceless start.