

# ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

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

editor - lou perry

gennaio (january) 2010

membership - mary perry

kentucky – indiana sud

## Messaggio del Presidente

Once again, I am pleased to have been elected **president of the IAA**. When people ask me why I continue to run for that office, my answer is this: I love this group. I love being Italian. I love that the IAA gives me the chance to have a family and a social support system when the members of my real family are scattered all across this country. I love that when total strangers see me around town, the first thing they say is, "Hey, you're the guy from the Italian group." The IAA is such a big part of my personal, social, and ethnic identity, that I want to do all I can to make it a better organization. However, please know that I cannot make this a better organization without your help. So, **what I want from all IAA members is to let me know how you think I can be a better president.** Let me know **what you think the IAA should be doing to meet your needs and expectations.** You can contact me by phone at 282-3938 or by E-mail at [bcarducc@ius.edu](mailto:bcarducc@ius.edu). But I hope that you will contact me directly by coming out to the IAA events and telling me face-to-face what it is I can do for you. As I said, I love this organization like a family, and I want to take care of the members of this family in any way that I can. So, let me what I can do for you.

Best regards, Bernardo J. Carducci, President

## EPIPHANY & La Befana

It's January 5 ...the night Italian children hang up their stockings, waiting for them to be filled with gifts by La Befana on January 6 for Epiphany. Italy's traditional celebration includes the tale of a white-haired witch known as the "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. Epiphany is the 12th day of Christmas when the three Wise Men gave Baby Jesus their gifts. The tradition is still widely followed in Italy in spite of the competition she faces from Father Christmas, a foreign import popularized by the Santa - Coke commercials influence of the United States. At this time all are a little sad because Epiphany announces the end of Christmas season. Yet, at the same time it ushers in the beginning of CARNEVALE with its sights on the day before Ash Wednesday.

## Next Event

Renewal INVOICE – p. 5

(YOUR Up ..... see p. 2 for details)

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

### Buon Capodanno



The Romans continued to observe the new year in late March, but their calendar was continually tampered with by various emperors so that the calendar soon became out of synchronization with the sun. In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the new year. But tampering continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what has come to be known as the Julian calendar. It again established January 1 as the new year. But in order to synchronize the calendar with the sun, Caesar had to let the previous year drag on for 445 days.

.....

Fare-welling of the old year was originally done out of fear that the evil spirits were let loose on the last day of the year. So people would make lots of noise and have lots of fun to drive the evil spirits away, so that they could start a New Year unharmed and unimpeded.

## NEW YEAR'S KENTUCKY CAVIAR

### Ingredients:

- 1 (16oz) bag frozen of Black-eyed Peas
- 1 (4 oz) jar Chopped Pimiento Peppers
- 1 (9oz) jar Sliced Mushrooms, drained & chopped
- 1/2 cup onion, chopped
- 1/2 cup celery, chopped
- 1/4 cup peperoncino (hot pepper) chopped, with liquid
- 1/4 cup Olive Oil

### Directions:

1. Cook frozen black-eyed peas according to package directions; drain well.
2. Place black-eyed peas in a large mixing bowl; add pimiento, onion, celery, chopped mushrooms, peperoncino, and olive oil. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Cover and chill for at least 15 minutes before serving or refrigerate for up to 3 days. 8 servings; Prep Time: 15 minutes; Chill Time: 15 minutes

**IAA BOARD - 2010:** President — Bernardo Carducci; Vice President — Lou Perry; Secretary — Bob Scorsolini; Treasurer — Mary Perry; John Beatty, Theo Beatty, Walt Carpenter, Paul Castagno, Charles Francesconi, Marty Hanka, Marvin Hanka, Ann Moir, and Angelo "Ange" Vaccaro

## UNISCALI Join Us

### Find Italian Culture 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.

### JANUARY IS YOUR MONTH .....

**YOUR** time to renew your IAA membership (see p. 5 ..... due Jan. 31).

**YOUR** time to submit suggestions to the new 2010 IAA Board for programs and activities;

**YOUR** time to develop a resolution to promote at least on aspect of the Italian culture in your family and community.

IAA calendar (**YOUR** suggestions are needed):

Jan - plan	July - ?
Feb - ?	August - ?
March - ?	Sept - ?
April - ?	Oct (Italian Heritage Month)
May - ?	Nov: IAA Elections/Dinner
June - ?	Dec - ?

The IAA Board meets January 26.... so, get your suggestions to Lou Perry at [L4Perri@aol.com](mailto:L4Perri@aol.com) by that time.... Thanks.

## 2010 – THE YEAR VEGETABLES RULE Vegetable Entree

### Ingredients

- 1/4 pound broccoli
- Extra virgin olive oil
- Crushed red peppers
- 1/4 pound fresh green beans

### Preparation

In a pan, heat the olive oil and crushed red peppers. This will make the oil taste spicy and sweet. In a separate pot, unthaw your broccoli (or in microwave). Add broccoli and beans to pan and cook for about 5-7 minutes only. Enjoy! Serves 2-4 people.

**Life expectancy would grow by leaps and bounds if green vegetables smelled as good as bacon.**

### DID YOU KNOW .....

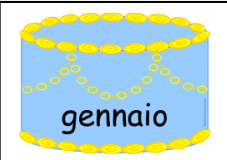
..... that in the *Agony and the Ecstasy*, the wet plaster that drips into the mouth of Michelangelo (played by Charlton Heston) is really chocolate pudding?

.... that in Italy, it is considered unfeminine and improper for a woman to pour the wine?

.... that Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* is the top-selling classical music recording of all time?

**CANTALOUPE** - The Italians cultivated the muskmelon in the gardens of the papal estate near Rome. The estate was Cantaluppi, so the fruit crop that resulted became known as cantaloupe.

## BIRTHDAYS FELICE COMPLEANNO!!



Palumbo, Paul 1-28

Parrella, Ray 1-10

Tomassetti, Al 1-19

Clem, Michele Melillo 1-18

Perri, Linda 1-19

Cordini, Franco 1-10

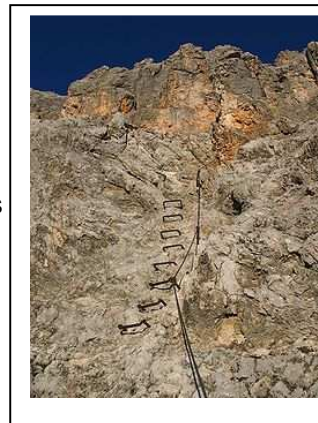
Brown, Eddi 1-14

Terry, Maria 1-20

## VIA FERRATA

"iron road"

The **Dolomites** are photographically spectacular - rising almost vertically for thousands of feet - they have been strung with hundreds of iron ladders / pegs and cables since the First World War - when Italy declared war on the Austrians. As the mountains ran along the border between them, they needed to be able to sneak over to fight - hence the idea to string ladders and metal "pathways" over these massive cliffs. Now they provide some of the most accessible climbing in the world and provide a simple kit for safely clip onto the cables while you scramble and climb on these vertiginous cliff-sides.



"Iron Path" in the Dolomites

Many people visit the Dolomites to climb the **Via Ferrate**; protected paths created during the First World War. A number of long distance footpaths run across the Dolomites, which

are called "Alte vie" (i.e., high paths). Such long trails, which are numbered from 1 to 8, require at least a week to be walked through and are served by numerous "Rifugi" (huts).

The Italians developed this safe cable system called a via ferrata, or iron path. When the war ended, people began using the system for recreation. In **Kentucky** this system is used at the **Torrent Falls Climbing Adventure** in eastern Kentucky. The climbing season is March 1 to Dec. 1. The fee includes equipment, a one-day pass, and instruction. Scout troops receive discounts, and may acquire the Climbing merit badge. Contact: Torrent Falls Climbing Adventure at [www.torrentfalls.com](http://www.torrentfalls.com).

## EVENTS IN ITALY

**EPIPHANY**, which is celebrated on January 6th, is actually more important than Christmas - this is, in fact, when people exchange gifts. La Befana is an old woman who rides around on a broom and delivers presents, so you may see her image around.

**Manfredonia (BARI) – DAUNO CARNIVAL.** Primarily religious performances including a parade of allegorical floats and masks. Festival of Folklore and Typical Cuisine, with shows and dances with the theme of country and sea lifestyles are held in the piazza. The puppet Ze' Peppe is buried. Some typical features are the Ferrata (a cake) and the Socie, (dance halls that are set up in residences).

**Venezia (VENEZIA) – REGATTA della BEFANE** - a group of gondoliers dress up every year like the witch of Epiphany called Befana. They mock a regatta (boat race) on the Grand Canal and make the rounds through the smaller, connecting canals through the morning. It's quite an odd sight to see and definitely presents a photo opportunity. Date: January 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Donnas (AOSTA) - WOODWORK FAIR** that anticipates the more famous Saint Orso's fair. It takes place in the ancient medieval district and there is a strict theme for the handicrafts exhibited or hung in the windows, on the doors or the walls. The architecture itself has medieval origin. Date: Last Sunday.

**Castelrotto (BOLZANO), PEASANT WEDDING** - following ancient Tyrolean customs, 20 or so sleds carry the brides and grooms to the church of San Valentino in the center of town (the whole town participates and everyone dresses in coordinated, authentic period garb). Then the entertainment begins (around the beginning of the afternoon) which includes music, dancing and general merriment. From the preceding week and throughout the celebration, the restaurants of the town offer special dishes which are inspired by the nuptial ceremonies and are prepared according to original recipes. Date: 17 th .

**Lode (NUORO)** - The first person who is able to climb the stack of wood after it's lit and reach the little pig on top of a high pole, receives this offering to the Saint as a prize.

**Piobbico (PESARO) - La BEFANA** - this town is headquarters to a growing society called the 'Ugly Club' (Club dei Brutti), which is trying to turn it into a Mecca for ugly people. Originally created in 1879, this association was, in effect, the world's first marriage agency as its original purpose was to resolve the problem of 128 spinsters living in the town of Piobbico. The club was revived in 1960 by its current president, Mr. Telesforo Iacobelli (part philosopher, part humorist, and owner of a general store in town) who feels that society has unjustly marginalized those who are beauty-challenged and wants to embrace the dispossessed as charter members. Because the witch called 'La Befana' is ugly (but good in heart), the organizers want to make nearby Urbania the capital of the national holiday. Already boasting more than 22,000 card-carrying members worldwide (four of which are former Miss Italia winners), membership applications can be requested by calling 0722-986273.

Date: January 6th - the Befana

## ITALY'S SEVEN WONDERS

It is hard—virtually impossible—to capture the magic of Italy in just one place, monument, or dish. How can you choose among the soaring tower of Palazzo della Signoria in Florence, throwing symmetry to the wind to redefine architecture; the powerful hand of God stretched towards Adam in the Sistine chapel; the wild beauty of turquoise waters lapping the pink quartz beaches along the western Sardinian coastline; the sinuous curve of vine-encrusted hills bathed in the golden light of a Tuscan afternoon; or the extraordinary punch of the perfect espresso sipped, rigorously standing at the bar, in a busy city café?

But *ITALY* magazine readers have risen to the arduous challenge and picked the Seven Wonders of Italy—the seven places, flavours or people that best embody the country's charm.

### Italy's seven wonders

1. Venice (26.6% of all votes)
2. Colosseum (16.6% of all votes)
3. Pompeii (14.4%)
4. The Amalfi Coast (14.3%)
5. The Cinque Terre (11.2%)
6. The Italian people (10.4%)
7. The Leaning Tower of Pisa (9.9%)

(from *ITALY* magazine)

## AZZANO DECIMO

and Neil and Dianne Manias

The Comune di **Azzano Decimo** is northeast of Venice and is in the province of Pordenone, in the region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia (FVG), Italy. The "Azzanesi" population is 12, 880.



In the **territory of Azzano Decimo** are the villages of Borgo Facca, Case San Piero in Piagno, Cesena, Cinque Strade, Corva, Crozzoli, Fagnigola, Fiumesino, Le Fratte, Santa Croce, Tiezzo, and Villacriccola.



It is from this comune that our newest IAA member has

his "roots in the boot" – **Neil Manias'** father left Azzano Decimo in 1924 and entered Canada at Nova Scotia. Neil was born in Windsor, Ontario on Christmas (however, I don't think it was in a manger). Neil is a retired business owner. Some may recall the article on Neil in Louisville's "Business First". Neil's wife, Dianne (Fisher), also joined IAA. Dianne is of English/American roots who was born in Tennessee.

**WELCOME NEIL AND DIANNE**

## THE ITALIANS OF DETROIT

This new coffee table book gives you a wonderful insight of the transition from Italy to America, the culture left behind, and the opportunities that lie ahead. *The Italians of Detroit*, by Michigan author, Bryon Perry (first cousin to IAA's Lou Perry).

The "Forward" states:

Historically, the book captures the total environment of the Detroit area as its immigrants, culture, music, art and above all, the Italian essence and restaurants to its culture, society, construction, and scientific accomplishments along with our great colleges and universities. It also focuses on incidents and publications about our labor unions and social activities which affect our daily living. It's a great book... a must read for Italians and non-Italians alike. Readers will enjoy it very much and salve in the positive image in our heritage. The author places emphasis on Italian American life in this book which makes it an important dramatic edition. For me, it's easy to speak good words about a book that could change people's lives in a remarkable way.

The "Introduction" begins ..... *The Italians of Detroit* is a story of passion, pride and progress. It is a definitive description of the people along with their history which began in the lower east side of Detroit, Michigan. Readers will acquire a glimpse of the Italian Americans who settled here and their progress that resulted in their becoming a vital ingredient in the growth, which spread throughout the entire region of southeast, Michigan.

This beautiful, coffee-table, Detroit-area Italians is only \$30.00. For those of us who have connections to the Detroit area, we will surely enjoy this book.

## LET THE FESTIVAL SEASON BEGIN .....BRAVO



**2010  
JANUARY  
29-30-31  
Port St. Lucie, FL**

## TAMPA - YBOR CITY, FL

Sunday March 25-28, 2010

**If it's Italian, we've got it!**

Little Italy Meatball Contest  
Italian Idol Contest  
Vino Competition - Grape Stomp  
Creative and Documentary Film  
Contest - Presented by Cinema Italiano



Bowl a **bocce ball** ...become the next "Italian Idol"... take in a flick at **Cinema Italiano**, sample fine wines from Italy in **Wine Tasting** ... loads of fun from **Grape Stomping** to the **Homemade Vino Competition**

## ITALIAN LESSONS

When learning Italian, students naturally tend to look for grammatical patterns. Studying **Italian verbs** in a programmatic fashion is a wise idea, because it's an efficient use of time, and Italian verbs are classified in a variety of ways.

When studying Italian verbs, though, you should avoid the temptation to make absolute comparisons to English. Although there are many similarities between the two languages, there are also many fundamental differences. In addition, there are always exceptions to the rule. So while taking an organized approach to Italian verbs is a terrific way to improve your Italian, think of it like ordering in an Italian restaurant: be prepared to order a different primo if your favorite dish isn't available.

Verbs are fundamental to any language, and Italian is no exception. There are three primary groups of Italian verbs, classified according to the ending of their infinitives: **first conjugation** (-are verbs), **second conjugation** (-ere verbs), and **third conjugation** (-ire verbs).

Most Italian verbs belong to the first-conjugation group and follow a highly uniform pattern. Once you learn how to conjugate one -are verb, you've essentially learned hundreds of them. And what about those Italian verbs that don't end in -are? Second-conjugation (-ere) verbs account for approximately one quarter of all Italian verbs. Although many have some sort of irregular structure, there are also many regular -ere verbs. The final group of Italian verbs are those that end in -ire.

Feeling Tense? A Little Moody?

Feeling tense studying Italian verbs? There is a difference. **Mood** refers to the attitude of the speaker toward what he or she is saying. There are four finite moods (modi finiti) in Italian: indicative (indicativo), which is used to indicate facts; subjunctive (congiuntivo), which is used to express an attitude or feeling toward an event; conditional (condizionale), which is used to express what would happen in a hypothetical situation; and imperative (imperativo), which is used to give commands. (Note that modern English only has three finite moods: indicative, subjunctive, and imperative.)

**Italians also speak with their hands**

**Mai realmente ci sviluppiamo in su, noi soltanto impariamo come comportarci in pubblico.**

We never really grow up; we only learn how to act in public.



**INVOICE**  
**Renewal 2010 & New Members**  
**ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LOUISVILLE**  
**Dues Due – between January 1 and January 31 of Each Year**  
**January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010**

\_\_\_\_\_ **New Membership** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ recruited me.  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Renewal Membership**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Lifetime Membership**

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

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

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ **Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Family Heritage (ex. Italy city, region) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**SPOUSE INFORMATION: (if joining)**

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

Work Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ **Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Heritage (ex. Italy city, region) \_\_\_\_\_

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**TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:** All membership dues are renewable on January 1 of each year.

- \_\_\_\_\_ ADULT - \$15 per year per person (18 and older)
- \_\_\_\_\_ YOUTH (Free) - age 17 and under with parent membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ LIFETIME - \$125 one time payment per person

**PLEASE LIST THE NAMES AND BIRTHDAYS OF ALL YOUTH (17 & under) MEMBERSHIPS:**

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

May we include your membership information in the IAA directory? Yes No

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (check preferred)

**Make checks payable to: ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION**  
**Please return completed form and dues to:**

Mary Perry, Treasurer  
7809 Windgate Drive  
Louisville, KY 40291

Revised 12/9/2009