



DA NOTIZIARIO

Dante Alighieri Society of Denver, Colorado, Inc.



July 2017

PRESIDENT: VERONICA GOODRICH · VICE PRESIDENT: NICK NAPOLI · SECRETARY: VERA BUFFALOE · TREASURER: CAROL MARSALA · PAST PRESIDENT: SUSAN GURULE
EDUCATION: SUZANNE FASING · HISTORIAN: GIANFRANCO MARCANTONIO · MEMBERSHIP: RHONDA HOPKINS · SCHOLARSHIP: JOHN GIARDINO · HOSPITALITY: VACANT

SUMMER GATHERING WITH BOCCIE Jackie and Tony Lombardi have been so gracious to offer to host us for a summer get together. Since it will be held in a private home, we have limited the attendance to the first **40** participants. Please RSVP immediately to **Vera Buffaloe** if you plan to attend at **303-886-0608** or buffaloev@pipeline.com.



When: Sunday, July 23rd, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., 17311 W. 54th Place, Golden, 80403. Phone: 303-421-6800

The Society will be providing sausages, hot dogs, wine, coffee and sodas along with cups, plates and plastic ware. Members whose last name begins with **A thru N** are asked to bring side dishes, and members with last names beginning with the initial **O thru Z** are asked to bring a dessert.

YOU MUST RSVP TO VERA BUFFALOE NO LATER THAN TUESDAY JULY 18TH. She will need the number of attendees as well as the number of bocce players.

Please use your GPS for directions as it may be somewhat tricky to get to the Lombardi's. If lost, call Gianfranco's cell 303-931-5343.

GROUP OUTING TO ATTEND PLAY. The Dante Board has decided to attend a play coming in August to the Lakewood Cultural Center entitled *My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish and I'm in Therapy*. The date chosen is Wednesday, August 16, 7:30 p.m., 470 S. Allison, Lakewood.

Steve Solomon's hit New York comedy is one part lasagna, one part kreplach and two parts Prozac. You don't have to be Jewish or Italian to love this show. All you need is to know what it feels like to leave a family dinner with heartburn and a headache.

The cost is \$40 per person and the deadline for reservations is Friday July 21st. Checks should be made to the Dante Society of Denver and mailed to Susan Gurule, 2424 Stuart Ct., Denver 80212. For additional information contact Susan at 303-524-9502, (cell 720-484-1014) or susangurule@msn.com.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES FALL SESSION BEGINS SEPTEMBER 18, 2017.

The Dante Alighieri Society will offer a 10-week fall session of Italian language classes, beginning the week of September 18. The schedule for fall classes will be posted on the Dante Alighieri website by August 18. Students must register for classes through the website. The classes are taught by experienced and talented bi-lingual teachers, and include beginner, intermediate, and advanced classes. Each class meets for 90 minutes, once a week, at 3549 Navajo Street, Denver, in the parish office of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church. Cost is \$100 for members and \$130 for non-members. New members are welcome to join the Dante Alighieri Society when they register for classes. Please register early because classes do fill up. For more information, please contact the Education Chair Suzanne Fasing at suzannefasing@yahoo.com or call 303-810-9042. To register for classes, visit the web site: <http://www.dantealighieriofdenver.org/languageclasses.htm>

BENVENUTI The Dante Society gives a warm welcome to our new members: Samantha Butterworth, Sherry Crawford, Franco Alida, Derek Lewis, Amanda Miller, Lisa Miller, Dolphin Overton, Mary Pomarico, Jeff Rich, Jessica Claire Roat, Olivia Snyder, Will Tesconi, Paula and Scott Thomas, and Mary Walker.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Following another successful and exciting round of scholarships, the Committee will be meeting during the summer in preparation for the 2018 awards. A major topic for discussion will be the evaluation of the online submission process used for the first time this year. As with anything new, there are bugs to work out but overall the system worked fairly well. The Committee is still looking for one or two new members. Please let me know if you are interested. I can meet with you to outline the program should you have any questions. And as always, please consider a donation to the Scholarship Fund. Grazie, John Giardino (303-378-9736).

JUNE CULTURAL MEETING Ted Borrillo gave a very informative and entertaining presentation on the history of Elitch Gardens and Theater. He also gave us information on Broadway and summer theater in America through the 20th century. Thanks to Susan Gurule for this find.

GOOD NEWS AGAIN FROM ROME AND THE VATICAN...FOR YOU TRAVELING TO ITALY.

The agreement between the Vatican and the Dante has been renewed once again for the year 2017. It allows us to visit the museums at a lower price and get in front of the long lines simply by presenting the Dante Society membership card. The cost to visit the Museums is 16 euros per person, and 1 euro if you decide to purchase the Art and Faith DVD on the Treasures of the Vatican. The Dante membership card may be obtained by contacting Rhonda Hopkins at 720-596-4169, rhop626@gmail.com, or Gianfranco Marcantonio at 303-494-3080 glm3942@yahoo.com.



For additional privileges for Dante members while in Italy, please visit the following site: <http://ladante.it/diventa-socio/le-convenzioni>.



Ron Howard to direct documentary on tenor Luciano Pavarotti

Following his successful Beatles documentary, Ron Howard is sticking with music. The Oscar-winner is directing a documentary about Luciano Pavarotti, the Italian tenor who rose to superstar status. Howard's Imagine Entertainment and White Horse Pictures announced the untitled project Thursday. Pavarotti transcended opera to become a leading tenor. Howard says Pavarotti's life is full of great drama and contradictions. The tenor became a best-selling classical artist, with more than 100 million records sold, and he had the first classical album to reach No. 1 on the pop charts. He died from pancreatic cancer in 2007 at age 71. (*USA Today*)

GETTING TO KNOW YOU Pietrantonio (Tony) Lombardi.



7. What region in Italy were your ancestors from. If you do not have Italian ancestors, what is the ethnic background of your family. Have you ever been there and what was your experience?

My family hails from a small remote village nestled in the Appennini mountains of Molise, Italy. The original name of the town was Pagliarone, but, later rebuilt and renamed as a result of landslides in the area, the new name of our village is Villa San Michele. I was born in Pagliarone and immigrated to America in 1966 at the age of 13 with my family. My wife and I go back to our village and our beloved Italy often where I have one aunt still living as well as numerous cousins.

2. When did your ancestors arrive in America, and where did they settle originally? Did they come right to Colorado?

My paternal grandfather, Pietrantonio, immigrated to Argentina in 1931 leaving behind a wife and six children. In 1933, he and three others stowed away on a cargo ship to New York where relatives from Denver picked them up and drove them to Denver. He was somehow able to obtain legal residency and in 1945 US citizenship in Gallup, New Mexico. In 1955, he filed papers for two of his sons to immigrate to America but because of stringent immigration laws aimed at keeping southern Europeans and other groups out of the United States we were not able to immigrate until 1966.

3. If you had to describe yourself in one word, what word would that be, and why?

I have always appreciated my family, my friends and the opportunities that I was afforded in my life. Being grateful to have experienced my childhood in Italy and for having the fortunate chance at life in the greatest country in the world, L'America! It is difficult to come up with one such word but *appreciative* quickly comes to mind.

4. Who was most influential to you growing up, and why?

My dear parents first and foremost but also my whole extended family in some way had influence on me while growing up. Teachers, priests, godparents and even Franciscan monks in an Umbrian monastery were influential in shaping my life.

5. Tell us a little about you, employment, family, interests and so on.

I have owned and operated an upholstery business in the Arvada area for over 38 years. I have been married to my dear wife, Jackie Meloragno for 42 years, we have a son and a daughter and they have blessed us with 7 lovely grandchildren. We love having family and friends over our house to share a meal and for lively bocce games on our court. On any weekend you will find us at some complex watching our grandkids play soccer or basketball. I have been playing *calcio* since I could walk and now enjoy the game I love at pick up indoor games or at Denver Kickers Soccer Club on their over 60 team!

6. How would you most like to be remembered?

Hopefully as a caring husband, father, grandfather and gladly in the future great-grandfather. I wish that my family and friends think of me as being usually available when they need advice or a helping hand.

7. What attracted you about joining the Dante Alighieri Society?

I was a somewhat active member years ago and as family and work demanded more of my time I slowly faded away and now I want to slowly reappear because I think that this organization not only offers our young a chance to immerse themselves in Italian language, culture and traditions but also gives us old timers an opportunity to be active in this great organization.

NEWS FROM ITALY

L'arredo-design italiano continua a crescere sul mercato USA.

Le minacce dell'amministrazione Trump di imporre nuovi dazi e barriere sulle importazioni non sembrano intimorire, almeno per il momento, l'arredo-design made in Italy. Le esportazioni italiane di mobili e illuminazione negli Stati Uniti continuano a correre anche nel primo scorcio del 2017, segnando un aumento del 25,4% nel mese di gennaio rispetto allo stesso periodo dell'anno scorso, stando ai dati elaborati da FederlegnoArredo.



Una crescita importante, soprattutto perché conferma e rafforza le performance registrate in questo Paese negli ultimi due anni (+8,8% nel 2016 e +22% nel 2015), che hanno portato il valore complessivo delle vendite ben oltre il miliardo di euro, facendo degli Stati Uniti il quarto mercato estero per il settore.

Al tempo stesso, il design italiano ha aumentato nel 2016 le proprie quote di mercato negli Usa (che sono il primo importatore mondiale di mobili e di cui l'Italia è il quinto fornitore), a scapito degli altri competitor internazionali, che hanno invece subito l'aumento della quota cinese, ormai primo fornitore degli Usa per il settore, con 22 miliardi di euro venduti.

Non stupisce dunque il fermento di attività ed eventi organizzati a New York da parte delle imprese italiane dell'arredo-design in occasione di Icff (International Contemporary Furniture Fair), la fiera dell'arredamento al via oggi nella Grande Mela e aperta fino a mercoledì. Con i suoi 700 espositori da 30 Paesi e 32mila visitatori professionali, la manifestazione statunitense è ben lontana dall'importanza del Salone del Mobile di Milano. Ma la sua collocazione in quello che è di fatto uno dei principali hub internazionali per il mondo del design, la rende un appuntamento irrinunciabile per molti brand italiani.

New York non è infatti solo un mercato ad alto potenziale di reddito e in crescita, come si legge nell'ultima edizione di «Esportare la Dolce Vita» (Edv), il rapporto annuale di Confindustria-Prometeia dedicato all'export di prodotti made in Italy di fascia alta. La metropoli è un centro creativo tra i più influenti al mondo, che conta (compreso il New Jersey) circa 25mila architetti, a cui fanno capo molti dei principali progetti di sviluppo immobiliare di tutto il mondo. È questo genere di "visitatore", oltre ai grandi buyer, contractor e progettisti internazionali, che le aziende italiane cercheranno in questi giorni di intercettare, sia all'interno della fiera Icff (dove sono previste due collettive dedicate ai brand italiani, una per le aziende dell'arredo e una per le aziende della ceramica), sia nei loro showroom in città. A New York hanno sede infatti i principali showroom delle aziende italiane e i loro uffici commerciali e logistici. *(ItalPlanet News)*

World's oldest woman Emma Morano dies aged 117; she lived through 2 world wars, knew 11 popes.

Rome: Emma Morano, the world's oldest woman and the last surviving person born in the 19th century, died at the age of 117 at her home in Italy's Verbania town on Saturday.



Emma Martina Luigia Morano, who lived 117 years and 137 days, was born on November 29, 1899, in the Italian town of Civiasco into a family of people who would prove to be very long-lived, with her mother and aunt living to past 90 and her sister Angela reaching 100, EFE news reported.

According to her grandchildren, Morano, who lived through two world wars, knew 11 popes and 12 Italian Presidents, died peacefully in her sleep.

After a year in the job, Rome's populist mayor is struggling

Rome mayor Virginia Raggi swept to power vowing to clean up the Eternal City and show the populist Five Star Movement (M5S) was ready to govern Italy.

But one year into the job, she is struggling under the weight of a mediocre report card that has dented the fortunes of comedian Beppe Grillo's opposition party less than a year from national elections.



A photogenic lawyer [plucked from obscurity](#) to become the poster girl for M5S's national ambitions, Raggi, 38, promised to [improve failing public services](#), weed out endemic corruption and start repairing crumbling infrastructure in the capital.

But 12 months later, ordinary Romans can see no signs of progress as the city's international image becomes increasingly tarnished by negative commentaries on [rubbish-strewn streets](#) and trees keeling over for lack of maintenance. (ItalPlanet News)

A new antibiotic that could fight drug-resistant bacteria has been found in Italy.

Scientists have discovered a new antibiotic that is highly effective against bacteria resistant to known antimicrobials, which was found in a soil sample taken in Italy.



Named "pseudouridimycin," or PUM, the new antibiotic is produced by a microbe found in the soil.

It has killed a wide range of bacteria in laboratory tests and cured mice infected with scarlet fever. Details of the discovery were published on Thursday in the US scientific journal *Cell*.

Pseudouridimycin neutralizes an enzyme called polymerase that is essential to virtually all functions of every organism. However, it acts differently than rifampicin, a class of antibiotics used to target the same

enzyme. Its mechanism means the new antibiotic is ten times less likely to trigger drug resistance than those currently on the market.

PUM killed 20 species of bacteria in experiments, proving especially effective against streptococci and staphylococci, several of which are resistant to multiple antibiotics. Clinical trials with PUM could begin within three years and the new antibiotic could be released on the market in the next ten years, researchers at New Jersey's Rutgers-New Brunswick University and the Italian biotechnology company Naicons said.

The discovery showed again that bacteria found in the soil are the best source of new antibiotics, the scientists said. (*Italplanet News*).

2017 Calendar

Cultural Meetings

September 8

Events

July 23 – Gathering at Lombardi's
August 16 – Play- group outing.

Classes

Language – Fall begin September 18.

NOTE: Cultural meetings, movies, and cooking classes take place at Mt. Carmel Church Parish Hall, 3549 Navajo St., Denver. Language classes are taught at Mt. Carmel Church Office.