



**DA NOTIZIARIO**

Dante Alighieri Society of Denver, Colorado, Inc.



March 2017

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**MARCH CULTURAL PROGRAM** Some of us think that wine dominates the Italian drinking habit. Bryan Lansing and Paul Visma will show in their presentation **Italy: Beer Country**, that Italy is also a country into beer as well. The gentlemen have written a book by the same title, do trips to Italy and tour various Italian microbreweries. This informative presentation will take place on March 10, 7:30 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Parish Hall, 3549 Navajo St., Denver.

**PRACTICE SPEAKING ITALIAN** The March 10 cultural meeting will also be a special party for our language students. They will be able to practice speaking Italian in a conversational setting with each other as well as with other DAS members. It doesn't matter if you are a beginner, fluent, or a little rusty, please join us for conversation in Italian, from 6:45 p.m. until the lecture begins and then after the lecture during our social hour.

**FINAL NOTICE FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** **Renewal cards** for 2017 have been mailed and we hope all of you will join us for another interesting and fun year with the DAS. The Board is busy planning lectures, movies and parties. Please review the card to be sure that all the information is correct. If you choose to renew using PayPal, we still need the card returned for our files. Language students, if you have not done so already, should renew their membership before the start of classes. Thank you, Rhonda Hopkins, Membership Chairperson. (720-596-4169, rhop626@gmail.com).

**NIGHT AT THE MOVIES** The Society will resume the movie events beginning on **Friday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.**, at the Mt. Carmel Parish Hall. The opening movie will be a comedy by the title: **Noi e la Giulia**, (*The Legendary Giulia*) directed by Edoardo Leo. Three forty-year-olds flee the city and, joined by two zany characters, decide to open a rural bed and breakfast. Their dreams are blocked by the local mobster who, arriving in a vintage Alfa Romeo car, asks for protection money. This threat forces them to rebel in a most daring way! Must see movie....the best Italian comedy of 2015.....very very funny!

We would like to thank Vince Tagliavore for providing us with this DVD and many more so that our members may enjoy them. Grazie Vince.



**COOKING CLASS** The Dante Society had a successful cooking class that was directed by Gisella Menni Isidori. The class of 15 was the perfect size for the kitchen at Mt. Carmel. Everyone had workspace, kitchen tools and equipment to work with. The menu included artichoke dip and tuna butter crostini, polenta with white wine mushroom sauce and red ragu sauce, pesce and patate al forno, and zabaglione and sbrisolone cake for dessert. Fun event and delicious food! Grazie Gisella, Vera and Rhonda for your hard work which made the event a great success. Gisella will be back in Colorado this coming October for more cooking classes.

**PRIMA DOMENICA** *La prima domenica* in April will be on the 2nd, at 9:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church Parish Hall, 3549 Navajo Street, Denver.

The Dante Society is once again sponsoring the breakfast following the Mass, so mark your calendars. Help will be needed before and after the Mass. If you would like to offer your time, please contact our coordinators Nina and John Incampo at 303-423-4811. Grazie

**GRAZIE, LISA** The Dante thanks Lisa Vogele for sharing with us the "fun, food and folklore" of a year of Italian festivals at our cultural meeting in February. Lisa also told us about her upcoming tours in October and would like to extend a \$150 per person discount to all Denver Dante Alighieri Society Members for her October 2017 tours. Given the input from Dante members, Lisa is going to add 1 or 2 "Fun with Food & Festivals Tours" in Southern Italy in 2018. If you already have your group of 8-12 persons together, Lisa can provide a proposal for a custom tour package.

For more information, or to be added to newsletter/ mailing list contact Lisa at [lisa@lisastravelguides.com](mailto:lisa@lisastravelguides.com) 970-987-4096 and check out her website at [www.lisastravelguides.com](http://www.lisastravelguides.com) Lisa also mentioned that she will be (re) launching her genealogy research business (All of Europe, UK and Scandinavia) and offering research & genealogy travel services starting in March 2017. Lisa has been providing genealogy services to clients since 2008.



**SCHOLARSHIP NEWS** Congratulations go out to Jennifer Davis, a 2015 Dante music scholarship recipient from UNC, who performed her Doctoral Recital on January 24. One of her performances was a duet with Pablo Romero, another Dante scholarship winner. If you attended the recital and auction in 2015, you'll remember that they both performed at the event. I can't tell you how exciting it is to see these young people displaying those phenomenal talents which the Society helped support. We wish Jen and Pablo continued success and know that they will continue to give back to the Dante in the future. If you would like to see Jennifer's performance, here are the You Tube video links: [Laudate Dominum in Sanctis Eius - Monteverdi](#); [V Národním tónu \(In Folk Tone\) - Dvořák](#); [Schumann - Liederkreis, Op. 39 - "Eichendorff"](#); [Barber - 3 Songs, Op. 45](#); [Puccini - La Bohème - Sì, mi chiamano Mimi](#); [Donizetti - Una parola, o Adina - L'elisir d'amore](#)

The new on-line applications went out to local colleges and universities last month. Scholarship Committee members are looking forward to this new process, hoping it makes it easier for both students and committee. We are still looking for a new Scholarship Committee member so please contact me if you're interested in participating. Remember to save Sunday May 7 for the Scholarship Luncheon and, as always, please consider a donation to the Scholarship Fund. Thank you. John Giardino [johncgardino@comcast.net](mailto:johncgardino@comcast.net).

### **BENVENUTA TO ITALIAN LANGUAGE TEACHER**

The Society extends a warm welcome to Britta Jensen who will teach Italian language classes beginning with the Spring 2017 session. Britta has taught Italian at the high school and college level for more than nine years. She has an MA in Italian from CUNY, Hunter College and studied at the University of Pescara, Italy. She has lived in Torino and Perugia, Italy where she worked as a teacher, translator and interpreter. Prior to teaching, she worked at Wine Spectator magazine which specializes in wine, food, travel and lifestyle news. She travels to Italy regularly, to all the regions, and considers Italy her second home. In her free time, she travels, reads, studies languages, skis, bikes, swims and enjoys the great outdoors.

## **SPRING SESSION OF ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES STARTS MARCH 27**

The Dante Alighieri Society will offer a 10-week spring session of Italian language classes, beginning the week of March 27, 2017. The schedule for spring classes is posted on the Dante Alighieri website, and is listed below. **The registration deadline for the spring session is March 20, 2017.** Students must register and pay 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 offices 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. For more information, please contact the Education Chair Suzanne Fasing at [suzannefasing@yahoo.com](mailto:suzannefasing@yahoo.com) or call 303-810-9042. To register for classes, visit the web site: <http://www.dantealighieriofdenver.org/languageclasses.html>

**Beginner 1.** Tuesdays, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, beginning March 28, 2017 through May 30, 2017 (Jensen). In this class students with little or no knowledge of Italian will learn to communicate in simple everyday situations. Students will study the basic building blocks of the Italian language, including the alphabet, rules of pronunciation, basic syntax, and grammatical structures. Topics include subject pronouns, definite and indefinite articles, regular verbs in the present tense, and noun-adjective agreement. **Required Text:** [The Italian Project 1a](#).

**Beginner 2.** Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9:00 pm, beginning March 29, 2017 through May 31, 2017 (Brunetti). In this class students will build upon their existing knowledge while incorporating new vocabulary and grammatical structures through conversation, role plays, listening, reading and writing activities. Topics include irregular and modal verbs in the present tense, articulated prepositions, and possessive adjectives. **Required Text:** [The Italian Project 1a](#).

**Beginner 3.** Mondays, 7:30 to 9:00 pm, beginning March 27, 2017 through June 5, 2017 (no class Memorial Day, May 29) (Brunetti). In this class, students will cover the topics in Unit 4 of the textbook, including speaking about the past, the adverb “ci,” and ordering in a restaurant. **Required Text:** [The Italian Project 1a](#)

**Beginner 4.** Mondays, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, beginning March 27, 2017 through June 5, 2017 (no class Memorial Day, May 29) (Brunetti). In this class, students will continue their studies of basic grammatical structures while increasing their vocabulary through in-class readings, listening activities, written assignments, and situational simulations. Topics include future verb tenses, holidays and train travel in Italy. **Required Text:** [The Italian Project 1a](#)

**Intermediate 1 will be offered in the Summer 2017 session beginning in June 2017.**

**Intermediate 2.** Wednesdays, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, beginning March 29, 2017 through May 31, 2017 (Brunetti). In this class, students will continue to expand their studies of increasingly complex grammatical structures and vocabulary through listening activities, role plays, readings, educational videos and written assignments. Topics include direct object pronouns, reflexive verbs and the impersonal form. **Required text:** [The Italian Project 1b](#).

**Intermediate 3 and 4 classes and Advanced 1 and 2 classes will be offered in upcoming sessions in 2017.**

**Advanced 3.** Thursdays, 7:30 to 9:00 pm, beginning March 30, 2017 through June 1, 2017 (Brunetti). This class will be predominantly in Italian, and will introduce more advanced vocabulary, past tenses of verbs, and subjunctive tenses, with topics including Italian history. Students will continue to develop their reading, listening, writing and speaking abilities. **Required Text:** [The Italian Project 2a](#).

**Advanced 4 will be offered in the Summer 2017 session beginning in June 2017.**

**Advanced 5.** Thursdays, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, beginning March 30, 2017 through June 1, 2017 (Brunetti). This class will be predominantly in Italian, and will introduce more advanced vocabulary, courtesy forms of speaking, with topics including famous Italians of various fields. Students will continue to develop their reading, listening, writing and speaking abilities. **Required Text:** [The Italian Project 2b](#).

**GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Richard Mauro.**

**1. What region in Italy were your ancestors from. Have you ever been there and what was your experience?**

*My father is from Petraglia, Sicily and moved to Gramaldi, Calabria. My mother was from Vialo, Basicaticata (near Potenza). I have been to Grimaldi. It's a large mountain village and a very clean town. Surprising that it was so vibrant and active. I found some relatives (on my mother's side) of my Uncle Frank Iacino, my mother's sister's husband. I traveled with my wife Marie and three of my children and one of my sons-in-law. A very emotional experience. The oldest Iacino looked like my uncle and his family. They had a photo of my Uncle Frank's brother and his children from the early 1930's. So many memories of those cousins and family. It was like they were still here. I made a once in a lifetime connection with my Dad's town and my Mother's family.*



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

*My father's Uncle, Rosario Mauro was the first to come to America. My father was born in 1891 in Grimaldi, Italy, as was my grandmother. My Grandfather came in 1892 to Trinidad, CO, to work on the Florence and Cripple Creek Rail Road. He was killed in a dynamite accident in 1894. My father came to Colorado from Italy in 1906. The Mauros came directly to Colorado because my Grandfather's brother, Rosario Mauro came to Trinidad first and brought the rest of the family over time. My mother was born in Denver in 1897. Her parents came first to Kansas City, then to Denver.*

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

*Blessed. Loving happy marriage 69 years to my high school sweetheart. I have 6 children, 12 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren. I had a wonderful childhood with two loving parents. My life is very full, has been and continues to be, fulfilling.*

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

*My first coach, Cobe Jones. And my Godfather, Gene Petrino. Cobe used sports to teach me life lessons. Gene taught me the details.*

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

*I have 6 children, 12 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren. Coaching baseball has always been one of my great loves. 3 years ago I was inducted into the Rocky Mountain Umpire's Hall of Fame. I thrive on gatherings large and small of friends and family. Reading biographies of famous people, especially sports figures, has also been a relaxing hobby.*

**6. How would you most like to be remembered?**

*As a kind, considerate and thoughtful person, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, who remembered almost each and every person I've met. I always try to find the best in folks I meet.*

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

*I liked the Italian fraternity (and the people associated with the group), the sharing of knowledge, Italian history, customs, and activities.*

## **NOTIZIE DALL'ITALIA Palermo è la Capitale Italiana della Cultura 2018.**



Palermo è la Capitale Italiana della Cultura 2018. Lo ha annunciato oggi il Ministro dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali e del Turismo, Dario Franceschini, nel corso della cerimonia in cui il Presidente della Commissione Stefano Baia Curioni ha comunicato la motivazione che ha portato al riconoscimento della città di Palermo.

“La candidatura – recita la motivazione – è sostenuta da un progetto originale, di elevato valore culturale, di grande respiro umanitario, fortemente e generosamente orientato all’inclusione alla formazione permanente, alla creazione di capacità e di cittadinanza, senza trascurare la valorizzazione

del patrimonio e delle produzioni artistiche contemporanee. Il progetto è supportato dai principali attori istituzionali e culturali del territorio e prefigura a che interventi infrastrutturali in grado di lasciare un segno duraturo e positivo. Gli elementi di governance, di sinergia pubblico-privato e di contesto economico, poi, contribuiscono a rafforzarne la sostenibilità e la credibilità”

A concorrere per il titolo insieme al capoluogo siciliano, le città di Alghero, Aquileia, Comacchio, Ercolano, Montebelluna Recanati, Settimo torinese, Trento e l’Unione dei comuni elimo-ericini (Busetto Palizzolo, Custonaci, Erice, Paceco, San Vito Lo Capo e Valderice).

“Abbiamo visto che questa competizione virtuosa genera un meccanismo di partecipazione condivisa. Essere nella short list è un po’ come ricevere una nomination all’Oscar: consente di lavorare molto anche in termini di progettazione e promozione” ha dichiarato il Ministro dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali e del Turismo, Dario Franceschini, e ha annunciato “nel 2018 verrà designata la capitale italiana del 2020 che avrà quindi due anni a disposizione per realizzare al meglio il progetto”.



Il Sindaco di Palermo Leoluca Orlando ha dichiarato: “C’è una profonda emozione, ma devo riconoscere che è stata una vittoria di tutti perché siamo stati capaci ognuno di narrare le bellezze dei nostri territori – e ha concluso – la cifra culturale più significativa e che rivendichiamo è la cultura dell’accoglienza. Rivendichiamo il diritto di ogni essere umano di essere e restare diverso ed essere e restare uguale”. Dal premio la città di Palermo riceverà un milione di euro e l’esclusione dal patto di stabilità delle spese per gli investimenti necessari per realizzare i progetti.



**Parole ritrovate: Favola.** La parola ha l'origine dal verbo latino fari, "parlare": la favola e' letteralmente "cio' di cui si parla", cio' di cui vale la pena parlare. Come per esempio di una squadra di calcio che, contro una gerarchia e ogni pronostico, conquista sul campo una vittoria bella e imprevista.

*(A cura di Alessandro Masi, dal supplemento Sette del Corriere della Sera)*

## ITALIAN HISTORY, LAND, AND CULTURE



**Norcia** is a town in the province of Perugia in southeastern Umbria. Unlike many ancient towns, it is located in a wide plain abutting the Monti Sibillini, a subrange of the Apennines with some of its highest peaks, near the Sordo River, a small stream that eventually flows into the Nera. The town is popularly associated with the Valnerina (the valley of that river).

The area is known for its air and scenery, and is a base for mountaineering and hiking. It is also widely known for hunting, especially of the wild boar, and for sausages and ham made from wild boar and pork. Such products have been named after Norcia; in Italian, they are called *norcineria*.

**Fornelli** is a town in the Province of Isernia in the region of Molise, located about 45 kilometres (28 mi) west of Campobasso and about 8 kilometres (5 mi) west of Isernia. Fornelli has one of the best preserved medieval walls of Molise and a village structure that still reflects the original one, that make Fornelli even more interesting, of course excluding the buildings recently built, anonymous and of poor quality, that extend outside of the historic center. It is almost a miracle that the walls are preserved, even if the towers were adapted to the needs of the inhabitants. Although the village does not present buildings of particular architectural importance, Fornelli is therefore valuable for the compactness of its historic and urban structure, a rarity in other villages of this region.



**Bosa** is a town in the province of Oristano. It is situated about two-thirds of the way up the west coast of Sardinia, on a small hill, about 3 kilometres (2 miles) inland on the north bank of the Temo River. Palms along the river swayed by the wind, a line of low tannery buildings, the river stone paths of the medieval quarter and moreover, its green nuances, its blue sea, and if you are lucky, the griffins flying around the Castle of Malaspina. This is what you see when you look at Bosa: a strangely fascinating place, uncertain between the river and the sea, of nondescript colours, of strong but introspective feelings, like those who feel deeply-rooted in a culture.

**Campo Ligure** is a town in the Province of Genoa in the region Liguria, located about 37 kilometres (23 mi) northwest of Genoa. The first parish, San Michele, is probably dating back to the 10<sup>th</sup> century. Between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> century various families take turns leading the administration of Campo, until the year 1329, when Campo becomes a small fief of the Holy Roman Empire, surrounded by the territory of the Republic of Genoa. In July 1600 the Republic of Genoa increases control of the small enclave, so that local rebels to its dominion are forced to surrender and be banished. The 18<sup>th</sup> century is full of events in Campo's life: suffering floods, involved in political struggles between Vienna and the Republic of Genoa, the town sees a gradual buildup of manufacturing activities and eventually the birth of the republican municipality that joins the Ligurian Republic in 1797.



**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](mailto:rhop626@gmail.com) , or Gianfranco Marcantonio at 303-494-3080 [glm3942@yahoo.com](mailto:glm3942@yahoo.com) .



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

**2016 Calendar**

**Cultural Meetings**

March 10  
April 7

**Events**

April 2 - Prima domenica  
May 6 - Scholarship Luncheon

**Classes**

Language—Spring begin March 27.

**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.**



**February 18, 2017 Cooking Class**