



DA NOTIZIARIO

Dante Alighieri Society of Denver, Colorado, Inc.



February 2018

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FEBRUARY CULTURAL MEETING The next cultural evening will be on **February 9th**. Ted Borrillo will do a presentation on the Lindbergh kidnapping case. Ted is an attorney who has read the court documents on this case and personally knew some of the people involved. He has some interesting ideas about the case. We will also give away a door prize to a lucky attendee.

As always, the program will take place at Mount Carmel Parish Hall at 7:30 p.m. 3549 Navajo Street, Denver.

GISELLA ISIDORI WILL BE BACK IN COLORADO FOR COOKING CLASSES..

Gisella will be in Denver in early February and looks forward to doing two cooking classes for the Society. The dates are Saturday February 17 and Saturday March 3, and the classes will take place at Mount Carmel Parish Hall Kitchen. Class size was limited to the first 15 who registered due to the size of the kitchen, and although the deadlines were February 12, and February 26, both classes filled immediately. If you are interested, we can include your name on the waiting list. We will cook regional dishes that will include: *antipasto, primo piatto, secondo piatto e dolce*. Cost for registration is \$30 per class for members and \$35 for non-members, and checks must be made out to Dante Society of Denver and mailed to Carol Marsala, 1696 Garland St., Lakewood 80215. If you are interested, please contact Vera Buffaloe for registration at 303-886-0608 or e-mail buffaloev@gmail.com.



MEMBERSHIP. Renewal cards for 2018 have been mailed, and we hope you will join us for another fun year at the DAS. The board is busy planning lectures, movies and parties. Please review the card to be sure that the information is correct. If you choose to renew using PayPal, we still need the card returned for our files. Language students should renew their membership before the start of classes and can pay for class and membership at the same time. Thank you, Rhonda Hopkins, Membership Chairperson.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES SPRING SESSION BEGINS MARCH 26, 2018.

The Dante Alighieri Society will offer a 10-week spring session of Italian language classes, beginning the week of March 26, 2018. The schedule for spring classes will be posted on the Dante Society website by February 26, 2018. 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 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. 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 website: <http://dantealighieriofdenver.com/classes/language-classes/>

BENVENUTI The Society offers a warm welcome to the following new members: Lara Cutkosky of Denver, Rick Krout of Lonetree, Alyse Nelsen of Denver, Will Parsons of Denver, Lori Sandham of Wheatridge, and Lawrence Valdez of Denver.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Local universities and colleges have been notified that the 2018 Dante Society Scholarship Program is now underway. All information has been updated and the application forms for both Academic and Music scholarships are available on the Dante website. Mark your calendar for the annual Scholarship Luncheon to be held at the Arvada Center on May 6, 2018. This event is always one of the highlights for our society, one that you don't want to miss. And thanks to all of you who have so generously supported the scholarship program over the years. We couldn't do it without you!

FUND RAISING OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Next time you head out to King Soopers, be sure to take a Dante Society King Soopers gift card with you. King Soopers offers organizations a simple way to raise money by returning 5% of grocery sales made on the card to the organization. The cards initially cost \$25 but can be reloaded for any amount at checkout. By continuing to use the cards for purchases, Dante members will provide an on-going source of income for scholarships. If you give gift cards to friends, family or charitable organizations, consider giving a Dante Society King Soopers gift card. The Dante Society cards cannot be purchased at King Soopers. The Dante Society cards must be purchased through Dante by calling Veronica Goodrich at 303-421-1547.

NEWS FROM ITALY Italy's Sofia Goggia beats US favorite to win ski world cup.

Italy's Sofia Goggia snatched her second straight Women's World Cup downhill on home snow at Cortina d'Ampezzo, as an error left favorite Lindsey Vonn in second. Goggia followed her downhill win at Bad Kleinkirchheim in Austria winning in 1 minute and 36.45 seconds, a margin of 0.47 seconds ahead of Vonn. "It's a dream come true," said the 25-year-old after her fourth World Cup win and first in Italy, which comes weeks ahead of the Winter Olympics in South Korea. "Lindsey made a mistake, but if she hadn't she would probably have won by a large margin. After my performance I wasn't that happy.



Italy is in the grip of its worst flu season in 14 years. Nearly 4 million people in Italy sought treatment for the flu in recent weeks, the highest number of cases since 2004. There were some 832,000 flu patients between January 8-14th, according to the National Health Institute's virus monitoring service, making a total of 3,883,000 cases since September 2017. "The spread of the influenza virus this year is very intense, higher even than the pandemic of 2009-10 and comparable only to the 2004-5 season," said Antonino Bella, one of the institute's specialists in infectious disease.

Fierce debate in Italy's southern regions over special status for tomatoes. The humble tomato has sparked a fierce debate between two of Italy's southern regions, which are arguing over the right to claim the foodstuff as their own. The row kicked off when Naples requested an IGP (Protected Geographical Indication) denomination for Neapolitan peeled tomatoes. After Naples, the capital of the Campania region, submitted its request to Italy's Agricultural Ministry, which decides which regional foods are deserving of special status, the neighboring region of Puglia objected. "Puglia is vital to the southern tomato industry, and it's our duty to protect our producers," wrote Puglian councilor for agriculture Leonardo di Gioia on his Facebook page, explaining why the region would not endorse the label. Di Gioia said the decision was "not merely parochial, but based on merit", adding that the majority of southern Italy's tomato production took place in Puglia while Campania's tomato industry was more processing-based.

The latest Istat data, from August last year, shows that 174,240 kilograms of tomatoes were produced in Puglia, compared to only 23,887 kilograms in Campania. The vast majority of southern Italy's tomatoes are harvested in the Puglian province of Foggia. (*The Local*)

GETTING TO KNOW YOU Dante Italian teacher Vanessa DiMaggio.

1. 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?

I'm half Italian on my father's side and am from the same family as the famous Yankee Joe DiMaggio, though distantly related. My grandfather's parents were from Sicily, and my grandmother's parents were from Calabria. I've never been to Calabria, and the only part of Sicily I've been to are the Isole Eolie, which are magical.

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

My great-grandparents arrived to the States in the early 1900s and settled in and around New York City—Brooklyn and New Rochelle specifically. My great-grandfather was a roofer and my great-grandmother owned a little store where she sold Italian goods. My father was the first of our family to move to Colorado for college in the '70s.

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

Unflinching. I stick to my decisions, and if I set my mind to something, I make it happen.

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

My father because he taught me how to be independent and succeed on my own.

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

I'm a doctoral candidate at the University of Pennsylvania, currently working on my dissertation on the Divine Comedy's historical sources. I have an 18-year-old cat named Buckwheat, and last year I married my high school sweetheart and boyfriend of 11 years, Matt. Buckwheat, Matt and I enjoy nights in eating snacks and bingeing Netflix. Matt and I also love to travel and hike and just generally love the outdoors. My goal is to visit all of our National Parks. I've only visited 15 so far, but I'm working on it!

6. How would you most like to be remembered?

I'd most like to be remembered by my writing. I used to be a journalist and have been writing novels since childhood. I think one of the greatest ways a human can endure is in the words they leave behind.

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

Dante is quite literally my whole life right now. He's the subject of my dissertation, and I read his words nearly every day. When I moved to Denver and saw that the DSA offered language classes, I reached out to teach for them. Teaching is my passion and I'm so appreciative to have an outlet where I can hear and speak the beautiful Italian language on a weekly basis and connect with other people who love Italy as much as I do.



NOTIZIE DALL'ITALIA

Vi presentiamo alcuni degli atleti che ieri sono partiti alla volta di Pyeongchang e che parteciperanno alle prossime Olimpiadi invernali. Scopriamo quali sono le punte di diamante della nostra nazione.

Manca ormai poco all'inizio della ventitreesima edizione delle Olimpiadi invernali. Si svolgeranno nella contea di **Pyeongchang**, nella Corea del Sud, **dal 9 al 25 febbraio**.

I migliori atleti di tutto il mondo si cimenteranno in ben 15 sport nei due elementi che caratterizzano la rassegna a cinque cerchi nella stagione più fredda. Oltre 100 titoli in palio e più di **300 medaglie** tra sci alpino, sci nordico, pattinaggio, *curling*, hockey, *speedskating*, *freestyle* e *snowboard*: ce ne sarà davvero per tutti i gusti. Le Olimpiadi invernali saranno trasmesse in diretta tv, sia su Eurosport che sulla Rai. L'Italia si presenta con rinnovato entusiasmo e con tante pedine da muovere sulla scacchiera olimpionica.

Vediamo insieme, per ogni disciplina, quali sono i nomi papabili per la vittoria, presentandovi gli italiani che parteciperanno alle Olimpiadi invernali di Pyeongchang 2018.



Partiamo dallo **Sci alpino** (Alpine skiing). Qui, tenendo conto di quelli che sono stati i risultati del recente passato, l'Italia ha poche speranze di medaglie. Nelle Olimpiadi, però, i pronostici lasciano il tempo che trovo, venendo sovvertiti molto spesso. Potrebbero riuscirci **Sofia Goggia**, Federica Brignone e Marta Bassino, tutte reduci da una serie di ottime prestazioni. Da non sottovalutare, comunque, anche la veterana Manuela Moelgg. Per quanto riguarda gli uomini, i nomi più gettonati sono quelli di Dominik Paris e **Peter Fill**, quest'ultimo vincitore per due anni di fila della Coppa del Mondo di discesa. Non mancherà, comunque, neanche Christof Innerhofer: l'altoatesino ha già dimostrato di saper incidere nei grandi appuntamenti (nel suo palmares figurano due medaglie mondiali, di cui una d'oro, e tre olimpiche), anche se nelle ultime stagioni è stato falciato da acciacchi ed infortuni.

Per lo **Sci di fondo** (Cross country) invece, il primo nome che viene in mente è quello di **Federico Pellegrino**, campione del mondo in carica della sprint in tecnica libera. Può puntare al podio in tecnica classica, anche se la gara cui dovrà puntare maggiormente sarà la staffetta a coppie in tecnica libera, dove sarà affiancato con ogni probabilità dall'inseparabile *Dietmar Noeckler*. Altri italiani che potrebbero portare a casa un risultato in questa disciplina dalle Olimpiadi invernali 2018, sono **Francesco De Fabiani**, chiamato alla definitiva consacrazione, e **Giandomenico Salvadori**, altro fondista in costante crescita.

Per la **Combinata Nordica** (Nordic combined), altra disciplina di queste Olimpiadi invernali 2018, l'uomo di punta poteva essere Samuel Costa, che però, per gravi problemi al ginocchio, sarà costretto a saltare i giochi di quest'anno. Così toccherà al veterano **Alessandro Pittin** portare la croce, divenendo a tutti gli effetti l'uomo di riferimento della spedizione azzurra in questa disciplina. Il friulano punterà quasi tutto sulla prova dal trampolino piccolo.



Per il **Biathlon** sarà fortissima la presenza femminile: **Dorothea Wierer** resta la punta di diamante, Lisa Vittozzi, che cresce di stagione in stagione, Federica Sanfilippo e Alexia Runggaldier, che sono già salite sul podio in Coppa del Mondo.

Short Track. Ecco il turno di **Arianna Fontana** (foto a sinistra) portabandiera a capo della spedizione. La valtelinesa si giocherà le chance maggiori di medaglia nei 500 metri, coltivando poi qualche ambizione anche per i 1500. Anche Martina Valcepina sarà una delle pedine italiane all'interno di questacategoria per le Olimpiadi invernali. *(Continued)*

Passiamo, quindi, allo **Snowboard**. Qui **Michela Moioli** e **Omar Visintin** saranno i due assi portanti dello **snowboardcross**. Non mancheranno anche *outsider* interessanti come **Raffaella Brutto**, **Luca Matteotti** ed **Emanuel Perathoner**.

Nel **Salto con gli scii** (Ski jump) nome di riferimento sarà **Alex Insam**, migliorato notevolmente nell'ultimo periodo. Questa crescita potrebbe aprirgli le porte per un piazzamento importante all'interno delle Olimpiadi invernali di Pyeongchang. Cosa che si augura anche per la parte femminile, con Elena Runggaldier e le sorelle Lara e Manuela Malsiner.

Lo **Slittino** (Luge), invece, ci porta ancora il nome di **Dominik Fischnaller**, punta di un intero movimento, che, arrivato a questo punto della sua carriera, ha la possibilità di scegliere quale strada prendere: definitiva consacrazione come campione o atleta di buon livello destinato a qualche *exploit* sporadico?

Altra disciplina in cui gli Azzurri potrebbero andar bene è lo **Speed skating**. Qui il nostro Paese sta registrando una notevole crescita, e a far parte della truppa italiana in queste Olimpiadi invernali 2018, ecco **Andrea Giovannini**, Nicola Tumolero e Davide Ghiotto. Si presenteranno con una forma fisica molto buona che potrebbe giocare a loro favore.

Nel **Pattinaggio sul ghiaccio** (Figure skating) come non nominare uno dei pilastri dello sport italiano? Parliamo, ovviamente, di **Carolina Kostner**. A completare la spedizione troviamo Anna Cappellini e Luca Lanotte, nomi giovani ma che promettono davvero bene. alcepinata sarà una delle pedine italiane all'interno di questa categoria per le Olimpiadi invernali. (*SportFace*)

GOOD NEWS AGAIN FROM ROME AND THE VATICAN FOR YOU TRAVELING TO ITALY IN 2018

The agreement between the Vatican and the Dante has been renewed once again for the year 2018. 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>.



2018 Calendar

Cultural Meetings

February 9

Events

Classes

Language – Winter begin Jan. 28

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.