



La Rondine

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ITALIAN CLUB OF ST. LOUIS

October 2005

“National Italian American Heritage Month”

by *Tony DiPaolo*

Next Meeting

Wednesday

October 19th

Cocktails– 6:30p.m.

Dinner– 7:00p.m.
\$20 per person

RSVP—Dan Viele

(636) 537-5960 or

ItalianClubSTL@aol.com
by noon Tuesday, Oct 18th

The month of October is designated as "National Italian American Heritage Month". Our speaker, Italian Club member Tony DiPaolo, is Italian born and an American citizen. He feels responsible and compelled to honor his heritage. His presentation will be to examine the experience of our Italian immigrants and their journey to the United States, their sacrifice in embracing the New World and the inner-strength they received from maintaining strong family ties.

DiPaolo will outline the values and the contribution their offspring have made and are continuing to make in our society. He will contrast this generation and current events with the events that were occurring as Italians came to the United States. This is a challenging task but Tony DiPaolo will do his best to respect and honor the sacrifices and contributions of these people, our ancestors, as they embraced the New World. He firmly believes that they deserve our admiration and all of the recognition we can give to them. Join us on October 19th to celebrate our ancestors and our lives as Italian Americans. *Tony DiPaolo*

“Italian Trivia” organized by *Pete Puleo*

At our September meeting, we were challenged with an Italian Trivia Contest testing our knowledge about our beloved Italy and Italian-Americans. There were five categories in our Italian Trivia Contest:

History and Geography
Food and Drink
Art, Music and Literature
Sports
Italian Cities

Here are some of the questions that were in the contest: (see answers in **bold**)

-Which country has not yet established a diplomatic relationship with the Vatican City State?

Russia Sri Lanka Eritrea Norway

-In what city can you find the tomb of the poet Dante Alighieri

Bologna Rome Florence **Ravenna**

-Which of the following is NOT an Italian dessert?

Zoccolo Zuppa Inglese Zabaglione Zuccotto

-The beautiful model for Botticelli's famous painting "Venus" was related to:

Galileo Galilei Giovanne Boccaccio **Amerigo Vespucci** Cosimo de Medici

-Born in Lucca, Italy, this Football Hall of Fame star played 14 successive seasons without missing a game with the San Francisco 49'ers. Who was he?

Vince Lombardi Dan Marino Joe Montana **Leo Nomellini**

Members at each table were a team for the competition, and, of course, each member at the winning table received a bottle of wine. The first place winners were: Tony Perrone, Dorotea Rossomanno-Phillips, Valerio Bianco, Aldo Della Croce and Vincenzo Imperato.

The second place winning table consisted of Maria and Tiziano Cembali, Norman and Rose Merlotti and Marie and George Wehrle. Congratulations to our winners! - *Pete Puleo*

“The first place winners were: Tony Perrone, Dorotea Rossomanno-Phillips, Valerio Bianco, Aldo Della Croce & Vincenzo Imperato.”

L'Angolo Del Presidente *by James Tognoni*

My Fellow Members:

Can you believe it is October already? It is my favorite month except that it sends my allergies into a tizzy. October is not only the changing of the seasons but all the wonderful activities in the Italian-American community. This month was designated some years ago as the Italian American month. We just had the Columbus Day banquet (Congratulations to Joe Boccardi, the Grand Marshall, Marie Cuccia-Brand for receiving the Sprit of Columbus Award and Fr. Leo Spezia who received the Mother Cabrini Award). Sunday, October 9th is the Columbus Day Parade and Festa. This is always an enjoyable time. On Columbus Day, Wednesday, October 12, there is a laying of a wreath at the statue of Columbus in Tower Grove Park (right near the main entrance off Grand Avenue.) I hope you will join us at these functions.

At our October meeting, we will have our annual election. This year,

we will be electing someone to the Director's post which will be vacated in January by Carlo Giordano. The nominating committee has chosen Jerry Giuseffi to run for this post. As you may recall, the by-laws state that someone else may be nominated in writing by two other members between now and the October meeting. Additionally we will take nominations from the floor that evening if someone is sincere about running. If you have any questions, please contact me.

The Board has been very busy with the business of the Club and planning for the future. We hope that if you have suggestions that you will let us know. This is "your" organization. We want it to serve the best interest of the majority of our members. I look forward to seeing you at the Columbus Day Parade and Festa and at our October dinner meeting on October 19th.

Ciao, Jim

(314) 865-1005

jtognoni@earthlink.net

Italian Films and Operas – 2005 Fall Series at the Italia-America Bocce Club

STORY OF BOYS AND GIRLS; FEAST FOR LOVERS (1992)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

DIRECTED BY PUPI AVATI, TWO OPPOSITE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES, ONE, SNOBBISH URBANITES, THE OTHER, RURAL AND AMORAL, ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THE ENGAGEMENT OF TWO YOUNG LOVERS. .

THE BARBER OF SEVILLE BY GIOACCHINO ROSSINI

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

QUINTESSENTIAL OPERA BUFFA, FUNNY AND CHARMING; ROSINA (CECILIA BARTOLI), WITH THE HELP OF THE TOWN BARBER, FIGARO (GINO QUILICO), OUTWITS HER ELDERLY AMOROUS AVARICIOUS GUARDIAN. (2 hrs. 40 min.)

MALENA (2002)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

A MASTERPIECE BY DIRECTOR GUISEPPE TORNATORE. IN A SICILIAN PORT CITY THE ILL-FATED BEAUTIFUL MALENA IS LUSTED AFTER BY THE MEN AND HATED BY THE WOMEN,. SEEN FROM THE EYES OF A TEENAGER WHOSE SEXUAL ATTRACTION TO MALENA DEVELOPS GRADUALLY INTO COMPASSION FOR HER PLIGHT.

THE MASKED BALL BY GIUSEPPE VERDI

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

VERDI'S MAGNIFICENT GRAND SCALE OPERA OF FORBIDDEN LOVE, AND THE TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES THEREOF. FEATURES PLACIDO DOMINGO AND KATIA RICCIARELLI. (2 hrs. 15 min)

All free programs are in Italian with English sub-titles & begin at 7:30 p.m, with introductions by Tony Perrone & Dorotea Rossomanno. Sponsored by the Italian Club & the Italia-America Bocce Club at 2210 Marconi on the "hill". For information contact Dorotea at 644-7708 or dorotearp@aol.com

COLUMBUS DAY CORPORATION PROUDLY ANNOUNCES ITS 2005 COLUMBUS DAY PARADE

**GRAND MARSHALL –
JOSEPH BOCCARDI**

**SPIRIT OF COLUMBUS AWARD –
MARIE CUCCIA-BRAND**

**ST. FRANCES CABRINI AWARD–
REV. LEO SPEZIA**

**MISS ITALIAN ST. LOUIS –
RACHEL PERRON**

**MAID OF HONOR –
ANDREA TRAVAGLINI**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2005

**AT BERRA PARK
NOON—5P.M.**

The *Italian Club of St. Louis* will have a booth at Berra Park where we will be selling gelato made by Baldo. We would appreciate your assistance at our booth. Please contact Gloria DiMartino Etling at (314) 965-6972 if you are able to help.

You are invited to participate in the 3rd Annual Hill Nativity Walk

cosponsored by the Italian Club of St. Louis and the Hill Business Association. If you have Italian or Italian-style presepi, please consider displaying them. Or, if you have a storefront available for display, please let us know. For additional information, please contact Carl Giordano – clgiordano@charter.net

TERZA PAGINA

I capolavori della poesia italiana

a cura di Barbara Klein

Giacomo Leopardi (Recanati 1798 – Napoli 1837) fu il maggior poeta italiano del secolo XIX e uno dei maggiori di tutti i tempi. Fra le sue opere: Operette morali, Canti e Zibaldone. Per ulteriori informazioni, vedi: www.leopardi.it

Il sabato del villaggio

di Giacomo Leopardi

La donzelletta vien dalla campagna,
 In sul calar del sole,
 Col suo fascio dell'erba; e reca in mano
 Un mazzolin di rose e di viole,
 Onde, siccome suole,
 Ornare ella si appresta
 Dimani, al dì di festa, il petto e il crine.
 Siede con le vicine
 Su la scala a filar la vecchierella,
 Incontro là dove si perde il giorno;
 E novellando vien del suo buon tempo,
 Quando ai dì della festa ella si ornavo,
 Ed ancor sana e snella
 Solea danzar la sera intra di quei
 Ch'ebbe compagni dell'età più bella.
 Già tutta l'aria imbruna,
 Torna azzurro il sereno, e tornan l'ombre
 Giù da' colli e da' tetti,
 Al biancheggiar della recente luna.
 Or la squilla dà segno
 Della festa che viene;
 Ed a quel suon diresti
 Che il cor si riconforta.
 I fanciulli gridando
 Su la piazzuola in frotta,
 E qua e là saltando,
 Fanno un lieto romore:
 E intanto riede alla sua parca mensa,
 Fischiano, il zappatore,
 E seco pensa al dì del suo riposo.
 Poi quando intorno è spenta ogni altra face,
 E tutto l'altro tace,
 Odi il martel picchiare, odi la sega
 Del legnaiuol, che veglia
 Nella chiusa bottega alla lucerna,
 E s'affretta, e s'adopra
 Di fornir l'opra anzi il chiarir dell'alba.
 Questo di sette è il più gradito giorno,
 Pien di speme e di gioia:
 Diman tristezza e noia
 Recheran l'ore, ed al travaglio usato
 Ciascuno in suo pensier farà ritorno.
 Garzoncello scherzoso,
 Cotesta età fiorita
 E' come un giorno d'allegrezza pieno,
 Giorno chiaro, sereno,
 Che precorre alla festa di tua vita.
 Godi, fanciullo mio; stato soave,
 Stagion lieta è cotesta.
 Altro dirti non vo'; ma la tua festa
 Ch'anco tardi a venir non ti sia grave.

In giro per l'Italia

a cura di Barbara Klein



Recanati: la città di Leopardi

Difficile non collegare Recanati al poeta Giacomo Leopardi, sia per il fatto che è uno dei capisaldi della letteratura italiana del primo ottocento sia per le tante targhe che sugli angoli delle strade riportino i suoi versi. Soprattutto agli amanti della lirica riesce invece di affiancare l'abito ad un altro importante personaggio, il tenore Beniamino Gigli, che poco più di un secolo dopo spopolò per anni negli Stati Uniti. Sono questi due concittadini gli ambasciatori di Recanati nel mondo. Sono loro a costituire quasi sempre il pretesto per salire sul colle fra le valli dei fiumi Musone e Potenza, e per immergersi in un centro storico ben conservato, dove le case e le piazze rimandano alle due illustri personalità ma raccontano anche la storia che va indietro nel tempo per secoli e secoli.

Il cuore della città è piazza Leopardi. Che questo spazio sia stato sistemato alla fine del XIX secolo lo ricordano sia il monumento a Giacomo Leopardi, inaugurato nel 1898 (era il primo centenario della nascita del poeta), sia il retrostante Palazzo comunale. All'interno dell'edificio, il Museo Beniamino Gigli nasce dalla donazione di cimeli e ricordi legati al tenore; costumi e riconoscimenti si accompagnano a recensioni e articoli di giornali, alla ricostruzione del suo camerino e alla sua discoteca personale.

La marchesa Adelaide Antici, madre di Leopardi, visse nel palazzo Antici-Mattei, che si costeggia lungo l'omonima via prima di uscire nella suggestiva piazza del sabato del villaggio, dove tutto rimanda al poeta: il palazzo Leopardi (sec. XVIII), sua casa, dove tutt'oggi abitano i discendenti (nello studio del conte Monaldo si trova ancora la scrivania di Giacomo) e dove la biblioteca raccoglie circa 2000 volumi, fra cui opere e manoscritti del celebre antenato; la casa di Silvia, la figlia del cocchiere di famiglia cantata dal poeta nell'omonima ode; la chiesa di Santa Maria di Morello, tardocinquecentesca ma rimaneggiata agli inizi del XIX secolo, dove Leopardi venne battezzato. Infine il Centro nazionale di Studi leopardiani, che dal 1937 promuove ricerche, studi e conferenze sulla vita e sulle opere del poeta; oltre alla biblioteca vi è ospitato un museo didattico che offre un excursus sulla vita e l'ambiente in cui visse e che espone dipinti e opere grafiche a lui ispirate.

Poco distante è il colle dell'Infinito, reso immortale dai versi di Leopardi; il suo nome più corretto è monte Tabor e, dominato dai resti del quattrocentesco ex monastero di Santo Stefano, regala tutt'oggi un panorama sconfinato sulla valle del Potenza e sulle morbide ondulazioni del Maceratese.

Per ulteriori informazioni vedi: www.conero.net

Buon viaggio in Italia!!!

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LA RONDINE**

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***Celebrating over
80 years of
Italian Culture
and Heritage***

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
**WWW.ITALYSTL.COM/
ITALIANCLUB**

Prossime Manifestazioni

FUTURE ITALIAN CLUB MEETINGS and EVENTS

- Wednesday, October 19 - "National Italian American Heritage Month" by Tony DiPaolo*
Wednesday, November 16 - "Art Patronage in Renaissance Rome" by Dr. Cynthia Stollhans
Italian Language Awards to St. Louis University students
Wednesday, December 21 - Annual Christmas Celebration featuring the Panetone Players

*The Italian Club meets the third Wednesday of each month for dinner at da Baldo's Restaurant
Cocktails—6:30p.m. Dinner- 7:00p.m.
\$20.00/person*

*Reservations must be made by noon of the day prior to the dinner meeting; individuals making
reservations after noon on Tuesday, October 18th or "walk-ins" will be charged \$25.00.*

Mark your Calendar!

- Sunday, October 9- Columbus Day Parade- Noon—5:00p.m. Berra Park*
Friday, October 14- "The Story of Boys and Girls; A Feast for Lovers" - film at Bocce Club
Sunday, October 23- Misericordia Society's 85th Anniversary Celebration- 5:00p.m.- Spazio's
Friday, October 28- "The Barber of Seville" opera film at Bocce Club

St. Louis Cathedral Concerts

- Friday, October 21**— Choir of Westminster Abbey, London— 8:00p.m. Tickets for these concerts will be: \$35, \$25 & \$15
Friday, November 11— Vienna Choir Boys, 8:00p.m.; Tickets for this concert will be: \$40, \$30 and \$20
Monday, November 28— Chanticleer Holiday Concert, 8:00p.m. Tickets for this concert will be: \$35, \$25 and \$15

All concerts will be at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis- (314) 533-7662