PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Carnevale was a lot of fun for children and adults alike. The kids broke the piñata and had great fun with their beautiful costumes; the adults had fun dancing and sporting their carnival outfits. It was a full house event with more than one hundred people showing up, some of them new members or guests. We are pleased to announce that we are doing well in terms of living up to our commitment to attract new members and creating interest in our programs.

The March event will expand on that subject with a murder-mystery presentation by the actors of the theater company Murder Upon Request. The atmosphere will be that of a 19th century coffee-house with fancy pasticcini and espresso bar service provided by yours-truly and members of our Board of Directors, properly attired for the occasion in the garb of nineteenth century baristas and waiters. The audience with be sitting at round tables (about 12 in all at six per table) in the large auditorium and sipping espresso and other caffemalia, as they are served their favorite pastries. You in the audience will participate in solving the crime. It should be fun, but we need your collaboration with making reservations in time as specified in the flyer on page 3.

As the social year progresses it is important for me to announce once again the availability of our Awards for young scholar in different areas as indicated in the specific announcement on page 2 of this issue of Poche Parole. It is important that this information be passed around so that we will have a critical mass of valid applicants by May 23rd. The winners will then be selected and awards will be presented at our gala dinner. We are open to suggestions for nominations especially for the artisan award, so, if you know of any worthy individuals, please bring it to our attention and we will provide that person with information for their application.

Once again don’t miss this occasion of the next social to have fun and stay in touch. All the best,

Luigi De Luca

ICS EVENTS

Social Meetings start at 3:00 PM on the third Sunday of the month, September thru May at the Friendship Heights Village Center, 4433 South Park Ave, Chevy Chase, MD

(See map on last page)

MARCH 16 MURDER MYSTERY THEATER!!
You will be part of a murder enactment as you help the cops solve the crime. See page 3 for details and a form for reserving your seats.

Movie of the Month: Big Deal on Madonna Street (I Soliti Ignoti) a 1958 film with Marcello Mastroianni, Vittorio Gassman, and Claudia Cardinale. A comedy about a bumbling gang of thieves, considered a parody of earlier crime movies.

FREE ITALIAN LANGUAGE LESSONS
FOR ALL LEVELS
FROM 2:00 TO 3:00

APRIL 20 SPEAKER TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE MARCH SOCIAL MEETING

ICS Board of Directors and their Responsibilities

Luigi De Luca, President
Andy Millunzi, Vice-President
Romeo Segnan, Treasurer, Webmaster
Cesarina Horing, Membership and Italian Language
Maria Wilmeth, Historian
Joe Onofrietti, Film & Hospitality
Ron Cappelletti & Olga Mancuso, Fund Raising & Events
Nick Monaco, Paolo Vidoli, & Luciano Vignola, At Large
Aldo Grossi, Music & Hospitality
Elio Grandi, Emeritus
Arrigo Mongini, Editor of Poche Parole
Aldo Bove, Liaison in Italy

GET TIMELY MESSAGES BY EMAIL FROM ICS BY SENDING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO
Arizzo.Mongini@Verizon.net

Our email list is confidential and for ICS use only for this purpose and will not be revealed to others.

SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY, JUNE 29
FESTA ITALIANA in DC
SEE PAGE 11 TO VOLUNTEER
ICS ANNUAL AWARDS APPLICATIONS

Applications are being sought for the following Awards:

1. The Elena and Antonio De Luca $1,000 Award to a scholar who has excelled in the study of Latin and/or Greek.

2. The Fred La Marca Award for studies in the Humanities in the amount of $1,000 to be given to a person who has excelled in the Humanities.

3. The Candida Di Croce Italian Language Award of $1,000 to be given to a scholar who has excelled in learning the Italian Language and shows promise of continued commitment to excel in the Language and Culture of Italy.

4. The Vincenzo Palumbo Artisan Award of $1,000 to be given to an artisan who has distinguished him/herself in working with stone, wood, natural and synthetic fibers and other relevant media.

5. The Ruggero Morigi Artist Award of $1,000 to be given to a scholar, who has excelled in the Arts. Written reviews, recordings and/or photographs, etc. of work must be submitted to the Committee.

Applicants should be no more than 25 years of age (except for Award No. 4, for which older applicants are accepted) by Friday, May 23, 2008, the post-marked date for receipt of applications. Materials to be included in the application are:

1. College transcripts when appropriate (not required for Award No. 4)
2. Three letters of recommendation
3. An essay describing why the applicant feels worthy of the award
4. A short biographical presentation of the candidate (curriculum vitae)
5. Anything that would demonstrate the ability of the candidate, including publications by and/or about the candidate, photographs, CD’s, etc.

Applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, May 23, 2008 and mailed to:
The Italian Cultural Society, Awards Section, 4848 Battery Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814

Selection will occur during the last week of May and awards will be presented at the gala dinner, which will take place in early June, as will be advertised in our newsletter Poche Parole. Attendance at the dinner is compulsory and awards will be reassigned if the winner is unable to attend except for exceptional circumstances as determined by the Awards Committee.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM
4848 Battery Lane, Suite 100
Bethesda, MD 20814
Day, Evening and Weekend classes for Adults and Italian Children
Serving Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC
For information and class schedules
301-215-7885
Website: www.italianculturalsociety.org

CONSULAR SECTION
ITALIAN EMBASSY
3000 Whitehaven Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20008
Information: 202-612-4400
Serves residents of Washington, DC, Montgomery & Prince George’s Counties, MD; Arlington & Fairfax Counties, VA

ITALIAN GOURMET MARKET
FOR ALL YOUR ITALIAN FOOD SPECIALTIES AND CATERING
12169 Darnestown Rd. (Rte. 28), Gaithersburg, MD
at Darnestown Rd. & Quince Orchard Rd.
Tel: 301-926-9236

Gourmet Deli and Catering
Featuring an extensive line of Italian food favorites, wines and beers!
Italian deli products, panini, subs and sandwiches, fresh mozzarella plus home made delicious Italian meals to go!

Buona Pasqua!
Easter Specialties Now Available
plus
* Panettone * Pandoro * Panforte *
* Torrone * Perugina Chocolates *

Bring this ad with you for a Special 10% Discount (except for beer, wine, or other beverages)
The Italian Cultural Society of Washington, DC

Invites you to be part of

A café-cabaret afternoon mystery theater entertainment by

Murder Upon Request

Resort to

Can prize-winning Chef Gian-Rico’s flair for exotic and bizarre creations be dangerous for his diners? Beware! Join us in helping inspector Albano solve a dastardly murder as you sip coffee or tea, enjoy Chanteuse Darlene Vabecou, and snack on pastries…if you dare!

Sunday, March 16
3 pm
Friendship Heights Community Center
4433 N. Park Ave. Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Reserve your seat by sending payment and the form below to the indicated address. Inquires: 301-215-7885

Name____________________________________________________, tel:_____________________
Address:_________________________________, City/State/Zip_____________________________

Please reserve _____place(s) for me at $20/person

I am including a check in the amount of $_____________

Mail this form and check to: Italian Cultural Society, 4848 Battery Lane, Suite #100, Bethesda, MD 20814
The Japanese have a title for people who have excelled as practitioners and teachers in their artistic or artisanal fields. They are called “National Treasures”. One can argue whether the study and teaching of language is as much an art as a science, but our own Maria Wilmeth deserves that title for Italian language education more than anyone in the Washington Area.

Dr. Maria Guerrera Wilmeth was born in Nicosia, Sicily, where she attended public schools. A “war bride”, she married a US military officer in 1947, became a US citizen, and spent the early part of her marriage on assignment in different parts of the world, including two years in Japan, six years in Paris, and raising their three children. She received the Doctorate in Romance Languages, with major in French and Minors in Italian, Spanish and English, from the Istituto Universitario Orientale, University of Naples. In 1963, Maria began a long career in the teaching of languages that included four years as Assistant Professor of Italian at George Washington University and, from 1974 to 1991, nineteen years as curriculum coordinator in foreign language instruction for the Fairfax County School District, one of the largest in the US. There she supervised 365 teachers of nine foreign languages and other specialized instruction programs. While working in that job she received her PhD in French and Applied linguistics from Georgetown University. From 1991 to 2004, Maria ran the Foreign Languages and ESL program at the Graduate School, USDA. There she managed programs in 28 foreign languages, and ESL courses in the continuing education school for adult students.

Since 1974 Maria has served and continues to serve as Director of the Italian Language Program sponsored by the ICS, where she has designed and implemented the children and adult programs, selected textbooks and hired instructors. Naturally she has not worked at this all by herself. For 22 years she directed the program on a voluntary basis. Maria was also president of the ICS for two terms and is an active member of our Board. She has become known for a highly prized skill in Washington that of “grantsmanship”. Working with Prof. R. Severino, a member of the ICS, she has received in 2004 funds in the amount of $134,000 and in 2007 of about $175,000 to ICS from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a very prestigious federal agency. She also co-authored two foreign language texts. She was also a member of the Board of Trustees and Acting President of the American University of Rome, Founder and first President, DC Chapter, American Association of Teachers of Italian (AATI).

Maria’s honors include: Florence Steiner Award: Leadership in Foreign Language Secondary Education, Gold Medal for Leadership, from Italy’s Ministry of Education, Cavaliere della Repubblica Italiana and Commendatore dell’Ordine della Stella della Solidarietà Italiana.

ARRIGO MONGINI

MARIA WILMETH, A PROFILE

I giapponesi hanno un titolo per una persona che è grande esperto e maestro nel suo mestiere di arte o di artigianato. Si chiamano “Tesori Nazionali”. Si può discutere se lo studio e l’insegnamento delle lingue è tanto arte che scienza, ma la nostra Maria Wilmeth certamente merita di più di chiunque questo titolo per l’insegnamento della lingua italiana nell’Area di WDC.


Dal 1974 Maria è stata, e lo è ancora oggi, Direttrice del Programma di Lingua Italiana dell’ICS, per cui ha progettato ed effettuato i programmi per bambini e adulti, ha scelto i libri, e ha assunto i professori. Naturalmente non ha fatto tutto questo da sola. Per ben 22 anni lei ha diretto il programma a titolo volontario. Maria è anche stata presidente della ICS per due periodi ed è un membro energetico del nostro consiglio di amministrazione. È ben conosciuta per un’abilità molto pregiate a Washington: quella di ottenere dei fondi. Lavorando con il Prof. R. Severino, membro dell’ICS, ha ricevuto, a nome dell’ICS, nel 2004 fondi nell’ammontare di $134,000 e nel 2007 di circa $175,000, dalla prestigiosa agenzia Federale la National Endowment for the Humanities. Ha scritto due libri sulle lingue straniere. È stata membro del consiglio di amministrazione e Presidente pro-tempore della American University of Rome, e fondatrice e primo presidente della American Association of Teachers of Italian (AATI), “chapter” di Washington DC.

I riconoscimenti ricevuti da Maria includono: Premio Florence Steiner per “Leadership” nelle scuole secondarie, Medaglia d’oro dal Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione, Cavaliere della Repubblica Italiana, e Commendatore dell’ Ordine della Stella della Solidarietà Italiana.
Dante Alighieri was always well respected in Florence as much before as following his exile. He was an author, particularly noted for his poetic imagery; he was a warrior in the Florentine army and he was a politician with the White faction of the Guelph party. In the year 1300 he was sent as an ambassador of the White faction to invite the San Gimignano families supporting the split Guelph factions to unite at a time when San Gimignano had reached the zenith of its importance as a trading center. Then, it was both a trading center and rest-stop along the Via Francigena, the network of roads connecting Rome to northern Europe and carrying trade and pilgrims. The second and more impressive of its palaces to house the podestà and comune – the civil leaders - had been constructed. The great Counsel Hall (10x25 meters with a 7 meter ceiling) in this palace was decorated with frescos that were seen by Dante during this visit, but were soon replaced by famous 14th century works of Lippo Memmi and others. In his honor, the room was later named Sala di Dante (Dante’s Room).

Dante Alighieri era sempre ben rispettato a Firenze tanto prima quanto dopo il suo esilio. Era scrittore, rinomato in particolare per le sue immagini poetiche; era guerriero nell’ esercito fiorentino; ed era politico nella fazione bianca del partito gelfo. Nel 1300 fu mandato a S. Giminiano come ambasciatore della fazione bianca per invitare ad unirsi le famiglie di quella città che sostenevano le diverse fazioni guelfe, in un tempo quando San Gimignano aveva raggiunto lo zenit della sua importanza come centro commerciale. In quei tempi era sia centro commerciale quanto sosta di riposo lungo la Via Francigena, la rete di strade che connetteva Roma all’ Europa settentrionale per commercio e pellegrinaggi. Il secondo e più grandioso dei suoi palazzi per il podestà e per il comune allora era gia’ stato costruito. La grande Sala del Consiglio (10x25 metri con un soffitto di 7 metri) in questo palazzo era decorata di affreschi che Dante vide durante la sua visita, ma che vennero presto sostituiti da famose opere del 14mo secolo di Lippo Memmi e altri. In suo onore la sala venne piu’ tardi chiamata Sala di Dante.

Era in questa stessa sala che Silvia ed io abbiamo assistito alla prima riunione pubblica che dava inizio ad un programma lanciato da “L’Auriga”, una nuova organizzazione che ha lo scopo di stimolare la rinascita dei valori di cultura, economia, scienza, società e sport. Durante questa introduzione, l’Assessore Comunale Gianna Coppini e il presidente di Auriga, Alda Lettieri, affermarono che uno dei modi di realizzare questo intento era organizzare delle riunioni come questa anche nelle altre città lungo la Via Francigena in Valdelsa (nostro tratto locale del fiume Elsa) per studiare e diffondere l’ eredità di Dante. Un altro modo è incoraggiare le scuole di riprendere l’uso di far conoscere agli studenti le opere complete di Dante piuttosto che solo pochi versi. Hanno poi presentato l’oratore di questa riunione, il Professore Francesco Giardinazzo, dell’ Università di Bologna, che aveva appena
It was in this very room on 30 June, 2007 that Silvia and I attended the first public meeting to initiate a program launched by L’Auriga (Charioteer) - a newly formed organization whose goal is to promote the renaissance of culture, economic, scientific, social and sports values. During this introduction comune assessor Gianna Coppini and Auriga’s president Alda Lettieri stated that one way to do this is to organize meetings such as this one, in towns along the via Francigena in Valdelsa (our local stretch of the Elsa river) to study and spread the Dante heritage. Another is to have schools return to the custom of familiarizing students with the complete works of Dante, rather than just a few verses. They then introduced the speaker for this event, Professor Francesco Giardinazzo of the University of Bologna who had just published a book entitled “Dante in Valdelsa – the Wind and the Scribe”.

In his inspired and engrossing talk, he lauded the goals of Auriga. By focusing more attention on the poetry of Dante, today’s new writers and poets would be influenced to bring a clearer meaning to their works than is the current custom – an approach that reveals the heart of the subject, vividly recalling the ‘feeling of the moment’. From Dante’s work he gave as an example the realistic descriptions of Inferno pointing out that Dante’s work never leaves the reader indifferent, but always moved: “Dante’s work resonates with human experiences”, he said, to make his point. He went on to mention a few twentieth century poets that do conform to this ideal: Primo Levi, Vittorio Sereni and Jean Ameri, but he lamented that today, this quality is rare.

Dante’s activities in trying to unite the Guelphs led to his exile from Florence along with other supporters of the White faction the year following his visit to San Gimignano. Prof. Giardinazzo described the pain and anguish that Dante must have suffered through exile, from 1301 until his death in 1321. It was as though to die when banished from all family and earlier friendships and to be separated from one’s library at a time before the printing press had been invented, when paper was so dear and books not commonly available. Nevertheless, it was during this period that Dante wrote the majority of his great works, such as the “Comedy”, “Purgatory” and “De Vulgari Eloquentia”, a treatise on his native language. He urged that “the common language then in use be enriched with the best from every spoken dialect and that the resulting ‘created’ language be established as a serious literary language’. In this single publication, he established what is considered to be the best Italian that is spoken today – that of Tuscany. Thus, argued Dante, this created language would be a way to unify the separated Italian territories. To the extent that Italy is now united, this has been one of the driving factors.

2007 Don McPherson, who wishes to express his sincere thanks to the Comune of San Gimignano for permitting the use of their photos.
Nel precedente articolo abbiamo descritto il progetto MOSE, una possibile soluzione ambiziosa impiegando delle barriere per impedire l’invasione delle più alte maree nella laguna.

**Le Barriere**
L’unico scopo delle barriere mobili che saranno costruite in corrispondenza delle tre bocche di porto è di difendere il centro storico e le isole della laguna da acque alte eccezionali. Questo metodo di salvaguardia è stato soggetto a controversie scientifiche e politiche.

Le barriere alla bocca di porto del Lido

Le barriere mobili verranno attivate con previsioni di alta marea superiore a 110 cm e resteranno in funzione per tutta la durata dell’acqua alta (in media tra le quattro e cinque ore, compreso i tempi di manovra per l’apertura e la chiusura delle barriere). Naturalmente le barriere dovranno essere chiuse al momento giusto, per il minor tempo possibile.

Le barriere consistono in 4 schiere per un totale di 78 paratoie mobili. Una a Chioggia (con 18 paratoie), una a Malamocco (con 19 paratoie) e due al Lido (una sul canale di Treporti con 21 paratoie e una sul canale di San Nicolò con 20 paratoie). Come si vede nell’immagine, le due schiere del Lido sono collegate da un’isola artificiale che ospiterà i dispositivi di controllo e gli impianti per il funzionamento delle barriere.

Le paratoie sono massicce, di spessore variabile tra 3,6 m (bocca del Lido) e 5 m (bocca di Chioggia); lunghezza variabile tra 18,5 m (Lido) e 29,6 m (Malamocco); larghezza di 20 m per tutte le bocche. Le paratoie sono a ventola a spinta di galleggiamento, oscillante mentre sono in funzione altrimenti situate sul fondale.

In the previous article we described the MOSE, an ambitious possible solution to the high water problem involving barriers to keep the highest tides from invading the lagoon.

**The Barriers**
The only purpose of the mobile barriers that will be built at the three entrances to the harbor is to protect the historic center city and the islands of the lagoon from exceptionally high tides. This method of protection has been subjected to scientific and political controversies.

The debate regards the question of their priority with respect to alternative projects, their actual feasibility and on the impact they will impose on the life of the lagoon. An engineering project of this type is very difficult and expensive (over 4 billion euros) and complex and costly to maintain and operate without accidents and interruptions. The mobile barriers will be activated with forecasts of high tides of more than 110 cm and will remain deployed for the duration of the high water (on average, between four and five hours, including the time needed for opening and closing the barriers). Of course the barriers will have to be closed at the right moment and for the least possible time.

The barriers consist of 4 groups, for a total of 78 mobile units. One at Chioggia (with 18 units), one at Malamocco (with 19 units) and two at the Lido (one on the Treporti Canal with 21 units and another on the San Nicolò Canal with 21 units). As can be seen in the picture, the two groups at the Lido are joined by an artificial island that will accommodate the control systems and operating facilities.
Il Modulo Mose è molto complesso e costoso. Ci sono molti dubbi sulla sua realizzazione e il suo funzionamento. Il Comitatone, nella seduta del 20 luglio 2006, su richiesta del Comune di Venezia, nella persona del suo sindaco Massimo Cacciari, ha accettato di valutare le proposte di interventi alternativi al sistema Mose, illustrati più sopra. Nella riunione del 22 novembre 2006, ancora su richiesta del Comune di Venezia, il Comitatone ha deciso di stabilire un programma di monitoraggio per valutare gli impatti del Mose.

Le barriere mobili servono a proteggere Venezia e i centri urbani dalle acque alte superiori ai 110 cm sul livello medio di riferimento. I progettisti del Mose stimano che il sistema possa funzionare fino all’anno 2100 o forse meno. Le barriere quindi non rappresentano una soluzione definitiva, ma consentono a Venezia di guadagnare tempo. Tuttavia, Venezia e le isole continueranno a sprofondare e il livello del mare continuerà a salire. Ci sono soluzioni più durature? Come descritto nell’opuscolo La Scienza per Venezia “Negli anni settanta fu preso in considerazione un progetto che prevedeva l’innalzamento di ogni singolo edificio di Venezia mediante ‘immissione sotterranea di materiali in grado di sollevare i pesi sovrastanti. Un tentativo sperimentale condotto in una delle isole della laguna, Poveglia, rivelò l’eterogeneità degli strati sotterranei e l’instabilità che poteva scaturire dalle diverse reazioni alle immissioni nell’ambito di uno stesso edificio o tra edifici adiacenti. Recentemente il concetto è stato ripreso in forma molto più complessa e tecnologicamente più avanzata. È stata ipotizzata l’immissione di acqua salmastra a una profondità di 600-800 m attraverso una serie di pozzi distribuiti in un raggio di 5 km da Venezia. L’obiettivo è di innalzare uniformemente una vasta area della laguna, con innalzamento di 30 cm sul livello medio del mare. Un’idea radicale che se funzionasse, Venezia guadagnerebbe parecchi decenni nella lotta contro l’aumento del livello del mare e le occorrenze dell’acqua alta sempre più frequenti.

WELCOME TO NEW ICS MEMBERS

It is with great pleasure that I introduce those Members who have joined us in the last month. As I welcome them I hope that they will take advantage of all that the Society has to offer and that they will contribute with their knowledge and expertise to the success of the Society’s mission.

Giordano and Linda Pina
Vince Pascale
Christy Wise

Benvenuti! Cesarina Horing
ICS Membership Chair
Don Bartolo e Compagni

Drakkon, Maestro della Lotteria

Il Circolo Topolino

Che Intensità!

Una Bella Chiacchierata

La Lezione di Ballo

La Maestra del Cerimoniale

Cominciamo a Ballare!
La Quadriglia

Mamma Mia, Hai Vinto la Lotteria!

ICS Poche Parole Publication
Arrigo Mongini, Editor
Nick Monaco, Assistant Editor
Romeo Segnan, Paolo Vidoli, Italian Editors
Poche Parole is published each month from January through May and September through December.

The deadline for the submission of all articles and ads for a newsletter issue is the 25th of the month preceding publication of the issue. Please send submissions via the Internet to e-mail address: icspoparole@verizon.net or on a computer diskette/CD to:

Editor, Poche Parole
4848 Battery Lane, Suite 100
Bethesda, MD 20814

Publication notice: The ICS Board reserves sole discretion for accepting any material, including advertisements, for inclusion in Poche Parole, pursuant to its established Publication Policy. A copy of this policy is available upon request by contacting the Editor. Advertisers appearing in Poche Parole have paid a fee or provided services in kind to ICS for publishing their respective advertisements. Publication of any advertisement in Poche Parole does not reflect ICS endorsement or guarantee of the advertisers’ services, products or statements. Material contained in articles published is the sole responsibility of the author and does not indicate ICS endorsement of the opinions or accuracy of the statements contained therein.

Italian Cultural Institute: Acclaimed pianist Beatrice Botti in a Piano recital with music by Debussy, Ravel, and Schumann. Wednesday, March 5, 7 PM at the ICI, 3000 Whitehaven St. NW, Washington DC. For information contact Lynn Veronneau: (202) 458-2884, Lveronneau@ifc.org - ID required.

National Italian American foundation: NIAF’s deadline for scholarship applications for Italian Americans of high academic achievement or for students of the Italian language of any ethnic background is March 7. Contact Molly Conti, or mconti@niaf.org.

Holy Rosary Church: Annual Lasagna Dinner, Bake Sale & Bazaar. Sunday, March 9, 11:30AM – 4:00PM at Casa Italiana 3rd and F St. NW. Children under 5 free, 6 – 12: $8.00, Adults $15 in advance, $17 at the door. Call (202)638-0165

Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society: AMHS deadline for scholarship applications is March 6. Go to www.abruzzomoliseheritagesociety.org/ for details.

AMHS Washington Winemakers Festa della Vendemmia, Sunday, March 30 2-4 PM at Casa Italiana.
FESTA ITALIANA DC 2008 IS COMING!
SUNDAY JUNE 29 11:30 AM – 5:30 PM

And our support is needed!

At one time, Washington, D.C., had its very own Little Italy! The area around Holy Rosary Church, at 3rd and F Streets N.W., was once home to a thriving Italian neighborhood, complete with frequent feste – street festivals. In 1999, Washington’s active and growing Italian community came together to revive the traditions of their ancestors, and Festa Italiana, DC was born and has continued every year since!

Our Society along with the other sponsoring organizations, Holy Rosary Church Council and FIERI, has established a separate non-profit entity, the Festa Italiana Foundation, to organize and stage the Festa. Currently, the FIF is in its preliminary planning stage and our Society is represented by three members on the FIF Board, Andy Millunzi (President of FIF), Arrigo Mongini, and Joe Onofrietti. Nick Monaco, Romeo Segnan, Paolo Vidoli, and Aldo Grossi are serving as senior advisors and providing significant supporting efforts.

Festa planning is now at the point were volunteers are being sought from all the sponsoring organizations. ICS members interested in volunteering are requested to complete the following information and either bring this form to an ICS Social meeting to give to Andy Millunzi at the front raffle table or mail to him at 19021 Threshing Place Montgomery Village, MD 20886. You can also send it via email to fifacm1@aol.com or phone: 301-926-4995.

You will find volunteering to stage this colorful and lively Festa to be very rewarding and is a means by which to show your pride in our shared heritage.

For those who are not able to volunteer, your support by being at the Festa on June 29 will help make a success! Ci vediamo!

Festa Italiana 2008 Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet

YES, I would like to help with the 2008 Festa Italiana street festival on Sunday, June 29!

Name: ______________________________________E-mail: ______________________________________

Phone: _____________________________________Cell Phone: ______________________________________

Special talents/skills: __________________________________________________________

I am interested in helping the following committee(s) – see descriptions at bottom of page:

__ PR/Publicity __ Logistics __ Raffle __ Culture __ Entertainment __ Vendors/Sponsors 
__ Italian-American Organizations __ Souvenir Program __ Volunteer on Festa Day 

The best day(s) and time(s) for me to help prior to the Festa are (check all that apply):

__ Monday __ Tuesday __ Wednesday __ Thursday __ Friday __ Saturday __ Sunday 

Time(s): ____________________________________________________________

Committee Descriptions:

o PR/Publicity: Develop and execute a vigorous publicity campaign using all available media in the DC metro area, via distribution of press releases, media advisories, community outreach, posters, flyers, etc.

o Culture: Prepare and stage presentations of the featured region of Italy (Rome and Lazio). Coordinate all elements of presentations and keep PR committee informed of nature and scope of presentations.

o Vendor/Sponsors: Secure paying vendors, including food purveyors, crafters, and artisans, as well as sponsors for financial donations. Requires soliciting, providing leads, negotiating, etc.

o Logistics: Support logistic operation efforts on the day of the Festa etc.

o Entertainment: Book all entertainers, arrange for emcees and develop schedule for entertainment events. Set up outdoor stage and prepare scripts. Set up indoor events, locations for children’s activities, and other indoor entertainment. Keep PR committee informed of all entertainment arrangements. See to the comfort of performers on the day of Festa.

o Souvenir Program: Design content and layout, including photos. Solicit advertisers and sponsors.

o Raffle: Solicit or acquire raffle items. Manage raffle sales prior to and during Festa. Run raffle drawing on the day of Festa. Keep PR committee informed of prizes to be raffled off.

o Italian-American Organizations: Promote the participation of other metro-area Italian-American organizations in the Festa and serve as liaisons to those organizations’ representatives on the day of Festa.

o General Volunteer on Festa Day: Be available for various shifts the day of Festa, i.e., selling raffle tickets, setting up or tearing down, facilitating various activities, etc.