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 back cover)

Sunday, September 16: Riccardo Cannavò speaks to us about the Sicilian language. See article on p.5
Sunday, October 21: Dr. Louis De Santi discusses his research in the US and Italy in connection with his book “The US and Mussolini “
Sunday, November 18: Dr. Alberta Campitelli discusses the restoration of Roman villas and gardens.

Movie of the Month: “Sorry, You Can’t Get Through” at 1 PM See p.9
Italian Lessons and Conversation on September 16 at 2:00 PM

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Our Annual Awards Gala dinner at Alfio’s Trattoria in Chevy Chase, MD on June 10 was attended by about 50 persons who were happy to meet three of our awardees in person and one who could not be there via Skype (conflict: her brother’s graduation.) While two of the awardees, Esther Nyberg of CUA, and Michael Casey, a freshman at Wooton H.S. in Rockville, were for piano performance, unfortunately no instrument was available at the venue, but we were treated to recorded performances of their work. The other awardees, Livio Caputo of Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS, and Kathleen Kirsch of CUA were for studies in classics. We warmly congratulate these awardees and the several who received Cesarina Horing awards for Italian studies at GU, GWU and UMD.

We kick off our year of social meetings on Sunday, September 16 with an presentation by Riccardo Cannavò on the rich broth that is the Sicilian language. Riccardo, one of our new board members, is a recent immigrant from that fabled isle. You will find an article on the same topic in this issue by him.

Also in this issue is an article by me and Paolo Vidoli, our treasurer, on the work of the ICS Italian Language Program, which has had success over many years in its several endeavors. In the current economic climate, this program is at the beginning of a new era as it positions itself for a future that will emphasize our adult learning program, and the promotion of Italian language studies in local schools that will grow in proportion to our success in raising funds for that purpose.

We are also working to improve our online procedures for joining the ICS and for registering for classes in the ILP.

Ron Cappelletti, president

Sabrina and Riccardo Cannavò

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2. Welcome to new ICS Members
3. Update & Fund Raising for the Italian Language Program
4. Register now for the Italian Language Program
5. The Sicilian Language (Part One)
8. Winners of ICS Scholarship Awards
8. Local Events of Interest
9. Movie of the Month (Nessun Messaggio in Segreteria)
10. Pictures from the Gala Scholarship Awards Dinner
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WELCOME TO NEW ICS MEMBERS
It is with great pleasure that we welcome those Members who have
joined us recently. As we welcome them we 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:

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a visit to downtown Bethesda!
A TIME OF CHALLENGE FOR THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM OF THE ICS
Ronald Cappelletti, president and Paolo Vidoli, treasurer

Since the mid 1970’s the ICS Italian Language Program has been providing Italian Language instruction to students in the Washington Metropolitan area. This activity comes in three varieties. First of all, there are the classes for adults that we teach at our Rugby Ave. office and other locations, and many hundreds of our members (including your Society president) over the years have particularly enjoyed these courses at a rate discounted especially for them. However, some of you don’t know much about the other two parts of our language program. One segment, apparently unique in the United States and requiring the approval of the Embassy of Italy, is taught as a service to Italian nationals working in the Washington area, namely classes in Italian language for their children, typically a few hours each week, and ranging from kindergarten through high school, that allow these children to be certified to return to their schools in Italy at the correct levels when they go back home. Finally, in a long-standing collaboration and with financing from the Italian government, and by far the larger activity, we have been managing a program that places Italian language teachers in local American schools (in MD, DC and VA) at levels ranging from elementary school through high school. In many instances, these courses have been successfully folded into the curricula of these schools and their financing transferred to the county or city educational authorities. Several thousand students over the years have benefited from this activity, and the teaching of our beautiful language, which has been the rich foundation upon which a great patrimony of art, music and other aspects of our common heritage has been built.

In spite of these successes, we are now in an era in which this promotion of Italian language in American schools faces severe challenges due to the series of economic crises the entire world has been experiencing, but which has been particularly severe in Italy, as we know from daily news reports. Since 2008 Italian funding for this program has fallen by a factor of four. We have applied for funding again for the 2012-2013 year with the sad understanding that we are likely to be cut back even further. As a consequence, we anticipate that of the four remaining teachers we had been supporting through this program during the 2011-2012 scholastic year, we can only support two through the 2012-2013 school year, and this probably at a loss, requiring us to dip into emergency funds. Fortunately, the other two positions have been assumed by local school authorities in negotiations in which the ILP has been helped particularly by Dr. Joseph Lupo in Prince Georges County working with Dr. Lucia Dalla Montà of the Education Office at the Embassy, for which we are grateful. But what happens after June 2013? Without developing an alternative source of funding, we are in serious jeopardy of having no funds at all to support teachers in this effort, and therefore of losing the work of many years, work carried out with great passion, diligence and personal sacrifice by Dr. Maria Wilmeth and the late Cesarina Horing. (The painful loss of Cesarina at this moment has been particularly critical to the program.) The challenge we are facing is quite severe, perhaps even existential for the Italian Language Program.

Historically, the Washington Consular region of the Embassy has had two “enti gestori”, managing entities, for these activities: the ICS and Casa Italiana. Like us, Casa Italiana has a well-established adult language program and also other cultural programs (crafts, cuisine), and has had some responsibilities in the area of American schools. But the Washington Consular area is unique in this respect, since all the others in the US have only one ente gestore. Under pressure of these economic times, in the future there will be only one ente gestore in this area. At the present moment, it is not clear what this will mean for the future of the ICS Italian Language Program and for that at Casa Italiana. We have been urged to come up with a cooperative plan to make this transition. One possibility is that, because the ICS has long-standing experience with the program for Italian nationals, we would continue in that activity, and for the time being Casa Italiana would take over the responsibility of keeping up the placement of teachers in American schools.

In either case, the funding to be expected from the Italian government, until the economic situation turns around, is very small. The development of alternative (i.e., American) sources of funding is necessary in order to maintain the effort of promoting Italian in local schools.

Most of you are members of this Society because you believe in our mission of spreading Italian language and culture, and now we must ask you to step forward to help out in this situation. We need people to help develop a fundraising program that will have at least two components. One will be to sponsor fundraising events. A second will be to develop a longer term plan, such as an annual-giving campaign aimed at all the communities having an interest in keeping Italian language in our local school systems. The first step will be to put together a group of people with the requisite experience, contacts… and passion to get the job done. The second step would be for this group to develop short term (e.g., events) and long-term plans. The latter will involve an analysis of appropriate strategies to successfully target communities of potential givers.

Are you one of the people who can help us? If you care about our future and think you know how to help, please step forward. Now is the time. Contact any of your board members and let them know your willingness to help.
Time to Signup for Italian Language Classes

Italian language classes at many levels will start the week of September 10 at two different locations. Act now to take advantage of the discounted prices available to ICS members and become a member today if you are not one already or if your membership has expired. Details of the classes can be seen on the Italian Language Program website www.italianculturalsociety.org/langprog.html, or, if you do not have internet access call 301-215-7885 and we will send you a printed brochure.

Our Courses for Adults

Introductory I and II: If you only know a few words: “Ciao!” “Buon giorno!” but really don’t know any grammar or have much vocabulary, this is the course for you. You will learn how to pronounce words properly, how to greet each other formally and informally, how to introduce yourself, how to describe things using the present tense, how to ask for information. Gradually as you learn, you will be called upon to speak, to play roles with your classmates, to read out loud.

The book used for the class is “Ogni giorno,” and Intro I covers chapters 1 and 2. Intro II goes further in grammar to cover the simple past tense (I went); improve your use of adverbs and adjectives, pronouns; describe daily activities; how to accept an invitation; express doubt; request permission. Chapters 3, 4 and 5 in “Ogni giorno” are covered. Here’s the whole index for “Ogni giorno”.

Introductory I and II intensive for speakers of Spanish, French or Portuguese: Since the structure of these Romance languages is very similar to Italian, this course for beginners moves more quickly than that for English speakers, covering the same material as Intro I and II, but in one quarter, and uses the same textbook.

Intermed I, II and III: Chapters 6, 7 and 8 in “Ogni giorno” are covered in I. How to make a telephone call; talk about the weather; make reservations; talk about yourself and your likes, dislikes; explore a menu and order in a restaurant; learn the use of the simple and compound future tenses; reflexive verbs; other past tenses. You will be reading stories, watching videos, making elementary presentations. In Intermed II in Ch. 9-11 you learn about the imperfect and past perfect tenses, the conditional tense, the use of “se”, the use of pronouns. You learn to express yourself in more sophisticated terms: ask for something politely, express a desire, ask for advice, and express your own tastes. Intermed III covers Ch. 12-15. You study adjectives, learn the use of comparatives (più and meno), the use of the imperative verbal form, and the past perfect tense. You will venture into Italian music, national parks and read a letter to the editor of a newspaper.

Pre-advanced: Finish “Ogni giorno”, Chapters 16, 17, 18 and 19. You launch into the subtleties of the subjunctive mood, (il congiuntivo) in several tenses which are used much more extensively than in English. You will also learn the impersonal forms, the passive forms, the indefinite mood: the infinitive, the participles, the gerundives. All these grammatical niceties will help you express personal opinions, doubt, need, desire, surprise, and to formulate hypotheses. You will examine environmental issues, explore the world of work, learn about Roman neighborhoods and delve into literature.

We also have Intermed I and II intensive for speakers of Spanish, French or Portuguese covering the same material as Intermed I and II in one quarter, and there is Intermed/Adv for speakers of Spanish, French or Portuguese covering the material of Intermed III and Pre-advanced in one quarter.

Advanced courses in grammar, conversation, reading and writing: These courses are designed by the instructors to meet the needs of the particular students enrolled and may vary in content, but knowledge of Italian at the Pre-advanced level is assumed. The “Pragmatiche Italiane” by Mammi and Vicentini is used to exercise and recall appropriate applications of grammar, but many other materials are used as well, including passages from Italian literature, films, videos, newspaper articles, etc. Students are called upon to make oral and written presentations about subjects arising from the topics studied or subjects of their choice. Courses may focus on a particular region of Italy, exploring its history, life, arts, climate, products, science, etc.

www.italianculturalsociety.org/langprog.html

Weekend Immersion Course Sept. 1 & 2! Check website or call 301-215-7885
La lingua siciliana (anche chiamata siciliano) è una lingua romanza parlata in Sicilia e in altre regioni italiane. Il gruppo di lingue siciliane comprende anche il calabrese centromeridionale e il salentino parlato nel sud della Puglia, nella regione del Salento.

Oggi siamo in Sicilia è parlato da circa 6,5 milioni di persone che comprendono anche la comunità di siciliani all’estero, specialmente negli Stati Uniti d’America, in Canada, Australia, Argentina, Brasile e Germania.

Il siciliano non è una lingua derivata dall’italiano, ma insieme a quest’ultimo deriva direttamente dal latino attraverso una lunga e interessante storia. L’attuale delle lingue mondiali dell’UNESCO (http://www.unesco.org/culture/languages-atlas) riconosce il siciliano come lingua indipendente e lo classifica vulnerabile. Il sito web ufficiale in cui il governo degli Stati Uniti d’America pubblica le offerte per posizioni lavorative in ambito federale (http://www.usajobs.gov) prevede il siciliano come lingua vera e propria, distinta dall’italiano.

La bellezza e la ricchezza della lingua siciliana è dovuta alle tante influenze linguistiche diverse che si sono stratificate nel corso dei secoli (fienico, greco, latino, arabo, francese, provenzale, tedesco, catalano, spagnolo e italiano) e che hanno dato origine alla lingua siciliana moderna. La presenza di un così grande numero di idiomi è da mettere in relazione con la posizione geografica della Sicilia, proprio al centro del mar Mediterraneo, tra tre continenti: Europa, Africa ed Asia.

Per parlare correttamente della lingua siciliana occorre partire dalla millenaria storia della Sicilia (che sarà oggetto di alcuni articoli nei prossimi numeri di Poche Parole). I primi popoli ad abitare la Sicilia furono i Siculi e i Sicani e gli Elimi.

I Sicani provenivano probabilmente dalla Spagna e parlavano una lingua ancora non ben studiata. Si stanziarono nella parte occidentale dell’isola (dove ancora oggi esistono i monti Sicani). I Siculi parlavano sicuramente una lingua di origine indoeuropea, il sicule, ed erano probabilmente di origine ligustica.

Del sicule rimangono sicure tracce nei nomi delle tre più grandi città della Sicilia orientale: Catania, dal sicule Katane che significa grattugia e indica l’aspro terreno lavico su cui sorge la città; Messina, chiamata Zankle dal sicule falce in ragione della forma del suo porto (ancora oggi l’aggettivo zanclio significa di Messina); Siracusa, dal sicule Sura, che significa abbondanza d’acqua a causa dei molti fiumi e torrenti che scorrono sul proprio territorio. Di sicure derivazione sicula è la parola siciliana jelu (brina, gelata) dal sicule ghela e risale probabilmente a questo periodo anche la parola timpa (promontorio, parete scoscesa).

Gli Elimi provenivano dal Mediterraneo orientale e si stanziarono nella Sicilia occidentale fondando alcune colonie tra cui Erice e Segesta. Gli Elimi parlavano una lingua orientale dell’Asia minore. Pertanto nella Sicilia antica abbinavano la coesistenza di tre differenti civiltà con le loro lingue e le loro culture.

Due nuove e grandi civiltà arrivarono in Sicilia nei
secoli seguenti: i Fenici e i Greci.

Tra il X e il VIII secolo a.C., i Fenici si stanziarono nella parte occidentale dell’isola creando delle importanti colonie tra cui: Palermo, Solunto, Mozia, Erice e Lilibeo, colonizzando anche le Isole di Favignana e Pantelleria.

I Fenici portarono con loro la loro lingua e inventarono il primo alfabeto della storia che si può considerare il padre di tutti gli alfabeti moderni.

Poco dopo (nel VIII a.C.) i Greci colonizzarono la Sicilia e fondarono molte colonie specialmente nella parte orientale dell’isola tra queste: Siracusa, Megara Hyblea, Naxos, Agrigento, Tindari, Selinunte, Palazzolo Acreide, Termini Imerese, Gela, Catania, Messina, Lentini ed altre. Anche i Greci portarono con loro il loro alfabeto (derivato da quello fenicio) e la loro lingua, dividendo l’isola in due zone di influenza e di lingua diversa. I Siculi e i Sicani si ritirarono al centro dell’isola mantenendo le proprie tradizioni e la propria lingua.

Tra le parole di derivazione greca rimangono in siciliano: annacàri (dondolare, cullare), babbiari (scherzare), bùmmulu (piccolo orcio, contenitore per l’acqua), cacòcìlùli (carciofi), cantunèra (angolo), carusu (ragazzo), chiana (macelleria), cirasa (cilegia), crastu (montone), cùddura (pane di forma circolare), liccu (ghiotto), lippu (musco, lichene, alga), lollu (stupido), macàri (anche), naca (culla), nicu (piccolo), piricocu (albicocca), putìa (bottega), putrisinu (prezzemolo), rasta (vaso di fiori), scalìari (cercare), tabbutu (cassa da morto), taddarita (tappeto), tufu (cappello), tumpulàta (schiaffo), tuppuliari (bussare). La lingua greca ha anche influito sulla grammatica del siciliano, ed infatti nella Sicilia che è, come detto sopra, una lingua siciliana non esiste il tempo verbale del passato prossimo che deriva dall’aoristo del greco classico.

Nel III a. C. i Romani conquistarono la Sicilia e portarono una nuova lingua e l’alfabeto latino. La dominazione romana è in assoluto la più lunga e si protrasse per nove secoli (III a.C. – VI d.C.). Le altre lingue presenti in Sicilia si sovrapponevano ad eccezione del greco che rimase una lingua comune insieme al latino, lingua ufficiale dell’impero romano. Durante la dominazione romana la penisola italiana cominciò a chiamarsi Italia, parola che deriva dal siciliano Vitulia e significa terra dei vitelli, con riferimento alla costa ionica (orientale) della Sicilia dove venivano allevati i vitelli sacri al dio sole (ancora oggi l’unica città italiana che si chiama Itala si trova proprio sulla costa orientale della Sicilia in provincia di Messina). In questo lungo periodo si forma l’ossatura principale della lingua siciliana che è, come detto sopra, una lingua romanza al pari dell’italiano, del francese, dello spagnolo, del portoghese, del rumeno, ecc. Il latino costituisce quindi la quasi totalità del lessico siciliano; tra le parole derivate dal latino che non sono presenti nella lingua italiana vi sono: ammuttàri (spingere), antura (prima, poco tempo fa), abbuccàri (rovesciare, versare fuori, cadere), arrasari (allontanare), babbu (stupido), caniglià (crusca), càusi (pantaloni), céusu (gelso), fetu (puzza), fissu (persona stupida, alcolico), fulinu (ragnatela, fuligine), fìttiri (rubare), jattu (gatto), jumeta (cavalla), lurdia (sorpicizia), munìzza (spazzatura), ‘ngressiu (sorpicizia), nèsciri (uscire), ‘nfitàri (innestare una pianta), oggiannu o avanu (l’anno scorsò), pàmpina (foglia), paminu (prete), piggiahtì (prendere), prèscia colonies, among which: Palermo, Solunto, Mozia, Erice, and Lilibeo, and also colonizing the islands of Favignana and Pantelleria.

The Phoenicians brought with them their language and invented the first alphabet in history, that one can consider the father of all modern alphabets.

## Phoenician Alphabet

Shortly afterwards (7th century BCE) the Greeks colonized Sicily and, and founded many colonies, especially in the eastern part of the island, among which: Siracusa, Megara Hyblea, Naxos, Agrigento, Tindari, Selinunte, Palazzolo Acreide, Termini Imerese, Gela, Catania, Messina, Lentini, and others. The Greeks also brought with them their alphabet (derived from the Phoenician) and their language, dividing the island into two zones of different linguistic influence. The Siculi and the Sicani retreated to the interior of the island, maintaining their own traditions and languages.

Among the Sicilian words of Greek derivation are: annacàri (to rock, to sway), babbaluci (snail), babbiari (to joke), bùmmulu (small vase, water pitcher), cacòcìlùli (artichoke), cantunèra (angle), carusu (boy), chiana (butcher shop), cirasa (cherry), crastu (mutton), cùddura (round loaf of bread), liccu (gluttonous), lippu (lichen, alga), lollu (stupid), macàri (also), naca (cradle), nicu (small), piricocu (apricot), putìa (store), putrisinu (parsley) rasta (flower vase), scalìari (to search), tabbutu (casket), taddarita (bat), trofu (bush), tumpulàta (slap), tuppuliari (to knock). The Greek language has also influenced the Sicilian grammar, and in fact in Sicilian there is no verb tense corresponding to the passato prossimo that is present in Italian, but only the passato remoto, that derives from the aorist tense of classical Greek.

In the third century BCE the Romans conquered Sicily and brought along a new language and the Latin alphabet. The Roman dominance in absolutely the longest, and it extended for nine centuries (third BCE to the sixth AD). The other languages present in Sicily disappeared, except for Greek that remained a common language along with Latin, the official language of the Roman Empire. During this Roman domination, the Italian peninsula began to call itself Italia, a word derived from Sicilian Vitulia, which means land of calves, referring to the Ionic (eastern) coast of Sicily where calves sacred to the sun god were raised (still today, the only Italian city called Itala is located on that eastern coast of Sicily, in the province of Messina). During this long period the principal framework of the Sicilian language that is, as stated above, a romance language at the same level as Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Romanian, etc. Latin then formed almost all of the Sicilian lexicon; among the words derived from Latin that are not present in the Italian language are: ammuttàri (to push), antura (earlier, a sort time ago),
Abbraccia (to spill, pour out, fall), arrassari (to send away), babbu (stupid), canigghia (bran), càusi (pants), cèusu (mulberry), fetu (stink), fissa (stupid person), fulinia (web, soot), fùttiri (to rob), jattu (cat), jumenta (mare), lurdia (filth), munnizza (sweepings), ‘ngrasciu (dirt), nesciri (to go out), ‘nztàri (to graft), oggiallanu or avannu (last year), pàmpin (leaf), parrinu (priest), pigghiai (to take), prèscia (haste), pùmu (apple), purtusu (hole), rina (sand), scantari (to frighten), tannu (at that time), trappitu (olive mill), tìsìri (to enter), tìntu (bad), vanniai (to scream), urricari o urvicari (to bury).

After the Romans, Sicily was dominated for a short period by the Vandals and by the Ostrogoths; the Byzantines finally landed at Catania in 535 AD. Under the Byzantine domination, Greek once more became the official language of the island.

Arabs gradually conquered Sicily, starting in 827 AD, landing first near Mazara del Vallo. The Arabs brought their traditions, their religion, their great culture, and obviously their language, allowing a long period of economic splendor and strong growth, especially in the field of agriculture. The influence of the Arabic language on Sicilian has been strong and profound. The following words were derived from Arabic: a bizzeffi or abbizzeffi (in great quantity), a màtula or ammàtula (uselessly), bagghiu (courtyard), bàltà (steep wall, stone slab), càlia (roasted chickpeas), càmula (moth), carrubba (carob), cassata (typical Sicilian dessert made with ricotta), cafìsu (measure for oil), ciariuma (tile, ceramics), ciolla (painless), dammusu (roof, but also a house typical of those traditional ones on the Island of Pantelleria), gebbia (vasca per irrigazione), giuggiulena (semi di sesamo), giùmmu (penicchio, cima, fiocco), jarrùsu (giovane effemminato), kàmpita (conteiner of legno utilizzato per fare il pane), mammaluccu (scoiico, stupid), mischìnna (persona poverta), partuallu (arancia), quartara (brocca per l’acqua), rais (capo, condottiero, leader), saja (canale), sceccu (asino, persona ignoraente), sciara (pietra lavica e colata lavica), sciarrà (rissa), taliarì (guardare), tìmninu (misura usata in agricoltura), zàgara (fiore, specialmente d’arancio e limone), zibbibu (tipo di uva a grossi chicchi e di conseguenza il vino che se ne produce), zuzzu (tronco d’albero).

Alcuni cognomi tuttora presenti in Sicilia derivano dall’arabo: Bùtura (pastore), Caruana (carovana), Cassarà (castello di Allah), Fragalà (gioia di Allah), Moràbito (astemo), Taibi (molto buono), Vadalà (servo di Allah), Zappalà (forte in Allah). Vi sono inoltre altri cognomi che fanno direttamente riferimento a questa dominazione pur non derivando dalla lingua araba: Saraceno, Moro, Morello, Moretti, Moresco, etc.

Di grande importanza è stata l’influenza dell’arabo sui nomi geografici della Sicilia: Alcàntara (ponte); Calascibetta, Calatabiano, Calatafimi, Caltagirone, Caltanissetta, Catalvuturo (da قلعة qal`at, castello, rocca, cittadella fortificata); Favara (da fawarah, sorgente d’acqua); Mongibello, Gibellina, Gibilimanna, Gibilrossa (da جبل gebel, montagna); Racalmuto, Regalbuto, Ragalna, Regaleali (da rhal, casale); Sortino (da شرفة sciurta, polizia).

Riccardo R. G. Cannavò, nativo della Sicilia, è stato eletto recentemente al consiglio di amministrazione della ICS.
FOUR STUDENTS AWARDED ICS SCHOLARSHIPS

At the June 10 gala scholarship awards dinner the following awards were announced and each of the students said a few words regarding their studies and in thanks:

The Luciana Montanari-Mendola Award for a college student showing promise in piano performance was given to Esther Nyberg, a B.A. student at the Catholic University of America. She played a CD recording of her work.

The Luciana Montanari-Mendola Award for a high school student showing promise in piano performance was given to Michael Casey, a student at Wooton High School, who also played a CD recording of his work.

The Elena and Antonio DeLuca Award for a college student who has excelled in the study of Latin or Greek was given to Kathleen Kirsch, an M.A. student at the Catholic University of America. Kathleen was out of town and unable to attend the dinner, but she addressed the audience in Latin via a Skype connection arranged by Ron Cappelletti.

The Elena and Antonio DeLuca Award for a high school student who has excelled in the study of Latin or Greek was given to Livio Caputo, a student at Bethesda Chevy Chase High School, who has continued to study Latin through private lessons because it is no longer offered in his high school.


ANTHONY MACRI SINOPOLI
July 23, 1934 - April 29, 2012

The ICS has lost our secretary and respected member of the board after a severe stroke. Tony was born in San Vito sullo Ionio in Calabria. He emigrated to Newburg, NY in 1953 to live with an uncle. After serving in the U.S. Army, Tony graduated from Cornell University in 1963 and took a job with the Office of Naval Research, retiring in 1995. With his wife, Patricia, he opened a business importing Montessori school supplies from which he retired as president in 2006. He is survived by Patricia and their children, Alfio of Vancouver, WA and Maria of Washington, DC. In lieu of flowers, the family wishes that memorial contributions be made to the Italian Cultural Society Scholarship fund at 4827 Rugby Ave., Bethesda, MD, 20814. We will sorely miss our dear friend for his sunny personality, his kindness and decency and his honorable service to the Society.

LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

Italian Cultural Institute:
"Fare un film e’ per me vivere" a documentary film by Enrica Fico, Michelangelo Antonioni’s wife, about octogenarian Antonioni’s making of his last film, Beyond the Clouds. Embassy of Italy, 3000 Whitehaven Street, NW, Washington, DC. Wednesday, Sept. 19, 6:00 PM. See also http://www.iicwashington.esteri.it/IIC_Washington

National Gallery of Art:
Michelangelo Antonioni Centenary, in the auditorium, showing the films La Notte, Sept. 1, 2:30 PM; L’Eclisse, Sept. 2, 2:00 PM; Deserto Rosso, Sept 3.

Guided tours of the Italian Renaissance collection, West Building, main floor rotunda Mon.-Sat. 2:30, Sun. 1:30

Italian Language guided tours at 12:00 and 2:00 PM: West Building, Tues, Sept 11, and East Building, Sat. Sept 15, Call 202-842-6247 for RSVP

Holy Rosary Church: 50th Italian Festival, Sunday, Sept 16 at Villa Rosa 11AM – 5 PM www.holyrosarychurchdc.org/italian-festival

Antenna Italia
is now on the AMICO website. Get news from Italy and information on Italian and Italian-American events as well as music & commentary in streaming audio. Log on any time at Pino Cicala’s web site www.italianamericancommunications.org
MOVIE OF THE MONTH

“Sorry, You Can’t Get Through”

The Italian Cultural Society September film of the month is *Sorry, You Can't Get Through* (2005). This whole apartment building is crazy! After retired Walter (Carlo Delle Piane) reads that Italy has one worker for every pensioner, he decides to find the one who works for his pension. A few doors over, single mom Francesca (Lorenza Indovina) opens garbage bags with her co-worker portiera (Simona Caparini) to argue over what kind of lifestyle the person who threw it out leads. Upstairs, the moral compass of the building is Sonia (Anna Falchi), a stripper who confesses to her video diary about life, love, men and women.

Join us for the romantic comedy that only writers and directors Paolo Genovese and Luca Miniero could create. *In Italian with English subtitles.*

The Meteoric Rise of a Comedy Duo

by Joe Onofrietti

The comedy team of Paolo Genovese and Luca Miniero has taken Italian cinema by storm. Their first work together as comedy writers and co-directors, a short called *La Scoperta di Walter* (1998), won the European Jury Award at the 1998 Angers European Film Festival. Their first full length film, *Incantesimo Napoletano* (2002), won the 2002 Golden Globe Award. By the time they started *Nessun Messaggio in Segreteria* (2005), stars like Anna Falchi and Pierfrancesco Favino began lining up for parts. Upon release, RAI contracted both to write and direct the television series *Nati Ieri* (2006). Impressed by the ratings, they were hired for the second series *Amiche Mie* (2008). In 2009, the pair returned to Cinecitta with the box office success *La Banda dei Babbi Natale* (2010), a movie that grossed over 20 million euros. After amassing two more box office hits *Immaturi* (2011) and *Immaturi – Il Viaggio* (2012), what will be the next project? “The tale of two brothers who have forgotten their Neapolitan roots” explains Miniero (above, on right) “Filming will kick off in February 2013 and release will be in the autumn.”

FILM DEL MESE

“Nessun Messaggio in Segreteria”

L'Italian Cultural Society presenta il film del mese “Nessun Messaggio in Segreteria” (2005). Nello stabile abita gente un po' strana! Il pensionato Walter (Carlo Delle Piane) legge sui giornali che in Italia per ogni pensionato c'è solo una persona che lavora e decide di trovare la persona che lavora per la sua pensione. In un appartamento vicino, Francesca (Lorenza Indovina) madre non sposata, apre con la portiera (Simona Caparini) i sacchi delle immondizie e discute su che tipo di vita conduce la persona che li ha gettati via. Al piano di sopra, l'immagine della moralità dell'edificio è data da Sonia (Anna Falchi), una spogliarellista che registra nel suo video-diario le sue confidenze su vita, amore, uomini, e donne.

Venite con noi a vedere una commedia romantica che solo gli scrittori e registi Paolo Genovese e Luca Miniero potevano creare. *In italiano con sottotitoli in inglese.*

L’ascesa meteorica di una coppia di commediografi

di Giuseppe Onofrietti

PICTURES FROM THE GALA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS DINNER

Ministro Maggipinto Stresses the Importance of the Italian Language Program

Maria Wilmeth and Lucia Dalla Montà

Celebrating the Winners

Ron with Paola Agostini and Livio Caputo

Presidents, Current and Past

Esther Nyberg and Silvana DeLuca
Mike Casey and Mom

Lucio and Edvige D’Andrea

Kathleen Kirsch (via SKYPE !)

Nick Monaco, Riccardo Cannavò, and Luigi DeLuca

Dick DiBuono and Mr. and Mrs. Phil Finelli

Dinner Time
The expiration date of your membership is shown on the address label. Please renew using the form at the bottom of this page.

**ICS membership application**

Mail application to:

ICS Membership
4827 Rugby Ave., Suite 301
Bethesda, MD 20814

Please make check payable to:
The Italian Cultural Society

Name ____________________ Occupation ____________________
Volunteer Skills ____________________
Address ____________________
City ____________________ State ______ Zip ______
Address Change ☑ New Member ☑ Renewal ☑
Email ____________________ Phone ____________________

Type of Membership
☑ Single $35 ☑ Platinum Sponsor $1000
☑ Couple $50 ☑ Gold Sponsor $500
☑ Family $75 ☑ Silver Sponsor $250
☑ High School/College $20 ☑ Bronze Sponsor $100

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**meeting location**

**friendship heights village center**
4433 South Park Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815