ICS EVENTS
Social meetings start at 3:00PM on the third Sunday of the month, September through May, at the Friendship Heights Village Center, 4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD (see map on back cover).
Monday, May 12: Italian Language Program, Spring Session 2 begins.
Tuesday, May 13: Italian Language Program, 12:15-1:15, our Lunchtime Culture Class is Musica: Cinema e Teatro I (see website)
Friday, May 16: Scholarship applications due.
Sunday, May 18: 12:45PM, Movie of the Month, La Grande Bellezza; Film for the kids, Peter Pan
Sunday, June 22: 6:00PM, Gala Scholarship Awards Dinner at Positano Restaurant.
Monday, June 23: Campi Estivi courses start.
Saturday, June 28: Next Immersion Course starts for those traveling to Italy.

Olga Mancuso is elected to the ICS board of directors.
Linda Osborne, author (seated), signs the books of (from left), Edgardo Ruggiero, Kim Mercanti and Frank Palumbo.

Story and more photos on page 5
ICS Board of Directors and their Duties
Arrigo Mongini, President
Ron Cappelletti, Vice President,
Paolo Vidoli, Treasurer and ILP budget director
Kim Mercanti, Assistant Treasurer
Joe Onofrietti, Film & Hospitality
Romeo Segnan, University and museum outreach
Marie Frances, Fund raising activities, public relations
Carlo Ellena, ILP, Webmaster
Francesca Casazza, Director of the ILP, Outreach to other organizations
Dennis A. Siracusa, Editor, Poche Parole
Riccardo Cannavò, Writer, Poche Parole
Elio Grandi, Emeritus
Aldo Bove, Liaison in Italy

ICS Poche Parole
Dennis A. Siracusa, editor

Ralph Fasanella Exhibit Opening
Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Ralph Fasanella’s birth, the exhibit "Ralph Fasanella: Lest We Forget" will display works from the artist's career at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, in Washington, D.C., from May 2 until August 3.

Italian Futurism Art at the Guggenheim

A Mirror to the Soul
Tuesday, April 08, 2014 - Sunday, June 08, 2014 [documentary] The Vision of Paolo Soleri: PROPHET IN THE DESERT-April 8th - June 8th 2014 PHOTOGRAPHY @ PIOLA

Carlo Grante in Concert
[music] Carlo Grante in concert - May 14, 2014 at 7:30 PM May 14, 2014 at 7:30 PM Carlo Grante is one of today’s most active and popular recording pianists and his concert repertoire, which has also contributed to the appreciation of lesser-known works.

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Terrace Theater

The Monuments Men and the National Gallery of Art
February 11 – September 1, 2014 West Building Founders Room

From Neoclassicism to Futurism: Italian Prints and Drawings, 1800–1925
September 1, 2014 – February 1, 2015 Location TBA
After centuries of singular genius and absolute primacy, the quality of Italian art continued in the 19th and 20th centuries. This exhibition proposes that the decades between 1800 and 1925 produced some of the most vital and diverse schools since the Renaissance.

The Second Annual Festa Italiana in Frederick, Maryland on May 17th; Rose Hill Manor 11:00-8:00; Tickets: $5.00 in advance. Music, food, and beverages. The Monaldi Brothers will perform 11:00-3:00 and will be followed by the i-Talians the Band. There will also be an evening concert with a string orchestra conducted by Roberto Pomili. You will find details on the website www.festaitalianafrederick.com

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Current Events of Local Interest

Ralph Fasanella Exhibit Opening
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ICS Award Applications Deadline:
Postmarked on the third Friday of May, (May 16).

Except for the Moriggi/Palumbo Award, applicants should be no more than 25 years of age as of the third Friday of May, the postmarked date for receipt of applications.

Applications are being sought for the following Awards:

- **The Maria Guarrera Wilmeth Awards**: two awards of $500 each for outstanding Washington metropolitan area high-school students of the Italian language.
- **The Elena and Antonio De Luca Award**: one $1000 award to be given to an undergraduate or graduate student who has excelled in the study of Latin and/or Greek.
- **The Luciana Montanari-Mendola Awards**: one $1000 award for an undergraduate or conservatory student showing promise in piano performance and one $350 award for a high-school age pianist showing promise in piano performance. Examples of recordings must accompany your application and must include one piece.
- **The Ruggiero Moriggi/Vincenzo Palumbo Artisan Award**: one $500 award to be given to a person who has excelled in the fine arts (exclusive of music), or to an artisan who has excelled in a traditional Italian craft (such as ceramics, jewelry, leather-working, furniture-making, musical instruments, lace work, fine fabrics, etc.). Written reviews and/or photographs, etc. of your work must be submitted to the Awards Committee. Age restriction does not apply.
- **The Anna Menapace Award**: one $300 award to be given to a high-school student who has excelled in the art of painting.
- **The Patricia Segnan Award**: one $1000 award to be given to an undergraduate or graduate student who has excelled in the creation of art.
- **The Young Scientist Award**: one $1000 award to be given to an undergraduate or graduate student who has excelled in one of the basic sciences: physics, chemistry or biology.

Applications

Materials to be included in the application are:

- College transcripts or, where appropriate, high-school transcripts (These are not required for the Ruggiero Moriggi/Vincenzo Palumbo Award. That person should submit photographs or other examples of his/her work.)
- Three letters of recommendation
- An essay describing why the applicant is a valid contender for the award
- A short biographical presentation of the candidate (curriculum vitae)
- Anything that would demonstrate the ability of the candidate, including publications by and/or about the candidate, photographs, CDs, etc.

Selection will occur during the last week of May and awards will be presented at the ICS Awards Gala, which takes place in June at a location to be announced, as will be advertised in our newsletter “Poche Parole” and website. Attendance at the Awards Gala is required and awards will be reassigned if the winner is unable to attend, except for exceptional circumstances as determined by the Awards Committee. The winners of the Luciana Montanari-Mendola award may be asked to perform at the Awards Gala.

Applications must be postmarked by due date mentioned above and sent to:

The Italian Cultural Society Award Applications
4827 Rugby Ave., Suite #301
Bethesda, MD 20814

In addition, each year the Italian Cultural Society provides awards to students of Italian at universities in the Washington, DC area: Georgetown University, The University of Maryland, George Washington University, and Catholic University. The awardees are selected by the Italian language programs at these universities. The awards are funded by donations in honor of former ILP director, Cesarina Horing.

Welcome to New ICS Members
Joseph Klein
Patricia Thomas
Ivonne Couret
William Seibolt III
Elaine Micarelli Seibolt
Michael Mullineaux

Arrigo Mongini

Caffe' al bar

Un uomo entra in un bar e dice:
"Vorrei un caffe', pero' senza panna, grazie!"

Il barista lo guarda e risponde:
"Guardi, la panna l'ho finita pero' ho un bel po' di latte, se vuole il caffe' glelo faccio senza latte!"
REPORT FROM THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Our teachers and students enjoyed Spring Break, but the office stayed open for some of our enthusiastic students who didn’t want any time off from our courses! Spring Term, Session 1, has started with 28 courses. Session 2 (morning) will start May 12, with 11 more courses. After the success of Storia 1, 2, 3, Our Lunchtime Culture Classes (Tuesday at 12:15-1:15), taught by Antonella Pellegrino, will now feature Musica: Cinema e Teatro 1, a panoramic history of Italian cinema.

The Friday and Saturday children’s classes are growing. We now have 20 kids, divided into three groups and a new group of three middle school students.

We are working on the Summer Schedule: we will have classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. For the advanced students, we are planning a new ten-hour class: “Quarant’anni di storia italiana” (1960-2000) taught with the aid of the film, “La meglio gioventù,” illustrating the story of a family, and in particular, two brothers. It will cover the years of terrorism and Tangentopol (The corrupt Italian political system that ended in the early 1990s).

The Summer Schedule will soon be on our website! -Francesca Casazza, Director

Michael Hood and Helena Tang in class with Cristiana Fabiani.

http://www.italianculturalsociety.org/immersion-course-for-travelers-2/

http://www.italianculturalsociety.org/italian-language-program/summer-camps/

Joanne Lesher purchased the book “to learn more about my heritage.”

Olga Mancuso graciously accepts her election.

ICS president, Arrigo Mongini, presents Ms. Osborne with a bottle of wine after her talk.

Olga Mancuso voted in as a new member of the ICS board of directors.

Nick Monaco accepts the purchase price of three raffle tickets from Marie Ruggiero on behalf of her dad, Edgardo.

Photos by Dennis A. Siracusa

President’s Message

April 27 was one of those beautiful spring days that tend to draw folks to the outdoors instead of attending one of our Sunday social meetings, but that didn’t happen because so many of us were drawn to hear Linda Osborne speak on the Italian American Experience as told in her new book, “Explorers Emigrants Citizens: A Visual History of the Italian American Experience.” Many of us can relate to what she said through our own experiences and those of our parents and grandparents.

At that meeting, we also reelected, by acclamation, Ron Cappelletti and Olga Mancuso to three-year terms on our board of directors. When Ron was president, he was responsible for leading the ICS through a very critical period and for modernizing our way of doing business. Also, we are fortunate that Olga, a past president with a wealth of ideas and experience, is able to return the board.

At our May 18 social, Carlo Ellena will discuss the region of Liguria, including Genova, the Italian Riviera, and the less well known mountainous back country. Carlo, a native of Liguria, will teach a course on Liguria, beginning on May 13, complemented by a separate tour of Liguria later this year.

For the fall, we are planning some interesting programs, including Italian automobiles and “car culture” and a concert of Italian American music. I would like to hear your ideas for future programs. I urge you to explore our web site, and consider the many courses offered by our Italian Language Program.

I hope that many of you can come to this year’s Gala scholarship awards dinner and meet the award winners on June 22. This year it will take place at Positano’s Ristorante, featuring the best of modern Italian cuisine. Check it out on page seven.

Arrigo Mongini
The Italian Embassy hosted the Urbino Press Award given each year to an American journalist who best represents the spirit of the Renaissance and who promotes the values of cooperation and friendship between the two nations. Maria Bartiromo, a journalist and the host on the Fox Business Network’s “Opening Bell with Maria Bartiromo,” was given this year’s award. As stated by Giacamo Guidi on the Italian Embassy’s web site, “through her televised broadcasts from Wall Street, opinion pieces in newspapers and magazines, and the books she has written, she has been very effective in explaining the complexities of finance. In recent years, we have all come to realize that, no matter what part of the world we call home, our daily lives are deeply influenced by the dynamics of the economy. We are proud to have her as the 2014 winner of the Urbino Press Award.” Ms. Bartiromo was raised in Brooklyn, N.Y. by a family descended from Naples and Agrigento.

The Italian Cultural Society concludes our 2013-2014 season with the first Italian film to win an Academy Award in over a decade. Neapolitan director Paolo Sorrentino (One Man Up, IL Divo) pays tribute to the silver anniversary of La Dolce Vita (1963) with La Grande Bellezza (2013). Federico Fellini’s fresh reporter in wide-eyed shock at the wild behavior of Roman socialites in the sixties now becomes a veteran reporter immune to the lavish lifestyles of the jet set in modern Rome. Where Fellini won with dazzling performances and colorful scenery, Sorrentino won with sensational costumes by Daniela Ciancio and upbeat music by Lele Marchitelli.

“Rome is both a marvelous playground and a trap promoting inanition. The city is eternal because nothing is allowed to change if you belong to the upper class and those who surrender to its magnetic pull can spend the rest of their lives in gilded entropy”
-Paolo Sorrentino

Roman high society has gathered to celebrate Jeppino Gamardella (Toni Servillo) 65th birthday. He wrote the best-selling book, The Human Apparatus. Jep should be ecstatic because he always wanted to be the king of high society and who could blame him? He spends his days in a hammock on the terrace of his million-dollar penthouse overlooking the Coliseum and evenings dancing at parties hosted by the elite. Fans like Romano (Carlo Verdone) and daughter Ramona (Sabrina Ferilli) ask Jep why he never wrote another book. Jep explains that the problem is that the great beauty of Rome can waste your time. “Writing takes focus and calm, but I went out at night,” he confesses. After an interview with a woman in town to receive an award, Jep finds himself unexpectedly taking stock of his life. Can Jep turn to the Vatican to fill the emptiness in his soul? La Grande Bellezza will be shown in Italian with English subtitles.
The Italian Cultural Society of Washington, DC

AWARDS DINNER
Fundraising Event

Please join us in honoring the student scholarship recipients and end of the ILP 2014 Spring Term

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2014 AT 6:00PM

Positano Restaurant
4948 Fairmont Ave. Bethesda, MD 20814
(FREE parking in county garage on Old Georgetown Road, between Fairmont Ave. and Woodmont Ave.)

Menu
($70 per person)

Aperitivo: Prosecco with Hors d’Oeuvres

Primo: Ravioli Vegetariani

Secondo: Choice of Arrosto di Vitello or Red Snapper al forno

Contorno: Insalata

Dolce: Tiramisù or Zuppa Inglese

Coffee, Tea

Soft drinks, one glass of wine, and prosecco included
(Add’l Beverages: glass $8 bottle $35)

Please return this portion with your check to Italian Cultural Society, 4827 Rugby Avenue, Suite 301, Bethesda, MD 20814. Payment and reservations due by Friday, June 13th. ICS will send appropriate tax exemption documentation.

No. of attendees _______ at $70/person.
Total payment for dinner $__________________________
Donation toward scholarship fund $________________
Contact Information: Name (print)__________________
Phone_____________________ Email________________
Names of Additional guests:_______________________

4827 Rugby Ave., Suite 301-Bethesda, MD 20814 * (301)215-7885 * language@italianculturalsociety.org
The Punic necropolis, that occupied a large area bounded by Via Cattaneo, Via Struppa Via d'Azeglio, and Via De Gasperi, where many graves with rich funerary outfits have been found. The area continued to be used for burials up to the time of imperial Rome, and it preserves a unique example of a Roman grave, the hypogeum of Crispia Salvia (II to IV A.D. visitable by appointment), a funerary chamber with entirely painted walls.

The hypogeum can be identified by an epigraph in which Julius Demetrius dedicates his thoughts to his wife Crispia Silvia, who died at forty-five years old. The pictorial decoration is composed of five male figures, a seated flautist, a funerary banquet scene, four peacocks, piles of fruit and flowers, and on the wall at the entrance, two winged figures holding up a festoon.

Absolutely not to be missed is a visit to the Baglio Anselmi regional archeological museum of Marsala, that preserves the wreck of a Phoenician-Punic ship found in 1971 at the port of Marsala. The ship is 34 meters long and five meters wide, with a capacity of about 120 tons. It was used in the Second Punic war at the start of the third century BCE. The ship had a single row of oars men. Still visible on the wood are the letters of the Punic alphabet that were used for assembling the various pieces of the ship. It was a transport ship (no armaments were found) that contained food such as various types of meat, almonds, olives, nuts, and amphoras, some of which contained wine. The museum preserves many other excavations from different eras.

The experience of the Phoenicians/Carthaginians in Sicily ended in 241 BCE when, after the victory of the Romans in the first Punic war, the island was ceded to Rome and became the first Roman province. The End

È presente la necropoli punica che occupava una vasta area, ora compresa tra le vie Cattaneo, Struppa, D'Azeglio, De Gasperi, nella quale sono state rinvenute molte sepolture con ricchi corredi funerari. L’area continuò ad essere utilizzata per sepolture fino all’età imperiale romana e conserva un esempio unico di sepolture romana l’ipogeò di Crispia Salvia, (II – IV sec. d.C., visitabile su prenotazione), una camera funeraria con pareti interamente dipinte.

L’ipogeò è identificabile da un’epigrafe in latino in cui Iulius Demetrius dedica il suo pensiero alla moglie Crispia Salvia morta a quarantacinque anni. La decorazione pittorica è costituita da una scena con cinque figure maschili, una flautista seduta, una scena di banchetto funebre, quattro pavoni, ricolmi di frutta e fiori e sulla parete posta di fronte l’ingresso vi sono due figure alate che reggono un festone.

Assolutamente da non perdere la visita al museo archeologico regionale Baglio Anselmi di Marsala che conserva il relitto di una nave fenicio-punica ritrovato nel 1971 nel porto di Marsala, la nave è lunga 34 m., larga 5 m. con una stazza di circa 120 tonnellate; fu impiegata nella seconda guerra punica all’inizio del III a.C. La nave aveva una sola fila di rematori e sono ancora visibili sul legname le lettere dell’alfabeto punico che servivano per l’assemblaggio dei vari pezzi della nave. Si trattava di una nave trasporto (non sono stati rinvenuti armamenti) che conteneva alimenti quali molti tipi di carni, mandorle, olive, noci e molte anfore di cui alcune contenevano vino. Il museo conserva molti altri reperti di epoche differenti provenienti dagli scavi del territorio.

L’esperienza dei Fenici-Cartaginesi in Sicilia si concluse definitivamente nel 241 a.C., quando dopo la vittoria dei Romani nella prima guerra punica l’isola venne ceduta a Roma e diventò la prima provincia romana.
Le Maldive: un sogno per la fine dell'inverno

By Federica Siena
( Introduction by Jim Harrison, a student in the ILP)

Especially after such a terrible winter in D.C., dreaming about a tropical paradise can be a really effective therapy. The Maldives are truly such a paradise, nearly 1,200 coral islands in the Indian Ocean, about 350-400 miles southwest of India's southern-most tip. These islands stretch in a narrow band from just south of the equator due north for about 550 miles. [see map] Almost the entire population (some 330,000 people) live on about 200 of the islands (usually the larger islands), while about 100 islands have been developed as resorts for tourists from all around the globe. The remaining islands are largely uninhabited.

It is a different world, a world of great natural beauty.

Doctor Federica Siena, an Italian marine biologist who lives and works at one of the best of these resorts, has very kindly agreed to provide us the following evocative description of this very different world.

Every shade of blue welcomes the people who come from all over the world bringing, etched in their minds, images of what they have always dreamed.

The intercontinental flights set down on a strip of land or, more accurately, of sand. Those who have traveled in a window seat have already been able to admire the Maldives from high above, small islands that seem like pebbles thrown randomly onto a tissue of the sea. To reach their resort, the luckiest ones will take off again in a small seaplane that flies them over the atolls at low altitude, allowing them to start recording images in their minds.

The islands range from a few meters to a few kilometers long, made of white sand, formed from the incessant erosion of the coral by the waves and winds. The smallest islands have grasses, a few bushes and palm trees scattered here and there; the larger islands have lush vegetation with gigantic banyan trees (Ficus benghalensis), frangipani with their elegant and fragrant white flowers, and much more to discover while walking and activating all five senses.

Every day, every climate, every hour in the Maldives is special. The colors change suddenly, going from a pale blue to a gray, almost black when thunderstorms are approaching.
The ocean is like a sheet of silk, some days flat as oil, other days curled and rough, driven by currents and wind. The snorkeling mask is the key to the door to a new world, a world characterized by such richness that it is difficult for words to explain it fully.

The sandy bottom is alive with corals of all shapes and sizes, all kinds of animals are moving here and there, while others, attached to the bottom, try to make us believe that they are something else. There are unbreakable relationships between one animal and the other: some are chasing each other; some are studying each other; some eat tirelessly; some are cleaning; and some wait patiently for a small prey to pass right in front to grab it with a sudden movement. Each one is intent on something specific, each one with its own character and habits that one watches with attention and patience, trying to interpret. On the local islands one sees colored walls, woven palm leaves leaning against the walls to dry, and curious children peeking out from the doors of their houses. Walking around, one sees women busy with many activities, sitting on the ground weaving palm leaves, or at the sea shore washing pots with sand and salt water. Men are scanning the sea, dressed in colorful lunghi. Children are trying to climb a palm tree or are swinging on swings made of wood and woven net, hanging from the branches of trees facing the multicolored sea. During the hottest hours everything stops and the roads are empty. As the sun sets everything comes back to life.

Friday is a special day, the first day of the weekend. Children splash around in the sea, jumping from piers, covering each other in sand, and chasing each other on the beach. Often picnics are organized on uninhabited islands, where the barbecue is kindled from coconut shells and fish, freshly caught, is put on wooden skewers and roasted.

When the sun sets, it produces breathtaking color, and the sky quickly darkens, but, the show is not over yet.

The breeze cools the air, the sky is black in all directions, dotted with millions of stars, stars that seem to be falling, even onto the beach. With the surf, the microscopic animals of the plankton light themselves up; tiny fluorescent dots that color the beach blue and make us believe that we are in a dream and that every day will be different and full of surprises...

Una sola cosa non deve mancare alle Maldive, l’attrezzatura per lo snorkelling. Il mare è come un lenzuolo di seta, alcuni giorni piatto come olio, altri arricciato da correnti e vento. La maschera è la chiave della porta ad un mondo nuovo, caratterizzato da una tale ricchezza che difficilmente una descrizione puo’ spiegare nella sua interezza.

Il fondale sabbioso si anima di coralli di ogni forma e dimensione, animali di ogni tipo si muovono qui e là, o attaccati al fondale tentano di farci credere di essere qualcos’altro. Rapporti inscindibili fra l’uno e l’altro, chi si rincorre, chi si studia, chi si ciba instancabilmente, chi si fa pulire, chi attende pazientemente che una piccola preda gli passi davanti per afferrarla con un movimento repentino... ognuno intento in qualcosa di specifico, ognuno con un proprio carattere e abitudini che l’occhio più attento e la pazienza tentano di interpretare.

Nelle isole locali muri colorati, foglie di palma intrecciate appoggiate alle pareti ad essiccare, bambini che si affacciano curiosi dalle porte di casa. Passeggiando si vedono donne, indaffarate in molte attività, sedute a terra a intrecciare palme, in riva al mare a lavare pentole con sabbia e acqua salata. Uomini che scrutano il mare, vestiti con lunghi parei colorati. Bambini che tentano di salire una palma o che dondolano su altalene di legno e rete intrecciata, appese ai rami di alberi proprio di fronte al mare multicolore. Nelle ore più calde tutto si ferma e le strade si spopolano. Al calare del sole tutto si rianima.

Il venerdì è una giornata speciale, il primo giorno del weekend. Bambini che sguazzano nel mare, saltando dai pontili, si cospargono di sabbia e rincorrono sulla spiaggia. Spesso si organizzano picnic su isole disabitate, in cui il barbecue è acceso da noci di cocco e il pesce, appena pescato, viene infilato in spiedini di legno e arrostito.

Quando il sole tramonta produce colori mozzafiato e velocemente il cielo si scurisce. Ma lo spettacolo non è ancora finito. Il venticello rinfresca l’aria e il cielo è a 360°, nero, punteggiato da milioni di stelle. Stelle che sembrano essere cadute anche sulla spiaggia. Con la risacca, infatti, minuscoli animaletti che compongono il plankton si illuminano, puntini fluorescenti che colorano la spiaggia di blu e che fanno credere di essere in un sogno. E ogni giorno sarà diverso e pieno di sorprese...
CORNUCOPIA
Specialty Italian Food Market
8102 Norfolk Ave, Bethesda, MD
301.652.1625

Conveniently located in downtown Bethesda
Only two blocks from the ICS Office!

Gourmet deli and catering featuring an extensive line of Italian Food favorites; Italian meat and cheeses, deli products, a wide range of specialty pasta, roasted vegetables, and a large assortment of Italian pastries baked on premises, biscotti, cookies, cannoli & sfogliatelle. Also, panini, subs, sandwiches, fresh mozzarella, imported olive oils, olives, coffees and now GELATO! Homemade delicious Italian meals to go!

Seasonal Specialties Available
Panettone - Pandoro – Panforte - Torrone - Perugina Chocolates

Santino Selmy-proprietor

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

Casa senza fimmina 'mpuvirisci.
(Sicilian proverb)
English translation: How poor is a home without a woman.