The Italian Cultural Society of Washington D.C.

Poche Parole

SEPTEMBER 2017
Vol. XXXIII, No. 19

PRESERVING AND PROMOTING
ITALIAN LANGUAGE
AND CULTURE

SOCIAL MEETINGS/EVENT OVERVIEW

SEPTEMBER SOCIAL EVENT: WINE TASTING by Paul's Wine and Spirits & SLIDESHOW PRESENTATION "VINE AND WINE, ONCE UPON A TIME" by Prof. Anna Lawton, September 17, Ristorante Positano, 4948 Fairmont Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814, 3:00-5:00pm RSVP at RSVP@italianculturalsociety.org/

ICS Gala 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As summer draws to a close and people are returning from vacations (the lucky ones from Italy), your Italian Cultural Society is poised to head into a new academic season and an exciting social season as well. We are still in the afterglow of our wonderful Gala at the Embassy of Italy last spring (see the report in this issue) and look forward to our next one with plans already under way at our new headquarters. So it is in this happy moment that I take leave of the presidency after many years. It has been my honor to be of service to our beloved Society. I bid my successor every good fortune, and assure that person that with the support of so many good fellow members who give their time, talent and treasure both on the board and in so many other ways that the task will not be onerous but rather a rewarding one. I want to thank so many people for their help over the years, too many to mention here, but special thanks go to Arrigo Mongini, for his steady hand and wise counsel, Nick Monaco for his great generosity to the Society and his support during challenging times, Paolo Vidoli for his very important service as we transferred ente gestore responsibilities, and Francesca Casazza for her imaginative and energetic leadership that is moving both the Italian Language Program and the Society to new heights.

Ronald Cappelletti,
President

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ICS GALA 2017

ICS GALA 2017 "ITALIAN CREATIVITY, FASHION, AND DESIGN"

On Friday, May 19, the Italian Cultural Society's annual Gala was once again held at the Embassy of Italy, the perfect location to celebrate the excellence of Italian creativity and design, theme of the evening. We are thankful to have received a warm welcome by Minister Counselor Catherine Flumiani and the Italian diplomats attending the event.

We thank once again all the participants who contributed to make our Gala a wonderful success, especially, Simonetta Baldassari and *Pappa Fresca* 's team who expertly provided a delicious dinner and sophisticated table arrangements.

Aperitivo

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Some of the most influential Italian brands were represented at the Gala, and each of the seventeen dinner tables was named after an Italian designer or founder/s of a fashion company.

An Italian "aperitivo" opened the evening, with delicious prosecco Foss Marai and Spritz, the most popular drink, offered by Campari. During aperitivo, people were able to bid on wonderful Italian products kindly donated by our supporters.

The fashion show featuring women's clothing by Franca Bartoli, a local Italian designer, enriched the event with beautiful models and Italian music background.

Then, we honored an Italian family that has transformed the fashion industry through the unique vision of its individuals. Francesco Carrozzini, the son of legendary fashion editor of Vogue Italia, Franca Sozzani, presented his documentary film about the life and work of his mother. Carla Sozzani, Franca's sister and the founder of 10 Corso Como - one of the first concept stores, gave an inspiring speech to encourage young people to stay true to their ideas and follow their dreams.

The event drew press coverage in Italy, as well as the U.S.

The annual Gala is also the occasion in which we present scholarship awards to students and young professionals who excel in the study of Italian, Latin & Greek, Music, Art and Science. These scholarships have been made possible thanks to donations and fund-raising events, as well as the generosity of our members. This year's award winners were listed in the May issue of Poche Parole. As part of the program, our dinner guests were treated to a piano performance of Chopin's Sonata, Opus 35 by Danila Tomassetti, winner of the Luciana Montanari Mendola Award.

We invite you to visit our Facebook page and the Gala web page, with pictures, videos, press release and articles about the evening. Thanks to the journalists and photographer, David Cieslikowski who chronicled the event.

Silent Auction

Honorary guests in the auditorium

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Dessert Sponsor: *Al Tiramisu* and *ApertoDC* by Chef Luigi Diotaiuti - Coffee Sponsor: *Illy* - Beverage Sponsor: *Campari, Il Canale* in collaboration with *Il Cantiniere*.

Special Sponsor: *Pedini-Kitchen DC* and *Calligaris* who generously donated respectively a modern Italian-design kitchen and a "Tivoli" table with chairs for our new headquarters. Thanks to these donations, the high-quality of Italian design will be showcased in our corner of Italy in Bethesda for many years.

Thanks to our Partners 2017: *Eni Petroleum* for supporting our mission and *Via Umbria* for hosting some of our cultural events.

Individual donors: *Ellen & Jackson Fund*, *Elham & Joseph Cicippio* and *Brenda & Nicholas Monaco*.

Auction donors: *Rangoni Firenze* (shoes & purse); *Ferragamo* (purse); *Franca Bartoli* (cashmere scarf); *Ermenegildo Zegna* (suit); *Laura B* (earrings); *Pandora* (bracelet); *Illy* (expresso coffee cups*); Eyma Salon & Spa* (gift certificates); *David Cieslikowski* (pictures); *Eric Schweitzer* (pictures); *Edelweiss Calcagno* (painting); *Melitta Paterni* (cashmere wrap); *Brooks Brothers* (suit); *Santa Maria Novella* (products basket); *Café Milano* (gift certificate); *Floriana Restaurant* (gift certificate); *Via Umbria* (wine tasting & painting class); *Paul's Wine & Spirits* (wine tasting); *Cyd Wolf* (restaurant & cabaret show); *Ranieri Cavaceppi* (wine bottle); *Kathy Mead* (spanish lessons); *Jackson Coppley* (world series tickets); *Washington Kastles* (tickets); *National Philarmonic Orchestra* (tickets); *ICS Board of Directors* (bottles of wine); *Campari* (basket of goods); *C. Deferre* (San Remo trip); *Laura Marchese* (3 nights in Trani); *Elite Island Resort* (Antigua & Panama resort); *Fandango Tour* (classic Venice taxiboat).

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SEPTEMBER SOCIAL EVENT

9/17/17

WINE TASTING, by Rick Bellman, Paul's Wine & Spirits
SLIDE SHOW AND PRESENTATION " VINE AND WINE, ONCE UPON A TIME", by Prof. Anna Lawton
at Ristorante Positano, 4948 Fairmont Ave, Bethesda, MD 20814 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Please consider a donation of $10 (ICS members); $15 (non-members), to offset the cost of hosting this event. You can pay online at http://www.italianculturalsociety.org/get-involved/social-meetings/

We are starting off the fall season of Sunday afternoon social meetings with a program on wines of Piemonte, featuring a slide presentation by Anna Lawton. Anna grew up in a castle then owned by her family (Castello di Cortanze) in the countryside near Torino. She will speak about wine and grapevine cultivation in the 1930s in the vineyards surrounding the castle, as illustrated by photographs of the operation taken by her grandfather Achille Bologna, a prominent photographer of that era, who was the editor of Il Corriere Fotografico and books on photography as well as organizer of major exhibitions around the world.

Anna Lawton, PhD, was a professor of Russian literature and film studies at Purdue University, and later Georgetown University. She also worked for USIA at the American Embassy in Moscow and later was a consultant at the World Bank in Washington. She is the author of three scholarly books and numerous articles, and contributed to several academic collections of essays. Her book, Imaging Russia 2000: Film and Facts, received the CHOICE award as Outstanding Academic Title. In addition, she wrote two novels: Family Album, which was published in Italy, and is soon coming out in the English translation, and Amy's Story, just released last March. Fifteen years ago she founded the publishing house, New Academia Publishing, which she still runs.

Rick Bellman (Paul's Wine & Spirits) will then teach and entertain us with a tasting of select Piemontese wines.

PAUL'S wine and spirits

Ristorante Positano will offer light snacks to accompany the wine tasting, under its lovely grapevine pergola or in its indoor wine cellar: the perfect location and event to celebrate a new exciting academic year with the ICS!

Please RSVP at RSVP@italianculturalsociety.org

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FROM THE ILP

FRANCESCA CASAZZA

This summer, some of our instructors enjoyed teaching their adult classes every morning and every evening, until the beginning of August, while Chiara Gastaldi and Francesca Baldanzi led with enthusiasm and capability 5 wonderful weeks of Summer Camps. The kids seem to love our creative approach and familiar environment.

Now we are getting ready to welcome back all of our students, kids and adults, in the new headquarters, which will be hopefully completely organized by October.

The Fall Schedule is online and registration is open: http://www.italianculturalsociety.org/italian-language-program/
Courses start Friday, September 15th.

Scroll down in the Italian Language Program menu to find the new Tuitions and Policies page, details on Kids Courses, Cooking Classes, Latin Classes, Study Abroad and Courses + Trips, created for travelers who want more than a basic tourist experience, and want an authentic immersion into real Italian life. Through our selected local contacts in Italy, participants will enjoy local traditions, history and natural interests of Italy's various regions. (Discover Tuscany, in the heart and soul of Italy - Sept. 16th-Oct. 7th and Discover Liguria, Piemonte e Veneto – Slow Food and wine - Sept. 19th-Nov. 21st).

New courses of Creative writing, Live from Italy, Arte 1, Storia 1 will also be offered, as well as Cinema and Literature's courses: "I Cento Passi" and "Pranzo di Ferragosto" with Instructor Silvana De Luca, who will also offer Storia dell'Italiano 2 - Da Lorenzo il Magnifico a Torquato Tasso. Or you can enjoy a Virtual Tour of the Tuscan Region with instructor Camilla Presti- Russell. Instructors Cristiana Fabiani, Antonella Salvatore and Carlo Ellena, among other courses, will offer three levels of reading classes (Books: Non tutti i bastardi sono di Vienna, by Andrea Molesini; In altre parole, by Jhumpa Lahiri; Lessico Famigliare, by Natalia Ginzburg).

For those of you who live far from us, we offer the possibility to follow all the classes online. Last but not least, I would like to remind you about the discounts that we offer to members of other Italian and Italian-American associations like Italians in D.C., NIAF, NOIAW, OSIA and more. We believe that the collaboration among all the associations strengthens our mission of promoting Italian language and culture.

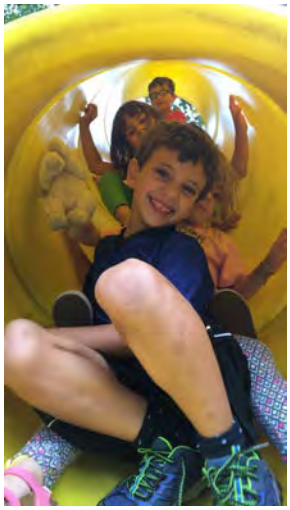
The ILP is looking forward to starting a new exciting year of teaching and learning with you!

Saluti,
Francesca Casazza

After visiting the Natural History Museum

Arts project

Science project



At the park

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Azzinano, Abruzzo: che bella scoperta

Sono da poco rientrata a Washington dopo una vacanza di cinque settimane in Italia e sento ancora forte il gusto della mia Terra. Ho lasciato l'Italia quattordici anni fa' quando da neo-laureata in Lettere Classiche cercavo un'esperienza di studio nella mia amata Inghilterra. Ciò che non sapevo allora é che una volta che si lascia casa, non sempre si torna indietro e dopo dodici anni in Inghilterra, due anni fa' sono approdata a Washington, DC. Ora, ho la fortuna di rientrare in quella che chiamerò sempre casa almeno una volta l'anno e di vivere il mio Paese un po' anche da turista, con il vantaggio di poter scoprire posti meno conosciuti e dei veri e propri tesori nascosti. In cinque settimane in Italia di posti belli ne ho visti tanti ma ce n'é uno in particolare di cui vorrei parlare: Azzinano, un piccolo paesino di bassa montagna in provincia di Teramo, nella regione Abruzzo, collocato appena fuori il perimetro del Parco Nazionale del Gran Sasso e Monti della Laga. A rendere Azzinano speciale, e per questo degno di nota qui, é un'iniziativa artistica e culturale iniziata nel 2001. L'iniziativa, nata con l'intento di portare gioia, colore e allegria in questo piccolo borgo di montagna, prevede di restituire vita ai muri delle case attraverso dei murales in stile naïf creati da artisti provenienti da tutta Italia. Ad oggi si contano circa venti murales il cui tema deve essere rigorosamente uno: i giochi di una volta. E così Azzinano diventa "il Paese dei giochi di una volta" e un fiabesco museo a cielo aperto. Il risultato é un paesino grazioso e colorato in cui adulti e bambini hanno il piacere di perdersi alla ricerca dei vari murales colorati e della semplicitá dei giochi di unavolta.

Appena si arriva ad Azzinano, ci si trova davanti ad una mappa con tutti i murales del paesino numerati per facilitare una sorta di caccia al tesoro. E l'euforia e la voglia di vederli tutti invadono il corpo e così anche noi adulti torniamo ad essere bambini e riassaporiamo quelli che erano i nostri giochi preferiti. Si tratta davvero di un piccolo posto magico.

Azzinano, Abruzzo: what a lovely discovery

I have just recently come back to Washington after a five week holiday in Italy and the taste of my land is still strong inside me. I left Italy fourteen years ago, when as a recent graduate student in Classics, I was looking for a study experience in my beloved England. What I didn't know then was that once you leave home, you don't always go back and after twelve years in England, two years ago I arrived in Washington, DC. Now, I am lucky to go back to what I will always call home at least once a year and experience my Country a bit like a tourist as well, with the benefit of being able to explore less known places and sometimes some real hidden treasures.

In five weeks in Italy I saw many lovely places but there is one in particular I would like to talk about: Azzinano, a small village located on a hill, right at the bottom of the mountains, in the county of Teramo, in the Abruzzo region, just outside the Gran Sasso National Park. To make Azzinano special, and therefore worth a note here, is an artistic and cultural initiative that started in 2001. Such initiative started with the aim to bring joy, colour, and happiness to this small mountain village, and wants to give life back to the walls of the village's houses through naïf style murals executed by artists from all over Italy. Today, there are about twenty murals, the theme of which must be one and one only: old fashion games. Thus Azzinano becomes "the town of old fashion games" and an enchanted open air museum. The result is a charming and colourful town where both adults and children love getting lost while looking for colourful murals and the simplicity of old games.

Once in Azzinano, one is met with a map of all the town's murals, and these are numbered in a sort of treasure hunt style. Excitement and desire to see them all take the whole body. Adults become children again and have a taste of what our favourite pastimes used to be.

It really is a magical little place. http://www.imuriraccontano.it

Valentina Asciutti

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Il viaggio di David Cieslikowski e Virginia Yee, Giugno/Luglio 2017
(un estratto del nostro blog: dcineurope2017.blogspot.com)

Il motivo principale del nostro viaggio in Italia era di studiare Italiano a Torino. Ci siamo iscritti in un corso per due settimane a la scuola "Italiano Porticando". La scuola è situata nel centro storico di Torino, nel Quadrilatero Romano in piena zona piedonale. Le nostre lezioni sono state di circa quattro ore al giorno; anche se eravamo in vacanza, abbiamo lavorato un bel po'! Abbiamo studiato il congiuntivo (sembra che sia necessario studiare coninuamente il congiuntivo!), i verbi pronominali, i nomi composti, ecc. Poiché eravamo solo in tre studenti in classe e abbiamo avuto la migliore insegnante, Caterina, abbiamo coperto un sacco di argomenti. Caterina e sua sorella, Rosaria, con Laura, sono le fondatrici della scuola, sono bravissime!

Abbiamo fatto passeggiate nei luoghi di interesse storico-culturale con gli studenti e Laura. E abbiamo avuto la fortuna d'avere amici torinesi, Enrico and Paula, che ci hanno accompagnato in alcune escursioni di Torino, come alla Palazzina di Caccia di Stupinigi, non lontano dalla fabbrica di Fiat a Mirafiori. Questo "piccolo" Palazzo era un capanno da caccia dei Savoia. Nota bene la scultura di un cervo in cima alla cupola!

Il nostro appartamento era situato in piazza Vittorio Veneto (detto Piazza Vittorio) una grande piazza di circa 110 metri di larghezza di 350 metri di lunghezza. A ovest si trova la Via Po, una delle vie principali di Torino, dove si trova l'Università di Torino e la Piazza Castello. Ad est è il fiume Po, e il ponte che attraversa il Po, il Ponte Vittorio Emanuale I (Re di Sardegna, 1802-21).

La Chiesa Gran Madre di Dio si trova sulla sponda orientale del Po. Un'altra piazza molto elegante è la Piazza San Carlo, costruita dal 1618 al 1638. Attorno alla piazza, sotto il portico, si trova negozi di alta moda come Prada & Armani, insieme a diverse banche e uno dei più antichi caffè di Torino, Caffé San Carlo.

Siamo stati informati dai nostri amici Torinesi che dovremmo mangiare "apericena". La parola "apericena" è derivata da due parole, "aperitivo" e "cena". Per fortuna, in Piazza Vittorio ci sono circa 20 ristoranti /bar/caffè in piazza Vittorio che servono apericena dalle 7 ore alle 22 ore per 12 euro. Si ottiene un cocktail (l'Aperol spritz è il mio preferito; Virginia preferisce un aperitivo fatto di Martini & Tonic) e una vasta gamma di antipasti italiani. È davvero una cena completa!

David and Virginia's trip, June/July 2017

The main reason for our trip to Italy was to study Italian in Torino. We enrolled in a course for two weeks at the Italiano Porticando school. The school is located in the historic center of Torino, the original Roman settlement, the Quadrilatero Romano, just off a main pedestrian street. Our lessons were about 4 hours a day, and even though we were on vacation, we had a lot of work to do. We studied the subjunctive verb tense (seems like one has to study the subjunctive continually!), verbi pronominali, and nome composti, etc. Since there were only three students in the class, and we had the best instructor, Caterina, we covered a lot of ground. Caterina and her sister, Rosaria, along with Laura, were the founders of the school; they are great!

We took two or three walking tours of interesting historical and cultural places with other students and Laura, our guide. And we had the good fortune to have friends from Torino, Enrico and Paula, who took us on a few sight-seeing tours of Torino, such as a visit to the Palazzina di Caccia di Stupinigi, Stupinigi is located near the Fiat factory in Mirafiori, and was a hunting lodge of the Savoys. Note the sculpture of the deer on the cupola!

Our apartment in Torino was located in the Piazza Vittorio Veneto (called Piazza Vittorio), a huge piazza about 110 meters wide and 350 meters long. To the west is the Via Po, one of the principal streets of Torino, where the University of Torino is located, and it runs into the Piazza Castello. To the west is the River Po, and a bridge crossing the river, the Vittorio Emanuale I Bridge (he was the King of Sardinia, 1802-21).

The Church of the Gran Madre di Dio is on the east side of the Po. Another elegant piazza in Torino is the Piazza San Carlo, built in 1618-1638. Surrounding the piazza, under the porticos, you find high fashion shops such as Prada and Armani, along with some banks and one of the oldest cafes in Torino, the Caffè San Carlo.

We were informed by our Torinese friends that we should try "apericena". The word, "apericena" is derived from two words, "aperitivo" and "cena". Luckily, in the Piazza Vittorio, there are about 20 restaurants/bars/caffes in Piazza Vittorio that serve apericena from 7:00 pm until 11:00 pm for 12 Euros. You get a cocktail (Alpero spritz is my favorite; Virginia prefers an aperitivo made from Martini & Tonic), and a broad range of antipasti. It's really a complete meal!

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Dopo due settimane a Torino, siamo andati a Stresa, una città bellissima sul Lago Maggiore in Piemonte. Ci sono parecchie isole nel Lago—Isola Madre, Isola Superiore dei Pescatore, Isola Bella, ecc. Siamo andati in barca a Villa Taranto/Pallanza dove si trova un giardino incredibile. Si può sapere che Emma Morano è vissuto a Pallanza; lei era la donna più vecchia del mondo all'eta 117 anni, fino alla morte dell'Aprile 2017.

L'ultimo posto del viaggio era il Parco Naturale dell'Alpe Veglia dove i nostri amici italiani hanno una casetta. Il Parco è situato vicino alla frontiera con Svizzera. La montagna più alta nel Parco è il Monte Leone—altitudine di 3,553 metri (11,657 piedi). Abbiamo fatto due escursioni: una al Lago Bianco, e l'altra al Lago d'Avino. L' escursione al Lago d'Avino è stata premiata con una vista di un bel lago ai piedi del Monte Leone. Ci fermammo a pranzo al lago (altitudine di circa 2,200 metri (7,200 piedi). Durante il pranzo su una roccia sopra il Lago d'Avino, il nostro amico, Giovanni mi ha detto che il tunnel ferroviario Sempione, che collega l'Italia alla Svizzera (da Varzo a Brig) era sotto di noi. Cioè, il tunnel, 20 km. di lunghezza, corre 2,000 metri proprio sotto il luogo dove ci siamo fermati per pranzare al lago. La linea ferroviaria inizia e termina ad un'altitudine di circa 625 metri... ed è stata costruita intorno al 1898 -1905.

After two weeks in Torino, we went to Stresa, a beautiful city on Lake Maggiore in Piedmont. There are several islands in the lake—Isola Madre, Isola Superiore dei Pescatore, Isola Bella, etc. We went by boat to the Villa Taranto/Pallanza where there is an incredible garden. You may also know about Emma Morano, who lived in Pallanza; she was the world's oldest living woman at age 117 before she died in April, 2017.

The last place we visited was the Parco Naturale dell'Alpe Veglia, where our Italian friends have a summer cabin. The Park is located near the border with Switzerland. The highest mountain in the Park is Monte Leone—with an altitude of 3,553 meters (11,657 feet). We went on two hikes; one to Lago Bianco, the other to Lago d'Avino. The hike to Lago d'Avino was rewarded with a view of the beautiful lake at the foot of Monte Leone. We stopped to have lunch at the lake (altitude of about 2,220 meters (7,200 feet). During lunch on a rock above the lake, our friend, Giovanni, told me that the Sempione Pass train tunnel, which connects Italy and Switzerland, was right below us. That is, the 20 km. long tunnel was 2,000 meters below where we were situated. The line starts and ends at around an altitude of 625 meters, and was built between 1898 and 1905.

LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

Please visit our web page http://www.italianculturalsociety.org/upcoming-events/

Also, check THE ITALIAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE'S calendar (Istituto Italiano di Cultura (IIC), which links to specific events and exhibits: http://www.iicwashington.esteri.it/iic_washington/it

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1/4 page: $100
1/2 page: $150
Full page: $200
For the year (9 issues): discount of 20%

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 the newsletter is the 22nd of the month preceding publication of the issue.

Please send submissions to: language@italianculturalsociety.org or on a computer CD/DVD to: Editor, Poche Parole, 4833 Rugby Ave., Suite 201, Bethesda, MD 20814

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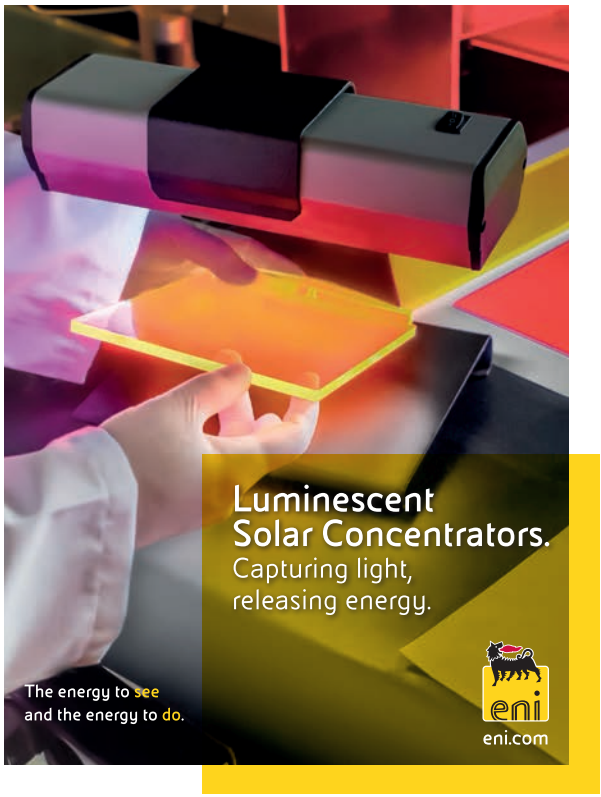

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The Italian Cultural Society
of Washington D.C.
4833 Rugby Avenue, Suite #201
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 215-7885
www.ItalianCulturalSociety.org

Return Service Requested

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

membership application

Mail application to:

ICS Membership
4833 Rugby Ave., Suite 201
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** _____
Please deliver Poche Parole by: ❑ email only ❑ email and US Mail

Type of Membership

❑ Single	$ 50	❑ Bronze Sponsor	$ 500
❑ Couple	$ 75	❑ Silver Sponsor	$1,000
❑ Family	$ 75	❑ Gold Sponsor	$2,500
		❑ Platinum Sponsor	$5,000 +