
La Voce della Dante

Published by the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington (DAS) <http://das.danteseattle.org>

March 2009

Using Social Media to learn about Italian Culture—

Paolo Tosolini

Wednesday March 11th, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
Headquarters House, 2336 15th Ave. S., Seattle
Pre-Dante pasta, 6:30 – 7:30 PM.

Paolo Tosolini, world famous for his Youtube performances, will present some of the wonderful ways he has discovered to share Italian culture with us. Paolo has a widespread web presence, he uses Facebook, blogging, Youtube and many other venues to both teach and share his Italian knowledge to anyone who is interested. Come share dinner with us tonight and maybe we'll get more proficient with our Internet skills.



Italian Language Meeting: Bruce Leone talks about the writing of Andrea Camilleri

Wednesday, March 25th, 7:30 - 9:00 PM
Headquarters House, 2336 15th Ave. S., Seattle

Since our original Italian speaker cannot make it this month, Bruce Leone will present the stories and character of Commissario Montalbano by Andrea Camilleri. Bruce has a lifelong passion for all things Italian especially the Italian language. He has read many books by contemporary Italian authors and the stories of Montalbano are his favorites. The books about Commissario Montalbano are extremely popular and have also been adapted for a TV version that is probably RAI's best work. Bruce graduated from Colorado State University in 1976 with a minor in Italian, attended Italian classes at the University of Washington for 1 year after moving to Seattle, and then took 5 quarters of Dante classes in 2006 and 2007.

Upcoming Events

From the President's Desk

March English Meeting

Joe Zaviglia

Wed. March 11th

5:30-6:30; Dinner preparation,
6:30; Dinner, 7:30; Meeting
Headquarters House

Board Meeting

March 23

7:00-8:30pm

Faerland Terrace—1421 Minor Ave

March Italian Program

Bruce Leone

Wednesday, March 25th

Antipasti and Social; 7- 7:30pm
Meeting; 7:30;
Headquarters House

April Business Meeting

Wed. April 9th

5:30-6:30; Dinner preparation,
6:30; Dinner, 7:30; Meeting
Headquarters House

As I was updating our roster, it became obvious that many of our members travel a distance to come to our meetings. People come from Olympia, Snoqualmie, Edmunds, Kirkland, Tacoma, Redmond and places in between. I then wondered what are the chances that the Dante Alighieri Society of Seattle could go green by car pooling and reducing our carbon foot print. It brought to mind the fun of encouraging friendships from our neighborhoods, about speaking Italian while cruising the HOV lanes. I can hear it now, "Ciao, Basta, Prego, Guadare fuori, FERMATA!!!"

We do our very best to be green at our meetings, by using glasses and silverware instead of plastic, when possible, recycling bottles and separating trash. It's not a hard habit to come by, especially if you grew up in a home where your parents were frugal, used everything up and wasted nothing. You probably had a garden of vegetables and tomatoes that tasted like nothing you can buy these days. In our house, we didn't grow such fluff as flowers. We grew what could be eaten. However, some of the loveliest center pieces that we have come from Terry Hanlon's garden. And Clem Zipp's pasta dinner made with home grown basil that he makes into pesto is a treat that we look forward to every year. Others often bring homegrown treats from home. That's what Italian cuisine means to me. Home grown, freshest ingredients and made from scratch. Could Italy have started the 'green' movement before it was even fashionable?

Jane Cottrell

YAHOO DANTE

From: Buz Wehrman (buzwehrman [yahoo.com](mailto:buzwehrman@yahoo.com))

Subject: Re: A.Word.A.Day--fool's gold

I have always found one of most intriguing uses of iron pyrite as a metaphor is in Dante's Inferno, where Malebolge (Canto XVIII) is constructed of the "petra di color ferrigno" (stone the color of iron). Malebolge is the 8th circle of Hell composed of ten minor trenches or "bolgias" where different forms of fraud are punished. Iron pyrite which gives the fraudulent appearance of gold becomes an apt metaphor for those who would appear as good but turn out to be evil.

Language Program News
by Giuseppe Tassone
Italian Language Program - Director



The best Italian Language program in Seattle is fostered by the International Dante Society. Spring Quarter will begin March 31st. Class fee is \$110 per quarter unless otherwise indicated under the class description. Classes offered at every level. Pre-registration deadline is March 12th. You can go to their website <http://danteseattle.org> and pay with Paypal to get into the next class.



DAS Board Meeting Schedule

We are very fortunate to be able to use the Community Room at no charge at the Faerland Terrace retirement facility at 1421 Minor Ave on Capitol Hill. The meeting lasts until 8:30pm and we always finish on time! YOU are invited to attend any of these meetings. Meetings start at 7pm and this year they are always on a Monday. The remaining dates for this meeting are:

March 23 and possibly May 11th

If you are not familiar with the location, please Google Faerland Terrace, Seattle to get directions.

Virtuosismo

Sicuro e veloce
nel movimento
deciso e sincero
negli acuti,
fai fluttuare le mani
come ali di farfalla,
una crisalide della melodia.

Incanti con le note,
i timpani più duri
si sciogliono
in dolci carezze musicali.

Lo stupore
e l'ammirazione
si stampano
come chiavi di violino
sui volti
per concludersi
in un clamore di battiti di mani.

Si richiede il bis,
si ha voglia
di farsi trasportare
nel turbine di note
che porta
nel paese della musica
e della fantasia.

Capaci ballerini
danzano su robuste punte,
in volteggi colorati,
a richiamare quel ritmo
scaturito da un virtuosismo.

Giorgia Bracchetti
Rovereto

Giorgia is a young woman,
married to Roberto. They have a
daughter of 4 years named Sara.
She works as a chemist for a
company that produces drugs.
She's a romantic dreamer. She
loves to write poetry and has
already written hundreds of poems.

The Snowshoe at Snoqualmie That Became a Hike in the Park.

January 10—Diane Clifford, Gini Harmon, Buzz Pintler, Becky Morgan, Sandra Bordin, Ida Callahan, Glen Strachan, Cam and Francesco Greco were all looking forward so to getting out to snowshoe after having a good dose of Cabin Fever. Then avalanches and road closures at the pass made us abort that idea. But this group was determined to get OUT, and so we went to Discovery Park and had a delightful hike through the park and along the beach. Our numbers dwindled for this replacement outing to Diane, Ida, Francesco, Cam and Cam's cousin from Alaska, Jeanne Parker. Oh! And Diane's dog.

Via Tribunale

Restaurant review by Donald Boothby

On a quiet street just off Airport Way in Georgetown, we recently found one of the latest entries in the world of Neapolitan Pizza joints that seem to be springing up like weeds recently in Seattle. For so many years, everywhere we went all we could get was New York Style pizza with its thick, soggy crust, over-seasoned red sauce and greasy toppings. OK, it tasted okay, but stayed with me for days. Thank goodness, those days are gone. Our newest find is a little place called Via Tribunale located at 6009 12th Avenue South, just around the corner from the old Ice House.

Open Monday through Friday for both lunch and dinner, and for dinner only Saturday and Sunday, this little, out of the way pizza house serves a nice assortment of antipasti, including a delightful Caprese made with buffalo milk mozzarella, oven roasted clams and mussels with olive oil, garlic and white wine, and a variety of salads. We had the Caprese and the insalata della casa, which we shared 3 ways, making for a very nice starter.

The pizzas are 12 inch pies, served with lovely light crust and baked in a wood fired oven. It was hard to choose from the many varieties, but we finally settled on the Prosciutto Crudo and the Speciale Misto Salumi, again sharing it among the three of us. We are not heavy eaters. If we were, we probably would have wanted a third pie. None of us are drinkers, so we weren't able to take advantage of the extensive wine list, but I did look over the list a bit and was impressed by the incredible variety for such a small restaurant.

No dinner, of course, is complete without dessert. My son and I each had a Tartufo Affogato. We were told that next time we should try the Mezza Luna di Nutella.

The service was a bit less than I would have liked, but the food was nice and the general atmosphere is fantastic. Go early to avoid a long wait. The place gets very busy on Friday and Saturday nights.

La Voce needs you!

Tell a story, write an article, share your Italian heritage; send it to danteeditor@gmail.com. You can also mail it via regular US mail to Mimi Torchia Boothby, 8018 36th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98118, USA. Keep it coming! Thanks to everyone who is helping! Next issue's deadline is the 23th of February.

Dante on the Internet!

We have a website. We have all the more recent newsletters there (including this one!), as well as the latest information on speakers. Our web address is:

<http://das.danteseattle.org/>

Bike Weekend May 30 & 31, Lopez Island

Italian Immersion, cooking, beachcombing, biking, music, Dante camaraderie... cabin/tent accommodations, communal meal creation, refresh/learn more Italian, hosted by former Language Program instructor Clarissa Szabo-mish.

Approximate cost will be \$250 per person. If you are interested, there is a waiting list and the deposit will be due the end of February.

<http://Italianovivo.com>

Don't forget to buy your Dante gear at:
<http://www.cafepress.com/dantewashington>

Dante Alighieri Society
of Washington

*"Società per la diffusione della
lingua e della cultura italiana
nel mondo"*

Mailing address:

PMB #1244
1122 East Pike Street
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 320-9159

The Dante Alighieri Society of Washington is a nonprofit corporation organized to promote Italian language and culture within the state of Washington. Membership is open to anyone interested in the goals and ideals of our society regardless of ethnic origin. *La Voce della Dante* is published eight times a year by the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington. All rights reserved.

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*La Voce Editor
Counselor*

Terry Hanlon
Hospitality

Giuseppe Tassone
Language Program Director

CAI_PNW presents their South Sicily Trip

September 30 – October 13 2009

Tentative costs: About \$2350/person (double occupancy, at the actual exchange rate) – deposit of US\$350 by April 30, balance due by August 31. For further information contact leader Gail McClary at 360-658-0820 or zumbanurse@gmail.com

- Day 1 - Arrival at CT Fontanarossa, Night in Catania, or Siracusa, or directly Palazzolo Acreide
- Day 2 - Pantalica: fabulous hike of 4-5 hours - Night in Siracusa, or Palazzolo Acreide
- Day 3 - Archaeologic visit of Siracusa and Ortigia Island, Visit to Noto (Sicilian Baroque) - Night in Siracusa, or Palazzolo Acreide
- Day 4 - Vendicari (Reserve- beach) - Capo Passero (the Southeast part of Sicily), Modica- 3 hour walk to Vendicari - Night in Siracusa, or Palazzolo Acreide
- Day 5 - Drive to Piazza Armerina (Roman Villa, mosaics) and to Agrigento (Valley of the Temples), - Night in Ribera
- Day 6 - Visit palazzo Adriano - the town of Nuovo Cinema Paradiso, Visit of Bisacquino (home town of Frank Capra), visit Sciacca- visit of a Frantoio (olive oil factory), Hike in the valley of the Sosio River, 3 hours - night in Ribera
- Day 7 - Mazara del Vallo - Selinunte- Walk to Cave di Cusia (quarry), Island of Mozia - Night in Marsala
- Day 8 - Drive to Trapani - Boat to Marettimo (Egadi islands), Walk along the coast, 3-4 hours & visit of the island - night in Marettimo
- Day 9 - Climb Mt Falcone (650 m - 2150') - night in Marettimo
- Day 10 - Boat to Trapani - Walk to Erice and back, 5 hours - night in Marsala, or in Ribera
- Day 11 - Drive to Catania, via freeway, Dinner at the CAI Section– night in Catania
- Day 12 - Mt. Etna, climb the summit craters, Night in Catania, or Rifugio Sapienza
- Day 13 - Excursion by train (Circumetnea) around Mt Etna, with a stop at Randazzo and hike for 2-3 hours, Back to Catania - last stretch in Metropolitana - Farewell dinner at Gabbiano, Catania - night in Catania
- Day 14 - Back home



February - Joe Zavaglia

Joe Zavaglia gave us a passionate lecture about how he got back in touch with his Italian roots. After a wonderful dinner cooked by Dante Members, we all got comfortable and listened to Joe explain how he got in touch with cousins, (with a lot of serendipity); learned Italian; (a lot of hard work), and got his Italian citizenship. His story found profound echoes in the lives of other members in the audience. Thanks Joe!

January Italian Language Meeting: Albert Sbragia

Albert Sbragia gave us a great lecture about the subject of *cecita* or blindness in the Bertolucci movie “The Conformist.” He taught us how to look for Bertolucci’s use of symbols and chiaroscuro and basically walked us through the movie. The room was filled with eager attendees and his voice was clear and his Italian beautiful and easy to understand.

Bridges of Northern Italy

Anita Bingaman will give a presentation of her photos of the Bridges of Northern Italy and talk about the history of the bridges and surrounding areas. She will also talk about her experience taking the photos and her travels to make the photos. If you like travel adventure this is a show for you.

South Park Community Center is at 8319 8th Avenue S.
98108 Phone 206 684-7451 a.m. March 19 at 9:30.



From Giorgio Armani's Blog:

Ciao, New York! I just arrived this weekend for the opening of my new Fifth Avenue store, which I am celebrating on Tuesday night. I am *stra-contento* to be here. I flew in from Milan, on Alitalia, and I must say that the service was impeccable. The staff was very well mannered and elegant. I was in first class and ate a very nice breakfast and then went right to sleep. Frankly, I was exhausted. It's been a crazy, difficult month. I have an apartment on Central Park West, which makes me feel like a real New Yorker. It's a penthouse with terraces all around. When I bought it about eight years ago, we were just launching Armani Casa so it's furnished with the very first pieces I created for the line. The building is from the 1920s so I also used additional furnishings from that period without, obviously, making it look staged.

I sleep very well in that house, but there's one big problem: too much light. I've noticed that Americans never block out the light properly in bedrooms. In Europe we like to close ourselves off in the dark. I took care of that problem by putting in black-out curtains and now I sleep like a baby.

On Saturday night, I went to dinner at an Italian restaurant called Scarpetta with my niece Roberta and a small group of my close Italian friends. I liked the décor and the food was pretty good, but you know the service was a bit slow. I ate spaghetti con pomodoro and basilica — and, here, I must interject something for your benefit. Americans overcook their pasta. Always. And there's too much sauce. Too much of everything! Please, try to control yourselves.

The fun thing is that the group I was with thought I wanted to go home right after dinner but I said, "What are you talking about? I want to go out and see what's going on." They took me to a club called Cielo. We stayed until 2 a.m., and many people were surprised to see me and asked for photos and autographs. Such friendly people. The music was incredible and I had a lot of fun. While I sipped on a vodka, I noticed that the crowd was dressed in a rather basic way. In Europe, the people you see at clubs are extremely beautiful to look at and are wearing very elegant clothes. I don't know, maybe I went to the wrong club. I'll give you an update on my store later. For now, I'm off to La Goulue. Let's see how the Americans tackle French food. A presto!

Giorgio Armani

P.S.: I am really excited about the party at my store on Tuesday night. In addition to Victoria Beckham, Alicia Keys, Josh Hartnett and John Mayer, I just found out that the actor Emile Hirsch from "Milk" and my good friends Martin and Helen Scorsese are coming. Che bello!

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Urban Art Fair

by Carmen Flak

Dante member Mimi Boothby will be one of the artists whose work will be shown in the C Gallery's Urban Art Fair on Sunday, March 8th from noon until 5 pm. The C Gallery is located below the Hiawatha Artist lofts on 855 Hiawatha Place in Seattle. It's one block east of the intersection of Dearborn and Rainier avenue.

Mimi paints watercolors many of which feature Italian themes, some are Italian doors, as shown. One of Mimi's most noteworthy paintings is a watercolor she did of President Obama. Her painting of Obama was one of a few dozen which appeared in an essay by Time Magazine in December 2008. The painting was selected from thousands of paintings on the Flickr website. Her paintings (and a few prints) will be for sale, prices range from \$25.00 to \$350.00.



*Please don't forget; your
membership renewal was due 1 January 2009.*

We are so fortunate to have almost every member renew his/her membership by this time in February. If you are reading this issue of LaVoce, then you should have received the ALMOST latest version of the roster. (A few people have since joined and about 5 more people have renewed since that roster was published.) call Anita Bingaman, 206-856-0313, or myself, Jane Cottrell - 425-827-7782, if we need to make any corrections. We have a number of hard copies of the roster, especially for those members who may not have access to computers. Please let Joan Wickham 206-932-0724, know if you need one. We also ask for a small free will donation to cover the costs of printing.

Since becoming President of the Dante Alighieri Society, I have a new appreciation for that dreaded Stewardship Sunday sermon that we endure once a year. It's painful for me and for the minister/or priest, but I also believe that if you know where your dues are being spent, you will agree that we cannot run an organization on good will alone. The transparent budget will be provided at our business meeting in April. In the meantime, I can tell you that your dues help to pay for the rent on our lovely Headquarters House, along with generous assistance from Casa Italiana. Ongoing expenses include the liquor license which we must display every time we hold a meeting in which wine is served. Festa di Natale per I Bambini is the only exception in that no alcohol is present. We have expenses for utensils and paper products, stationery, extraneous food items such as olive oil, vinegar, salt and pepper, coffee. We provide some wine for Antipasto nights. We need to cover the monthly expense of having a phone line, a private mailbox, thank you gifts for our speakers, and the dishwasher. Once a year we pay rent for a booth at Festa Italiana at Seattle Center. One time purchases have included printing informational brochures, every few years, our new tablecloths, and name tags upgrades. We have indeed been fortunate that our PreDante Pasta nights have been successful enough that we can cover the expenses of the cook for both the Pasta Night as well as the Antipasto night.

By paying your dues, you are voting on your confidence and continued support of the Dante Alighieri Society of Seattle. Thank you.

Jane Cottrell, President

If you joined **before** September of 2008, it is time for you to renew. Please use the handy form on the last page of this newsletter and mail it with your check right away. This will be your last newsletter if you do not renew.

Our dues are still \$30.00 for individuals and \$40.00 for families. Thank you for supporting your Dante Alighieri Society.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

As the seasons change, we are approaching a time when the weather can turn on us quickly. If schools, community centers, businesses are closing early or remain closed, we will postpone any scheduled meeting for Headquarters House on Beacon Hill. We will do our very best to have a message on the Dante Alighieri Reservation line, 206-320-9159 letting you know if our meeting needs to be canceled. If the weather is treacherous in your area of town, **PLEASE DO NOT** attempt to travel to Headquarters House. You are too important to us to do that. We also hope that you would call the Reservation line, 206-320-9159 to report any bad weather, or you may call me at 425-827-7782 to let me know so that I can get a message to that effect on the Reservation Line as quickly as possible. (hopefully this is the last month we'll need THIS notice until next winter!)

WANTED NEW EDITOR

Mimi Boothby will be retiring from her editorial duties this summer. The May Newsletter will be the last that she does. If you are interested in taking over this great job, please contact Mimi Boothby. It involves a bit of computer time, and two different s/w programs. Please let us know if you're interested.

* DAS Star List *

While we appreciate those who support our Society through membership dues & volunteering, stars are awarded to those making extra cash contributions which allows us to provide services without having to raise membership dues. Grazie Mille for supporting the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington.

Bronzo up to \$25

- * Crawford, Dick & Barbara
- * Cottrell, Jane & David
- * Van Tilborgh, Peter
- * Hollingshead, Norm
- * Mazzola, Arthur
- * Munizza, Joseph
- * Shiroyama, Sylvia
- * Richard and Carol Schroeter
- * Tobe, Robert & Maddalena
- * Rosa Borriello
- * Veronica Huggins

Argento \$26 to \$50

- * Huntermark family
- * Canorro, Anthony & Cathy
- * La Fornara Family
- * Eileen Cooney

Oro \$51- \$100

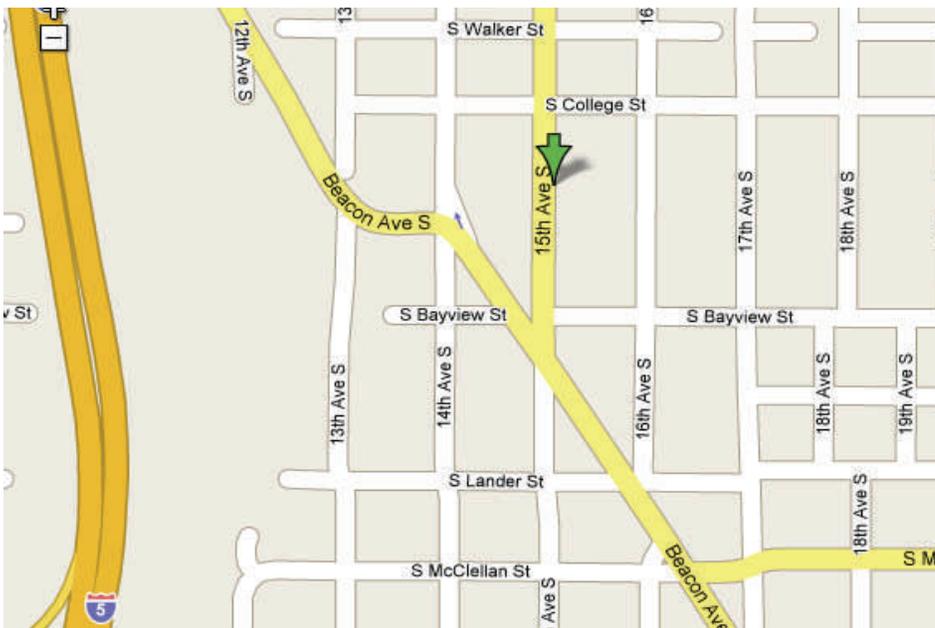
- * Mulally, Catherine

Platino—over \$100

- * Harmon, Gini

Directions to Headquarters House

Headquarters House is located at **2336 15th Avenue South** in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of Seattle. From I-5, take the Columbian Way/Spokane Street exit, eastbound. Turn left at the first light, Spokane Street and left again at the next light, 15th Avenue S. After crossing Beacon Avenue, Headquarters House will be on the right side between Bayview and College Streets.



Membership Application

I (We) want to promote Italian language and culture and request membership in the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington. Enclosed is my (our) check in full payment of annual membership dues (\$30.00 for individual, \$40.00 for a family).

Mark one : () **New Membership** () **Membership Renewal**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Telephone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Amount Enclosed:

Membership Amount: _____

Contribution: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Contribution Categories (For recognition stars):

Bronzo (bronze) - Up to \$25

Argento (silver) - \$26 - \$50

Oro (gold) - \$51 to \$100

Platino (platinum) - Over \$100

Please return completed membership application with check to:

Dante Alighieri Society of Washington

PMB #1244

1122 East Pike Street

Seattle, WA 98122

If you have any questions, please call (206) 320-9159 and leave a message.



Venezia—Carnevale
(celebrated this week)