

La Voce della Dante

Published by the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington (DAS)

<http://das.danteseattle.org>

May 2011

May English Meeting

Roseto, PA: Childhood Memories and National Significance

presented by James Caporaso

Wednesday, May 11th, 6:30 pm dinner followed by meeting
Headquarters House, 2336 15th Avenue S, Seattle



The speaker for our May 11th meeting will be James Caporaso. He is a University of Washington professor in the Department of Political Science who is a specialist in international political economy and international relations theory. He has written, co-authored, and edited numerous books, including "European Union: Dilemmas of European Integration" (2000). He is also editor of Comparative Political Studies.

He is a native of Roseto, Pennsylvania, a town studied extensively in the middle of the 20th century because of what would come to be known as "The Roseto Effect." It was also identified by Malcolm Gladwell as an "outlier", a community whose health and longevity set it apart from national averages. This was associated with the close-knit Italian American community whose citizens took care of one another. Prof. Caporaso will give us some history and background for this phenomenon.

Pennsylvania



It promises to be a most enjoyable evening and this will be our final meeting of the 2010-2011 year. Join us for a pasta dinner at 6:30 pm (call 206.320.9159 to reserve!) and the presentation at 7:30 pm. Then, we will see each other in September for the beginning of another interesting year.

Upcoming Events

Wed, May 11th: English Meeting - 7:30 pm — "Roseto, PA: Childhood Memories & National Significance" presented by James Caporaso



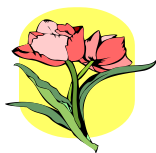
There is no Italian meeting for the month of May.

This is the last meeting until September.

Officers Elected for 2011-2012

President:	Frank Paterra
V President:	Sylvia Shiroyama
Treasurer:	Bruce Leone
Secretary:	Marci Mascio
Counselors:	Dan DeMatteis Houghton Lee Toni Napoli Joyce Morinaka





**Welcome to
Our New**

**Benvenuti
Nuovi Membri**

Ken Klettke
David & Kathryn O'Leary
Florence Lentz

**We thank you for your
support of DAS.**

*** DAS Star List 2011 ***

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 additional services.

Grazie Mille for supporting the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington.

Bronzo up to \$25

- * Borriello, Rosa
- * Crawford, Dick
- * Gillett, Debra Rovetto
- * Lipsky, Donna
- * Rodriquez, German & Martin, Robert
- * Shiroyama, Sylvia
- * Showell, Gianna

Argento \$26 to \$50

- * Cottrell, Dick & Jane
- * Forte, Giselda
- * Hundertmark, Louise & Frtiz
- * Jankord-Steedman, Melinda
- * Monasmith, Irma
- * Veigel, Alan

Oro \$51- \$100

- * DeMatteis, Dan & Carol
- * Harmon, Gini
- * Sportelli, Dom & Louise
- * Tobe, Robert & Magdalena

Platino—over \$100

- * Jackson, Douglas
- * Minotti, Dominick

From the President's Desk

Our 2010/2011 Dante program year is coming to an end and it has been a great year. As a society and community we have grown, are stronger, and are closer. I am honored to be part of it.

April was a good month. We held our annual business meeting and elections in place of the English meeting and while the turnout was low, everyone had a great time visiting and sharing. Your current board has been re-elected and we added a new counselor, Joyce Morinaka. Thank you to all of the board members, committee chairs, and volunteers who make this a great organization. It is a lot of fun to be part of this dedicated group and it is great how we all support each other.

Our Italian program last month was entitled "Artistic Renaissance in Rome" and is being presented by Albert Sbragia. It was a great program. Typically, we have fewer people attend our Italian language meetings partly because some of us have less developed Italian language skills. I have to say that, while my Italian skills are very limited, I always get a lot of value from the programs. It is really easy to follow along with the presentation. If you have not attended an Italian program in the past, I invite you to attend the next one. I am sure you will enjoy it.

Our English program for May will be our last program until September. James Caporaso will present a program titled "Roseto, Pennsylvania: Childhood Memories and National Significance". Given Carol's track record of wonderful programs this year, I am going to bet we are going to go out on even a higher note. I hope to see you there!

I want to share with you an exciting new activity that we are undertaking in the coming year. A number of years ago Nancy McDonald created a compilation of recipes from Dante members. She has offered that we can get copies of this book made and sell them as a fundraiser. I have looked at some of the recipes and there are some wonderful dishes that I can't wait to try! We will offer these books at Festa Italiana and have them available for anyone who wants to buy a copy. I hope to be able to have a copy of the book at the next Dante meeting to show off Nancy's hard work.

Finally, fellow Dante Alighieri Society of Washington State members, thank you for making our society the joy that it is. Sharing your time, knowledge, and friendship makes this group so fun to be part of. From pitching in on the pre-Dante pasta dinners, to sharing some antipasti and vino, to helping with set up of the room, to putting on events such as Festa Italiana, Festa di Natale per i Bambini, and the annual Christmas party, to contributing to or editing La Voce, to bringing flowers and decorations to make our antipasti meetings more festive, I could go on and on. For all the little and big ways that every one pitches in, I thank you.

Have a great summer and see you in September; next year is going to be even better!

Frank Paterra



Language Program News by Giuseppe Tassone Italian Language Program Director

Spring quarter started late March and runs until June 2nd. Our program runs from October to June with a class break every ten weeks.

Daniel Zanchi, Oscar Vallazza, and Michela Tartaglia are teaching the elementary, intermediate, and advanced course. Laura Ciroi is teaching an additional level of Italian for students close to fluency.

As a supplement to their language instruction, students are encouraged to participate in events organized by the *Dante Alighieri – Comitato di Seattle* at the Headquarters House and other cultural events related to Italy at *Seattle University*, at the *University of Washington*, and other locations. This was the second year that students participated in the New Italian Cinema Festival in fall and in the advanced level course Laura Ciroi and her students discussed the films they viewed. For next year we are planning to invite the film director participating at the festival to the *Seattle University* campus for a talk to SU and Dante language students. We believe that learning a language means also learning about the culture and our goal is to develop in our students a deep understanding of Italy and its culture.

Location: Seattle University Campus

Class fee: \$130 per quarter unless otherwise indicated

The Dante Alighieri - Italian Language Program is a non-profit self-sustaining program operating exclusively with the income from the tuition. Thank you students for your support and Seattle University for hosting our courses.

DAS Star List

The names listed on the DAS Star List are of those who made donations from September 2010 through the publication date of the current *La Voce*. All names will remain on the DAS Star List through December 31, 2011.



Inclement Weather Procedure

As the seasons change, we are approaching a time when the weather can turn quickly. If schools, community centers, and businesses are closing early or remain closed, we will postpone any scheduled meeting for Headquarters House. We will do our best to have a message on the DAS reservation line, 206-320-9159, to let you know if our meeting needs to be canceled. If the weather is treacherous in your area, PLEASE DO NOT attempt to travel to Headquarters House, we want everyone to be safe.

Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be September 7th.

Meetings from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Community Room at Faerland Terrace, 1421 Minor Avenue in Capitol Hill. These meetings are open to members.



La Voce

Hopefully, spring is just around the corner and you have been enjoying the new season of Dante.

If you traveled and found something or a place interesting and related to the Italian culture, send photos or an article about your experience. Or maybe you've tried a great new Italian restaurant or read a great book. We would love to hear about it. These are all things that make a great La Voce so submissions are welcome. Submit, submit . . .

You can buy your Dante gear at:
<http://www.cafepress.com/dantewashington>

Delivering La Voce to Members



Just a reminder that La Voce will not be sent to the membership via an email attachment. For many emails, the file size is too large. Instead, an email will be sent to members that includes a link to the current issue of La Voce on the DAS website. Just click on the link and you will have La Voce to read for your pleasure.

Adobe Reader is necessary to be able to view La Voce. You can download this program from the DAS website.

And be sure your email box isn't full.

New Mailing Address for DAS

by Bruce Leone, DAS Treasurer

Please note our new post office box address:

Dante Alighieri Society
PO Box 9494
Seattle, WA 98109

The old address (PMB #1244, 1122 East Pike Street, WA 98122) will stay in operation for a few months. I will easily be able to get the mail here much more often. I was able to get the mail at the old address only about once a month or less resulting in delays in paying bills and processing checks. **Please remember** that even better is to mail membership checks and new memberships or reimbursement requests directly to me at:

Bruce Leone
2522 2nd Ave West
Seattle, WA 98119

Buongiorno: Si prega di prendere nota del nostro nuovo indirizzo di casella postale:

Dante Alighieri Society
PO Box 9494
Seattle, WA 98109

Il vecchio indirizzo di PMB #1244, 1122 East Pike Street, Seattle, WA 98122 rimarrà in funzione per pochi mesi. Sarò facilmente in grado di raccogliere la posta qui molto più spesso. Potevo raccogliere la posta dal vecchio indirizzo solo circa una volta al mese o meno. Ricordatevi che preferirei che inviaste gli assegni soci e le domande di adesione o richieste di rimborso direttamente a me al seguente indirizzo:

Bruce Leone
2522 2nd Ave West
Seattle, WA 98199

Membership Roster Available

DAS has a membership roster available for those interested. It's a pdf file that can be emailed as an attachment and then printed out.

To have one emailed to you contact Bruce Leone at:

bruceleo@earthlink.net





La Voce Needs You!

Tell a story, write an article, share your Italian heritage; send via email (as a Word document) to lthdesign@comcast.net. You can also mail it via regular mail to Linda Heimbigner, 4355 Little Falls Drive, Cumming, GA 30041. Keep things coming! Thanks to everyone who has contributed articles.

Article submission deadline:

<u>ISSUE DATE</u>	<u>SUBMISSION DEADLINE</u>
September 2011	August 20th, 2011

The May issue is the last for the year until September 2011.

Dante on the Internet!

Check our website. It has links to our recent newsletters (including this one) as well as information on speakers and other matters of interest. Our web address is:

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

Pre-Dante Pasta

Join us for the pre-Dante Pasta dinner preceding the English language programs. **To attend the dinner, reservations are required. The only way to make these reservations is by calling the activity line at (206) 320-9159 by 5 pm on the Monday before the meeting or send your request via email to: dante.reserve@gmail.com.**

Please remember to bring your homemade Italian desserts to finish off this great meal.

This is a communally prepared meal – the preparations start at 5:30 and the meal is served at 6:30. People who come early help with set up and cooking, those who come late help with the clean up.

Pasta dinner cost is \$8 per person, \$15 per couple, if reservations are received on the Activity Line by 5 pm on Monday before the meeting. Late reservations and walk-ins are charged \$10 per person and subject to availability. We meet at Headquarters House, 2336 15th Avenue, Seattle, WA. DAS will not be providing wine for the pre-Dante pasta dinners so bring your own wine to enjoy and share with others.



Dante Alighieri Society of Washington

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

Mailing address:
PO Box 9494
Seattle, WA 98109
(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.

Frank Paterra
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Counselor

Houghton Lee
Counselor

Toni Napoli
Counselor

Linda Heimbigner
La Voce Editor

Terry Hanlon
Hospitality

Carol DeMatteis
Program Chair

Giuseppe Tassone
Language Program Director

Club Alpino Italiano (CAI) PNW

May - June events for CAI include the following:

May 14th:
Oyster Dome Hike

Classification: (M)

Distance: 8.5 miles RT

Elevation Gain: 2060 ft

Highest Point: 2080 ft

Contact: Elena Bianco
(elena_bianco@yahoo.com or call (360) 550-5891 by Thursday, May 12th)

This hike takes you through a steady climb through a heavily forested area. It begins with a steep ascent, then levels off a bit with a series of switchbacks. Parts of the trail are very steep and rocky. Along the way are views of Anacortes and Samish Bay to the west. About a quarter of the way up is a side-trail that takes you to bat caves. At the top you are rewarded with incredible views to the north and west. You can also look straight down to see the oyster pens in the bay below. Those wanting to carpool can meet at Denny's in Everett at 8:30.

June 11th: *Ira Spring Trail Hike*

Classification: (M/S)

Distance: 6 miles RT

Elevation Gain: 2550 ft

Highest Point: 4750 ft

Contact: Mark Miller
(mhmillar@pol.net)

This is a hike to Mason Lake on the Ira Spring trail. If it's a beautiful day and we get an early start, those energetic enough might add Mt. Defiance.



May Festivals in Italy

Spring festivals abound in Italy during the month of May. There are flower festivals, food & wine festivals, medieval reenactments, and events celebrating the rituals of spring. Below are some of the festival highlights.

May Day, May 1st, (day of the worker) is a public holiday throughout Italy. Many services are closed but there are parades and festivals to celebrate the day.

John Paul II Beatification Ceremony, May 1st, in Rome.

The Sagra di Sant Efisio, May 1st, is one of the most important festivals in Sardinia. This is a 4-day procession from Cagliari to the Romanesque church of Saint Efisio on the beach at Nora. Decorated oxcarts and horsemen accompany the saint's statue in a parade followed by food and dancing.

Ring Race and Procession, is the re-enactment of 14th century contests and parades held in Narnia in the Umbria region that begins around the end of April and goes through May 12th.

Calendimaggio is held in early May in Assisi, Umbria. It depicts Medieval and Renaissance costumes and life. Two ancient medieval wards, the "Parte di Sopra" and the "Parte di Sotto" engage in a spectacular challenge through theater shows, concerts, songs and choruses, dances, processions, archery, crossbow, and flag-waving displays.

The Risotto Festival is held the first Sunday in May in the Piedmont town of Sessame. It is a huge feast of a special rice dish dating back to the 13th century.

The Snake Handlers' Procession is held the first Thursday in May in Coculio in the Abruzzo region. A statue of the town's patron saint, St. Dominic, is carried through town covered with live serpents.

The Wedding of the Trees (Sposalizio dell'Albero) is held May 8th in the northern Lazio town of Vetralla. Oak trees are decorated with garlands, horsemen offer bouquets of the first spring flowers and new trees are planted while everyone enjoys a free lunch. The ceremony revives Vetralla's sovereignty over the forests and continues the right of each citizen to a cubic meter of firewood annually.

Giro d'Italia is Italy's bike race similar to the Tour d'France. It starts in early May and goes through most of the month.

La Palombella is a festival in Orvieto representing the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. Held on Pentecost Sunday in the piazza in front of the duomo, it ends with a fireworks display.

The Fish Festival of Saint Fortunato, patron saint of fishermen, is held in Camogli, a beautiful fishing village south of Genoa, the second Sunday in May. There is a huge fireworks display and bonfire competition Saturday night followed by free fried fish on Sunday.

Polenta Festival is also the second Sunday in May. It is celebrated in the Piedmont town of Avigliana in the main square of the city.

La Barabbata, is celebrated May 14th in Marta on the shores of Lake Bolsena. Men wear costumes representing the old trades and carry their tools while white buffalo pull floats carrying the fruits of the trades during this procession.

The Festa dei Ceri is a candle race and costumed parade held May 15th in Gubbio. It is followed by a historical cross-bow exhibition on the last Sunday of May.

St. Rita's Procession and Candle Festival is held May 21st-22nd in the Umbrian town of Cascia.

Infiorata di Noto is a huge festival with flower petal art displays and a parade held in Noto, Sicily, the third weekend of May.

Pinocchio's Birthday is celebrated in the Tuscan town of Pescia on May 25th.

Il Palio di Ferrara is a historical horse race dating back to 1279 that is held the last Sunday in May. There are parades, events, or competitions every weekend in May, including a historical procession to the castle with over 1000 people in Renaissance costumes on the Saturday night before the race.

Cantine Aperte (open cantinas) is a big wine celebration held throughout Italy during the last weekend of May. Many cantine or wineries are open to guests and hold special events.

Roman Fest, in the Piedmont town of Alesandria, is held the last weekend of May. It is a 3-day re-enactment of a typical ancient Roman festival that includes parades, feasts, staged gladiator combat, and chariot races.

The Chianti Wine Festival is held in Montespertoli in the Chianti wine region of Tuscany on the last Sunday in May and the first Sunday in June.

Medieval Parade and Jousting Tournament is held the last Sunday in May in the Emilia Romagna region town of Grazzano Visconti.

The Daffodil Festival, held in the Abruzzo town of Rocca di Mezzo, is held the last Sunday in May. This is a celebration of spring that includes folk dancing and a parade.



Eggplant Parmesan

This is Dom Sportelli's mother's recipe. Louise says it's a little fussy but is melt-in-your-mouth delicious!



Recipe:

1 medium eggplant, peeled, and sliced 1/8 inch thick. Soak about 1 hour in bowl of salted water using 1 Tbs of salt to a large bowl of water.
4 eggs, well beaten
Salt and pepper
Vegetable oil (NOT olive oil)
Tomato pasta sauce - not too heavily spiced
Fresh grated parmigiano cheese

Coat the inside of a medium casserole dish with nonstick spray followed by a thin coating of pasta sauce.

Drain the eggplant very well and pat dry with towels. Heat 1/2 inch oil in a large sauté pan. Dip eggplant slices in beaten egg. Fry in oil until golden brown. Do not let the oil get too hot or crowd the pan with eggplant slices.

As slices are finished, remove from oil, and place briefly on paper towels to blot the oil. Place slices in casserole dish. Between each layer of fried eggplant, place a thin layer of sauce (1-2 Tbs) and a light sprinkling of cheese (1 Tbs). Continue layering eggplant, sauce, and cheese until all the eggplant slices are used. Top with a thin layer of sauce and a heavier sprinkling of cheese (2-3 Tbs). Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour. Let sit 15 minutes before serving.

Note: Go easy on the sauce and cheese. Too much sauce makes the casserole too soupy and too much cheese overwhelms the other flavors.



At the April 27th Italian meeting, Albert Sbragia presented “Artistic Renaissance in Rome.”

Enjoy Your Summer

As DAS winds down for this season after a great year of programs, please think about articles, profiles, pictures, book reviews, restaurant reviews, happenings, and other things related to the Italian culture that may be of interest to members of DAS and could be published in La Voce.

Pictures are always welcome, especially with articles. Who doesn't want to see what the article is all about? And if you have a submission in Italian, please include an English translation as well.

Have a great summer and think about what you can submit to La Voce for next year.



Apartment for Rent

As noted in the April issue of La Voce, Dom and Louise Sportelli sold their place in Partigliano and now have a new “urban apartment” in Capannori.

They are not going to Italy next fall and the apartment will be available to rent. If interested or you know someone who has an interest in a long term stay in Italy, please contact Dom and Louise at: sportelli@whidbey.com

Pictures can be viewed at <http://www.sabbaticalhomes.com/OfferedDetails.aspx?id=58967>

DANTE CALENDAR 2010-2011

Dante Alighieri Society of Washington

<p style="text-align: center;">September 2010</p> <p>8 Norizan Paterra/ Chris Kantor Hiking in Sardegna</p> <p>22 Ornella De Stavola Tour of Pistoia</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 2011</p> <p>9 Jonathan Brandt Architect's Tour: The Piazzas of Rome</p> <p>23 Claudio Mazzola Italian Film</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">October 2010</p> <p>13 Eric Scigliano <i>Michelangelo's Mountain</i></p> <p>27 Donna Yowell (UW) Dante's <i>Inferno</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">March 2011</p> <p>9 Joe Zavaglia Cooking School in Friuli</p> <p>23 Marco D'Ambrosio The Art of Making Gelato</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">November 2010</p> <p>10 Chris Zimmerman Italian Wine Tasting</p> <p>No Italian meeting in November</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">April 2011</p> <p>13 Election night (no speaker)</p> <p>27 Albert Sbragia Artistic Renaissance in Rome</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">December 2010</p> <p>4 Natale per i Bambini</p> <p>8 Christmas party</p> <p>No Italian meeting in December</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">May 2011</p> <p>11 James Caporaso Roseto, PA: Childhood Memories & National Significance</p> <p>No Italian meeting in May</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">January 2011</p> <p>12 Joyce Ramee Live performance of music by Italian composers</p> <p>26 Nicoletta Machiavelli Sicily</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June - August 2011</p> <p>Summer Break - No meetings held</p>

At the first meeting of each month (English program), pre-Dante pasta is communally prepared at 5:30 pm & served at 6:30 pm. Call the Activity Line (206) 320-9159 by the Monday before to reserve your spot(s). Cost: \$8.00 per person or \$15.00 per couple

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at Headquarters House, 2336 15th Ave S, in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of Seattle. Directions are on page 12.

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

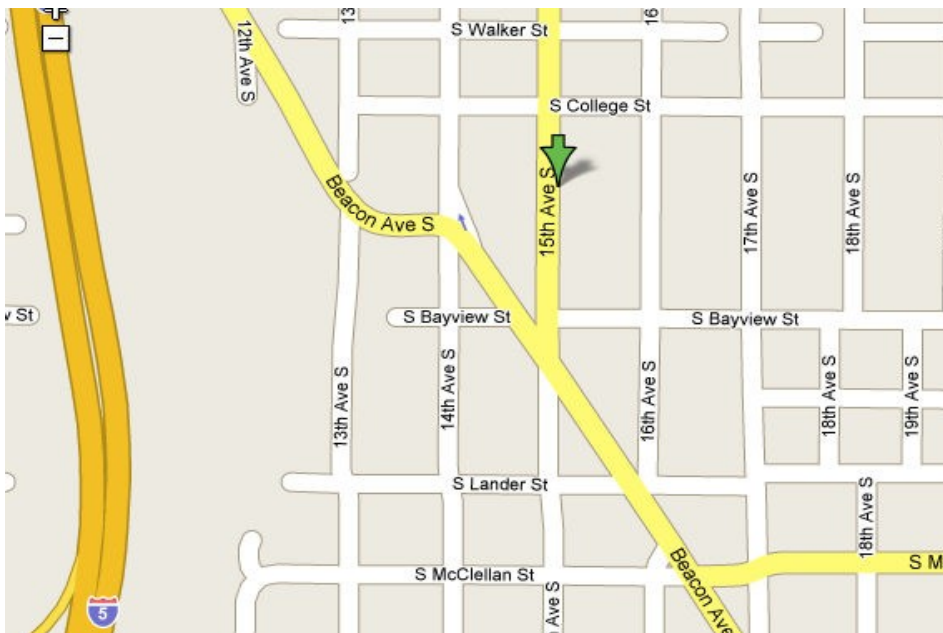
Oro (gold) - \$51 to \$100

Platino (platinum) - Over \$100

Please return completed membership application with check to:

Dante Alighieri Society of Washington
PO Box 9494
Seattle, WA 98109

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



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.