

La Voce della Dante

Published by the Dante Alighieri Society of Washington (DAS)

<http://das.danteseattle.org>

May 2014

May Meeting:

English Meeting -

Italian Games

by Nick Minotti & Joyce Ramee

Wednesday, May 14th, 6:30 pm, Headquarters House

The last meeting of the 2013-2014 season ends with a talk on Italian games by Nick Minotti and Joyce Ramee. They will start with the very familiar card game, Scopa, and move to dice games and Bocce. They will look at the history and cultural traditions behind the games and they will include a little "show and tell" with various pictures and cards to pass. Hopefully, everyone will come away from the evening wanting to play those games!

New Board for 2014-2015

Election results from the April meeting are as follows:

President: Sylvia Shiroyama

Vice President: Dan DeMatteis

Treasurer: Bruce Leone

Secretary: Joyce Ramee

Past President: Frank Paterra

Counselors: Mike Foster
Houghton Lee
Rob Prufer
Steven Stimac

Casa Italiana Representative: Louise Pietrafesa

Hospitality: Terry Hanlon

Italian Language Program Accountant: Jennifer Trenk

Italian Language Program Director: Giuseppe Tassone

La Voce della Dante Editor: Linda Heimbigner

Program Chair: Melinda Jankord-Steedman

Upcoming Events

Wed, May 14th:
"Italian Games"
by Nick Minotti
and Joyce Ramee
Pre-dante pasta
at 6:30 pm,
Headquarters
House followed
by the presentation



This is the last presentation for the 2013-14 year.

There is no Italian meeting in May.

Thank You

*From Joyce
Ramee, Pre-
Dante Pasta Co-
ordinator*

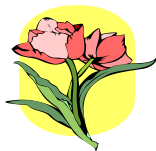


Special thanks to those who kept us well fed this season - Jackie Leone Pleasant, Dave & Jane Cottrell, Nick Minotti, Roberto Girolami, Norizan Paterra, Mike Foster, Bruce & Sharon Leone, Sylvia Shiroyama and the Board, and Peter Contrastano! (And to all who helped serve and clean up, always!!)

If your name isn't listed here, PLEASE consider sharing your culinary talents next season. It is easy, fun, and you are reimbursed . . . And now you have all summer to find wonderful recipes you would like to try out for 35 or so friends. Signing up can begin as soon as our meeting dates are published by emailing Joyce at: mavijramee@aol.com

And please consider emailing your recipe to LTHDesign@comcast.net





**Welcome to
Our New
Members**

**Benvenuti
Nuovi Membri**

Art Segal

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

*** DAS Star List 2014***

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

- * Crawford, Dick & Barbara
- * Gillett, Debra Rovetto
- * Girolami, Roberto
- * Hoffman, Pat
- * Lockwood, James
- * Napoli, Toni
- * O'Leary, David & Kathryn

Argento \$26 to \$50

- * DeMatteis, Dan
- * Hundertmark, Louise

Oro \$51 to \$100

- * Borriello, Rosa
- * Moscovici, Giovanella
- * Napoli, Toni

Platino—over \$100

- * Cottrell, David & Jane
- * Harmon, Gini
- * Rodriquez, German

Consider making a donation to DAS today. Your donation helps DAS maintain the excellent programs and activities sponsored. Everyone benefits!

From the President's Desk

Happy May!

The warm sunny days have started to show themselves and the days are getting longer. I hope you are able to enjoy the warm weather and clear days.

The April English meeting was our annual business meeting and election. Thanks to Sylvia Shiroyama for the amazing Pesto Penne Pasta, Joyce Ramee for providing a lovely antipasti, Bruce and Sharon Leone a great salad, and to Norizan Paterra for the heavenly tiramisu. Also, thank you to all who brought vino and more antipasto and dolce to share; it was all wonderful!

Our April English meeting focused on our annual business meeting and election. We had a great turn out; it was wonderful to see everyone. We had a great slate of candidates for a very successful election. I am sure the new board will be listed in this newsletter so I will not note them all here but I would like to be among the first to congratulate the new board members! I am so excited for our societies future; we have great leadership to carry us forward. Bruce gave us a summary of our financial status and will be distributing electronic copies of his report.

I am looking forward to our Italian meeting on April 23rd, presented by Jennifer Allen and titled "La commedia all'italiana-films 50's 60's". This meeting is very timely as the Seattle International Film Festival is starting in May. I hope to see you at the meeting; I know it will be a great presentation.

Our final meeting of the season will be our May English program and it will be a very special one indeed. Dominic Minotti and Joyce Ramee will be presenting. Programs which Joyce has presented previously were amazing and this one, with Dominic, promises to be wonderful as well. The program will be on May 14th and the pre-Dante pasta dinner will start at our usual 6:30 pm time.

I want to thank our board for all the that you have done and continue to do in helping to steer our organization. It can not be overstated how much our success comes from your hard work and dedication. Thank you all.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for letting me serve on the board. It has been a great experience and very personally rewarding and I hope that I have helped the organization. I am looking forward to my new role as Past President and continuing to see each of you at the meetings and enjoy all that our Society has to offer.

Frank Paterra



Language Program News by Giuseppe Tassone Italian Language Program Director

The Italian Language Program offers classes in fall, winter, and spring. Classes are held at Seattle University in the Administration Building. Class fee is \$180 per quarter unless indicated otherwise in the class description.

Check the Language school's website for start dates
for the 2014-2015 school year.

Classes Offered:

Beginning Italian (Level A1) - For people with little or no Italian language. Students will be introduced to the basic phonetic, grammatical, and lexical structures through conversation and simple dialogues. Held Tuesday and Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

Elementary Italian (Level A2) - This is the continuation of the beginning class or for those who have already studied some Italian. Students will become familiar with more difficult grammar structures. Held Tuesday and Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

Intermediate Level (B1, B2) - B1 reviews grammar covered in the previous levels; B2 is the continuation of B1. Both are mainly conversation-based to expand students' vocabulary and increase their ability to understand newspapers, magazines, and literature. Classes are conducted entirely in Italian. Held Tuesday and Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

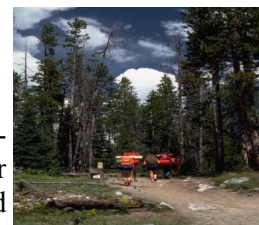
Additional Classes - Additional levels of Italian (C1, C2), Italian for Travelers (An introductory class for people planning a trip to Italy or for those who want to learn some Italian in one quarter), or Italian for Children courses can be scheduled for groups of at least 8. Class fee, location, and schedule may vary based on the request and number of students. To organize a class, please contact the director at least 30 days before the beginning of the requested quarter. Contact Giuseppe Tassone at tassone@danteseattle.org or call 425-243-7663.

For more information, check the language program website at: <http://www.danteseattle.org>. Registration can be done by mail or by Pay Pal on the school website.

If you would like to give the gift of learning Italian to a friend or a loved one, gift certificates are available on the school website.

The Dante Alighieri - Italian Language Program is a non-profit self-sustaining program operating exclusively with the income from the tuition.

Club Alpino Italiano (CAI) PNW



The schedule for CAI's Second Saturday Events for May-July is as follows:

May 10: Fragrance Lake
Contact: Elena Bianco

June 14: Goat Lake
Contact: Norizan & Frank Paterra
North Cascades—Mountain Loop Highway
Distance: 10.4 miles R/T
Elevation Gain: 1400 feet
Highest Point: 3161ft

July 12: Beckler Peak
Contact: Ida Callahan



DAS Board Meeting

Board meetings are held on a Wednesday every other month from September through May.

The next board meeting will be May 14th.

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



La Voce

This is the last issue of La Voce for the 2013-14 season. Hopefully, some of you will enjoy a new Italian experience between now and September and share these finds through La Voce. If you travel and discover something or a place of interest that's related to 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 ...

Enjoy summer...

Linda

La Voce Editor
LTHDesign@comcast.net

Delivering La Voce to Members



La Voce will be sent as a pdf file attachment to your email address. Or you may log onto the Dante website to see the latest issue as well as back issues of La Voce. The website is:

www.das.danteseattle.org

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

Be sure your mailbox isn't full otherwise you will have to check the Dante website.



PLIDA

PLIDA (Progetto Lingua Italiana Dante Alighieri)

The Dante Alighieri Society of Washington in Seattle is an official examination center of the Società Dante Alighieri and provides its students and others the opportunity of taking PLIDA exams in order to obtain a PLIDA certificate.

The PLIDA Certificate

The PLIDA certificate is an official Diploma issued by the Società Dante Alighieri under an agreement with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the University of Rome *La Sapienza*. It is recognized by the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and by the Italian Ministry of University and Research as a qualification for the proficiency in the Italian language for foreigners.

The PLIDA certificates attest proficiency in Italian as a foreign language on a 6-level scale according to the parameters established by the Common European Framework for Languages (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2).

Why Take the PLIDA Exam

Students who may wish to be certified include those who plan to study at Italian universities (which accepts PLIDA Certification as proof of proficiency), American high school and college students who may seek college credit, or persons wishing to be certified for obtaining an application for the Italian Permit of Stay in Italy. Certification may also interest students who see the examination as a capstone experience after taking their language courses.

For more information on the PLIDA certificates, visit the official PLIDA website: www.plida.it/plida/

Dates, Registration, Location, and Exam Fees

PLIDA certificate sessions (Levels A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2) will be held every year in May and November. Candidates may choose to take an exam at the level they feel is closest to their proficiency. Registration does not require having taken lower-level tests.

Candidates need to register approximately 30 days prior to the exam date. Exams are held at Seattle University. For further information and more on the dates of each exam, registration deadlines, location, exam fees, and registration instructions check the Language School's Plida website at:

www.danteseattle.org/plida.html

For any questions, email: plida@danteseattle.org





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 2014	August 20th

NOTE: Please keep in mind the above submission deadlines and it's great if articles were submitted as early as possible.

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 (425) 243-7663 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
(425) 243-7663

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
President

Sylvia Shiroyama
Vice President

Louise Pietrafesa
Secretary

Bruce Leone
Treasurer

Dan DeMatteis
Counselor

Mike Foster
Counselor

Houghton Lee
Counselor

Toni Napoli
Counselor

Joyce Ramee
Counselor

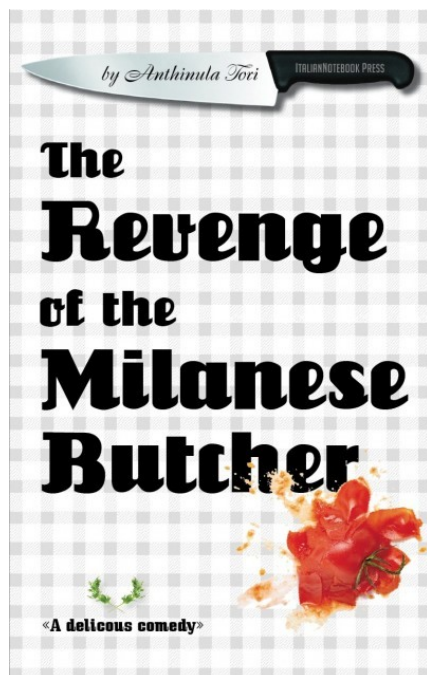
Jennifer Trenk
Counselor

Linda Heimbigner
La Voce Editor

Terry Hanlon
Hospitality

Melinda Jankord-Steedman
Program Chair

Giuseppe Tassone
Language Program Director



Written by Anthinula Tori

This is a murder mystery about food and Italy, blended with comedy and romance, that stars Gertrude Wine, a smart, unconventional, and independent American chef with a great sense of humor with a sharp wit and a tongue-in-cheek sense of humor.

Gertrude Wine has made a splash in Milan with her unconventional restaurant, L'Oca Buona (The Delicious Goose). Yet serving guests is the least of her worries when a crime is committed in her restaurant. She and Inspector Valenti make an unlikely pair; he comes to rely on Gertrude's keen sense of observation - culinary and otherwise - to assist with the investigation.

(Cue, scary music...)

Will our heroes solve the case without becoming Milanese culinary specialties themselves?

In this murder mystery, Gertrude and Valenti eat their way through many a risotto, follow clues through the nooks and

(Cont'd on page 7)

La Cucina della Dante Cookbook Update

by Nancy McDonald

Sales have gone very well on our Dante cookbook. We introduced *La Cucina della Dante* during Festa Italiana in Seattle and sales were especially brisk during our meetings and at *Festa di Natale per i Bambini*.

With 138 pages and six categories of delicious Italian recipes: Antipasti e Insalate, Zuppe, Pane, Primi Piatti, Secondi Piatti, and Dolci, plus a complete index cross-referencing the recipes, the cookbook made a very popular Christmas gift.

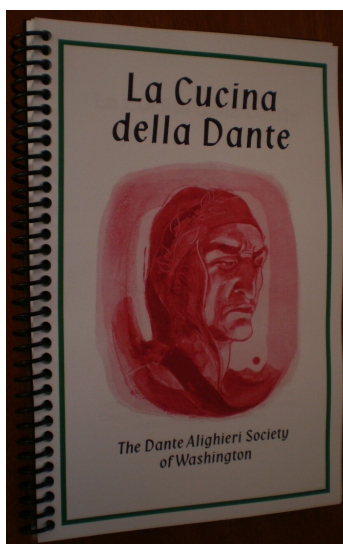
I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the members who worked on the cookbook: Jane Cottrell, Gini Harmon, Linda Bavisotto, Louise Sportelli, Linda Heimbigner, Carol DeMatteis, and Dante president Frank Paterra. Carol DeMatteis also created the amazing index with its invaluable cross referencing so that recipes are ultra-easy to find.

We are all really proud of the Dante cookbook and the months of hard work that produced it. Even though we all proofread it many times, I've found at least one error: the Sesame Cookie recipe on page 134 is missing vanilla from the list of ingredients.

If you find other errors, please let me know so that we can share them with our members. Also, if you like a particular recipe, we'd love to hear all about it.

Cookbooks will continue to be available for sale at Dante meetings. If you'd like me to mail them to you, just let me know by phone or email: nancymick@yahoo.com

Thank you for supporting our Dante cookbook fundraiser.



You can still buy copies of the Dante cookbook. They make wonderful gifts for family and friends.

Members: \$12
Non-Members: \$15

Loredano Rizzotti

Renowned Milan Italian painter Loredano Rizzotti has a new show opening in Seattle on May 1st. Never before shown in the USA, you will be captivated by the subject matter and revel in the hyper realism depicted on each canvas.

Meet the artist at the Christian Grevstad Gallery, Thursday, May 1st from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Loredano speaks little English and it would be a pleasure to surround him with other Italians and Italian-speakers, helping him to feel at home.

If you cannot attend the opening reception his works will be on display through the month of May.

Loredano's website: <http://loredanorizzotti.com>

Christian Grevstad Gallery link: <http://christiangrevstad.com/current-exhibits-2/>

Parking: Loredano's show is concurrent with the First Thursday Art Walk in Seattle. People visiting galleries on First Thursday may park for free at participating lots. Simply ask for a First Thursday parking voucher at a participating gallery.

First Thursday link:
<http://news.firstthursdayseattle.com>

Christian Grevstad Gallery
312 Occidental Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98104
Ph: 206-938-4360

crannies of Milan, engage in delightful yet distracting romance, all the while trying to discover the dark secrets that might lead them to the murderer....a story about food, love, and death - the basic ingredients of life.

Amazon.com carries for \$4.99 but I just loaded it to my Kindle for free.

ItalianNotebook.com has an excerpt from Chapter 1 which I've copied as much as possible below.

A young policeman came over and interrupted them with news that the freezer was covered with the fingerprints of the entire kitchen staff. He stared at them as though he had located the murderers.

Inspector Valenti, trying to impress upon the young officer a lesson in investigative common sense, reminded him that it had been a working kitchen until the night before and the staff had obviously not been expecting frozen body parts in their freezer. Just as he was saying this, Valenti gave a sideways glance to Gertrude, Leo, and Maria, who, although looking innocent, could still not be discarded as potential suspects.

He made a mental note to interview each of them separately even though he suspected they could easily be each other's alibi. Come to think of it, they might have even helped each other. They had the keys, the time, and the know-how to slice anything, including, most probably, a human being. Once again, Gertrude could see the wheels turning in Inspector Valenti's mind and realized that they were fast becoming suspects.

"You are more than welcome to check our knives," interjected Gertrude, "But, if I were you, I'd also study what kind of cuts were used on the meat - classic carpaccio of the Piedmont style of cutting against the muscle? The way meat is sliced is an entire world of its own and is almost like a fingerprint depending on the knife, the cut, and the section. The murderer definitely knew what he or she was doing."





Presents the 24th annual

Aronoff Festival Concerts

June 27, 28 and 29

Bastyr Chapel

14500 Juanita Drive NE, Kenmore

www.viola.com/aronoff

Dante member and sometime music lecturer **Joyce Ramee** invites all Dante members and their friends to the **2014 Aronoff Festival Concerts** at Bastyr University Chapel, June 27 and 28 at 7:30 PM and June 29 at 4:00 PM.

As in past years, **Free Series Passes** will be available from Joyce at the May 14 Dante English meeting!! Dante members can get a free ticket to the concerts. (This saves you the \$10/ person/concert at the door!)

Joining Joyce and the Festival faculty on this year's programs are **Nancy Roth, violinist** from Los Angeles, **Ellen McGlone, violist & fiddler**, from Washington DC, **Miriam Shames, cellist**; and special guest artist **Kurt Kruckeberg, tenor**. The evening programs are performed by the professionals and on Sunday the Festival students take the stage.

There's also a feast for the eyes: the Aronoff Festival Concerts are co-sponsored by Kirkland's **Parklane Art Gallery**. Works from Parklane are on display and available for purchase at all concerts!

Joyce will have program flyers and series passes at the May 14th Dante English meeting. Just ask her that night, or email her at: mavijramee@aol.com (put Aronoff Concerts in your subject line).

You May be Interested in . . .



INTERESTED IN HOSTING AN ITALIAN SOCCER PLAYER THIS SUMMER?

Top level players from all over Italy will come to play with AC Seattle, a team comprised of Italian and American players participating in the Women's Premier Soccer League. AC Seattle won the 2013 Northwest Championship!

Families can be from anywhere in the Seattle area.

Players will be here all of June and July.

Players have practices or games scheduled a few days a week, and will travel for away games, possible finals and their own travel.

Players will need access to local transit to get to and from practices and games, their own bedroom, use of laundry machine, and meals with their family, or access to food.

Hosting an Italian is a very rewarding cultural exchange, they are very open fun loving people who enjoy hanging out with, cooking with and learning from their families.



If you are interested in this opportunity, or would like more information please contact soccer@acseattle.com

DANTE CALENDAR 2013-2014

Dante Alighieri Society of Washington

<p>September 2013</p> <p>11 John & Melinda Jankord-Steedman <i>Valchiavenna</i></p> <p>25 Andrea Florissi of Caffè Torino <i>Torino in Piemonte</i></p>	<p>February 2014</p> <p>12 Giuseppe Tassone <i>Garibaldi and Lincoln</i></p> <p>26 Albert Sbragia <i>Spazi domestici e pittura romana</i> (Domestic space & Roman painting)</p>
<p>October 2013</p> <p>9 Nick Minotti <i>Italian Superstitions</i></p> <p>23 Bill Halsey <i>Pipe Organs of Italy</i></p>	<p>March 2014</p> <p>12 Rob Prufer <i>The Mothers of Rome in Art</i></p> <p>26 David Chapman <i>Italian Jazz During the Mussolini Years</i></p>
<p>November 2013</p> <p>13 Joshua Balvin <i>Non Puoi Capire: Accounts of the Shoa (Holocaust) from Roman Jewry</i></p> <p>No Italian meeting in November</p>	<p>April 2014</p> <p>9 Election night (no speaker)</p> <p>23 Jennifer Allen <i>La Commedia Italia—films of the '50s & '60s that addressed Italy's social problems</i></p>
<p>December 2013</p> <p>7 Natale per i Bambini</p> <p>11 Christmas party</p> <p>No Italian meeting in December</p>	<p>May 2014</p> <p>14 Nick Minotti/Joyce Ramee <i>Italian Games—Bocce, scopa & more</i></p> <p>No Italian meeting in May</p>
<p>January 2014</p> <p>8 Chris Zimmerman of Vias Wines <i>Italian Superstars (Annual Wine Tasting Dinner)</i></p> <p>22 Marcell Nardi <i>Medioevo in Giallo (her book)</i></p>	<p>June - August 2014</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 (425) 243-7663 by the Monday before to reserve your spot(s) or email your request to: dante.reserve@gmail.com. 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 the back page of La Voce.

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 (\$40.00 for individual, \$50.00 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

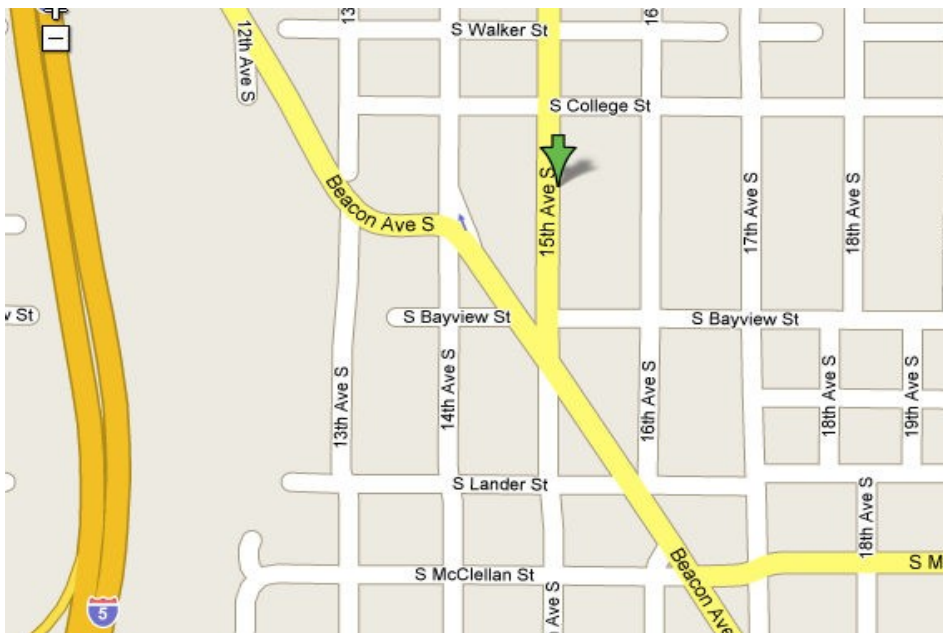
Oro (gold) - \$51 to \$100

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 (425) 243-7663 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.